

## Women's 'Flourishing Hope' Day Retreat - 4 April 2020 10H00-16H00

Abbaye d'Hautecombe—3700, route de l'Abbaye—73310 Sainte Pierre de Curtille

We are very excited that you might be joining us on the Women's Day Retreat and would encourage you to be very expectant as to what the Lord will have for you personally and us as a community on that day.

If you decide to join us, please do be praying that God will be preparing your heart for meeting with Him personally, gently, powerfully and intimately.

The notion of a "Flourishing Hope" came from the image of a rough, bare cross that was then covered with bright, living, growing flowers, other images of renewal and also verses of Scripture speaking of our burdens being replaced with light and hope through Christ. These images and verses were received during a prayer meeting for the retreat and can be found on the reverse of this sheet.

It is primarily a day of space for us to be with God individually, to listen to Him and to connect or re-connect with Him, without distraction. We will also worship and eat together.

Please could we suggest that you bring with you to the Retreat:

- A notebook, pen and a Bible
- A packed lunch and drink
- A Christian book you are reading
- A Christian book you have enjoyed and would like to put on a reading table for the day
- Any art material you have that could be used in creative prayer (e.g. card, coloured paper, pens, paints)
- An object to put on the 'symbolic objects' table to be used for our 'tactile, hands on' prayer.



Please could you also return the tear-off slip to Jo or Emilie by 21st March. Places are limited to 30 women in order of booking.

In Him, Jo (for any questions, see or contact Jo: [johardinghq@gmail.com](mailto:johardinghq@gmail.com))

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Name..... Email..... Phone.....

- I can offer a lift to Hautecombe       I will need a lift to Hautecombe

Members of the Hautecombe Chemin Neuf Community will be available to pray with you, and a sign-up sheet will be posted up on the day.

Please also enclose a cash donation of 15 euros for the day with this slip, 10 euros for students and 5 euros for those currently out of work.

## Verses received when a team prayed for a theme for the Retreat

**Psalm 52: 8-9:** But I am like an olive tree flourishing in the house of God; I trust in God's un-failing love for ever and ever. For what you have done I will always praise you in the presence of your faithful people. And I will hope in your name, for your name is good.

**Psalm 46:10:** He says, 'Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.'

**Matthew 11:28:** Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest.

**Isaiah 40:31:** But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

**Isaiah 61:1-3:** The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion, to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendour.

**Hebrews 6: 19:** We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, <sup>20</sup> where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest for ever, in the order of Melchizedek.

