

Gifts Of The Desert

Experiencing the Path of Scripture into Silence with the Christian Desert Elders

15-20 October, 2023: Alice Springs/Mparntwe, Northern Territory



*If you are patient and if you are faithful (and meditation will teach you to be both patient and faithful), then meditation will bring you into deeper and deeper realms of silence. It is in the silence that we are led into the mystery of the eternal silence of God.
(John Main, Moment of Christ, 21-2)*

In a silent desert we experience the struggle to grow in silence. This is because the desert exposes to us our own distractions and temptations - our demons. And yet! Grace awaits us...in humility, distraction and temptation open the way into silence.

**With meditation and scripture our attention is transformed for silence. This awareness is a gift from the Desert Elders of the Christian Tradition.
A gift that we can receive in the desert.**

Listening to Abba Anthony of the Desert and Dom John Main as our guides, this retreat is an opportunity to experience the many gifts of the desert of Central Australia.

The setting is the evocative landscape of Central Australia, including an excursion into the East MacDonnell ranges. The days will be marked by a rhythm of prayer, meditation and silence, with input from Andrew McAlister with Sarah Bishop both part of the community of younger meditators www.wccm.org. There will be time for reflection and sharing around the campfire in the evenings, with an opportunity to walk the labyrinth, as well as an introduction to dadirri and other contemplative practices.

Place: [Campfire in the Heart Retreat Centre](http://www.campfireintheheart.com.au), Alice Springs/Mparntwe
www.campfireintheheart.com.au

Dates & Cost: Sunday 15th October afternoon till Friday 20th October afternoon (5 nights).

\$900 full board, mostly shared rooms and bathroom facilities. Includes all sessions and meals; extra nights before and after the retreat can be requested @ \$80 including breakfast.

\$500 non-residential attendance for all sessions and meals.

No. of participants: 12- 14

Enquiries: Andrew McAlister andrewmc@wccm.org or 0455 303 510

Sarah Bishop sarah@bluetardis.com.au

To enquire about possible scholarship assistance or payment options, email Judi Taylor taylor.judi@outlook.com

Registration: Registrations can be made by completing and submitting the online form.

[Click here for registration](#)

A 50% deposit will be requested within seven days of the confirmation of your registration to secure your booking. The bank account is:

Campfire in the Heart Ltd BSB: 633000 A/C: 189251077.

Please feel free to pay the full amount at this time, or full payment is due by 1st October (two weeks prior to the retreat).

Cancellation and refunds:

If the retreat is cancelled, or you cannot travel because of Covid-related travel restrictions, then all payments will be refunded. If you are unable to attend for other reasons, then a full refund (less 10% to cover costs) will be provided up to 1st October; after this date refunds are only possible if the place is filled.



***I saw the snares that the enemy spreads out over the world and I said groaning, 'What can get through from such snares?' Then I heard a voice say to me, 'Humility'.
(Abba Anthony)***

