

Monastic Internships at Worth Abbey

Worth Abbey, a Benedictine monastery in Sussex, is inviting applications from men between the age of eighteen and thirty-five for a limited number of monastic internships. Successful candidates will live alongside the monastery for two months, following a way of life similar to that of the monks. During this time, they will learn about the Benedictine tradition and have the opportunity to live in community, to deepen their prayer lives and their personal engagement with scripture. They will be expected to contribute by their work to the welfare of the monastery and in return will receive board, lodging, teaching and guidance. It is hoped that the silence and prayerful atmosphere of the monastery and Abbey Church will help you to deepen your spiritual search and to tune in to God's loving presence in your life. As St Benedict writes in the Prologue to his Rule: "What, dear brothers, is more delightful than this voice of the Lord calling to us?"

The monastic community looks forward to the opportunities monastic internships offer, and trusts that it will be enriched by their encounter with those who take part.

Further information on the Monastic Interns Programme

Here is a summary of what we have to offer and what we hope to receive from you:

We aim to offer you:

- Two months stay, with full board and lodging in an area set aside for interns, in the peace and seclusion of our monastery and its grounds.
- A share in the life of the monastery, both its prayer and its work.
- Time and quiet for prayer, for lectio divina (prayerful reading of the Bible), and for reading classic spiritual texts.
- Guidance with this reading and prayer.
- Teaching from the monks on such subjects as The Rule of Saint Benedict, monastic history, liturgy, and scripture.

- The possibility of talking to someone who will listen to you and help you develop spiritually.
- Some opportunity to socialise with the monks.

We ask of you:

- Participation in the pattern of the monastic day, including attendance at the monastic offices of prayer.
- Reflection with an open heart on God's word in the Bible and a willingness to pray.
- Observance of the times and places of silence, and the rules of enclosure, customary in the monastery.
- Attendance at classes as indicated above.
- Two hours of work each day except Sundays and major feasts, and housework keeping your living area clean and tidy.
- Restraint, within individually agreed parameters in the use of electronic communications.

For further information please go to worthabbey.net, or email interns@worth.org.uk, or phone 01342-710370

(RLJ 21.7.22)