

# Spiritual Direction Forum UK

## Discernment 2024

### Suggested Prayer and Reflection Process

#### *Preparation*



Take some time to become centred on God...

And ask for the Spirit's help as you reflect and participate in this discerning process

#### *The Forum*



*Ponder:*

When I think about the Spiritual Direction Forum UK, what comes to my mind, heart and soul?

#### **The Forum's Vision**

Read the Vision Statement, particularly the Vision and Values sections.

- Notice what you find most exciting, energising, positive about them?
- Notice what you find least exciting and energising?
- How relevant do you feel this is to the world of spiritual direction in the UK?
- Are there values that we need to be challenged to live up to, or be more explicit about?

#### ***The Forum's Mission***

Read the Mission section of the Vision Statement and the reports of progress.

What would you like to see in the next Mission statement?

Are there areas of development you'd like to see the Forum give attention to?

How would you respond to the possibility of an annual membership fee to cover Forum administrative costs? £5, £10, £20.

### ***The Sub Committees***

The three sub-committees have been getting going in different ways.

Group 1: **Support and Resource Spiritual Directors.**

What would you like to see them give focus to next?

Group 2: **Promote and Protect Good Practice.**

What would you like to see them give focus to next?

Group 3: **To advocate and encourage the creative development of this ministry within the church and in a changing world.**

What would you like to see them give focus to next?

### ***Conclusion***



What is your prayer for the future of the Forum?

### ***Give your Feedback***

We invite you to share your experience of this with us using the online form here

<https://sdforum.uk/discernment-2024-feedback/>

The Forum Committee will gather all the responses and take them into our discernment day in early December.

# Spiritual Direction Forum

## UK



### Vision:

We desire

- to support and resource spiritual directors
- to promote and protect good practice
- to advocate and encourage the creative development of this ministry within the church and in a changing world.

### Values / Way

In the same spirit in which Spiritual Direction is conducted, we will endeavour to:

- be a 'common table' through dialogue and hospitality
- be led by the Spirit, in prayer and discernment
- be theologically reflective
- act with wisdom and humility
- be exploratory and collaborative
- be responsive and gracious
- be inclusive and ecumenical
- be appropriately professional and not professionalised
- promote equality and respect for all
- maintain openness and transparency
- build things organically, being both adventurous and realistic
- use simple communicative processes

### Prayer for the Forum

Creator God, giver of all good things;  
provide for us as we support and  
resource each other.

Jesus, incarnate, embodied;  
enable us as we model and promote  
good practice.

Holy Spirit, breathing life into the  
world;

inspire us as we advocate and  
encourage creative ministry.

In all things, God, animate our vision  
with your desire.

Amen.

## Mission

### Create a Core Committee

- with wide representation and a time-limited period of office.
- responsible for developing sustainable structures and processes for developing and maintaining the work of the forum.
- Focussing on the following key aspects:
  - Vision
  - Communications including website, social media, mailings, newsletters etc
  - Co-ordination of the work of the sub-groups
  - Finance & Administration including membership and fundraising

### Create three working groups to represent the three faces of the forum

- 1. To support and resource spiritual directors *by***
  - by developing ways to come together to encourage, listen and discern; by zoom gatherings, national conferences, regional meetings
  - gathering and sharing wisdom and inspiration by newsletters, websites, social media
- 2. To promote and protect good practice *by***
  - an ongoing articulation of a shared understanding of good practice
  - involving networks, training courses, relevant organisations
  - producing clear guidelines and resources
  - establishing an ongoing process for developing these over time
  - inviting ongoing discussion and development
  - commending good practice to practitioners
- 3. To advocate and encourage the creative development of this ministry within the church and in a changing world *by***
  - Embracing the wisdom of the Christian tradition and learning from all people's lived experience both in the church and in society.
  - Understanding and supporting the prophetic and contemplative dimensions of our ministry.
  - Fostering contexts for creative conversations about spiritual direction in the 21st century.
  - Exploring and encouraging a diverse range of ways and places to bring the wisdom of spiritual direction to the wider world.
  - Promoting awareness of the value of spiritual direction amongst those involved in church leadership and resourcing them to signpost their communities towards engagement in this practice.