

THE COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

Our main address

Convent of the Holy Name
Morley Road
Oakwood
Derby
DE21 4QZ

Telephone – 01332 671716

e-mail: bursaroffice@tiscali.co.uk

website : www.chnderby.org

To book to stay in our guest cottage please contact

The Guest Sister

Telephone: 01332 670 483

e-mail guestsisterchn@googlemail.com

or write to 'The Guest Sister' at the main convent address.

Please note the Convent is not open on Mondays.

Registered Charity No. 250256



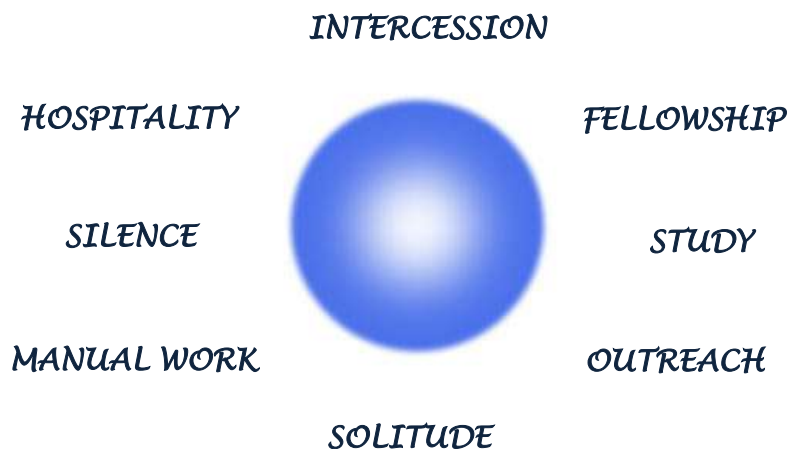
An Anglican Religious Community

THE COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY NAME

This leaflet is has been produced to give an idea as to the work and daily lives of the Sisters of the Community of the Holy Name

OUR DAILY LIFE

The structure of our day keeps Worship and Prayer at the heart of our life, and is enriched and varied through a balance of



Though at different times the emphasis may vary for individual Sisters, and though in branch houses there may be more flexibility and interaction with the local community, we seek to keep this balance wherever we live and work.

THE COMMUNITY PAST AND PRESENT

The community began in the latter half of the 19th century in the London Parish of St Peter's Vauxhall, where the first Sisters helped the parish priest in an area of great social deprivation.

By 1876 the Community had taken as its dedication The Holy Name of Jesus, thus reflecting its vocation to reach out to others in the name of 'Jesus, Saviour'.

Its founders drew inspiration from both the catholic and evangelical movements, and the Sisters' vocation to draw others into a personal relationship with Jesus as Saviour was rooted in the sacramental life of the Church.

The daily Offices and times of silence overflowed into various forms of ministry according to the needs of the place and time.

In 1887 the 'Mother House' (Convent of the Holy Name) was established at Malvern Link in Worcestershire, while 'Mission Houses' remained in London and elsewhere.

The Mother House of the UK province is now located in Oakwood, Derby, and Community Branch Houses continue to be integral to our life as we seek to respond to today's needs under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The Community also has two autonomous Provinces in Lesotho and Zululand in Africa. There is a mutual enrichment of our lives and an encouragement of our vision as together we seek to witness to the unity of all in Christ.

HOSPITALITY

Hospitality is a vital part of our lives as a way of sharing with others the prayerful atmosphere of our houses. We maintain at the Convent in Derby a Guest Cottage available for individuals seeking to spend a few days with God in a quiet, peaceful place. This space is also an ideal place for small groups (e.g. cell groups, ministry teams etc) to spend some time together.



The guest cottage

Rooms in the main Convent are available for individuals or small groups to have a quiet day. All our guests are very welcome to join us in praise of God at our times of worship in Chapel, to spend time studying in the library or to take time out to wander around the garden, enjoying God's creation.

For more information please see our website or contact us at the address on the back of this leaflet.

THE VOWS

The vows are our way of responding to God's love and to Christ's call in our lives.

CELIBACY

*SEEKING TO LOVE
ALL IN CHRIST AND
DARING TO BELIEVE
THAT GOD CAN
FULFIL ALL OUR
LONGINGS*

POVERTY

*TO LIVE WITH
GENEROSITY,
SIMPLICITY AND
TRUST IN GOD.*

OBEDIENCE

*LEARNING TO LISTEN
ATTENTIVELY TO
GOD AND TO TRUST
CHRIST IN ONE
ANOTHER*

Through the vows we seek to open our hearts and minds to the Cross of Christ and to the freedom of the Resurrection life.

STEPPING STONES BECOMING A SISTER

If it seems that you are being guided by God to live out your Christian life within the religious community, your first step is to get



to know the Community by visiting as a guest and talking with the Sisters and the Novice Guardian. If this feels comfortable then a period of living alongside the Sisters as an Aspirant, participating in the day-to-day life of the Community is encouraged.

After visiting and waiting on God in prayer, you may feel the time is right to continue your journey by being admitted to the Community as a Postulant. Those who are accepted will normally be between the ages of 21 and 55. Postulants live as part of the Novitiate, before making the simple promises of a Novice. At this point a postulant receives the habit at a service known as a Clothing Ceremony.

The time spent in the Novitiate allows you to experience different aspects of community life under the guidance of the Novice Guardian. This will include some time spent in one of our branch houses, exploring living the Religious life in the wider world.



If this life continues to feel right for you, the next step is election to First Vows by the Community Chapter. These are made during a special Eucharist, your Profession Day.

Through the continuing experience of living under vows as a Sister, you may grow in the conviction that God is calling you to life commitment in this way. If this is the case, again with the acceptance of the Community Chapter the way is opened to Life Profession.

Before and beyond Life Profession, we seek constantly to expand and deepen our relationship with God and to our neighbour, to grow in obedience to his Son, Jesus, and to listen to the continuing guidance of the Holy Spirit.



By the gift of his Spirit God strengthens us through our growth in prayer, and through the sharing of our lives one with another in forgiveness and mutual encouragement.

So it is that God invites and empowers us to take part as intercessors and partners with Christ in his work of reconciling love.

If you feel drawn to this life and would like to talk with someone about it, please contact the Provincial Superior at the main Convent address, or speak with any of our Sisters.