

*Teach us to pray*

*Abba Amma  
we do not know how to pray  
teach us*

*We do not dare to pray  
strengthen us*

*We do not care to pray  
inspire us*

*In your Spirit  
teach us  
touch us  
talk with us  
toil with us  
speak with us  
breathe in us  
burn in us  
enliven, enflame, embolden us*

(Nicola Slee—from her book)



Christa Figures by Artist: Caroline McKenzie, will be exhibited in The Gallery during the Retreat, on loan from Westhill Endowment Foundation

Holy Rood House  
Centre for Health and Pastoral Care  
with The Centre for the Study of Theology and Health  
10 Sowerby Road  
Thirsk YO71HX  
Tel: 01845 522580  
Email: [enquiries@holyroodhouse.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@holyroodhouse.org.uk)  
[www.holyroodhouse.org.uk](http://www.holyroodhouse.org.uk)

# HOLY ROOD HOUSE RETREAT

3<sup>rd</sup>(4pm)—5<sup>th</sup>(4pm) **JULY 2023**

## ABBA AMMA

*Improvisations on the Lord's Prayer*

### NICOLA SLEE



We are delighted to welcome our Patron Dr Nicola Slee to run this very special retreat. The Lord's Prayer is the first, perhaps the only, prayer that many people learn by heart. It unites Christians of all traditions yet its patriarchal imagery and vision of monarchical power do not resonate universally today. How can the prayer Jesus taught express today's cries for compassion, healing and justice?



Nicola Slee will reveal fresh depths of meaning for our lives today, bringing us a rich resource for worship and liturgy, and for personal prayer and meditation. This retreat will help bring liberation and encouragement to those of us who share it, helping us to claim our own voices in the journey of faith.

Bringing her creative skills and a variety of ways of accompanying us within the welcoming environment of Holy Rood House, Nicola will lead sessions exploring expansive ways of praying in and around the Lord's Prayer, using her recent book but also bringing in other resources. This will involve strategies for resisting and overcoming hierarchical, patriarchal and monarchist imagery and theology, pondering how our relationships with earthly parents, siblings and others shapes and informs our prayer, as well as reflecting on the huge range of biblical images for God and how we are invited to pray in the freedom and creativity of the Spirit. We will also consider the different petitions within the Lord's Prayer: the hallowing of the divine name, praying for the kingdom to come, prayer for daily bread and forgiveness, for protection from evil and temptation.

There will be opportunities for your own creative writing and experimentation, time and space for rest, relaxation, silence and prayer, good food, conversation and creative liturgy - the kinds of things we expect at Holy Rood House!

***The Spirit prays***

*Without your touch  
we cannot move*

*Without your breath  
we cannot live*

*Without your life  
we cannot pray*

*Without your love  
we cannot love*

*(Nicola Slee—from her book)*

Nicola Slee is a Professor of Feminist Practical Theology at the Vrije Universiteit and visiting Professor at the University of Chester. She is an experienced speaker, writer, spiritual director and retreat leader.

Holy Rood House is privileged to have Nicola as one of our Patrons

**ABBA AMMA RETREAT**

3rd 4pm –5th 4pm **JULY 2023**

The suggested donation for this special retreat is:

**£250 and £275 en-suite.**

For those sharing a room a reduction for each of £5 a night.

There may be a possibility of a small bursary.

Please email Carolyn to book and then please send a deposit of £50 or the full amount by BACS if possible

HSBC Centre for Health and Pastoral Care

Sort Code: 40-28-16

Account: 41227572 Ref: Name/Abba Amma

or by cheque made out to Holy Rood House

If you are able to Gift Aid please tick this box

and kindly sign your name below

.....  
NAME/S.....

ADDRESS.....

EMAIL.....

TELEPHONE.....

EMERGENCY NUMBER.....

Please let us know if stairs are difficult for you and any dietary Requirements or other needs:

:

.....

If travelling by train please let us know times and we will arrange to collect you.....

How did you know about this retreat?