



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY 2023 14th - 16th JULY



The Hayes Conference Centre

HOPE AT THE FRONTIERS OF MISSION: LORD, SHOW US THE WAY

Christian hope ... is very important, because hope never disappoints. Optimism disappoints, but hope does not! We have such need, in these times which appear dark, in which we sometimes feel disoriented at the evil and violence which surrounds us, at the distress of so many of our brothers and sisters. We need hope! We feel disoriented and even rather discouraged because we are powerless and it seems this darkness will never end. We must not let hope abandon us, because God, with his love, walks with us. (Pope Francis)

The Grace: Lord, we ask for the grace to help us move forward with hope:
show us the way.

Our Scripture: "You will be my witnesses..... to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

Our Theme: Discerning paths for hope.

The National Assembly is an annual weekend gathering for the Christian Life Community in England and Wales. It is an opportunity:

- to meet CLC members and enjoy a wider sense of community
- to learn more about Ignatian spirituality and the CLC way of life
- to gain a broader perspective of CLC nationally and worldwide
- for listening, private prayer, reflection and small group sharing
- for communal prayer and Mass
- an opportunity for some members to make a permanent commitment to CLC
- to relax, with social time and entertainment and it is family-friendly
- to enjoy full board and lodging at a very low price in beautiful surroundings.

The 2023 Annual General Meeting will take place on Sunday 16th July.
If you are a paid-up CLC member you have the right to vote at the AGM.

Our Assembly is part of CLC England and Wales' preparation for the World Assembly in France in August 2023. We will be commissioning our delegates for that Assembly and supporting them with our prayers.

There will be a vigil Mass for Sunday on Saturday afternoon. Bishop Ralph Heskett, our National Ecclesiastical Advisor, will be the celebrant.

The Assembly is open to all CLC members and anyone interested in CLC and Ignatian spirituality.

It is possible to attend just for the Saturday.

Arrivals are from 4pm on Friday 14th July.

The introductory session will be at 8pm, following the evening meal.

The Assembly will finish after lunch on Sunday 16th July.

The venue: **The Hayes Conference Centre**
Swanwick, Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 1AU
01773 526000

<https://www.cct.org.uk/the-hayes/the-hayes-conference-centre>

The Hayes is set in the beautiful Derbyshire countryside with easy travel links.

It has successfully been the market leader
as a Christian Conference Centre since 1911.

There are extensive grounds with a prayer labyrinth and lakeside walks.

It is well equipped and has a friendly, efficient team
and caters well for people with disabilities.

There are recharging facilities for electric vehicles.

The Hayes is located five miles from J28 of the M1,
three miles from Alfreton train station, a 35 minute bus ride from Derby,
or a 30 minute drive from East Midlands Airport.

National Express run coaches from most parts of the UK to Alfreton and Derby.

See <http://www.nationalexpress.com>

or for buses: <https://www.trentbarton.co.uk/services/nines/timetable>

Further information will be sent to you nearer the time.

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