**House of Prayer**

**Bursary Fund Information**

We want to ensure that the House of Prayer is accessible to all people regardless of their financial means. We try to keep our costs and suggested donations as low as possible but understand that some people may be prevented from attending our retreats without further financial support. The following offers information regarding bursary funds offered by other charities and organisations which may be able to support you to make a retreat, and details the process for applying to our own small bursary fund.

**Bursary Funds**

**Association for Promoting Retreats (APR)**

The House of Prayer is a member of the Association for Promoting Retreats who offer a Bursary Fund to support those who cannot afford the full cost of a retreat. Member Houses can make applications for up to five individual retreatants in any one financial year (1 April – 31 March). You can apply for up to 50% of the costs of your total retreat cost (up to a maximum of £200 for any person in a year). APR also welcome one application each year from trainee Spiritual Directors through their (diocesan) training courses.

Given the limited number of applications we can submit on behalf of retreatants, we will prioritise individuals who are new to retreats or have not made a retreat before. Please inform the Administrator at the point of booking for further information about applying for a bursary from APR.

For more information about the application process, [see APR’s website page.](https://www.promotingretreats.org/bursary-fund/)

**The Society for Retreat Conductors (SRC)**

The Society for Retreat Conductors offer grants to assist those undergoing training in Ignatian spirituality and the giving of the *Spiritual Exercises*, including to make an Ignatian retreat.

For more information about the application process, [see SRC’s website page](https://www.promotingretreats.org/bursary-fund/).

**Other**

Your diocese, parish, or faith community / organisation may be able to support you with funding towards making a retreat.

**House of Prayer Bursary Fund**

If we are unable to support you through a bursary fund outlined above, we may be able support you through an application to our Bursary Fund.

For applications to support individual or programmed retreats, we can only accept applications from individuals who have already paid a deposit to secure a place on a retreat.

Applications must be made one month before the first date of the retreat.

Bursaries are not offered for spiritual direction.

**Criteria**

For fairness, and to encourage those who have not made a retreat before or are beginning to explore their spirituality, we will allocate bursary amounts according to funds available and considering the following criteria:

1. Those who have never made a programmed or individual retreat before, and are experiencing financial hardship;
2. Those who are experiencing financial hardship;
3. Those who are young adults aged 18 – 30 and experiencing financial hardship;
4. Those who will use the experience to benefit others;
5. Those who are involved in pastoral ministry, retreat-giving or spiritual direction and accompaniment.

The maximum amount that can be applied for is 20% of the total cost of the retreat up to a maximum of £140.

Please note that bursary amounts awarded are subject to available funds. Applications to our bursary fund should be made with as much notice as possible to avoid any disappointment.

For more information or to request a bursary, please contact the Administrator at admin@christian-retreat.org.

March 2023