

# Littleway -New Spring Trust



## 1. Introduction

New Spring Trust (NST) is the Charity which incorporates Little Way Healing Ministries (Little Way Healing Ministries), now called Littleway (LW), a Holy Spirit-led ministry rooted in the Catholic Church. Our Vision Statement is 'Freedom through Jesus'.

## 2. Governance

Littleway was established in 2000 and registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee in July 2012 and called New Spring Trust, NST. The Charity is governed by a Board of 7 Trustees who meet regularly throughout the year. Mrs Lucy Walker is also an attendee at Trustee meetings. Our Chair person Rev Tony Schmitz has many years of working with organisations and within the Catholic Church. He has been a trustee since 2012. Our trustees have a wide range of experience across the charitable, public, private and church sectors. Their backgrounds include, legal practice, accountancy, roles within the Catholic Church, medical, architecture, training and safeguarding. Littleway, NST is currently led by a CEO, Mrs Helen Callaghan and deputy CEO Mrs Lucy Walker. Together with the Council, Trustees and organisational team they have worked with the founders Fr Laurence Brassill O.S.A and Mrs Pauline Edwards to lead the charity through a period of change and growth over the last 6 years.

The main role of the Council is to oversee and advise on the spiritual formation and theological issues that arise.

The members of the Council are:

- Rev Tony Schmitz
- Rev Laurence Brassill OSA
- Mrs Pauline Edwards
- Mrs Maureen Mui

Helen Callaghan and Lucy Walker are standardly invited to attend Council meetings.

## 3. Organisation

The organisation to support Littleway and New Spring is flat with minimal hierarchical structures. A CEO leads an organisational team, including a Deputy CEO, a part-time paid administrator, a Safeguarding Lead, a Financial coordinator, a Communications coordinator, an IT coordinator, a Parish Mission coordinator. There are Regional coordinators, each with a deputy and an assistant coordinator in place in many parts of the UK, including Scotland. As the Ministry has developed, International Regional coordinators have been appointed in those countries after discernment with Council.

## 4. Safeguarding

Safeguarding is an important priority for us. We work within the safeguarding guidelines of the Catholic Church. We have a safeguarding lead and a team of people experienced in safeguarding. All those praying with the public have a basic DBS Certificate, although they previously had the enhanced DBS from their Parishes. With current changes in DBS the CSAS, Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service have looked at the roles in LW and our contact with people and have advised that those praying are required to hold a basic DBS. Accordingly our members currently obtain the basic DBS for our Ministry, besides holding enhanced DBS for parish work. We are in regular consultation with CSAS.

## 5. Littleway Ministries - Who are we and what do we do?

Littleway is a new movement in the Church. Our mission is the New Evangelization called for by the Church in our day. Our ministry arises from a particular charism (gift of the Holy Spirit) that is a Holy Spirit-led Prayer for the Healing of Memories which testifies to the action of the Risen Lord present in the midst of His Church, working through those who pray in His Name, thereby contributing to the healing of the whole person.

Through their testifying to the Lord's work of healing in their lives those healed draw others to their Lord and Saviour: Jesus is alive and continues his work as divine Physician.

Littleway is a gift that has grown rapidly since 1995 out of the shared healing ministry of Father Laurence. Fr. Laurence had been involved in healing ministry, as had Pauline with her husband Peter who died in 1992. Pauline was asked by Fr. Laurence if she would visit Clare Priory. Since it was such a long distance to travel, she didn't think that she would, but she agreed that provided Fr. Laurence wanted to invite people from her area she would do so.

In the meantime Pauline went to stay with her future daughter in law, Berni. Knowing that she was looking for a venue to take the prayer group for a weekend, Berni mentioned that Clare Priory was only a few miles away. Pauline went to investigate and there she met up again with Fr. Laurence. That October the Wellspring Prayer Group went for a retreat to Clare Priory. Later, at Fr. Laurence's request, she took a small group from the South of England there.

# Littleway -New Spring Trust



At the time, a new experiment was taking place at the Priory. Because there was a dearth of Augustinian vocations, and the Augustinians didn't want to close the Priory, lay people were brought in to be part of the community. The Augustinian Mother House, which is Clare Priory in Suffolk, was founded in 1248. It was seized by King Henry VIII at the time of the Reformation and as part of the dissolution of the monasteries. It was transferred into private ownership. In 1953 it was sold back to the Augustinians at a reasonable price. Nowadays it is a mixed community of friars and layfolk.

Pauline was asked to join the community mainly to look after the charismatic dimension of the Parish, including the prayer group, since Fr. Laurence was going to Ecuador. She joined the community fully in 1994. Surprisingly and unexpectedly, Fr. Laurence returned to England and Clare Priory.

The Prior, Fr. Malachy Loughran, had seen the way in which Fr. Laurence and Pauline had ministered individually and as he saw that their gifts were complementary he decided to put them together to minister under the auspices of the Augustinian Community.

Although Pauline left the community in the spring of 2000, she and Fr. Laurence continued to minister together under the auspices of subsequent Priors and Provincials. Through their ministering together and sharing the way that they prayed with people for the healing of their painful memories, Littleway Healing Ministries, now known as Littleway, evolved and has grown steadily. They and their leadership team have trained many people in Britain and Ireland, the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

The non-residential community that has grown out of this ministry has become known as New Spring. This community, with its teams, feels called to help parishes develop their own healing ministry. This then becomes a powerful and permanent witness to the Lordship of Jesus. We work across the United Kingdom.

Our values are those of the Gospel.

## 6. New Spring - Community

Littleway is the gathering together of those who feel drawn to devote their lives more fully to the Risen Lord and each other, through the exercise of this particular Way of Healing Prayer; a ministry that is charismatic and Christ-centred. By seeking to draw all into an ever more profound communion with Christ and each other, recognizing and fostering each other's gifts, the community that we have become is called New Spring.

Different degrees of belonging and involvement continue to develop and structures to support both the healing ministry itself and community living are being developed and formalised. The term "community" is not taken here in the restricted sense of communal living under one roof, nor in the canonical sense of a religious community, but in the sense of a large association animated by a shared community spirit and vision. We are at the early stages of seeking canonical status of being an Association of Christ's Faithful.

## 7. Formation and Training

All our courses draw on our teams' understanding and training in Littleway healing prayer developed in collaborative ministry by Mrs Pauline Edwards and Fr Laurence Brassill O.S.A. Those in training and formation are also called to develop their spiritual life and to pray for an increase in charisms that can be used in the Ministry. Our training is both taught and experiential. It is based on sound theological teaching rooted in the teaching of the Catholic Church and Scripture. It aims to offer personal healing to individuals. This may be physical, emotional, spiritual or psychological and aims to equip people to use the prayer for evangelisation to all, churched or unchurched. We achieved the training targets set down in our business plans for 2016 and 2017 and whilst we will continue to offer our six-day foundation courses, our focus in 2018 and onwards has been to hold LW events which the public can attend. We spent time in 2017-2018 establishing a formation programme for those in the Ministry. This is being rolled out in the UK and is available for our European partners.

Before people are eligible to pray LW healing of memories prayer there are several years of ongoing training, development and an emphasis on their own spiritual development.

The initial training is a six-day foundation course, where people receive the LW healing of memories prayer and begin to learn about it. The week also involves teaching led by Fr Laurence Brassill O.S.A and Mrs Pauline Edwards and other team members.

Ongoing training involves attending gatherings, where there is frequent observation of people practising the prayer. Every training event focuses on aspects of the LW prayer.

Those wanting to serve in this ministry are invited, after discernment, to receive ongoing training as team members and to attend other Ministry events where they regularly pray alongside a more experienced person. After a period of training, it may be discerned that the person is now ready to offer, with an experienced prayer partner, LW prayer to the public. We are very robust about this and currently, throughout the UK, only 25 persons are listed and recognised lead prayer partners, to whom we send people for prayer when they contact our Ministry.

## 8. New Spring - links to Rome

New Spring, with other new communities and movements, is a sign of the new outpourings of the Holy Spirit, the authentic fruit of Second Vatican Council, a new Pentecost. "In recent decades, movements and communities have come to birth in which the power of the Gospel is keenly felt. ... Suddenly here was something nobody had planned on. The Holy Spirit had, so to say, spoken up for himself again ... the faith was surging up in its entirety, with no ifs and buts, but no excuses or way out, experienced as a favour and as a precious life-giving gift" (Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI.) And Pope Francis continues to urge the new movements and communities to play their key role in the new evangelisation. It is this phenomenon that is driving demand for LW courses.

## 9. Companions

There are now over forty persons who have decided to make a life commitment to the Ministry. This has doubled in the last four years. Forty other people have committed amounts from one year to five. There are opportunities throughout the year for retreat time with Fr Laurence, Pauline Edwards and other invited speakers. A two-day retreat for all the companions is held annually.

## 10. Patronage

The ministry and community are under the heavenly patronage of The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God and Mother of Christians, St Joseph, St Augustine and St Monica, St Therese, St Cuthbert, St Wilfrid, St Josephine Bakhita, Sts Louis and Zelig Martin, Blessed William Marsden, Blessed Robert Anderton and Servant of God Marthe Robin.

## 11. Data and systems

We undertook the work needed in May 2018 for GDPR and are fully GDPR compliant.

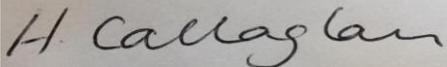
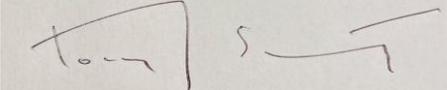
## 12. Income and Expenditure

Income associated with the Ministry has come from a mixture of monthly pledges, donations and course income. The course teams pay for themselves on the courses and events as part of their ongoing training and development. Some courses are more subsidised when necessary. Funds are set aside for our International Centre and for the organisational costs which we strive to keep to a minimum. Having paid for all their expenses for many years we now try and cover some of the Ministry costs for Fr Laurence Brassill and Mrs Pauline Edwards but they receive no remuneration for their work. We are also very thankful to the Augustinian Community for allowing Fr Laurence to give so much time to the Ministry.

All our courses draw on our understanding of Healing of Memories prayer under the power of the Holy Spirit and we follow the simple way of delivering this training developed by Mrs Pauline Edwards with Fr Laurence Brassill O.S.A. There is overwhelming personal testimony both written and oral of the way in which this particular way of praying for healing works for people. Please see the web-site or the fifth edition of Pauline's book for testimonies.

For further information please contact: Helen Callaghan CEO LW/NST via the website: [www.littlewayhealingministries.com](http://www.littlewayhealingministries.com)  
Alternatively, please call our information line on **07936 269 143**.

### Document Approvals:

Name	Capacity	Signature	Date
Helen Callaghan	Trustee, CEO		12-Jan 2020
Tony Schmitz	Trustee		23-Jan 2020