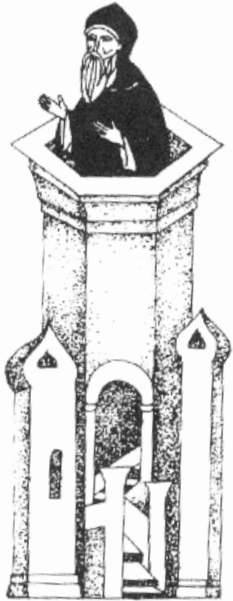




**Belmont Abbey**

Retreats, Conferences & Workshops

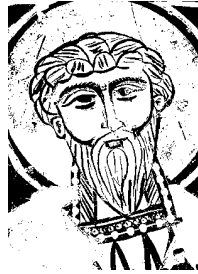
# Beyond the Syrian Sea



Led by Dom Brendan Thomas

Friday 27th to Sunday 29th  
January 2012

Cost £25 plus meals/accommodation.



We speak of the Road to Damascus, but what of the road from Damascus? What of the very beginnings of the Church played out in Syria, where the disciples of Jesus were first called 'Christians'?

We encounter in Syria a Church laid on the foundations of Peter and Paul, reflected in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.

— ■ —  
“As grain, once scattered on the hillsides, was in this broken bread made one, so from all lands your Church is gathered into your kingdom by your Son.”  
**The Didache**

— ■ —  
We find itinerant preachers in that early Church document the *Didache*, vibrant Christian community in the *Sons and Daughters of the Covenant*. We meet a poet-theologian in St Ephrem, the witness of martyrdom in Ignatius, Sergius and Bacchus, and eccentricity-with-a-purpose in Simeon and the Stylite Saints .

From the Sea of Galilee to the Euphrates, from Damascus to Antioch we explore the Church as it emerges and finds its feet in Syria, called the 'Cradle of Christianity.'

*Dom Brendan is Novice Master at Belmont*

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**For further information contact**

The Retreats Secretary, Belmont Abbey,

HEREFORD HR2 9RZ

Tel: 07799 811 646 Bookings

**E-mail:** [retreats@belmontabbey.org.uk](mailto:retreats@belmontabbey.org.uk)

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## General Information

- ❖ All retreats and conferences at Belmont take their rhythm from the Divine Office and Mass, the daily round of prayer of the monastic community which guests are welcome to attend.
- ❖ Please arrive at any time Friday afternoon. Vespers (Evening Prayer) is at 5.55pm. Supper follows at 6.50pm and the first session at 8.20pm.
- ❖ Departures are after 1.00pm lunch on Sunday.
- ❖ Talks are normally be held in the Kemble Room, situated halfway between the Hedley Lodge entrance and the Abbey Church.
- ❖ Meals and accommodation are in Hedley Lodge Guesthouse which provides a comfortable and relaxed atmosphere for your stay. If the accommodation is available you are welcome to extend your stay. To book, the number for Hedley Lodge is 01432 374747.