

Sisters of St. Martha Bethany Center

Retreats

September 2010 - August 2011

Guided Retreat: September 29 - October 7, 2010

Theme: Receiving and Being Sacraments in an Evolving Universe

Presenter: Honora Werner, op

Conscious of our place in an evolving Universe and receiving the revelation that God offers us through that Great Mystery, we will ponder the sacraments we have received in our life. We use natural elements to sign what we believe happens. Now we ask, in the light of what we learn from the Universe is there more to understand about these sacraments? As Christians we are called to be signs of God's Presence in the world. How does each sacrament we receive mission us for this great work? We will have some time for conversation, but most of the day will be spent in silence.

Honora Werner is a Dominican Sister from Caldwell, NJ. She has been a preacher of retreats and parish missions, as well as a teacher of homiletics for many years to seminarians and theology students. Her particular interest is in living, praying, reading Scripture in the light of the evolutionary Universe Story, and assisting others to do so.

Guided Retreat: March 15 - 23, 2011

Theme: Greening Spirit: Mysticism of the Earth

Presenter: Jim Profit, sj

This retreat fosters an experience of God within Creation. You will be nourished by God's awe-inspiring goodness and beauty. We will reflect on Christ's passion and resurrection in our time, as it relates to our earth home in peril. These days will offer inspiration and nurture hope-filled living, expressing the healing power of Earth.

James Profit is a Jesuit priest trained in agriculture, rural sociology, and theology. He is the director of the Ignatius Jesuit Centre of Guelph, a 600 acre home of wetlands, woods, an organic farm, a retreat house and an ecology ministry. James' love for the outdoors was nurtured by his upbringing in PEI and by living in Jamaica, Manitoulin Island, and at the Ignatius Jesuit Centre.

Weekend Retreat April 8,9,10 on Centering Prayer

Sister Anne Veronica MacNeil, sc (See Program Brochure)

Guided Retreat: April 26 - May 4, 2010

Theme: **Gathering Up the Blessings of My Life**

Presenter: **James Brackin, scj**

The word “Blessings” has its origin in the Latin meaning “to speak well of something.” The retreat is a series of reflections and rituals to speak well of one’s life from its origin with God through its journey back to God. The symbols of a “gathering basket” and a “heart” are incorporated throughout the retreat. The “gathering basket” is reflective of gathering together the blessings of ones life, as a means of recognizing their abundance. The “heart” is reflective of the center of one’s life and the place where my blessings are encountered and stored in memory. The individual reflections and rituals are rooted in scripture and in one’s own experience of blessings in one’s life.

Although born in Hankinson, North Dakota, *Fr. James Brackin* grew up in Southern California along with his five brothers and sisters. He is a member of the Priests of the Sacred Heart. Over the past forty years, Fr. Brackin participated in a variety of ministries, including parish, prison, formation, retreat and spiritual direction. He also served as President-Rector of Sacred Heart School of Theology in Hales Corner, Wisconsin. Currently he serves on the provincial leadership team.

Guided Retreat: May 17 - 25, 1011

Theme: **Becoming the Beloved Disciple of John’s Gospel**

Presenter: **Dan Crosby, OFM CAP**

For many years we took for granted the “Beloved Disciple” who appears in the latter chapters of John’s Gospel is John, the Gospel writer himself. Most recent Scripture scholars have begun to question this. They tell us that the “Beloved Disciple” was indeed a real disciple but deliberately un-named so that all disciples encountering these passages could find themselves within them. This retreat will linger over all these passages of John’s Gospel in order to discover the richness they contain for a deeper following of Jesus in our own lives.

Dan Crosby is a member of the Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph. Ordained in 1964, his life has been enriched by a variety of ministries and cultures, from college campus ministry and teaching to pasturing inner city and native parishes. Wherever he has ministered, Dan has worked to integrate Scripture as well as the Franciscan vision into his life and preaching. Elected to provincial leadership by his community, he is presently director of St. Anthony Retreat Center in Marathon, Wisconsin. We are happy to welcome Dan to Bethany Center.

Directed Retreat: May 31 - June 8, 2011

Directors: **Jean Marc Laporte, sj**
 Claire MacNeil, csm

Jane MacDonnell, ibvm
Gail O’Donnell, rscj

Jean Marc Laporte, sj taught theology at Regis College, Toronto and served as Provincial of the English Canada Province of the Jesuits. He has directed retreats at Bethany Center in the past and is currently the Director of the Jesuit Centre of Spirituality in Halifax.

Jane MacDonnell, ibvm is a Loretto Sister who has for over 20 years accompanied individuals in their personal search for “the more” of Life. She has directed retreats, facilitated groups, and been a listening ear for those in discernment. She lives north of Toronto on Lake Simcoe where she is Director of Loretto Maryholme Spirituality Centre. We welcome Jane to Bethany Center for the first time.

Claire MacNeil, csm is a Sister of St. Martha of Antigonish. She is an experienced spiritual director with a background in teaching, music and liturgy, and holds a Master of Applied Spirituality degree from the University of San Francisco. She is a graduate of the Haden Institute of Spiritual Direction. Sr. Claire is also a certified Reiki practitioner. She is currently on the staff of Bethany Center, offering spiritual direction, and facilitating retreats.

Gail O'Donnell, rscj is a Religious of the Sacred Heart and has been directing retreats since 1980. She has served on the Formation Team of her community in the United States and on the International Team in Rome. Currently she is the Director of Continuing Education at Weston Jesuit School of Theology.

Guided Retreat: July 3-9, 2011

This retreat is for the Sisters of Charity Jubilarians. It is led by Barbara Fiand, ssnd.

Guided Retreat: July 13 - 21, 2011

Theme: Life, to me, of course, is Christ

Presenter: Lorraine Caza, cnd

In his letter to the Philippians, Paul speaks so beautifully of his relationship to Christ. Could we find inspiration for our own growth in intimacy with Christ, in that special letter?

Lorraine Caza, cnd was born in Quebec and entered the Congregation of Notre Dame of Montreal. She holds a diploma in Pastoral Catechetical Theology from the University of Montreal and a Doctorate in Theology from the Dominican College in Ottawa. She has served as Leader of the Congregation of Notre Dame, is a resource person for the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Canadian Religious Conference and is a member of the Pastoral Council of the Archdiocese of Montreal. She has led retreats for various groups: apostolic and monastic communities of men and women, catholic priests and bishops, pastors, members of other Churches, and in spirituality centers. We are delighted to welcome Sister Lorraine back to Bethany Center.

Directed Retreat: July 13 - 21, 2011

This retreat will run concurrently with the Guided Retreat on the same date.

Director: Ron Mercier, sj

Ron Mercier, SJ, a member of the New England Province, is currently professor of ethics at St. Louis University and Rector of Bellarmine House, the formation community for Jesuits studying at the university. He has previously been Dean and Professor of Ethics at Regis College, Toronto. He has been very involved in Ignatian spiritual and retreat direction in Canada, the U.S., Ireland and Malaysia. We are delighted to welcome Ron once again to Bethany Center.

Private Directed Retreat

Anyone wishing to make a directed retreat at a time other than when scheduled above is welcome to arrange this by calling the Center.

Spiritual Direction

Regular Spiritual Direction in the midst of everyday life can also be arranged by calling the Center.

Bethany Center Staff

Donna Brady, csm

Elizabeth Beaton, csm

Joan Fultz, csm

Rachel MacNeil, csm

Claire MacNeil, csm

Registration and Cost of Retreats

You may register for retreats on-line or by phone.

Cost: \$425 - All Scheduled Retreats.

- \ This fee includes: Registration, Accommodations and Meals.**
- \ A non-refundable deductible deposit of \$50 is required to complete your registration.**
- \ \$65/day - Private Retreats**
- \ Spiritual Direction - donation/session**

Retreats begin at 7:30 p.m. on the first day and end at the noon meal on the last day.

Contact us:

Phone: Monday - Friday, 9:30 - 4:30 at 902-863-4726

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mail: 45 Bay Street, Antigonish, NS B2G 2G6

Visit us on the web at www.themarthas.com/bethany_center.htm

