

RETREAT PROGRAM 2017

April: Friday 21st -28th

Depthing love within, we will be more centred and at one with God

We take a walk with God and three of the female doctors of the church: Teresa of Avila, Catherine of Siena and Therese of Lisieux. This six day silent retreat focusses on *lessons of love* drawn from the lives and spiritual wisdom of these inspiring mystics.

Facilitator: Colleen Leonard sgs

May: Tuesday 2nd -9th

The Sea Hath Its Pearls

This retreat is dedicated to the memory of Kaye Evans rsm. As this retreat was a particular favourite with Kaye it is a privilege to offer it once again with further insights and deeper wisdom. This is a silent guided retreat with direction offered each day (optional). On this occasion daily Eucharist will be available.

Facilitators: Carole Carmody rsm & Hien Vu pp

May: Sunday 28th -June: Sunday 4th

ONE

When once we experience Mystical Love drawing us from our centre, we catch a glimpse of what it might be like to be one as Jesus prayed for us to be. We want more. We yearn for more.

This retreat is an invitation to sink more deeply into the experience of ONE, by entering the contemplative spaciousness of silence where creative union is born. In this inner sanctuary where the Beloved dwells, healing happens and transformation rises to meet us.

Facilitator: Madeline Duckett rsm

June: Friday 23rd -30th

Crossing Thresholds

This retreat offers an opportunity to pause and reflect on the thresholds of life. The inner and outer beauty of Santa Casa offers a nurturing space to explore the mysteries of the heart. This retreat offers a silent atmosphere with opportunities for direction each day.

Facilitators: Carole Carmody rsm & Margaret Donald

July: Friday 11th -18th

Jesus our teacher in the Gospel of Matthew

In the retreat we will reflect on Jesus as the new Moses, who gives the Law its full meaning. Our reflections will focus on the traditions of Moses in the books of Exodus and Deuteronomy and those of Jesus in Matthew, especially in the Sermon on the Mount and some of the parables in that Gospel.

Facilitator: Chris Hope pp

August: Sunday 6th -13th

Contemplating Creations's Creavity: Contemplating Love

I see...sapphire blue like the transparent love of contemplation....

Hildegard of Bingen, Scivias Book 3 Vision 9.25

In her colourfully vivid illuminations and visions, Hildegard of Bingen invites us to see, to hear and to kiss the luminous Spirit glowing within creation, pouring forth life and light and creativity. In this retreat we will explore foundational wisdom in Hildegard's Scivia, and see how the ground breaking evolutionary mysticism of Teilhard de Chardin, Beatrice Brutuea and Ilia Delio, connect with Hildegard and lay a trustworthy path for us to follow in enabling the evolution of a sensitive, communal, contemplative consciousness.

Facilitator: Kerri Hide

September: Friday 15th -22nd

Coming home to the Heart in the company of Teresa of Avila.

This is a fully directed retreat within the beautiful reflective space of Santa Casa. Each person has the opportunity to see a director daily. Reflective sheets will be available each day with a special focus on the spirituality of Teresa of Avila. The day concludes with night prayer.

Facilitators: Carole Carmody rsm & Rhonda Dingle

November: Wednesday 1st - 8th

“... Some Greeks approached Philip
and put this request to him,
'Sir, we would like to see Jesus'
Philip went to tell Andrew,
and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus”
(John 12: 20-21)

“We Want to See Jesus”

Discipleship as a Journey of Search and Commitment

“... and I am with you always, until the end of time.”

Facilitator: Peter Varengo sdb

December: Friday 1st - 8th

The Heart Waits

The advent retreat offers a prayerful reflective space to be in touch with the heart and the deeper mysteries of life. Each day there is a morning and evening reflection with opportunities for direction daily.

Facilitators: Carole Carmody rsm & Madeline Duckett rsm



FACILITATORS' PROFILES



Carole Carmody rsm is a Sister of Mercy and an experienced spiritual director with a special love for creating sacred spaces, and a reflective atmosphere. Carole believes in the capacity which each person has to depth their experience, and to discover the unique treasure within.



Rhonda Dingle is a spiritual director who completed her studies with Wellspring Centre, Ashburton. Rhonda is committed to providing silent retreats with an emphasis on encouraging a contemplative way of life.



Margaret Donald is an experienced spiritual director and retreat presenter. She has been associated with the Wellspring Centre, Ashburton, for many years where she continues to offer silent retreats and reflective days. She has a deep love for Celtic spirituality, Centering Prayer, and the process of reflective art as a container of awareness. She is passionate about providing silent spaces to enable each person to depth their own unique journey of the heart.



Madeleine Duckett rsm is a Sister of Mercy, with a background in education, theology, and spiritual direction. She has worked in women's spirituality and staff formation ministry in a number of contexts. She believes in the power of imagination and creative processes to facilitate the journey towards transformation and mystical union. Recently Madeline has worked with Ilia Delio osf to develop an evolutionary understanding of God, the universe and the power of Love at work in the cosmic unfolding.



Kerri Hide has been a spiritual director for 30 years. She has a background in mystical theology and completed her PhD *Gifted Origins to Graced Fulfilment*, on salvation as *oneing* in the *Showings of Julian of Norwich*, which was published as an award winning book. She has written many articles on prayer and spirituality. After 18 years lecturing in theology and spirituality at ACU, Canberra and 9 years as a spiritual director at St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park, she now continues to enjoy spiritual direction, retreat work and writing.



Fr Chris Hope ordained in Rome in 1966 is the Parish priest at Kingston-Channel Parish in southern Tasmania. He is involved as well in promoting an understanding and love of the Word of God at various levels in Tasmania and beyond. From 1973 – 1979, Fr Chris was on the Staff at Corpus Christi College Clayton and lectured in Sacred Scripture at Catholic Theological College. For many years he has given retreats based on biblical themes.



Colleen Leonard sgs is a Sister of the Good Samaritan and an experienced retreat presenter and spiritual director. Colleen has qualifications in education, theology and spirituality. In recent years she has been in the ministry of formation in her congregation.



Fr Peter Varengo sdb is a Salesian of Don Bosco (sdb) and his background and formation have been in education secondary, tertiary and adult, with particular interest in Religious Education. During his time as a member of the Formation team for his congregation he developed a personal interest in spirituality, and this has brought him into the area of spirituality and retreat work during the past twenty years. He considers this a real blessing as it has been a challenge and a stimulus to him personally as he lives his own commitment as a religious and as a priest.



Fr Hien Vu is the Parish priest of St Brendan's Parish Flemington within the Archdiocese of Melbourne. He is a spiritual director and completed his studies at the Heart of Life Spirituality Centre, Melbourne.

