

JESUIT
SPIRITUALITY
CENTER

Reflections

St. Charles College
PO Box C
313 Martin Luther King Dr.
Grand Coteau, LA 70541-1003
Tel: 337-662-5251

Fall 2018

3, 5, AND 8-DAY RETREATS

8-day retreats begin on first date.
3 & 5-day retreats begin on either date.

Tue., Jan. 22 or Fri., Jan. 25
Mon., Feb. 11 or Thu., Feb. 14
Mon., Feb 25—3 & 5 days only
Mon., Mar. 11 or Thu., Mar. 14
Mon., Mar. 25 or Thu., Mar. 28
Mon., Apr. 8 or Thu., Apr. 11
Mon., Apr. 29 or Thu., May 2
Mon., May 13 or Thu., May 16
Mon., May 27 or Thu., May 30
Mon., June 17 or Thu., June 20
Mon., July 8 or Thu., July 11
Mon., July 22 or Thu., July 25
Fri., Aug. 2—3 & 5 days only
Mon., Aug. 19 or Thu., Aug. 22
Tue., Sep. 3 or Fri., Sep. 6
Mon., Sep. 16 or Thu., Sep. 19
Mon., Sep. 30 or Thu., Oct. 3
Mon., Oct. 14 or Thu., Oct. 17
Mon., Oct. 28 or Thu., Oct. 31
Mon., Nov. 11 —3 & 5 days only
Mon., Dec. 2 or Thu., Dec. 5

30-DAY RETREATS

Mon., Mar. 11 to Sat., Apr. 13
Mon., Jun. 10 to Sat., Jul. 13
Mon., Oct. 7 to Sat., Nov. 9

WEEKEND PROGRAMS

Bearing Our Sacred Mysteries
Robin Hebert Jan 17—20

Introduction to the Directed Retreat
Nelda Turner Feb 1—3

Icon Writing Workshop/ Intermediate &
Advanced Level
Dmitri Andreyev Feb 4—10

Retreat for Young Women
Jane Hebert & Yvonne Hymel
Mar 22 —24

The Little Way: St. Therese's Path
Robin Hebert Jun 6—9

Zen Practices for Christian Living
Fr. Robert Kennedy, S.J. Sep 26—29

Intro to Icon Painting for Beginners
Faye Drobnic
Oct 10—13 **PLUS** Oct 24—27 **ALSO**

AA Weekend
Fr. Tom Weston, S.J.
Wed. Nov 20—24

Website: jesuitspiritualitycenter.org

Email: office@jesuitspiritualitycenter.org

Weekend Programs in 2019

Faye Drobnic, of St. Elizabeth Icon Studio, Lafayette, LA, will conduct a workshop Oct 10-13 and Oct 24-27 for beginners on painting an icon. In this six-day workshop, conducted over two weekends, students will learn both the practical and theological aspects of the iconographic tradition: the process of writing (painting) an icon, the theological foundation of the work, and the symbolism of each step. In an atmosphere of prayerful silence, each participant will complete an icon in egg tempera, using the same natural materials and ancient techniques used by iconographers throughout centuries.

January 17-20 Robin Hebert, will present a program on the theme: " Bearing Our Sacred Mysteries: A Journey with Our Mother, " in which we "look to Mary, our Mother, for the clarity, wisdom and courage we need as women to ponder our lives and explore the new life to which the Lord is calling us."

From February 1 to 3, Nelda Turner will lead the "Introduction to the Directed Retreat," meant for someone making a silent directed retreat for the first time. Group and individual sessions will focus on how to pray, to journal, and to communicate prayer experiences with one's director. This retreat also will prepare participants for a longer 3, 5, 8 or 30-day retreat.

Robin Hebert will return June 6-9 to repeat her much appreciated retreat on Saint Therese of Lisieux: "The Little Way: A Journey along St. Therese's Path of Confidence and Love."

Dmitri Andreyev from the Prosopeon School of Iconology will instruct intermediate and advanced iconographers in the annual workshop from Monday, February 4 through Sunday, February 10.

Fr. Robert Kennedy, S.J. will return in September for "Zen Practices for Christian Living" and Fr. Tom Weston, S.J. in November for "AA Weekend: Staying Sober with the 12-Steps." These are popular programs, and so early registration is recommended.

Jane L. Hebert & Yvonne C. Hymel will present a mind, body, spirit retreat for young women, 20's through early 40's in March (22 —24). Information and registration are available at www.retreatsforyoungwomen.org

More information on these programs and all retreats can be found online at jesuitspiritualitycenter.org.



From the Director — On August 24, Father Arturo Sosa, S.J., the Superior General of the Jesuits released from Rome a letter to the entire Society of Jesus and our Companions in our ministries throughout the world, in which he wrote: “The confusion, the disappointment, the anger, the feeling of impotence and the spiritual desolation that this situation is provoking in many members of the People of God, and in others throughout the world, require a courageous renewal of our faith that opens space for what today seems to us impossible.”

Father Sosa was, of course, writing about the horrendous scandal of abuse and cover-up facing the Church throughout the world, and especially for us in the U. S. At the foundation of that “courageous renewal of our faith” lies the reality that our faith is rooted and grounded in the person Jesus Christ. The great gift of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius is to help us come to grow in a deep felt knowledge of and love for this Person. The grace or gift that we take with us from the Exercises is that Jesus walks with us in every aspect of our daily living. We are helped, supported, and sustained in faith by the community of the Church.

The Church, however, is formed by human beings—fallible, weak, and sinful. We are experiencing this crisis in the Church due to the horrible crimes of a few ordained men and some religious men and women. Their crimes, and the cover-up in many cases, are inexcusable. We all have an obligation to protect and defend the vulnerable people in this community—regardless of age or status. All of us also have an obligation to do what needs to be done to make this

real.

Ultimately, we remain members of the Church because it is there that we encounter Jesus. He is the center, the core, the meaning, and foundation of faith and Church. Let us keep our attention on him, and work to realize a Church that reflects him in every way possible.

We should offer fervent prayers for the victims, for their peace and healing. That will also help the Church to find peace, reconciliation, and healing.

On a happier note, I am pleased to report that six of our novices pronounced their first vows as Jesuits on August 11, and left Grand Coteau to pursue further studies leading to ordination. Seven men entered the novitiate the day before, August 10. We have a total of 19 novices this year here in G. C. Also, the Jesuits in the U. S. and Canada ordained 27 men this summer as priests.

This summer we have seen a large number of retreatants come to the Center. One retreatant told me that the Jesuit Spirituality Center is the nicest retreat facility in the U. S. I have no way of confirming that, but I do know that we constantly hear retreatants say that returning here is an experience of “returning home.” I pray that God will continue to bless us and all those who come here looking for spiritual renewal and refreshment.

Please tell others about your own experience here, and encourage them to come and see for themselves.

Tony Ostini, S. J.



At the heart of Ignatian spirituality is the transforming encounter with the mercy of God in Christ that moves us to a generous personal response. The experience of the merciful gaze of God on our weakness and sinfulness humbles us and fills us with gratitude, helping us to become compassionate Filled with the fire of Christ’s mercy, we can enflame those we meet.

“Mercy,” Pope Francis reminds us, “is not an abstraction but a lifestyle consisting in concrete gestures rather than mere words.” . . . compassion is action. . . . Yet we know that there is no authentic familiarity with God if we do not allow ourselves to be moved to compassion and action by an encounter with the Christ who is revealed in the suffering, vulnerable faces of people, indeed in the suffering of creation.

—36th General Congregation of the S. J., 2016

The ministry of the Spiritual Exercises which the Jesuit Spirituality Center offers is made possible thanks to the generous contributions, both large and small, of its supporters and benefactors. The Jesuits of the Central and Southern Province of the United States also contribute substantially to its ministry. The Jesuit Spirituality Center is a non-profit and tax exempt ministry. It is one of only a few retreat centers in the United States that offer individually-directed retreats of three, five, eight, and thirty days. The Staff of the Center remember gratefully in prayer all the benefactors and supporters of the Center.