

Fall 2019

Website: jesuitspiritualitycenter.org Email: office@jesuitspiritualitycenter.org

3, 5, AND 8-DAY RETREATS

8-day retreats begin on first date.

3 & 5-day retreats begin on either date.

Mon., Nov. 11—3 & 5 days only
Mon., Dec. 2 or Thu., Dec. 5
Tue., Jan. 21 or Fri., Jan. 24
Mon., Feb. 10 or Thu., Feb. 13
Mon., Mar. 2 or Thu., Mar. 5
Mon., Mar. 16 or Thu., Mar. 19
Mon., Mar. 30 or Thu., Apr. 2
Mon., Apr. 20 or Thu., Apr. 23
Fri., May 1—3 & 5 days only
Mon., May 11 or Thu., May 14
Mon., May 25 or Thu., May 28
Mon., Jun. 8 or Thu., Jun. 11
Mon., Jun., 22 or Thu., Jun. 25
Mon., July 6 or Thu., July 9
Mon., July 20 or Thu., July 23
Mon., Aug. 17 or Thu., Aug. 20
Mon., Aug., 31—3 & 5 days only
Tue., Sep. 8 or Fri., Sep. 11
Mon., Sep. 21 or Thu., Sep. 24
Mon., Oct. 5 or Thu., Oct. 8
Mon., Oct. 19 or Thu., Oct. 22
Mon., Nov. 2 or Thu., Nov. 5
Mon., Nov. 30 or Thu., Dec. 3

Thirty-Day Retreats

Mon., Mar. 2 to Sat., Apr. 4
Mon., Jun. 8 to Sat., Jul. 11
Mon., Oct. 5 to Sat., Nov. 6

WEEKEND PROGRAMS IN 2020

Introduction to the Directed Retreat
Nelda Turner Jan 17— 19

Icon Writing Workshop/ Intermediate &
Advanced Level

Dmitri Andreyev Feb 3— 9

Retreat for Young Women
Jane L. Hebert June 5 — 7

Bearing our Sacred Mysteries:
Contemplative Retreat for Women
Robin Hebert Oct 1— 4

Intro to Icon Painting for Beginners
Faye Drobnic Oct 15—18

PLUS Oct 29—Nov 1 **ALSO**

Zen Practices for Christian Living
Fr. Robert Kennedy, S.J. Nov 12 – 15

AA Weekend
Fr. Tom Weston, S.J.
Wed, Nov 18— 22

New Retreat Director Joins Staff

Fr. John Lan Tran, S.J. joined the staff of retreat directors in July. Born in Vietnam, Fr. Tran came to the U.S. as a teenager and grew up in Kansas City, Missouri. In college, he studied physics and computer science. He later worked in environmental research and database programming. In 1997, Fr. Tran joined the Jesuits. Since becoming a priest in 2008, Fr. Tran has worked as Pastoral Director at St. Louis University High School, St. Louis, Missouri, as Director of Mission and Identity at St. John's College in Belize City, Belize, and as Retreat Director at Montserrat Jesuit Retreat House in Lake Dallas, Texas. In addition, Fr. Tran has been the National Ecclesiastical Assistant (chaplain) to the Christian Life Community in the U.S. since 2017. In his spare time, Fr. Tran enjoys reading historical novels, taking photographs, and fixing computers.

Weekend Programs in 2020

Mrs. Nelda Turner will facilitate "An Introduction to the Directed Retreat" Friday, January 17 until Sunday, January 19. This popular program is intended 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, or 8-day retreat.

Mrs. Jane Hebert will facilitate a retreat for women in their early 20s to early 40s to explore God's presence in their lives. This two-night silent, interactive retreat from Friday, June 5 until Sunday afternoon, June 7 is specifically designed to help young women hear God's whisper in their hearts and respond to the Spirit's invitation. It offers guidance in opening to God and a spaciousness in which to reflect and articulate this experience of encounter. To register for this program contact: retreatsforyoungwomen.org.



From the Director — On August 10, twelve of our novices pronounced their first vows as Jesuits, and left Grand Coteau to pursue further studies. On that date throughout the U. S. and Canada, 28 Jesuits pronounced their first vows.

Five men entered the novitiate the day before, on August 9, giving us a total of 11 novices this year here in Grand Coteau. You can meet our novices at: <http://jesuitscentralandsouthern.org/become?PAGE=DTN-20141106034204>

Four Jesuits were ordained to the priesthood on June 8, 2019, at Holy Name of Jesus Church in New Orleans. They were among the 22 Jesuits in the U. S. and Canada ordained priests this summer.

Fr. Tom Madden, S.J. was celebrated on August 11 for his 75 years as a Jesuit. He spent a good number of them ministering in the Spirituality Center.

Congratulations, Father Madden, and many thanks for these many years of a fruitful and exemplary life as a Jesuit.

Thanks to the generosity of two benefactors, husband and wife, we will soon replace our mattresses. Retreatants sometimes comment that our suggested fees are considerably below the fees of other retreat centers. We receive substantial support from the Jesuits of the Central and Southern Province both because we Jesuits are committed to this apostolate, and because it is helped by being “under the same roof” as the province novitiate and pavilion (infirmary). Since there are fewer Jesuits earning a salary in our institutions, we certainly do rely on the support and generosity of benefactors who can help us maintain our ministry of retreats, as well as helping to keep fees as reasonable as possible.

Tony Ostini, S. J.

Did You Know?

The symbols **A. M. D. G.** and **IHS** are often prominently displayed in Jesuit churches, institutions, and in Jesuit publications.

The **IHS** is a Christogram - a combination of letters that represent the holy name "Jesus." It is a contraction derived from the Greek word ΙΗΣΟΥΣ, JESUS, used as a symbol or monogram. St. Ignatius centered his spirituality on Jesus, and named his religious order the Society of Jesus. Our Jesuit Pope Francis displays the Christogram prominently on his personal coat of arms.



The **A. M. D. G.** stands for the Latin phrase “**Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam,**” which is usually translated as: “For the greater glory of God.” This is regarded as the “motto” of the Society of Jesus, the Jesuits. In the Spiritual Exercises, St. Ignatius urges the retreatant to consider doing not just what is necessary in living one’s faith, but doing “more” (*magis*) for God.

Jim Manney explains the “*magis*” this way in his book Ignatian Spirituality A to Z (Loyola Press): “The word comes from a meditation in the Spiritual Exercises named “The Call of the King.” The retreatant is asked to imagine how he or she would respond to a call from Christ to join him in his work in the world. Most people would be happy to say yes; but for some there’s more:

*Those who wish to give proof of their love and to distinguish themselves in whatever concerns the service of [Christ], will not only offer themselves for the work, but will act against their sensuality and carnal and worldly love, and make offerings of **greater value and of more importance.***

You can do what most people would do, or you can go all-in. . . . Christ doesn’t call everyone to this all-encompassing way of life, but the disciple of Christ can be *willing* to go this way. Someone who loves Christ will always look for new and better ways to serve him. Everyone who experiences the Spiritual Exercises ponders the *magis*, so it’s no wonder it shows up constantly in Ignatian circles. It implies a willingness to change, an openness to new ideas and perspectives.”

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.