

PRAYERSHOP SERIES

Designed to actively involve participants in a variety of prayer forms, prayershops will offer adequate preparation for continuing the practices in everyday life. Register for one — or more — depending on your interests!

Praying Our Own Life Story

Francis Daly, S.J., M.Div.
Saturday, Jan. 14
1:30 – 4:30 p.m.

One's own lived experience provides reflective Christians with a rich source for prayer and meditation. After looking at the pilgrim journeys of Jesus and St. Ignatius of Loyola as paradigms, participants will have the opportunity to ponder their own life stories and delight in the ways they have encountered God's enduring presence. The program will conclude with a celebration of Sunday's liturgy.

Francis J. Daly, S.J., M.Div., served as master of novices for the Detroit and Chicago provinces and as Tertian director for Jesuits from four continents. He is the director of Ignatian formation at St. Xavier High School in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Register by Jan. 5
Suggested offering: \$20

Praying with Thomas Merton

Mary McDevitt, IHM, D.Min.
Saturday, March 24
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

"The only true joy on earth is to escape from the false self and to enter by love into union with Life who dwells and sings within the essence of every creature and in the core of our own souls."
(From *New Seeds of Contemplation*)

Thomas Merton is considered the most influential spiritual writer of the last century. In this prayershop we will consider three themes from the vast body of his works: the meaning of interiority, contemplative spirituality, and human identity as seen in his writings. Merton can teach us how to love God and to care passionately about our world. Together we hope to discover how much we need Merton's spiritual guidance for our own spiritual journey.

Mary McDevitt, IHM, D.Min., founding director and now staff member of Visitation North, was taught by Merton in 1968, a month before he died.

Register by March 16
Suggested offering: \$20

Praying with Teresa of Avila

Margaret Brennan, IHM, Ph.D.
Saturday, May 12
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

"Nothing can be learned without a little trouble, so do, for the love of God, look upon any care which you take about this as time well spent. I know that with God's help if you practice prayer for a year, or perhaps only six months, you will be successful in attaining it. Think what a short time that is for acquiring such a benefit.
(From *The Way of Perfection*)

Each of us is created for the contemplation of God who dwells not "up there" or "out there" but "here," within us. For Teresa, what made all the difference was the recognition that entering *the homeland of the heart* is to journey to an interior castle where God dwells.

Margaret Brennan, IHM, Ph.D., theologian, author and scripture scholar, has taught and written on spirituality, sustainability and theology in universities and seminaries across the U.S. and Canada. Her memoir, "What Was There for Me Once," was published by Novalis 2009.

Register by May 1
Suggested offering: \$20

The Kingdom is within You
Juliana Casey, IHM, Ph.D.
Saturday, May 19
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

"The kingdom is within you." It is such a simple, familiar phrase and yet so elusive. In this presentation, we will look at the meaning of the "kingdom," who belongs, and what it's like to live in God's kingdom. The scriptures will be our source, and our lives will lead us to interpretation.

Juliana Casey, IHM, Ph.D. and STD, has written many articles, lectured widely in the US and other countries and taught at every level including graduate school. She retired from full-time service after serving several years as executive vice president, mission integration at Catholic Health East. She currently works as a consultant in the areas of sponsorship, governance, scripture studies and ministry formation.

Register by May 5
Suggested offering: \$20



**Visitation North
Spirituality Center
7227 Lahser Road
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301
Phone: 248-433-0950
visitationnorth@ihmsisters.org
www.visitationnorth.org**

**We're between 14 and 15 Mile Roads.
Enter at the light for Marian High.
Come to the first door
on the south.
We're upstairs!**



Registration

- Lent: A Springtime for the Soul
- Mid-Long-Life Directions
- Cultivating a Spiritual Life in the Midst of a Busy, Me-Centered Culture
- Across the Great Divide: Christianity and Islam
- The Mystical Way in Everyday Life: The Spirituality of Karl Rahner
- A New Look at Jesus
- The Kingdom is Within You

Prayershops

- Praying Our Own Life Story
- Praying with Merton
- Praying with Teresa of Avila

Name

Address

City, State

Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail

Amount enclosed

Mail check or money order to:

Visitation North
7227 Lahser Road
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301



Lent: A Springtime for the Soul Kathie Budesky, IHM, MA Saturday, Feb. 11 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

The term “Lent” is derived from the Old English word for “spring.” In this workshop, participants will consider how a return to this ancient understanding can give us a new lens for understanding and living this special season when we move from the death and darkness of winter to the new life and light that is Easter.

Kathie Budesky, IHM, MA, director of Visitation North, is a recent associate of the Ignatian Program in Spiritual Direction and Retreat Ministry at Guelph, Ontario.

*Register by Feb. 10
Suggested offering: \$20*

Mid-Long-Life Directions Workshop:

A weekend workshop for people in the second half of life

**Monica Stuhldreier, IHM, MA, facilitator
Feb. 24 (7 p.m.)-Feb. 26 (noon), 2012**

In the 21st century, adults in mid-life can expect to live another 40 years. But as Carl Jung says, “We cannot live the afternoon of life according to the program of life’s morning.” We invite you to pause and reflect on where you’ve been and then look forward to the future, perhaps towards dreams you haven’t yet lived. We will use reflection, a journal, our own unique experience and comfortable sharing.

Monica Stuhldreier, IHM, MA, is a certified Mid-and-Long life directions consultant. She is program director and certified spiritual director at Visitation North.

*Register by Feb. 10
Deposit: \$50 (included in fee)
Fee: \$150 (includes Saturday lunch and dinner)*

Cultivating a Spiritual Life in the Midst of a Busy, Me-Centered Culture: A Lenten Journey

**Fr. Tom Lumpkin, M.Div.
Wednesdays, Feb. 29, March 21 and 28
7 – 9 p.m.**

In this three-part evening series we will reflect on some particular dimensions of spirituality that are especially needed and challenging for cultivating an inner life today: a regular prayer discipline, living simply and having a social justice orientation.

Fr. Tom Lumpkin is a priest of the Archdiocese of Detroit and director of Dorothy Day House.

*Register by Feb. 21
Suggested offering: \$20 per session; \$50 for series*

Across the Great Divide: Christianity and Islam: A Group Discussion

**Monica Stuhldreier, IHM, MA, facilitator
Mondays, March 5, 12, 19, 26
10 – 11:30 a.m.**

In this series of group discussions from the editors of *Sojourners* magazine, we will address the topic of Christians and Muslims in the post-9/11 world. As the basis for our conversation, we will use *Sojourners* articles designed to spark discussion and thought about how to live out God’s call for justice in our world.

Monica Stuhldreier, IHM, MA, is program director and certified spiritual director at Visitation North.

*Register by Feb. 27
Suggested offering: \$40, plus materials*

The Mystical Way in Everyday Life: The Spirituality of Karl Rahner

**Annemarie Kidder, Ph.D.
Saturday, March 10
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

The Jesuit Karl Rahner is considered a key theologian of the 20th century and major architect of Vatican II documents. Lesser known is Rahner’s work as a spiritual master, mystical writer and poet seeking to help readers find God at the very heart of everyday humdrum life. In this presentation we will explore Rahner’s mysticism and show how he can help us practice “the mystical way in everyday life” today.

Annemarie S. Kidder, Ph.D., is an IHM Associate, Presbyterian pastor and associate professor at the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit. Author and editor of books on theology and spirituality, her most recent work is a collection and fresh translation of Rahner’s essays, sermons and prayers, entitled “The Mystical Way in Everyday Life” (Orbis Books 2010).

*Register by Feb. 24
Suggested offering: \$20*

A New Look at Jesus Mary Ann Flanagan, IHM, Ph.D. April 28, 2012 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

As Christians, we think we know Jesus. But what if we don’t know Jesus as well as we think? There exists a fascinating tradition, called the Wisdom tradition, which presents Jesus very differently from the ways we Westerners are used to. In her book, *The Wisdom Jesus*, Cynthia Bourgeault, Episcopal priest, teacher and retreat leader, invites us to consider what the Wisdom tradition offers. Come and expand your sense of who Jesus is in this interesting and critical look at some new scholarship.

Mary Ann Flanagan, IHM, Ph.D., a freelance theological educator, has been director of lay ministry formation programs. She has been associated with Fr. Thomas Keating and contemplative outreach for the last 20 years and most recently has been facilitating Centering Prayer retreats.

*Register by April 13
Suggested offering: \$20*