



## Thomas Merton and Pope Francis: An Ecological Conversation

Susan Rakoczy, IHM, PhD Saturday, March 15, 2025, 9:30am-12:30pm Suggested Offering: \$25

Thomas Merton, renowned Trappist spiritual writer, had an intuitive grasp of the beauty of creation since he was a young child, as his mother attested. Creation images abound in his poetry. Merton died in 1968; Pope Francis became pope in 2013 and has become a significant voice in ecological thought through his two documents *Laudato Si'* (2015) and *Laudate Deum* (2023). What might they say to each other today?

Sue Rakoczy, IHM, PhD, is a native Detroiter and a graduate of Marygrove College. Her doctorate in spirituality is from the Catholic University of America. She spent thirty-two years teaching feminist theology and spirituality in South Africa, returning to the United States in 2022. She is the author of <u>Great Mystics and Social Justice</u>: <u>Walking on the Two Feet of Love</u> (Paulist Press) and <u>Common Journey Different Paths</u>: <u>Spiritual Direction in Cross-Cultural Perspective</u> (Orbis Press).



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We are a place of welcome for all who seek quiet space, spiritual companionship or opportunity or spiritual growth.