



Offerings

The cost of this newsletter was subsidized by a Board Member in honor of Sr. Kathleen Osbelt. Thank you to our donor!

ABOUT US

The Spiritual Renewal Center is an ecumenical Christian ministry providing spiritual direction and renewal opportunities to all members of the community.

1342 Lancaster Avenue
Syracuse, NY 13210
spiritualrenewalcenter.com
315-472-6546

OUR HOURS

Monday-Thursday 9-5
Friday 9-4
The Center will be closed
April 7 and 10

OUR STAFF

Steve Moore, *Center Director*
Marise May, OSF
Programming Associate
Andrea Pollock,
Administrative Assistant
Meg Castellini,
Communications Specialist

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March - April 2023
Volume 10 • Issue 2

Healing the Wounds

Thursday March 2 | 6:30 pm EST (virtual option available)

Presented by Bishop Douglas Lucia, Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse

Bishop Lucia has been advocating for Pope Francis to reject the Doctrine of Discovery. Several popes, beginning in the 15th century have advocated using the Doctrine of Discovery to justify claiming land. The Doctrine refers to a principle in public international law under which, when a nation “discovers” land, it directly acquires rights on that land. Come join Bishop Lucia as he shares his insights and how our spiritual tradition has inspired him to take this courageous stance. *Fee: \$25, or whatever you can afford.*



The Gospel of Matthew

Thursdays March 9, 16, 23, 30 | 10-11:30 am EDT (virtual option available)

Presented by Jim Krisher



Matthew's gospel has been treasured in the Christian movement from the earliest days to our own time. The cherished accounts of Jesus' nativity, the inspiring and challenging **Sermon on the Mount**, and the powerful parables that invite us to consider the true nature of the Reign of God - all these will be explored in this four-session course. Jim will provide the historical, cultural & theological background to the gospel stories, as well as draw forth their rich meaning for our lives as Christians today. *Fee: \$25 per session, or whatever you can afford.*

Jim Krisher, Director Emeritus of the Spiritual Renewal Center and adjunct faculty member in the Religious Studies department at Le Moyne College.

Recurring Groups

Ignatian Spirituality Group for those who have completed the Spiritual Exercises is facilitated by Lou Sogliuzzo, SJ and takes place in person on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Upcoming meetings are **March 8th and April 12th.**

Women's Faith Sharing group meets in person on the **3rd Thursday of the month.** This group is facilitated by Kathy Papa. Upcoming meetings are **March 16th and April 20th.**

Preregistration is required for all of our events. Registration through our website is preferred. You can also register by emailing us at mail@spiritualrenewalcenter.com. Please include your full name, email and phone number.

Seeing God Now

Thursday, April 20 | 7-8:30 pm EDT (virtual option available)

Presented by Jim Krisher

Do you desire to see God? Sometimes people think this can only happen when we die, but the scriptures and Christian mystics encourage us to recognize all the ways God makes an appearance in our prayer and in our human experience of the world around us. Jim's presentation will invite us to stay attentive to the ways God's Living Presence is manifested. God desires to be known by us here and now, inviting our response in wonder and love. *Fee: \$25, or whatever you can afford.*

Jim Krisher, Director Emeritus of the Spiritual Renewal Center and adjunct faculty member in the Religious Studies department at Le Moyne College.



Easter Season Six Week Retreat in Daily Life

A Journey of Discernment with Ignatius of Loyola

Thursdays, April 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18, 25 | 9:30 - 11:00 am EDT (virtual option available)

Presented by Rev. Gerry McKeon, SJ

This six week retreat in daily life will encourage us to grow in our capacity to discern the presence of God in our lives. We will seek to pay attention to our experiences, and our interior moods. We will draw from the wisdom of Scripture, our daily lives, and the discernment of spirits which Ignatius of Loyola continued to explore and articulate during his own spiritual journey.

Participants will be offered suggestions for prayer each day and will also gather for six Thursdays in the Easter Season. During these group gatherings, there will be an opportunity to share the graces of the prayer during the previous week. Input will also be offered on the theme for the upcoming week of prayer. On the final weekly gathering, there will be an opportunity for each retreatant to share how he/she has developed a 'discerning heart' during these weeks of prayer. *Fee: \$75, or whatever you can afford.*

The Marise May

Program in Ignatian Formation (in-person only)

Spots are going fast for our second cohort of the Marise May Program here at the Spiritual Renewal Center. This program is designed to train persons to give the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola. The first-year training will begin with a retreat day in September followed by weekly meetings beginning in October on Tuesday afternoons along with our 19th annotation program. There is no cost for this program but participants will be asked to make a commitment to offer the Spiritual Exercises after they receive their certificate. Please contact Center Director Steve Moore mail@spiritualrenewalcenter.com or 315-472-6546 for more details.

Wisdom Wednesday | Wednesdays 4-5:00 pm (virtual option available)

Join Steve in a guided reading of "Thoughts in Solitude" by Thomas Merton. "Thoughts in Solitude" stands alongside *The Seven Story Mountain* as one of Merton's most enduring and popular works. Thomas Merton, a Trappist monk, is perhaps the foremost spiritual thinker of the twentieth century. His diaries, social commentary, and spiritual writings continue to be widely read after his untimely death in 1968. Our sessions will follow an informal seminar style as we engage in a close reading of the text. All are welcome! *Free will offering. No need to register, visit spiritualrenewalcenter.com/events for the link.*

HORIZONS Foundational Program for the Training of Spiritual Directors (in-person only)

The Spiritual Renewal Center has been committed to the training of spiritual directors for over thirty years. Do you sense God's call to this ministry? HORIZONS is a practicum-based program for people wanting to develop their gifts as spiritual directors. Monthly sessions focus on the principles and practices of spiritual direction, alongside close supervision of direct practice. Applicants must have substantial knowledge of theology, scripture, and spirituality, and a minimum of one year's experience receiving spiritual direction.

The first year of HORIZONS meets at the Center from October 2023 through June 2024, on the first Monday of each month, 1-5:00 p.m. Tuition is \$700 per year. A certificate is awarded at the completion of the program. Next Fall's cohort is forming— contact Center Director Steve Moore mail@spiritualrenewalcenter.com or 315-472-6546 for more details and an application.

The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola: A 30-week adventure in prayer (virtual option available)

The Center is offering the classic *Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola* in a thirty-week format in both a group or individual setting. After more than 500 years, the *Spiritual Exercises* still bring people to a closer relationship with Christ through the Scriptures.

Our traditional group experience will take place on Tuesdays, 1- 3 PM, beginning in September and continuing through May. This includes time with an individual prayer guide and a group teaching session. Individuals that cannot meet for our in-person group format can meet with a director individually, either in person or via Zoom.

Each participant commits to 30-60 minutes of daily personal prayer with prescribed materials and tuition is \$600 per year. For more information or to apply, contact Center Director Steve Moore at 315-472-6546 or mail@spiritualrenewalcenter.com. Space is limited, so register now!

What Does Grace Look Like? is a series of reflections about God's grace.
This issue's grace story comes from Rev. Dr. Steve Moore, Center Director.

What Does *Grace* Look Like?

I'm always surprised by the wisdom of St. Ignatius. I have used his teachings in spiritual direction for many years to help people who are making tough decisions. I was directing a young woman who was facing a very tough situation in her life and was trying to figure out what to do. We had looked at it from many angles and I could see that she was feeling stuck and hopeless. Using a common technique, I asked her what advice she might give to a friend in the same situation. She attempted to do that but we didn't get very far.

Then I decided to extend it. This woman had lost a dear friend, who had been a mentor and guide during her adolescence, just a few years earlier in a tragic car accident. She had spoken about how important this friend was to her and that she felt truly loved and supported by her. So I said, "You know that Julie loved you and wanted what was best for you." "Yes," she replied. "What would she say to you right now? Can you imagine her speaking to you?" The young woman's body visibly relaxed and a look of calm came over her face. I was surprised at the change. At once she knew what to do. Hearing the voice of someone she loved through imaginative prayer seemed to open up a new space for the Spirit to rush in.



That's What *Grace* Looks Like



Change the World By the Way You Shop!


Spring is just around the corner (we hope) and with Spring comes fresh new Fair Trade merchandise in the Hand to Hand Gift Shop. Stop in soon to see new gift ideas, home decor, jewelry and scarves from Ten Thousand Villages and Serrv. Your purchases benefit native artisans in third world countries. The shop is open during Center hours.



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