

The Journey

Contemplative Living in a Busy World

October 2-6, 2017, Repeated November 6-10

New Melleray Abbey

Unless we are seized with a powerful hope that what lies ahead will be worth the sacrifice, we will not persevere.

The symbol of the spiritual life as a journey has been a constant theme throughout the development of Christian spirituality. "Journey" symbolizes movement and growth. It has a setting out, an adventure of crisis, and a return. The secular notion of forgetting the destination and enjoying the journey does not apply to the spiritual journey. In the spiritual journey we are clear that our goal is union with God. We begin with a sense of unease, of restless dissatisfaction. Unless we are seized with a powerful hope that what lies ahead will be worth the sacrifice, we will not persevere. In short, one travels by faith. Faith sets one free to travel the course; the heart is set on the goal and ready to face obstacles. We want to love what we can never lack when we love it. We will look at how the pilgrim journeys by conversion and the development of Christian Character.

The various spiritualities of the Catholic Church offer road maps. We will look at the biblical map with emphasis on the Exodus journey; the monastic map of St. Benedict's Steps of Humility; the Ignatian map of reflection on the life of Christ and more.

Participants will be encouraged to write a spiritual autobiography before they come. They may e-mail the chaplain for a suggested guide for doing this. This will not be handed in or be required to be shared with others. It is to form a context in which to hear the conferences.

The retreat will begin with Vespers at 5:30 p.m. on Monday followed by supper and the first conference at 6:45. Two conferences per day will be given and the retreat will conclude with a closing blessing at 9:30 on Friday morning.

The registration fee of \$295 will include room, meals, and materials. The commute fee for those not staying over at the abbey will be \$175. A non-refundable deposit of \$20 is asked. For more information contact Fr. Jonah at 563-588-2319

For more information please contact contact Fr. Jonah at (563) 588-2319 ext 100 or visit our website at chaplain@newmelleray.org.



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Please register me for: Contemplative Living Retreat

Check one:

October 2-6

November 6-10

Name: _____ Marital Status: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

I have enclosed: (check one)

\$20 non-refundable deposit

Full commuter registration fee of \$175

Full registration fee of \$295

I need a ride from airport/bus depot.

I need a 1st floor room if available.

We would like a double room if available.

Make checks payable to New Melleray Abbey.

Please mail to

Contemplative Living Retreat

New Melleray Abbey

6632 Melleray Circle

Peosta, Iowa 52068

