

A Challenge to We Who Are in Search of Ourselves The Rev. Donald Mullen, Retreat Guide

Henri J. M. Nouwen spent seven months as a Trappist monk at the Genesee Monastery in Upstate New York. From his experience we have his *Genesee Diary: Report from a Trappist Monastery*. This account of his spiritual journey will be our focus. Come and listen to his words and contemplate them in the silence, as they challenge us to search for ourselves that we might find a deeper spirituality for our lives.

The Rev. Donald Mullen, Pastor Emeritus of the First Congregational Church of Terre Haute, Indiana, and Interim Minister of the Community Congregational Church of South Bend, Indiana, will help push us onward in our quest for ourselves for these days spent significantly in the silence at the:

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Manresa Jesuit Retreat House
1390 Quarton Road
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304-3554

Wednesday, November 2, at 5:00 pm until Friday, November 4, 2011, at 10:00am

The cost is \$140.00 per person, which includes a single room and half-bath and five meals. An option to come earlier at \$ 70.00 per night is available for that week by contacting the Retreat House directly at 248-644-4933 and asking for Ruth Ann Stevens.

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The Manresa Jesuit Retreat House in Michigan is supported by Jesuits and friends who live their spirituality in the way of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Jesuit order. It was in Manresa near Barcelona in Spain that Ignatius had life-changing and “profound, mystical experiences of God.” As the Retreat House website explains, “Manresa is the home for many different types of Ignatian ministries” including fifty-two conference retreats, individually directed retreats, and the regular hosting of Alcoholic Anonymous groups. “The Manresa staff gives ongoing spiritual direction to many people...of various Christian faiths and backgrounds,” the site states. The grounds of the Retreat House provide ample space and tranquility to walk, read, meditate, and reflect upon creation and one’s spiritual self.

Sponsoring this event is the Congregational Society of Classical Retreat Guides, promoting contemplative spirituality among churches of the Congregational Way for several decades. Please send inquiries to the Rev. Charles Packer, Chaplain-Director, by phone at (734) 379-3711 or by email at rfcc@netzero.com.

Registrations by check made out to the CSCRG may be sent by October 15, 2011, to the Rev. Charles Packer, Rockwood First Congregational Church, 22600 Mather Street, Rockwood, Michigan 48173.

