



Sisters of Saint Joseph
CENTER FOR SPIRITUALITY
Offerings 2011 - 2012



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Philadelphia, PA 19118
215 - 248 - 7222

Email: spiritualcenter@ssjphila.org
Web: ssjphila.org/spirituality.html

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Center for Spirituality is both an internal resource and a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Chestnut Hill, PA. Rooted in the charism of unity and reconciliation, the staff facilitates and attends to the religious experience of those seeking to deepen and respond to their relationship with God. We support, encourage, and discern with those seeking to make choices that will enable them to live out their call. We do this by providing, both on site and off site, spiritual direction, retreats, days of prayer and other similar opportunities. In these ways, we seek to further the reign of God in our world and in all creation. Our staff and facility provide a place of hospitality to individuals seeking quiet and reflection as well as to groups who gather in the spirit of our mission.

PRAYER WEEKENDS

Experience this time of solitude and quiet with or without the companionship of a Center Staff director. Preferred mode is indicated on the registration form. Limit: 14 Cost: \$90-\$110

ADVENT: December 2 - 4, 2011 LENT: March 16 - 18, 2012

Arrangements also can be made privately for a weekend of prayer, or an extended time of retreat (with or without a director). Information on this is noted in the back of this brochure.

SABBATICAL SATURDAYS

**Saturday, November 12, 2011
10AM - 3PM**

**Mary Elizabeth Clark, SSJ
Cost: \$25 - \$45**

The Spirituality of Care for Creation

A stress free day of input and reflection time with light lunch provided. In our world of increasingly complex social issues, we often become stuck in our comfort zone which numbs us to making a difference. Take time away with the support of others to move one step closer in the process of conversion. Jesus said, "Consider the ravens: they do not sow, they do not reap, they have neither cellar nor barn - yet God feeds them. How much more important are you than the birds." Luke 12:24 Please bring a journal and pen.

Saturday, December 10, 2011

9:30AM - 3:30PM

Joan Riethmiller, SSJ

Cost: \$25 - \$45

Pondering The Heart...With Mary

This advent day of prayer will hold an atmosphere of quiet and solitude. It will begin with a reflection on Mary, and Mary's experience of the Word becoming flesh in her life. Prayer suggestions will be offered to retreatants to ponder the Word becoming flesh in their own lives. After the morning gathering, the day will be one's own until the closing prayer/ritual. Each person will have her own room and is invited to bring her journal and anything else that may support her contemplative time.

Limit 14

Saturday, January 21, 2012

9:30AM - 3:30PM

Gerry Fitzpatrick, SSJ

Cost: \$25 - \$45

Intuition: The Mind of the Heart

Intuitive Wisdom is wisdom of the soul. It is a profound gift, which connects our human spirit with our divine spiritual essence. We can develop this inner connection over time through meditation, prayer, and the desire to know ourselves more deeply. When we follow Divine Wisdom we can experience a sense of oneness with God and others and be moved in new creative directions. During this day of guided prayer we will explore Intuition as God's gift of guidance through input, sitting in meditation that can help develop this gift, and optional sharing.

Saturday, February 25, 2012

9:30AM - 3:30PM

Pat Mensing SSJ

Cost: \$25 - \$45

Longing For God

St. Augustine says, "Our lives are restless until they rest in Thee." We long to be filled with the knowledge of God's presence and love. Lent is a wonderful season to get in touch with this longing, as well as to discover blocks that may keep us from recognizing God's desire to love us in return. The day will include prayer suggestions, prayer and reflection time, and optional sharing.

Saturday, March 24, 2012
9:30AM – 3:30PM

Liz Sweeney, SSJ
Cost: \$25 - \$45

To Know Christ Jesus
A Spirituality for the 21st Century

We live in a time of evolutionary breakthrough, a time when we are invited to make the greatest leap of consciousness in humanity's history. At the heart of that movement forward stands Christ who broke through to a consciousness of communion with God, neighbor, and all of creation, and who invites us to awaken to it ourselves - for the sake of the Whole. Our time together will include silence, input and an experience of contemplative dialogue, a tool for transformation.

MORNINGS OF GUIDED PRAYER AND REFLECTION

“COFFEE & CONTEMPLATION”

Thursdays, 2011
Thursdays, 2012
9:30AM - Noon

October 13, November 10 , December 8
January 12, February 9, March 1,
Cost: \$15 - \$25

Come to relax and renew yourself in a quiet, prayerful atmosphere. These mornings will include a brief focus for your personal reflection time. Each participant will have her/his own room for privacy. Bring a journal if you like to write. The morning concludes with a brief sharing of the heart.

Facilitated by the Center Staff

EVENINGS OF INPUT AND PRAYERFUL REFLECTION

*(All gatherings will be in the Federation Room
of the SSJ Spiritual Center)*

Tuesday, October 11, 2011
6:30PM - 8PM

Roberta Archibald, SSJ
Free Will Offering

“Called To A Mission of Charity”

Mother St. John Fournier

As the United States commemorates the sesquicentennial of the Civil War, we Sisters of Saint Joseph honor the memory of our sister nurses, who with hundreds of other women religious cared for wounded military personnel on both sides of the conflict. Join us to celebrate our sisters' contributions to this ministry of healing.

Tuesday, December 13, 2011
6:30PM - 8PM

Cathy Nerney, SSJ
Cost: \$10 - \$20

**Incarnation and Grace:
God's Extravagant Gifts**

Can receiving the gifts of God's extravagance lead us closer to accepting the blessed poverty of our human condition? This evening's reflection will ponder this question and offer some theological motivation to go more freely where God has gone before us - into the holy mystery of our shared human vulnerability. Here our God has come to dwell among us. Prayer, input, quiet and sharing will shape our time together.

Tuesday, March 13, 2012
6:30PM - 8PM

Kathy Duffy, SSJ
Cost: \$10 - \$20

Teilhard's Mysticism

In an early essay, Teilhard describes the natural root and stages of his mystical growth in terms of five concentric circles. These circles are his stepping stones into an ever deepening reality. They plot his growth and development as he spirals ever more deeply into the heart of the matter where he eventually finds himself within the very heart of God. During this presentation, we will step with Teilhard through these circles, allowing his experience to open our contemplative hearts to the wonders of our universe and to the Divine Presence which dwells there.

HOLY WEEK TRIDUUM

Thursday, April 5 to Saturday, April 7, 2012

Cost: \$90 - \$110

Come and experience the sacred days of Holy Week with a meaningful blend of personal quiet time in solitude and communal liturgical services, rich in symbol and simplicity. The Spirituality Center offers one the ideal venue to pray through the mysteries of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil leading to a deepening experience of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

OTHER OFFERINGS

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION:

Spiritual direction is a ministry in which one person accompanies another in the process of growing in intimacy with God. The focus of the spiritual direction relationship is one's religious experience with God in her or his prayer life and how that relationship with God is lived out in one's everyday circumstances. This ministry of spiritual companioning is one of our primary services at the SSJ Center. Sessions are 50 to 60 minutes. **Cost: \$25 - \$50**

RETREAT IN EVERYDAY LIFE: "The 19th Annotation"

This directed retreat, made in the midst of daily life, is for those who wish to deepen their relationship with God. Based on *The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius*, this retreat involves a commitment of several months, a weekly meeting with a director, and a commitment to daily prayer and journaling. It is recommended that the applicant has been in spiritual direction for at least one year and has made at least one directed retreat.

Cost: \$800 plus \$150 non-refundable deposit

DIRECTED RETREATS OR WEEKENDS OF PRAYER (PRIVATELY ARRANGED)

Those desirous of making a retreat or a weekend of prayer at times other than those scheduled should call the Center business office or a staff member to arrange this time. This time of solitude may be scheduled with or without a companioning director, may extend for any length of time and may include or not include meals. Costs vary depending upon these latter factors.

THIRTY DAY DIRECTED RETREAT:

This retreat is based on the full *Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius* and is offered on a personally directed basis. It is expected that a person has been in spiritual direction at least for a year and has made several directed retreats prior to application. For 2012, interested persons should contact our business office for an application packet, before March 1. This retreat is offered at *Saint Mary by-the-Sea, Cape May Point, NJ* from June 21 -July 24, 2012. **Cost: \$1950**

(Interested SSJ's of Philadelphia should call the Center business office to learn of the Congregational financial arrangements.)

SOLITUDE and PRIVATE SPACE:

Provisions are available for persons seeking quiet time and space. We have 14 bedrooms. Meals are available upon request. Our campus, and the nearby paths of the Wissahickon offer ample beauty and spaciousness to revive one's spirit. Overnight cost with breakfast is a sliding scale of **\$40 - \$60/night**.

DAYS OF PRAYER/RETREAT FOR GROUPS

When available, the Center Staff, individually or as a team, offers retreats, prayer experiences, faculty days, and programs for parish groups or SSJ Associates at either your location or at the Center. If interested, please call two months in advance. If the Center Staff is unable to meet these requests, we may be able to refer you to other SSJ presenters.

GIFT CERTIFICATES:

Giving a gift certificate to a friend, family member or co-worker is an excellent way to bless them with a lasting gift to their inner spirit! This can be arranged by calling the Center business office.

FACILITIES:

The Center offers facilities for groups who wish to conduct their own program in a quiet atmosphere conducive to reflection. We welcome groups who gather in the spirit of our mission. Such gatherings can include meals, use of our 14 bedrooms and the use of our large Motherhouse Chapel. Arrangements can be made through our business office.

OUR SURROUNDINGS:

Chestnut Hill is filled with extraordinary beauty. Located on the grounds of Chestnut Hill College and the Sisters of Saint Joseph Motherhouse, the SSJ Spiritual Center offers many opportunities to walk in solitude and experience nature in all its seasons of beauty and diversity. A short walk takes one into beautiful Fairmount Park on a walking path along the **Wissahickon Creek**. Our outdoor labyrinth invites one to contemplate her/his life's journey. Our environment lends to lifting one's heart to God in prayer and praise. Come see for yourself!

(The photo on the cover of this brochure is of the Wissahickon Creek and was taken by S. Miriam Allorto, SSJ)

***OVERVIEW OF
SSJ SPIRITUAL CENTER OFFERINGS
FOR 2011 – 2012***

September 12 – 19	Directed Retreat (Cape May)
October 11 (Tues.)	Evening of Input/Reflection
October 13 (Thurs.)	Coffee & Contemplation
November 10 (Thurs.)	Coffee & Contemplation
November 12 (Sat.)	Day of Guided Prayer
December 2 - 4 (Wknd.)	Advent Prayer Weekend
December 8 (Thurs.)	Coffee & Contemplation
December 10 (Sat.)	Advent Day of Guided Prayer
December 13 (Tues.)	Advent Evening of Reflection
January 12 (Thurs.)	Coffee & Contemplation
January 21 (Sat.)	Day of Guided Prayer
February 9 (Thurs.)	Coffee & Contemplation
February 25 (Sat.)	Day of Guided Prayer
March 1 (Thurs.)	Coffee & Contemplation
March 13 (Tues.)	Evening of Input/Reflection
March 16 - 18	Lenten Prayer Weekend
March 24 (Sat.)	Day of Guided Prayer
April 5 - 7 (Thurs., Fri., Sat.)	Holy Week Triduum

FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD



Business Office:

215-248-7222

Email: spiritualcenter@ssjphila.org

Website: www.ssjphila.org/spirituality.html

THE CENTER STAFF

Pat Hickey, SSJ

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Joan Riethmiller, SSJ

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REGISTRATION

Send your name, address, phone number, email, and program desired to our business office. We ask that you register at least one week prior to the program or time you are planning at the Center. If you desire a response by regular US mail, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

\$25 non-refundable registration fee is applied to total costs of weekends.

\$10 non-refundable fee is applied to the cost of Days of Enrichment.

\$5 non-refundable registration fee is applied to the total cost of Mornings and Evenings of Prayer and Enrichment.

Checks are payable to SSJ Center for Spirituality.

REGISTRATION FORM

**(Email or Phone is another way
to register for any of our offerings)**

Program: _____

Dates: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone (day) _____

Email: _____

Please add my name to the Center mailing list _____

*SSJ Center for Spirituality
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