



November 2017 Newsletter



From the Desk of Fr. David

A Season For Contemplation

"...when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you." Matthew 6:6

As we move from summer to autumn we are blessed with contemplative retreat offerings designed to help bring the heart and soul to what St. Teresa of Avila calls "quietude." Quietude is a state where one moves from the hectic cares of the day to a place of wonder and awe. It is a state of being quiet, tranquil, peaceful calm -- a beautiful stillness that settles over us.

"The most beautiful emotion we can experience is contemplation. It is the font of all true art. The person to whom this emotion is a stranger, who does not stand rapt in awe, is indeed a lost soul. To know that what is impenetrable to us really exists, manifesting itself as the highest wisdom and the most radiant beauty, which our dull

faculties can comprehend only in their most primitive-forms - this knowledge, this feeling, is at the center of true religiousness. In this sense I belong to the rank of the devoutly religious." Fr. Solanus Casey

Join us November 1 2017 for our day to celebrate the contemplative spirituality of Fr. Solanus Casey, in preparation for his beatification; and November 17-19 for our annual Women's Contemplative Retreat.

As Julian of Norwich is quoted to have said, "Right understanding, with true longing, absolute trust, and sweet grace-giving mindfulness comes alive for us when we bathe in the glory of contemplation!" I invite you to come and be nurtured here at St Francis Retreat Center.

Blessings!
Fr. David



St. Francis Gift & Book

Come see our display of new Italian Rosaries reasonably priced and our selection of Auto Rosaries, Rosary Bracelets, Finger Rosaries, Chaplets and Decade Rosaries.

Whether you are on retreat or live nearby, you can shop during our convenient hours of Monday-Saturday from 9:00am-5:00pm.



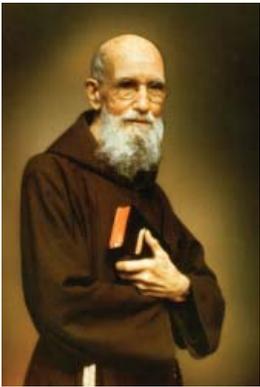
**A FAMILY FESTIVAL OF FAITH
FEATURING MATT MAHER**

JUNE 23, 2018

**TICKETS ON
SALE NOW!
\$18 FOR A
LIMITED TIME**



Contemplative Spirituality of Fr. Solanus Casey A Day of Reflection: Wednesday, November 1st

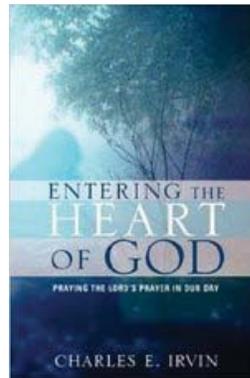


Join us on Wednesday, November 1st to learn about the life, contemplative spirituality, and miracles of Fr. Solanus Casey, presented by Fr. David Rosenberg. Registration begins at 9:00 am with coffee and doughnuts. The morning session is followed by All Saints Day Mass and lunch, and time to browse the Gift & Book store. The afternoon session is scheduled to end around 4:00 pm. Registration fee is \$65.

Contemplative Retreat for Women November 17-19, 2017

This retreat follows Fr. Charles Irvin's book where he takes every word and phrase in the Our Father prayer and peels back the layers to expose the richness that lays within. As Catholics, we pray the Lord's Prayer at every Mass, as well as on many other occasions. Has this prayer become too familiar? Do we really hear the words when we recite this prayer? Do we really understand its meaning?

This retreat compliments the content of our 2017-18 Parish Weekend Retreats and includes ample time for contemplation for all of the retreatants. You will also have the opportunity to sign up for spiritual direction during the weekend. Registration fee is \$175.



Married Couples Weekend December 1-3, 2017



Spend a weekend away with your spouse to connect with God's Grace as a couple. The weekend includes:

- Inspiring presentations on marriage
- Opportunities for Adoration and a Vigil Mass
- Relaxing time alone
- Social hour & tapas on Friday night
- Bonfire & movies on Saturday night

Registration fee is \$300 per couple with a \$50 non-refundable deposit. If you refer a couple and they attend, receive \$50 off your registration.

For more information or to register for any of our retreats, visit www.stfrancis.ws or call 517-669-8321.

November 1, 2017
Solanus Casey Retreat

November 4, 2017
One day Marriage Retreat

November 6, 2017
"Becoming a Saint"

November 10-12, 2017
Retreat for Women

November 17-19, 2017
Contemplative Retreat for Women

December 1-3, 2017
Married Couples Weekend

December 1-3, 2017
AA Retreat for Men

December 8, 2017
Advent Retreat

December 8-10, 2017
Marriage Encounter

January 5-7, 2018
Retreat for Women

January 5-7, 2018
Retrouvaille

January 12-14, 2018
Retreat for Men

January 19-21, 2018
Retreat for Men

January 26-28, 2018
Retreat for Men

February 9-11, 2018
Retreat for Men

February 23-25, 2018
Retreat for Men