



# St. Placid Priory

Welcome to the forest where monastic life thrives, and you will thrive.

The Priory Spirituality Center ♦ The Conference Center ♦ The Priory Store ♦ [www.stplacid.org](http://www.stplacid.org)

Spring - Summer

February 2017

## Images of Peace in Our World

By Monika Ellis, OSB

As I was driving our retreat director, Sister Miriam Therese Winter, back to the airport, I asked her, "Aren't millions of people around the world praying for peace everyday? So, why don't we *have peace*?" She thought about it for a moment, and then she said, "Well, Monika, I suppose we need to realize that we *do have peace*." I was startled by her answer, and her words have been resounding within me ever since.

This little bit of conversation led me to consider how our community could help others to realize, that is, to *make real*, the peace we already have, even though we know there are places in great need. Every day we are barraged by images in the media that seem to contradict what Sister Miriam Therese said. And when we focus too much on those images, we become more and more unable to perceive the peace that is here right before our eyes. When we focus on the peace that is right here, we create more peace. When we live peace, speak peace, think and pray peace, we *spread peace* to all the corners of God's world. Our thoughts and actions are effective and wide ranging.

Peace comes in right relationship, that is, in relating authentically to our friend, spouse, child, co-worker, etc. We have peace while walking through the woods, in the mountains, or on the beach where the breeze is refreshing and the scenery majestic. Peace comes when looking at our children and imagining their future or looking at our aging parents and remembering in



Watercolor by Byron Brunelle

gratitude. We have peace when we make a decision based on our values. We have peace in the special presence of a beloved pet or other beloved companion. Peace comes in the act of creating, when our spirit is connected to the Creator's spirit. Peace comes when we encourage another person or help to carry a heavy burden, as Jesus taught us. Peace comes when we give ourselves over to the Holy Spirit and use our gifts for the good of the world.

Art has a particularly strong power to evoke a response in the heart of the viewer. We have invited artists to bring their works here to show them and help us reflect about the peace that exists in our lives. Some of them are painters who find beauty in nature or in objects that draw us into responsiveness. Some of them work with clay or glass creating shapes and sparkle to delight us. Some are calligraphers and photographers with messages of wisdom and light. They have all expressed enthusiasm for the theme of the show—some with smiles and nods

of understanding and some with tears of appreciation. We asked students in local schools to draw images of peace. A free exhibition of these drawings will be in the main lobby of the monastery.

This show is also a fund-raiser. The income generated will be shared between our community and the Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center (IPJC). You can read about IPJC at [ipjc.org](http://ipjc.org). It is a collaborative peace and justice project of the religious communities in the Pacific Northwest.

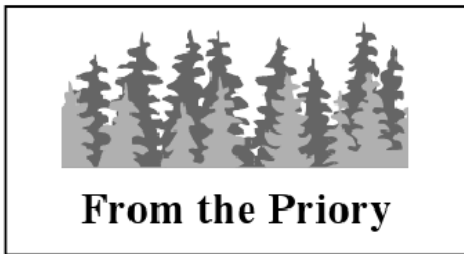
May is the month of Mary, Queen of Peace. We have dedicated the show to Mary. You will notice this dedication in the design of our logo and poster. You will notice more evidence of this dedication to Mary when you arrive for the show.

Come with family and friends to enjoy the art, reflect on peace, meet some of the artists, make a purchase or two, and have fun with the community of folks who live here.

Mary, Queen of Peace, Pray for Us!



(See page 7 for more details about the Art Show)



**Oblate Barbara Robertson** left last August 25 to attend a training offered by The Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for Lutheran women from all over the U.S. It was called "Today's Dream, Tomorrow's Reality." The topic was racial justice advocacy.

On September 10, here at St. Placid Priory, the **St. Placid High School Class of 1971** gathered for reunion. **Sister Sharon McDonald** and **Sister Lucy Wynkoop** joined their celebration.

**Sister Julian Cleary** spoke on vocations with Hispanic youth at Lacey's **Sacred Heart** parish on September 15.

Our volunteer **Jerry Haupt** built and placed some new benches all around our grounds in September. More places to sit and pray and enjoy the scenery.

On September 17, the Feast of Hildegard of Bingen, **Oblate Barbara Robertson** became our first Postulant Claustal Oblate. The ritual took place at Evening Praise and we enjoyed a celebration afterward.

**Novice Molly Cady, Oblate Barbara Robertson, Sister Julian Cleary** and **Sister Laura Swan** attended the regional **Religious Formation Conference** gathering in Renton on September 24. The gathering was entitled: "Conversations at the Well: Crossing over to Meet the Other and Oneself" with **Sister Helen Marie Burns, RSM**.

On October 1, **Sonja McLaughlin**, her brother, **Armin** and sister-in-law, **Suzanna**, who were visiting from Germany, joined us for lunch. Sonja is our cook. (See photo at right)

**Eight All Saints' 7th grade girls** and the three adults with them were here on a day retreat October 3, joining us for lunch, a mid-afternoon cookie break and Mass. They were delightful!

The **Priory Knitters & Spinners** took their needle-felted and other hand-made items to **Schafer Meadows Fiber Arts Festival** in Elma October 7-9. They also had a booth at **Bearzaar** at Olympia High School November 19 and happily report they did very well.

On October 12, **Sister Maureen O'Larey** attended a Trends workshop, which is a program designed to help religious communities plan for the future.

About 50 people attended **Cynthia Trenshaw's** presentation "**Meeting in the Margins**" on Sunday, October 16. Those who came were invited to tell their stories and reflect on their experiences of working with the poor.



**Sr. Alphonsa O'Donnell, OSB**  
First Superior at Holy Rosary Convent

In October, **Holy Rosary Parish** in Tacoma celebrated its **125th Jubilee**. **Sisters Laura Swan** and **Maureen O'Larey** attended Mass there to help celebrate. Benedictines have a long history there (see photo above).



Clockwise from left: **Armin, Suzanna, Sonja, Sister Sharon** and **Oblate Barbara**

**Sisters Monika Ellis** and **Laura Swan, Novice Molly Cady** and **Oblate Camille Wooden** attended the October 29 **Sacred Music Concert** at Saint

**Martin's University**. They were awed by the beauty of the performance.

**Sisters Lucy Wynkoop** and **Laura Swan** attended the **Interfaith Works All Souls Day service** on October 30 in memory of the abandoned dead and suicides in Thurston County. Sister **Laura Swan** gave the eulogy.

On October 31, **Sister Julian Cleary** and **Oblate Barbara Robertson** helped to prepare food for the poor at the Salvation Army. They were invited by members of **Grupo Guadalupano**, who do this regularly, to share in this ministry.



**Sister Julian and Oblate Barbara** with **Grupo Guadalupano** on October 31

**Oblate Camille Wooden** and **Novice Molly Cady** attended a November 11-12 presentation entitled "**Healthy Sexual Integration in Religious Life**" by licensed clinical psychologist **Kathy Galleher, PhD**.

**Sister Julian Cleary** traveled on November 13 to Fife to give a talk at Mass on vocations at **St. Paul Chong Hasang Parish**. Sister Julian is a member of St. Placid Priory's **New Membership Team**.



**Oblate Camille Wooden**

**Oblate Camille Wooden**, who now lives with us and, among other things,



...Continued from page 2

helps **Sister Laura Swan** in Archives, received a certificate on November 18 for the online studies she did for archival work. The six-week course was given by the **American Association for State and Local History**. Oblate Camille, retired after some 40 years as a fifth and sixth grade teacher, has many talents. She bakes a delicious cinnamon roll, loves history, and has a great sense of humor.

Also on November 18, **Oblate Barbara Robertson** and **Sister Laura Swan** attended “**Theology Uncorked**” at **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**. The talk, given by **Samuel Torvent**, was entitled “**Women Leaders in the Reformation: Voices Loud then Silenced.**”

A small gathering for prayer on behalf of the **clean water/Dakota Access Pipe-line protest** by Native Americans and others, was held in the **Priory Spirituality Center** on November 26. **Sister Lucy Wynkoop** attended.

We appreciated having several **Saint Martin's University theology students** from **Sister Laura's** class and other students from **Oblate Barbara's** English class join us for dinner and a visit at various times during the fall.

**Oblates Barbara Robertson** and **Camille Wooden** with **Sisters Julian Cleary** and **Laura Swan** participated in the **Guadalupe** celebration at **Sacred Heart parish** on December 10. Our cook **Keith Underwood** and his wife along with our many Spanish-speaking friends were also in attendance. The Mass was beautiful.

On December 19, the community at St. Placid Priory invited our **weekday Mass attendees** for dinner after Mass. They brought their families and we ate in the Multipurpose Room. Our cook **Keith Underwood** prepared soup and other good things to eat. The star attraction of the evening was **Galen**, a wolfhound friend of **Sister Mary Giles**. We all had a good time getting to know each other better, using our best English or Spanish or sign language to communicate! (See photo at right)



**Alex delivers Christmas wreaths**

Our friend young **Alex** sold Christmas wreaths at St. Placid to support a project at his nearby school, delivering them in December. His class is putting on a Shakespearean play, then later they plan to go to Ashland, Oregon to see a production at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. An exciting trip for these youngsters, and an experience in fundraising, too.



**Our friends Hazel and Juli help support Alex's wreath project**



**Sister Mary Giles with wolfhound; Sister Sharon helps a young guest to pet him.**

## Video Project

**Sisters Lucy Wynkoop** and **Julian Cleary** began a project a few months ago to help women interested in religious life, especially monastic life, to understand more about how we live, work and pray—and how we maintain relationships with friends and family.

A couple of talented young women, **Alicia Chen**, who volunteered with us for several weeks, and **Melissa Wright**, who works at St. Placid Priory, have helped us to make videos. They interviewed several community members and also women who are discerning a call to our community. Some of these have been placed on our website.

**Somaura Jackson** tells her story; see [stplacid.org](http://stplacid.org) under **Join Us - Videos**



Under the “Join Us” tab at [stplacid.org](http://stplacid.org) one can now see interviews of the Sisters, our Novice, and women who are discerning a vocation to St. Placid Priory. The videos tell what drew the person to a Benedictine vocation at different stages, with different gifts in living the Benedictine call. Experiences discussed include life as a candidate, postulant, novice and initially professed Sister, as well as how one's gifts, roles, and past experiences integrate with a Benedictine vocation.

The wide variety of experiences discussed in these videos include those both *within and outside* of the monastic community such as: being an artist, attorney, elementary teacher, sailor, nurse, community leader and formation director or spiritual director.

“Discernment as a way of life,” “Liturgy of the Hours,” and “Ways of Being Community” give insights into Benedictine living at St. Placid. Ways to contact **Sister Julian** and **Sister Lucy**, the New Membership team, are provided at the end of each video.

We hope you enjoy this journey with us—and do watch for more videos!

Continued from page 3...

## GOINGS ON AT THE CENTER

“I have gone to a spiritual director for more than three years now and have loved every minute of it. So when the opportunity came along to learn the fine art of spiritual direction—to actually learn to be a spiritual director—I jumped at it. I never realized sharing my spiritual journey with others in the context of learning would be so enriching. I have learned so much from my fellow seekers. I have learned what it means to be a spiritual traveling companion—to love, to listen deeply, to hold someone’s story in my heart, to feel the Holy Spirit move within, to know worthiness, to see the light shine in the eyes of others, to be curious. Mostly, I am grateful to be with others with whom I can share a spiritual conversation and experience, knowing that they understand and are listening with Spirit.”  
—Cathy Raymond

**Listening with the Spirit 2017-19** is a two-year formation/discernment process to become a Spiritual Director.

### Oasis 2016-17

“I often say I want to set aside time for quiet, uninterrupted reflection and prayer. I long for a sense of spaciousness in my mind and heart—a time to be open to God in an unhurried, contemplative way. But I find it is my ongoing challenge to simply slow down! Yet when I do, I am so grateful.

Being part of the Oasis Program helps me find these restful, prayerful moments on a monthly basis. Oasis is a time where I feel refreshed and encouraged, and where I’m generously reminded of God’s love and grace. It’s a touchstone for me—to rekindle my heart, refocus my intentions, and rediscover God’s gifts.”

—Teresa Enslin

### Spiritual Practices of Aging 2017-18

This course provides not only information but also spiritual practices that help in aging well. In particular, it addresses the question: How does the contemplative life—one of prayer and

encountering God—shape one for wisdom and resiliency in the second half of life? Looking at wisdom and resiliency as markers for facing the beauty and pain of getting older, each session addresses aspects of aging that require an “elegant kenosis”—letting go in the midst of embracing the life that God has given. Learning through awareness of God, others, and self lays the foundation for the entire course. Seeking to nurture the contemplative life, this course reminds us of the value of noticing, pausing, listening, and responding.

### Deepening Women's Spirituality 2017-18

Join **Amelia Carroll** for a monthly gathering of renewal to look deeper into your spiritual soul. She will present timeless tales and questions for reflection and will give creative suggestions to strengthen connection to your spiritual self and to the wondrous and diverse world around you. Using poetry, meditation, journaling and creative and expressive art, this shared time will honor your story and bring meaning to your joys and sorrows. For women of all ages who are seeking to discover the universal power of connection, community and spirit.

Further information for the 2017-18 programs **Oasis, Spirituality of Aging, Deepening Women's Spirituality and Listening with the Spirit** can be found on our website:

**www.stplacid.org/programs under Long-Term Programs.**

### A reflection from another long-term program now in progress:

#### Longings of the Heart 2016-17

I enrolled in “Longings of the Heart” because I desired to gain greater insights into my own deepest longings, often camouflaged in my restlessness. This class is helping me to befriend my longings and name the restlessness through many different contemplative and creative practices, self-reflection time, and collective sharing—all happening within a safe space. I gain so much insight about myself and our collective humanity from my individual classmates as they vulnerably share their own deepest yearnings

and while asking their own questions. The class is allowing me to encounter God’s love for me and others and experience my truest desires in the present moment, not just gather more head knowledge. For God loves me as I am. I am learning to cry fraud when any of my faux, restless longings tempt me to acquire more possessions, or to base my self-worth on what people say about me (good or bad) or on what I do. Instead, I’m “acquiring” my truest longings in real time and discovering my true self!  
—Linda Jo Duffy

### Abbot Timothy Wright on Christians' and Muslims' Understandings of Spirituality



**Sunday, March 26  
1:30 – 3:00 PM**

**In the Priory Multipurpose Room**

Christian and Muslim communities form the two largest religious groups in the world today. Each has a worldwide presence and each has considerable influence on both international and local affairs, religious and secular. Since the time of their respective founders, Jesus Christ for Christians and the Prophet Mohammad for Muslims, there has been much conflict. Some of it political or economic but a significant part of it has been religious. As communications improve, there has been greater mutual appreciation of the other. But misunderstanding and prejudice still exist. It is our task to dispel it. This presentation will be one person’s journey.

**Abbot Timothy Wright** was Abbot at Ampleforth Abbey and studied at Manchester University. After retiring he worked in the Pontifical Bede College while at the same time promoting Muslim-Benedictine dialogue. While at the Bede he was able to undertake research into the relationship of the Rule of Benedict to the Holy Qur’an, which ended with a PhD and a book from it called *No Peace without Prayer, Encouraging Christians and Muslims to Pray, a Benedictine Perspective*.

**Donations** will be taken at the door for Abbot Timothy Wright’s ministry of providing and encouraging Christian-Muslim dialogues.



## Program Information Pages 5 - 7

+ Our retreats include the opportunity to join the Sisters for Eucharist, meals, and the Liturgy of the Hours.

+ Spiritual Direction may be available on retreat for an additional fee. Please request an appointment when you register.

+ For information on our presenters, go to our website: [www.stplacid.org](http://www.stplacid.org) and look under Spirituality Center, Programs and Retreats.

### Introduction to the Enneagram

February 4  
Saturday 9:00am-4:00pm



The Enneagram of Personality Types is a tool for recognizing how habits of thinking, feeling and acting cause us to live under the illusion of separateness from God and each other. Learn the nine distinct worldviews that make up the Enneagram and begin to discover your own type. Class fee includes a copy of *The Essential Enneagram* by Dr. David Daniels and Virginia Price, PhD. (rev. 2009)

**Register by prior Friday: \$60**  
**Bring a sack lunch.**

Minimum 6, Maximum 20

**Debra Janison** is a spiritual director and has studied the Enneagram for more than 25 years. She is certified to teach by Helen Palmer and David Daniels and teaches follow-on classes locally through [EnneagramOlympia.com](http://EnneagramOlympia.com)

### Benedictine Vocation Discernment

February 4-5  
Saturday 8:30am-Sunday 12:30pm

Come join the Sisters to listen to your call from Scripture and from the Prologue of the Rule of Benedict. Experience being with the Sisters in a community setting for reflection time, prayer, dialogue, work and leisure. If you are a Catholic single woman discerning whether you have a vocation to the Benedictine way of life, this is a wonderful opportunity to share in

community life with the Sisters of St. Placid Priory.

**Register by prior Friday: No fee**  
**Benedictine Sisters**

Contact **Sister Lucy Wynkoop** at [lucywynkoop@gmail.com](mailto:lucywynkoop@gmail.com) or call 360.438.2595.

### Dancing with Monks and Mystics

February 11  
Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm



Are you interested in dancing your prayers? Come and explore simple participatory dances based on the gifts of monks and mystics throughout time. Dance with the likes of the prophet Miriam, St. Brigid, St. Francis, St. Hildegard of Bingen, Thomas Merton, and more. This will be a retreat day, including simple chants and dances for everybody. No experience necessary!

**Register by prior Friday: \$50**  
**Bring a sack lunch.**

Minimum: 5, Maximum: 30

**Betsey Beckman** is founder of The Dancing Word: Embodying the Sacred in Liturgy and Life, a ministry that includes her offerings in liturgical movement, choreography, storydances, SpiritPlay, spiritual direction, retreats, pilgrimages, and DVDs. Betsey also collaborates with the Abbey of the Arts in creating prayer resources, such as the recent "Dancing with Monks and Mystics" DVD (commissioned and published by the Abbey of the Arts).

### The Write Remedy: Healing Through Writing

February 18-19  
Saturday 9:00AM-Sunday 3:00PM



Do you long to heal an emotionally challenging experience? Join in this spiritually-based interactive workshop. We'll examine writing as a therapeutic tool for deepening your understanding and feelings about painful life events. Centered in Spirit, we go within to learn techniques to find peace about life's wounds.

**Register by prior Friday: \$220**  
**(\$120 retreat + \$100 workshop)**

**Bring a tablet** and pencil or pen  
Minimum 5, Maximum 9

**Kathleen P. Perkins, PhD** is an

author, teacher and therapist. During her tenure in academia she incorporated spirit/spiritually in the body/mind paradigm of social work and psychology. She now utilizes spiritually-based writing to help others find peace in forgiveness and closure for painful life events.

### Journey through Lent

February 24-26  
Friday 7:15am-Sunday 12pm



Take time to walk and be with Jesus in greater solitude as we prepare for Lent. In silence, deepen your spiritual journey. The opening session will feature a guided meditation and some handout materials to be used for reflection. The retreat will close with group prayer and sharing. A spiritual director will be available for those who wish, to listen with you as you discern God's actions in your life.

**Register by prior Friday \$160**  
**with spiritual direction \$200**

Minimum 3, Maximum 10

**Therese Gonneville, OSB** is a spiritual director and retreat leader.

### Silent Centering Prayer Retreat

March 3-5  
Friday 7:15am-Sunday 1:30pm

This silent retreat is a rare opportunity to be with others committed to the contemplative path. Sustained by multiple periods of Centering Prayer and tapping into chant, lectio divina, and meditative walking, we intentionally create an environment that supports one's continuing Centering Prayer practice.

**Register by prior Friday: \$200**

Minimum 8,  
Maximum 10

**Kay Kukowski  
and Mary Solberg**



are certified by Father Thomas Keating's Contemplative Outreach, Ltd. To teach Centering Prayer.

### Imagery as Spiritual Growth

March 11  
Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm



Imagery evokes feeling, emotion and meaning. Imagery has been used to lift people out of the

*Continued on page 6...*

Continued from page 5...

mundane and into the realms of spirit. After a brief overview of history, theory and principles, we will spend the day learning to remember and evoke peak spiritual experiences. We will practice ways to interact with imagery to foster spiritual growth.

**Register by prior Friday: \$50**

**Bring a sack lunch.**

Minimum 5

**Jerry DeVore** is a licensed psychologist, a graduate of Robert Moss's dream master training, an approved consultant in clinical hypnotherapy and a board-certified biofeedback therapist. He facilitates dream work for personal growth.

### Body-Praying with St. Benedict

March 18

Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm



Borrowing body gestures and postures from the ancient arts of yoga and qigong, we will prayerfully move with the teachings found in the 6<sup>th</sup> century Rule of St. Benedict. We will experience a moving version of lectio divina, or holy reading. In this case, it is holy moving. No yoga or qigong experience necessary. For the physically challenged the movements can be done while sitting on a regular chair.

**Register by prior Friday: \$50**

**Bring a sack lunch**

Minimum 5, Maximum 20

**Roy DeLeon** is an Oblate of St. Placid, a professional graphic artist, and a spiritual director. He teaches Blessed Movements regularly at the Priory and in the Seattle area. He wrote and illustrated *Praying with the Body: Bringing the Psalms to Life*.

### Miriam, Hannah and Esther: Three Jewish Women Who Inspire Today

March 25

Saturday 9:00am-3:00am



In Miriam we have that rare example of someone whose faith we can glimpse as a child, a young woman and an older woman. She invites us to consider God at every age. We have marvelous examples of prayer in Hannah, who "pours out her heart before the Lord," and in Esther, who intercedes for and saves the Jewish people. Spend a day discovering and learning from these women of the Hebrew Scriptures

who still speak to us today and who are often overlooked.

**Register by prior Friday: \$50**

**Bring a sack lunch.**

Minimum 5

**Kathleen MacInnis Kichline** is the author of *Sisters in Scripture, Never On Sunday*, as well as the series, *Sisters in Tradition* about women in our faith story. She leads retreats and teaches at the Seattle University School of Theology and Ministry.

### Exploring Your Spirituality through SoulCollage®

April 1

Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm



Our lives are our ministries. SoulCollage® may help participants discover new areas for their reign of God work and bring new coherence to their experience of the sacred. Brief instruction in the SoulCollage® method will allow time to choose images and compose collages. Uses of collages for discernment will be practiced.

**Register by prior Friday: \$60**

**Bring a sack lunch**

Minimum 5, Maximum 15

**Pamela Bradburn** is a retired attorney whose call to a different ministry surfaced through SoulCollage® (certified facilitator) and studies at Seattle University (M.A. in Transforming Spirituality and a Spiritual Direction certificate).

### In the Footsteps of Jesus: Triduum Retreat

April 13-16

Thursday 3:00am-Sunday Noon

Travel with Jesus on the road to Calvary. Take time with the silence of this retreat to let yourself be fully present to this holy time. Begin by joining the Benedictine Sisters for a special meal on Holy Thursday. Be with us as we let the liturgies of each sacred day lead us deeper into the journey to Easter. We will celebrate new life with 9:00 a.m. Eucharist on Easter Sunday, followed by a simple breakfast with the Sisters and Mass participants.

(see next column...)

**Register by prior Friday: \$200**

**With spiritual direction: \$250**

(before 3 p.m. on Thursday)

Minimum 3, Maximum 10

**Therese Gonneville, OSB**

### Every Day is Earth Day

April 22

Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm



We celebrate Earth Day every year on April 22<sup>nd</sup> when we're invited to be in companionship with nature. How can we honor our planet every day of the year? Spend a day in prayerful conversation and silence as we identify the ways our Mother Earth cares for us and how we can reciprocate that caring relationship.

**Register by prior Friday: \$60**

**Bring a sack lunch**, journal, walking shoes and rain coat.

Minimum 8, Maximum 12

**Jane Fleming, MPM**, is a spiritual director, hospice counselor and artist. She has a contemplative prayer practice and is an experienced retreat facilitator.

### The Rituals of Our Lives

May 6

Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm



Creating sacred space and developing daily rituals enriches our lives, connects us with the Divine, and brings harmony and beauty into our lives. In this experiential workshop you will discover ways to create sacred space and explore the daily rituals of your life.

**Register by prior Friday: \$60**

**Bring a sack lunch** and a journal.

Minimum 6, Maximum 24

**Amelia Carroll** works and studies in the healing arts professions as a counselor, chaplain, death educator, spiritual director, and interfaith celebrant. She creates celebrations and rituals honoring your stories and bringing meaning to your joys and sorrows.

### Making a Journal for Our Lives

May 20

Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm



Here is an opportunity to make every aspect of your practice of journaling be something that comes from your life.

Continued on page 7...



Continued from page 6...

In this one day workshop you will be able to make the book that will become your journal. You will be guided step by step from the creation of the hard-bound covers to the sewing together of the book.

**Register by prior Friday: \$65**  
(Includes \$15 for materials)

**Bring a sack lunch.**

Minimum 8, Maximum 15

**Pamela Hunter** is a Lutheran pastor, calligrapher and book artist from Forks, WA. She has been journaling for over a decade, and makes her journals by the process that she will share with you.

### Trusting Your Mystical Experiences

June 10

Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm

Mystical Experiences come in many forms:

a powerful dream that felt more real than life, a vision, a visitation, a Near-Death Experience (NDE), or a moment of grace in nature. Through Singing Medicine, hearing Robin's NDE and Dyads, we will help you unpack the meaning, truth, and breadth of your mystical experience.

**Register by prior Friday: \$60**

**Bring a sack lunch**

Minimum 10, Maximum 40

**Robin Aisha Landsong** is a visual artist, writer, empathic Craniosacral Therapist, and Medicine Singer.

**John Utter** is a Certified Life Coach. See more at <http://www.stplacid.org/calendar-2/>

### Retiro Espiritual para estos Tiempos de Incertidumbre

8 de Julio

El Sábado de las 9AM a las 3PM

¿Cómo vivimos con fe en estos tiempos de incertidumbre o angustia? En ese retiro vamos a mirar y distinguir con los ojos de la fe las causas de la incertidumbre y de la angustia. Con cuentos, escuchando, canciones, en silencio y oración encontraremos la ayuda para hoy día. Con tiempo para pensar y orar, contemplaremos algunas prácticas de la sabiduría de la fe cristiana para resistirse ante las dificultades. En los Salmos 9 y 18 encontraremos unos tesoros inestimables de entendimiento contra la incertidum-

bre y la angustia. ¡Acompáñanos!

**Regístrese antes del 30 de junio**

**Es gratis, pero donaciones serán muy apreciadas**

**Favor de traer un lonche de bolsa**

**Kathryn Rickert**

**Catalina Martinez**

### God the Artist: We the Co-Creators

July 15

Saturday 9:00am-3:30pm

God is the artist of our soul. This retreat will stimulate our creative souls. We will focus on our Potter God, using clay materials. We will meet at The Priory Spirituality Center and drive to Walter and Renata Siegl's clay studio in Shelton. They will aid us with our creations. All of us are artists, so come to play and pray! The pieces will be glazed by Walter and Renata, and you may pick them up at The Priory Spirituality Center after they are glazed.

**Register by prior Friday: \$75**

(Includes \$15 for glazing)

**Bring a sack lunch**

Minimum 5, Maximum 10

**Lucy Wynkoop, OSB**

is a retreat director and has received formal art education.

**Renata Siegl** pursues her hobbies of ceramics, water colors and paper cuts (Scherenschnitte) after retirement.

**Walter Siegl** was a teacher in Vienna, Austria and is a retired Architect, enjoying the endless possibilities of ceramics.

### Iconography Workshop and Retreat

August 20-24

Sunday 3:30pm –

Thursday 3:30pm

Fr. Damian will introduce participants to the history, spirituality and techniques of traditional Byzantine Iconography. Each student will be provided with all the materials and supplies to complete an icon in the egg-tempera method, using all natural pigments and 23K Gold leafing.

While no previous art experience is necessary, more accomplished iconographers are welcome.

**Register by Friday, August 4: \$600**  
--includes all materials, lodging and meals

Minimum 8, Maximum 12

**Fr. Damian of Holy Transfiguration**

**Monastery** has been painting icons for his own monastery and for churches and homes around the world for the last 27 years. He began teaching the process at the request of those who felt drawn to the depth and beauty of an art form and wanted to understand more about the spirituality and theology.

## Images of Peace in Our World Art Show & Sale

**May 19, 2017**  
**7:00 - 9:30 PM**

St. Placid Priory  
500 College St, Lacey

Our world, always in need of peace, still contains places, people and situations that are at peace. We want to share the beauty and hope that these images bring.



Come and see beautiful art, chat with some of the artists, enjoy talking with our community—and if you see a piece you can imagine in your own place, support **St. Placid Priory** and the **Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center** with a purchase. Help to spread the peace we *have*, as we work toward a greater peace for our world.

**TICKETS:** \$15, or 2 for \$25 from [BrownPaperTickets.com](http://BrownPaperTickets.com)—or from The Priory Store. They may also be purchased at the Priory Spirituality Center. Call 360.438.2595 if you have questions. Free showing of children's art in the lobby.



## For This We Give Thanks

WE GIVE THANKS that Jesus leads us from death to resurrection. Blessed are we who mourn for our friends and family (Mt 5:4)—

+Martha Renggli	+Sue Petty
+Austin Kelley	+Beth Santa Cruz
+Julie Larsen	+Pat Zander
+Bob Hauth	+Lillian Kautzman
+Bob Easton	+Joe Doll

WE GIVE THANKS for being able as a community to explore the opportunities and challenges that are part of diversity in community and in our culture. In this way we are deepening our understanding and our recruiting for future membership. **Sister Lucy** and **Sister Julian** are leading us in this “Vocation Culture; Reflection to Action” National Religious Vocation Conference study.

WE GIVE THANKS for those who have served us so generously:

\* **Dana Hein** who has given her gracious and upbeat administrative

skills and experience to us as Assistant to the Prioress!

\* **John Ketola** who is helping the Monastery here to catch up on painting anew the nicks and chips on our walls, door frames, corners, and hand rails!

\* Four Saint Martin University students—**Nicholas, Gabriel, Kris and Allen**—who each gave 8 hours of Service raking leaves outside and moving heavy furniture inside.

\* **Travis Jacobsen**, a frequent St. Placid volunteer, joined us for dinner and then helped us set up for a program. Travis's mother, **Patty Jacobsen**, is also a regular volunteer at the Priory reception desk.

WE ARE GRATEFUL for our Global Connection to **Sister Mariangela, OSB**. Some years ago she stayed with us for her sabbatical time. Today she is Abbess of San Guiseppe in Assisi, Italy. It was Sister Mariangela who reported to the *Communio Internationalis Benedictinarum* (international organization for Benedictine women) about the extensive damage to both women's and men's monasteries in Italy during August and September earthquakes. To

learn more go to:

<http://www.benedictines-cib.org/> and click on *News*. To help preserve the original Benedictine sites there (especially in Norcia), make checks out to **Communio Internationalis Benedictinarum**, and send to:

Sister Linda Romey, OSB,  
Mount St. Benedict Monastery  
6101 E. Lake Road  
Erie, Pennsylvania 16511-1599

WE ARE GRATEFUL for the spirit of Resilience we see in our Sister Communities in Italy as well as our own ability to continue making friends with change. Truly, “Wisdom displays her strength from one end of the earth to the other ordering all things for good.” (*Wisdom 8:1*)



## Oblate News

Oblates began a new year of monthly meetings on September 11, welcoming oblate candidate **Kathy Androes-Downes** as well as new guests **Jennifer Way, Ryan Likes** and **Cecelia Romero-Likes** (and their baby daughter **Amethyst Rose**).

**Oblate Camille Wooden** is currently assisting **Sister Lucy Wynkoop** as co-director of Oblates.

This year we will be finishing our book study of Joan Chittister's *Monasteries of the Heart*, deepening our understanding and practice of lectio divina, and looking at new possibilities for study next year.

We will be joining in a **Year of Prayer** for the Italian monasteries damaged in the August 2016 earthquake. **Oblates**



Oblates by the Priory fountain in finer weather

**of Saint Martin's Abbey** ran a rummage sale over several weekends in November and December to benefit the monasteries, some of which sustained extensive damage. If you would like to help in reconstruction, especially of women's monasteries which were hard hit, please see the address above in **For This We Give Thanks**.

## Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mystical Rose

When you come to the Reception desk in the monastery lobby, you will now see just to the left of the window our lovely Lady of Guadalupe. This small statue used to be at the Reception desk of St. Placid High School and Priory. With her, we greet you and offer you our hospitality.





**We, the Benedictine Sisters of St. Placid Priory, a monastic community, cultivate a contemplative spirit that leads to hospitality and works of justice. We witness Gospel values in building community. We are committed to nurturing spiritual growth in ourselves and others, collaborative leadership, stewardship of the environment, and taking risks in following God's call.**

**The Priory Spirituality Center**

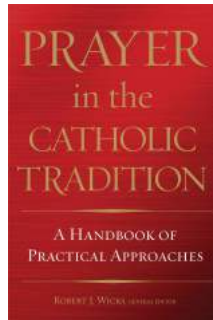
is an ecumenical Christian ministry that encourages people of all faiths to seek and discern the voice of God in their lives and in the world. We offer a peaceful and contemplative setting for personal reflection. We encourage and challenge people to know the presence of God in their lives through classes, workshops, retreats and individual spiritual direction.

The Priory Spirituality Center is a ministry of St. Placid Priory and reflects the Benedictine values of peace, hospitality, community, learning and prayerful discernment.

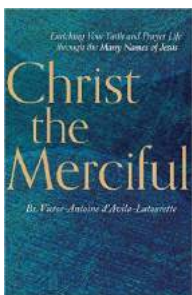


*Sister Laura's Scriptorium:*  
Books that Merit Attention

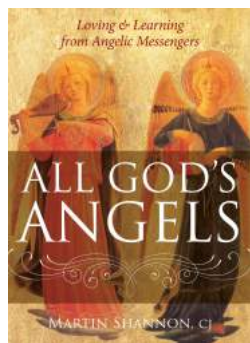
***Prayer in the Catholic Tradition. A Handbook of Practical Approaches***, edited by Robert Wicks, Franciscan Media, 2016. This is a wonderful resource for spiritual directors, pastoral ministers, and those who desire a deeper and more diverse prayer life. Topics are quite broad, beginning with "Prayerfulness" and concluding 45 chapters later with "Prayer in Chaos, Commotion, and Clutter." Beware: I contributed the chapter on *Prayer in the Benedictine Tradition*.



***Christ the Merciful: Enriching Your Faith and Prayer Life Through the Many Names of Jesus***, by Brother Victor-Antoine d'Avila-Latourrette, Paraclete Press, 2016. This is a nice source for pondering and meditation as Brother Victor-Antoine gleans from scripture and early Church sources to break open meanings of the many possible titles for Jesus. He remains a popular author.



***All God's Angels. Loving & Learning from Angelic Messengers***, Paraclete Press, 2016. This is a beautiful reflection on angelic encounters recorded in scripture accompanied by selections of sacred art work. Keep this near your prayer space.



**Registration:** You may use this form to register for a day program, a retreat program or a private retreat. **The Center is open for private retreats unless a programmed retreat is scheduled.** For more information, call 360.438.2595, fax 360.438.9236 or email spiritualityctr@stplacid.org Please make checks payable to: **The Priory Spirituality Center**, located at 500 College St NE, Lacey WA 98516.

**Please register me for the following program/s &/or retreat/s:**

Program \_\_\_\_\_

Program Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Day Tel \_\_\_\_\_ Eve Tel \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Commuter? \_\_\_\_\_ Overnight? \_\_\_\_\_ (Willing to share a double room if necessary? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_)

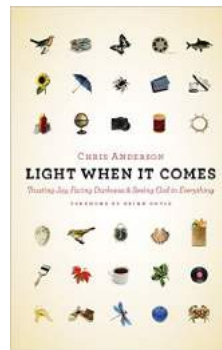
*Spiritual Direction may be available by appointment. Please call 360.438.2595*

**We request half the registration fee as a non-refundable deposit for a program or retreat at the time of registration to confirm space. Any donation you make above program costs will be used for scholarships.**

Full Payment enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

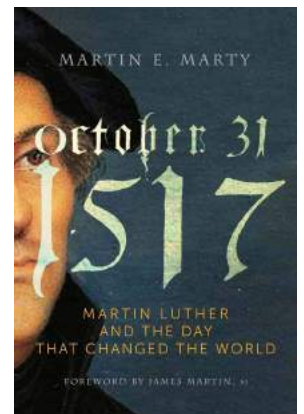
Deposit enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship Donation enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



***Light When It Comes. Trusting Joy, Facing Darkness & Seeing God in Everything***, by Chris Anderson, Eerdmans, 2016. This is a lovely invitation to ponder significant "God-moments" in our life, those experiences, however brief, that we might dismiss or overlook. A great source for *lectio divina*.

***October 31, 1517. Martin Luther and the Day that Changed the World***, by Martin Marty, Paraclete Press, 2016. 500 years ago the monk, Martin Luther, pinned his 95 theses on the cathedral door –an act of love for a church that was in deep distress. This is a short but important meditation on its impact for all contemporary seekers as we approach this anniversary.





**Benedictine Sisters  
St. Placid Priory**  
The Priory Spirituality Center  
The Conference Center  
The Priory Store  
500 College St NE  
Lacey, WA 98516-5339

Spring - Summer  
February 2017

Non-Profit Org  
US Postage Paid  
Tacoma WA  
Permit # 317

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Please help us keep our mailing list current.  
Return this with mailing label attached

- New Address
- Please add my name
- Please remove my name
- Receiving more than one copy



**What's New at the Priory Store –**

—by Zoila Roberts

Have you every wished to find the card that says exactly what you want to say but you could not put it into words? Well, then, you may want to pay a visit to our gift shop. We have some very lovely cards with a special touch and thought put into just the right words.

It may also be hard to find words of comfort or help when someone is journeying with a loved one at the end of life. We have a beautiful selection of books on death and dying. One of these can help you to cope with the process of letting a loved one go...and with the grief process after they have passed away.



The Prayer Bear, in various colors, makes a charming gift for little ones just learning to bring their hopes and cares to Jesus.

We have a new Spanish language corner too, for our friends who speak and read Spanish.  
¡Dios los bendiga a todos!

**Spirituality Center Staff**

- Janice Ariza – Center Coordinator
- Lucy Wynkoop, OSB – Program Coordinator
- Mary Giles Mailhot, OSB – Staff
- Monika Ellis, OSB – Staff
- Therese Gonnevillle, OSB – Staff
- Jan Sharkey – Volunteer Office Staff

**Weekend Hospitality Staff**

- Camille Wooden, Obl. OSB
- Kathy Androes-Downes, Obl. OSB
- Eva Hayward-George, Obl. OSB

**Directions**

**Coming South on I-5**

- Take Exit 109
- Right turn onto Martin Way
- Right at next light onto College St. NE
- Second Right turn is our driveway

**Coming North on I-5**

- Take Exit 109
- Left turn onto Martin Way
- Right at second light onto College St. NE
- Second Right turn is our driveway

The Priory Store welcomes as payment VISA and MasterCard. We gratefully continue to accept telephone orders and special orders for books and religious articles. Call us at 360-438-1771.

The Store, located off the lobby in the Priory, is open Friday Noon to 3:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM.