

DIOCESE OF MISSOURI CELEBRATION OF RELIGIOUS LIFE SUNDAY 2023

A RETREAT

“Cultivating the Fire of Faith: Exploring Religious Life and Contemplative Spirituality”



DIMo Religious Gathered at Church of The Advent, February 2020

Members of Religious Orders and Christian Communities in the Diocese invite all in The Diocese to join them in Celebrating Religious Life Sunday this coming January 20-22. General Convention 80 established The Third Sunday after The Epiphany to be commemorated annually as **Religious Life Sunday**, recognizing Religious Orders and Christian Communities in the ministry of the Episcopal Church

Do you feel the call to deepen your engagement in your worship and spiritual life? Perhaps you will be interested in exploring the opportunities for participating in the life of an Episcopal Religious Order or Community. Members of Religious Orders and Communities in **The Diocese will be offering a Retreat on Friday-Saturday January 20-21** at The Marianist Retreat Center, Wildwood/Eureka as an opportunity to experience community, worship, reflection and to explore the various forms of Religious Orders and Communities in The Episcopal Church. If you are unable to stay overnight on Friday, January 20th, please join us on Saturday, January 21st for a Quiet Day. On Sunday members will return to their parishes to offer information about the religious life in The Episcopal Church. The day will conclude with a **Chorale Evensong at Christ Church Cathedral Commemorating Religious Life Sunday** with The Cathedral Choir Diocesan Religious, Retreatants and friends. The Retreat Schedule follows below.

Costs:

January 20-21 Overnight, Private Room and Bath accommodations, Dinner, Breakfast and Lunch meals, \$125.00

January 21 Quiet Day Only, Breakfast & Lunch \$65.00

To Register Visit the Diocesan Website, link:

<https://www.diocesemo.org/blog/celebrating-religious-life-in-the-diocese-of-missouri/?occurrence=298>

Perhaps one of the best kept secrets in The Episcopal Church is the existence of Religious Orders and Communities, *“Oh, I didn’t know that we had Anglican Monks and Nuns?”*. Many also do not know that you do not have to live in a monastery or convent to be one! Termed as *“The New Monasticism”* many of our communities are dispersed,

comprising members who are both Lay and Ordained, Men and Women, Married and Single. Lay persons work in their secular professions, and all commit to a consecrated life living under a Rule of Life, and ministering in various ways in their respective parishes and dioceses.

Canonically recognized Episcopal Religious Orders and Christian Communities are members of The Council of Anglican Religious Orders in the Americas (CAROA) and the National Association of Episcopal Christian Communities (NAECC). CAROA includes 23 traditional cloistered communities of men and women, NAECC includes 14 dispersed communities of men and women, and mixed, *(there are currently another 9 such groups in formation)* As will be explored in the upcoming retreat, this way of Religious Life is not a new idea, but has ancient roots within the church; Medieval Mystics termed it, *"The Mixed Life"*

Leading the retreat will be Anglican Dominican Fr. Kevin Goodrich, OP. A graduate of Nashotah House, with dual doctorates in Theology and Ministry. Br. Kevin is a Episcopal Priest who is engaged in both parish ministry and a ministry of itinerant preaching and teaching. He has preached and led retreats in England, Scotland and Wales, Ireland, Canada, Australia and throughout the U.S. Br. Kevin was the Third Master of the Anglican Order of Preachers (Dominicans). Br. Kevin has had a particular interest in the lives and works of 14th Century English Mystics who lived in the North and East of England. He has spent much time visiting, exploring and interacting with the locations and parishes in Nottinghamshire the locale of Walter Hilton's life and ministry, and also the venues where Richard Rolle, Julian of Norwich and Marjory Kempe lived, ministered and taught. His 2022 book **Mystic Bonfires** *(available via Amazon.com)* focuses in depth on Walter Hiton, Augustinian Canon, who as a writer is known for his work **The Ladder Perfection**, the first book on Christian Mysticism written in The English Language. Hilton held that all could embrace a life of ascetic practice, firm faith, and godly contemplation. As a Spiritual Director Hilton counseled both secular clerics and layperson on leading *"The Mixed Life"*. The Retreat will in particular engage with Hilton's work in discussion and practical exercises.

Diocesan Religious have been meeting together quarterly for Worship and Fellowship since the fall of 2019. Each gathering includes worship led by members of one of the participating communities, drawing on their community's particular traditions. To date participating communities have been Franciscans representing both The Order of St. Francis and The Society of St. Francis, Third Order, The Anamchara Fellowship, The Anglican Order of Preachers, and The (Dominicans), The Rivendell Community, as well as Oblates and Associates affiliated with Benedictine and other Orders.. In addition to these canonically recognized groups, several other communities within the church living under rules of life have joined in the gatherings: The Brotherhood of St. Andrew, The Daughters of the King, The Community of Hope (Benedictine), and the Interns of Deaconess Anne House.

RETREAT SCHEDULE
Cultivating the Fire of Faith:
Exploring Religious Life and Contemplative Spirituality



January 20-21, Fri-Sat, *Overnight Retreat*
January 21, Sat, *Quiet Day*

Marianist Retreat Center
Eureka, Missouri

FRIDAY January 20

3:00-4:30pm: Check-In

5:00pm: Evening Prayer, Led by members of The Society of St. Francis, 3rd Order and Order of St. Francis

5:45pm: Dinner

6:30-7:30pm: *Introductions, Richard Rolle, Religious Life, and English Mysticism*
(Fr. Goodrich)

7:30-8:30: Fellowship

8:45pm: Compline, Led by member of The Anglican Order of Preachers
(Dominicans)

9:00pm: *Great Silence*

SATURDAY January 21

End Great Silence

7:30am: Breakfast

8:00am: Morning Prayer, Led by Members of The Anamchara Fellowship

8:45-9:00am Break

- 9:00-10:00am *“Walter Hilton and the Mixed Life, Vowed & Otherwise, Yesterday and Today”* (Fr. Goodrich)
- 10:00 -10:15am Break
- 10:15 -11:30am *“Stirring the Contemplative Embers of the Church”*
Hybrid Session, with in-person and online Q+A (Fr. Goodrich)
- 11:40am Noonday Prayer
- 12:00pm: Lunch
- 1:00: Discussion, *“Nurturing Religious Life in the Diocese of Missouri”*
- 1:45pm: Break
- 2:00pm: Holy Eucharist (Celebrant Fr. Goodrich)
- 3:00pm: Departure

SUNDAY January 22

- 5:00pm Festive Choral Evensong Celebrating Religious Life Sunday at Christ Church Cathedral.

**MARIANIST RETREAT CENTER,
WILDWOOD-EUREKA, MISSOURI**



Retreat Center



Campus Overview



Chapel



Private Room with Double Bed and Bath



Dining Room

Directions to the Marianist Retreat Center

4000 Highway 109, Eureka, MO 63025 (636) 938-5390 www.mretreat.org



FROM I-270: Travel to

- A) I-64 / HWY 40 West, *or*
- B) I44 West

FROM I-64 / HWY 40: You have 2 options:

- Take Clarkson Road/Olive/Hwy 340 South. Go 4 miles and turn Right on Manchester Road (stoplight). Go 3 miles and exit MO-109/Eatherton Road. Stay in left lane. Take the roundabout exit going South on 109 and travel for 4 miles. When you pass Old State Road, you are ½ mile shy of the Retreat Center entrance. Watch for our burgundy sign on your Left which is halfway up the hill; turn Left.

or

- Take 141 South. Travel approximately 8 miles. Merge onto I-44 West and travel another 8 miles. Take the Eureka exit, turning Right on Hwy 109 North.

FROM I-44: Take the Eureka/Hwy 109 Exit #264 and go North on Hwy 109. Travel for 2 ½ miles (you will pass Eureka H.S. and then be mainly going uphill). When you start going downhill, be watchful on your Right for our burgundy sign; turn Right.

Once on the property drive along the main drive, passing around the house on the right which is Marycliff and continue on to the circle drive or either of the parking lots