



Manresa Memos

Issue 75 | August-September 2026



A message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends of Manresa,



Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM

Manresa has been honored to host some wonderful groups in recent weeks. We consider all our guests very special, but I wish to highlight several groups.

For eight weeks we have been blessed by the presence of nine Jesuits from all over the US and their spiritual guides. These Jesuits are in a stage of formation called "tertianship" prior to making their final vows as members of the Jesuit religious order. During these recent weeks, the tertians studied Jesuit History and the

Jesuit Rule of Life and, together with a tenth Jesuit, entered into a 30-day retreat called the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, their founder. It is a powerful retreat period. The prayerful presence of these Jesuits has been a gift to Manresa.

For five days in June, 17 Religious Sisters gathered for a retreat together. Some of them already knew certain of the other women, but many met for the first time. In fact eight of them had never done a retreat here. These Sisters brought with them many and varied experiences; one had spent two years ministering in Iceland! They shared deeply with one another during their time with us, and they were an inspiration to all they met by their open-hearted and prayerful presence.

Manresa hosted two other unique groups in June for weekend retreats. Forty-five Spanish-speaking persons who meet regularly at Manresa during the year came for a weekend of prayer. One highlight was a silent evening around a campfire near the river. Additionally, we hosted an Urban Parish retreat that was moving and inspiring to all.

Please feel welcome to join us at Manresa for a weekend retreat, individually-directed retreat, Afternoon of Reflection, Day to Call Your Own or a weekday morning Mass!

Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM

Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM
Executive Director

Our Mission is to help men and women grow spiritually through prayer, reflection, guidance and teaching according to the Ignatian tradition.

JOIN US

Weekday Masses

Monday to Friday
8:00 AM in the main chapel.

We remember all deceased retreatants the last Friday of each month at the 8:00 AM Mass.

Make a Note of It

In observance of Labor Day, no Mass will be offered on Monday, Sept. 7. The house and office will be closed; the grounds will be open to the public until 6:00 PM.

Tuesday Prayer

Stay for 30 minutes of private Christian meditation following 8:00 AM Mass on Tuesdays.

Learn More

Visit manresa-sj.org/events for a full listing of our programs and retreats.



44 trees awaiting donors



How many trees does it take to fill in the open spaces along Woodward Avenue at the east end of Manresa's property, replace those that we lost due to illness or weather damage and to add others to further enhance Manresa's beautiful grounds?

100!

That was our goal when we began the "100 Trees for 100 More Years" campaign last Fall in celebration of Manresa's 100th Anniversary.

We're more than halfway to our goal with 56 trees donated to date by 52 people who see their purchase as a way of contributing to Manresa's future.

As Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM, said at the Arbor Day dedication and blessing of the trees in April, "These trees represent our gratitude for the past 100 years and our hopes for the blessing of another 100 years to come."

Help us close out our centennial celebration this Fall by donating one of the remaining 44 trees. Go to manresa-sj.org/100trees today.

Sacred Encounters: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow

Celebrating 100 Years of Ministry

Mark your calendar!

What happened to St. Ignatius at Manresa?

Wednesday, Sept. 9, 7:00-8:30 PM



As Manresa celebrates 100 years of creating an atmosphere for sacred encounters, we want to reflect on our historical namesake's roots in Spain.

To that end, we've invited Fr. Tom Florek, SJ to tell us about his recent experience at Manresa in the Catalonia region where St. Ignatius of Loyola stayed in 1522. He will talk about the significance of St. Ignatius' time there and his own insights



Fr. Tom Florek, SJ

during his travels. Most of us will never travel to Manresa in Spain, but here is an opportunity to understand our spiritual DNA. **This is a FREE event. All are invited. No registration necessary.**

Fr. Tom Florek, SJ has devoted much of his priestly ministry to work with the underserved and migrants. He founded the Midwest Hispanic Leadership Institute, has worked at the Miguel Pro Jesuit Center in Mexico City and taught at the University of Detroit Mercy. Currently executive director of the Catholic Migrant Farmworkers Network, he also consults nationally regarding Hispanic diocesan leadership.

Outdoor Mass & Picnic

Sunday, Sept. 20, 2:00 PM



If you attended the Outdoor Mass last Fall kicking off our year-long 100th Anniversary Celebration, you know what a beautiful time of worship and fellowship we all had.

And we're doing it again to close out the celebration of our centennial. The Mass will be followed by a picnic



catered by a variety of food trucks. Make plans now to be a part of this historic event at Manresa. Registration opens August 1 at manresa-sj.org/100Years.

Praying with Fr. Fennessy's Favorite Art - Part I



Tuesdays, 7:00–8:30 PM

Sept. 8, 29 | Oct. 13, 27 | Nov. 10, 24 | Dec. 8, 2026

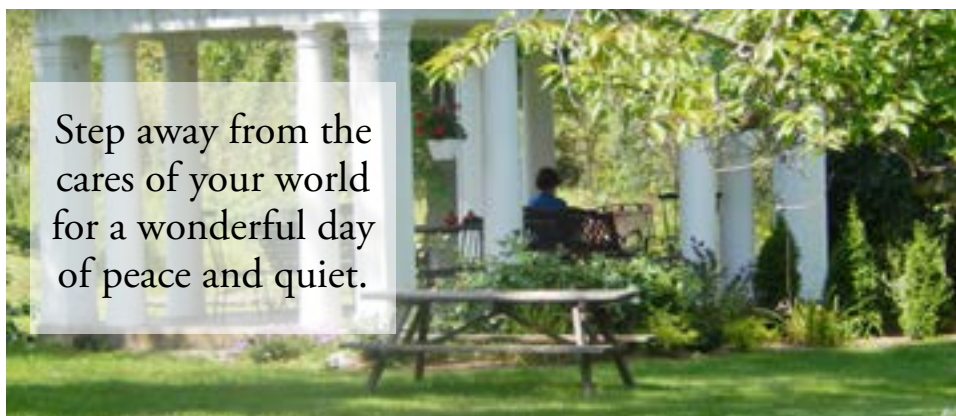
Please join us as our “Praying with Art” classes enter their tenth year. We have, so far, explored ten different themes, and this year we’ll be taking a fresh approach. Fr. Fennessy will guide us through some of his favorite masterpieces from across art history, spanning both the life of Christ and beyond, like Bouts’ “Virgin and Child” (seen here), Hawksley’s “Mary and Elizabeth” or the early American “Baby in a Red Chair.” We invite you to join us in appreciating these beautiful works and learning how to incorporate them into your personal prayer life.

Facilitator: Fr. Peter Fennessy, SJ is superior of the Jesuit community at Manresa. He gives individually directed and conference retreats using fine art wherever possible to illustrate his presentations and offers spiritual direction.

Fee: \$110 due at registration. Fee is non-refundable, non-transferable.

**Register at manresa-sj.org/090826-art
or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.**

A Day to Call Your Own



Step away from the
cares of your world
for a wonderful day
of peace and quiet.

What could be better than a day all to yourself? A day to do something good for your soul. A day to relax, refresh and reflect in a beautiful setting. There’s no better place to spend a day like that than at Manresa. **Enjoy the quiet, away from the busyness of everyday life.** We provide you with a private room and a simple lunch; you decide how you want to spend the day: **reflect, pray, walk the property, read or just BE.** (No director is available or required.) Mark your calendar now to take some time to be alone with God.

Fee: \$60/day, due at registration. Fee is non-refundable, non-transferable.

Pre-registration is required. (Space is limited.)

To register, go to the links shown or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.

8:00 AM–3:30 PM

Friday, Sept. 18, 2026

manresa-sj.org/091826-day

Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2026

manresa-sj.org/102826-day

Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2026

manresa-sj.org/112426-day

Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2027

manresa-sj.org/012027-day

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2027

manresa-sj.org/021827-day

Tuesday, Mar. 23, 2027

manresa-sj.org/032327-day

Wednesday, May 26, 2027

manresa-sj.org/052627-day

SCRIPTURE STUDY: The Gospel of John



John's gospel presents us with a portrait of Jesus that is at once engaging and profound. By identifying Jesus as the light of the world and good shepherd, the Gospel gives us accessible ways to begin thinking about who Jesus is, while inviting us to go deeper in what it means to be in a relationship of trust with God through Christ. The most theological of the four Gospels, John includes only seven miracles to demonstrate the divinity of Christ and to illustrate His ministry, and he shares much about the approaching ministry of the Holy Spirit after Jesus' ascension. Please join us as we unpack this unique gospel that provides a clear revelation of who Jesus is.

Instructor: Fr. Steve Hurd, SJ is Co-director of the Internship in Spiritual Companionship and a popular retreat director at Manresa.

**Tuesdays,
9:30–11:30 AM (EST)**

**Sept. 8, 22 | Oct. 6, 20
Nov. 3, 17, 2026**

This course is offered onsite
(space limited to 16) or via Zoom.*

Fee: \$110 due at registration.

Fee is non-refundable,
non-transferable.

Register at
**[manresa-sj.org/090826-
scripture](https://manresa-sj.org/090826-scripture)**
or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.

*Zoom instructions will be emailed
to registered participants prior to each
session.

Faith That Does Justice: Understanding and Living the Gift of Catholic Social Teaching



What does the Church call us to—and how do we live it? Join Fr. Tim McCabe, SJ and Fr. David Buersmeyer for three fall evenings exploring Catholic Social Teaching through the lens of Ignatian spirituality. Together we'll build a grounded understanding of the Church's social vision, discover how contemplation in action brings this teaching to life and wrestle with today's hardest questions—from military force and immigration to Pope Leo's landmark encyclical on artificial intelligence.

Whether you're new to Catholic Social Teaching or deepening a lifelong commitment, this series offers space to learn, question and discern how faith calls you to act. **This series is FREE; donations accepted. All are welcome.**

**Mondays, 7:00-8:30 PM
Oct. 5, 12, 19, 2026**

Facilitators: Fr. Tim McCabe, SJ is president and CEO of the Pope Francis Center. A native of Ferndale, MI, Fr. Tim has advocated for the poor and marginalized for more than 40 years. **Fr. David Buersmeyer**, an ordained senior priest of the Archdiocese of Detroit, serves as ombudsman for the Archdiocese as well as chaplain for Strangers No Longer, an immigration support and advocacy group.

More info at manresa-sj.org/100526-justice.

BOOK DISCUSSION — Insane for the Light: A Spirituality for Our Wisdom Years

Each phase of life presents us with its own unique opportunity to connect with God and to bless those around us—even and perhaps especially in those later decades when careers, raising kids and mortgage payments are behind us. In his newest book *Insane for the Light*, author Ronald Rolheiser takes us on a spiritual journey through life's final years and the mellowing of our souls. In these years, bitterness can give way to forgiveness, mere imagination to profound and subtle faith, wishful optimism to virtuous hope, and control to surrender. Rolheiser draws on the works of John of the Cross and Henri Nouwen and describes a spirituality capable of giving one's death away – and by that a spirituality of truly living.

Please read the Preface and Chapter 1 of Part One for the first session. Reflect and journal if possible on what Seasons 1 and 2 have been like for you. What do you anticipate about Season 3?

Instructor: Rosemary Insley is a retired chaplain and bereavement counselor with Master's degrees in Pastoral Studies and Social Work. As a spiritual companion, she guides others in the Spiritual Exercises and in retreats.

**Mondays, 6:30-8:00 PM
(EST) via Zoom***

**Sept. 14, 28 | Oct. 12, 26
Nov. 9, 2026**

Fee: \$60, due at registration. Fee is non-refundable, non-transferable.

Register at
manresa-sj.org/091426-bookdisc
or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.

*Zoom instructions will be emailed to registered participants prior to each session. Please sign on by 6:20 PM to resolve any technical issues.

Christian Yoga for body, mind & *spirit*

FALL 2026

**Mondays, 7:00–8:00 PM
(EST) via Zoom***

**Sept. 14, 21, 28 | Oct. 5, 12,
19, 26 | Nov. 2, 9, 16,
23, 30, 2026**

Fee: \$144, due at registration.
Fee is non-refundable
non-transferable.

Register soon at
manresa-sj.org/091426-yoga
or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.

*Zoom instructions will be emailed to registered participants prior to each session.



Christian Yoga is a form of meditative body prayer that invites us to be present in the moment with God. As we focus on our breath and move through postures, we find balance and healing uniting our breath, body and spirit with Christ. This brings us to our inner self to be still with God and know His peace.

Instructor: Mary Gresens, DLS is a professor, lecturer and yogi. As a spiritual companion, she guides others to find balance and harmony through prayer, meditation and movement.



Oración Contemplativa

Domingo de 1:30 a 5:00 PM

13 de septiembre | 18 de octubre

22 de noviembre, 2026

21 de febrero | 21 de marzo | 18 de abril, 2027

Costo: Tu donativo es bienvenido

Se alienta a los participantes a donar a Manresa Jesuit Retreat House en apoyo de su Misión.

**Para registrarse, llame al 248.644.4933 Ext. 128
o correo electrónico**

ignacianosdemanresa@gmail.com

Pase una tarde de domingo en Manresa escuchando y reflexionando sobre aspectos de la espiritualidad ignaciana mientras disfruta de la tranquilidad y la belleza de nuestras instalaciones y jardines. Las sesiones son guiadas por un equipo de acompañantes espirituales con experiencia en la tradición ignaciana. Cada tarde le ayudará a profundizar su fe mediante la oración, la meditación de las escrituras y el discernimiento, a medida que aprende a conocer, amar y servir mejor a Dios en su vida diaria.



Contemplative Prayer for Spanish Speakers

Sundays, 1:30-5:00 PM

Sept. 13 | Oct. 18 | Nov. 22, 2026

Feb. 21 | Mar. 21 | Apr. 18, 2027

Fee: Donations gratefully accepted

Participants are encouraged to donate to Manresa Jesuit Retreat House in support of its Mission.

**To register, phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 128 or email
ignacianosdemanresa@gmail.com**

Spend a Sunday afternoon at Manresa listening and reflecting on aspects of Ignatian spirituality while enjoying the quiet and beauty of our facility and grounds. Sessions are guided by a team of Spanish-speaking spiritual companions with experience in the Ignatian tradition. Each afternoon will help you to deepen your faith through prayer, Scripture meditation and discernment as you come to know, love and serve God better in your daily life.

Sunday Afternoon Reflections



The Call to Forgiveness

**Sunday,
Oct. 11, 2026
2:00-7:00 PM**

**Fee: \$60 due at
registration.**

Fee is non-refundable,
non-transferable.

Register at
**[manresa-sj.org/
101126-SAR-fall](http://manresa-sj.org/101126-SAR-fall)**
or phone
248.644.4933 Ext. 0.

The worst school shooting in Pennsylvania history occurred on October 2, 2006, at a one-room Amish schoolhouse in the small town of Nickel Mines. Ten girls were shot, six were killed. The nation was mesmerized by the community's response to the tragedy. In a world that often resorts to revenge, the Amish chose the path of forgiveness.

During this afternoon of reflection, we will look at that response, which is at the very heart of Amish spirituality and which is rooted in the teachings of Jesus. In addition to speaker presentation, the afternoon will include the film *Amish Grace*, reflection and discussion, Sunday liturgy and dinner.

Facilitator: Sr. Kathie Budesky, IHM graduated from Mundelein College with a Master's degree in Religious Studies and Spirituality and is currently the Director of Visitation North Spirituality Center in Bloomfield Hills, where she is also a presenter and facilitator.

A Time of Quiet Expectation

Advent is a time of expectation. When around small children it is hard not to experience their increasing excitement of the coming of Christmas and the gifts under the Christmas tree. But there is a deeper expectation during Advent. It is the expectation of experiencing the Lord Jesus' coming to us in new and more meaningful ways. Join us for an afternoon of reflection on the meaning of the Lord's presence among us.

The afternoon includes two talks, time for private prayer/devotion, Sunday Mass and a delicious meal to round out the day. Your retreat begins at 2:00 PM; however, you may arrive any time after 1:30 PM for refreshments and fellowship.

Sunday, Dec. 6, 2026 | 2:00-7:00 PM



Fee: \$60 due at registration.

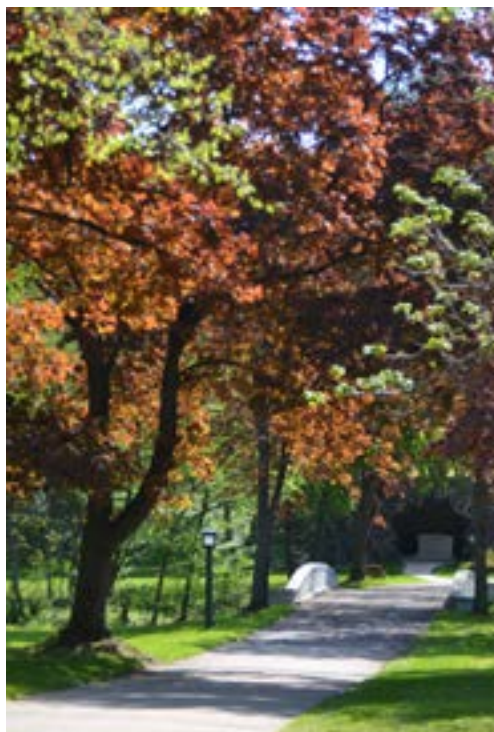
Fee is non-refundable, non-transferable.

Register at **manresa-sj.org/120726-SAR-advent**
or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.

Facilitator: Fr. Robert Flack, SJ gives individually directed and conference retreats and offers spiritual direction at Manresa. A native of Chicago, he has served as a parish priest, a college professor and as a staff member at Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House in Barrington, IL. He also served as a spiritual director at St. Joseph College Seminary in Chicago.

Saturday: A Day for You

Step into stillness: a day just for you at Manresa.



After a long week filled with deadlines, distractions and demands, imagine a day that asks nothing of you—except to simply be. Come to Manresa for a day of quiet renewal, where peace meets purpose and your soul finds space to breathe.

Nestled in the heart of nature, our serene grounds invite you to leave the noise behind and rediscover your center. No schedule. No expectations. Just sacred space and silence. You'll have your own private room and a simple, nourishing lunch. How you spend the day is entirely up to you:

- Walk the peaceful wooded trails.
- Sit in quiet reflection in the library or chapels.
- Pray, journal or read without interruption.
- Or do nothing at all—and let that be enough.

There is no morning Mass, and spiritual directors are not available or required. This is your time. Your retreat. Your renewal.

Fee: \$60, due at registration. Fee is non-refundable, non-transferable. Pre-registration is required. (Space is limited.)

Please Note: Arrival and registration at Front Office: 8:15-8:45 AM. A silent retreat will be in progress on April 10; please be aware of the quiet as you enter. Checkout no later than 4:00 PM. **To register,** go to the links above or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.

JESUIT Ignatian Spirituality NEWS: Program

VIA is an Ignatian formation program for those ages 21+ interested in exploring Ignatian/Jesuit spirituality. It can help you explore the Jesuit tradition and deepen your spiritual journey. A one-year program, it consists of four movements: Spirituality, Discernment, Jesuit Tradition, and Heritage and Mission. Activities include a beginning and ending weekend retreat, self-directed learning through prayer, reading, videos and podcasts, and 16 in-person cohort sessions. A new cohort begins in September. Applications are being accepted through August 15 or until program fills. Visit IgnatianVia.org for more information.



Give Your Time, Grow Manresa's Mission

We're looking for volunteers to lend their time and talent in whatever way fits their gifts, from cutting the lawn and tending the gardens to stuffing envelopes, greeting retreatants or helping with housekeeping.

Whether you have an hour a month or a Saturday morning to spare, your service helps create a welcoming space for everyone who comes through our doors seeking rest and renewal. **No experience needed — just a willing heart.** Come serve where you're needed and grow in the process.

Interested? Contact Operations Director Mike Rhadigan at 248.644.4933 Ext. 105 to find the right fit for you.

Upcoming Conference Retreats



All retreats are silent unless otherwise noted. \$50 deposit due at registration for all retreats. To register, click on the retreat date or call 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.

For Men

August

Friday-Sunday, Aug. 21-23

Patron: St. Stephen Pongrácz, SJ **Theme:** Journeying with Jesus
Directors: Fr. Fran Daly, SJ & Sr. Kathie Budesky, IHM

September

Friday-Sunday, Sept. 11-13

Patron: Blessed Sebastian Kimura, SJ
Theme: Invitation to Discipleship
Director: Fr. Robert Ytsen, SJ

Friday-Sunday, Sept. 25-27

Patron: St. Francis Borgia, SJ **Theme:** Living the Life of the Kingdom of God
Director: Fr. Robert Flack, SJ

October

Thursday-Sunday, Oct. 1-4

(4-days) **Patron:** St. John Ogilvie, SJ
Theme: To Know Christ Jesus: The Life of Christ in Art **Director:** Fr. Peter Fennessy, SJ

Friday-Sunday, Oct. 16-18

Patron: St. Alphonsus Rodriguez, SJ
Theme: Invitation to Discipleship
Director: Fr. Robert Ytsen, SJ

Friday-Sunday, Oct. 23-25

Patron: St. Stanislaus Kosta, SJ **Theme:** TBD **Director:** Fr. Steve Spahn, SJ

November

Friday-Sunday, Nov. 6-8

Patron: Blessed Rupert Mayer, SJ
Theme: To Know Christ Jesus: The Life of Christ in Art **Director:** Fr. Peter Fennessy, SJ

December

Friday-Sunday, Dec. 4-6

Patron: St. Francis Xavier, SJ **Theme:** Praying with Pope Leo's encyclical "Magnificent Humanity" **Director:** Fr. Robert Scullin, SJ

For Women

October

Thursday-Sunday, Oct. 8-11

(4-Days) **Patron:** Blessed Dominic Collins, SJ **Theme:** Praying Our Tears
Director: Fr. Patrick Hyland, SJ

November

Friday-Sunday, Nov. 13-15

Patron: Blessed Miguel Pro **Theme:** God's Autumn Blessings **Director:** Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM

Friday-Sunday, Nov. 20-22

Patron: Fr. Ed Dowling, SJ **Theme:** Joy of Recovery **Director:** Kathleen McCauley

For Men & Women

September

Friday-Sunday, Sept. 4-6

Patron: Fr. John LaFarge, SJ **Theme:** Christian Yoga — Gift and Gratitude: Finding God in All Things **Directors:** Dr. Mary Gresens, DLS and Fr. Robert Scullin, SJ **Note:** No dinner on Friday; ends after lunch on Sunday

Tuesday-Thursday, Sept. 15-17

Patron: Blessed Francisco Gárate, SJ
Theme: Encounter Christ, our Rabboni
Director: Miss Jennifer Ristine, CWRC

NEW

Overnight Retreats

Manresa now offers two overnight retreats for men and women, making it easy to fit into even the busiest schedule, while still offering the chance to step away, go deeper in your spiritual journey and encounter the Sacred in the silence. Retreats begin Friday at 4:30 PM and end on Saturday at 5:00 PM. \$125 non-refundable, non-transferable fee per person due at registration.

- **Friday-Saturday, Aug. 28-29**
- **Theme:** 12-Step, Adult Children of Alcoholics & Dysfunctional Families **Directors:** Ms. Madeline Bialecki and Mr. Terry Sullivan
- **Friday-Saturday, Oct. 30-31**
- **Patron:** St. John Berchmans, SJ **Theme:** A Prayerful Introduction to Ignatian Spirituality **Director:** Fr. Steve Hurd, SJ

Honor your loved ones in Manresa's Jesuit Garden

Complete and return this form to:

Steve Raymond, Manresa Jesuit Retreat House,
1390 Quarton Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

E-mail: sraymond@manresa-sj.org | Phone: 248.644.4933 Ext. 111

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

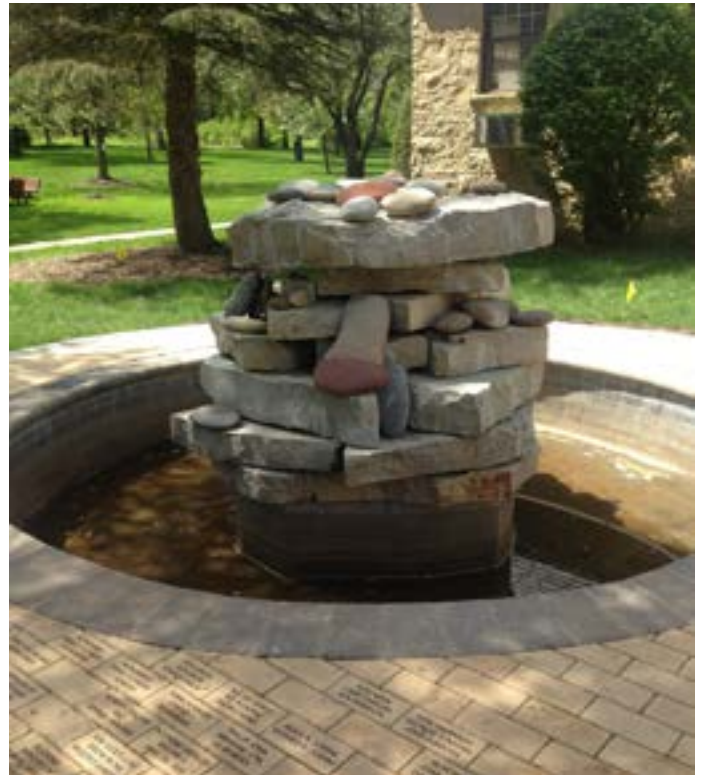
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_____ 4x8 Bricks surrounding fountain @ \$300

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Plaques are custom designed. Sizes may be approximate. Bricks include up to three lines of copy with up to 16 characters/spaces per line. We will contact you about the specific engraving.



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Finding Meaning in Communal Grieving



Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2026 | 1:00-4:00 PM

Often there are losses and grieving that a group experiences. For instance, an entire family experiences the death of a member, a parish the loss of a loved member of the staff through retirement, a country an act of terrorism, and so on.

Presently the Archdiocese of Detroit is undergoing a time of discernment that will re-organize the parishes of the archdiocese and likely lead to the closing of some parishes. Many people in the AOD will be grieving significant losses.

This afternoon of reflection will consider how we can be in touch with our personal grief while we also support persons around us who are in deep grief. What can help us at this time? How can we prepare? What might God hope for from us? What resources does our faith offer? How can we respond in faith-filled ways while honoring our own grief?

We hope to come away from this afternoon with a strengthening of our own and one another's faith, and a sense of how we might live this Paschal Mystery.

Facilitator: **Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM**, serves as Manresa's Executive Director. Her ministerial experience includes teaching, professional counseling, and retreat and spiritual direction.

Fee: \$30 due at registration. Fee is non-refundable, non-transferable.

Register at manresa-sj.org/100726-grief or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.