

# Manresa Memos

Issue 59 | Oct.-Nov. 2023



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

## A message from the Executive Director



Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM

*Blessed are you, autumn,  
season of so much bounty.  
You invite us to imitate your generosity  
in giving freely from the goodness of our lives,  
holding nothing back.*

—Srs. Joyce Rupp and Macrina Wiederkehr  
in *The Circle of Life*

Dear Friends of Manresa,

The blessings of the season of autumn are upon us once again! For me, it is a season that draws me to prayer like no other. When I walk outside these days, I see so much beauty everywhere, even while I am aware it is a period of vulnerability, surrender and apparent dying for trees and plants, as well as breath-taking loveliness.

As Sisters Joyce and Macrina point out in the quote above, the season beckons to me to give generously to God and others, holding nothing back. What is autumn summoning in you?

Some opportunities are presented in this newsletter to allow you to come and enjoy the season at Manresa. May you find something to help you grow in your relationships with God and others.

Blessings,

*Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM*

Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM  
Executive Director

## 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.

### Tuesday Prayer

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

### Make a Note of It

The house will be closed  
Thursday and Friday, Nov. 23-24  
for the Thanksgiving Day holiday.  
Masses will resume on Monday,  
Nov. 27 at 8:00 AM.

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Learn more about Manresa  
and all our offerings at  
[manresa-sj.org](http://manresa-sj.org).  
Click on Upcoming Events  
to see the full listing of our  
programs and retreats.

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## Manresa News

### Fr. Bob Ytsen, SJ celebrates 50 years of ministry

Congratulations to Fr. Bob Ytsen, SJ



who marked his 50th anniversary as a Jesuit on September 2.

Fr. Bob entered the Society of Jesus at the

former Loyola House in Berkley, MI. He was ordained on June 12, 1982, at Madonna Della Strada, Loyola University, and made his final vows in December 1996.

He has spent most of his apostolic career in secondary education, having taught English at high schools in the Chicago Province, and now at U-D High School, Detroit. On staff at Manresa since 2014, Fr. Bob celebrates Masses, directs retreats and offers spiritual direction. We are grateful for his ministry here.

### SAVE THE DATE

## SPIRIT OF MANRESA

### Annual Banquet

Thursday, May 2, 2024

Our annual Banquet is returning to its May date in 2024. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us.

We're already working to make next year's Banquet an enjoyable and memorable occasion.

# Experiencing the Spiritual Exercises in Daily Life

A home retreat that starts whenever you're ready



The Spiritual Exercises, developed by St. Ignatius of Loyola, offer a way to grow in prayer; to develop a real and personal relationship with God; to see more clearly God's presence in creation, your personal life story and current life circumstances; and to know Jesus more intimately, love Him more deeply and follow Him more closely.

At Manresa we offer several ways of praying and reflecting on the meditations and themes of the Spiritual Exercises in the midst of your daily life. Each experience requires a significant commitment of time for daily prayer on specific Scripture selections and weekly meetings with a director. *An offering of \$25 per session is appropriate.*

### Choose the format that works best for you:

- **Eight Weeks** — Pray daily for 30 minutes for eight weeks using retreat content offered online.
- **12 Weeks** — Pray daily for 30 to 45 minutes for 12 weeks using a prayer workbook/journal with daily Scripture and reflections.
- **30 Days** — Pray daily for 30 to 45 minutes aided by 30 sequential reflections for prayer and meditation available in a book or online.
- **Ten Months (19<sup>th</sup> Annotation Retreat)** — A daily commitment of 60 to 90 minutes of prayer and reflection centered on the themes of the Exercises for approximately nine or ten months.  
In addition to praying with the materials, home retreatants meet weekly with a spiritual director via Zoom, Facetime, phone or in person. Retreatants are also responsible for the cost of materials as required.

If you are interested, contact Ann Dillon, Director of Ignatian Formation, for more details at [adillon@manresa-sj.org](mailto:adillon@manresa-sj.org) or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 107.



# Sunday Afternoon Reflection

## *Experiencing God's Creation*



Creation is God's first Word, and this afternoon of reflection will help us contemplate God's creation with the leaves in full color. The afternoon will include some input in the Ignatian tradition and time to walk the grounds and relate to the beautiful autumn season. It will end with a prayer together highlighting God's creation.

We will meet regardless of weather conditions. We encourage you to dress comfortably for both indoor and outdoor settings. Please join us for this special opportunity to experience God in nature.

**Sunday, Oct. 15, 2023**  
**2:00–5:00 PM**

**Fee: \$35 due at registration.**  
Fee is non-refundable, non-transferable.

Register at [manresa-sj.org/101523-sar-creation](http://manresa-sj.org/101523-sar-creation)  
or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.

**Facilitators:** Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM, Manresa's Executive Director, is a licensed clinical professional counselor. Her ministerial experience includes teaching, counseling and spiritual direction. **Joe Olesnavage** has been a spiritual companion and facilitator of the Spiritual Exercises since completing Manresa's Internship in Ignatian Spirituality. He serves as a supervisor for the Internship program and a spiritual director in an inner healing ministry.

## Guided Contemplative Prayer

### IN SPANISH

**Sundays, 1:30–4:30 PM**

**Oct. 22, 2023**  
*Preparing for Gratitude*

**Dec. 3, 2023**  
*The Posada: Welcoming and Receiving Light*

**Fee: Donations gratefully accepted.** Participants are encouraged to donate to Manresa Jesuit Retreat House in support of its Mission.

To register, please email [ignacianosdemanresa@gmail.com](mailto:ignacianosdemanresa@gmail.com) or phone 248.385.3537.



In the Ignatian tradition, praying with the imagination is called contemplation. In the Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius of Loyola, **contemplation is an active way of praying that engages the mind and heart and stirs up our thoughts and emotions.**

We invite you to **experience guided contemplative prayer in Spanish** on Sunday afternoons at Manresa. In each session you will have time for silent reflection and for sharing. Each session will be guided by a spiritual companion with experience in the Ignatian spiritual tradition.

# Sunday Afternoon Reflection: Advent

God's journey to Bethlehem began at the creation, Mary's at her conception. We offer this Advent afternoon of prayer and art about those journeys to help us prepare the Lord's way into our hearts and our way to Bethlehem, Christmas and the birth of Our Lord.

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.

Join us for this special opportunity during Advent to renew our faith and hope in Christ.

**Facilitator: Fr. Peter Fennessy, SJ** is a long-time member of the Manresa ministerial team.



Sunday, Dec. 10, 2023 | 2:00–7:00 PM

Fee: \$50 due at registration.

Fee is non-refundable, non-transferable.

Register at [manresa-sj.org/121023-sar-advent](https://manresa-sj.org/121023-sar-advent)  
or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.

## Day of Reflection: Grief

Sundays, 2:00–7:00 PM  
*including dinner*

Nov. 12, 2023  
*Grieving the Loss of a  
Son or Daughter*

[manresa-sj.org/111223-dor-grief](https://manresa-sj.org/111223-dor-grief)

Feb. 11, 2024  
*Grieving the Death of a  
Spouse or Partner*

[manresa-sj.org/021124-dor-grief](https://manresa-sj.org/021124-dor-grief)

Apr. 14, 2024  
*Grieving a Sudden or  
Violent Death*

[manresa-sj.org/041424-dor-grief](https://manresa-sj.org/041424-dor-grief)



These three Sunday afternoon reflections focus on various types of losses. They include time for prayer, input from faith and psychological perspectives, quiet reflection time and sharing with other participants. Each Day of Reflection is independent of the others. Please register for each afternoon separately.

**Group Leader: Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM**, Manresa's Executive Director, is a licensed clinical professional counselor. Her ministerial experience includes teaching, counseling and spiritual direction. She has facilitated numerous grief support groups.

**Fee: \$50 per session, due at registration.** Fee is non-refundable, non-transferable.  
**Register by going to the link listed for the session you want to attend  
or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.**



# A Day to Call Your Own

8:00 AM–3:30 PM

Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2023  
[manresa-sj.org/102423-day](http://manresa-sj.org/102423-day)

Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2023  
[manresa-sj.org/112123-day](http://manresa-sj.org/112123-day)

Friday, Dec. 8, 2023  
[manresa-sj.org/120823-day](http://manresa-sj.org/120823-day)

**Fee: \$50, due at registration.**  
Fee is non-refundable, non-transferable. Pre-registration is required. (Space is limited.)

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



## Step away from the cares of your world.

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; the rest is for you to decide how you want to spend your day. So many options: **reflect, pray, walk the property, read or just BE.** (No director is available or required.) Mark your calendar now to take some well-deserved time for yourself.



# Jesuit Alumni Retreat for Men & Women



We're bringing together alumni from Ignatian high schools, colleges and programs for a weekend retreat designed to refresh and renew your Ignatian spirituality. Directed by Fr. Steve Hurd, SJ, Fr. Fran Daly, SJ and Fr. Trevor Rainwater, SJ, the weekend includes daily presentations, discussions and time on your own to pray, reflect and hear what God may be saying to you through the silence. Walk the nature trail or enjoy a cozy spot in front of the fireplace. Enjoy the solitude of your own room and savor delicious meals with old friends. This is a weekend you won't want to miss.

Register at [manresa-sj.org/022324-alumni](http://manresa-sj.org/022324-alumni) or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.

**Friday-Sunday  
Feb. 23-25, 2024**

Begins Friday at 5:00 PM, ends  
Sunday at 12:30 PM

**A non-refundable, non-transferable  
\$50 deposit per person is due at  
registration.**

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 4x8 Bricks surrounding fountain @ \$300
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- \_\_\_\_\_ 12x12 Wall of Remembrance Plaque @ \$10,000

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.

## Print & Digital Ad Space Available Now

Dave Polansky from LPi, our newsletter printer, is securing new ads for *Manresa Memos* in October. It is the support of the business community that makes this newsletter possible. Please consider purchasing a print and/or digital ad as your participation helps Manresa thrive while attracting customers for your business. Please contact Dave Polansky at [dpolansky@4lpi.com](mailto:dpolansky@4lpi.com) or 248.250.3880 to learn more about the value of advertising in *Manresa Memos*.

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# 2023 Conference Retreats

## Retreats for Men

### Thursday-Sunday, Oct. 5-8

**Patron:** St. John Ogilvie, SJ **Groups:** Weisenburger-Serra **Director:** Fr. Robert Flack, SJ

### Friday-Sunday, Oct. 20-22

**Patron:** St. Alphonsus Rodriguez, SJ **Groups:** Catholic Lawyers & Physicians; Ford Tractor; St. Vincent de Paul; **Director:** Fr. Robert Scullin, SJ

### Friday-Sunday, Oct. 27-29

**Patron:** St. Stanislaus Kostka, SJ **Groups:** Bodde-Schweihofer-St. Clare; Our Lady Star of the Sea; St. Hubert; St. Valerie **Director:** Fr. Peter Fennessy, SJ

### Friday-Sunday, Nov. 3-5

**Patron:** Blessed Rupert Mayer, SJ **Groups:** Holy Name, Birmingham; Immaculate Conception, Ira Township; St. Boniface, Oak Harbor, OH; SS. Peter and Paul Jesuit Church **Director:** Fr. Steve Hurd, SJ



### Friday-Sunday, Dec. 1-3

**Patron:** St. Francis Xavier, SJ **Groups:** Bayer-Toledo **Director:** Fr. Robert Flack, SJ

## Retreats for Women

### Thursday-Sunday, Oct. 12-15

**Patron:** St. Dominic Collins, SJ **Directors:** Fr. Fran Daly, SJ and Sr. Kathie Budesky, IHM

### Friday-Sunday, Nov. 10-12

**Patron:** Blessed Miguel Pro **Director:** Fr. Bob Ytsen, SJ

### Friday-Sunday, Nov. 17-19 (Women in Recovery)

**Patron:** Edward Dowling, SJ **Director:** Mr. Terry Sullivan

## Individually Directed Retreats

Manresa offers directed retreats for individuals between September and April as space allows. These Out-of-Session Retreats must be a minimum of four full consecutive days and no more than eight full consecutive days. "Out-of-session" costs are \$95 per day with a \$95 non-refundable, non-transferable deposit. Those interested may call 248.644.4933 Ext. 0 for more information.

*A non-refundable, non-transferable \$50 deposit per person is required for all retreats. Retreats are not restricted to the groups named. All are welcome.*