



~ SPIRIT ~

Monthly notes and inspiration from Louisiana Spiritual Directors, Inc.

May 2018

*For see, the winter is past,
the rains are over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth,
the time of pruning the vines has come,
and the song of the turtledove is heard in our land.*

Song of Songs 2: 11-12



Rev. Bill Redfield Presents Inspirational and Energy-Filled Program at 2018 LASD Conference

Rev. Bill Redfield, Episcopal priest and licensed clinical social worker from New Hampshire, provided an outstanding program at the 2018 LASD Conference held April 20-22 at the Wesley Center in Woodworth. Throughout the weekend, he successfully wove concepts of Wisdom Christianity and contemplative spirituality in ways which inspired and edified all in attendance. Comments from attendees included:

"This whole weekend was a gift to me. I am so grateful for the time we have had together as a community. I am grateful for Bill and the 'wisdom' he brought to us and for the challenge to continue in my journey of spiritual growth, surrender, and 'seeing life more clearly.'"

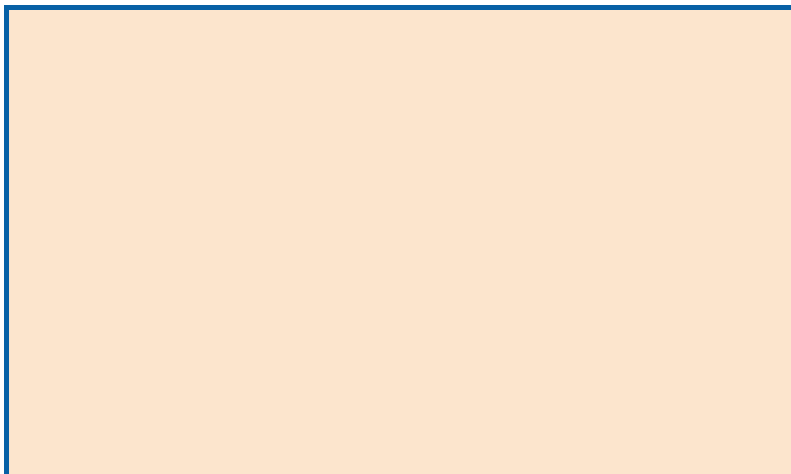
"I thought that the entire weekend was outstanding. I think that Bill stretched all of us in varying degrees, inviting us to consider what wisdom truly is... The activities wonderfully facilitated a dynamic process by which we all grew closer and deeper as a community of spiritual directors."

"It's left me hungry for more and hopeful of going deeper into Wisdom Christianity with hopefully a Wisdom School experience and a Wisdom Circle."

Many thanks to Bill for an outstanding weekend!



Scenes from the conference.





2018-2019 LASD Board Members

Board members selected by the membership at the 2018 Annual Conference for the 2018-2019 fiscal year are front row, l-r: Elsa Mendoza, Treasurer; Robin Hebert, President; Melinda LeBlanc, Secretary; Jane Hebert, Board Member and Immediate Past President; Denise Donahoe, and Charlene Rivera. Back row, l-r, Brad Leger, Mike Van Vranken, Susan Reise-Rothwell, Yvonne Hymel, and Sr. Kathleen Stakelum, MSC, Vice President.



Message from 2018-2019 LASD Board President

Dearest Members of LASD,

I had the privilege of topping off our inspiring LASD conference last month with my grandson's First Communion at St. John's Cathedral in Lafayette. Those of you who attended the conference will understand that my "high heart" was fully engaged and ever-present to the backdrop of profuse white florals and the heart-warming voices of a children's choir, the beautiful Liturgy, and the priceless moment when our little Landry received Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time. My joy overflowed in tears.

I had experienced another kind of joy at the conference, the joy of *the sharing of wisdom in community*, roused by Reverend Bill Redfield's creative presentation of his topic, "Utilizing Wisdom's Transformational Perspectives in Spiritual Direction". He articulated *wisdom* as "a precise term that defines the progression of human transformation to 'high heart'." It's the *high heart* (as opposed to low heart) that we access in our ministry as spiritual directors, for it's how we see the other as Christ and how we guide the growth of our directees. Whether or not you attended our conference, I believe that you can resonate with the concept—as well as how important our own sacred practices of centering and meditation are to our being "high-heartedly" present.

I asked our Board to share their sentiments from the conference. You can see some of them in the article above. If you were there, you will certainly appreciate their remarks. If not, they might make you slightly curious and perhaps inspire you to attend the 2019 conference next April.

I am honored to serve as your president this coming year. I look forward to journeying with you in our shared ministry and to keeping you informed of important information that you might find valuable. For now, be affirmed that, as Bill told the conference attendees, "you are an agent of God's redemption and are doing the work of Christ."

Blessings to you in your ministry,

Robin Hebert



LASD REPRESENTED AT SDI CONFERENCE IN ST. LOUIS

Two representatives from our LASD membership were present at the recently held SDI Conference in St. Louis, Missouri.

Sr. Allison McCrary, SFCC, of New Orleans was chosen as one of ten "New Contemplatives" to attend the conference. The [New Contemplatives Initiative](#) seeks to encourage, understand and engage with spiritual directors in the first half of their lives (aged 40-ish or under). Each New Contemplative received full tuition for the 2018 conference as well as hotel accommodation and a travel stipend.

Brad Leger of Estherwood was a presenter at the conference. The title of his presentation was, "Walk With Me: Spiritual Direction With the LGBTQ Community". He is also a member of the LASD Board.

Congrats to both!

LASD Member in the Blogosphere!

One of our members, Faye Coopender, has recently written a post on the Ignatius Spirituality's blogsite, dotMagis.com. Check it out at [this link](#). Thanks for your wonderful and insightful contribution, Faye!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING RETREATS AND WORKSHOPS



**The Woman I Was Created to Be:
A Day of Reflection and Prayer**
Archdiocese of New Orleans Spirituality Center
5500 St. Mary Street
Metairie, Louisiana

Wednesday, May 23, 2018
9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

This Day of Reflection and Prayer is not about any one image of understanding of woman, nor is it about anyone's image and understanding of woman, not even our own. This is not feminist experience nor is it a fundamentalist view of woman. This will be a time to come away with God, our Creator, to allow the One who loved each of us into being, to show each of us who we are created to be.

Presenters:

Bonnie Chase, Associate Director of Archdiocesan Spirituality Center
Charlene Rovira, Spiritual Director

Suggested donation: \$45.00

Please bring your own bible, journal, pen, and brown bag lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided. Drinks may be purchased at the Retreat Center or feel free to bring your own.

For more information or to register, call 504-861-3254. Register online at <http://asc.arch-no.org>

The Little Way

A JOURNEY ALONG THERESE'S PATH OF CONFIDENCE AND LOVE

The depth and breadth of Therese's "Little Way" continues to have relevance for us today. It is a simple yet profound path to encountering Jesus. Join Robin Hebert and walk this journey, with Therese as your guide, and embrace her spirituality in a way that nourishes your own soul. This is a silent retreat.

JUNE 26-28, 2018
SAINT CHARLES CENTER, MOSS BLUFF, LA

This retreat begins Monday evening and ends with lunch on Thursday.
Suggested donation is \$350.00 for a private room and \$300.00 for a shared room.

Robin Hebert is a spiritual director, retreat leader, and the co-author of *When Women Pray* and *When Wisdom Speaks*. She serves Our Lady of Wisdom Church as marriage ministry coordinator and is a spiritual mentor to many. Robin is a past national president of Theresians of the U.S. and has studied for years the writings and spirituality of St. Therese.

TO REGISTER
PLEASE CALL THE CENTER AT (337) 866-0232
OR GO TO OUR WEBSITE AT STCHARLESCENTER.COM



READER'S CORNER

***The Power of Silence:
Against the Dictatorship of
Noise*** by Cardinal Robert Sarah. Ignatius Press, 2017.

In a time when there is more and more noise, and technology and materialism continue to exert their hold on us, Cardinal Robert Sarah presents a bold book about the strength of silence. The world generates so much noise that seeking moments of silence only becomes more necessary. [Read more](#)



*"Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you,
All things are passing away:
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things.
Whoever has God lacks nothing;
God alone suffices."*

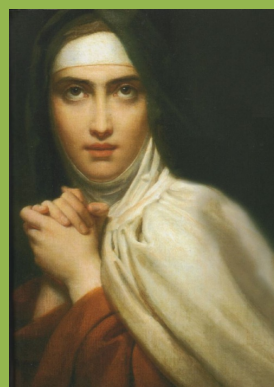
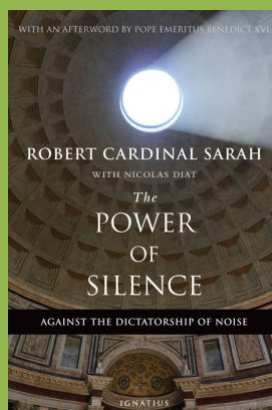
~ Teresa of Avila



TAKE NOTE

Getting Past "Tribal Approach to Religion: SDI Executive Director Interviews Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM

Fr. Richard and SDI Executive Director, Anil Singh-Molares recently discussed getting past a "tribal" approach to religion. In their discussion, they focus on the wisdom of Raimundo Panikkar. To access the video, click on [this link](#).



Keeping your membership current . . .

Let's not forget that our membership status is concurrent with the fiscal year which runs from July 1 - June 30. To access a membership form or to pay online, please click on [this link](#). If you have any questions, please contact [Elsa Mendoza](#).



Comments? Questions? Suggestions for future articles?

Want information on membership?



Louisiana Spiritual Directors, Inc. (LASD) is an association of trained Spiritual Directors formed to promote continuing education, fellowship and information for Spiritual Directors within Louisiana.



www.louisianaspiritualdirectors.org

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