



Prayer Retreat

Saturday March 29, 2003, 9am-6pm

at the Presentation Center in Los Gatos

19480 Bear Creek Road, Los Gatos, CA (408) 354-2346 www.presenter.org

Please join the Mountain View Catholic Singles (MVCS) at a one-day Prayer Retreat during this beautiful Lent 2003 Season. Catholic singles as well as married young adult couples are welcome.

The *Prayer Retreat* is a renewal, contemplation, and sharing of Prayers with God and others to seed God's Love in us and distribute the Love to people around us. Through interactive discussion led by 2 experienced retreat leaders – Julie Paavola and Br. Brian Dolejsi, O.P. – participants will be able to find light to these questions:

- What is prayer?
- How and why do you pray?
- How do you relate your prayer with action?
- How do you put your prayer into a *new and fuller* perspective?

For more information please contact MVCS Faith Sharing Group, Paula Mitsuda at 650-962-8851, paula_yukiko@hotmail.com

Please RSVP by March 20, 2003

For Topics and Presenters,

please see the next page . . .



Fund assistance is available by request



Prayer Retreat Registration Form (Please RSVP by March 20, 2003)

Name : _____ Parish : _____

Address : _____

Phone : _____ Email: _____

Special Comments : _____

Cost: \$50.00 includes meeting room, lunch, and materials

Please make a check payable to the **St. Athanasius Parish** and enclose the check with the registration form mailed to: **YOUNG ADULT RETREAT**

St. Athanasius Parish / Attn: Lucile Bianco or Paula Mitsuda

160 N. Rengstorff Ave. Mountain View, CA 94043

The Christian Call to Prayer - by Julie Paavola

a Lenten reflection for adult Catholics

The New Testament "talks about Christians being 'born again'; it talks about them 'putting on Christ'; about Christ 'being formed in us'; about our coming to 'have the mind of Christ.'" With these words CS Lewis reminds us of the essence of the Christian Life. But how do we embark upon this adventure of following Christ in earnest in the midst of our hectic lives? This retreat offers reflections on the lay commitment to following Christ by answering the call to inner conversion and prayer. We will examine some of the basic questions concerning starting and maintaining a practice of prayer: Why pray? What is prayer? What kind of prayer is right for me? Who can guide me in prayer? What is the relationship between prayer and action?

Julie Paavola leads retreats and provides spiritual direction in the Bay Area. A contemplative religious for a decade and now a wife and mother, she has a unique perspective on the lay person's call to holiness. She specializes in the spiritual traditions of St. Ignatius of Loyola and Teresa of Avila, is bilingual and has worked extensively with the Hispanic community. Ms. Paavola has a Master's in Religion and Society from the Graduate Theological Union.

Contemplative Prayer - by Br. Bryan Dolejsi, O.P.

Communion with God: Our Catholic spiritual Tradition proposes contemplation as the goal of all prayer

Contemplation in its "pure" form is prayer, or communion with God beyond words and images, which is only initiated by God. This form of prayer has been described in such ways as "resting in God" and "The Cloud of Unknowing." But how can we obtain this goal, which we are all called to? Through a method such as Centering Prayer (See Thomas Keating, Thomas Merton, and the meditation practice of Lectio Divina) we can dispose ourselves to receiving this gift of God's Grace. When the disciples ask Jesus where he is staying, Jesus responds, "come and see." Through contemplative prayer we abide in the love of Jesus coming to a deeper self-knowledge and a deeper knowledge of God.

Br. Bryan Dolejsi, O.P. is a Dominican seminarian pursuing a Masters of Theology in Spirituality at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. He has worked in campus ministries (Stanford, Eugene, Seattle, Guam), as an instructor for the Catherine of Siena Institute, and currently he is a pastoral counselor in two East Bay Catholic High Schools. During studies, he continues ministering as a guest lecturer and retreat facilitator in parishes, newman centers, high schools and conferences from Washington to Arizona.



Prayer Retreat Registration Form (Please RSVP by March 20, 2003)

Have you:

- Specified your name, parish, address, phone, special comments?
- Wrote \$50.00 check payable to **St. Athanasius Parish**?
- Enclosed the Registration Form and the check and mailed it to the address specified on the 1st page of the form?

Thank you ☺. We look forward to seeing you ☺

