



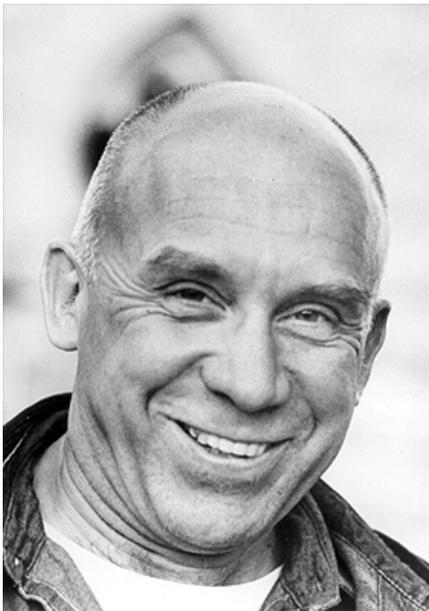
Our Lady of Calvary

RETREAT CENTER

A Monk's Insights on Love - Thomas Merton's realization on the core of the Spiritual Life

Wednesday, May 29, 2019 @ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Presenter: Mike Smoolca



Thomas Merton's evolving and deepening insights on Love are woven throughout his writings. At the core of his Christian Spirituality, God and our true nature are identified with Love: **To say that I am made in the image of God is to say that love is the reason for my existence, for God is love. Love is my true identity. Selflessness is my true self. Love is my true character. Love is my name.** A deepening capacity to Love emerged directly out of his years of monastic silence and solitude: **Solitude and silence teach me to love my brothers for what they are.** Love became the essential path to finding the meaning of life: **Love is our true destiny. We do not find the meaning of life by ourselves alone - we find it with another** and was at the core to his prophetic re-engagement with the world. At the end of his life, Merton perceived Love as the essential component to Interreligious unity: **This new language of prayer has to come out of something which transcends all our traditions, and comes out of the immediacy of love... the love that unites us in spite of real differences. We are creatures of Love.**

In this workshop we'll explore the development of Thomas Merton's insights on Love and what they reveal about how to deepen our own Spiritual Lives.

Mike Smoolca is coordinator of the North-Central CT Chapter of the International Thomas Merton Society. He has been reading Merton for over 10 years and applying insights he's gained to his own Spiritual Journey. Mike's been presenting Thomas Merton programs and facilitating Thomas Merton Contemplative Living workshops since 2013.

REGISTRATION FORM

A Monk's Insight on Love

Wednesday, May 29, 2019

Program - \$25

Name

Address

City State Zip

Phone Email

PAYMENT MUST BE MADE AT TIME OF REGISTRATION. PLEASE HELP US PLAN BY REGISTERING AT LEAST ONE WEEK BEFORE THE PROGRAM.

My \$25 offering for the program is enclosed.

Mail reservation and offering to: **Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center**

31 Colton Street • Farmington, CT 06032

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