

**Overshadowed By Mercy:
Pilgrimage – Prayer – Prophecy**
**The Fifteenth General Meeting
of the International Thomas Merton Society**

St. Bonaventure University – Olean, NY – June 15-18, 2017

In June 2017 the International Thomas Merton Society will hold its Fifteenth General Meeting in Olean, NY, on the campus of St. Bonaventure University. Founded 155 years ago in the interest of promoting Catholic-Franciscan education, the university continues to this day to pursue academic excellence through personalized attention that reflects the Franciscan tradition of valuing human relationships.

Featured participants in the conference include:

- **M. Shawn Copeland**, professor of Systematic Theology at Boston College. She is a former convener of the Black Catholic Theological Symposium, and is recognized as one of the most important influences in North America in drawing attention to issues surrounding African-American Catholics, and was the first African American and first African-American woman to serve as president of the Catholic Theological Society of America.
- **Luke Timothy Johnson**, Robert W. Woodruff Professor, Emory University's most distinguished endowed chair. A noted scholar and an award-winning teacher, Johnson taught at Yale Divinity School and Indiana University prior to arriving at Emory's Candler School of Theology in 1992. A prolific author, he has penned 31 books, more than 70 scholarly articles, 100 popular articles and nearly 200 book reviews.
- **Michael N. McGregor**, the author of *Pure Act: The Uncommon Life of Robert Lax*. His writings on Lax and Merton have appeared in a variety of publications, including *Poetry*, *Poets & Writers Magazine*, *Notre Dame Magazine*, *The Merton Annual* and *The Merton Journal*. He is a Professor of Creative Writing and English at Portland State University.
- **Scott Russell Sanders**, the author of twenty books of fiction and nonfiction, including *Hunting for Hope* and *A Conservationist Manifesto*. His most recent books are *Earth Works: Selected Essays* (2012) and *Divine Animal: A Novel* (2014). In 2012 he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is a Distinguished Professor Emeritus of English at Indiana University.
- **Michael W. Higgins**, vice-president for Mission and Catholic Identity at Sacred Heart University. He is the author of dozens of books including *The Unquiet Monk: Thomas Merton's Questing Faith* and *Thomas Merton: Faithful Visionary* and is President of the International Thomas Merton Society.

Many other Merton scholars will also be participating in concurrent sessions and workshops.

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Registration fee is \$290.00 for ITMS members (\$350.00 for non-members; for information on ITMS membership, see within). Campus dormitory lodging is \$195.00; arrangements can be made for those who need to arrive Wednesday evening or stay over Sunday evening (see additional lodging fee). All fees must be included with completed form. For those preferring to stay off-campus, motels and restaurants are easily accessible to the meeting site (a list of accommodations will be mailed to those requesting it). Directions to the campus and/or information about transportation from the airport will be provided with registration confirmation. For further details, visit the ITMS website at www.merton.org/2017.

early booking is recommended

Art by Donna Kristoff, OSU

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Bellarmine University
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Louisville, KY 40205
U. S. A.

**The Fifteenth General Meeting
of the International
Thomas Merton Society**

**St. Bonaventure University
Olean, New York
June 15-18, 2017**



I have always overshadowed Jonas with My mercy ... Have you had sight of Me, Jonas My child? Mercy within mercy within mercy. I have forgiven the universe without end, because I have never known sin.

Thomas Merton, *The Sign of Jonas*

REGISTRATION FORM - *early booking is recommended*

Please detach and return this form, with check or money order in US Dollars made out to **ITMS**, to:

Julianne E. Wallace, Site Coordinator
P. O. Box 845
Reading PA 19607

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

- Handicapped/special needs (*attach explanation*)
- I prefer a vegetarian entrée at the banquet.
- Please do not include my name, address and e-mail in a list of conference participants.

TRANSPORTATION

- I will be arriving by private transportation. Please send directions to campus. (Parking will be available for those arriving by car.)
- I will be flying. Please send information on transportation from the airport to the university.

Cancellation Policy

For cancellations before March 15 a full refund (less a non-refundable deposit of \$25) will be given.

For cancellations between March 16 — April 30, a refund of 50% of fees will be given.

For cancellations between May 1 — May 31, a refund of 25% of fees will be given.

For cancellation after May 31, no fees are refundable.

The International Thomas Merton Society promotes an understanding and appreciation of the multifaceted character of Thomas Merton and encourages study and research to make better known the unique contribution he has made to the literature of spirituality and to American literature and religious life in general. The ITMS sponsors biennial general meetings, and retreats, and publishes *The Merton Seasonal* and *The Merton Annual*. To join, enclose a separate check for US \$25 (\$40 to include *Merton Annual*) made out to ITMS.

Name _____ Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Email _____

FEES

Registration Fees for the Conference and all meals:

- ITMS Member - \$290.00
- Non-Member - \$350.00

Late registration (between May 15 and June 3)

- ITMS Member - \$340.00
- Non-Member - \$400.00

Accommodation (Three Nights - per person):

- \$195 Private bedroom
- \$120 Shared bedroom

If sharing, preferred roommate: _____

Additional Lodging Fee:

Participants arriving on campus Wednesday, June 14, may stay for \$65.00 per person (no meals included); participants may also stay on campus Sunday, June 18, for the same additional cost. Fee must be enclosed with registration.

- Please reserve additional on-campus lodging (fee enclosed).
 - Wednesday
 - Sunday

- I will not be staying on campus. For conference hotel information visit:
www.merton.org/2017/hotel.aspx

- I would like to make a donation to the **Daggy Youth Scholarship Fund.**

Amount: _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Thursday, June 15

- 10:00 a.m. Registration begins
- 12:00 noon Eucharist
- 2:00 p.m. Opening Sessions:
 - First Timers' Session
 - ITMS Chapters Workshop
 - Merton Scholarship Workshop
 - Emerging Scholars
 - Merton at St. Bonaventure
- 3:30 p.m. General Session:
Robert Lax: In His Own Words
- 6:30 p.m. Presidential Address:
Michael W. Higgins
- Opening Dinner
- 9:00 p.m. Night Prayer at Grotto

Friday, June 16

- 7:30 a.m. Morning Meditation
- 8:45 a.m. General Session:
Scott Russell Sanders
- 10:45 a.m. Concurrent Sessions:
 - Merton & the Carmelite Tradition
 - Merton at St. Bonaventure
 - Merton & Inter-Religious Pilgrimage Workshop
 - Creative Presentation
 - Guided Prayer
- 12:00 noon Eucharist
- 1:45 p.m. General Session:
M. Shawn Copeland
- 3:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions:
 - Merton & Contemplative Life
 - Prophetic Voices
 - Merton, Mercy and Wisdom Workshop
 - Creative Presentation
 - Guided Prayer
- 5:15 p.m. Interfaith Vespers
- 7:00 p.m. General Session:
Michael N. McGregor
- 8:30 p.m. Musical Performance
James D'Angelo

Saturday, June 17

- 7:30 a.m. Morning Meditation
- 9:00 a.m. General Session:
Luke Timothy Johnson
- 10:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions:
 - Merton: Revelation & Redemption
 - Merton & Foolish Mercy
 - Merton & Archaic Wisdom Workshop,
 - Creative Presentation
 - Guided Prayer
- 1:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions
 - Merton & Merciful Praxis
 - Merton & Formation for Mercy
 - Merton, Mysticism & Mercy Workshop
 - Creative Presentation
 - Guided Prayer
- 3:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions:
 - Merton & Literary Figures
 - Merton & Artistic Expression
 - Communication & Communion Workshop
 - Creative Presentation
 - Guided Prayer
- 5:00 p.m. ITMS Town Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Conference Banquet
Presentation of "Louie" Awards

Sunday, June 18

- 8:30 a.m. Eucharist
- 10:00 a.m. Celebrating 30 Years of ITMS

All questions or requests for further information should be directed to the site coordinator:

Julianne E. Wallace
P. O. Box 845
Reading PA 19607

Email: julianne.e.wallace@gmail.com