

Yes, I want to support the work of the International Thomas Merton Society with a gift of:

- \$25 \$50
 \$100 \$500
 \$1000 Other \$ _____

Designation:

- Unrestricted Gift
 The William Shannon Memorial Fund for the benefit of the Daggy Scholars

Checks (USD only) payable to ITMS

Or give online at:

<https://merton.org/ITMS/donate.htm>

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please detach and return this form to:

Dr. Paul M. Pearson
Thomas Merton Center
Bellarmine University
2001 Newburg Road,
Louisville KY 40205

The ITMS came into being in 1987 to promote a greater knowledge of the life and writings of Thomas Merton, one of the most influential religious figures of our time. The Society sponsors biennial conferences devoted to Merton and his work and supports the writing of general-interest and scholarly books and articles about Merton. In addition the ITMS awards regular grants to researchers and scholarships to youth. It encourages a variety of activities such as Merton retreats. Local Chapters and Affiliates of the ITMS across the world reflect a wide range of personal interests and approaches to Thomas Merton.

Our operations are entirely supported by membership dues. We look for your generous support to help us expand our membership, support Merton scholarship and ensure the financial health of our organization for generations to come.

International Thomas Merton Society

The Thomas Merton Center
Bellarmine University
2001 Newburg Road
Louisville, KY 40205

Tel. (502) 272-8177 or 8187
Fax (502) 272-8452

www.merton.org/ITMS/

Photographs of Thomas Merton used with Permission of the Merton Legacy Trust and the Thomas Merton Center at Bellarmine University

SUPPORTING THE WORK of the International Thomas Merton Society



Whatever I may have written, I think it all can be reduced in the end to this one root truth: that God calls human persons to union with Himself and with one another in Christ ... May God bless us all, and give us all the grace to finish the work that He is asking of us.

*Thomas Merton
November 10th, 1963*

Why GIVE?

The ITMS currently relies solely on membership dues to support its work. Your gift will play an integral role in our development as we look to expand our membership, increase Merton-related scholarship and diversify our sources of income. Your gift will help us promote the life and writings of Thomas Merton now and for generations to come.

**Unrestricted Gifts* allows us to use your gift in the most beneficial ways.

**The William Shannon Memorial Fund for the benefit of the Daggy Scholars*, created in memory of Msgr. William H. Shannon, makes it possible for the next generation of young scholars to participate in ITMS conferences.

Ways to GIVE

Complete our giving form and mail your gift to:

International Thomas Merton Society
Attn: Dr. Paul M. Pearson
Bellarmine University
2001 Newburg Rd,
Louisville, KY 40205

Please make checks payable to **ITMS**.

Call us at 502-272-8177 if you have any questions.

All gifts are tax-deductible within the guidelines of the Internal Revenue Code.

Matching Gifts

Many employers offer a matching gift program to eligible employees. If you or your spouse works for a company that offers this option, your gift to the ITMS may be doubled or tripled by simply completing a form that is available from your employer. As a donor, you will be credited with the total contribution, including your corporate match.

Make a Bequest

When you leave a gift of any size to the ITMS in your will, you are helping ensure that greater knowledge of the life and writings of Thomas Merton will continue for future generations around the world.

A bequest is simple. ...

1. Choose what to give

Pick from one of these four options:

***A specific bequest** gives us a particular piece of property. If you disposed of the property before your death, we won't receive your intended gift as we cannot claim any other property.

***A general bequest** gives us a stated sum of money. If there is insufficient cash in your estate to cover the bequest, other assets will be sold for cash to honor your wishes for us.

***A residual bequest** gives the "rest, residue and remainder" of your estate, or, more commonly, a percentage of the residue after all other bequests, debts and taxes have been paid.

***A contingent bequest** requires a certain event to occur before the gift can happen. For example, you could bequeath funds to a family member provided that person survives you; if not, the funds would then go to the ITMS.

2. Decide how you like the ITMS to use your gift

Choose from one of these three options.

***An unrestricted bequest** allows us to use the assets in the most beneficial way in supporting the social, academic, and scholarship programs of the International Thomas Merton Society .

***A restricted bequest** allows you to specify how we are to use the funds. Contact us in advance to be certain your intention can be fulfilled.

***An endowment bequest** allows you to designate the purpose of your gift. Your gift is invested and becomes part of our endowment and a distribution is made each year. Because the principal remains intact, the fund will support our mission in perpetuity.

3. Meet with your estate planning attorney

To include the ITMS in your will, you may wish to meet with your financial advisor, and then ask your attorney to add this statement to your document:

"I give, devise, and bequeath, to the International Thomas Merton Society [insert donation amount, percent of estate, or description of property] for its unrestricted use and purpose."

4. Let us know of your plans

Please contact Dr. Paul M. Pearson at 502-272-8177 or pmpearson@bellarmine.edu to let us know when you have made plans for such a gift. We would love the opportunity to thank you for your generous act. We are happy to honor your wishes regarding anonymity.