

WITH ROOTS IN ETERNITY: Merton, the Desert and the City

The Twelfth General Meeting of the International Thomas Merton Society

Loyola University – Chicago, IL – June 9-12, 2011

In June 2011 the International Thomas Merton Society will hold its Twelfth General Meeting in Chicago, IL, at Loyola University's Lake Shore campus. Loyola University Chicago was founded in 1870 as St. Ignatius College. It is the nation's largest Jesuit, Catholic University and the only one located in Chicago.

Featured participants in the conference include:

- **Robert F. Morneau**, who has served as auxiliary bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Green Bay since 1979. He is the author of several books including *The Color of Gratitude: And Other Spiritual Surprises*, *Pathways to Relationship*, and *A Retreat with C. S. Lewis*. His articles appear frequently in many periodicals. He is very popular as a retreat director and lecturer throughout the United States.
- **Martin E. Marty**, Fairfax M. Cone Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus at the University of Chicago, where he has taught primarily at the Divinity School for over 35 years. Marty has written over 50 books, including *Righteous Empire*, winner of the National Book Award, the three-volume *Modern American Religion*, *The One and the Many: America's Search for the Common Good* and *The Mystery of the Child*.
- **James Conner, OCSO**, a monk of the Abbey of Gethsemani. He was a student of Thomas Merton and was Merton's undermaster for novices. He has served as chaplain to the Benedictine Community of Osage Monastery, Oklahoma, and, for five years in the late nineties, as Abbot of Assumption Abbey in Missouri. He was fourth President of the ITMS and has written on Thomas Merton in *Cistercian Studies Quarterly*, *The Merton Annual*, and in the volume *Thomas Merton Monk: A Monastic Tribute*.
- **Esther de Waal**, an Anglican scholar of the Benedictine and Celtic traditions of Christian spirituality. Her published work includes *The Way of Simplicity: The Cistercian Tradition*, *Seeking God: The Way of St. Benedict*, *A Seven Day Journey with Thomas Merton*, and *God Under My Roof: Celtic Songs and Blessings*. She lives in Hereford near the Welsh border.
- **Douglas Burton-Christie**, author of *The Word in the Desert*, editor of the journal *Spiritus* and professor at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, where he teaches theology and spirituality. He has a longstanding interest in the traditions arising out of the early desert monastic movement, and is currently completing work on a book, *The Blue Sapphire of the Mind: Notes for a Contemplative Ecology*.
- **Robert G. Grip**, ITMS President and news anchor at WALA television in Mobile, AL. He has served as an ITMS Board member, treasurer and vice president, and as the program chair for the ITMS Fifth General Meeting; he has regularly presented the "First-timers" Session" at ITMS General Meetings.

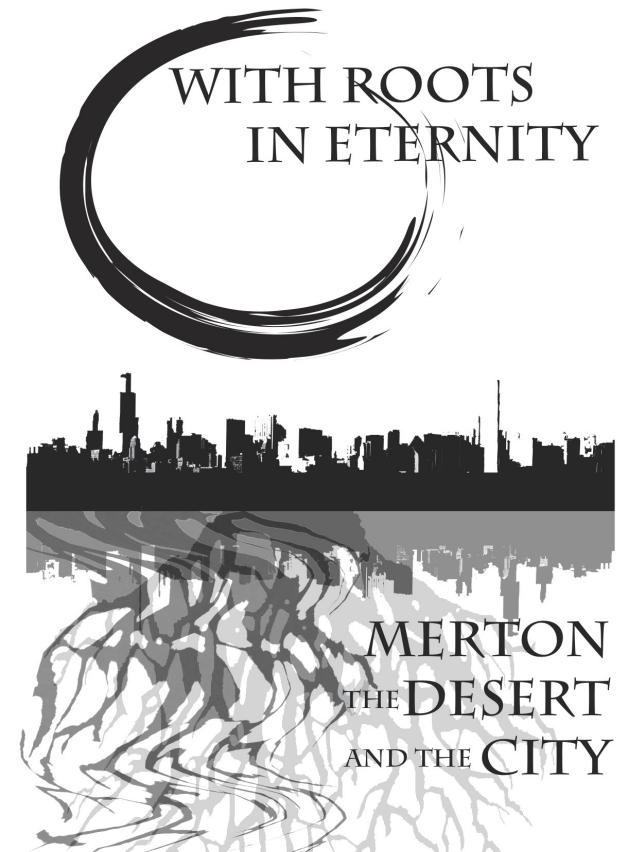
Many other Merton scholars will also be participating in concurrent sessions and workshops, including a panel on Thomas Merton and Dorothy Day with Robert Ellsberg, Tom Cornell and Rosalie Riegle.

* * * * *

Registration fee is \$280.00 for ITMS members (\$330.00 for non-members; for information on ITMS membership, see within). Campus lodging is \$210.00; 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/chicago

Thomas Merton Center
Bellarmine University
2001 Newburg Road
Louisville, KY 40205
U. S. A.

The Twelfth General Meeting of the International Thomas Merton Society



Loyola University
Chicago, Illinois

June 9-12, 2011

Art by Donna Kristoff

REGISTRATION FORM

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

Michael A. Brennan, Site Coordinator
P. O. Box 31931
Chicago, IL 60631 U.S.A.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

- Handicapped/special needs (*attach explanation*)
- I prefer a vegetarian entrée at the banquet.
- I am willing to have my name, address and e-mail included in 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 to Chicago. Please send information on transportation from the airport to the university.

Cancellation Policy

For cancellations before April 1 a full refund (less a non-refundable deposit of \$25) will be given.
For cancellations between April 1--May 15, a refund of 50% of fees will be given.
For cancellations between May 15--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 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. Membership is open to all who identify themselves with the purposes of the society. The ITMS sponsors biennial general meetings, retreats, and other activities. Members receive *The Merton Seasonal*, which features articles about Merton, reviews of Merton-related books, and information about activities related to Merton. To join, enclose a separate check for \$25 US made out to ITMS.

Name _____ Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone _____

FEES

Registration Fees for the Conference and all meals:

- ITMS Member - \$280.00
- Non-Member - \$330.00

Late registration (between May 15 and June 1)

- ITMS Member - \$330.00
- Non-Member - \$380.00

Accommodation (Three Nights):

- \$210 Private bedroom
- \$168 Shared bedroom

If sharing, preferred roommate: _____

Additional Lodging Fee:

Participants arriving on campus Wednesday, June 8, may stay for \$70.00 no meals included; participants may also stay on campus Sunday, June 12, 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.
- Please send information on other accommodations in the Chicago area.
- I would like to make a donation to the

Daggy Youth Scholarship Fund

Amount: _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

I learned about this conference through:

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Thursday, June 9

- 10:00 a.m. Registration begins
- 12:00 noon Mass
- 2:00 p.m. Opening Sessions I:
First Timers' Orientation
Merton: Monasticism East and West
Researching Merton
Emerging Scholars I
- 3:30 p.m. Opening Sessions II:
ITMS Chapters Workshop
Merton and Technology
Merton and Inspiration for Ministry
Emerging Scholars II
- 5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer
- 6:30 p.m. Banquet
Presidential Address:
Robert G. Grip
Presentation of "Louie" Awards

Friday, June 10

- 7:30 a.m. Morning Meditation
- 9:00 a.m. Springboard Session:
Robert F. Morneau
- 10:45 a.m. Concurrent Sessions:
Merton: Vision and Revision
Merton's Mysticism
Merton: Shaping a Culture of Justice
Merton & the Education of the Heart
Workshop: A Signed Confession
Prayer: The Paradox of Place
- 12:00 noon Mass
- 1:45 p.m. General Session:
Martin E. Marty
- 3:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions:
Merton & Poetic Imagination
Merton & Marxism
Merton: Desert & City
Wisdom in Merton's Art
Performance: The Space In-Between
Prayer: Doing *Lectio* with Merton
- 5:30 p.m. Meditation
- 8:00 p.m. Keynote Address:
Esther de Waal

Saturday, June 11

- 7:30 a.m. Morning Meditation
- 9:00 a.m. General Session:
Douglas Burton-Christie
- 10:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions:
Merton: Camus, Milosz, Hopkins
Merton & Monastic Vision
Merton & Contemporary Culture
Workshop: Merton and Cuba
Performance: Soul Friends
Prayer: Finding the Sky Within
- 12:00 noon Mass
- 1:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions
Merton & the Wild Ones
Merton & Two Historical Voices
Merton & the Human Community
Merton & the Marginalized
Performance: Uncommon Vision
Prayer: Drawn into Mystery
- 3:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions:
Merton in Correspondence
Merton: Paradox & Struggle
Merton & Ecology
Workshop: Merton & Mission
Performance: Merton & Day
Prayer: Seeing Through Merton's Eyes
- 5:00 p.m. ITMS Town Meeting
- 8:00 p.m. Merton's Celestial & Urban Music

Sunday, June 12

- 7:30 a.m. Morning Meditation
- 8:45 a.m. General Session:
Panel: Merton & Dorothy Day
- 10:30 a.m. Closing Liturgy
James Conner, OCSO
- 12:00 noon Light Lunch & Departure

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

Michael A. Brennan
ITMS Chicago
P. O. Box 31931
Chicago, IL 60631 U.S.A.
Email: merton2011@gmail.com