

# MERTON 100: Living the Legacy

## The Fourteenth General Meeting of the International Thomas Merton Society

**Bellarmino University – Louisville, KY – June 4-7, 2015**

In June 2015 the International Thomas Merton Society will hold its Fourteenth General Meeting in Louisville, KY, on the campus of Bellarmine University. Founded in 1950, Bellarmine University is a coeducational institution with undergraduate and graduate studies in the liberal arts and sciences and professional programs. It is the home of the Thomas Merton Center, the official repository of Merton's literary estate.

Featured participants in the conference include:

- **Rt. Rev. Rowan Williams**, Baron Williams of Oystermouth, is an Anglican bishop, poet and theologian. He was the 104th Archbishop of Canterbury from December 2002 to December 2012 and is now Master of Magdalene College, Cambridge University. He is the author of numerous books including *A Silent Action: Engagements with Thomas Merton*.
- **Christine M. Bochen** is a founding member and past president of ITMS. She has taught Merton in a variety of settings, as well as edited a volume of Merton's journals, several volumes of Merton's letters, and an anthology of Merton's writings; she has also co-authored, with William H. Shannon and Patrick O'Connell, *The Thomas Merton Encyclopedia*.
- **James Finley** was a monk at the Abbey of Gethsemani in Kentucky, where Thomas Merton was his spiritual director. He is a clinical psychologist in private practice and leads retreats and workshops throughout the United States and Canada. He is the author of *Merton's Palace of Nowhere* among other books.
- **Rev. Bryan N. Massingale** teaches social ethics with a focus on Catholic Social Teaching, liberation theologies, African American religious ethics, and racial justice at Marquette University. He has served as President of the Catholic Theological Society and Convener of the Black Catholic Theological Symposium and served as a consultant to the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops, on issues such as criminal justice, capital punishment, environmental justice, and affirmative action. He is the author of *Racial Justice and the Catholic Church*.
- **David J. Belcastro** is Professor of Religious Studies at Capital University in Columbus, OH. He is a co-editor of *The Merton Annual* and President of the International Thomas Merton Society.

Many other Merton scholars will also be participating in concurrent sessions and workshops, including a panel on Thomas Merton and Interfaith Dialogue.

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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 \$150.00; 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/2015](http://www.merton.org/2015).

*early booking is recommended*

Art by Donna Kristoff, OSU

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

## The Fourteenth General Meeting of the International Thomas Merton Society Bellarmine University Louisville, Kentucky June 4-7, 2015

The year 2015 marks the 100th anniversary of Thomas Merton's birth. His life and writings are not merely historically important, but offer a prophetic witness to a vision that points a way into the future. As Merton wrote in an untitled poem, "All theology is a kind of birthday / Each one who is born / Comes into the world as a question / For which old answers / Are not sufficient..." (*In the Dark Before Dawn: New Selected Poems of Thomas Merton*). The centenary offers an opportunity to consider how we too might set aside easy answers and wrestle with the urgent questions of our day.

MERTON 100:



LIVING THE LEGACY

## 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:

Paul M. Pearson, Site Coordinator  
Bellarmine University  
2001 Newburg Road  
Louisville, KY 40205

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.
- I will not be staying on campus. For conference hotel information visit:  
[www.merton.org/2015/hotel.aspx](http://www.merton.org/2015/hotel.aspx).

### 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.

### Optional Conference Excursion

A limited number of places will be available for a visit to the Abbey of Gethsemani on the morning of Thursday June 4, including an opportunity to visit Thomas Merton's gravesite, the Abbey Church and Visitor's Center, and to attend the office of sext. For booking information visit:  
[www.merton.org/2015/abbey.aspx](http://www.merton.org/2015/abbey.aspx)

**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 April 15 and May 15)

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

### Accommodation (Three Nights - per person):

- \$150 Private bedroom
- \$125 Shared bedroom

If sharing, preferred roommate: \_\_\_\_\_

### Additional Lodging Fee:

Participants arriving on campus Wednesday, June 3, may stay for \$50.00 per person no meals included; participants may also stay on campus Sunday, June 7, for the same additional cost. Fee must be enclosed with registration.

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

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

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Cancellation Policy

For cancellations before March 1 a full refund (less a non-refundable deposit of \$25) will be given.  
For cancellations between March 1--April 15, a refund of 50% of fees will be given.  
For cancellations between April 15-- May 31, a refund of 25% of fees will be given.  
For cancellation after May 31, no fees are refundable.

## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

### Thursday, June 4

- 10:00 a.m. Registration begins
- 12:00 noon Mass
- 2:00 p.m. Opening Sessions:
  - First Timers' Session
  - ITMS Chapters Workshop
  - Merton Scholars Workshop
  - Emerging Scholars
- 3:30 p.m. General Session:  
*The Many Lives and Last Days of Thomas Merton*  
by Morgan Atkinson
- 5:00 p.m. Interfaith Prayer Sharing
- 6:30 p.m. Presidential Address:  
David Belcastro.  
Kentucky Buffet

### Friday, June 5

- 7:30 a.m. Morning Meditation
- 8:45 a.m. General Session:  
James Finley
- 10:45 a.m. Concurrent Sessions:
  - Merton & Personhood
  - Merton & the Environment
  - Merton & the Inner Journey
  - Merton & Dialogue with Asia
  - Workshop
  - Creative Presentation
  - Guided Prayer
- 12:00 noon Mass
- 2:00 p.m. General Session:  
Bryan N. Massingale
- 3:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions:
  - Merton & Discipleship
  - Merton & Liberation
  - Merton & Poetry
  - Merton & Zen
  - Workshop
  - Creative Presentation
  - Guided Prayer
- 5:15 p.m. Meditation
- 7:30 p.m. General Session:  
Rt. Rev. Rowan Williams

### Saturday, June 6

- 7:30 a.m. Morning Meditation
- 9:00 a.m. General Session:  
Christine M. Bochen
- 10:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions:
  - Merton & the Contemplative Pause
  - Merton, Politics & Progress
  - Merton & Church
  - Merton as Educational Model
  - Workshop, Creative Presentation, Guided Prayer
- 1:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions
  - Merton & Living Contemplatively
  - Merton, Writers & Saints
  - Merton & Racism
  - Merton & Interfaith Dialogue
  - Merton & Historical Rebels
  - Workshop, Creative Presentation, Guided Prayer
- 3:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions:
  - Merton & Gender
  - Merton & Peace
  - Merton & Living in the World
  - Merton & Meaning
  - Workshop, Creative Presentation, Guided Prayer
- 5:00 p.m. ITMS Town Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Conference Banquet  
Presentation of "Louie" Awards

### Sunday, June 7

- 7:30 a.m. Morning Meditation
- 9:00 a.m. General Session - Panel:  
Merton & Interfaith Dialogue
- 10:30 a.m. Closing Liturgy
- 12:00 noon Light Lunch & Departure

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

**Paul M. Pearson**  
**Bellarmino University**  
**2001 Newburg Road**  
**Louisville, KY 40205**  
**Email: [pmpearson@bellarmine.edu](mailto:pmpearson@bellarmine.edu)**