

Manresa Memos

Issue 67 | Feb.-Mar. 2025



Our Mission is to help men and women grow spiritually through prayer, reflection, guidance and teaching according to the Ignatian tradition.

A message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends of Manresa,



Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM

For some years, the hymn "In the Bleak Midwinter" has haunted me. Only the first two stanzas are reproduced here. While many Christmas hymns are joyful, this one can be, well, bleak. That always grabs my attention, and I love something about this hymn.

The first stanza is about as bleak as it can be, with both melody and words. It paints with words the picture of a winter scene. The second verse contrasts Christ's Second Coming with his first, and the power and beauty of the music comes through.

As I write this, we are experiencing a bleak, cold winter in this part of Michigan in January, and who knows what February will be like? Perhaps this song

In the Bleak Midwinter

Lyrics by Christina Rossetti; music by Gustav Holst

In the bleak midwinter
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone:
snow had fallen,
snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter,
long ago.

Our God,
heaven cannot hold him,
nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall
flee away
when He comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter
a stable place sufficed
the Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.

can offer us hope and even invite us to recognize the beauty that surrounds us, a gift from our loving God.

God's blessings!

Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM

Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM
Executive Director

Weekday Masses

Monday to Friday
8:00 AM in the main chapel
We remember all deceased
retreatants the last Friday of each
month at the 8:00 AM Mass.

Tuesday Prayer

Stay for 30 minutes of private
Christian meditation following
8:00 AM Mass on Tuesdays.

Find an Event
manresa-sj.org/events

SAVE THE DATE!

Spirit of Manresa
BANQUET

Thursday, May 1, 2025

The Mint | Lathrup Village, MI

Keynote Address:

Fr. Karl Kiser, SJ

Provincial, USA Midwest Province
of the Society of Jesus



MANRESA JESUIT RETREAT HOUSE

1390 Quarton Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304 | 248.644.4933 Ext. 0 | manresa-sj.org

Staff Changes

In December, Manresa bade farewell to Karen Pick, who retired after 18 years of faithful service to Manresa as part of our housekeeping staff. Karen managed our laundry room.



Presented with a card and gifts at

the staff Christmas party, Karen said she plans to enjoy a slower pace of life in her retirement and to do some of the things on her bucket list. "I want to take a short cruise and go snow tubing.

We wish Karen all the best in her retirement.

All in the Family

Replacing Karen is her daughter, Cheryl Booker, though she is not new to Manresa. Not only is she Karen's daughter and the sister of front office manager Jenny



Chapman and housekeeping lead Kristine Strickland, as well as cousin of housekeeper Dee Dee Oddo, she worked in housekeeping from 2008-2019. In the interim, she served as a home health care aide for the wife of former Manresa controller, Tom Hurley.

Cheryl said she's very happy to be back and looks forward to many years here.

"It's good to be able to see my family members each day."

Welcome back, Cheryl.

Compassion The New Lenten Practice



Lent is the springtime of the Church, a season that mirrors the new life emerging in the natural world. Lent rouses us to "repent and believe the good news." Rather than giving up chocolate or coffee this year, try cultivating compassion as a spiritual practice.

Compassion is essential to human survival. It calls us to treat all others—in the family, workplace and beyond—as we wish to be treated ourselves. Planting the seeds of compassion, learning to be self-compassionate and widening the circle of compassion to include all beings may be more rigorous than you think.

This three-part, online series is inspired by well-known author Joyce Rupp's *Boundless Compassion: Creating a Way of Life*. Led by certified Boundless Compassion facilitators, we'll explore Rupp's insights and enter into quiet reflection, small group break-out sessions and communal prayer. Come, "grow in the kind of love that motivated Jesus to be a compassionate presence."

Facilitators: Mary Dean Pfahler, SND and Suzanne Carter

**Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 PM
(EST) via Zoom***

**Mar. 12—*Creating a
Compassionate Way of Life***

Mar. 19—*Self-Compassion*

**Mar. 26—*Widening the
Circle of Compassion***

Fee: \$40 due at registration.
Fee is non-refundable, non-transferable.

Register at
manresa-sj.org/031225-compassion or phone
248.644.4933 Ext. 0.

**Instructions for Zoom meetings will be emailed to registered participants prior to each session.*

A Day to Call Your Own

8:00 AM–3:30 PM

Wednesday, Feb. 19

manresa-sj.org/021925-day

Thursday, Mar. 27

manresa-sj.org/032725-day

Wednesday, Apr. 16

manresa-sj.org/041625-day

Thursday, May 29

manresa-sj.org/052925-day

Fee: \$50 due at registration.

Fee is non-refundable, non-transferable. Pre-registration is required. (Space is limited.)

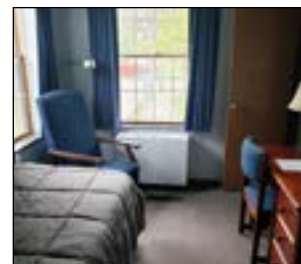
To register, go to the links above or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.



Step away from the cares of your world.

What could be better than a day all to yourself? A day to do something good for your soul. A day to relax, refresh and reflect in a beautiful setting.

There's no better place to spend a day like that than at Manresa. **Enjoy the quiet, away from the busyness of everyday life.** We provide you with a private room and a simple lunch; the rest is for you to decide how you want to spend your day. So many options: **reflect, pray, walk the property, read or just BE.** (No director is available or required.) Mark your calendar now to take some well-deserved time for yourself.



Day of Reflection: Facets of Grief

These two Days of Reflection are designed for those dealing with grief. The first lays a foundation for the other, addressing different types of loss and patterns in grieving. The second focuses on the specific loss of a spouse or partner.

Each session includes time for prayer, input from faith and psychological perspectives, quiet reflection time and sharing with other participants.

You are asked to register for each afternoon separately.

Facilitator: Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM

Sundays, 2:00-6:00 PM

Feb. 2—*Types of Losses and Patterns in Grieving*
manresa-sj.org/020225-dor-grief

March 2—*Grieving the Loss of a Spouse or Partner*
manresa-sj.org/030225-dor-grief

Fee: \$35 per session, due at registration.

Fee is non-refundable, non-transferable.

Register by going to the link listed for the individual session you want to attend or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.

For Spanish Speakers

Domingos de oración contemplativa

Pasa una tarde en Manresa percibiendo, reflexionando y meditando sobre temas de la espiritualidad ignaciana. Tendrás la oportunidad para practicar el silencio y la oración individual y con otros, disfrutando de la belleza de nuestros jardines, capillas e instalaciones.

Cada sesión es facilitada por un equipo de acompañantes espirituales con experiencia en la tradición ignaciana. Estos espacios de meditación y reflexión son preparados para ayudarte a cultivar tu formación espiritual, así como temas basados en discernimiento, la gratitud, la oración con las Escrituras y el examen del consiente. Cada tarde le ayudará a profundizar su fe a medida que conozca, ame y sirva mejor a Dios en su vida diaria.

**Domingo de
1:30 a 5:00 PM**
23 de febrero | 16 de marzo
4 de mayo

**Costo: Tu donativo es
bienvenido**

Se alienta a los participantes a donar a Manresa Jesuit Retreat House en apoyo de su Misión.

**Para registrarse,
llame al 248.644.4933
Ext. 128 o correo
electrónico
ignacianosdemanresa@
gmail.com.**

Sunday Afternoon Contemplative Prayer

Spend a Sunday afternoon at Manresa listening, reflecting and meditating on topics of Ignatian spirituality. This is an opportunity to practice silence and prayer on your own and with others while enjoying the beauty of our grounds and facility. Each session is facilitated by a team of Spanish-speaking spiritual companions with experience in the Ignatian tradition.

These experiences of meditation and reflection are prepared to help you cultivate your formation in Ignatian spirituality, along with discernment, gratitude, prayer with the Scriptures and examination of consciousness. Each afternoon will help you to deepen your faith as you come to know, love and serve God better in your daily life.

**Sundays,
1:30-5:00 PM**

Feb. 23 | Mar. 16 | May 4

**Fee: Donations gratefully
accepted**

Participants are encouraged to donate to Manresa Jesuit Retreat House in support of its Mission.

**To register, phone
248.644.4933 Ext. 128
or email
ignacianosdemanresa@
gmail.com.**

Sunday Afternoon Reflection: Lent

**Sunday, March 23
2:00-7:00 PM**



Would you like to make a retreat during the season of Lent, but can't get away for an entire weekend? Enjoyed a previous retreat and need a spiritual tune-up? Or are you just curious about what a retreat might be like? If so, an onsite Sunday Afternoon Reflection at Manresa is for you!

The afternoon includes two talks, time for private prayer/devotion, Sunday Mass and a delicious meal to round out the day. Your retreat begins at 2:00 PM; however, you may arrive any time after 1:30 PM for refreshments and fellowship.

Director: Fr. Bob Ytsen, SJ

Fee: \$50 due at registration.
Fee is non-refundable, non-transferable.

Register at
manresa-sj.org/032325-lent
or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.

An Encounter with the Healing Christ

**Friday-Sunday
March 21-23**

Arrive any time after 4:30 PM
on Friday, with dinner
at 6:00 PM.
Retreat concludes Sunday
by 12:00 Noon.

A non-refundable,
non-transferable deposit
of \$50 is due at registration.

To register, go to
manresa-sj.org/032125-mw
or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.



There are quiet places in our hearts where we store doubts, memories, fears and hurts that need the loving hand of Jesus to heal. Receive His embrace during a precious few days of quiet and serenity. In this place of peace, we can light a path toward freedom, forgiveness and healing. God is waiting for you. Don't miss the invitation.

Retreat Directors: Fr. John Esper and Deborah Tourville

Christian Yoga for body, mind & *spirit*



Winter 2025 Mondays, 7:00–8:00 PM (EST) via Zoom*

Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24 | Mar. 3, 10, 17, 31

Christian Yoga is a form of prayer in which we place ourselves in a position to be present in the moment with God, with a focus on breath. **As we move through postures accompanied by meditative quiet and prayer, we find balance, strength and union of our whole self with God.** In the end, this brings us to our quiet center to be still with God and to know His peace. Join us for this healthy, healing practice in an atmosphere of prayer and meditation. *Instructor: Mary Gresens*

Fee: \$96 due at registration. Fee is non-refundable, non-transferable.

Register at manresa-sj.org/020325-yoga or phone 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.

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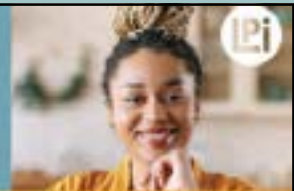
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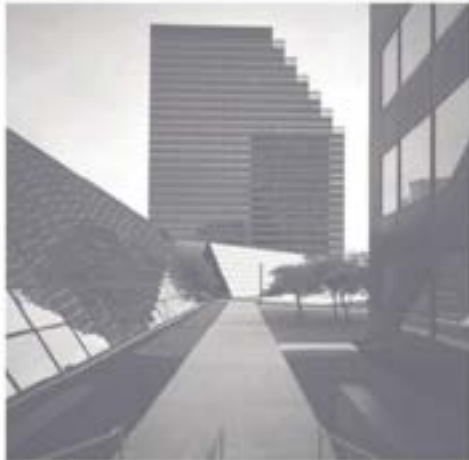


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1390 Quarton Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304
E-mail: sraymond@manresa-sj.org | Phone: 248.644.4933 Ext. 111

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- _____ 4x8 Bricks surrounding fountain @ \$300
- _____ 6x6 Wall of Remembrance Plaque @ \$2,500
- _____ 12x12 Wall of Remembrance Plaque @ \$10,000

Plaques are custom designed. Sizes may be approximate. Bricks include up to three lines of copy with up to 16 characters/spaces per line. We will contact you about the specific engraving.

Advancing Our Mission Update

Your gracious response to our 2024 Annual Appeal has brought us to 83 percent of our goal of \$350,000.

**We are grateful for your
generous giving!**

If you haven't yet given in support of Manresa's Mission to help people grow closer to our Lord and others, please go to manresa-sj.org/donate or call 248.644.4933 Ext. 0.

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Upcoming Conference Retreats



Friday-Sunday, Apr. 11-13

Palm Sunday

Patron: St. Gabriel Lalemant, SJ
Director: Fr. Robert Scullin, SJ

Friday-Sunday, Apr. 25-27

To Know Christ Jesus

Patron: Our Lady of the Way **Director:**
Fr. Peter Fennessy, SJ

Retreats for Women

Friday-Sunday, Feb. 7-9

Discipleship in the Spiritual

Exercises: Creative and Challenging

Patron: St. John de Brito, SJ **Director:**
Fr. Bob Ytsen, SJ

Retreats for Men & Women

Friday-Sunday Feb. 21-23

A Prayerful Introduction to Ignatian Spirituality

Patron: Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ **Format:**
Silent and some sharing **Director:** Fr.
Steve Hurd, SJ

Friday-Sunday, Feb. 28-Mar. 2

Boundless Compassion

Patron: St. Nicholas Owen, SJ **Format:** Silent
and optional sharing **Directors:** Sr. Mary
Dean Pfahler, SND and Suzanne Carter

Friday-Sunday, Mar. 21-23

Healing

Patron: St. John de Brebeuf, SJ **Directors:**
Fr. John Esper and Debbie Tourville **Note:**
Dinner on Friday at 6:00 PM

Friday-Sunday, Apr. 4-6

To Know Christ Jesus

Patron: St. Peter Canisius, SJ **Director:** Fr.
Peter Fennessy, SJ

Thursday-Saturday, Apr. 17-19

Holy Week

Patron: Fr. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ
Director: Fr. Bob Ytsen, SJ **Note:** No lunch
on Saturday

Retreats for Men

Friday-Sunday, Mar. 7-9

Hope Springs Forth

Patron: St. Robert Southwell, SJ **Format:**
Silent and optional sharing **Director:** Sr.
Linda Sevcik, SM

Friday-Sunday, Mar. 14-16

Living the Life of the Kingdom of God

Patron: St. Andrew Bobola, SJ **Director:**
Fr. Robert Flack, SJ

Friday-Sunday, Mar. 28-30

Living the Life of the Kingdom of God

Patron: Blessed Francis Page, SJ **Director:**
Fr. Robert Flack, SJ

Retreat format is silent except where noted. To register for retreats, click on the retreat date or go to manresa-sj.org/events or call 248.644.4933 Ext. 0 to register. A non-refundable, non-transferable \$50 deposit per person is required for all retreats.