



Advanced Notice on 2012 Programmes:

A complete listing of 2012 Programmes being offered at Mercy International Centre is forthcoming, but the following is a highlight of a few offerings on distinctive themes. To register for a programme, contact Madeleine at bookings@mercyinternational.ie or 01 661 8061.

Elements of Mercy - Six Day Retreat

29 April – 5 May 2012

An exploration and experience of Mercy from the perspective of the four elements: air, water, earth and fire. The retreat will consist of daily input and reflective group sharing and draw on the rich tradition of Scripture, Catherine McAuley and the Mercy story, Celtic spirituality and contemporary Irish poetry. There will be a particular emphasis on the location at Baggot St and its surroundings.

Facilitated by Mary Wickham rsm (Australia). Mary is a member of the Sisters of Mercy of Australia, living in Melbourne. She has published two books of poetry (*Souvenirs of the Spirit* and *In The Water Was The Fire*) and has a keen interest in Celtic and Mercy Spirituality.

Poetry

Spirituality of Ageing

“This One Day—is our whole life”: Tending Catherine’s Legacy as We Make Our Way Each Day 27 May – 1 June 2012

In 1840, Catherine reflected on the meaning of time when she wrote, “This one day—is our whole life.” This retreat week integrates the psychology and spirituality of the elder years with insights from Catherine’s life and correspondence. The

presentations include narrative with accompanying visuals, music and drama so that all the senses are employed in the journey into the tasks and treasures, struggles and satisfactions of living the inspiration of Catherine’s charism in the second half of life.

Facilitated by Avis Clendenen and Judith Bobber (Americas). **Avis Clendenen** is a Mercy Associate with a 48-year history with the Sisters of Mercy. She is the author of *Experiencing Hildegard: Jungian Perspectives*; co-author of *Love Is All Around in Disguise: Meditations for Spiritual Seekers* and *Forgiveness: Finding Freedom Through Reconciliation*; and editor of *Spirituality in Depth: Essays in Honor of Sister Irene Dugan, r.c.* **Judith Bobber** has been a Mercy Associate for nineteen years, and is retired from 25 years of service as a theological educator at Mother McAuley High School in Chicago, IL. Judith regularly offers days of reflection and retreats on a variety of topics, including the Mercy charism of hospitality. She is known for her creative portrayal of Catherine McAuley.



Eucharist

“Source and Summit”: Eucharistic Themes and Daily Living

17 June – 22 June 2012

To mark the 50th International Eucharist Congress 2012 being held in Dublin and to honor Catherine’s love of the Eucharist, MIA is pleased to offer a special Eucharistic retreat facilitated by the well known author **Anthony J Gittins, CSSp** (Chicago, Illinois USA). This highly participative programme will be an extended reflection on various Eucharistic themes (Real Presence, Thanksgiving, Sacrifice, Famine, and Meal). Each day will be an extended liturgy. In the morning (Introductory Rites) there will be a presentation and time for reading and reflection. Late morning (Liturgy of the Word) includes a reflection on the Readings. In the afternoon (Liturgy of the Eucharist), there will be further input, reading and reflection. Finally (Thanksgiving), we will reflect on the day through faith sharing.

Anthony Gittins is Professor of Mission and Culture at Catholic Theological Union. A missionary and educator, he is the author of *A Presence that Disturbs: The Call to Radical Discipleship* (2002), *Come, Follow Me: The Commandments of Jesus* (2004), *Where There’s Hope There’s Life: Women’s Stories of Homelessness and Survival* (2006), and *Called to Be Sent: Co-Missioned as Disciples Today* (2008), all by Ligouri Press.

Note: This program is being offered at the conclusion of the 50th International Eucharistic Congress which is being held at the RDS in Dublin from 10th – 17th June 2012.

Renewal Programme

Watering the Roots at the Wellspring of Mercy

1 July – 28 July 2012

Due to popular demand, MIA is offering a month-long renewal programme for a second consecutive year. This residential programme is designed for vowed Mercy women who are seeking refreshment and renewal. It offers participants the opportunity to take time out in an atmosphere of warmth, hospitality, and internationality in order to discern more clearly the invitation of the Spirit in how to live out the mission of Mercy in our church and world.



Facilitated by **Elizabeth Davis rsm** (Newfoundland), **Elaine Wainwright rsm** (Australia), **Mary C Sullivan rsm** (Americas), and **Ray Maria McNamara rsm** (Americas). **Elizabeth Davis** is the Congregational Leader of the Sisters of Mercy of Newfoundland. She received her doctorate in Scripture, has taught at the Toronto School of Theology, and has served as the CEO of St. Clare’s Mercy Hospital and the Regional Health Authority in St. John’s Newfoundland. **Elaine Wainwright** is a member of the Brisbane Congregation (Australia). Her passion lies in enabling communities of faith to engage with their sacred story in the scriptures in teaching, research and publication, workshops and preaching. She is Professor of Theology and Head of the School of Theology at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. **Mary Sullivan** is Professor Emerita and Dean Emerita at the Rochester Institute of Technology where she taught Literature and Writing courses for 35 years. She is the author of the forthcoming biography on Catherine McAuley (2011), *Catherine McAuley and the Tradition of Mercy*, and editor of *The Correspondence of Catherine McAuley, 1818-1841*. **Ray Maria McNamara** received her doctorate in Christian Spirituality. She has taught at both high school and university levels, and is the author of *Interdependence and the God Quest: A Christian Ecological Spirituality*; her second book is forthcoming in 2011. She is the Director of Mission Advancement for the South Central Community of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas.