



*Santa Sabina Center*

PROGRAM  
**2016**



*Fostering Contemplative Ways of Being*



## PRIVATE RETREAT OPTIONS

In 2016, we will have three regular monthly offerings:

- Tuesday evening, the Music of Hildegard
- Wednesday, the Day of Prayer
- Wednesday evening, the Teilhard de Chardin study circle

See special opportunities below. Each option requires pre-registration and pre-payment at least one week in advance.



### **Tuesday 3 p.m. to Wednesday 3 p.m. – \$100**

Includes overnight stay on Tuesday, participation in the Hildegard evening and the Day of Prayer; light breakfast and deli sandwich on Wednesday.



### **Wednesday 9 a.m. to Thursday 10 a.m. – \$100**

Includes Wednesday Day of Prayer, deli sandwich on Wednesday, Wednesday evening Teilhard study circle, overnight stay on Wednesday and light breakfast on Thursday morning.



### **Tuesday 3 p.m. to Thursday 10 a.m. – \$175**

Includes Hildegard evening, Wednesday Day of Prayer, Wednesday evening Teilhard study circle, two overnights, light breakfast Wednesday and Thursday mornings and deli sandwich on Wednesday.



### **Private Stays by Arrangement – \$75 per night**

Private stays at other times may be arranged when our calendar permits. An overnight stay with light breakfast is \$75 per person, single or double occupancy. Requires pre-registration and non-refundable deposit at least two weeks in advance.

## RESIDENTIAL RETREAT SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGE

We are pleased to offer a rich and diverse set of programs for 2016. Should you like the idea of participating in more than one of these programs, perhaps the subscription options below will be especially attractive.



### **Three Weekend Retreats: \$1050**

Requires pre-registration for the three retreats and payment in full at least one month prior to the first program.



### **One Week-long Retreat and One Weekend Retreat: \$950**

Requires pre-registration for the two retreats and payment in full at least one month prior to the first program.

## *Dear Friends of Santa Sabina,*

2016 is the season of celebrations. First, we delight in bringing together a wonderful set of retreat opportunities for all of you who find Santa Sabina to be your “soul place.”

We are also rejoicing in two major celebrations for the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael, the sponsors of the retreat ministry at Santa Sabina Center. On December 6, 2015, the Sisters will recognize 165 years of ministerial service in California, when we as a religious congregation join with friends and neighbors at the Church of Saint Raphael in San Rafael, at the 10:30 a.m. parish liturgy, to give thanks for the blessings we have known and the lives we have touched since we were founded in 1850.

During 2016, the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael along with the entire Dominican Family throughout the world are marking the 800th anniversary of the founding of the Dominican Order of Preachers by Dominic de Guzman in 1216.

This momentous anniversary gives us the opportunity to give thanks for all the blessings we have received and to recognize how deeply the work begun by St. Dominic 800 years ago is still needed today! For we as Dominicans were called, were commissioned to preach the Good News of the Gospel, i.e. to bring the compassion, mercy and justice that Jesus Christ made manifest, to the world. Pray with us that this important work will continue to thrive.

We here at Santa Sabina delight in the fine retreats we have organized during this celebratory year. The presenters are nationally and internationally known. We trust you will find one that suits your own needs and look forward to welcoming you.

We count on your support and prayers and offer our own in return. We wish you and those you most treasure a year filled with peace and abundant blessings.

**Sister Margaret and the Staff of Santa Sabina Center**

February 18 to 21, 2016

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### Retreat with John Philip Newell

#### *The Rebirthing of God: Christianity's Struggle for New Beginnings*



For many years now the Celtic poet, peacemaker, and scholar, Rev. Dr. John Philip Newell, has been teaching the sacredness of being, the “of-Godness” that is at the heart of our lives and all life. During this weekend retreat Newell will explore *The Rebirthing of God*, asking what it would look like if these true depths were to come forth again in

radically new ways. And, in particular, he will challenge us to ask what Christianity’s blessing for the world could be if there were to be fresh birth from deep within. Together we will explore the major features of this birthing, especially coming back into relationship with the Earth as sacred, reverencing the Wisdom of other religious traditions, and living the way of Nonviolence. The question for participants is: Do we wish to be part of this new holy birth?

Fee: \$425. Register by January 3 for discounted fee: \$375  
Registration deposit: \$150

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April 14 to 17, 2016

### Retreat with Robert Ellsberg

#### *Exploring Journey Faith*



Pope Francis speaks of *journey faith* and invites us to renew ourselves in the process. Ellsberg takes us into this exploration in the company of modern saints and spiritual masters, including Dorothy Day, Thomas Merton, Henri Nouwen, Mother Teresa, Oscar Romero and Pope Francis himself. Together these inspiring writers will help guide us on a

journey inspired by faith, hope, and love, which is also marked at times by darkness and doubt, risk, discovery and conversion. Robert Ellsberg, publisher of Orbis Books, has spent most of his life writing about saints and spiritual masters. His books include *All Saints: Daily Reflections on Saints, Prophets, and Witnesses for Our Time*, *The Saints’ Guide to Happiness*, and *Modern Spiritual Masters: Writings on Contemplation and Compassion*.

Fee: \$425. Register by March 1 for discounted fee: \$375  
Registration deposit: \$150

July 5 to 11, 2016

### Contemplative Retreat with Michael Fish, OSB Cam.

#### *Entering the Cave of the Heart: Wild with the Divine, A Journey*

A contemplative seven-day retreat. The spiritual journey leads us, like our ancestors in the Hebrew Testament and Jesus, himself, into the wildness of the desert, the wilderness of prayer, the cave of self-knowing. We discover our wildness, our creativity, our humor, our doubts and despair, and ultimately our surrender to power of the Spirit moving through us. In the contemplative silence of this week-long retreat, Michael will lead us to deepen that discovery of oneness and surrender. Presentations will be balanced with time for rest, prayer, creative expression and enjoying the beauty that surrounds Santa Sabina.



Michael Fish is a Camaldolese monk and a member of the New Camaldoli Hermitage in Big Sur California. He currently lives as a hermit in solitude and prayer. Solitude is only part of his calling and he offers retreats, talks and spiritual direction to his brothers and sisters in religious and lay communities.

Fee: \$675. Register by May 15 for discounted fee: \$625  
Registration deposit: \$250

August 2 to 6, 2016

### Contemplative Retreat with James Finley, Ph.D.

#### *Entering the Landscape of the Mystics*



A contemplative five-day retreat. James Finley, psychologist and student of Merton and the mystical tradition, is one of the best contemporary teachers on mysticism. This silent contemplative retreat will allow us time to deepen our own grounding in the contemplative. We will engage with stories from the mystical tradition, take time for silence and for sharing insights and spiritual practices that support a centered conscious way of being.

James Finley leads retreats and workshops throughout the United States and Canada, attracting men and women from all religious traditions who seek to live a contemplative

way of life in the midst of today's busy world. He is also a clinical psychologist in private practice with his wife in Santa Monica, California. James Finley is the author of: *Merton's Palace of Nowhere*, *The Contemplative Heart* and *Christian Meditation: Experiencing the Presence of God*.

Fee: \$600. Register by June 15 for discounted fee: \$550  
Registration deposit: \$200

## Writing Retreat with Jane Hirshfield

### *Poetry and Permeability: Writing through Words, Silence, and Attention*



Poetry is a path to conjure, transform, evoke, counter, unravel, expose, and surprise our relationship to our own lives and the lives of others. Mystery and generosity are part of any genuinely creative act. So too is the ability to make of ourselves a passageway and conduit, to the large, the particular, the joyous and sorrowful, the unexpected. These energies of poem-making, like the energies of existence itself, are ultimately undomesticable forces. Yet they can be invited, welcomed. The cultivation of an open and permeable attention will be the taproot of this gathering. Participants will have the opportunity to undertake new writing and to contemplate the poems of others during times of

silence and in conversation. Participants are asked to bring writing materials and three poems not their own and not over one page in length which they particularly admire.

Internationally renowned poet, essayist and translator Jane Hirshfield is the author of fourteen much-honored books. Her most recent are *The Beauty* (poems) and *Ten Windows: How Great Poems Transform the World* (essays), both published by Knopf in 2015. Her honors include the California Book Award, the Poetry Center Book Award, and The Donald Hall-Jane Kenyon Prize in American Poetry. And, her books have been named best books of the year by *The Washington Post*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, Amazon, and England's *Financial Times*. Hirshfield's work appears in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, *Harper's*, *Poetry*, and eight editions of *The Best American Poetry*. She is a current Chancellor of the Academy of American Poets.

Fee: \$425. Register by October 1 for discounted fee: \$375  
Registration deposit: \$150

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December 2 to 4, 2016

## Advent Poustinia with Margaret Diener, OP and Raya Hanlon, OP.

Join us for a quiet time to open to the blessings of Advent, season of welcoming rebirth and light. Days will be marked by times of common prayer, Eucharist and silence, and an evening of prayer for the needs of the Earth community.

Fee: \$275. Register by November 1 for discounted fee: \$250  
Registration deposit: \$150

# SPECIAL PROGRAMS

## Contemplative Concert Series 2015

*October 11, 2015 – 3 p.m.*

### MusicAEterna

#### *Day and Night*

MusicAEterna's contemplative concert *Day and Night* features Mozart's *Piano Trio in G Major, K564*; Schubert's *Nocturne* and Turina's *Circulo*, as well as Keyes' *Day and Night*, a premiere inspired by visual art of Younhee Paik. *Day and Night*, an exciting collaborative work, explores the creative process. MusicAEterna artists are Aenea M. Keyes, violin; Michael Graham, cello; Miles Graber, piano.



*November 15, 2015 – 3 p.m.*

### Sonoma Chanson

#### *Notes of Autumn*

Sonoma Chanson returns with *Notes of Autumn*, an array of choral music to stir our hearts with appreciation of our American heritage and prepare us for the holiday season.



# Contemplative Concert Series 2016

February 28, 2016 – 3 p.m.

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## MusicAEterna

### *Life Circle – A Commemoration of the Japan Tsunami*

MusicAEterna, Santa Sabina Center's Ensemble-in-Residence, is celebrated for their innovative approach to chamber music that combines established repertoire with their signature ChamberImprov. They are choosing to commemorate the 5th anniversary of the Japan Tsunami through this concert. Aenea Keyes, violin; Michael Graham, cello; Miles Graber, piano.

April 10, 2016 – 3 p.m.

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## Amy Michele White and Dominic Schaner

### *Ávila: Musicians and Mystics of Sixteenth Century Spain*

Amy Michele White (voice) and Dominic Schaner (lute/guitar/vihuela) delight in bringing early medieval music to modern audiences. In this concert, they will perform selections from the vihuela literature of the Golden Age of Spain, Medieval music associated with contemplative pilgrimage and Marian devotion, and new music setting the mystical works of Teresa of Ávila\* and John of the Cross\*\* in meditative solos and reflective songs. White and Schaner explore themes of contemplation, inward reflection, mysticism and poetic vision. Their music seeks to divine a glimpse of poetry and mysticism through fleeting and free spirited improvisation, contemplative solos and dramatic songs interspersed with quiet instrumental meditations and select recitations.

\**The Way of Perfection* & *The Interior Castle*

\*\**Spiritual Canticle* & *Dark Night of the Soul*



## Art-Meditation Retreats

Saturdays 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. by appointment

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### The Way of Hand Papermaking

A contemplative day of hand papermaking from natural fibers with papermaker Harriet Hope. Space for each session is limited. Contact Harriet Hope at 415.259.9440 or hhope24@gmail.com. Fee: \$60, includes materials and Japanese bento box lunch.

# MONTHLY OFFERINGS

## *Music of Hildegard of Bingen*

*Tuesdays, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.*

### Through the Ear to the Heart with Devi Mathieu

This gentle, contemplative practice of listening and singing the music of Hildegard is led by Devi Mathieu and requires no previous experience with the music of Hildegard or with medieval music.

**January 19**      **February 16**      **March 8**      **April 12**      **May 17**  
**September 6**      **October 4**      **November 8**      **December 13**

Suggested offering: \$10 - \$20

## *Days of Prayer 2016*

*Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.*

Throughout the year various guest presenters will guide these quiet, contemplative Days of Prayer. Generally the day concludes with Eucharist at 1:15 p.m.

**January 20**      Arthur Poulin, OSB Cam.  
**February 17**      Joe Nassal, CPPS  
**March 9**      Ivan Nicoletto, OSB Cam.  
**April 13**      TBA  
**May 18**      Joe Nassal, CPPS  
**September 7**      Ivan Nicoletto, OSB Cam.  
**October 5**      TBA  
**November 9**      Joe Nassal, CPPS  
**December 14**      Marietta Fahey, SHF

Suggested offering: \$20

## *Teilhard de Chardin Study Circle*

*Wednesdays – 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.*

Are you drawn to a deeper contemplative study of the Christian faith in light of Teilhard de Chardin's evolutionary and scientifically considered cosmic view? We will explore Teilhard's life and thought while reflecting on the implications for ourselves today. Together we will shape the inquiry and conversation. We welcome you to join Dominican Sisters Raya Hanlon, Ruth Droege, and Margaret Diener in this exploration. We will meet once a month on the evening of the Day of Prayer, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

**January 20**      **February 17**      **March 9**      **April 13**      **May 18**  
**September 7**      **October 5**      **November 9**      **December 14**

A free will offering for the evening is welcome.



## INFORMATION ABOUT PROGRAM REGISTRATION

- Discounts available for early registration by the dates indicated.
- Required deposit amounts indicated with the fee information.
- Call for rate if participating as a commuter.
- Scholarship assistance is available for individual programs.

*If you would like to receive our news or program information, please send your email address to [info@santasabinacenter.org](mailto:info@santasabinacenter.org). We will be delighted to add you to our email list.*

### Santa Sabina Center

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*The day will come when, after harnessing space, the winds, the tides, and gravitation, we shall harness for God the energies of love. And on that day, for the second time in the history of the world, we shall have discovered fire.*

~ Teilhard de Chardin



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