

Margaret Silf in Christchurch November 2011

Margaret Silf is a wife and Mother and a skilled international retreat director and spiritual director in the Ignatian tradition. Margaret a Catholic, describes herself as “an ecumenical Christian committed to working across and beyond the denominational boundaries.” She is an author and regular columnist for “America” magazine, a contributor to the “New Daylight” series and BBC local radio. Born in 1945, Margaret currently lives in Cheshire, in England. She has a B.A. in English from the University of London and an M.A. from the University of Keele. Margaret is well known for her many books and comes highly recommended by Monty Williams sj and Campion Retreat Centre Melbourne. Her books incl Landmarks, Sacred Spaces, At Sea with God, The gift of prayer, Close to the Heart.

Friday Evening 4th Nov 7pm to 9pm Mary Potter Community Centre

‘Finding a true course in a changing world’ We live in times of immense change and uncertainty. How can we find solid ground, and learn to sift the authentic from the illusory? How can we live true to the Christian vision amid all this flux? How can we learn to make wiser choices and apply the tools of discernment to our daily lives? How can we begin to let go of the baggage that is impeding our journey, and learn to travel more lightly, following the One who is the Way? **Cost \$15**

Saturday 5th Nov 10am – 4pm Mary Potter Community Centre

‘God’s Unfinished Story’ We are part of a vast cosmic story, and our personal story is a unique strand of this great tapestry. During this retreat we will reflect on the question: What do the events of 2000 years ago mean in the context of a universe story that is perhaps almost 15 billion years old? We will reflect on (what I believe to be) the pivotal nature of the Incarnation in our cosmic story, looking at how we became homo sapiens, where we might be going, and how our own choices and decisions can powerfully affect that unfolding story.

Hosted by Adult Education Trust **Cost \$50**

11th Nov (9.30am – 3.30pm)-12th(9.30am - 3.30pm) 2 Day teaching seminar Mary Potter Community Centre **‘Discerning the movements of God in our hearts and our lives’**

How do we discern the dynamic of God’s movements in our hearts and learn to distinguish these from the opposite, destructive, dynamic? We are living in times of great uncertainty and flux. How can we find solid ground in such times, learn to sift the authentic from the illusory and help others to do so? How can we learn to make wiser choices and apply the tools of discernment to our daily lives? How can we begin to let go of the baggage that is impeding our journey, and learn to travel more lightly, following the One who is the Way? **Cost \$80**

13th (10.30am) to 17th Nov (3.30pm) **5 day silent residential teaching retreat**

Bishop Julius Hall of Residence, 90 Waimairi Rd, Upper Riccarton, Christchurch.

‘Living God’s Dream’ 5 day silent retreat exploring aspects of Ignatian spirituality including: Our own dreams, and how we can learn to tell the difference between those that incarnate God’s Dream for us, and those that are merely daydreams. We will look at spiritual consolation and desolation, and how to respond to them; Our own desires; which of them are rooted deep in our souls and which are merely superficial ‘wants and wishes’? Which of them are leading us closer to God (‘ordered’ desires) and which are self-focused (‘disordered’ desires)? How can we nourish what is deepest in our desiring and sit lightly to what is more superficial? Our own times of despair and disillusionment, and how they too might be a channel for God’s grace and an invitation to grow spiritually; The art of discernment, and how we can apply it in our everyday living; The importance of ‘discovering for ourselves’ where God is touching our lives and guiding us, and how we might work with God in this challenge of discovering who we are. **Cost \$530 Limited places. For application form e mail sr.eveleen@xtra.co.nz**

Registration p 3266897 e sr.eveleen@xtra.co.nz or adulthoodeducationtrust@xtra.co.nz

Sister Eveleen Retreat House was damaged in the June 13th earthquake. The board supports the ministry to continue where possible. We are grateful for support of Little Company of Mary and AET