

Silent Retreat at The Abbey of Gethsemani
April 15, 2017 (Rain or Shine)
8:00am-3pm

Purpose:

To create space for spiritual renewal through the absence of noise (tv, radio, internet, meaningless chatter, etc.); to experience a worship service with our brothers in Christ in a different tradition than our own; to reflect on the Passion of Christ.

Who:

Adults, teens, and children (accompanied by parent/guardian) are all invited to experience this day together.

What to bring:

Journal, Bible, pen, camera, sack lunch & drink, spending money if you are inclined to make purchases at the Welcome Center.

Please be willing to silence and retreat from your phone during this trip. Use it as a camera, if you'd like, but cease your digital connections. Open yourself to the connecting with God through His creation, silence, reflection, and His Word.

What to wear:

Jeans/Long Pants (we will be walking through the woods), walking shoes, light jacket in case of weather (we will be outside for much of the day),

**Nothing too conspicuous (we are visitors there, we don't want to stand out☺)

Silent Retreat Schedule:

8:00am	Arrive at WFMC
8:15am	Prayer and Departure for the Abbey
9:45am	Arrive at Gethsemani Visit Welcome Center Walk to the Statues and Lunch
12:15pm	"Sext" monastic prayer service
1:00pm	Debrief Experience near the Cross
1:30pm	Depart for WFMC
3:00pm	Arrive at WFMC

A little note...

This will be a different kind of retreat. It is a bit like a field trip in that we will see, experience, and learn about our brothers of the Cistercian order of the Catholic Church. It is a bit like a hiking trip in that we will do lots of walking on the beautiful grounds of the Abbey. The biggest difference will be our commitment to silence, creating space for us to hear the still small voice of God speaking to us.

Now, if this sounds like something you would like to experience, sign up or email Andrea Tinsley (atinsley@wfmc.net) to secure a seat in the van. If this does not sound like a retreat for you, I want to challenge you to step out of the box, with an open mind and heart. But it is up to you. Just know that if you choose to attend this retreat, you are choosing to experience all that comes with it, including the silence.

Blessings,

Pastor Andrea

