

Good day to all!

Last weekend the 5th Annual Camaldolese Retreat was held at St. Francis Retreat Center in San Juan Bautista. The theme was 'To Love the World-Responsible Contemplation'.

Sr. Donald Corcoran-a Camaldolese nun from Transfiguration Monastery in Windsor, New York led us through two sessions full of rich reflections and resources focusing on "Sacred Humanitas", and reflecting on the wisdom of Fr. Bruno. (Bruno's Sombrero!)

Days were filled with Meditation, Lauds, Food, Liturgy, Food, Vespers. Food, Compline, Motivating Talks, Collatio (Lectio), Yoga, Walks, Quiet Time, Evening Receptions, Update on Oblate Peer Mentoring Program, Update on Spiritual Direction Program, Update on The Hermitage by Prior Cyprian, Fr. Robert, Fr. Raniero, Fr. Steve, time to reconnect with friends, time to meet new friends....and even a concert by a Celtic band-"Innisfree". (As you can see, there was a lot of yummy food at regular intervals all day!)

Towards the end of the weekend, we were led in an exercise to help us reflect upon what we would take back to "the world" as a new or renewed practice, commitment, or insight to share with others. The letter that we wrote to ourself was sealed. We were directed to open the letter on **Sunday, August 27** as a reminder of our experience and commitment.

The weekend was a lovely blend of the "three-fold good"-community, solitude and mission. Thank you to the Coordinating Committee, the Monks, Jill, those who manage and work at St. Francis Retreat Center, those who were praying from afar, and all those "behind the scenes" folks who helped make the retreat an amazing experience.

Bless all who are united in prayer as we strive to bring the "axial light of Christ" into the world!

***Many resources were shared...here are a few...
Please share other resources if you'd like.

1. Camaldolese Oblate Community...you tube
2. Transfiguration Monastery (Sr. Donald's community)
 - a. www.transfigurationmonastery.org
3. www.contemplation.com (go to News-Homilies & Conferences to read homilies by Prior Cyprian)
4. www.monasteryrisenchrist.com
5. www.incarnationmonastery.com
6. www.satgtu.org/course-offerings/ School of Applied Theology presents 4 classes this fall presented by Bede Healey, Michael Fish, Arthur Poulin, Ivan Nicoletto
7. "Saving the Appearances" by Owen Barfield
8. "Passion of the Western Mind" by Richard Tarnus
9. www.awakin.org