



Bloy House News

December 2016



Convention Highlights

This year we were delighted to have over 60 participants in the Bloy House/CST alumni and friends lunch. It was great to visit with so many of you at the lunch and at the Bloy House booth in the exhibit hall.

We are thrilled that our newly elected Bishop Coadjutor is a current Trustee of Bloy House and a Bloy House alum. Following Bishop Bruno's retirement, Canon John Taylor will become the Chair of the Bloy House Board of Trustees. We are looking forward to continuing the important mission of Bloy House under John's leadership. Bishop Bruno has been a wonderful supporter and friend of Bloy House, and we can only trust that the good works begun by Bishop Jon through Bloy House will continue well into the years to come.



La Posada at Bloy House

On our final Friday of the semester Bloy House students and guests participated in a worship service built around the Central and South American tradition of Las Posadas. Walking a series of nine stations by candlelight we heard Christmas and Las Posadas songs and readings that eventually led us to the inn where we, along with Mary and Joseph, were welcomed in for a fiesta with tamales and *ponche*. A huge thank you to Carlos and Alicia Ruvalcaba for all they did to make this a beautiful and memorable evening.



Wishing Bill Carrington a Fond Farewell

For the last six years, come what may, Saturday after Saturday, Bill Carrington, a member of St. Mark's, Upland, has been our ever faithful and talented musician at our Saturday Eucharists. Bill has become a full member of our community, watching students come, learn, and graduate and then be replaced by the next wave of equally dedicated and talented seminarians. He has helped to guide us through matriculations and commencements and all the liturgical seasons in-

between. Now Bill is moving to Oregon to be closer to his son and his grandchildren, and we must wish him a fond farewell. Any of you in churches with a strong accompanist at the keyboard know that

person's presence can be the difference between a service that soars and a service that thuds. Under Bill's able guidance, our services have soared, and he will be very sorely missed! The Episcopal Church in Bend has no idea how much they will be blessed by his gifts and his kind and gentle spirit.

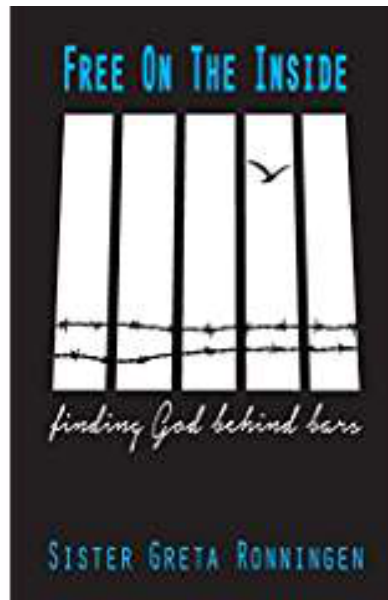
Beginning this January Linda Shirbroun of All Saints, Pasadena will be taking on this vital music ministry. Linda came to us this semester to audit the Introduction to Episcopal Worship class, and we are delighted that she has agreed to stay on in this important music ministry.

Book Talk

Many of you already have the great joy of knowing Sister Greta Ronningen of the Community of Divine Love. *Free on the Inside* is Sister Greta's resource designed for the incarcerated and for others who are seeking to begin or renew their own spiritual journeys. If your world has become too small. If you are surrounded by like minded individuals with similar life experiences, especially experiences of affluence and privilege, I especially commend this book to you as a way to be reminded of why our world so desperately needs a Savior.

If you are an individual who has experienced great suffering in your life, this book is full of healing words. If you are hoping to learn about prayer and meditation from a monk who can open up classic Christian prayer practices, you will not be disappointed by the simplicity, the honesty, and the accessibility of this book.

For more information about the Community of Divine Love and its powerful ministry to the incarcerated go to: <http://www.communityofdivinelove.com>



Fresh Start for Lay Leaders

From 9 to 3 p.m. Spring Semester 2017 taught by Canon Joanna Satorius

Fresh Start for Lay Leaders is a program designed specifically to help lay leaders of the Episcopal Church take their roles as significant change agents who can work in collaboration with other lay and ordained leaders to build strong, vibrant, and vital missional congregations. If you believe your community, with your help, can do even greater things than it is already doing: come spend a semester at Bloy House in Fresh Start for Lay Leaders. Cost of the program is \$280 which includes Saturday lunches. Classes meet from 9 to 3 on Bloy House teaching weekends. To register visit the Bloy House website www.bloyhouse.org. Go to the prospective student section and fill out the EEL registration form and then contact Canon Joanna Satorius at joannasatorius@ladiocese.org for further details about the course





It's Time to Register! Class Begins January 14 "Mystical Theology"



Taught by Dr. Michael McGrath from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturdays spring semester In Christian mysticism we find both the starting point of theology and a practical guide for Christian living. The course will study the origins of mysticism and its development in the Christian tradition, as well as its contemporary forms (particularly the present-day emphasis on the mystical as political), for the sake of awakening our lives to the presence of God and opening our lives to this tradition's transformative influence.

Cost for the class is \$400 for those not needing academic credit and \$1380 for those receiving graduate credit. To register, request a registration form at bloyhouse@cst.edu. For those who have never registered for classes at Bloy House, also request an EEL registration form. Lay persons and clergy seeking continuing education are encouraged to attend.

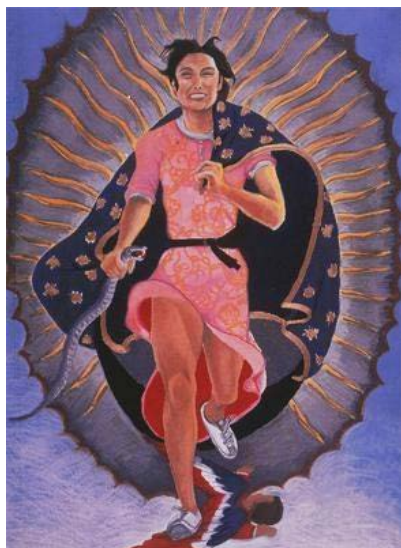
Bloy House becomes an Episcopal Latino Cultural Institute Site

We are pleased to announce that Bloy House has been chosen to be the Spring 2018 site for the **Episcopal Latino Cultural Institute**. The newly formed institute grows out of legislation passed by General Convention and is an offering of the Episcopal Church offices.

Resolved, That the Office of Latino/Hispanic Ministries, in collaboration with the Network of Partners on Latino/Hispanic Congregational Ministry Development, create an intensive cultural-competency training program for diocesan staff members, seminarians, clergy, and lay leaders to gain language and cultural skills for ministry in bilingual, multi-ethnic, and multicultural Latino/Hispanic communities, including collaborations with Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and other ecumenical partners; and provide educational and media resources that will be easily accessible.

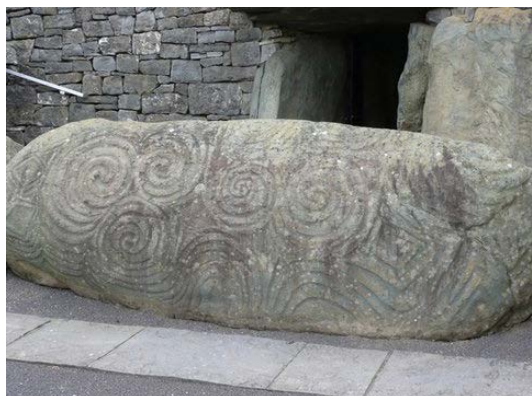
Over the next several years the institute will be offered in three sites across the country. The 2017 site will be at Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, Texas. The 2018 site will be Bloy House, and the 2019 site is to be determined. A significant component to the Bloy House cultural training will be an opportunity to visit Mexico on a day trip that is designed to help one become even more familiar with issues of immigration and border crossing.

Watch future Bloy House News articles for more details on dates and tuition costs.



“Bloy House Pilgrimage Set for 2017”

We are delighted to announce that the Fall 2017 pilgrimage to Wales and Ireland is full. We are adding names to a waiting list if you are still interested in attending. For more details about this wonderful spiritual adventure please refer back to your November Bloy House News where the full itinerary was printed, or contact the Bloy House office at bloyhouse@cst.edu



Applications Being Accepted for Spring Semester 2017 2017-18 Academic Calendar Set

Bloy House is currently receiving applications for all its programs for spring semester 2017. For those pursuing Master of Divinity degrees, Certificates of Diaconal Studies, or Certificates of Anglican Studies, the process requires completion of the long application form with four letters of recommendation and official transcripts along with an interview with Dean Sweeney. That application can be found in the prospective student section of the Bloy Houses website. Applications must be received by no later than January 10. For more information about admissions please contact the dean at ssweeney@cst.edu.

Individuals who do not need academic credit for their course work are invited to use the shorter Education for Episcopal Leadership application also found in the same section of the website. Those interested in attending Fresh Start for Lay Leaders should apply through the EEL application process, along with communicating with Canon Joanna Satorius at Cathedral Center.

Those considering applying for Fall of 2017 can find the academic calendar for this fall below

Bloy House 2016-17 Academic Calendar

Spring
January 13-14
January 27-28
February 10-11-12
February 24-25
March 3-4
March 17-18
March 24-25
April 7-8
April 21-22
May 5-6

Bloy House 2017-18 Academic Calendar

Fall
Aug. 18/19
Aug. 25/26
Sept. 8/9
Sept. 22/23
Sept. 29/30
Oct. 13/14/15 LRW
Oct. 27/28
Nov. 10/11
Nov. 17/18
Dec. 8-9

Spring
Jan. 19/20
Jan. 26/27
Feb. 9/10
Feb. 23/24/25 LRW
March 9/10
March 23/24
April 6/7
April 13/14
April 27/28
May 11/12

Bold dates indicate the second of back to back weeks in the semester. LRW is long retreat weekend.

Save the Date!

Feb. 11 & 12 Spring Retreat

**"Learning the Art of
Engaged Compassion"**

with Professor Karri Backer



From the Dean



Recently I was having a conversation with two dear friends and we were lamenting our own lack of excitement about the coming of 2017. Truth be told many of us for personal or less personal reasons are deeply anxious about what the new calendar year may bring to our lives. Some fear the progression of illnesses they have been diagnosed with. Some fear the loss of their health insurance. Some fear growing

violence and hatred in our country and in our world. Some fear irreversible environmental damage to our fragile earth. Some fear life changes that will ask of them the courage to face into the unknown. Actually, right now I know few people who are looking into the coming year with optimism about our future and expectations of peace and prosperity.

But as I sit now on the near edge of Advent IV, I am reminded that for Episcopalians and other Christians who follow the liturgical calendar, our new year has already begun. Our new year is not built around a calendar created by an ancient Roman Caesar so much as it is built around the telling and retelling of the story of the incarnation, ministry, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Savior, Jesus Christ. For us, the new year has begun! We are living it already. We are living it in the hope we place in the coming of Christ. We are living it in an awareness that today and everyday we are being invited to be a part of nothing less than the in-breaking of God into our broken world.

As I was reading Sister Greta's book this week one line in bold kept coming back to me. **"Healed people, heal people,"** and I am reminded again of Henri Nouwen's beautiful spiritual classic, *The Wounded Healer*. Christ was the wounded healer. Christ asks us to be wounded healers to our poor, pitiful, fragile broken world. What that means is different for each of us. We each have our own vantage point for seeing the pain of the world around us and responding with what the world needs from us. The Sioux community standing firm at Standing Rock are wounded healers seeking to care for one another and for the earth. I have watched seminarians literally hold each other's heads up in moments of pain and exhaustion at the end of the term. They too are wounded healers for one another. The best doctor I ever had in my life was a cancer survivor who knew what it meant to be sick and afraid. She told the truth, offered compassion, and believed in the impossible becoming possible.

We who have so much in life dare not look at our lives and see the glass as half empty. We dare not believe that the impossible is impossible. What if Mary had done so? We would have no Magnificat to light the way along our own fearful paths. But Mary, too, was a wounded healer who knew that healed people, heal people. Healed people who overcome the scorn and ridicule of others. Healed people who find release from their deepest shames. Healed people who find freedom from their addictions. Healed people whose hearts are filled with compassion and vision where once their was thoughtlessness and avarice. Healed people, heal people. That is the message of the Magnificat. That is the promise of the Paschal Mystery. That realization allows us always to enter a new year trusting that healing will come. New life will come. Shalom will come--in God's time, through God's healed people, healing people.

Wishing you Advent and Christmas Blessings!



The Song of Mary *Magnificat*

Luke 1:46-55

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

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