Planting New Seeds for Contemplation: Cultivating Our Spiritual Journeys with Pedro Arrupe and Thomas Merton

Presenters: Natalie Terry and James Menkhaus

In this three-day retreat experience we will plant seeds for our spiritual pilgrimage by reflecting on the wisdom of Pedro Arrupe (former Superior General of the Society of Jesus) and Thomas Merton (Trappist monk). We look to these two spiritual masters not only because of who they were, but because of who they invite us to become: people committed to love, faith, justice and vocational exploration. We will seek to cultivate a creativity of spirit through art, silence, prayer and dialogue as enlightened by our lives and the lives of Arrupe and Merton.

7 p.m. Friday, July 31 to Noon Sunday, August 2, 2015
(registration due July 22, 2015)
Cost: $175.00 (Includes: Program, Lodging, Meals from Pizza Supper on Friday to Lunch on Sunday)

Natalie Terry is a graduate student at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, CA and a graduate assistant for Immersion Programs in the Ignatian Center at Santa Clara University. Her passion for social justice and the Jesuit Mission for education were born during her undergraduate studies at John Carroll University, where she was active in campus ministry and graduated in 2010 with a B.A. in Religious Studies. Natalie is particularly passionate about fair trade, local food and farming and has served as a full time volunteer at Villa Maria Farm and Villa Maria Education & Spirituality Center. Aside from studying theology, Natalie has worked with Ignatian Solidarity Network, United Students for Fair Trade, Catholic Relief Services/John Carroll Fair Trade Internship Program and with St. Ignatius High School’s Arrupe House Neighborhood Partnership Program in Cleveland, OH. She has participated and led immersion experiences to Cleveland, New Orleans, San Francisco, Redwoods Monastery, Nicaragua and El Salvador.

James Menkhaus, Ph.D., graduated from John Carroll University in 2003 majoring in History and Religious Studies and received his M.A. from John Carroll in 2005, also in Religious Studies. After spending two years teaching at JCU, he entered Duquesne University’s Ph.D. program in Systematic Theology. He recently completed that program in May 2013, having written his dissertation on Pedro Arrupe’s understanding of solidarity and its application to Jesuit education. In the Fall 2013 he began teaching at Gannon University in Erie, PA as an assistant professor in the Theology Department. Aside from teaching courses, he has also given Ignatian retreats, including a retreat in Ecuador and a retreat on Ignatian leadership at JCU. He has also published articles on Ignatian spirituality and the Spiritual Exercises.