

Fr. Jack Welch, O. Carm.

When We Pray

April 26, 2018 10 am - 3 pm
Blanchette Catholic Center
16555 Weber Road, Crest Hill



Morning Session: Many Ways to Pray



It's been said that the Church encourages people to pray, but does not adequately form them in *how* to pray. In a society open to spirituality, let's correct this.

The morning session will review various prayer traditions. We will explore definitions of prayer, along with the purpose and forms of prayer. The less-familiar traditional categories of meditation and contemplation will be particularly examined. We will look at contemplative prayer today, with the teaching of Carmelite saints informing our discussion.

Afternoon Session: Journey with St. Teresa

The afternoon will be given to following St. Teresa of Avila on her journey of prayer. She described this pilgrimage in her classic summary of her life of prayer, *The Interior Castle*. We will look at how her journey can be a model for ordinary Christians.

Theologian Evelyn Underhill called the mystics "pioneers of humanity." They are at the head of the line reporting back on the depth of God's love and its impact on their humanity. The more Teresa could say "God," the more she was able to say "Teresa." Learn how St. Teresa charts a path for those in modern society to experience meaningful personal and spiritual growth.



John Welch, O. Carm.

Fr. Jack Welch is originally from Chicago. A graduate of Joliet Catholic High School, he was ordained a priest in the Carmelite Order in 1965. He taught in Carmelite high schools for six years, and then began to teach in the Washington Theological Union, a graduate school of theology preparing men and women for ministry in the Church. At the WTU he specialized in Carmelite spirituality and human development.

Fr. Welch served for twelve years on the Carmelite International Commission for Charism and Spirituality. He was president of the Carmelite Institute from 1993-2001. He served as provincial of his Carmelite province 2005-2011.

Fr. Welch has an M.A. in Theology and a Ph.D. in Religious Education from the University of Notre Dame. Among his publications are

Spiritual Pilgrims: Carl Jung and Teresa of Avila
When Gods Die: An introduction to St. John of the Cross
The Carmelite Way: An ancient path for today's pilgrim
Seasons of the Heart: The spiritual dynamic of Carmelite life.

Please register by no later than April 20th

Send to Religious Education Office, 16555 Weber Road, Crest Hill, IL 60403

FAX: 815-838-2182 or kwojnarowski@dioceseofjoliet.org

Or register online here: <http://conta.cc/2sLSosI>

Checks payable to Diocese of Joliet – please return with form/mark "REO" on envelope or check!

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NAME(S) _____

General Admission \$20 Per Person (lunch included)

Admission to those from dues-paying Adult Faith Leadership Association parishes is FREE. Only pay the \$10 lunch charge.

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

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