



MERCY BY THE SEA
RETREAT AND CONFERENCE CENTER

In honor of the Centennial of Thomas Merton

At Play in Creation: Merton's Awakening to the Feminine Divine, with Christopher Pramuk



Drawing by Thomas Merton

Join author, theologian and musician, Chris Pramuk, for a unique celebration of the centennial of Thomas Merton's birth, exploring the beloved poet, peacemaker and mystic's transforming contemplation of Sophia, "mysterious Unity and Integrity...Wisdom...Mother of all...the Gift of my Creator's Thought and Art within me..." Pramuk's book, **Sophia, the Hidden Christ of Thomas Merton**, has been described by Merton's former secretary, Bro. Patrick Hart, as the best book ever written about Thomas Merton and was awarded the International Thomas Merton's Society's 2011 "Thomas Merton Award," its highest honor. **At Play in Creation**, released January 2015, invites us to join Merton and engage with Wisdom-Sophia through meditations on scripture, art, music and poetry, including Merton's poem, "Hagia Sophia." The new book's series of reflections will provide the framework for the weekend, which will include author presentations, conversation, time for individual reflection and a screening of the film, "Soul Searching: The Journey of Thomas Merton". Copies of Pramuk's books will be available for purchase.

"At Play in Creation offers a truly stunning introduction to the long-held but often forgotten Wisdom tradition...This is a truly beautiful work, one that encourages deep contemplation of Sophia at work in our every encounter with Earth and with members of the human community, and one that helps us to imagine how to speak of Christ in an age of pluralism." –Kathleen Duffy, SSJ, Director of the Institute for Religion and Science, Chestnut Hill College

Christopher Pramuk teaches theology and spirituality at Xavier University. His award-winning essays have appeared in *America* magazine, *Theological Studies*, *Cross Currents*, and the prayer journal *Give Us This Day*. He is the author of five books, including **At Play in Creation: Merton's Awakening to the Feminine Divine (Liturgical, 2015)**, **Hope Sings, So Beautiful: Graced Encounters Across the Color Line (Liturgical, 2013)**, and **Sophia: The Hidden Christ of Thomas Merton (Liturgical, 2009)**. A lifelong musician and student of African American history and spirituality, his present work focuses on the healing of race relations in society and church.

Friday, March 27, 2015 –Sunday, March 29, 2015. SINGLE OCCUPANCY: \$300 DOUBLE OCCUPANCY: \$270/PERSON – INCLUDES PROGRAMMING, OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS WITH ENSUITE BATH, ALL MEALS FRIDAY DINNER AT 5:30 PM THROUGH BREAKFAST SUNDAY; COMMUTER: \$125 INCLUDES PROGRAMMING & DINNER FRIDAY AND SATURDAY EVENINGS & SATURDAY LUNCH. *A limited number of partial scholarships are available through Mercy for All*

To register: visit our website: www.mercybythesea.org or call Guest Services: 203.245.0401
Mercy by the Sea 167 Neck Road, Madison CT 06443

