



Finding God in the Ordinary: Awakening to the REAL

Thomas Merton wrote, "...contemplation is an awakening to the REAL within all that is real." In other words, God is found not only in church, on the mountaintop, during a retreat or in prayer; God also reveals God's Self in the daily experiences of life. Our task is to learn to recognize the invisible, infinite Source of all that is real. In this course you will learn about the attitudes and practices that will help prepare you for this awakening, have the opportunity to experience them and explore how you can realistically integrate them into your life.

INSTRUCTOR: Ginny Schaeffer, MEd, MAS, is currently the director of the Angela Merici Center for Spirituality and a spiritual director who has facilitated retreats, workshops, days of prayer and reflection.

HMAN 462 / 4 Thursdays / Sept. 19 – Oct. 10 / 6:30 – 8 p.m. / \$49
(\$59 after Sept. 12)

Thomas Merton: The Echo of Silence and Peace

Thomas Merton believed that "it is necessary that we find the silence of God not only in ourselves but also in one another." Practicing silence is not an internal withdrawal but is a practice of active engagement in the world. Explore Merton's view of silence not only as an integral part of life but also a transformative catalyst for personal, cultural, and global change. Gain ideas and practices to integrate silence into the whole of your life.

INSTRUCTOR: Vanessa Hurst was the Executive Director of The Merton Institute for Contemplative Living. As a practicing contemplative for over 20 years, she follows Merton maxim of living her everyday life as her spiritual life.

HMAN 463 / 4 Tuesdays / Oct. 8 – 29 / 6 – 7:30 p.m. / \$49 (\$59 after Oct. 1)

Toward Vatican III?

Explore the significance of the Pontificate of Pope Francis and how it fits into the framework that Vatican created - and how not. This is a course that concentrates on events as they emerge and seeks to analyze them in historical context. Reading materials are to stay on top of Church news as it emerges and to think of its significance for the contemporary world. Participants are invited to remain for a "pick-up" dinner in the University Dining Hall. Bellarmine will provide the dinner, but folks are encouraged to make a free will offering.

INSTRUCTOR: Rev. Dr. Adam Bunnell, OFM Conf., Ph.D., is Special Assistant to the President for International and Interfaith Relations, Bellarmine University.

HMAN 460 / 4 Wednesdays / Oct. 23 – Nov. 13 / 5 – 6:15 p.m. / \$35
(\$45 after Oct. 16)