

The World Behind John's Gospel

April 24, 2010

During Easter season the Church treats us to a rich selection of liturgical readings from the Gospel of John; this decision was no accident. John's Gospel takes the reader beyond the daily details of events in Jesus' life to a far different vantage point: how does one *grow* in faith when the world seems to be more illusion than reality. To assist our own personal reflections on John's Gospel we need to be clear about several issues: what was the Johannine community like? What were the issues affecting them? How does the gospel address the concerns of this unique community? During the course of this retreat day, participants will examine the purpose of this gospel and its subtle themes which shaped their faith and perhaps can influence our faith and prayer during this Easter time.

Schedule:

9:00 a.m.	Gathering Prayer and Orientation to the Topic
9:45 a.m.	First Session: What Makes John's Gospel Different and Why.
11:00 a.m.	Second Session: Important Themes in John's Gospel.
12:00 noon	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Third Session: John's Message for Today's World

Presenter:

Father William Parker, C.Ss.R., is a Redemptorist priest and Director of the Desert House of Prayer in Tucson, Arizona. Trained in biblical studies at The Catholic University of America, Father Parker taught Scripture in the Redemptorist School of Theology in New York and in several colleges and universities in the Midwest, most recently at St. Louis University. He worked as an Associate Pastor in Chicago and Omaha and as Pastor in Wichita, Kansas. He was also in charge of the college formation of Redemptorist students preparing for the priesthood. Before coming to Tucson in 2008, Father Parker was the Editor in Chief of *Liguorian* magazine. In 2009 Liguori Publications published Fr. Parker's new book: *Scripture 101: An Intro to Reading the Bible*.

The one-day retreat includes materials, noon meal, and all activities and presentations. Participants may choose to arrive early to attend the 7:30 a.m. Mass and enjoy breakfast at the Center for a small extra fee. The offering for the day is \$40.00; \$45.00 for those who choose the breakfast option. Advance registrations are required.

Redemptorist Renewal Center
7101 W. Picture Rocks, Tucson, AZ 85743-9645 — P.O. Box 569,
Cortaro, AZ 85652-0569 Visit our website at
www.desertrenewal.org
Phone: 520.744-3400; Toll Free: 866.737-5751; Email: of-
fice@desertrenewal.org