

## Reframing Retirement for Mission

### Summer 2023 Syllabus

**June 5-June 23 online only**

#### **Course Description**

Reframing Retirement for Mission assists the participants in making the transition from active ministry to retirement, with a special focus on recognizing and living the retirement years as a fruitful period of life with possibilities for personal growth as well as new opportunities for engaging in ministry. Retirement need not mean withdrawal from meaningful work on behalf of Christ's mission and ministry, but it does require a realistic, necessary and creative adjustment in how to continue to respond faithfully to the call to bring Christ to others and to our world.

Reframing Retirement for Mission will be offered both online from Monday, June 5 – Friday, June 23. This program will include morning presentations from 9:00 AM -11:15 am CT from our renowned speakers. The topics include: life transitions, theological updating, the spirituality of aging and the arts. All presentations will be recorded and will be posted on our program site for viewing as well. Optional online discussions with others in this stage of life transition will also be offered. We encourage all participants to build in time for personal reflection, spiritual direction and focus on your own wellbeing during this virtual experience that seeks to support real spiritual and ministerial growth.

Presentations will be available for asynchronous participants or for those who may have missed a session. The presenters are members of CTU faculty and visiting experts.

The Reframing Retirement for Mission is a curriculum-centered, community-based, holistic program that fosters both personal and communal renewal and provides continuing formation. This Continuing Education program is crafted for those who have served the Church in ministry.

Participants can choose to craft this program according to their own needs and desires such as: a sabbatical, a retreat, a renewal or continuing education.

The program components include scripture, theology, liturgy, spirituality, and psychology. All modules are presented from a pastoral perspective to help participants reflect upon their past ministry experience as they plan for their future mission.

Modes of engagement include lecture, discussion, small group dialogue and theological reflection groups. In addition, Spiritual Direction will also be encouraged for those who desire further integration of the material.

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Cost for 3 week program: \$750 is for online participants.

Group fees are available for three or more from the same congregation. Contact Sr. Connie Schoen at [cschoen@ctu.edu](mailto:cschoen@ctu.edu).

**Program Director:**

Sister Lucianne Siers, OP, DMin [Lsiers@ctu.edu](mailto:Lsiers@ctu.edu)

**Associate Director:**

Sister Connie Schoen, OP [CSchoen@ctu.edu](mailto:CSchoen@ctu.edu)

**Office Hours:**

Mondays through Thursdays 11:15 am to Noon (Chicago time) or by appointment

Office/Class Location: Online or 5416 South Cornell, Office 361

**Class in-person and online:**

<http://d2l.ctu.edu>

**CTU Mission Statement**

The mission of Catholic Theological Union is to prepare effective leaders for the Church, ready to witness to Christ's good news of justice, love, and peace.

**Required Materials:**

- Access to a working computer using both audio and video components.
- Ability to access zoom with capacity to use mute/un-mute, chat, and speaker and gallery settings.
- Instructions will be available for using this technology.
- Bible for classes in both Old and New Testaments
- Reading materials will be made available for each class on D2L

## **Zoom Etiquette:**

We ask each participant to please be on time. We open our zoom meeting at 8:45 AM and begin our presentations at 9:00 AM, and end at 11:15 AM Central Time.

Please know how to mute and unmute yourself. This really helps so that everyone can hear the announcements and speakers.

Please keep your video on so that the speaker can see your responses. We realize that it is difficult to keep attention for 2 hours. But, we lose a lot if someone keeps their video off, really wondering if they are there with us or not.

It is quite distracting when someone chooses to eat during our session. Please come ready to listen and dialogue.

If you have a question please raise your hand. The presenter or host will call on you. And, do not hesitate to ask questions. This makes a difference for all of us when good questions are raised.

## **Learning Outcomes and Assessment of Participant's Performance**

### **Learning Outcomes**

Students who successfully complete the program will:

- Evaluate the impact of their study of Scripture, Theology, Liturgy, and
- Spirituality in their life and explore what is new and useful.
- Critique their past understanding of their beliefs and religious education and compare it to newer approaches that can bring new insights into their life now and into the future.

### **Assessment of Participant's Performance (Optional)**

Students will choose to do one or two of the following for each module:

1. Using a passage of the Bible, describe how it reflects a situation in their own life and how they would use it in their preaching/teaching ministry.
2. Discuss a theological issue with one other person via email or zoom or in conversation in Discussion Group.
3. Reflect on the meaning of a liturgical expression and explain their insight with one other person through an email or Zoom exchange.

4. Recollect a spiritual experience in their life in a brief paper, written prayer, or visual expression.
5. Share written or orally in their reflection group a way that they would use presented material in this course in a situation of concern or crisis.
6. Find or create a visual image of a passage from Scripture, Theology, Liturgy or Spirituality that demonstrates an experience of God in a community or personally in one's life.

## **Reframing Retirement for Mission: Course Calendar**

### **Introductions and Orientations:**

Videos to be viewed asynchronously before the course begins:

- Welcome by President Sr. Barbara Reid, OP
- Introductions of Directors:
  - Sr. Lucianne Siers
  - Sr. Connie Schoen
- Intro to Spiritual Direction by Sr. Helen Cahill
- Instructions on D2L by Rick Mauney.

## **Reframing Retirement for Mission, June 5-June 23, 2023**

### **Calendar of Presenters and Titles**

#### **Week of June 4**

Monday, June 5, Sister Dianne Bergant, CSA, "Biblical Themes of *Laudato Si*"

Tuesday, June 6, Sister Dianne Bergant, CSA, "Biblical Theme of *Fratelli Tutti/Misericordia Virtus*"

Wednesday, June 7, Fr. Richard Fragomeni, "Poetry of Living"

Thursday, June 8, Dr. Kevin McClone, PsyD, "Grief and Loss"

Friday, June 9, Dr. Kevin McClone, PsyD, "Road to Joy"

#### **Week of June 11**

Monday, June 12, Dr. Kevin McClone, "Forgiveness"

Tuesday, June 13, Fr. Robin Ryan, CP, "Suffering, God and the Mystery of Suffering"

Wednesday, June 14, Sister Tarianne De Yonkers, "Creative Writing"

Thursday, June 15, Brother Mickey McGrath, OSFS, Art Presentation and Conversation

Friday, June 16, Sister Barbara Reid, OP, "Reading the Scriptures with the Mind, Eyes and Heart of a Woman"

#### **Week of June 18**

Monday, June 19, Fr. Tony Gittins, CSSp, "Age and Wisdom"

Tuesday, June 20, Fr. Tony Gittins, CSSp, "Wine and New Wineskins"

Wednesday, June 21, Fr. Ed Foley, Capuchin, "The Sacramental Imagination"

Thursday, June 22, Fr. Richard Fragomeni, "Poetry of Dying"

Friday, June 23, Fr. Ferdinand Okorie, CMF, "Aging and St. Paul"