

books include: *On Being a Postcolonial Christian: Embracing an Empowering Faith* (2014), *In the Beginning Was the Spirit* (Orbis, 2012). He facilitates programs on Adult Faith Development throughout the world.

**ECOWOMANIST WISDOM:  
Embracing Spiritual Rest and Active Compassion  
July 9-14, 2017**

During this program we are invited to enter into a communal space of critical learning about the discourse of Ecowomanism, while also practicing contemplative modes of inquiry. Participants will examine epistemologies about the sacred earth from the perspective of women of African descent. Consideration of how these women's understandings help shape new direction for sustainable practice in the healthy balance of earth community. Using Christian meditation practices will enable the participants to center the heart, while listening to earth, thus opening one up to new creative ways of engaging social justice and environmental care.

**Resource Persons: Melanie I. Harris, PhD, and Naomi O. Harris, D.Min.**, will team present this dynamic program on Ecowomanism. Melanie has a doctorate from Union Theological Seminary, NYC. She presently is the Associate Professor of Religion and Ethics at Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX. She has also been a visiting faculty member of Iliff School of Theology Denver, CO. and a visiting scholar, Ford Foundation Womanist Scholars Program at the Interdenominational Theological Center Atlanta, GA. Dr Harris is an accomplished singer and ordained minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Her book on Ecowomanism will be published by Orbis. Naomi Harris has her M.Div. from Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado and is presently the Secretary to the Board of Trustees at Iliff School of Theology.

**COMMUNITIES OF GRACE:  
Revitalizing the Lay Apostolate  
July 16-21, 2017**

Drawing from Pope Francis' renewed call to be a mission-centered church and the Second Vatican Council's teaching on the lay apostolate, this program will explore the power and potential of socially engaged lay communities. We will begin by examining the complex challenges facing the church and the world today. We will discover the need

to renew our models of Christian engagement. In Pope Francis' 2015 address to popular movements, he issued a profound call to action. "The future of humanity," he insisted, "is fundamentally in the hands of peoples and in their ability to organize."

**Resource Person: Kevin Glauber Ahern, PhD**, is an Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Manhattan College. He obtained his PhD from Boston College in Theological Ethics. He is the past president of the International Movement of Catholic Students (IMCS-Pax Romana) and has published several books and articles including the award-winning book, *Visions of Hope: Emerging Theologians and the Future of the Church* (Orbis, 2012). He has taught at Boston College School of Theology and Ministry and Saint John XXIII National Seminary. He is active on the boards of several national and international Catholic social justice networks, including the Catholic Common Ground Initiative and America Media.

**THE NEW COSMOLOGY AND ITS IMPACT  
ON THEOLOGY AND WORSHIP  
July 23-28, 2017**

Nothing in the last 25 years has changed the complexion of theology as much as the integration of the New Science and Scientific Cosmology into traditional topics of Christian Theology. During this program we will explore the theological paradigm shift to a New Cosmology and how that shift might take form in Liturgical Worship. We will also look at theological principles of Christian worship and create new prayers that take the New Cosmology into account.

**Resource Person: Catherine Vincie, RSHM, PhD**, is a member of the Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary, Eastern America for which she serves as a Provincial Councilor. She received her PhD in Liturgical Studies from The Catholic University of America in 1990, and has been on the faculty of the Aquinas Institute of Theology at St. Louis MO, from 1995 - 2015. She is author of *Worship and the New Cosmology* (Liturgical Press, 2014), which will be used as a basis for this program. She is a member of the North American Academy of Liturgy, serving as President in 2012, and the Catholic Academy of Liturgy. She was a guest member of the ICEL Advisory Board from 1998-2000.

*Peoples of all faiths and cultures are welcome.  
We invite you to join us for one or more programs.*

**Cost of 5-day Programs at Maryknoll, NY**

Registration/Deposit \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 60.00  
Tuition \_\_\_\_\_ \$200.00  
Room/Board (per night) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 55.00

Registration/Deposit is not refundable.  
Only one registration fee is required per year.

**Further information, Application Forms, On-line  
Registration are available  
on our Website:**

<https://maryknollsisters.org/maryknoll-mission-institute-2/>

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**PROGRAMS IN CALIFORNIA**

**MOVING INTO THE MYSTICAL  
AS WE MATURE**

**Resource Person: Michael Crosby, OFM Cap**  
Los Altos, August 21-24, 2017

**GREEN HEARTS AND SOULS:  
Ecology and Wise Holy Women**

**Resource Person: Mickey McGrath, OSFS**  
Monrovia, September 4-8, 2017  
(Limited accommodations are available.)

Welcome  
to The Mission Institute

# 2017 Programs Maryknoll Mission Institute



**Maryknoll Mission Institute  
Maryknoll Sisters P.O. Box 311  
Maryknoll, New York 10545-0311**

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website:  
[maryknollsisters.org/maryknoll-mission-institute-2/](https://maryknollsisters.org/maryknoll-mission-institute-2/)

**Online Registration Available**



Sr. Patricia Ryan, MM and Sr. Rosalva Sandi, MM discussing global warming.

### WHATEVER HAPPENED TO JESUS? May 7-12, 2017

Jesus of Nazareth focused his teaching on the Jewish commitment to and dream of creating the “reign” of God here on earth. During this program, the Gospels will be examined along with the writings of Paul to see how the teaching of Jesus ultimately became secondary to elevating him as “The Christ” with exclusive access to God’s presence and forgiveness. Jesus focused on God’s presence with all people and the urgent need to give expression to that presence in human interactions.

**Resource Person: Michael Morwood, MA**, has been at the forefront of the Progressive Christian Movement in Australia. During Advent 2010, he was one of the speakers in the Teleseminar series “Conversion at the Leading Edge of Faith” He was a keynote speaker on the theme of Prayer during the Atlantic Seminar in Theological Education held in Canada (June, 2011). Presently he is writing a book which has the theme of this program.

### COME, DRINK DEEP OF LIVING WATERS May 14-19, 2017

During this program we will explore what an evolving, transformative faith involves. Our earthly journey into the Mystery is, of course, endless. Mature faith truly seeking understanding cannot rest, but must be ready for ever deeper insights as human

questing continues. Our time together will challenge us to continue our “God quest.” We are called to enter into this period of bridging which offers new insights and enables us to better understand and live our Christian Faith in this new time.

**Resource Person: Barbara Fiand, SNDdeN, PhD**, is a Sister of Notre Dame de Namur. She is a retired Professor of Spirituality, Christian Anthropology and Fundamental Theology. She lectures throughout the country and abroad on a variety of topics. Her new book of the same title will be a basis for this program. (*Crossroads*, July 2016). She has published in a variety of journals and is the author of ten books.

### MYSTICS, REBELS, PROPHETS AND YOU! May 21-26, 2017

During this program we will explore the lives and charisms of some extraordinary and courageous people who have gone before us: Hildegard of Bingen, Julian of Norwich, Bridgit of Kildare, Charles de Foucauld and the Beguines of the Middle Ages. Their stories and witness will inspire and encourage us to deepen our own call to make a difference in our contemporary world and perhaps go further than we think we can!

**Resource Person: Edwina Gateley, MA**, has a Master’s Degree in Theology from CTU Chicago. She is founder of Genesis House in Chicago and also founded the Volunteer Missionary Movement (VMM)—an international lay movement which sends volunteers to many parts of the needy world. Edwina is the recipient of many Awards for her work. She is also a best-selling author and currently is writing, giving talks and leading retreats nationally as well as internationally.

### NATURE AND POETRY: OPENINGS TO THE MYSTICAL June 4-9, 2017

In *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis says, “The entire material universe speaks of God’s love, God’s boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains: everything is....a caress of God.” Poets put into words particular human experiences of awe, wonder, love, relationship and the Spirit revealing the sacred through our quite ordinary, as well as numinous or even terrifying experiences. During this program we

will explore our personal experiences of the Sacred and sense of belonging, through our varied happenings in nature. Reading poetry and praying together will enable us to recognize the Spirit working within us leading us to a new relationship with the Sacred.

**Resource Person: Janet K. Ruffing, RSM, PhD**, is a Professor in the Practice of Spirituality and Ministerial Leadership at Yale Divinity School since 2010. She is the author of more than 100 articles and six books on *Spiritual Direction, Mysticism and the writings of Elisabeth Leseur*. She is also Professor Emerita at Fordham University and gives workshops and lectures internationally.

### MOMENTUM OF GRACE: The Deepening of Being in a World of Becoming June 11-16, 2017

“We are moving”: summing up the evolutionary spirit of our age, Teilhard de Chardin, the late Jesuit priest and paleontologist, spoke these words. During this program we will discover “Where are we moving?” Yes, we are going somewhere and scientists tell us that the entire universe is moving toward more elegantly ordered complexity. The mystics would say that we are moving toward greater wholeness, coherence, love and fullness in the Mystery of the Godhead. Let us explore together the elegance of emergence through the lens of both science and mysticism. A special focus will be our own deep yearning and purpose as humans to bring the timeless dimensions of the Infinite into time.

**Resource Persons: Gail Worcelo, CP, MA and Margaret Galiardi, OP, MA**, are team presenters for this program. Gail is the co-founder of Green Mountain Monastery in Greensboro VT. She and Fr. Thomas Berry, CP founded this monastery to give expression to a theology rooted in the evolutionary dynamism of an unfolding universe. Gail holds a degree in Clinical Psychology and Christian Spirituality. She has lectured and given programs, retreats and workshops around the world. Margaret Galiardi is presently collaborating with Nancy Sylvester in the Institute for Communal Contemplation and Dialogue. She teaches courses in spirituality at Molloy College NY. She is the author of two books: *Encountering Mystery in the Wilderness* (Sor Juana Press, 2004) and *Where the Pure Water Flows* (Sor Juana Press, 2008).

### STRUCTURES OF SIN AND PERSONAL CONVERSION TOWARDS SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION June 18-23, 2017

Using a social justice approach, this program aims to deepen participants’ understanding of how the structures of sin within our society continue to alienate our communities and thereby affect our faith. With the guide of contextual analysis of our society, the key issues of concern will be highlighted. Focus will be in three areas: FIRST: integrity of creation (*Laudato Si*); SECOND: causes of violence on all levels: religious, economic, racial; THIRD: self conversion with discernment using the U-Theory approach of self discovery and social engagement. The participants will be fully engaged in discerning their role in our society today.

**Resource Person: Elias Omondi Opongo, SJ, PhD**, is the Director of Hekima Institute of Peace Studies and International Relations and the Regional Coordinator of the African Forum for Catholic Social Teaching based in Nairobi, Kenya. He holds a PhD in Peace and Conflict Studies from University of Bradford, UK. He has published articles and books, including *Peace Weavers: Methodologies of Peacebuilding in Africa* (Pauline Publications, 2014).

### COMPANIONSHIP OF EMPOWERMENT: Religious Life in the 21st Century June 25-30, 2017

Religious women and men wrestle with the challenges of our time amid an aging profile and declining numbers. History indicates that the 21st century will bring a fresh impetus for a refounding of the vowed life. More than anything else, Religious will need to engage afresh with discipleship at the service of the Reign of God, renamed for our time as the Companionship of Empowerment. This program, based on O’Murchu’s new book *Religious Life in the 21st Century* (Orbis, 2016) is not just for Religious (Sisters, Brothers and Priests) but for all who accompany Religious in association, in ministry and in revisioning the future.

**Resource Person: Diarmuid O’Murchu, MSC**, is a priest and social psychologist with a specialist interest in emerging trends of faith and mission in the contemporary world. His more recent