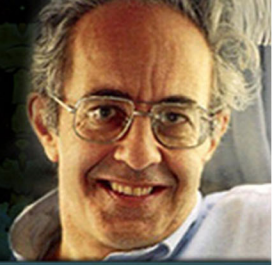


NOUWEN LEGACY

CELEBRATING HENRI NOUWEN'S SPIRITUAL IMPACT



QUICK LINKS

- [Henri Nouwen Society Official Website](http://www.HenriNouwen.org)
- [Nouwen Legacy Associates](http://www.NouwenLegacy.com)
- [Personal Blog Site](http://NouwenLegacy.blogspot.com)

UPCOMING FEATURED EVENT

CSD Readers' Community
(Book Study Series - March 16, 23, 30, & April 6 - Monday Nights 7-9 pm at the Center for Spiritual Development, Orange, CA)

Sacred Companionship Workshop
(Los Angeles Religious Education Congress - March 1, Sunday, Sheraton Plaza, Period 7-11 - 10:00-11:30 am)

Wednesday Nite Live
(Lenten Journey Series at St. Peter's By the Sea Presbyterian Church, Palos Verdes - 6:00-8:15 pm)

Lenten Retreat
(Lenten Journey Reflection with Nouwen as Guide at Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center - April 5, Palm Sunday., 2:30-7:00 pm)

Nouwen Workshop at SDI
(2009 Spiritual Directors International Conference, April 17 - 2:00-3:30 pm / 4:00-5:30 pm, Houston, TX)

One-Day Course at LMU
("Henri Nouwen: Integrated Ministry Praxis" - April 25 - 8:30 am-3:00 pm, hosted by the Center for Religion and Spirituality)

NOUWEN LEGACY ASSOCIATES

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)

WINTER QUARTER UPDATES

FEBRUARY 25, 2009 - VOL 1, ISSUE 2

Dear Friends,

This quarter began with me having this rare but wonderful opportunity of teaching a Henri Nouwen course in three different venues: *Fuller* Pasadena and Houston, and *Loyola Marymount University*. One highlight was the idea of "kicking off" the Fuller and Loyola classes with a weekend retreat together at *Mary & Joseph Retreat Center* (Palos Verdes) with a number of non-students also participating. Superb interaction! To this day, I'm having a rewarding time with all 45 students who are proving to be real enthusiastic learners. It's gratifying to watch how they're changing the way they view the spiritual life and ministry through their exposure with Nouwen's challenging writings.

Last Saturday was a real surprise for me as I facilitated for the very first time a one-day retreat ("Real Presence via Solitude, Service, Prayer") at the *Center for Spiritual Development*(Orange). Some 55 people showed up (more than half of whom I've not met before). Participants really were engaged with the theme as evidenced by the kinds of questions they raised up and the insights they shared with the group.

This weekend, I'm excited to again present a workshop on Nouwen during the *Los Angeles Religious Education Congress* (Anaheim Convention) - a privilege to do so to a diverse group of people who will be there! I can't be grateful enough for these encouraging opportunities I'm able to take part of despite the seemingly bleak times we're in.

Amidst the mounting challenges we all face these days, especially in regard to the state of our economy, Nouwen reminds us all of the importance of giving and receiving of consolation:

Consolation is a beautiful word. It means "to be" (con-) "with the lonely one" (solus). To offer consolation is one of the most important ways to care. Life is so full of pain, sadness, and loneliness that we often wonder what we can do to alleviate the immense suffering we see. We can and must offer consolation. To console does not mean to take away the pain but rather to be there and say, "You are not alone, I am with you. Together we can carry the burden. Don't be afraid. I am here." That is consolation. We all need to give it as well as to receive it.

Above all, may we experience the kind of consolation only our God of hope can give, one that offers real encouragement and sustains us even during times of uncertainties.

Journeying together with you,

WILLY



Ministry Connection

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

If you desire companionship in your spiritual journey (*either one-on-one in person or via phone*), Click [here](#) for more information about spiritual direction ministry.

SPIRITUAL RETREAT

If you need help in organizing or facilitating any kind of guided retreat (*such as a Nouwen retreat*) for your church, organization, or small group, [email me](#) or click [here](#) for more information.

WIL HERNANDEZ, PH.D
THE NOUWEN LEGACY

