

MOUNT ST ANNE'S RETREAT AND CONFERENCE CENTRE



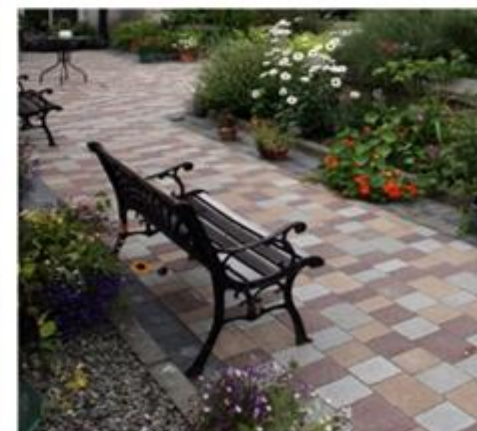
PROGRAMME
2021-2022

Killenard,
Portarlinton,
Co Laois R32 WN59

057-8626153

Email:
secretary@mountstannes.com

www.mountstannes.com



Mount St. Anne's
Retreat & Conference Centre

Presentation Sisters,
Killenard, Portarlinton, Co. Laois
www.mountstannes.com

BOOKING INFORMATION

Should you wish to book any of our
Retreats/Events/Conference Facilities,
please email our office: secretary@mountstannes.com

Facilities:

150 Seater Conference Hall
Smaller Rooms or 12, 20 & 30 people
Dining facilities for 120
Self-Catering Apartments
35 Ensuite Rooms
Beautiful Gardens and Grounds

What We Offer

1. Prayerful Meditation Days
2. Formation Days
3. Relaxation Days
4. Retreat Days
5. Parish Group Days
6. Spiritual Direction/Accompaniment
7. Private Retreats
8. School Retreats
9. Sabbaticals
10. Training and Development

PRAYERFUL MEDITATION DAYS

***"Come to me, all you who are burdened
and I will give your rest" (Mt. 11:28-30)***

Come and enjoy a day of peace, reflection and prayer
after a year of coping with Covid, shutdowns and
uncertainty, in the beautiful surroundings
of Mount St. Anne's

We offer the following Prayerful Meditation Days
throughout the year:

10am – 3.30pm

Sat. 18th September, 2021	Sat. 12th February, 2022
Sat. 23rd October, 2021	Sat. 2nd April, 2022
Sat. 27th November, 2021	Sat. 21st May, 2022

Facilitated by Sr. Anne Kearney hfb

Cost: €25 (please bring packed lunch) Tea/Coffee provided

SPIRITUAL ACCOMPANIMENT

If you are looking for someone just to listen to
your story or for Spiritual Accompaniment/Retreat
for a few days, please contact:

The Secretary, Mount St. Anne's

Email: secretary@mountstannes.com

057-8626153



AUTUMN ONLINE COURSES

All Courses are at 19.00-21.00 (Irish Time) on ZOOM

October 6, 13, 20, 27

Laudato Si' in our Contemporary World (Sean McDonagh)

This course will explore Laudato Si' and the Challenges of Biodiversity and Climate Change.

Sean McDonagh is a Columban Missionary priest, author and renowned Ecological Theologian. His publications include: To Care for the Earth (1986); Climate Change: The Challenge to us all (2004); The Death of Life: Extinction is Forever (2006: and Robots, Ethics and the Future of Jobs (2021)

Email: ceo@mountstannes.com for bookings

Cost: €100

October 7, 14, 21, 28

Women in the Bible: Our Mothers in Faith (Rosalie Moloney)

The diverse women of the Bible offer us inspiring examples of Faith in action. This course invites us to follow in the footsteps of some of these remarkable but very human characters: from Ruth and Naomi and the mothers of Genesis to the women of Jesus' parables and the female leaders of the early Church.

Rosalie Moloney took early retirement in 2009 to study Theology, initially in the Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology in Cambridge. During the following decade she focused increasingly on Biblical Studies and graduated from Cambridge with a PhD on Genesis 38. She now works as a free-lance lecturer and is particularly interested in encouraging people to read the Bible and in making the study of the Bible accessible and enjoyable.

Email: ceo@mountstannes.com for bookings

Cost: €100

AUTUMN ONLINE COURSES (continued)

All Courses are at 19.00-21.00 (Irish Time) on ZOOM

November 3, 10, 17, 24 Cost: €100

Celtic Spirituality: What is it? Has it any significance for life today? (Michael Drumm)

There is a lot of talk today about Celtic Spirituality. But the question arises – what exactly is it? Does such a spirituality exist? Is it anything more than romantic nostalgia for a dead past? Who were the Celts? Can we access their spiritual insights? During this course some characteristics of Celtic life will be identified which might legitimately form the foundations for a renewed Celtic spirituality today.

Michael Drumm is a priest of the Diocese of Elphin and ministers in Rosses Point, Co Sligo. Previously, a Lecturer in Theology and Director of Mater Dei Institute of Education in Dublin, he has published books and articles on Theology and on the role of religion in Irish society. He was the founding chairperson of the Catholic Schools Partnership.

Email: ceo@mountstannes.com for bookings

November 4, 11, 18, 25 Cost: €100

Exploring the Synodal Pathway: The Ongoing Reception of Vatican II featuring Sr Nathalie Becquart and Rafael Luciani (Janet Forbes and Oonagh O' Brien)

This course will explore the upcoming Synod as the continuation of the Second Vatican Council with a particular focus on the Spirituality of Synodality; the participation of all especially young people and the need for structures and resources to support the local church.

Janet Forbes is a Graduate Student of Boston College's School of Theology and ministry with research interests in Catechetics, Pastoral Theology and Synodality.

Oonagh O' Brien is a theologian with a specialty in ecclesiology, ministry and practical theology. She is currently CEO at Mount St Anne's.

Sr Nathalie Becquart was appointed by Pope Francis as the first female Under-Secretary to the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops in Rome.

Rafael Luciani is a professor of theology who has recently been appointed to the Theological Commission for the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops.

Email: ceo@mountstannes.com for bookings

ADVENT RETREATS

'LIVING THE ADVENT DREAM THROUGH THE EXPERIENCES OF OUR LIVES'

Wednesday 24th to Saturday 27th November 2021

Many of us sense that honest reflection on the ordinary experiences of our life has a prayer value. Our Advent dream is that we will live in joyful hope through the experiences of our lives. In a style that is reverent, reflective, challenging and faith-filled, Fr. Willie Purcell reflects on the mystery and reality of our own Advent story as we prepare for the celebration of Christmas.

Facilitated by Fr Willie Purcell

Cost: €300 Residential

Fr. Willie Purcell is the parish priest of Clara, Kilkenny; he also works as the national vocations coordinator for Diocesan Priesthood and is a member of the Council for Immigrants for the Irish Conference of Catholic Bishops. He holds a master's degree in Theology from St. Patricks College Maynooth and has taught in secondary and third level colleges. He hosts a Saturday morning religious programme 'spirit alive' on Community Radio Kilkenny City and also writes for national magazines on religious and social affairs topics. Fr. Willie directs retreats and parish workshops in Ireland, England and the USA.

DESERT WAIL, DESERT WORK, DESERT WALK: ENTERING THE JOURNEY OF HOPE THAT IS ADVENT

Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th December 2021

In The Coming of God, her extraordinary guide to Advent, the late Maria Boulding observes that "God does not remove the desert because God has work to be done precisely there. ... It is in the desert that God's people find God, or more precisely, are found by God; in the desert they find forgiveness; in the desert they rediscover their original inheritance as God's children."

This retreat is an invitation to, and orientation for the journey in faith and in life that is Advent. Following the discipline of Lectio Divina, participants will read and pray key biblical texts.

Retreat ends with Mass at 4pm

Facilitated by Fr Séamus O'Connell

Cost: €300 residential

These days of reading, reflection, and prayer will be directed by Fr Séamus O'Connell. A priest of the Diocese of Kerry where he began to teach Bible in the 1990s, Séamus has taught scholarly, pastoral, and liturgical approaches to Scripture at the Pontifical University in Maynooth since 1997. He has a deep interest in Lectio Divina, and is currently writing a lectio handbook for parishes.

ADVENT RETREATS (Continued)

A GIFT FOR YOURSELF THIS CHRISTMAS - RESTING IN THE ARMS OF GOD

Wednesday 8th to Saturday 11th December 2021

*Le coinnle na n-aingeal tá an spéir amuigh breactha,
The sky is dappled with the candle light of angels...
(Maire Mac an tSaoi)*

During this waiting time, we listen and reflect on the invitation to settle deeply in the well of our own hearts. Through music, scripture, reflection and prayer we journey through Advent, opening to the light and guidance of new birth and hope in our lives.

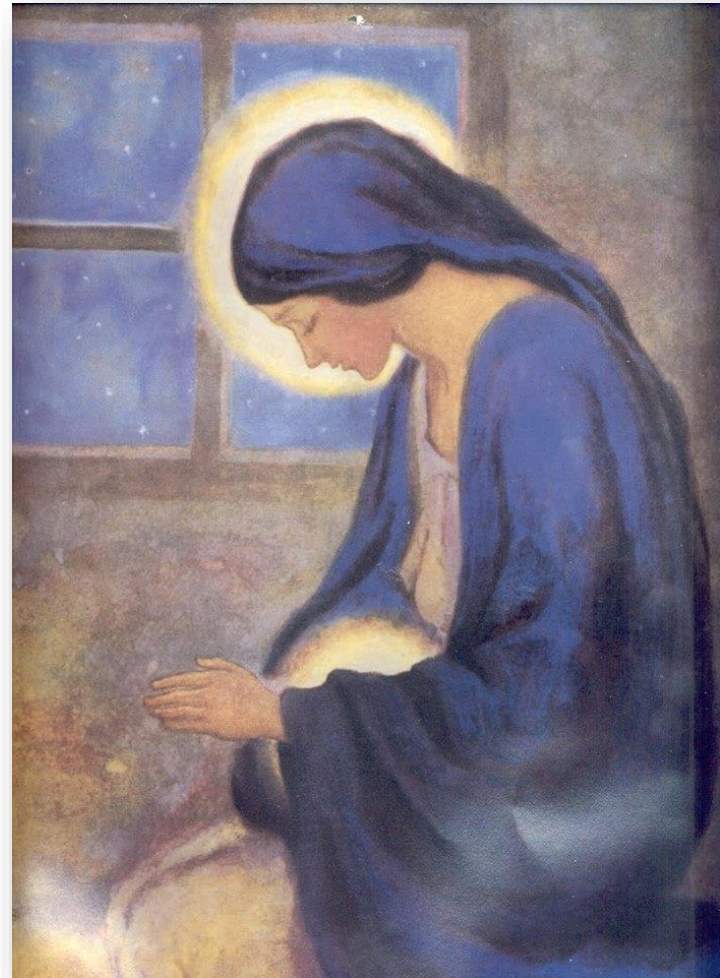
Facilitated by Deirdre Ní Chinnéide

Cost: €300 residential

Trained as a psychotherapist/ spiritual director and workshop facilitator, Deirdre has worked all over Ireland, the U.S.A, Australia and Europe including Bosnia and Kosovo. She divides her time between the mainland and the island of Inis Mor, where she is director of Slí Aonghusa retreat centre, offering retreats, workshops and performances of Spiritual Music.

*She has composed two highly acclaimed cds of Spiritual Music **Celtic Passage** and **I will Sing for you** - songs to soothe the soul.*

www.celticpassage.com



SABBATICAL PROGRAMME

27th March to 23rd April. 2022

Providing a breathing space in your ongoing Faith Journey to 'Reflect, Refresh and Renew'

At Mount St. Anne's we are offering Sabbatical Programmes giving participants an opportunity to reflect on their life journey, to be refreshed by new experiences and to be renewed by a variety of perspectives presented to them.

During our four-week programme, participants will be invited to deepen their connection with their spiritual, cognitive and affective selves through diverse experiences.

Through the rhythm of a well-structured programme, ritual, daily prayer and liturgy participants may be both affirmed and challenged. The programme content is designed to support personal growth, time for relaxation and spiritual renewal in a welcoming environment.

The fee of €3900 is fully inclusive of all meals, accommodation, tuition and field trips.

BOOKING DETAILS: You are invited to contact: **Dr Oonagh O'Brien** by email or phone, in the first instance.

Email: sabbaticals@mountstannes.com Tel: +353(57)8626153

You will then receive an Application Form. This Form should be completed and returned no later than **12 weeks** prior to the commencement of the Sabbatical Programme.

Second Sabbatical available 2nd – 29th October, 2022

SABBATICAL PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Sunday 27 th March	Arrivals and Welcome with <i>Mount St. Anne's team</i>
Monday 28 th & Tuesday 29 th March	Days of Introduction/Reflection with <i>Mount St. Anne's team</i>
Wednesday 30 th – Friday 1 st April	Emerging Spirituality in Light of our Cosmic Story – the relationship between spirituality and ecology (<i>Dr Niamh Brennan</i>)
Saturday 2 nd – Monday 4 th April	Personal Time
Tuesday 5 th – Thursday 7 th April	The Accompanied Journey Inwards (<i>Rev John Doherty</i>)
Friday 8 th April	Trip to Solas Bride in Kildare to explore the Spirituality of St Brigid (<i>with the Brigidine Sisters</i>)
Saturday 9 th – Sunday 10 th April	Personal Time
Monday 11 th & Tuesday 12 th April	Adult Faith in the 21st Century (<i>Fr Diarmuid O Murchú</i>)
Wednesday 13 th April	Trip to Glendalough
Thursday 14 th – Sunday 17 th April	Easter Retreat with <i>Fr Diarmuid O'Murchú</i>
Monday 18 th April	Personal Time
Tuesday 19 th – Thursday 21 st April	"Where have you come from? And where are you going" (Gen. 16:8) Journeying with some women of Scripture (<i>Grainne Doherty</i>)
Friday 22 nd April	Day of Reflection with <i>Mount St. Anne's team</i>
Saturday 23 rd April	Departure from Mount St. Anne's

EASTER RETREAT

CELEBRATING THE PASCHAL JOURNEY IN THE 21st CENTURY

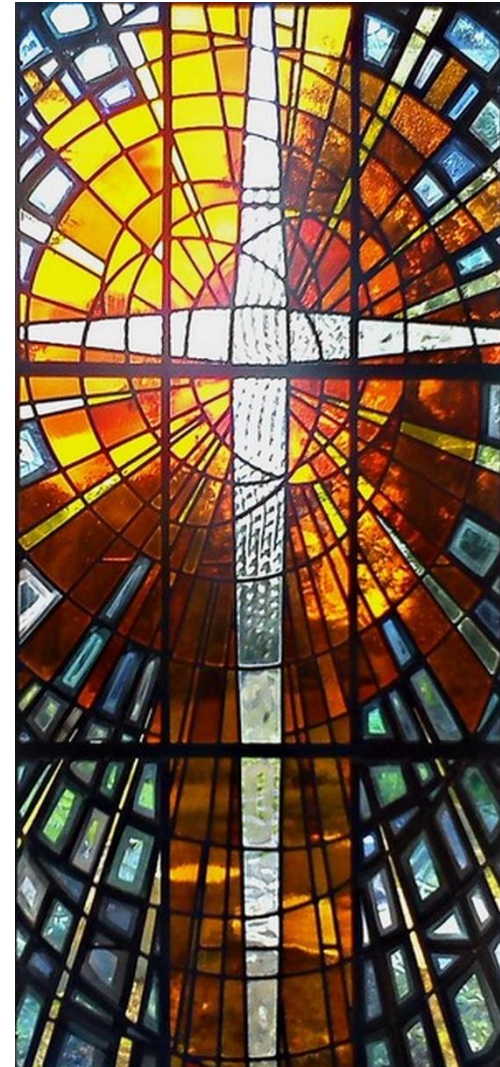
Thursday 14th to Sunday 17th April 2022

This Triduum programme consists of creative liturgies around the death and Resurrection of Jesus as experienced in the sufferings and hopes of our world today. Each liturgy will be accompanied by a theological and scriptural analysis of the new approach being used. Participants will be engaged in dialogue, reflection and liturgical participation.

Facilitated by Fr Diarmuid O'Murchú

Cost: €300 residential

Diarmuid O'Murchu, a member of the Sacred Heart Missionary Order, is a social psychologist most of whose working life has been in social ministry. In that capacity he has worked as a couple's counsellor, in bereavement work, AIDS-HIV counselling, and, in more recent times, with homeless people and refugees. As a workshop leader and group facilitator he has worked in Europe, USA, Canada, Australia, The Philippines, Thailand, India, and in several African countries, facilitating programmes on Adult Faith Development. His recent books include Incarnation: A New Evolutionary Threshold (2017), Beyond Original Sin: Recovering Humanity's Creative Urge (2018), When the Disciple Comes of Age (2019).



SUMMER RETREATS 2022

LEAVE AND COME

Wednesday 1st – Tuesday 7th June 2022

Based on Scripture, this retreat will explore some of the many 'good-byes' and 'hellos' we encounter in life, and how we respond to the challenges they present.

Facilitated by Rev Dr Ruth Patterson

Cost: €550 residential

Ruth Patterson is a Presbyterian minister, and for the last 34 years has been Director of Restoration Ministries, a non-denominational, Christian organisation committed to peace and reconciliation. She has authored five books and numerous articles stemming from her commitment to unity and peace.



“BUT WHAT IS THAT BETWEEN SO MANY?” (Jn 6:9)

Sunday 19th – Friday 24th June 2022

“There was a small boy in the crowd, people were hungry and he offered what he had...”

Over these days we will reflect on our own responses around our willingness to share our gifts and the call to have a childlike trust in Jesus’ power to transform our offering. Looking at a number of Scripture passages, through reflections in story and song, we might look again at our place amongst the five thousand and count afresh the baskets filled through our openness to share.

Facilitated by Fr Vincent Sherlock

Cost: €460 residential

Vincent Sherlock is a priest of the diocese of Achonry and is Parish Priest of Tubbercurry-Cloonacool Parish in Co. Sligo. He has written a number of booklets reflecting on themes from Holy Week, Stations of The Cross, Advent, Lent and the Rosary. He writes a regular column in The Irish Catholic and articles for The Messenger magazine.

SUMMER RETREATS 2022 (Continued ...)

“WE WANT TO SEE JESUS” (John 12:21)

Tuesday 12th – Monday 18th July 2022

The retreat will be a combination of meditation, Lectio Divina and Eucharist. The texts for the Lectio will all be taken from John’s Gospel, under the general title of “quest stories”: the call of the first disciples (John 1), Nicodemus (John 3), the Samaritan Woman (John 4), the man born blind (John 9), Mary and Martha (John 11) and Mary Magdalen (John 20)

Facilitated by Fr Kieran O’Mahony

Cost: €550 residential

Kieran O’Mahony is an Augustinian friar and biblical scholar. His interests are St Paul, the Fourth Gospel and the Jesus of history. Publications include a 9 volume series on the Sunday readings called Hearers of the Word. He also translated a book on prayer by Jean-Marie Gueullette, entitled How to Sit with God. Currently, he is working with Jessie Rogers and Sean Goan on the Tarsus Scripture School programmes (www.tarsusscriptureschool.ie). His own website is www.tarsus.ie. Other passions are cycling, music and hill-walking.

“AS A DEER YEARNS FOR RUNNING STREAMS, SO I YEARN FOR YOU ... (Ps. 42)

Tuesday 9th – Monday 15th August 2022

A time of quiet reflection looking into our hearts to recognise our deepest yearning for God’s love and compassion. Spending time being present to God’s dwelling place within and all around us. A time to sit with God face to face and hear the voice that speaks of peace.

Facilitated by Fr Mike Serrage msc

Cost: €550 residential

Mike Serrage has been involved in the world of spirituality and retreat ministry for over 20 years. He is a member of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. Mike’s ministry is based on a spirituality of the heart which is grounded in the love and compassion of God.



SUMMER RETREATS 2022 (Continued ...)

“TO KNOW THE HOPE TO WHICH GOD HAS CALLED YOU” (Eph. 1:18)

Tuesday 23rd – Monday 29th August 2022

Our discipleship involves getting to know God and the hope to which we are called. In a world that seems sometimes hopeless, let's see where God is truly leading us as we focus on his Word during this Scripture-based retreat.

Facilitated by Fr Gerard McCarthy svd

Cost: €550 residential

Gerard McCarthy is a member of the Divine Word Missionaries. Since his return from Africa, he has been actively involved in the Biblical Apostolate, giving retreats and parish biblical courses.



A SPIRITUALITY OF REAL PRESENCE

Sunday 11th – Saturday 17th September 2022

This Retreat hopes to help people to slow down and connect with the sacred in everyday life. For many people today, even the practice of their Christian faith can become hectic and ritualistic. Their original spirituality can become buried beneath a series of hectic religious rituals. God then becomes an external authority figure who must be continuously placated.

Facilitated by Fr Nick Harnan msc

Cost: €550 residential

Nick Harnan is a member of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. He is a qualified clinical psychologist and psychotherapist in the service of promoting an authentic Incarnational Christian Spirituality. He has spent most of his life as a Formation Consultant, Retreat Giver and Course Director and has worked in many different countries and cultures. He is now in semi-retirement in Sue Ryder Centre, Portlaoise.

'HEART AFLAME' VISITOR CENTRE

"Heart Aflame" Visitor Centre at Mount St. Anne's

The "Heart Aflame" Exhibition introduces the visitor to the life and times of the Venerable Nano Nagle, a woman whose heart was aflame with the love of God and of people. It captures the profound contribution she made to the lives of countless women and men in Ireland and across the globe, providing them with educational opportunities and enabling them to live life with dignity.

The exhibition is presented in 4 areas:

1. Difficult Times, 2. From Acorn to Oak, 3. Modernising Times and 4. Faith.

*Material relating to the life of Nano Nagle
is available for purchase from the office.*

Please call 057-8626153 or Email: heartaflame@mountstannes.com



TIME OUT FOR YOU

We all need time to ourselves, times of silence where we can get in touch with our deepest selves. Mount St. Anne's offers a wonderful opportunity if you need to get away from the stresses and strains of everyday living. Within the grounds of Mount St. Anne's are three self-contained apartments. These apartments are fully furnished and very comfortable with ensuite facilities and are available on a self-catering basis or with the option of having your meals in the house. ***This must be arranged prior to your arrival.*** Long and short term stays depending on availability.

Each Apartment has

- A spacious Living Room/Kitchen
- Ensuite Bedroom with wardrobe
- On site parking
- Underfloor heating system
- Towels and bed linen provided



Take a walk through the woods and let your thoughts unfold into the silence, or, if you feel the need, you will find a listening ear among us.

At Mount St. Anne's, you will find peaceful, tranquil surrounds conducive to prayer and reflection

SCHOOL RETREAT DAYS AT MOUNT ST ANNE'S

CONFIRMATION RETREAT DAYS

We have developed a Confirmation programme which emphasises the gifts the Holy Spirit brings and helps the students to see the Spirit working in their own lives, enabling them to actively participate in the sacrament of Confirmation.

"I liked the meditation the best because it made me feel closer to God."

"I liked the activity on kindness because it made me realise that I should try to be a better person to others."

"What I liked best about the day was getting to know different girls and realising how much God does for me."

"Meditation was calming and relaxing. The Butterfly Circus film made me realise that we all have difficulties but are still loved by God and can overcome them."

"Thank you for the very fun day I had. I will remember this day for a long time to come."

SECONDARY SCHOOL RETREAT DAYS

Time spent in Secondary school is an important stage of growth in a young person's life and faith journey. With that in mind we have developed our Secondary School retreat programme in order to creatively engage and capture the students imagination. We use various modes of reflection and discussion which incorporate art, meditation, music and prayer, with the aim of nurturing faith and hope within our young people.

"I would happily come back any time. It was an amazing day, I really enjoyed it. Thank you so much!"

"Prayer was different, it wasn't just kneeling down"