**The Thomas Merton Chapter Group**

**Syllabus for 2023-24**

Virtual and onsite

A close-up of a person smiling

Description automatically generated

*“Every breath we draw is a gift of God’s love; every moment of existence is a grace.”* Thomas Merton

Benet House is an official chapter of the International Thomas Merton Society ([International Merton Society](http://merton.org/)). The chapter meets monthly to read, discuss and grow in the understanding of Merton’s life and writings. Video’s, articles, books, speakers, and features from Tuesday With Merton are some of the resources used. The group decides the monthly focus.

**Date:** 3rd Monday of the month: Sept. 11; Oct. 16; Nov. 20; Dec. no meeting. 2024: Jan. 15; Feb. 19; Mar. 18-19 (overnight retreat); April 15; May 20.

**Time:**  6:30-8 pm.

**Retreat Leader:** Sr. Bobbi Bussan, OSB

**Fee:** $15/session: Books purchased on your own.

September 11: 2nd not 3rd Monday

* A review of Thomas Merton’s life and writings
* Bring a Merton book you read or would like to read.
* Sharing on what we read over the summer break.

October 16:

* Discussion: The Way of Chuang Tzu:  [The Way of Chuang Tzu: Merton, Thomas, Dalai Lama XIV: 9780811218511: Amazon.com: Books](https://www.amazon.com/Way-Chuang-Tzu-Second/dp/0811218511/ref=sr_1_1?crid=1TBMNO6GF0BOS&keywords=the+way+of+chuang+tzu&qid=1684200384&s=books&sprefix=The+Way+of+Chua%2Cstripbooks%2C110&sr=1-1).

Nov. 20

* **“Merton, Malcolm X, and Catholic Engagement with Black Lives Matter” with**

**Bryan N. Massingale**

Jan. 15 & Feb. 19, 2024

* Discussion: What Am I Living For: [What I Am Living For: Lessons from the Life and Writings of Thomas Merton: Martin S.J., James, Ellsberg, Robert, Horan, Daniel P., Oakes, Kaya, Sweeney, Jon M.: 9781594717413: Amazon.com: Books](https://www.amazon.com/What-Am-Living-Lessons-Writings/dp/1594717419)

March 18-19:

* 24-hr retreat at Benet House: $130 includes speaker, accommodations & meals.

3 pm – 3 pm. Retreat agenda/speaker to be announced.

April 15 & May 20

* Book discussion: book to be determined.