

**St. Simon Catholic Parish**  
**“Keeping Time ... Sacred” Lenten Retreat**  
**March 15, 2023**

**Opening Prayer, Rest in Silence**

by Edwina Gately  
A Mystical Heart

Rest your bones in silence,  
Still your racing heart,  
Close your tired and restless eyes,  
And come awhile apart.

Leave everything behind you,  
Come naked and bereft,  
You will receive a hundredfold  
Of all that you have left behind.

Rest with God, beloved,  
Who waits for you alone,  
To pause upon your journey  
And stay with God at home.

Come swiftly, loved and precious one,  
God longs to sit with you,  
To absorb your lovely presents  
As a flower holds to dew.

**Closing Prayer, Blessing for Solitude**

by John O’Donohue

May you recognize in your life the presence, power, and light of your soul.

May you realize that you are never alone, that your soul in its brightness and belonging connects you intimately with the rhythm of the universe.

May you have respect for your individuality and difference.

May you realize that the shape of your soul is unique, that you have a special destiny here, that behind the facade of your life there is something beautiful and eternal happening.

May you learn to see yourself with the same delight, pride, and expectation with which God sees you in every moment.

**Guest speakers from our St. Simon Parish Community**

**Diane Lue**

Diane Lue was born here in the Bay Area and attended St. Simon Parish School from Kindergarten to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. She is currently a senior at Notre Dame High School in San Jose and will be attending Santa Clara University in the fall. Her family, (Mom, Dad, older brother, and twin sister) are active members at St. Simon and Diane was baptized here.

Diane enjoys playing and making music. She plays the guitar, drums, and sings. She also enjoys photography, is learning videography and is open to trying new hobbies. Nature inspires her, as well as many singer/songwriters because she wants to create music herself.

**Some of Diane’s favorite quotes:**

~ "The days you don't want to are the days you have to." - Anonymous

~ "The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." - Lao Tzu

~ "Life is like a camera, focus on what's important, capture the good times, develop from the negative, and when things don't work out, just take another shot." - Anonymous

This is the ending to Ready Player Two:

"...that life was like an extremely difficult, horribly unbalanced video-game. But sometimes the game can have a surprise ending. And sometimes, when you think you've finally reached the end of the game, suddenly you find yourself standing at the start of a whole new level. A level that you've never seen before. And the only thing you can do is keep right on playing. Because the game that is your life still isn't over yet. And there's no telling how far you might be able to get, what you might discover, or who you might meet when you get there" - Ernest Cline

**Diane’s thoughts on time:**

Time is limited. The best thing to do is to just start.

### **Christine Moore**

Christine Moore grew up surrounded by nature on a farm in Santa Rosa, CA. She studied undergrad at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo and completed a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing at USF. She lived and worked in San Francisco for over a decade, and after having their first child, Christine and her husband, decided to move to Mountain View to be closer to work.

Christine and Terry have two teenagers, Rowan and Annabel, and have been parishioners at St. Simon for 12 years.

Christine enjoys spending time with family, chatting with girlfriends, being in the outdoors, writing, running, dancing in the kitchen, singing loudly offkey, cooking, and being with her dog.

Christine is a huge fan of the writers, John O'Donohue, Lorine Niedecker, Tracy K. Smith, Ada Limon, the Sufi poets. For Lent, she is writing a poem every day. Christine is inspired by St. Teresa of Avila, Julian of Norwich, Fr. Richard Rohr, and James Finley.

She says, "I feel alive and deeply connected when I am in nature. I believe we each possess the wisdom of the nature within our bodies and souls. My family are farmers, even now, growing grapes."

### **Christine's thoughts on time:**

I love that the liturgical calendar aligns with the seasons. It is a beautiful rhythm of time to follow. In an article I wrote this about the relationship between time and being a mom. "Time and moms have an extraordinary relationship – we seem capable of bending time when needed. I know moms who, on any given Thursday, will accomplish a to-do list seemingly three days deep between 3-7 p.m. Other times, moms feel utterly at time's mercy. I've begged for time to speed up, and pleaded with it to stop altogether, depending on what was happening in my children's lives."

### **Marian Marren**

Marian was born and raised on the south side of Chicago and went to Mundelein College in Chicago, an all-girls school run by The Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (BVM). She has been married for 62 years to Bernie, and has 4 children, 10 grandchildren, and 1 great grandson.

Marian and Bernie have been members of St. Simon for 57 years, and their children went to school here. Marian did some substitute teaching here before taking a part-time job teaching at St. Nicholas and her daughter taught here for 6 years.

Marian enjoys walking, reading and playing bridge ... and volunteering where needed. Her favorite prayer is the Hail Mary, and she loves the Martha and Mary story in the Bible. One of her favorite quotes is:  
~ "Life is fragile, handle it with prayer."

### **Marian's thoughts about time:**

Time is precious - use it wisely - include God - have fun.

Our family motto is: "Faith, Family Friends", often referred to as F cubed (math is everyone's favorite subject in our family).

One of our daughters-in-law loves to take pictures so we changed our motto to "Faith, Family, Friends with Fotos" or "F to the 4th."