

PREACHING, TEACHING AND PASTORING IN A WORLD OF MORAL AND SPIRITUAL PLURALISM

*A retreat and renewal time for
priests and deacons*

JUNE 12 - 16, 2023

SAN ALFONSO RETREAT HOUSE

STIPEND \$725

***About the Retreat:** Ordained pastoral ministers accept the responsibility and ministry of preaching the Gospel and evangelizing the world around us by both word and deed, instructing the faithful in the truths of the faith and the Church's moral vision, and exercising cooperative authority to structure local Christian communities in a way that enables the Gospel to be heard, understood, and lived as a proclamation of good news. In the exercise of this ministry today we face innumerable challenges. Many of these arise from the fact that, in the words of Pope Francis, "we are not living an era of change, but a change of era," a time of great social, cultural, economic and moral upheaval. Coming together as pastoral ministers we will pray, discuss, and discern together, reflecting on our experiences in the light of letters of Paul to the Corinthian community, which lived a similar reality to that of our own, and the wisdom of Gaudium et Spes, which prophetically anticipated the reality we are now living. Doing so will help us come to a greater awareness that our time is in fact a privileged moment for evangelization. (See below for full description)*

RETREAT DIRECTOR AND FACILITATOR

Rev. Stephen T. Rehrauer, C.Ss.R.



Stephen T. Rehrauer, CSsR, is the Interim Director of the Redemptorist Renewal Center. He is a former Provincial of the Redemptorists of the Denver Province. A native of Wisconsin, he was ordained a Redemptorist priest in 1980. His early years of priesthood were spent doing parish ministry, preaching parish missions, and overseeing the formation of future Redemptorists. After securing his doctorate in moral theology, he taught at the Pontifical Institute on Alphonsian **Academy in Rome**, the Pontifical University of St. Thomas, the Beda College, and the Vincent Pallotti Institute besides traveling extensively offering workshops and seminars in Colombia, India, the Philippines, and Nigeria, among other places. He has written extensively contributing regular to the *Liguorian Magazine*, and authoring *Theology for Today's Catholic – A Handbook*.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

To register and pay online visit www.sanalfonsoretreats.org/80.

On the "Events at a Glance" page, scroll to the retreat and click on Register Now button.

OR

You can download a registration form and mail with a check.

Contact Us

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Preaching, Teaching, and Pastoring in a World of Moral and Spiritual Pluralism

(Full Description)

Baptized into the priesthood of Christ and trained and ordained In our respective pastoral ministries we seek to accompany and lead the faithful in ways that help them discover the “excellence of their vocation in Christ”.

Faithful exercise of pastoral ministry today faces innumerable challenges. Many of these arise from the fact that, in the words of Pope Francis, “we are not living an era of change, but a change of era,” a time of great social, cultural, economic, and moral upheaval, similar to what occurred during the age of discovery or the industrial revolution. The fundamental worldview and basic truths of Christianity no longer hold a place of prominence in the minds and hearts of people and nations they once did. Many of the cultural structures and social systems that reinforced and sustained our Christian faith have fallen away or been redirected in ways which challenge, denigrate, or even discard the truths of our faith. We now live in a world where the Christian vision of life is seen as only one of many alternative proposals in the world marketplace of ideas, and many of these are antithetical to the Christian understanding of the purpose of life, what constitutes goodness, how to recognize the truth, our attitudes toward authority, the proper place and use of material goods and wealth, how to effectively respond to evil in our midst, etc. etc. etc.

Coming together as pastoral ministers we will share our personal experiences of facing these challenges in ministry. We will pray, discuss, and discern together, reflecting on the letters of Paul to the Corinthian community who lived a similar reality to that of our time and to whom he offered clear principles and advice about how to guide Church members and exercise participative shared leadership in a Christian community living in a highly pluralistic society. We will also consider the wisdom contained in Gaudium et Spes, which prophetically anticipated the change of era we are now living and offers insight into how our ordained ministry as priests and deacons can effectively contribute to the evolution of cultural, spiritual, and moral pluralism in a way which enables us to recognize our time not as a cursed field into which we are sent to hopelessly toil, but rather as fruitful ground into which the seed of God’s word can be sown anew.