

Desert, Dangers and Divine Disinterest ... the Need to Pray Without Ceasing

17-22 September 2023

Alice Springs/Mparntwe



“The inattentiveness of the desert provides inexplicable healing”
Belden C. Lane

From the wide ribbon of coastal habitations around our nation and beyond, journey to the Centre!

To a landscape characterised by dry sandy creek beds and giant caterpillar shaped ranges: yellow, red, brown: both light and dark.

To some, a fierce landscape, to others Country.

In the traditions of Christian Meditation and Desert Spirituality imbedded in Biblical narrative, in a world characterised by the “indifference of God” and, one might add, of humanity, you are invited to a retreat in the heart of our nation.

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The setting is the evocative landscape of Central Australia, including an excursion into the East MacDonnell ranges. The days will be marked by a rhythm of prayer, meditation and silence, with input from Fr Bernard with Ann Lomas a long-time member of our meditation community www.wccm.org, reflecting on the day and sharing around the campfire in the evenings, with an opportunity to share in the Eucharist, and to walk the labyrinth, as well as an introduction to dadirri and other contemplative practices.

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PLACE

Campfire in the Heart Retreat Centre,
Alice Springs/Mparntwe
www.campfireintheheart.com.au

DATES & COST

Sunday 17th September afternoon till Friday 22nd September afternoon (5 nights)
• \$900 full board, mostly shared rooms and bathroom facilities. Includes all sessions and meals, extra nights after the retreat can be requested, \$80 including breakfast
• \$500 non-residential attendance for all sessions and meals.

NO. OF PARTICIPANTS 12-14

ENQUIRIES

Ann Lomas atlomas@bigpond.com
0437 340 250
Bernard McGrath OSB
bmcgrath1048@gmail.com

To enquire about possible scholarship assistance, or payment options email taylor.judi@outlook.com

REGISTRATION

Registrations can be made by completing and submitting the online form

[CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION](#)

A 50% deposit is requested within seven days of the confirmation of your registration to secure your booking. The bank account is:

Campfire in the Heart Ltd
BSB 633000
a/c 189251077.

Please feel free to pay the full amount at this time, or full payment is due by 3rd September (two weeks prior to the retreat).

CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS

If the retreat is cancelled, or you cannot travel because of Covid-related travel restrictions, then all payments will be refunded. If you are unable to attend for other reasons, then a full refund (less 10% to cover costs) will be provided up to 3rd September; after this date refunds are only possible if the place is filled.



Coming out of the shadows may be a painful business. We all have our favourite hiding places where we can take refuge. Where we can go when we want to rest up for a bit. But coming into the light is a surrendering of all those hiding places because we take as our one place of rest, the pure light of the Lord God. We need to be very simple about this, very childlike. Don't complicate. Simplify.

**The Heart of Creation by
John Main**