



## 2020 Theme Retreat

### Led by

**Fr Peter Mclsaac SJ** was born in Canada, but has lived and worked in Jamaica for many years. Fr Mclsaac entered the Society of Jesus in 1989. After completing his Licentiate in Theology in 1998, he was ordained a priest. He has been involved in social ministries, education, and pastoral work. From 2006-2012, Fr Mclsaac was Regional Superior of the Society of Jesus. He has directed the deaconate programme for the Archdiocese of Jamaica for the past ten years, and has taught systematic theology for 15 years at the St Michael's Theological College, where he is now Director. In 2010 he was President of the Conference of Religious of the Antilles for a term of two years. Currently, Fr Mclsaac is the Chair of the Archdiocesan Board of Education in Jamaica, and Pastor of St Thomas Aquinas church, where he presently resides. He has many years of experience directing the Spiritual Exercises, and giving retreats and workshops across the Caribbean, US, Canada, Africa and Asia.



### 1. Theme Retreat: To Shine Light on Those in Darkness

Many of us are familiar with God's presence when it inspires us with joy, or hope, or touches us with what we normally understand as "love". But we struggle in times of darkness and dryness in our prayer. It seems we are easily distracted, and easily deceived. We look for ways to re-kindle the "fire" of God's love within us, and try to find practices for persevering when the path seems narrow and difficult. Our retreat will focus our prayer on the God who touches us, strengthens us, and nourishes us, even when we strain to discern His presence and "light". We will also look to some of the great saints who similarly struggled in their spiritual journey, and whose experience has much to teach us about genuine discernment.

**Date:** Oct 4 (Sun) to Oct 12 (Mon), 2020

**Time:** Registration begins at 3pm on Oct 4. Program begins at 8pm on Oct 4 and finishes at 12:30pm on Oct 12 (lunch on last day is included)

**Venue:** Xavier House, Cheung Chau

**Target Participants:** Participants who have joined prayer workshop or have experience of individual guided retreat for three days or above in Ignatian style.

**Language:** English (may choose English or Cantonese for spiritual direction)

**Fee:** HK\$5,200

**Online Application:** <https://forms.gle/a63R6qQCCLwfgXnc8>



### 2. Silence: Learning the Language of God in our Prayer (Theme Retreat for Beginners)

A short retreat that will help the retreatant with some of the fundamentals of contemplation, with a focus on the beauty and the importance of silence for "hearing the Word" that is spoken to us in the depths of our hearts. In the embrace of that silence, we discover a solitude where we can enter God's presence without fear or resistance, and open our hearts to our "neighbour" with compassion. In silence and solitude, then, we become aware of our God -- who contemplates us with a silent gaze of love. The retreat will also be an opportunity to explore some methods that help us become more silent within.

**Date:** Oct 23 (Fri) to Oct 26 (Mon), 2020

**Time:** Registration begins at 3pm on Oct 23. Program begins at 8pm on Oct 23 and finishes at 12:30pm on Oct 26 (lunch on last day is included)

**Venue:** Xavier House, Cheung Chau

**Target Participants:** Beginners on Ignatian journey, who have little or no previous retreat experience

**Language:** English (may choose English or Cantonese for spiritual direction)

**Fee:** HK \$2,000

**Online Application:** <https://forms.gle/TbaheJhnQLyEpmQVA>

