Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky
Sabbatical Program Opportunities

Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning  Dayton, Ohio
www.bergamocenter.org

Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning is a retreat and conference center founded in the tradition of the Roman Catholic Church and the Society of Mary. It extends hospitality in a spirit of peace and renewal by providing a tranquil, natural environment in which individuals and groups refresh the body, expand the mind and renew the spirit. In the Marianist tradition Bergamo Center offers holistic spiritual formation programs for youth and adults throughout life that deepens self-awareness, develops interior life and elicits a personal and communal faith response to changing times.

Bon Secours Spiritual Center  Marriottsville, Maryland
www.bonsecoursspiritualcenter.org

The Retreat and Conference Center at Bon Secours is a ministry of the Sisters of Bon Secours. Since their religious order officially formed in 1824, the Sisters have strived to provide “good help” to those in need, and compassionate care and concern for all people. Once you experience our warm, comfortable setting we think you’ll agree that the Sisters of Bon Secours are more than fulfilling their mission.

Canossian Spirituality Center  Albuquerque, New Mexico
http://canossianspiritualitycenter.org

The Canossian Daughters of Charity, an international missionary community, established the Canossian Spirituality Center in 1996. The Center is located in Albuquerque, New Mexico and is a ministry of the North American Province. The Spirituality Center is open to church groups, Catholic organizations, ecumenical groups and educational enterprises. Groups may reserve the center for day or overnight programs and retreats. Private and directed retreats are also offered at the Spirituality Center.

Cenacle Retreat and Conference Center  Chicago, Illinois
www.cenaclesisters.org/chicago-retreat-conference-center

The Cenacle is a retreat and conference center designed for religious and secular not-for-profits. We welcome groups and individuals of diverse faiths and provide exceptional services at affordable rates in the heart of Chicago.

Center of Renewal at Stella Niagara  Lewiston, New York
http://www.stellaniagararetreats.org/

The Center of Renewal Retreat & Conference Center at Stella Niagara (COR) is a welcoming interfaith retreat center sponsored by Sisters of St. Francis of Penance & Christian Charity, Holy Name Province. COR operates as a 93-bed day/overnight faith-based facility located on the grounds of Stella Niagara, two miles north of the Village of Lewiston, New York and only ten miles north of majestic Niagara Falls. Having celebrated its 40th year of retreat hospitality in 2014, COR officially opened in July 1974 and has operated year-round since then. The retreat center offers sponsored retreats, values-based programs, faith-based workshops, plus hospitality for retreats and meetings of varying types of organized groups and not-for-profit organizations.
Christ the King Retreat House  Syracuse, New York
http://ctkretreat.com/

Christ the King Retreat House and Conference Center exists to provide an environment and opportunities for spiritual, personal and professional growth, healing and peace. We offer private, directed and preached silent retreats in a peaceful, contemplative setting for clergy, religious and laypersons of all denominations. Christ the King Retreat House and Conference Center is located minutes from downtown Syracuse, New York.

The Dwelling Place  Brooksville, Mississippi
http://www.dwellingplace.com/

The Dwelling Place is a retreat, prayer and small-conference center in east-central Mississippi. Groups from parishes, congregations and other organizations can book our facilities to meet, pray or reflect; overnight lodging is available for up to 14 guests. Prescheduled retreats are listed on our web site and are open to individuals, couples and groups of all denominations. Accommodations are also available for private and directed retreats.

Hesburgh Sabbatical Program (Catholic Theological Union)  Chicago, Illinois
http://www.ctu.edu/about-hesburgh

The Hesburgh Sabbatical Program is a curriculum centered, community based, holistic sabbatical that fosters both personal and professional renewal and provides continuing formation for ministers in the Church. The sabbatical program is based upon the four main components of continuing education: human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral. Weekly theological reflection helps to integrate all the components into the participant’s ministry. Spiritual direction is available, as is participation in a fitness program through the University of Chicago. Participants are also encouraged to join in the many programs and activities at CTU.

Institute for Continuing Theological Education (Pontifical North American College)  Vatican City, Vatican City
http://www.pnac.org/icte/about-icte/

We invite you to come to Rome and walk in the footsteps of some 3,000 priests from all over the English-speaking world who have attended the Institute for Continuing Theological Education at the Pontifical North American College since its beginning in 1971. The Institute is an extraordinary opportunity for priests to study, pray and become zealous disciples of the Lord in a newer and deeper way.

Institute of St. Anselm  Rome, Italy
http://www.st.anselm.org.uk/index.php

As of March 2017, the Institute is moving from Kent, England to Rome, Italy and plans to restart its courses in January of 2018.

Established in 1984, the Institute of Saint Anselm has provided leadership training programmes primarily for Catholic religious communities, congregations and seminaries world-wide. Under the guidance of its Founder/Director, Doctor Leonhard Kofler, the Institute has developed a distinctive portfolio of sound, innovative programmes in leadership expertise and human development, which it offers to religious and non-religious community leaders and facilitators. In addition to leadership training programmes, the Institute offers a Sabbatical Programme.
Loyola House Retreat & Training Centre  Guelph, Ont., Canada
https://ignatiusguelph.ca/loyola-house/

Since 1964, Loyola House has welcomed people of all faiths to deepen their spirituality through retreats and spiritual training. Our Retreat House specializes in Ignatian Spirituality retreats and training programs for spiritual directors. The Spiritual Exercises, a spiritual guide written by Ignatius of Loyola, is the foundation of Ignatian Spirituality. Loyola House has earned an international reputation for its work in Ignatian Spirituality and the adaptation of the Exercises to address themes including community, ecology, and promoting greater awareness and healing action for Earth. The Retreat House is also used as the venue for groups leading their own retreats and as an outstanding location for business conferences, meetings and special events.

Marianist Retreat & Conference Center  Wildwood, Missouri
http://mretreat.org/

The Marianist Retreat & Conference Center, is sponsored by the Society of Mary in the Catholic Christian tradition. We are located in southwest St. Louis county in beautiful Wildwood, Missouri. For the enrichment of the Church and the Marianist Family, the Marianist Retreat & Conference Center offers a wide range of retreat and educational experiences to a rapidly changing American society. Our programs aim to encourage all of God’s people to be more open to the Holy Spirit and to become more closely united to Christ and his Gospel. Moreover, our programs seek to enable a deepening of faith, a growth in prayer, and a commitment to personal mission, leading to the building of God’s Kingdom on earth.

Marillac Center  Leavenworth, Kansas
http://www.scls.org/Marillac-Center/Home.aspx

Marillac Center, established in the spirit of the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, provides an environment of prayer, peace, hope and transformation. Through this center, located adjacent to the Sisters of Charity Mother House, the Sisters share their holy ground, their story and charism with those who seek to grow spiritually and deepen their quest for God. Retreats, conferences, spiritual, holistic and educational programs are offered through Marillac Center. Guests are received in a spirit of hospitality offered in humility, simplicity and charity.

Mayslake Ministries  Downers Grove, Illinois
http://www.mayslakeministries.org/

Formerly known as the St. Francis Retreat House in Oak Brook, Illinois, Mayslake Ministries is a lay led 501.c.3 Catholic/Christian Not-for Profit Spirituality Center founded by Fr. Jonathan Foster, OFM, in 1991 as a “retreat house without walls.” Since 1991, Mayslake Ministries has served the spiritual needs of Christian/Catholic adult men and women from all walks of life, providing multiple spiritual opportunities for people who seek a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. Our programs and services are sanctioned by the Archdiocese of Chicago, the Dioceses of Joliet and Rockford, IL and include: Spiritual direction, weekend retreats, adult enrichment programs, grief support, veteran’s ministry, caregiver’s ministry, and more.

Mercy Center Burlingame  Burlingame, California
http://mercy-center.org/

Welcome to Mercy Center Burlingame, a ministry of the Sisters of Mercy. Our peaceful grounds and lovely retreat center, located on a 40-acre site 15 miles south of San Francisco, provide an inviting place to hold your nonprofit conference. Our programs are known for their excellence in contemplative spirituality. The labyrinth,
meditation garden, chapel, and book and gift shop are usually available to tour, but we request advance notice for longer visits, and require reservations for overnight stays.

**Mercy Center for Healing the Whole Person (Retreat)**  Colorado Springs, Colorado  
[www.mercycenter.com](http://www.mercycenter.com)

The Mercy Center for Healing the Whole Person is dedicated to an eclectic and whole-person approach to healing and wholeness and prides itself on the intimate dialogue maintained between the physical, emotional, psychological, spiritual and social dynamics of each person who come to seek personal healing and well-being. Each member of our staff is trained in one or more areas of expertise. Our community life revolves around shared prayer, Eucharist, meals, outings to local sites throughout the state of Colorado, reading, study time, small group sharing, class time and various retreat experiences.

**Ministry to Ministers Sabbatical Program (Oblate School of Theology)**  San Antonio, Texas  
[https://ost.edu/ministry-to-ministers-program/](https://ost.edu/ministry-to-ministers-program/)

A sabbatical experience for priests, religious women and men and lay ministers who have been engaged in pastoral ministry for a number of years. Note: The website is updated as sabbaticals are developed.

**Nemi Renewal Center (Centro Ad Gentes)**  Nemi, Italy  
[http://www.adgentes.net/index.html](http://www.adgentes.net/index.html)

In the light of St. Arnold Janssen’s vision for periodic religious missionary renewal, the Centro Ad Gentes aims to serve as a venue for ongoing formation for Divine Word Missionaries, members of the Arnoldus Family, their mission partners, and for lay people, religious, and clerics, as a Church called to share in the mission of Jesus, the Word Incarnate.

**New Directions Sabbatical (Jesuit School of Theology at Santa Clara University)**  Berkeley, California  
[https://www.scu.edu/jst/academics/special-programs/new-directions-sabbatical/](https://www.scu.edu/jst/academics/special-programs/new-directions-sabbatical/)

New Directions is the sabbatical program of the Jesuit School of Theology (JST) in Berkeley, California. It is the only organized Jesuit sabbatical program in North America. New Directions is of one or two semester’s duration, according to individual preference, and offers priests, religious and laity the flexibility to design their sabbatical in a variety of ways. Your fellow participants are persons with many years of ministerial experience, and like you desire to integrate that rich background so as to be refreshed for the challenges of the 21st century global world and church. At JST they find a vital balance of relaxation in the beautiful San Francisco Bay Area; renewal in human formation, theology and spirituality; a remarkable student body of more than 100 clergy, religious and laity from over 35 countries; and a vibrant worship community in the Roman Catholic tradition.

**Norbertine Hermitage Retreat**  Albuquerque, New Mexico  

The Norbertine Hermitage Retreat, encompassing 70 acres of desert on the secluded west mesa in Albuquerque’s South Valley, offers space for individuals and groups in an atmosphere of quiet, solitude and contemplation. For decades, people of diverse faith traditions have come to this holy ground to pray, experience the beauty and simplicity of the desert, and be renewed in spirit for the journey ahead. Many guests find that the silence, natural environment, native animals, sunny days and starry nights become spiritual directors for them during their time here. Often, people who come here experience a felt sense of “deep calling unto deep.”
Prairiewoods Franciscan Spirituality Center  Hiawatha, Iowa
http://prairiewoods.org/

Prairiewoods Franciscan Spirituality Center is a sacred space where people of all faiths and cultures are invited to explore and nurture their relationships with the Source of all Being, Earth, Self and Others, with an increasing awareness of the story of the Universe. From Green Cleaning Practices to Spring Seed Starting to Creative Art Workshops, Prairiewoods is a great source for education, enlightenment and entertainment! Prairiewoods is sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, a Catholic community.

The Retreat Center of Saint Benedict's Abbey  Benet Lake, Wisconsin
http://www.benetlake.org/retreat-center/

The Retreat Center of Saint Benedict's Abbey, Benet Lake, Wisconsin, exists for only one purpose: To serve you the Retreatant as you strive to develop a more intimate relationship with the Ultimate Concern of life - God. We are Benedictine monks living in a monastic fraternity under the guidance and inspiration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ as shaped by the Holy Rule of Saint Benedict. This monastery, founded in March, 1945, has from the beginning welcomed retreatants into its life and prayer. This "welcoming" is always shaped by the needs of those who come. For this reason, what we do has changed over these many years. However, within the change a core value remains, that we strive to love God and neighbor with all we have and are.

Sabbatical Programs at Saint Meinrad  St. Meinrad, Indiana
http://www.saintmeinrad.edu/priests-ongoing-formation/mini-sabbatical/

For priests at midlife, Saint Meinrad's Institute for Priests and Presbyterates has an integrated four-week sabbatical program to help you relax, recreate and recharge your spiritual life, update and expand your theological intellect, and renew your fire for pastoral ministry.

Saint Benedict Center (Christ the King Priory)  Schuyler, Nebraska
https://christthekingpriory.com/sbcabout/

Saint Benedict Center, an oasis of peace, is a non-profit, ecumenical retreat and conference center founded by the Missionary Benedictines of Christ the King Priory. As Benedictines we share our hospitality and spirituality with those who search for personal and spiritual growth. We welcome individuals and groups of all Christian denominations as they seek God in a peaceful and quiet setting. We provide an atmosphere that is conducive to prayer, rest, and renewal for laity, clergy and religious. The facility sits on 160 acres of farmland across the road from Christ the King Priory in Schuyler. We offer a place of retreat for seekers of God and for people who are tired of living in a noisy world and want to be alone in order to listen to the Lord.

San Alfonso Retreat House  Long Branch, New Jersey
http://sanalfonsoretreats.org/

San Alfonso Retreat House is a Redemptorist spirituality center, situated on eight beautiful acres overlooking the vast Atlantic Ocean. Its outdoor shrines, prayer garden, green lawn, beautiful chapels, and comfortable accommodations have been “HOLY GROUND” for laity, religious, and clergy for almost 90 years. It is truly a place to experience the presence of God and to reflect on the action of God in one’s life. Various retreats are held throughout the year—retreats for the laity; Men's Retreats, Women's Retreats and Couple's Retreats. We have programs for the clergy and religious; Priest Retreats, Deacon Retreats, Sister's Retreats and our Summer Clergy Institute.
Santa Sabina Center  San Rafael, California
http://www.santasabinacenter.org/

The Center and our staff are dedicated to providing sacred space in a beautiful environment for groups and individuals to experience contemplative ways of being. We offer our own retreats; provide time and space for private retreatants; and host groups of other faith traditions that are themselves programs compatible with our mission. Grounded in the Dominican monastic heritage and aware of the primary revelation of the divine in the natural world, the Center provides a space of beauty, simplicity and silence for people of all faiths to enter more deeply into spiritual practice.

School of Applied Theology  Oakland, California
www.satgtu.org

Welcome to the School of Applied Theology (SAT), an urban oasis in the San Francisco Bay Area, and an affiliate of the Graduate Theological Union (GTU), in Berkeley. With nearly six decades of serving thousands of laity, priests, deacons, and men and women religious, SAT is more aware than ever of the need of all people, from diverse walks of life—whether working in the home, in the church, or in the world—to take a break. Whether you come to SAT from the local area or from around the globe, seeking Sabbatical for a day, a week, a month, or a semester or two, it is our mission to offer you a holistic Sabbath experience of attentive rest, theological renewal, and spiritual transformation.

Spiritual Ministry Center  San Diego, California
https://rscj.org/spiritual-ministry-center

The Spiritual Ministry Center in San Diego, California was founded by the Religious of the Sacred Heart (RSCJ) in 1987. Located just 15 minutes from the airport and city center, the RSCJ who staff the Spiritual Ministry Center offer low-key hospitality and a respectful and peaceful environment for spiritual reflection and growth. At our quiet, residential townhouses, our spiritual directors offer short or long retreats, spiritual direction, the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius and a variety of spiritual programs. The staff is available for off-site programs and retreats of various types.

Springbank Retreat  Kingstree, South Carolina
www.springbankretreat.org

Springbank Christian Center - Dominican Retreat House, also known as simply "Springbank Retreat", has been staffed and supported by the Adrian Dominican Sisters continuously for over 21 years. Strongly rooted in its Catholic foundation, aided by its Ecumenical Board of Directors, the Center extends its Christian hand to people of all faiths. Springbank offers four, eight, and twelve week sabbatical programs designed to provide a healing and supportive environment for those in transition, those in need of spiritual and physical renewal, and those seeking new ways of being in relationship and ritual with Earth, self, and all beings. Encounter new sources of hope and a deepening of your spiritual journey in an atmosphere anchored in simplicity and love of Earth contributing to the transformation of human consciousness.

Tantur Ecumenical Institute  Jerusalem, Israel
http://tantur.org/

Tantur has developed several different Programs and Special Courses to serve those seeking to deepen their understanding of this land, its history, its culture, its people and their own faith. The Continuing Education
Programs are designed for those who are members of a Christian community, whether as priests, pastors, educators or lay people. These programs range in length from three weeks (the Easter Encounter) to three months. The Scholar’s Program is designed for junior and senior scholars, without regard to religious affiliation, who are either writing their dissertations, or who are on sabbatical and desire to research and/or write on a topic integrally connected to this land, whether religious, historical, political or cultural.

Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center  Villa Maria, Pennsylvania
www.vmesc.org

Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center (VMESC) provides and promotes educational and spiritual experiences in a unique setting for people of all ages, faiths, and economic status. VMESC is a sacred setting where God’s grace is nurtured and abundant life unfolds. We seek to inspire lifelong learning and growth through relationships with God, others, self, and Earth. Our program offerings include retreats and other spiritual growth opportunities for adults and youth. We are also delighted to provide space and hospitality to hosted groups for meetings, conferences, and other events.

Thanks to the Society of the Divine Word • Chicago Province • Techny, Illinois for the information provided above.
Additional Sabbatical Program Opportunities

**ROME**
- The Institute for Continuing Theological Education is offered by the North American College, Rome. [www.pnac.org](http://www.pnac.org).
More than 2,300 priests have attended the Institute since its inauguration in 1971. The Institute offers two twelve-week theological renewal programs for priests each year: Fall and Spring Semesters.

**BELGIUM**
- American College of Louvain, Leuven, Belgium
Sabbatical programs from one to nine months as well as full degree programs.
Semester sabbatical students are also entitled to participate in two-week Sedes Sapientiae program.

**ENGLAND**
- Hawkstone Hall, Shrewsbury, England
Three sabbatics per year, 1 X 10 weeks and 2 X 12 weeks
- St Bueno's, North Wales
Three-month program in apostolic spirituality or 10-week course in the practice of retreat and spiritual direction
Email: StBuenos@aol.com

**IRELAND**
- All Hallows, Ireland
"Renewal for Ministry" sabbatical programs of one, three, six or twelve month’s duration: [http://www.allhallows.ie/programmes/adultcommunity/renewal-for-ministry.html](http://www.allhallows.ie/programmes/adultcommunity/renewal-for-ministry.html)
- Marianella, Dublin, Ireland
A centre for study and renewal:
Three month and one month renewal programs and 1 & 2 week summer schools
- Milltown Institute, Dublin

**ISRAEL**
- Tantur Ecumenical Institute, Jerusalem, Israel
Four weeks, six weeks and three month long programs offered.
- Ecce Homo Convent, Jerusalem, Israel
Courses to study the Bible through text and excursions to explore the Land

**SCOTLAND**
- St Mary's Kinnoull, Perth, Scotland
Redemptorist International Renewal Centre offering a 7-week program

**USA**
- The Institute for Spirituality & Worship, Berkeley, USA
One or Two Semester Sabbatical Program
- Institute of Pastoral Studies, Chicago, Chicago, USA
Located at Loyola University. Sabbaticals of one semester length.
- Oblate School of Theology, San Antonio, Texas, USA
"Ministry to Ministers” residential, sabbatical four months program
- La Salle Sangre de Cristo Center, New Mexico, USA
100 days Sabbatical Program. February & September
- Jesuit School of Theology, Berkeley, California
Wide range of courses
- School of Applied Theology (SAT) Berkeley, California
1 or 2 Semester Sabbaticals. Choice of modules - no written assignments
Congregation of the Mission (Vincentians)

**List of continuing education opportunities**

- **Sangre de Cristo, New Mexico**
  Three-month program run by the De La Salle brothers

- **Weston Jesuit School of Theology, Cambridge MA**
  1 or 2 semester programs

- **Vatican II Institute, Menlo Park, California**
  Three-month program run alongside St Patrick's Seminary
  Email: vat2ins@aol.com

- **The Mercy Centre**
  The Mercy Centre for Healing the Whole Person runs three-month sabbatical programs
  Email: themercycenter@aol.com

- **Heythrop College, University of London, England**
  Offers degrees in Philosophy and Theology

**Australia**

**St Clements Retreat Centre**
St Clement’s Retreat Centre offers structured Retreats for clergy, religious and lay people as well as the chance to simply “come aside to a quiet place and rest awhile”. A retreat can be as short as one day, a weekend or several weeks.
- PHONE: (02) 6380 5222
- FAX: (02) 6386 7353
- EMAIL: info@stclement.com.au
St Mary’s Towers
Douglas Park
Run by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (MSCs), in spacious grounds about 2 hours south of Sydney.
Contact: (02) 4630 9159 or (02) 4630 9232
towersretreat.abundance.org.au

**Heart of Life Spirituality Centre**
7 Nortons Lane, Wantima Sth (Melbourne)
Website: www.heartoflife.catholicau.com

**Campion Centre**
Run by the Jesuits in Kew, Melbourne, the Campion Centre offers an extensive range of programs and retreats.
Contact: (03) 9854 8110
campion_retreat@iprimus.com.au

**Marymount Mercy Centre**
Runs three and six month programs each year. The main areas of content are:
Theology and Mission, Scripture and Personal & Spiritual Development
www.marymount.com.au

**St Joseph's - Baulkham Hills**
Run by the Sisters of St Joseph who are happy to arrange mini-sabbaticals, retreats or study sessions.
64 MacKillop Drive, Baulkham Hills NSW
Contact: Sr Patricia
Stevenson patricia.stevenson@sosj.org.au
Tel: (02) 9634 2317 | Fax (02) 9899 4249

**Personal Renewal for Ministry**
The Presentation Spirituality Centre (Manly Qld) offers a 4 week renewal program for women and men engaged in ministry.
This program offers opportunities for prayer, study, spiritual direction, personal growth and integration, recreation and renewal activities.
It would suit people who are changing ministries, who are in transition, or who are looking to revitalise their present work. It could also be incorporated into a longer sabbatical program.
The Centre overlooks beautiful Moreton Bay and is close to the cities of Brisbane and the Gold Coast.
Website: http://www.pbvm.org.au/pscmanly/program.html
Further information can be obtained by contacting the Coordinator:
Places to Study in Australia

Details of the following Australian Educational Centres can be accessed by clicking each of the Websites below.

- Yarra Theological Union - Box Hill, Victoria
- Melbourne College of Divinity
- Australian Catholic University - Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra, Ballarat
- Brisbane College of Theology
- Catholic Institute of Sydney - Strathfield, Sydney
- Catholic Theological College - East Melbourne

New Zealand

Places for Study and Formation in New Zealand

- Renewal Program for clergy in Mosgiel (Dunedin), New Zealand.

Topics to be covered include prayer, preaching, the Gospel of Mark, psycho-sexuality, transitions, etc.

For more information contact Fr Mark Chamberlain machamberlain@hotmail.com or +64 (03) 488 2577

Thanks to the Clergy Life and Ministry of Australia for the information provided above.