

# God is Your Center

## A Contemplative Retreat

Begins evening of March 2, 2018 ends at noon on March 4, 2018

Loyola Marymount University, 1 LMU Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90045

St. John of the Cross says it simply: "God is your center." In our own time, Howard Thurman, the famous preacher and mentor to Martin Luther King, Jr., has realized the very same truth: "There is in each of us an uncreated element." Neither John of the Cross nor Howard Thurman are saying anything original. Each has simply seen through the illusion of separation from God. Union with God is not something any of us needs to acquire. It only needs to be realized. By means of self-forgetful release into the practice of contemplation, the illusion of separation from God is dispelled. We become so silent before God that the "before" drops away. Through times spent together in silent prayer, conferences, and discussion, we shall consider the subtle difficulties we meet in something so simple as stillness and consider why the sense of being separate from God is so convincing.

**SCHEDULE.** This is a commuting retreat beginning on Friday, March 2 from 7pm to 9pm; Saturday, March 3 from 9am to 4pm; and Sunday, March 4 from 9 am to 12pm. The the celebration of a Sunday Contemplative Eucharist is included in the schedule.

Fr. Martin Laird, O.S.A. is Professor of Early Christian Studies at Villanova University. Among his published works are: *Into the Silent Land*; *A Sunlit Absence*; and the forthcoming, *An Ocean of Light* (all from Oxford University Press).

This event is organized in partnership with:



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE CENTER FOR RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY AT (310) 338-2799