

A ROADMAP TO EXPLORING CENTERING PRAYER

You are warmly invited to explore the tools below to support and deepen your new practice of Centering Prayer. We wish you many blessings on your journey!

To access a PDF file containing the live links shown below, click here: https://contemplativeoutreachnova.com/roadmap

- 1) Download "The Method of Centering Prayer" Brochure here.
- 2) Attend an "Introduction to Centering Prayer" Program, which consists of two parts: an Introductory Workshop (1½ hr. on-line) and four to six Continuing Sessions (approx. 1 hr. ea.). If you can find a local or on-line group that is offering this live, wonderful! Otherwise, you can find some self-paced on-line options here.
- 3) **Practice two 20-30-minute periods of Centering Prayer daily**. You may find Contemplative Outreach's "Centering Prayer" App helpful (downloadable from your app store).
- 4) **Some wonderful books to start with:** Thomas Keating *Open Mind Open Heart* by Thomas Keating, *Forty Days to a Closer Walk with God* by David Muyskens, *and "Invitation to Love"* by Thomas Keating. There are many, many more!
- 5) **Join a weekly Centering Prayer group**. You can find ones in Northern Virginia here. At the bottom of that page there is a link to the on-line "Meditation Chapel" where you will find CP groups offered via Zoom at various times all day long. You will find welcome and support in any group. Additional resources:

Online Meditation Chapel

12-Step Outreach Centering Prayer

Video Series on Contemplative Dimension of the 12 Steps

Younger Contemplatives

Closer Than Breath

- 6) **Sign up receive to "Centering Prayer One" emails....** a daily email with introductory teachings to support your new practice. Its content repeats every 6 months; you can repeat as often as you like or move on to the "Centering Prayer Two" group when you wish.
- 7) **Listen to this podcast: "Opening Minds, Opening Hearts"** Offered by Contemplative Outreach Ltd, for both the curious meditator and longtime practitioner of Centering Prayer. Click <u>here</u> to listen to a trailer and access the episodes.
- 8) Try out a 40-day Praxis

"Centering Prayer, Prayer of Consent, a 40-Day Praxis" This beautiful, 131-page booklet contains 40 days of daily teachings and practices may help the start of your journey.



9) View "The Spiritual Journey" Program

This series is the foundation of the teaching legacy of Fr. Thomas Keating. Portions of it are often offered on multi-day Intensive Retreats.

A self-paced version of the program is available <u>here</u> for free: it includes 100 session-narratives, each with art, Scripture, meditations, practice suggestions, video and audio references, and additional resources for further study. Watch <u>here</u> for availability of this same course offered occasionally through CONOVA.

A live online Spiritual Journey program is offered annual by Contemplative Outreach of Colorado.

10) Explore the Support Practices

These practices help translate the effects of Centering Prayer into daily life:

Lectio Divina
Active Prayer Practice
Welcoming Prayer

Guard of the Heart

Forgiveness Prayer

11) Attend a Retreat

On the <u>Contemplative Outreach events calendar</u> you can find many retreat listings. You can search for "Weekend" or other types of longer retreats. An "Intensive" retreat (6+ days) is recommended for people who have completed the Introductory Workshop and who have a regular practice of Centering Prayer. "Post-Intensives" Retreats are for those people who have previously made an Intensive Retreat. The Post-Intensives offer increased silence and additional periods of Centering Prayer. Often both types are offered over the same retreat week.

12) Explore the Contemplative Outreach Ltd Website:

Click <u>here</u> for some of the many resources to be found there.