# Contemplative Pilgrimage To Ireland

October 4-16, 2017



Led by: Glenn Mitchell and Kiran Young Wimberly

This program is funded by Oasis Ministries for Spiritual Development, Inc.

419 Deerfield Road, CampHill, PA 17011 (717) 737-8222 www.oasismin.org



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Theimaginativeconservative.org

Henry David Thoreau (1817 – 1862) once wrote: "I have never found a companion that was so companionable as solitude."

Led by Glenn Mitchell and Kiran Young Wimberly, this pilgrimage includes visits to the sites of ancient and modern Christian communities in Ireland, from the eastern monastic city of Glendalough, founded in the 6<sup>th</sup> century and nestled in the quiet beauty of the Wicklow Mountains, to the wind-swept, wild Aran Islands off the western coast, where early Irish spiritual leaders retreated for refuge and refreshment. At the heart of this pilgrimage is a 5-day guided retreat at a recently refurbished retreat center on a farm overlooking the western Irish coastline, located near the stunning heritage site, the Cliffs of Moher. During this 5-day stay, retreatants will find opportunities for inner stillness, a tech-free environment, spiritual direction sessions, farm-fresh meals cooked on site, options for yoga classes and other holistic treatments. In keeping with the ancient model within Celtic Christianity of retreating into nature for refuge and refreshment, on this pilgrimage you will find rest for your soul, as well as replenishment for your body, mind and heart.

15 people sharing

Cost is \$2752.00/ person

Pilgrimage Package-

\*\*\$79.00 extra for a single room for each night/ limited availability Includes 12 days/ 11 nights

Included in this package: accommodation for 11 nights/12 days, transport throughout your stay, meals as indicated, local guides at Glendalough and the Aran Islands, and two spiritual guides to accompany you on your journey.

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#### **Terms and Conditions**

Oasis Ministries for Spiritual Development, Inc., offering these travel arrangements for sale, acts only as an independent agent in securing the services of the hotels, guides, transportation companies and suppliers. Because of its status as an independent agent and because it maintains no control over personnel, equipment or operations of the travel service suppliers, Oasis Ministries for Spiritual Development, Inc., shall not be held liable for loss or any personal injury in connection with sightseeing, non-tour excursions, restaurants, foods, consumption of alcoholic beverages, property damage, loss of any personal item, baggage or other losses incurred. No alcoholic beverages are included in the tour cost unless otherwise indicated. Oasis Ministries for Spiritual Development, Inc., reserves the right to refuse to accept or retain any passengers on any tour at any time. Reasonable changes in the itinerary may be made where deemed advisable for the comfort and well being of the passengers. All services are subject to the law of the country in which these services are rendered. Upon occasion some destinations are unsuitable or particularly challenging for persons with disabilities. It is the responsibility of the traveler to make arrangements for any special needs associated with their disability or health condition. By booking travel arrangements with Oasis Ministries for Spiritual Development, Inc. I declare that I am in sufficient physical condition to undertake the travel for which I have applied. I assume all risks associated with my physical condition and I hold Oasis Ministries for Spiritual Development, Inc. harmless from liability for any accident, injury or health problem, which might occur on this tour.

<u>CANCELLATION and CHANGE POLICY</u> (excludes all non-refundable deposits /payments): All changes/cancellations must be made in writing.

# **PAYMENTS DUE:**

January 15, 2017: \$600.00 deposit (\$250 non-refundable) to confirm space Proof of Travel Insurance due at time of deposit. If waiving travel insurance, be sure to indicate this through your signature at the designated spot on the registration form.

June 1, 2017: Payment in full.

Payments can be made via check (made payable to Oasis Ministries) or via credit card completing the section on the registration form.



OASIS MINISTRIES FOR SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT, INC. 419 Deerfield Road, Camp Hill, PA 17011

Tele: 717.737.8222 oasismin@oasismin.org www.oasismin.org

# Registration for OASIS PILGRIMAGE TO Ireland October 4-16, 2017

TODAY'S DATE:	BIRTHDATE:
NAME: Rev / Dr / Mr / N	Mrs / Ms
ADDRESS:	(Street)
	(City, State, Zip)
TEL: home ()	alternate ()
E-MAIL (please print):	
	imited availability, additional fee)  D PERSON IN ROOM:- Rev / Dr / Mr / Mrs / Ms
	per person double occupancy
0 11	plement extra, Call for arrangements
<b>PAYMENTS:</b> January 15, 2017 - \$600.0 June 1, 2017 - Final Paye	00 deposit \$250.00 is non-refundable (to confirm space) ment (\$2152.00)
•	derstand "Terms and Conditions" on back page:
	Signature
purchased through our recom	s Ministries highly advises travel insurance whether mendations or another source. Travel insurance is expected t the time of deposit, unless you sign below that you are
I (we) <u>decline</u> travel insurance:	
Please send payments to:	To pay by Visa/MC/Discover: Card#:
Oasis Ministries for Spiritual Development 419 Deerfield Road Camp Hill, PA 17011	Exp/(mo/yr) 3-digit Sec.Code: Amount to charge: \$

# **Transport:**

Coach hire as per the itinerary includes meals and accommodation for the Driver
Ferry crossing to and from the Aran Islands
Minibus use on the Aran Islands, including
a tour of the main island, Inismór

# Meals:

Breakfast provided each morning at all accommodations
Self-service breakfast provided at the Cliffs of Moher Retreat House
Evening meals provided in all accommodations

Cliffs of Moher Retreat House Includes:

2 Vegetarian meals, including daily brunch (11:30am) and dinner (7:30pm) Early morning self-service breakfast

Tea, fresh coffee and filtered water available all day
Nearby shop available – serving healthy snacks, gifts, clothes and more
Wellness area including Sauna & Hot Tub available, which clients can pay
for separately at checkout

Treatments: a selection of holistic treatments such as massage, etc. for an extra cost

Cliffs of Moher within easy access by foot or taxi (https://www.cliffsofmoher.ie/)

# **Admission Fees to the Following Attractions:**

Book of Kells – Trinity College, Dublin (http://www.tcd.ie/library/manuscripts/book-of-kells.php)

Glendalough Visitor's Center – Glendalough, Co. Wicklow (http://visitwicklow.ie/attractions/glendalough-visitor-centre/)

Solas Bhride – a community of Brigidine sisters in Co. Kildare (http://solasbhride.ie/)

Dun Aengus – Inis Mór, Aran Islands (http://www.aranislands.ie/dun-aonghasa-2/)
"Na Seacht dTeampaill" or Seven Churches – Inis Mór, Aran Islands (http://
www.aranislands.ie/na-seacht-dteampaill-the-seven-churches/)

# **Local Experts**

Father Michael Rodgers – Glendalough, Co. Wicklow Sister Mary Minehan Padraigin Clancy – Inis Mór, Aran Islands Cyril O'Flaherty – Inis Mór, Aran Islands

# **Spiritual Guides**

Glenn Mitchell Kiran Young Wimberly

## THE PRICE OF THE TOUR INCLUDES:

- Transportation from the Dublin airport on 10/5/17 to Glendalough hotel and return to the Shannon airport 10/16/17.
- Lodging accommodations at Glendalough Hotel (two nights).
   Cliffs of Moher Retreat House (6 nights).
   Kilmurvey House, Aran Islands (2 nights).
   Park Inn Shannon (1 night)
- Breakfast and dinner at all lodgings.
- Paid admission to Book of Kells, Glendalough visitor's center, Solas Bhride, Dun Aengus, and Seven churches.
- All tips and portage except final day driver tipping.
- Leadership of Glenn Mitchell and Kiran Young Wimberly

# **Trip Does Not Include:**

- Air transportation to Dublin airport and out of Shannon Airport
- Ground transportation to and from airport if at times other than group travel.
- Any meals on the way to or from the airport.
- A single room at any of the accommodations. This is \$79.00 extra for each night.

#### PILGRIMAGE PRICE & PAYMENTS SCHEDULE:

# Tour Price: \$2,752.00 per person.

January 15, 2017: \$600.00 per person deposit (\$250.00 non-refundable) to confirm space. First come, first served. *Space is limited to 15 participants.* June 1, 2017 \$2152.00: Balance due

#### Notes:

Secure travel insurance by the time you make deposit to insure full coverage.

# <u>TRAVEL INSURANCE – It's expected:</u>

Insurance premium is dependent on total length and price of your tour. Oasis Ministries highly advises travel insurance for your security. If you do not have a travel agent, Oasis recommends purchasing travel insurance through AAA (they can do it over the phone).

#### TRIP CONTACTS:

Rev. Glenn Mitchell (814)574-0723 (home); glenn@likeafeather.com Betsy Keller at Oasis Ministries (717)737-8222; oasismin@oasismin.org; www.oasismin.org



Rev. Glenn Mitchell, M. Div., is the Executive Director for Oasis Ministries and a lead teacher in Spiritual Direction for Spiritual Guides (since 1996). Glenn has a practice of spiritual direction in the State College, PA area. He is a Shalem graduate and has a passion for mysticism, working in wood, making books, and the intersection of contemplation and life.



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#### **About Our Local Guides**



#### Pádraigín Clancy

Pádraigín Clancy is a graduate of Irish Folklore and History from the National University of Ireland, Dublin. She has a keen interest in Celtic Christian Spirituality and has lectured and facilitated retreats throughout Ireland, Britain, USA and Australia. She is qualified in Spiritual Direction and holds a HDip in Theological Studies. Drawn to the Aran Islands because of its unique landscape and Gaelic heritage, she has made it her home since 1990. There, she has documented an

extensive collection of Island folklore towards her PHD.

Pádraigín contributes frequently to Irish national radio and television. She is editor and co-author of 'Celtic Threads: Exploring the Wisdom of our Heritage' (Dublin 1999) and among other essays she has contributed the Irish Spirituality entry to 'A New Cambridge Dictionary of Christian Spirituality '(ed) Philip Sheldrake (SCM 2006). Pádraigín was a speaker at the Eucharistic Congress in Dublin, Ireland in 2012. She enjoys playing the Tin Whistle and Irish dancing.



# Cyril O'Flaherty

Cyril is a native of Árainn (Inis Mór), the largest of the Aran Islands, Galway. He has studied the heritage of the island for many years and is renowned as an expert on the island's history, features and legends. Cyril is also a successful artist and finds the inspiration for his work in the island landscape



# Rev. Kiran Young Wimberly

Kiran is a Presbyterian minister, spiritual director, folk musician, and pilgrimage leader. She lived for over six years in Northern Ireland, working with churches and linking international pilgrims with Celtic Christian heritage and reconciliation work through pilgrimages, retreats, sabbaticals, and study tours. She accompanies groups on their journeys as a spiritual guide, offering insight from the Celtic Christian tradition, pastoral support, daily worship, and formal or informal spiritual direction to help pilgrims

get the most out of their experience and apply learnings to their daily lives at home. Kiran was trained at Princeton Theological Seminary (MDiv, ThM) and Oasis Ministries (Spiritual Direction), has served in congregational ministry in North America and Northern Ireland, and has three young children.

# Contemplative Pilgrimage to Ireland

October 4-16, 2017 Itinerary Outline

# DAY ZERO: October 4th, Wednesday

Evening: Depart from US to Dublin

# DAY ONE: October 5th, Thursday

**Morning**: Arrive Dublin (usually in the early morning). Drive into Dublin for a short tour (including Book of Kells http://www.bbc.com/culture/story/20160425-the-book-of-kells-medieval-europes-greatest-treasure) and lunch. **Afternoon**: Travel about an hour outside of Dublin to Glendalough Monastic

City <a href="http://www.sacred-destinations.com/ireland/glendalough">http://www.sacred-destinations.com/ireland/glendalough</a>

Evening: Dinner at accommodation. Opening group time, early to bed. **Accommodation**: Glendalough Hotel <a href="http://www.glendaloughhotel.com/">http://www.glendaloughhotel.com/</a>

#### DAY TWO: October 6th, Friday

**Morning**: Walking Tour of Glendalough with Father Michael Rodgers of Tearmann Spirituality Centre (http://www.tearmann.ie/). Lunch at hotel.

**Afternoon**: Rest or explore.

Evening: Dinner at accommodation. Group time.

## DAY THREE: October 7th, Saturday

Morning and afternoon: Depart for Retreat House (possibly <a href="http://www.cliffsofmoherretreat.com/">http://www.cliffsofmoherretreat.com/</a>) in Galway area (approx. 5 hr drive). En route, visit Brigidine sisters (Solas Bhride, <a href="http://solasbhride.ie/">http://solasbhride.ie/</a>). Stop for lunch at a restaurant.

Evening: Dinner at accommodation. Group time.

#### DAY FOUR: October 8th, Sunday

RETREAT DAY 1

#### DAY FIVE: October 9th, Monday

**RETREAT DAY 2** 

#### DAY SIX: October 10th, Tuesday

RETREAT DAY 3

## DAY SEVEN: October 11th, Wednesday

**RETREAT DAY 4** 

# DAY EIGHT: October 12th, Thursday

**RETREAT DAY 5** 

#### DAY NINE: October 13th, Friday

**Morning:** Travel by ferry to Inis Mór, the largest of the Aran Islands. Meet Padraigin Clancy (http://www.iec2012.ie/index.jsp?p=108&n=144&a=1878). Lunch in town.

**Afternoon**: Arrive at Kilmurvey guesthouse. Rest or explore.

http://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotel Review-g551521-d218064-Reviews-

Kilmurvey House-Inish-

more Aran Islands County Galway Western Ireland.html)

Evening: Dinner at Kilmurvey. Group time.

#### DAY TEN: October 14th, Saturday

**Morning**: Walking tour with Cyril O'Flaherty, native islander.

Afternoon: Lunch on own at nearby café. Optional: continue on tour with Cyril.

Bikes also optional.

**Evening**: Dinner at Kilmurvey. Group time.

# DAY ELEVEN: October 15th, Sunday

Morning: Depart Aran for Galway

**Afternoon:** Free time in Galway city (<a href="http://www.galwaycity.ie/">http://www.galwaycity.ie/</a>).

Accommodation near Shannon airport. **Evening**: Closing Dinner. Group time.

#### DAY TWELVE: October 16th, Monday

Morning: Depart from Shannon airport to US.

Afternoon (US time): Arrive in US.



South William Street, Dublin

# **About Our Local Guides**



# Fr. Michael Rodgers

Founder and Director of Tearmann Centre, Michael Rodgers returned to Ireland after twenty years missionary service to serve on his congregation's leadership team. During this time he began to explore his own roots, a journey that led him eventually to mystical Glendalough. He spent much time exploring the valley and its story.

People heard about him and began requesting accompanied walks. He found that as they walked together individual stories quite spontaneously emerged, and in the way of pilgrimage the listening ear they would receive and offer became an important part of the experience. It became apparent that there was a hunger in people for a more natural and soulful expression of spirituality, and for opportunities for the companionship of like-minded souls.

Michael encourages an experiential approach that incorporates history, legend, spirituality, Christian tradition and awareness of nature and the environment. Michael is the co-author of the following books: A Celtic Pilgrimage. [Columba Press. 1996] and Glendalough, A Celtic Soul Journey. [Ciúnas Books. 2003]



## Sr. Mary Minehan

Sr. Mary Minehan is one of the Brigidine Sisters living at Solas Bhride, a Christian Centre for Celtic Spirituality in Kildare, which opened twenty years ago. Her life is dedicated to the work of Cairde Bhríde, the Catholic Order of St. Brigid that embraces both the Christian Saint and Goddess aspect of Brigid. Sr. Mary grew up in Puckane, a

small country village where she was boarded at a private boarding school and the Brigidine secondary school in Mountrath. During her last year in secondary school, on a retreat, she had a revelation to become a Brigidine sister. She joined the convent and lived sacredly dedicated to God and Brigid at the Novitiate in Tullow. From there she became a teacher and worked in various Brigidine schools around the country before ending up in Kildare in 1992. She chose Kildare upon being asked to come there to explore her Celtic Heritage and to reclaim Brigid of Kildare for the new millennium. Sister Mary was first exposed to Brigid at an early age through her grandmother who used to make Brigid's crosses with rushes. She remembers her mother's leg ulcer being cured by Brigid and came to know her as Brigid the Healer and Brigid the Protector.