

## Welcome to our Winter NEWSLETTER!

As 2017 comes to a close and we prepare to launch into a brand new year, we want to take this opportunity to tell you a little about what we've been up to, and what we have planned for 2018 – as well as to extend to each of you our very best wishes for a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year!

henri nouwen

SOCIETY

www.henrinouwen.org

Winter 2017

# HNS NEWSLETTER

## From the Executive Director



Dear Friends,

I look back on 2017 with gratitude for the many opportunities and breakthroughs.

Highlights from this year include the three extraordinary conferences held at the Oblate Summer Institute in San Antonio, at St. Matthew Catholic Church in Charlotte, and at Yale Divinity School in New Haven. Also, we celebrated the launch of four new books rooted in Henri's rich archive of work.

Sadly, it was a very difficult year for many people. Natural disasters, threats of war, unspeakable violence, and seemingly irreconcilable political divisions made us feel—and I'm sure it did you as well.

It's during these times I try to find solace in prayer. For me, Henri's thoughts on prayer are such an encouragement. "Prayer is the way to let the life-giving Spirit of God penetrate all the corners of my being," he wrote. "Prayer is the divine instrument of my wholeness, unity and inner peace."

On behalf of everyone at the Henri Nouwen Society, I wish you each a blessed Christmas and a new year full of God's peace and joy. Thank you so much for being part of our Henri Nouwen Society family!

Sincerely,

Executive Director

## You Are the Beloved

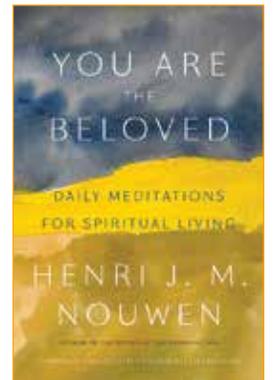
Henri Nouwen's devotional *Bread for the Journey* became an instant classic when it was published in 1997. This book of daily inspiration remains as popular as ever with its fresh insights into the challenges and joys of living a life in communion with God.

Although Henri didn't live to see the impact his devotional would have on the many who cherish his spiritual wisdom and direction, it is one of his most enduring legacies.

Twenty-one years after his death, we are delighted to announce a new daily devotional selected from the best writings, talks and letters of Henri Nouwen; some of which have never been published before.

*You Are the Beloved* captures the essence of Henri and what he came to believe in

the very core of his being – that he was a beloved child of God. In this book, Henri invites us to consider that we too are precious in God's sight.



*You Are the Beloved*, compiled and edited by Gabrielle Earnshaw, makes a thoughtful and enduring gift that will be appreciated every day of the year. It's a wonderful introduction to his work for those unfamiliar with Nouwen, and a must-have for every Nouwen reader.

*You Are the Beloved* is now available online and at most bookstores.

## Courage for Caregivers – One-Day Retreats

We are very excited about the inaugural *Courage for Caregivers One-Day Retreat* on December 2nd. This first of many one-day events is designed for active caregivers in need of spiritual encouragement and community support. Rooted in the wisdom of Henri Nouwen, these retreats will equip caregivers to identify both the challenges and the gifts of caregiving, while learning spiritual practices and techniques to sustain long-term self-care.

Be sure to check our website for dates and locations of these one-day retreats throughout 2018.



## Readers' Faves

Whenever someone reads their first Henri Nouwen book, it often becomes their favorite Nouwen book... until they read a second.

Henri Nouwen wrote 39 books. And each one of them speaks to different individuals in unique and significant ways. Here are a few comments by Nouwen readers we gleaned from online comments and reviews that may influence which Nouwen book you will want to read next:

### The Inner Voice of Love

- *If in your sufferings you are ready to hear God's healing words, listen to them through Henri Nouwen's own words & experiences. This is an awesome, soul-searching book!*
- *Highly recommended for the person looking seriously at restoring their soul.*

### The Return of the Prodigal Son

- *Henri Nouwen has the uncanny ability to write in a way that makes you feel as if he is standing right in front of you and talking to you. This book is no different.*
- *I bought 6 copies and mailed to friends. What else can I say?*



## Legacy & Tribute Gifts

Yes – we are ready to receive legacy and tribute gifts!

A legacy gift is a planned future donation given through a will or other form of designation. By making a planned gift to the Henri Nouwen Society, you will leave a legacy of your belief in the value of Henri's spirituality and his vision for change in the world through compassion and social justice.

What better way to thank Henri for his spiritual mentorship than by making a contribution from your estate. By creating a legacy, you are making a significant contribution to the future sustainability of the work that is most meaningful to you.

A tribute gift is a wonderful way to honor and celebrate a loved one's birthday, anniversary, or special achievement – or to commemorate the life of someone who has passed.

Please contact us for further information on either or both of these special gift options.

### Reaching Out

- *This book explains spiritual principles in ways I've never thought about before. It is insightful, different, and inspiring.*
- *This is one of the best spiritual books I have read. It brings together all the elements of a healthy and vibrant spiritual life. Easy to read for the non-theologian. Highly recommended!*

### Love, Henri

- *Henri's letters were originally sent to a US Senator, nuns, fans of Nouwen's writing, critics of his writing, businessmen, and even Mr. Rogers (Yes. THAT Mr. Rogers). And though Nouwen addresses countless issues and concerns, his advice is always threaded with grace and love.*

### Life of the Beloved

- *The understanding that I am loved unconditionally by God inspires me to live for Him more faithfully and to love Him more completely. I highly recommend it to everyone.*
- *Nouwen manages to describe the indescribable, God's love for us. The book is short and easy to read, but profound. One of the most exceptional books I've ever read.*

For a full list of Henri's books, visit our website. And whichever book you choose to read, may it encourage and bless you richly.

## Coming Events

On February 9–10, 2018, the Henri Nouwen Society, the University of San Diego, and Point Loma Nazarene University present ***Revolution of the Heart: The Counter-Cultural Spirituality of Henri Nouwen*** at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice in San Diego. Keynote speakers include Sr. Sue Mosteller, John Dear, Robert Ellsberg and Shane Claiborne. There are six outstanding breakout sessions planned as well. We hope that you can join us for this special gathering in southern California. For more information and to register online, go to: [www.sandiego.edu/nouwen](http://www.sandiego.edu/nouwen)

We are excited to be developing a ***Spirituality of Fundraising*** annual seminar. Henri Nouwen's groundbreaking teaching on fundraising as ministry has transformed the way churches and donor-dependent organizations raise funds. These annual seminars will be invaluable resources for every church and not-for-profit organization. Details to follow!

## A Christmas Reflection from Henri

*The God of love who gave us life sent his only Son to be with us at all times and in all places, so that we never have to feel lost in our struggles but always can trust that he walks with us.... Christmas is the renewed invitation not to be afraid and to let him – whose love is greater than our own hearts and minds can comprehend – be our companion. — ¡Gracias!*