

What A Year!

Despite the restrictions imposed by the pandemic – or perhaps because of them – our 25th anniversary year of commemorating and celebrating the life of Henri Nouwen vastly exceeded our expectations.

Our three very special webinars and our two-day online conference *Henri Nouwen and the Art of Living* attracted more than 5,200 registrants! Admittedly, we experienced a few glitches along the way, but the technical challenges couldn't diminish the impact and excellence of an amazing coterie of speakers, presenters, and dear friends of Henri. Thank you to all who joined us for these incredible online gatherings. What a blessing!

Two of the four events (*Happy Birthday, Henri* and *Remembering Henri*) are now available for everyone to view on our YouTube channel. You'll find our YouTube channel on our website under VIDEOS.

Our Redesigned Website!

We are excited to announce that coming early in the new year we'll be unveiling a redesigned website to make it easier for you to find all your favorite Henri Nouwen content. Features will include an expanded and enhanced Book section, the addition of podcast transcripts, and a streamlined donation process. Keep an eye on Henrinouwen.org for the coming changes!

COMING
SOON

Greetings from the Executive Director – Karen Pascal

Dear Friends,

As I sat down to write this greeting to you, I was initially tempted to harrumph and complain about the difficulties that we've all faced for much of the past two years. The world has changed in ways that would have been difficult to imagine a mere 24 months ago.

Then I remembered Henri Nouwen's affirmation about being grateful. "It is important to realize how often we have had chances to be grateful and have not used them," he wrote. After all, God is still God whether life happens to be blissful and rosy or anxious and fretful. Even when we're surrounded by what appears to be insurmountable challenges and disappointments, Henri reminds us there is much to be thankful for.

Every time we decide to be grateful it will be easier to see new things to be grateful for. Gratitude begets gratitude, just as love begets love.

– Life of the Beloved

So, as we prepare for Christmas, a celebration of the Incarnation when the Word became flesh, I choose to be grateful that indeed *God IS with us*. And God remains with us in all aspects of our lives, in the sorrow as well as the joy.

I trust you will carry this truth with you into the new year and beyond!

Thank you for being part of our Henri Nouwen Society community. I wish you and yours a blessed Christmas and a joyous 2022!

Karen Pascal
Executive Director



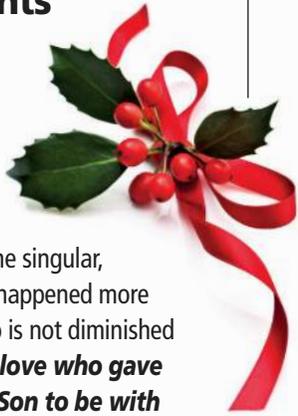
Merry Christmas

FROM ALL OF US AT
THE HENRI NOUWEN SOCIETY



Christmas Encouragements from Henri

Here are two thoughts from Henri to give you encouragement during this Christmas season:



- Henri assures us that the singular, wondrous event that happened more than two millennia ago is not diminished by time: ***"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 God walks with us."*** (Gracias!)
- To celebrate Christmas is to be reminded that God is with us still, regardless of the state of the world, our personal circumstances, or our own anxieties, fears and insecurities. ***"We have hope and joy in our faith because we believe that, while the world in which we live is shrouded in darkness, God has overcome the world... We follow One who is not limited or defeated by the world's sufferings."*** (Turn My Mourning into Dancing)

OUR HOPE FOR YOU IS THAT CHRIST WILL FILL YOU WITH RENEWED HOPE, JOY, AND PEACE THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON. MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Leave a Legacy

A planned gift is a wonderful way to leave a legacy that will have a lasting impact in line with your values and ongoing wishes. Planned giving is simply making arrangements in the present for a future gift. Typically, this is done by including a bequest in your will.

Your planned gift to the Henri Nouwen Society will help us continue to nurture a growing audience of readers and seekers with the insights and encouragements from one of the most influential spiritual writers of our time. It is an excellent way for you to partner with us in our ministry, and a meaningful way for your life to bear fruit for generations to come.

For more information about the benefits of planned giving, visit the DONATE page on our website – www.henrinouwen.org

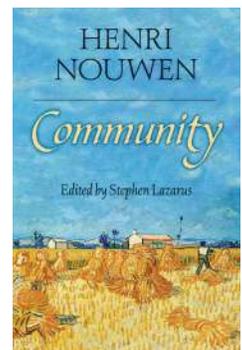
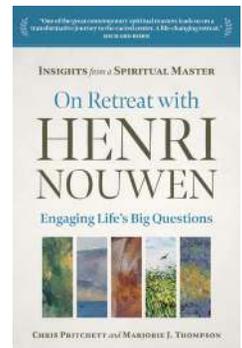
Winter Reads

Looking for book ideas for friends, or maybe something for yourself for a spiritually-enriching winter read?

On Retreat with Henri Nouwen is a contribution to the commemoration of the 25th anniversary of Henri's death. Each chapter reflects ideas and themes related to the art of living an authentically Christian life. Written by Chris Pritchett and Marjorie J. Thompson, the book will serve as a guide to your own personal retreat with one of the great spiritual masters of our time. Ideal for individual use or in group settings.

Community, edited by Stephen Lazarus, draws on talks and published and unpublished articles that Henri Nouwen delivered on the topic of community. Henri believed the bonds of connection and belonging are as essential for life as breathing. Surprisingly, he never wrote a book on the subject. If he had, this would be it!

>> MORE INFORMATION AND PURCHASE LINKS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE – WWW.HENRINOOWEN.ORG



A Very Special Commemoration Service

On September 21, the Henri Nouwen Society held a special commemorative service at the newly dedicated *Henri Nouwen Worship & Prayer Garden* adjacent to St. John's Anglican Cemetery, Henri's final resting place. The gathering to celebrate Henri's life and legacy included friends from the nearby L'Arche Daybreak community, Henri's home for the last ten year of his life, as well as many who knew Henri only through his books.

A time of shared stories, music and dance was followed by a stroll to the cemetery where everyone had an opportunity to lay a beautiful sunflower on Henri's grave.

Old friends, new friends, and sunflowers! Henri would have loved it!

