

Program Leaders

Nicholas Amato: has served more than 20 Years as a pastor in the Archdiocese of Baltimore and is a graduate of the Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation in Washington, DC. His full-time ministry includes offering contemplative retreats, parish missions, and days of recollection. He has two Master's degrees, one in Counseling and another in Theology, and a Doctorate in Educational Administration. He is an associate faculty member of the Shalem Institute.

Stephanie Burgevin: has been a member of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) for more than 15 years. She is an associate faculty member of the Shalem Institute of Spiritual Formation and a graduate of their Leading Contemplative Prayer Groups and Retreats program. She is a certified parent educator, has been clerk of Ministry and Counsel at Alexandria Monthly Meeting, and has led numerous groups, both spiritual and secular in nature.

Registration Information

Tuition: \$600 / Deposit: \$100 with Application

Registration Deadline: January 28, 2012

Full Payment due: February 8, 2012

Early Bird Special: Tuition of \$600 reduced to \$550, if paid in full by January 8, 2012

To Register: Send application form (available www.spiritual-deepening.webs.com) along with your check deposit made out to "PSDP" to: PSDP, Box 40, Whiteford, Maryland 21160

For Questions or an application, contact:

Father Nicholas Amato: (443) 850-0794 or FatherNicholasAmato@gmail.com

Stephanie Burgevin: (301) 639-5908 or steph_burgevin@yahoo.com

What does Shalem mean?

Pronounced Sha-LAME, Shalem is a Hebrew word related to Shalom, the familiar greeting of peace. Shalem speaks of wholeness: to be complete.

About Shalem

The Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation provides in-depth support for contemplative living and leadership – a way of being in the world that is prayerfully attentive and responsive to God's presence and guidance.

For more than 30 years, we have offered a wide variety of programs and resources for individuals who want to open themselves more fully to God in their daily lives and work.

Shalem programs are uniquely experiential in approach and are grounded in our understanding of classic contemplative wisdom. All offer a rich variety of practices, teachings and leadership styles. Program leaders and program design seek to create a sense of sacred space that fosters authentic spiritual community and spiritual growth.

At Shalem, we honor each individual spiritual path and welcome anyone who would seek to learn from the contemplative way.

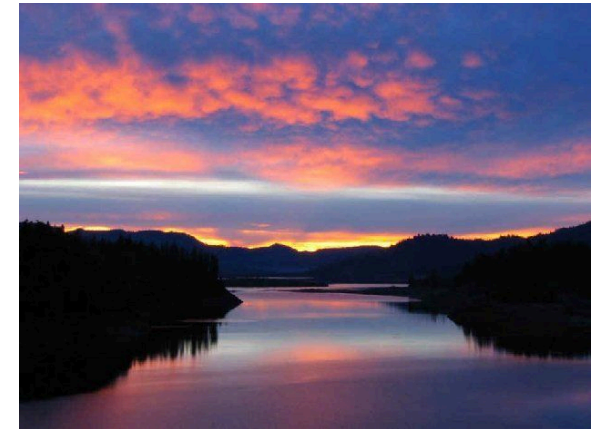
Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation

www.shalem.org



PERSONAL SPIRITUAL DEEPENING PROGRAM: *Living in God*

St. Gabriel's Retreat House, Catonsville, MD



*God is not very far from any one of us,
for it is in God that we live and move
and have our very being.
Acts 17:27*

The Personal Spiritual Deepening Program is a resource for those wishing to integrate a contemplative orientation—a stance that encourages moment-by-moment awareness and openness to God's grace—in all the changing circumstances of daily life.

"I am a mom of a teen and pre-teen who felt spiritually dry after the intense years of parenting young children while also working outside the home. PSDP helped me rediscover a spring that had long been obscured by the debris of too-much-to-do, and gently, lovingly, laughingly helped get the spring flowing again. PSDP was just what I needed." Cheryl M. 2011

Intent of Program

To be present to God and the world in love and trust, surrendered to ever-deepening spiritual awareness and joining God's presence/action in the world according to our gifts and calling.

Who Might Be Interested?

This program is for anyone who feels drawn to contemplative spirituality and who:

- Desires a deepened relationship with God and to live out of that relationship;
- Wishes to develop or deepen a consistent spiritual practice;
- Wants the regular guidance of a spiritual companion for daily contemplative living;
- Seeks authentic spiritual community and support;
- Is eager to learn within a broad ecumenical Christian framework, enhanced by the wisdom of other traditions;
- Longs to be a transforming presence in the world.

Program Components

The *Personal Spiritual Deepening Program (PSDP): Living in God* is comprised of experiential learning, contemplative prayer practices, assigned readings, spiritual community, and opening and closing retreats.

Seminar topics and readings will be focused on the following themes:

Listening and Transformation

"How do we cultivate that attention, that listening to the Beloved, the God who seeks us? ...Transformation happens when we experience God in our hearts; God invites and we respond." (Patience Robbins, Shalem PSDP Leadership Conference 2010)

Spiritual Community

"Spiritual community [is described] as the person or group of people with whom my desire for God comes alive and through whom I am supported in honoring that desire." (Rose Mary Dougherty, Spiritual Community as Intercessory Prayer)

Discernment

"Desiring spiritual discernment in all things... we seek to be intentionally open to God in each moment as the Spirit guides and co-creates through us." (Shalem Institute Core Values)

Earth Awareness

"The Earth is suffering and exhausted. We need to deepen our Earth awareness, the awareness that we are utterly connected to all of life, in order to create a new consciousness and to heal our relationship with all living beings. We are given the vision and power to co-participate with God in healing the brokenness of our world." (Ann Dean, Shalem PSDP Leadership Conference 2010)

Sacred Activism

"...a contemplative orientation not only draws us to our deepest, truest self in God

but also shapes both an individual's and a community's way of being in, listening to, and caring for the world." (Shalem Institute Core Values)

We expect participants, through prayer and dialogue with their spiritual directors and the program leaders, to integrate the program components in a way that will best serve their spiritual deepening. In addition, participants are expected to:

- Commit to a regular spiritual practice that will honor and nourish their relationship with God.
- Attend the opening retreat, closing retreat, and the five Saturday plenary sessions.
- Meet monthly with their listening circle.
- Meet regularly with a spiritual director.
- Pray for the group as a spiritual community.

Dates and Location (All gatherings are held at St. Gabriel's Retreat House, Catonsville, MD)

Opening All-Day Retreat: February 11, 2012

Five Saturday Morning Sessions of the following six Saturdays (Scheduling six allows for a snow day): March 10, April 14, May 5, June 9, July 14, August 11

Closing All-Day Retreat: September 8, 2012

Monthly Listening Circles: March through August (Scheduling six allows for a snow day.) These are at the home of a participant in your geographical area.