

Our Lady of Guadalupe Mercy Center

*"In this place, I will show and give forth all my love, compassion, and help."
(Our Lady of Guadalupe to Juan Diego)*



2016—2017 Offerings

"Passionate for Mercy Wherever Life Calls Out"

has been chosen as this year's theme by the staff of the Center. In keeping with the values and tradition of Mercy and the Jubilee Year of Mercy, the Center wishes to organize its programs, retreats and outreach, placing emphasis on the need to be passionate for Mercy, particularly in areas which and persons who require our love and attention: the poor, vulnerable, hopeless, marginalized and the poor in spirit. Catherine McAuley was of the view that there are things that people (the poor) prize more highly than gold, though they cost us nothing: the kind word, the gentle, compassionate look, and the patient hearing of their sorrows.

We hope that our offerings this year will reach out to those who are crying out—young people, single mothers, couples, women, parents, children and even our earth; that we may be able through a kind word, a gentle and compassionate look and patient hearing, touch their hearts and renew their spirits with comfort and hope for a meaningful life centered in a God who loves us unconditionally.

Join our offerings and make a difference in your life, your family, your community and Belize. Let us all learn to be passionate for Mercy wherever life cries out!

Retreats

THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES OF ST. IGNATIUS IN EVERYDAY LIFE

For those eager for a deeper relationship with God and who wish to foster this relationship in the midst of everyday life, you may want to consider making this Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Retreat.

The essential components of the retreat, which spans a period of seven months, include a serious commitment to daily prayer, meeting with a spiritual director twice monthly, and participating in faith group sharing.

Group Meetings:

Saturday—October 15, 2016 9:00 am—4:00 pm

Thursdays—7:00—9:15 pm

October 20, 2016 January 26, 2017
November 24, 2016 February 23, 2017
December 13, 2016 (Tuesday) April 6, 2017
May 11 & 25, 2017

Fee: \$325.00 - Place: Community Room
2nd Floor Our Lady of Guadalupe Mercy Center

REGISTRATION REQUIRED



"Beloved"—Married Couples Retreat FINDING HAPPINESS IN MARRIAGE

What if marriage is more than a simple contract between two people? What if God has woven into the very design of humanity a purposeful desire for a man and a woman to unite into something mysterious and holy? What if your marriage is designed to be a vital part of God's work in the world?

Beloved explores the essential realities of marriage, dealing with the deepest spiritual, emotional, and practical aspects of what the sacrament means for those preparing to get married, as well as those who yearn for a richer married life. Through Scripture, tradition and Church teaching, God's plan for marriage will come alive. You will see firsthand the wonder, mystery, and joy of this sacrament—from the first "I do" through the rest of your lives.

Beloved will help you to live out the Sacrament of Matrimony more profoundly, so that your love story is drawn into the greatest love story of all...God's own love for us.

**Date: Friday, November 11, 2016—6:30 pm—10:00 pm
Saturday, November 12, 2016—8:00 am—5:00 pm**

Place: Our Lady of Guadalupe Conference Room

**Fee: \$100.00 per couple (Snacks & Lunch included)
Registration Required**



A Celebration to Honor Our Lady of Guadalupe



Celebrate with us as we gather to honor Mary under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe and to express our love to her who identified herself to Juan Diego as "Mother of the true God through whom one lives"

**Mary, lead us to Jesus!
Friday—December 9, 2016 - 7:00 pm
St. Catherine Convent Chapel**

Also at Our Lady of Guadalupe Mercy Center

Reaching Out

“Passionate for Mercy Wherever Life Cries Out”

A six-week program for women and single mothers

Earth Day—April 28, 2017

Caring for our Earth—Primary School activities

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Do you wish a specific program/retreat for your particular group/faculty or parish? Our Lady of Guadalupe Center wishes to be of service to you whether you are in Belize City or in the Districts. Make your request known to us by e-mail or phone 223-2275. To ensure our availability, please make an early contact.

**The Center’s Team has already committed themselves to the following requests for 2016—2017**

**St. Ignatius High School Faculty Retreat Day (Santa Elena, Cayo) - August 26, 2016**

**St. Ignatius High School—Students—September 7, 8 & 15, 2016**

**St. Catherine Academy—Students—20 Retreat days—Sept. 29, 2016 to May 11, 2017**

**Muffles High School—Students—10 Retreat Days—January 2017—March 2017**

**St. Catherine Academy Faculty — Faculty Retreat Day—February 24, 2017.**

### **SPIRITUAL COMPANIONING**

**Fee: Donation (Suggested \$20.00)**

**Call the Center at 223-2275 for an appointment or more information**

Spiritual direction is an ancient tradition of a covenanted relationship with a spiritual companion occurring in an atmosphere of trust and loving presence. The goal is to lead a person into a deeper awareness of and appreciation for God’s presence and movement in the interior and exterior circumstances of daily life. The fundamental assumption is that God speaks to us in our daily lives, is present in all experiences, human relationships, dreams, creative expression, solitude, and prayer. Spiritual Direction is a process of deep listening designed to help people who are seeking to live a more fully human and reflective life. Spiritual direction embraces both the quest for God and the quest for a transformed world by emphasizing the call to both contemplation and action.

*Our Lady of Guadalupe Mercy Center  
P.O. Box 1729  
Belize City, Belize, Central America  
Telephone 223-2275  
Website: [www.mercycenterbelize.org](http://www.mercycenterbelize.org)*



## Retreats/Continue



### **Lenten Preparation Retreat "Enter Into the Mystery of Homecoming"**

Using Rembrandt's painting "**Return of the Prodigal Son**," we will, like the Prodigal Son/Daughter, return from the distant country to the embrace of our loving God. We will hear again God's longing, "**Come back to me with all your heart.**"

Join us for a day of closeness to a God who has chosen to be found in our own inner sanctuary.

**Date: Saturday, February 25, 2017**

**Time: 9:00 am—4:00 pm**

**Place: Our Lady of Guadalupe Conference Room**

**Fee: \$50.00**

**Registration Required**

**Presenters: Sister Sarita Vasquez, RSM  
Celia Usher & Anita Zetina**

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### **Married Couples Retreat Give your LOVE-ONE a pre- valentine treat!**

No matter how grand or broken your marriage is, you want more.

Maybe you're seeking better communication or closer sexual intimacy, but ultimately your desire is to have a deep and lasting relationship—to truly become one with your spouse.

In ***The Marriage You've Always Wanted***, Dr. Gary Chapman, an experienced marriage counselor of more than four decades, author of the *5 Love Languages* series and director of *Marriage and Family Life* consultants, will walk you through the steps to achieving the marriage you've always wanted.

***"Marriages either get better or worse, they never stand still"***  
- Dr. Gary Chapman

**Date: Friday: February 3, 2017—6:00 pm—10:00 pm and  
Saturday: February 4, 2017—9:00 am—4:00 pm**

**Place: Our Lady of Guadalupe Conference Room**

**Fee: \$100.00 per couple—(all event materials and food included)**

**Registration Required**



### **"Deepen Your Prayer" DIRECTED SILENT RETREAT**

Authentic prayer changes us, unmask us, strips us, indicates where growth is needed..  
(St. Teresa of Avila)

This weekend is for anyone who wishes to deepen and nurture their prayer life. We will look within to see how authentic our prayer is and learn how to make it honest. By learning to seek solitude, listening to experiences of authentic prayer, and examining our own prayer, we will come to deeper insights of how authentic prayer does call us to greater spiritual growth.

**Join us and spend an intimate weekend with your God!**

**Date: March 24—26, 2017**

**Place: Our Lady of Guadalupe Retreat Center**

**Fee: \$150.00**

**(Limit—8 persons)**

**Registration Required**

**Spiritual Directors: Sister Sarita Vasquez, RSM and others**

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### **WOMEN'S RETREAT**



This impactful conference teaches and inspires women how to see themselves as valuable and worthy, teaching them how to take strong, confident stands for what is right in their marriage, family and beyond, in a respectful and honorable way. It is time for women of all

ages and stages in life to discover what God's word really Says, and become a fully alive and assertive woman.

**Date: Saturday, May 6, 2017—8:00 am—5:00 pm**

**Place: Our Lady of Guadalupe Conference Room**

**Fee: \$50.00—Registration Required**

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### **MARK GUNGOR'S "The Manly Man" MEN'S RETREAT**



This retreat encourages guys to stand up and be manly men by validating their God-given positive qualities instead of pointing out their weaknesses and failures. It is about validation, not condemnation, and a daily determination to live out God's original calling.

**Date: Saturday, June 10,  
2017—8:00 am—5:00 pm**

**Place: Our Lady of Guadalupe Conference Room**

**Fee: \$50.00—Registration Required**

## OTHER OFFERINGS

### Programs/Workshops



#### Women's Bible/Faith Sharing

(Come let us stay close to God, meditate on the Word, and ask the Holy Spirit to bring it to life for us)

**Wednesdays—starting  
Sept. 7, 2016—5:00 pm—6:30 pm**

**Fee: Donation**

**Place: Our Lady of Guadalupe Meeting Room**

"Then you will know the Truth and the Truth will set you free"  
*John 8:32*

### SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS' PEER SUPERVISION & READING SEMINAR

Those who are presently engaged in the ministry of spiritual direction meet monthly in a prayerful setting for this seminar. Through presentations of case studies, prayer and sharing, they draw on the insights of one another, enabling them to grow in the art of listening and discerning the movement of the Spirit in direction.

Relevant reading material is the focus of this monthly sharing among the Center's Team of Spiritual Directors.

**Date: Thursdays: 1:30 pm—4:30 pm  
(First Thursday of every month)  
Place: Community Room**

### MARRIED COUPLES ENRICHMENT NIGHTS

Married couples, who want to keep their relationships vibrant and alive, meet monthly for their own development, for group bondedness and support as married couples. It's fun and enriching!

**All married couples are invited to join us!**

**Fridays: 7:00 pm—9:00 pm  
(Last Friday of every month)**

**Place: Our Lady of Guadalupe Conference Room**

**Fee: Donation**

**Facilitators: Vincent & Loretta Palacio**

### Spiritualitea

A Tea Party for Ladies!  
Come, be nourished in body, mind and spirit! Lovely tea; powerful presentation!



**Date: Thursday, November 17, 2016  
Time: 6:00 pm—7:30 pm  
Place: Our Lady of Guadalupe Conference Room  
Fee: \$15.00  
Registration Required  
Presenters: Anita Zetina & Celia Usher**

### Bonding Evenings

A time to grow closer with your daughters/sons:



#### Mothers/Sons

**Date: Friday, March 31, 2017**

**Time: 6:00 pm—8:00 pm**

#### Mothers/Daughters:

**Date: Thursday, May 18, 2017**

**Time: 6:00 pm—8:00 pm**



#### Fathers/Sons:

**Date: Friday, June 16, 2017**

**Time: 6:00 pm—8:00 pm**



**Place: Our Lady of Guadalupe Conference Room**

**Registration Required—Donation \$20.00**



### A Day For Caregivers

God knows care-giving can pull you apart! Many caring or accompanying someone, an elderly and/or sick family member, know how difficult and challenging this can be. "Journeying with someone who is suffering requires much compassion, energy and a daily restoring of faith" (*May I walk you Home?* - Hutchison and Rupp) Join us in a day in which you can relax, share and learn from others who are in a similar situation. Come and learn about ways in which you can keep it all together as you care for yourself.

**Date: January 28, 2017—9:00 am-4:00 pm**

### Prayers Intercessory Prayer

"There should be prayers offered for everyone—petitions, intercessions and thanksgiving" (1 Timothy 2:1)

"Wherever two or three are gathered in my name, there am I." That was Jesus' promise. The Intercessory Prayer is a sacred time. Persons called by God to minister to the people by interceding for them gather twice monthly at the Guadalupe Center.

You are invited to join them to pray for your loved ones, Belize and for the world. Mail or phone in your requests for prayers. The Church needs intercessors. God has given the Center strong intercessors. We praise God!

**First & Third Wednesdays: 9:00 am—10:00 am  
Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel**

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| September 7, 2016     | February 1 & 15, 2017 |
| October 5 & 19, 2016  | March 1 & 15, 2017    |
| November 2 & 16, 2016 | April 5, 2017         |
| December 7, 2016      | May 3 & 17, 2017      |
| January 4 & 18, 2017  | June 7 & 21, 2017     |