

Back to the future.

A retreat preached by Fr Robert to the Daughters of Mary and Joseph in California.
August 2007.

CJ – DMJ Retreat October 2006.

Although a few DMJ's from California were able to attend the retreat on the Founder in October 2006 the vast majority were unable to make the trip. I was invited to Palos Verdes, the DMJ centre in Los Angeles to direct a retreat and repeat some of the conferences given at West Wickham.

Palos Verdes

The DMJ's have a magnificent Retreat Centre on a peninsula outside Los Angeles overlooking the city and the Pacific Ocean. The beautiful gardens are inhabited by peacocks, which are much admired by some and abhorred by others. 34 DMJ' together with 3 Affiliates made the retreat.

The theme of the retreat.

The theme of the retreat was based on a quotation from Vita Consecrata.

“Institutes of the Consecrated Life are thus invited to propose anew the enterprising initiative, creativity and holiness of the founders and foundresses in response to the signs of the times emerging in today's world.”

The aim of the retreat was to go back to the Founder in order to move forward into the future. Although the retreat was mainly concerned with the spirituality of the Founder there were many question asked about the history of the DMJ's.

Naturally there were some very challenging questions to be faced up to at the end.

Henri Nouwen

During the retreat we watched a very moving film on the life and teaching of Henri Nouwen, the Dutch spiritual writer. It was interesting to note the similarities between his teaching and that of the Founder.

RDH.
California.
29.09.07



