

Dear participants at the Andante Summer School
Welcome to Reute !



We cordially welcome you to this year's Summer School with the theme *"Recognise the signs of the times"* (John XIII): *Spirituality put into practice by European women – yesterday, today, tomorrow* and wish you a good and enriching time.

We have intentionally given the Summer School a spiritual focus. Together we want to explore our common European history for evidence of both famous and less well-known spiritual women, to become familiar with different forms of spirituality and to find inspiration for our own action. The programme offers you a variety of theoretical and practical approaches to the subject. Please take care of your own needs concerning privacy and rest, activity and company, and feel free to take the time you need for yourself.

We have compiled the most important information for the next few days in this folder. If you have any questions, remarks or should a problem arise, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are at your disposal at any time!

The members of the 'software-group':

Claire Renggli-Enderle (SKF, Switzerland), Inese Augskalne (LKSA, Latvia),
Zsuzsa Huszka Laczkóné (KNFE, Hungary), Andrea Kett (kfd, Germany)

Programme

WEDNESDAY, 24TH AUGUST

Before 18:00

18:30

19:30

ARRIVING IN REUTE

Arrivals

Dinner and practical information

Welcome

Getting to know each other

Introduction to the theme

Refectory

Assembly hall

THURSDAY, 25TH AUGUST

7:30 – 8:00

8:00 – 8:45

8:45 – 9:00

9:00 – 9:10

9:15 – 11:00

11:00 – 11:20

11.20 – 12:30

12:30 – 14:30

14:30 – 15:00

15:00

16:30 – 16:50

17:00

18:30

19:30

20:00

SPIRITUALITY – YESTERDAY

Practising silence (optional)

Breakfast

Morning praise

Introduction to the day

“Does the God of the Bible love women?”

Interactive biblical work with Anne Soupa

Break

“Spiritual women in Europe”

Sr. Dr. Aurelia Spendel OP

Lunch, Break

Coffee

Dialogue-groups

Break

Plenary meeting

Dinner

Evaluation of the day

Guided tour through the premises of the convent and the labyrinth as places of lived spirituality

Meditation room

Refectory

Assembly hall

Refectory

Refectory

Assembly hall

Refectory

Assembly hall



Be still and open your senses
to see your life anew,
to hear anew, to smell anew and
to taste anew.

FRIDAY, 26TH AUGUST

		<i>SPIRITUALITY – TODAY</i>	
7:30 – 8:00		Practising silence (optional)	Meditation room
8:00 – 8:45		Breakfast	Refectory
8:45 – 9:00		Morning praise	Assembly hall
9:00 – 9:10		Introduction to the day	
9:15 – 9:40		“Being different – a chance for growing” Introduction by Barbara Baumann	
9:45 – 11:20		Dialogue-groups (including a break)	
11:30 – 12:15		Plenary meeting	
12:15		Introduction to the workshops: ‘Experiencing spirituality’ – and regrouping	
12:30 – 14:30		Lunch, Break	Refectory
14:30 – 15:00		Coffee	Refectory
15:00		Workshops ‘Experiencing spirituality’	Group rooms / outside
18:30		Dinner	Refectory
19:30 – 21:00		Continuation or change of the workshops ‘Experiencing spirituality’	Group rooms / outside

Even if the path
involves many diversions,
you can be confident
that it will surely lead to the centre.
Take time to rest awhile
to look back and ahead,
savour the preciousness of the present moment.

SATURDAY, 27TH AUGUST

		<i>SPIRITUALITY – TOMORROW</i>	
7:30 – 8:00		Practising silence (optional)	Meditation room
8:00 – 8:45		Breakfast	Refectory
8:45 – 9:00		Morning praise	Assembly hall
9:00 – 9:10		Introduction to the day	
9:15 – 10:15		“Towards the future in hope: women remaking the Church” Talk by Prof. Dr. Tina Beattie	
10:15 – 10:45		Break	
10.50 – 11:50		Dialogue groups	
12:00 – 12:30		Plenary	
12:30 – 14:30		Lunch, Break	Refectory

14:30 – 15:00	Coffee	Refectory
15:00 – 16:30	Discussions per organisation or per country	Group rooms
16:30 – 18:00	Preparation of the Eucharist (optional)	
from 19:00	International buffet Social gathering Cultural event	Meeting rooms

SUNDAY, 28TH AUGUST

BREAK-UP INTO EVERYDAY LIFE

7:30 – 8:00	Practising silence (optional)	Meditation room
8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast	Refectory
9:00 – 9:10	Introduction to the day	Assembly hall
9:15 – 10:30	Last plenary meeting: Evaluation from a personal perspective and from that of one's organisation	
11:00 – 12:00	Celebration of the Eucharist	St Francis Chapel
12:30	Lunch	Refectory

Departures



The return is part of the journey.
Do not become inattentive!
When you return to everyday life,
take with you the experience of the path and
trust that the path of your life
will bring you to the centre.

Moderator and speakers



Barbara Baumann will accompany and guide us through the whole summer school as moderator. She is a theologian and biologist and leads an office for supervision and coaching for individuals and organisations near Aachen, Germany. She has wide experience of moderating different dialogue and discussion events, workshops and conferences at national and European levels. She is married and is the mother of a daughter. On Friday Barbara Baumann will give a

talk on 'Being different – a chance for growing' and its relevance to the spirituality of women today:

We have learned that wars of religion make no sense, through inter-religious dialogue we have learned to live in tolerance with other religions and world views. Within the Christian community, ecumenism has made us sisters and brothers.

These developments, the consciousness of our common bonds and perspective, are valuable and important!

At the same time, however, we are aware of differences: there are some church groups and movements we would rather not meet; fundamentalist movements endanger the peace between religions. And within the Church, we, as women, still have the experience of being seen and treated as the 'Other', and feel the necessity of developing our own ways of expressing our spirituality and faith.

And among ourselves as women? How do we deal with differences? Do we smooth them over, play them down or even deny them altogether? The women philosophers of Milan and Verona developed a way of thought out of and with the fact of difference. And this not just concerning the difference between women and men, but also specifically with regard to differences between women themselves. This is where they find the essential potential for the development of women.

Barbara Baumann intends to give this way of thinking particular emphasis in order to make this day a fruitful one. The theme of this third day of the conference is 'spirituality today' and in various workshops we will learn about and directly experience different approaches. Conscious engagement with the awareness of difference offers possibilities of giving our own spiritual development direction and impuls, enabling growth.



Anne Soupa. After a childhood in Germany, Morocco, then in France, Anne Soupa's career has followed an interesting path: after studies at the Paris Institute of Political Studies, she worked as editor at the Compagnie Bancaire, then she obtained a doctorate in Private Law at the University of Nanterre. After a religious formation at the Institut de Pastorale et d'Etudes religieuses of Lyon, she gained a doctorate in theology at the University of Lyon. She

worked as a journalist at the Catholic Publishing House Bayard, then at the Editions du Cerf in Paris, first as editor-in-chief of *Fêtes & Saisons*, currently of *Biblia*. She has published several books, among them "*Faut-il croire au diable?*" (Should we believe in the devil?). She is engaged in the 'Comité de la jupe' (Committee of the skirt) and the 'Conférence des baptisés de France'. The 'Comité de la jupe' is an association dedicated to the question of the dignity and the place of women in the Catholic Church. For French Catholics the Conference of the baptised will be a place for dialogue and for developing their sense of responsibility. Anne Soupa is married and the mother of 4 children.

On Thursday morning Anne Soupa will begin the summer school with an interactive bible work on the theme "The God of the Bible, does he love women?"

Yes, for sure, God loves women, but how? And what do men and women say about this? In her talk Anne Soupa will analyse the development of looking at women in the Bible, that of the compilers themselves, that of commentators and that of the general public. She will also consider the way in which the women of the Bible love God. And she will not forget to bring to mind what are the axes of spirituality according to the Bible. Finally, during the dialogue-groups which follow, she will invite us to analyse together the persons of Mary Magdalene and Esther.

Aurelia Spendel OP, Dr. theol., was born in Mönchengladbach, Germany in 1951,



has been a Dominican since 1988 and prioress of the convent St. Ursula in Augsburg until 2007. She is the author of numerous books, and is currently employed in the field of Spiritual Theology at different universities, in the supervision of convents and their managements, and in education. Aurelia Spendel will give a retrospective view of European history and present us with three very different, spiritually gifted women from three different ages: Mary of Nazareth, Catherine of Siena and Dorothee Sölle.

What were the needs they recognised in their respective times? What were their concerns and commitments? Which kind of spirituality was their guiding principle? Which spiritual resources did they draw on? What can we learn from them? In the subsequent dialogue-groups we will relate our insights to the spiritually gifted women who have been relevant to our own lives.



Tina Beattie is Professor of Catholic Studies and Director of the Digby Stuart Research Centre for Catholic Studies at the University of Roehampton in London, Great Britain. Her main academic interests are in the areas of theology, gender and women's rights. Tina is the mother of four adult children, and she began her academic studies as a mature student when her youngest child started school. Her family home is in Bristol, but she spends much of her time living and working on a houseboat in London.

In her lecture with the title "Towards the future in hope: women remaking the Church" Tina Beattie explores some of the challenges and opportunities that Catholic women face amidst the complex and competing demands upon us as we look to the future.

For many of us, traditional family roles are still an important and precious part of our lives, but we may also feel inspired and even fundamentally changed by the ways in which the women's movement and its struggle for the acknowledgement of women's rights have transformed the role of women in western society, if not yet in the Church. We may love the Church with an abiding love, but that does not prevent us from feelings of betrayal, disappointment and frustration when we find ourselves excluded and silenced, or when we see violence, injustice and abuse within church institutions. At the same time, the secular world bears down on us with apocalyptic challenges in the form of the environmental crisis, spiralling violence, and an economic order that seems ever more out of control.

How are we to nurture the fragile shoots of hope in such a time? How can we live as women of peace in a world at war with itself? How might we take others along with us, so that we contribute to a greater sense of reconciliation rather than alienation, of bridge-building rather than isolation, of community rather than lonely individualism?

Drawing on examples from poetry, literature and film as well as recent theology and doctrine, and illustrating this with examples of women's healing activity in the world, Tina Beattie asks what resources we can draw upon as we seek to shape a way of becoming women of the future, through our prayerful and hopeful attentiveness to the signs of the times.

We are very grateful to and thank the organisations which have supported our Summer School with their generous donations, o. a.:



Women's World Day of Prayer, Germany



Foundation Communicantes, Netherlands
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Diocese of St. Gallen, Switzerland

kfd-Foundation St. Hedwig, Cologne

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