

Date

Father etc.
Address 1
Address 2
Address 3
Address 4

Reverend and Dear Father,

It is a great pleasure to invite you to the Spiritual and Liturgical Retreat organised by the Society of St Catherine of Siena, to be held at the Abbey of Sainte-Madeleine du Barroux, from 25th to 29th May 2009. The theme of the retreat will be 'The Monastic Heart in the Everyday Life of a Priest'.

The foundation and growth of this Benedictine monastery has been one of the remarkable stories of faith arising in the wake of the Second Vatican Council. The courage of its founder, Dom Gérard Calvet who died only last year, has been richly rewarded in the establishment of what is now an active and thriving community of young monks. Full details can be found on its website, www.barroux.org. As retreatants, it will be our privilege to share the life of this community joining them for the glories of the traditional monastic office and Conventual Mass and taking meals with the monks in the monastic refectory. There will be a series of spiritual conferences which will include the insights of members of the monastic community. Priest retreatants will be able to celebrate private Masses each day using either form of the Roman Missal.

The retreat will begin on Monday afternoon. You are asked to gather in good time to be installed by the guestmaster and to begin the exercises of the retreat with Vespers at 5.30 pm. Supper and recreation will be followed by Compline, after which the *magnum silentium* will continue until Lauds at 6 am. One of the afternoons will include a trip to a local winery where other spirits may refresh us before returning to Vespers. The retreat will conclude with lunch on Friday.

The monastery is reached by travelling first to Avignon by plane or by Eurostar/TGV, and then by car or taxi via Carpentras to the village of Le Barroux. Fuller directions and suggested routes and times can be given in due course, when we will be able also to consolidate the number of cars needed for the last leg of the journey. The cost of the retreat is £300. An application form is enclosed for you to complete and return.

The Society of St Catherine of Siena seeks to foster knowledge and understanding of the intellectual and liturgical tradition of the Catholic Church, and sponsors this retreat as a service to all priests. It is intended to integrate the love of the Roman liturgy into our daily spiritual life and pastoral mission through immersion in and reflection upon the character of the monastic heart.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Fr Andrew Wadsworth
Chaplain to the Society of St Catherine of Siena

THE SOCIETY OF ST CATHERINE OF SIENA

**THE MONASTIC HEART IN THE EVERYDAY LIFE OF A PRIEST:
A SPIRITUAL AND LITURGICAL RETREAT**

**ABBAYE SAINTE-MADELEINE DU BARROUX
LE BARROUX, FRANCE**

MONDAY 25TH MAY TO FRIDAY 29TH MAY 2009

APPLICATION FORM

NAME	
ADDRESS	
POSTCODE	
TELEPHONE NUMBER	
EMAIL	

I wish to attend the Retreat and enclose a cheque for £300.00 payable to “The Society of St Catherine of Siena”

Signed _____

Date _____

Please send completed application form with remittance to:

Dr Susan F Parsons
The Society of St Catherine of Siena
1, Cackle Hill Cottages
Snelston
Ashbourne
Derbyshire DE6 2DL

Telephone number: 01335 324265
E-mail: sfparsons@btinternet.com