

# *Respond to the “demands of charity” as those who represent Christ, the Prince of Peace.*

**A Day of Recollection: Thomas Merton’s Spirituality of Non-Violence  
Presented by Rev. Adrian Burke, O.S.B.**

**Saturday, November 2  
9 am—1:30 pm  
Cathedral of the Assumption Undercroft  
433 South 5th Street**

The day includes Mass (in the Cathedral) at 11:15 am and lunch.

The event is free, but we request registration by  
noon on Wednesday, October 30: 502-582-2971.

Thomas (Fr. Louis) Merton, the famous 20<sup>th</sup> century Trappist monk, wrote, “Christ the Lord did not come to bring peace as a kind of spiritual tranquilizer. He brought to his disciples a vocation and a task: to struggle in the world of violence to establish His peace not only in their own hearts but in society itself.” In 1961 Merton felt a strong urge to speak out against the nuclear threat, so much in the “headlines” of his day, even as it has returned to the headlines of our day, a threat to humankind’s very existence and to the life of the planet itself. Merton felt that a genuinely prophetic witness does not require one to have all the right answers, but to be able to articulate the problems we face, the goals that are proper to a humanity that’s true to itself, and the questions we ought to be asking in light of our goals. Conferences will present an overview of Merton’s method of non-violent resistance and dialogue, some of what today may be vital for serious Christians to understand so as to better respond to the “demands of charity” as those who represent Christ, the Prince of Peace.

*Father Burke is a Benedictine monk  
of St. Meinrad Archabbey,  
serving as a spiritual director  
for seminarians,  
a professor of spirituality,  
and a director of retreats at the  
Archabbey Guest House  
as well as for parishes, diocesan groups,  
and religious communities.*

