

# Ministering to a Church Characterized by Conflict With Father Eugene Hensell



**Note: new dates and new location**

**The Retreat Center at St. John's**  
Monday, May 7 - Friday, May 11, 2007

Consider the following concerns: Is the church moving in directions the Second Vatican Council never intended? Was the Council a big mistake? Has the church lost its sense of tradition? Does church unity demand uniformity? Is pluralism harming the church? Are mixed loyalties dividing the church? Who exercises legitimate authority in the church? You might think that these concerns are taken from the pages of current religious newspapers and magazines that chronicle contemporary church issues. In fact, they are all taken from the Acts of the Apostles and the many challenges surrounding the Council of Jerusalem as well as the letters of St. Paul. Stronger personalities you will not find. Every person and group involved is absolutely convinced that their position is firmly rooted in the authentic message of Jesus Christ. And still, they are at odds and sometimes in very serious conflict. This retreat will offer reflections on various events from the Acts of the Apostles as well as St. Paul's two letters to the church at Corinth in an attempt to gain insight into how our ancestors in the ministry dealt with serious conflict within the church while at the same time striving to sustain a deep faith in that church. As we will see, this is a process that started at Pentecost and never ended. It continues right up to our own day. Acts and Paul's Corinthian correspondence provide no ready answers to our current pastoral problems. What they do, however, is encourage us to ask the better questions. This retreat will examine some of those questions as they apply to contemporary presbyterates ministering in today's complex church.

<b>Monday</b>	7:00 pm	Arrival
	8:30 pm	Opening conference
<b>Tuesday-Thursday</b>	8:00 am	Breakfast
	9:15 am	Morning prayer
	9:30 am	Conference
	11:00 am	Mass
	NOON	Lunch
	4:00 pm	Conference
	5:00 pm	Evening Prayer
	5:30 pm	Social
	6:00 pm	Dinner
	7:30 pm	Conference
<b>Friday</b>	8:00 am	Breakfast
	9:15 am	Morning Prayer
	9:30 am	Conference
	11:00 am	Mass
	NOON	lunch
		Departure

Father Eugene Hensell is a Benedictine monk from the Archabbey of Saint Meinrad. He did his undergraduate and seminary education at St. Meinrad being ordained a priest in 1969. Subsequent to ordination Father Eugene pursued and obtained an M.A. degree (1971) and a Ph.D. degree (1975) in Biblical Languages and Literature from St. Louis University. His work has included parish work, campus ministry, and college teaching of scripture at both St. Meinrad College and St. Meinrad School of Theology. From 1982 until 1996 he served as Vice Rector of the College and then President-Rector of both the College and the School of Theology. Currently Associate Professor of Scripture at St. Meinrad School of Theology specializing in creating and teaching online graduate biblical courses for St. Meinrad's lay ministry program. Since 1997 Father Eugene has been engaged in full time retreat work, conducting biblical retreats and workshops for priests, religious, and laity throughout the country and in several foreign countries .

## REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Ph. or e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Due by April 23, 2007**  
**Clergy Spring Retreat**

**Send reservation and check of \$285 to:**  
Office for Clergy Life & Ministry  
Cathedral Place  
9844 Woodward Ave  
Detroit, MI 48202-1309  
Fax—313-867-4613