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Priest Explains What a Retreat is All About

FATHER RICHARD MORAN A retreat is NOT something out of this world.

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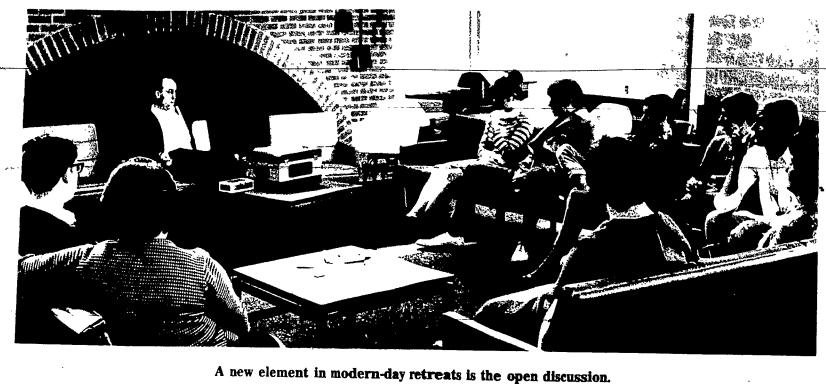
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It shares nothing in common with those chubby little winged figures painted high on the ceiling of your parish church and commonly called angels. Nor is it a whiff of the sulfuric fumes of hell, so graphically described by some missionaries -as+to give the impression they had been to hell and had come back. Neither is a retreat a hair raising phenonemen or a soul searching session.

A retreat is something very much of this world. It smacks of the stuff of all human experiences . . . something living and dynamic. By way of definition, one could say that a retreat is an experience with TIME and PLACE which are best suited to give a man a chance to THINK PRAYER. FULLY

Advertising men tell us that never before has man had so much time on his hands, with shorter working hours, etc. Yel, the 20th century has robbed man of time for himself by forcing him to work two or three jobs to make provision for tomorrow

"Rush" is the mood of his



| A Retreat Makes Time A retreat pulls the plug out of electric clocks and jams the main spring of mechanical ones. Only the bell ringer on a re- treat needs a timepiece, and even he can use a sundial to keep the men on an order of events. | world. A quiet world where a man becomes acutely aware of almost forgotten sounds like the click of his own heel on a garden path, or the snap of a twig breaking under his foot in the woods, or the snapping of a curtain against his opened window in the morning. | under ordinary circumstances, most men wouldn't do this, nor would they have God's Word presented to them there, as they would have while on a re- treat. For thinking prayerfully means having the time and the | and realize who they are? Do they ever bother to take the time and be in a place so gear- ed that they can recognize them- selves in the confused picture of the morning headlines? How often do men stop to dig down deeply into the nucleus that is "themselves" and discover who |
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We take great pride in saluting the Redemptorist Fathers on this memorable-day-of dedication-

Notre Dame **Retreat** House Canandaigua carpeting • furniture • drapes messner

| What | а | Retreat i | S / | All | About |
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| | | • | | | |

| (Continued from Page 6A) | who live under the same roof with him. |
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| most likely born in a hospital, | To many men, a wife is only |
| and due to work, he has prob- | so much blood, flesh, bone and |
| ably spent almost half of his | cartilage. Their eyes see only |
| marriage away from his wife | weight, height, shape and color. |
| and children. Some master! | They do not constantly discov- |
| • | er that aspect of their wives, |
| • To Know God Better | the intermediate the enimited of |
| | the intangible, the spiritual ele- |
| A retreat provides a man | ment, which makes their wives |
| with the time and place or get | so different from all the other |
| to know his God. Who is God | women in a parish, or in a town |
| anyway? Infinity? The only in- | or on a street. |
| finity a 20th century man | the OOth and |
| knows is that last nitch on the | In many ways, the 20th cen- |
| viewfinder of his Kodak camera. | tury way of life forces a man |
| viewinider of his Rodak cancia. | to take his children for grant- |
| What is God like? Who is | ed. It keeps a man from con- |
| that "Our Father" to whom | stantly knowing his children in |
| Jesus told him to pray? Does | their various stages of growth. |
| man know the God he worships | |
| Sunday after Sunday? What | A son may feel like a strang- |
| possible meaning can words like | er in his father's house or a |
| "Omniscience" and "Omnipo- | daughter may want to go "visit |
| tence" and "Omnipresence" have | her girlfriend" whenever her |
| tence and Ommpresence have | father comes home. When I |
| for modern day man who knows | asked one teenage boy at Notre |
| only relationships from the | Dame, "Does your father love |
| world of science with which he | you?" his answer was: "My fa- |
| daily comes in contact. And is | ther doesn't even know I exist!" |
| he content to sit Sunday after | the doesn't even know I exist. |
| Sunday muttering those words | A retreat supplies a man with |
| over and over again "Our | time to think and a place, away |
| Father, who art in heaven?" | from it all, to recognize again |
| turner a sub- thinks, mar are | that young woman at home who |
| Anyone who thinks man can | only yesterday was a little girl |
| know God from a five or ten | in pigtails. |
| minute sermon on a Sunday is | 114 PIDCULAS. |
| just not living life as it is lived | Life has a design and a weave |
| today | |

Life has a design and a weave to it as orderly as the one in a man's suit. A retreat gives a

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