

# the olive branch

A Newsletter from Sacred Art of Living – Center for Spiritual Formation

Vol. 22

2018-19 Edition

## LOVE IS STRONGER THAN DEATH

Dear Friends,

Ten years ago, more than two hundred Anamcara Apprentices from seven countries gathered in the presence of a great soul, the late Fr. Thomas Keating. Mary Groves blessed the space with light and for about a half hour, the entire group entered into a time of profound quiet that created a sense of timeless community among soul friends. Keating told us that, "Silence was God's first language and that everything else was a poor translation." Mary reminded us that, "In this community, love will always be stronger than death." It was an unforgettable beginning of the Anamcara Apprenticeship. We now have the privilege of looking over the past decade and seeing the many hundreds of Anamcara family that have traveled this meaningful journey together.

When I count life's blessings, at the top of my list are those special friends and spiritual mentors who have helped me "grow soul," in the language of our Anamcara Tradition. The legacy of people like Mary and Thomas has not faded with their passing. Their words, and more importantly, their soulful presence continue to inspire everything we do and teach at **Sacred Art of Living Center**. These same mentors invite us to bring our gifts to a world that is in much need of healing.

This year we have undertaken a timely and challenging theme: to find compassion amidst the tension of opposites. I believe that this space of tension is a sacred one and the only space through which we will grow. By learning to embrace life's tragic gaps, there is more space for seemingly opposite ideas, feelings and behaviors to coexist. The result is that the soul grows bigger by becoming less rigid, less judgmental, less fearful, more tolerant and more loving. No wonder Jung said, "By dealing with the paradox of opposites on a personal level, one is making a significant contribution toward world peace..."

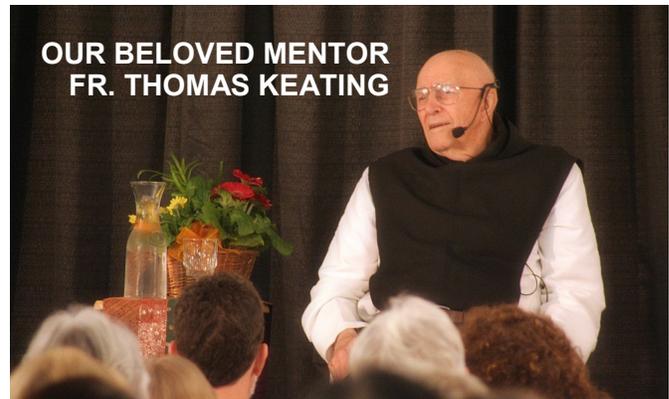
As a member of our **Sacred Art of Living** family, please **be generous in supporting our annual campaign to keep this vision alive**. Your support gives us the courage to bring our mentors' anamcara wisdom into the future!

Gratefully,  
Richard Groves  
Founding Director



MARY GROVES 10TH YEAR MEMORIAL  
FEBRUARY 2, 2019

### REMEMBERING TWO SPECIAL MENTORS



OUR BELOVED MENTOR  
FR. THOMAS KEATING



lessons for **CAREGIVERS**

SALC friends who purchase an annual subscription can access the entire VIRTUAL Soul & Science interactive library for only \$35 including many options for online continuing ed.

Go to [soulandscience.org](http://soulandscience.org) to subscribe or to test drive an entire series free of charge!

JOIN OUR ONLINE COMMUNITY –  
SUBSCRIBE TODAY