

## Former Retreatants have said:

*“This is the most holistic, inclusive, all-encompassing retreat I have ever experienced, incorporating body, mind, spirit, movement, the arts, visuals, audio, symbols and rituals.”*

Christelle Watercott, OSF, Minnesota

*“A spiritual experience of a lifetime. I have studied Bonaventure’s Journey, but this time I experienced it.”*

Paula Scraba, OFS, New York

*“I came to this retreat wondering if I would ever understand Bonaventure. I left with a sense of peace in my search for God.”*

Barbara Goergen, OSF, California

*“The Journey into God retreat was a true journey within my soul as well as a journey with others.”*

Celestine Giertych, CSSF, Italy

*“The finest retreat I’ve ever made!”*

Joseph Schwab, OFM, Arizona

*“The retreat is a living experience that immerses the retreatant in the teaching of the Seraphic Doctor. You might think of it as theology for the non-theologian.”*

Paul Perkins, OFS, California

*“It reconnected me to the Word of God who walks in our skin.”*

Jan Kilian, OSF, Minnesota

*“A life-transforming experience! It has opened up new horizons for my own journey.”*

Clare Ruva, OSC, England



## Franciscan Renewal Center

Peace. Renewal. Good.

About the Franciscan Renewal Center  
The Franciscan Renewal Center began in 1951 as a place for retreat programs. Affectionately known as the “Casa de Paz y Bien” or simply “the Casa,” it is today a Catholic renewal center in Paradise Valley, Ariz., offering spiritual growth, healing and transformation that moves lives into the service of others.

The Casa is an active religious community of the Order of Friars Minor — part of the worldwide Franciscan family, following in the footsteps of Sts. Francis and Clare of Assisi. The Casa is a wholly owned entity of the Franciscan Province of Saint Barbara, based in Oakland, Calif., that works cooperatively with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Phoenix.

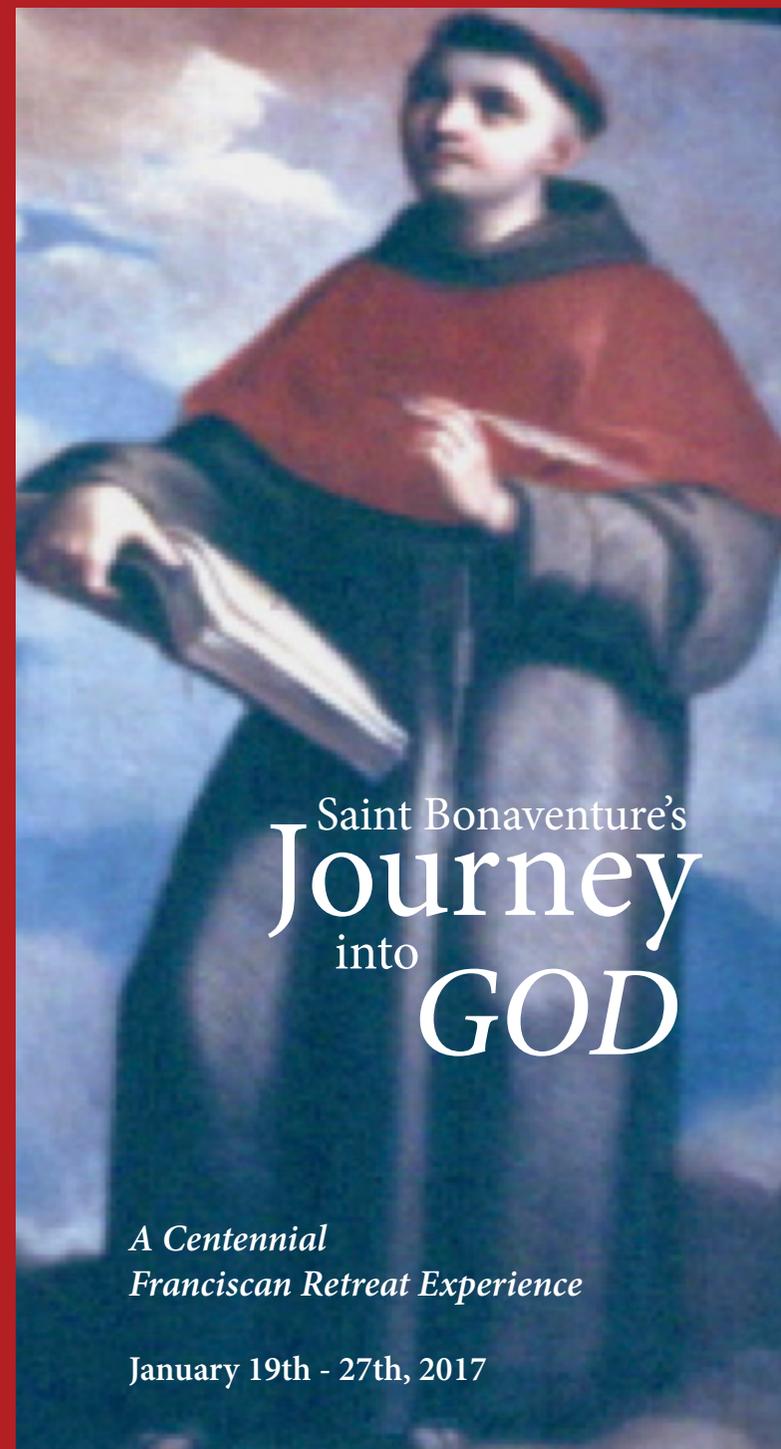
Activities at the Casa include daily and Sunday Mass, retreats, gathering space for non-profit groups, licensed behavioral health counseling, as well as more than 50 volunteer ministries that give aid to the poor or vulnerable, empower individuals to improve their circumstances, and build community fellowship.  
Discover more at [TheCasa.org](http://TheCasa.org)

5802 East Lincoln Drive  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85253

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800.356.3247 toll free

[thecasa.org](http://thecasa.org)

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Saint Bonaventure's  
**Journey**  
into  
**GOD**

*A Centennial  
Franciscan Retreat Experience*

January 19th - 27th, 2017

## Registration and Event Information

*Thursday, January 19th, 2017 through  
Friday, January 27th, 2017*

### *A typical day:*

After morning prayer, time is provided for reading the chapter of THE JOURNEY under consideration, then, an input session on the same chapter followed by quiet time. Only the Eucharist is celebrated in the afternoon, the remaining time for reflection and quiet. Evening prayer is followed by optional sharing on the chapter of the day.

### *Two books will be provided for each retreatant:*

Journey into God, Raischl & Cirino; and the songbook, Love Holding Love, both published by Tau Publishing, Phoenix, AZ.

### *Registration is open!*

Visit [thecasa.org](http://thecasa.org) or call Amy at 480.948.7460 ext. 132 to sign up for this amazing experience.

### *Fees:*

With Lodging (Single occupancy room)	\$900
With Lodging (Double occupancy room)	\$660
Commuter	\$520

All rates include meals.

## About this Retreat

Within the present decade of this new millennium, one of the most distinguished friars of the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition was born, Giovanni di Fidanza, later known as St. Bonaventure. Although scholars have different opinions concerning the actual date of St. Bonaventure's birth, many have settled on the year 1217. While we are within this decade and with this specific date in mind, we invite you to celebrate the eighth centenary of the birth of the Seraphic Doctor, St. Bonaventure, by attending a retreat on his masterpiece, *Itinerarium Mentis in Deum*, his Journey into God.

Jean Gerson (+ 1429), chancellor at the University of Paris, St. Bonaventure's alma mater, said that the *Itinerarium* is "more valuable than all literature which had ever been written," and confessed that he made the *Itinerarium* his "chosen reading for 30 years, without ever ceasing to obtain great fruit from it." And more recently, Lawrence Landini OFM (+ 2005) called this writing "a religious classic, theology rooted in experience!" And Zachary Hayes OFM (+ 2014), a Bonaventurian scholar himself, said that "virtually the whole of Bonaventure's theology is present in the few compact pages of the *Itinerarium*."

In 1259, St. Bonaventure, wanted "to satisfy the desire of (his) spirit for peace." So around the time of the thirty-third anniversary of the death of the saint, he wrote: "I was moved by a divine inspiration and withdrew to Mount LaVerna since it was a place of quiet." And there he experienced his JOURNEY INTO GOD.



The retreat opens with a presentation on the life of Bonaventure in order to provide a context for reflection on his work. Each of the eight days of the retreat is then dedicated to one of the chapters of THE JOURNEY. Each day is a balance of instruction on the text, periods for reading and personal and community participation in eucharistic liturgy, morning and evening prayer. The liturgical and para-liturgical prayer is especially designed by the presenters to disclose the profound themes in a contemporary experience.

ALL ARE WELCOME.

## Facilitators



**André Cirino OFM** has worked in parishes, formation, education, and the Little Portion Retreat House for the poor. His books include *Teens Encounter Christ*, *In the Womb of the Cave*, and *The Cross Was Their Book*. Since 1984 André has conducted pilgrimages to Italy, Prague, England, Mallorca, France, Germany and California for FRANCISCAN PILGRIMAGE PROGRAMS. He taught at the Franciscan International Study Centre, Canterbury, England.



**Josef Raischl, OFS** a native of Germany, lives with his wife Bernadette, in Dachau and works with Hospice in Munich. He studied theology in Germany and at the Franciscan International Study Centre, Canterbury. Josef also studied in Rome at the Capuchin Franciscan Institute where he met André and developed this retreat

**André and Josef have published:** *Franciscan Solitude*; *Journey into God*; *A Forty-Day Journey into God*; *My Heart's Quest*; *Collected Writings of Eric Doyle*; *Three Heroes of Assisi in World War II*; *A Pilgrimage through the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition*; *Bringing Forth Christ*. André and Laurent Gallant OFM published *St. Francis' Office of the Passion: The Geste of the Great King*. Josef produced the CDs for the *Office of the Passion* and *Love Holding Love—mantras drawn from the writings of Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi*.