

William J. Kelley Retreat Center

*Providing Spirituality and ecumenical meeting
space on the Mississippi Gulf Coast*



Welcome to:
St. Augustine's
William J. Kelley, SVD
Retreat Center
a ministry of The Divine Word Missionaries



The retreat center welcomes all people without distinction of race, creed, or color. It is also open for non-religious purposes to businesses who wish to use our facilities as a restful, peaceful place for their business meetings.



510 North Second Street
Bay Saint Louis, MS 39520-4626

Phone: 228.467.2032

Fax: 228.467.2033

e mail to: svdretreatcenter@bellsouth.net

web site www.svdsouth.com



WHAT WE OFFER

Retreats (private, directed, guided, preached),
Counseling (private, couple, family, etc)
Workshops
Group rental of the facility for a day, a week, or longer.

BACKGROUND

St. Augustine's was founded by Divine Word Missionaries in Greenville, Mississippi in 1920 and moved to Bay St. Louis in 1923. It was the first Catholic seminary in the United States opened for the education of Black men for the Catholic priesthood. In the 1960's almost all African



American priests in the United States had been trained at St. Augustine's. Today, more than two thirds of all African American bishops in the USA are graduates of St. Augustine's Seminary.



The Divine Word Missionaries are a multi cultural congregation whose members minister in more than 60 countries.



GENEROUS DONORS

In 2002, M/M John and Joan Mascaro gave the sizable donation that made the dream of the present retreat center a reality. The old retreat center was torn down and the present structure of five new buildings emerged in its place. The Mascaros made their donation through their friend, William J. Kelly SVD, the retreat director at the time, who died even as the buildings were being constructed. The new center was named in his memory. The facility was built as a major thrust towards retreat ministry in the Gulf Coast area. The new Retreat Center was officially opened on March 25th, 2003. *The Mascaro's are pictured here at the dedication of the Retreat Center in 2003. Mr. John Mascaro passed away in 2005.*



OUR FACILITIES

The Mascaro administration building houses living quarters for visting speakers, counseling offices, meeting rooms. There is plenty of space for meetings of various size groups.



Divine Word Chapel is presently under renovation. Retreatants use the historic St. Augustine chapel. This chapel was the only place African American men could be ordained for the priesthood from the 1930's until the late 1960's.



Bishop Perry kitchen and dining room.



Janssen Hall and Freinademetz hall are separate buildings providing 30 rooms with private bathroom, twin beds and wheelchair accessibility



The Retreat Center welcomes and provides for the needs of various groups



Retreat Center Staff

Location

St. Augustine's William J. Kelley, SVD, Retreat Center sits on 40 acres of property in Bay St. Louis, MS - one block from the Gulf of Mexico.

Contact Marilyn Smith, Retreat Center Co-ordinator, for rates and bookings.

Call her at 228.467.2032

email to: svdretreatcenter@bellsouth.net



Marilyn Smith