

# Middle School Chapel

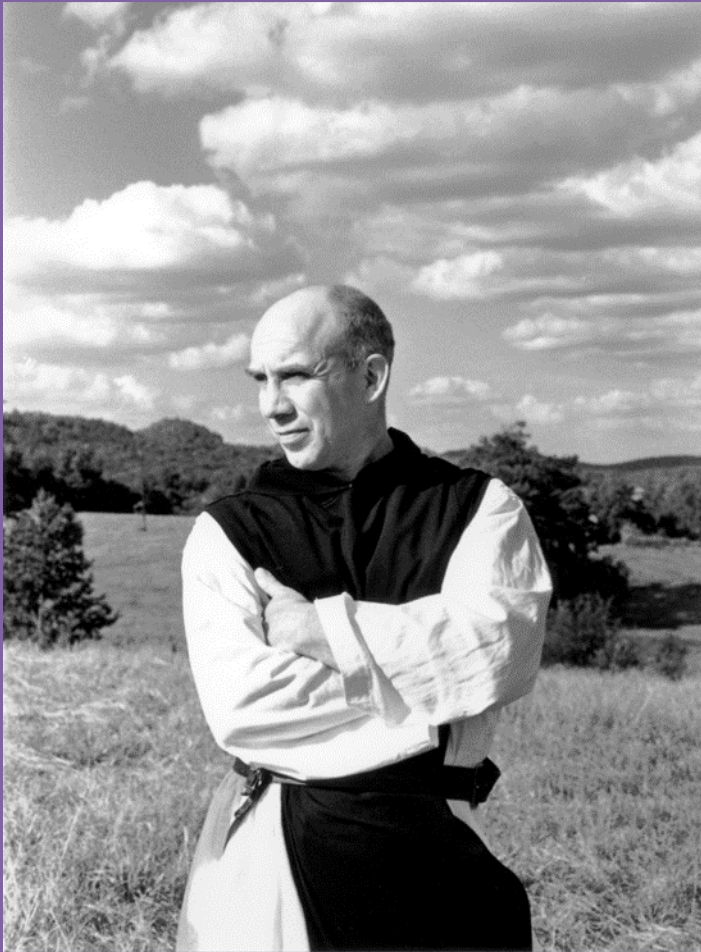
August 26, 2019



# Psalm 118:24

This is the day  
that the Lord  
has made;  
**let us rejoice  
and be glad in  
it.**





Thomas Merton, 1915-1968, was an American Trappist monk, writer, theologian, mystic, poet, social activist, and scholar of comparative religion.



All Christian life is meant to be at the same time profoundly contemplative and rich in active work. It is true that we are called to create a better world. But we are first of all called to a more immediate and exalted task: that of creating our own lives.

In doing this, we act as co-workers with God. We take our place in the great work of mankind, since in effect the creation of our own destiny, in God, is impossible in isolation. Each one of us works out his own destiny in inseparable union with all those others whom God has willed us to live. We share with one another the creative work of living in the world.

And it is through our struggle with material reality, with nature, that we help one another create at the same time our own destiny and a new world for our descendants.

*Thomas Merton, A Book of Hours, 2007*



## Key Points

- Life requires both reflection and action
- We are called to create a better world and to create our own lives
- We do this as co-workers of God, participating in the great enterprise of human existence - life
- We do this in connection with those with whom we live, study and work
- We help each other create our own destiny and the world we leave for those who come behind us

