

Spring Retreat Speakers

Bro. John is a Franciscan friar with the Province of Saint John the Baptist (Cincinnati). Assistant Professor of Old Testament Studies, he has been on the faculty of CTU since 2012. His main areas of biblical research relate to the formation and function of biblical texts, particularly the prophetic literature, and biblical theology. This includes such approaches as rhetorical criticism, the history of the interpretation and reception of biblical texts, and the Bible in the Church and culture.



Bro. John is the author of *Disputed Temple: A Rhetorical Analysis of the Book of Haggai* (Fortress, 2017), and the book reviewer for the Old Testament and related topics for *The Bible Today*. He contributes regularly to pastoral publications such as *The Bible Today* and *Emmanuel Magazine*, and he gives biblically-related lectures, presentations, and retreats throughout the US. He is a member of the Catholic Biblical Association of America (CBA) and the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL).

Jennifer Klecker was born in Owatonna, MN and ventured to Milwaukee, WI where she received her B.A. in Art Education from Cardinal Stritch University in 2004. From youth minister to classroom art teacher, she has worked with students in social justice and art education for over ten years. In 2015, she graduated with her MFA from California College of the Arts in San Francisco, CA. She currently teaches at a public school in San Francisco. During her breaks, she is able to serve as an adjunct staff



member for Franciscan Pilgrimage Programs, where she leads high school and college students in Italy.

As an artist she explores human spirituality and its connection to place and others. Her tools include drawing, video, performance, installation, and photography.

Whether taking students on urban hikes in San Francisco or Rome, backpacking in the High Sierras, or trekking 300 km on the Camino de Santiago, she accepts and finds joy in her roles as teacher and pilgrim.