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LA CAÑADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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OF THE WEST



## Christian Spirituality and Suffering

Janna Gosselin

Tuesdays Evenings  
6:45–9:15 PM  
April 12–May 31  
*(Including a Saturday retreat)*

La Cañada  
Presbyterian Church  
626 Foothill Blvd.  
La Cañada, CA 91011

ntswest.org

### \$10 Registration Fee

#### COURSE FEE (Audit or Credit)

**Audit: \$150** - Audits participate fully, but not responsible for papers or exams.

**Credit: \$600** (\$300 per unit)  
Christian Spirituality and Suffering is a 2-unit course

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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### CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY AND SUFFERING

You may register online at [ntswest.org](http://ntswest.org) or fill in the form below and mail to:



**NTSWest**  
54 N. Oakland Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91101  
[info@ntswest.org](mailto:info@ntswest.org)

OR

**La Cañada Presbyterian Church**  
Attn: Barbara Pettit  
626 Foothill Blvd.  
La Cañada, CA 91011

**Please include your \$10 Registration Fee and Course Fee - Thank You**

Audit \$150

Credit \$600

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

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# Christian Spirituality and Suffering

Why do we suffer? If we are suffering, are we falling short? Does God use suffering? Can we draw closer to God through our suffering? What about the times when we are overwhelmed by suffering? Does God suffer with us? Although we typically think of suffering in terms of physical pain, suffering can take many forms, including emotional heartache, relational isolation, and spiritual alienation. Some believe that if we are suffering, we are failing in our Christian life.

Yet, suffering is built into the very fabric of our faith through Christ's suffering on the Cross. Tim Keller says, "Suffering is actually at the heart of the Christian story." Christ's suffering is redeemed in the resurrection. Is there a way that our suffering can be redeemed as well? In this class, we will read from Scripture-- including Job, the Psalms, the Gospels, and Paul--as well as works by C.S. Lewis, Thomas Merton, Julian of Norwich, Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross and others as we seek to understand the role suffering plays in our lives.

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**Janna Gosselin** earned her Ph.D. at the University of Southern California in the School of Religion. A lawyer with an M.A. in Theology from Fuller Seminary, she seamlessly navigates the academic world of medieval studies while offering popular courses in congregations across Southern California on Christian mystics.

## NEW THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF THE WEST

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Taught by Tina Blair  
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The **New Theological Seminary of the West** is a teaching/learning community of choice for those seeking a transformational education rooted in the Bible and Christian spirituality in order to serve the world in love and justice.

*NTSWest offers a Biblically-centered education emphasizing missional theology, spiritual formation, and social justice to prepare you for service in the emerging church in diverse Southern California. The seminary provides a supportive environment to discover and enhance the gifts God has given you for your distinctive call to ministry.*