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Ellie Ragonese is a religious educator who provides workshops and retreats on Christian meditation and contemplative prayer.

EDUCATION

- **M.A. Religious Studies**, 1996; Mt. St. Mary's College, L.A.
- **B.A. Music**, June 1976; Rutgers University, N.J.
- **Catechetical certificate**; Archdiocese of Los Angeles
- **Spiritual Directors Training Course**; Mt. St. Mary's College

EXPERIENCE

2017 – Present

Prayer and Music Ministry

Lead retreats and workshops on Christian meditation and contemplative prayer. Singer/Songwriter recording artist/Christian Music

- *"Say Yes to God" Advent Retreat - Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Tujunga, CA
- * "A Light in the Dark" Lenten Retreat - Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Tujunga, CA
- * "Christian Meditation: Path to Intimacy with God (Workshop) - Immaculate Conception Church, Monrovia, CA
- * "Christian Meditation: A Path to Intimacy with God (1/2 day retreat) - St. Denis Catholic Church, Diamond Bar, California
- * Christian Meditation Group Leader through the World Community for Christian Meditation: Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Tujunga
- * Bishop Alemany High School Faculty retreats (2) and bi-monthly prayer breakfasts for one year

2010 – 2016

Religious Studies Teacher and Musician/Liturgist/Music Director
Bishop Alemany High School, Mission Hills, CA

1996 - 2016

Music Director: Youth Ministry Contemporary Music Group
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Tujunga, CA

1996 – 2006

Religious Studies Teacher, Musician/Liturgist, retreat leader
Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy, La Canada, CA

REFERENCES

By request

(Testimonials please turn)

Testimonials

- *Thank you for presenting a spiritually enriching evening at Immaculate Conception Parish. It was gratifying to see the large attendance, many of whom were hearing about Christian meditation for the first time. It was well worth the drive from West Los Angeles. You are a gifted communicator in word and song. Again, thank you for the gift of yourself! All were blessed by your presence.*

Mary Ann Gould - The World Community for Christian Meditation Southern California Coordinator

- *I just wanted to let you know how much I appreciated your beautiful presentation at Immaculate Conception last evening. You have a tremendous gift and I thank you for sharing it! I only wish that I personally had invited more people. After experiencing the event, I feel that the inclusiveness of your approach would work for many individuals with diverse backgrounds, religious affiliations...*

Mary Coates - parishioner Immaculate Conception Church

- *I was so moved by the retreat I am now attending a weekly meditation group in our parish started by Ellie. She is a wonderful teacher and is guiding us into a closer relationship with God.*

Gloriann McGown - Parishoner and Religious Education -Director, Our Lady of Lourdes Church Tujunga

- *Ellie eloquently brought her gift to our entire faculty last school year by leading our interfaith group in a monthly meditation breakfast. I imagine Ellie led us as Jesus would. She met us where we were, respectful of each individual's journey, simply and naturally inviting us to open our hearts and respond to Him. It was a blessing to all.*

Liz Hise - Religion teacher and Liturgy Coordinator Bishop Alemany High School

- *Ellie is capable of using music to help others reach into their hearts to find God's dwelling place there. I am sure that you will not be disappointed.*

***Fr. Norm Supancheck - Prior chaplain Bishop Alemany High School;
St. Didachus Catholic Church***