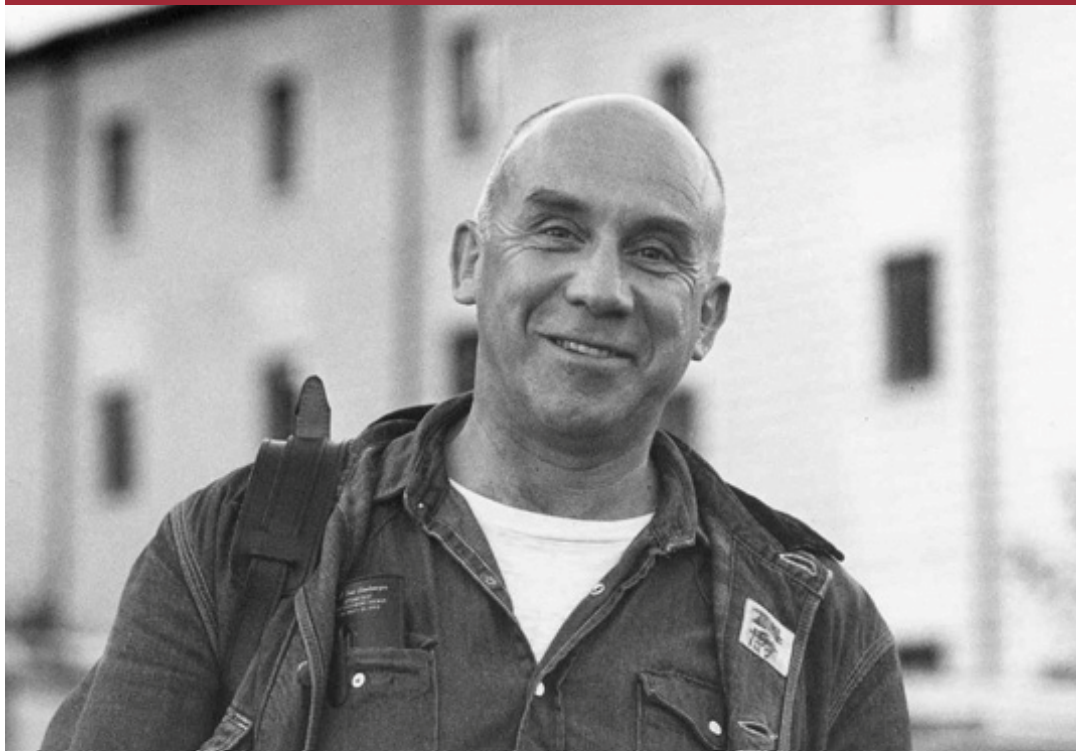


“The [Monk’s] Life Is Physically Hard, But The Compensation For This Hardship Is Interior Peace.”



(Photo: John Lyons. Copyright the Thomas Merton Center. Used with Permission.)

Fifty years after his untimely death, Trappist monk Thomas Merton (1915-1968) remains one of the world’s most widely read, talked about, and beloved authors, poets, contemplatives, and spiritual teachers.

But how did he get to be Thomas Merton? What made him the world-famous monk that he is? What were his thoughts, his struggles, his hopes, and his insights as he acclimated to a life of silence and prayer at the Abbey of Our Lady of Gethsemani?

In our May 8th meeting, we will discuss pages 3-88 in his book *The Sign of Jonas* (available at Baker Book House) and we will find out.

The Grand Rapids chapter of the International Thomas Merton Society formed in May of 2016 to discuss the life and works of the monk known as Fr. Louis.

Come join us (on our Third Anniversary!) and discover why Thomas Merton is more popular today than ever before with seekers from all walks of life and faith traditions.

**Wednesday,
May 8**

7-9 PM

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HOUSE**

**Located near
28th St. and
East Paris**

**Find us in the
Community
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**Open to the
public,
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