

# LIVING ORTHODOX JOYFULLY IN THE SECULAR WORLD: Storytelling; Listening; Evangelism

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## Pre Lenten Women's Retreat Information Page

CAROLINE LANGSTON

Saturday, January 27, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church  
8710 28th Ave. E. Tacoma, WA 98445

### Prayer of the Hours

#### Session I: Our Life in the Secular World

- "Environment Scan"
- Introductions: My Orthodox Journey and Why This is Important to Me

#### Session II: What is YOUR Story?

- Journal-Making and Prayer Activity
- Writing Exercise: Questions and Prompts for Telling Your Story

#### Session III: Sharing Our Stories

- Listen to Recorded Stories
- Partners Share Their Stories to One Another in Pairs/Groups
- "Giving Witness" in the Group

### Lunch

#### Session IV: Using Your Story and Listening to Live Orthodoxy Joyfully

- Myths: (My Asceticism Means Not Thinking About Myself; Real Christians Never Swear; I Have Nothing in Common with Those Pagans)
- What Sharing Your Story is NOT: (Self Absorption, Navel Gazing)
- Growing Closer to Christ

#### Session V: Saints and Patrons

- Examples that Have Inspired Me, and Lessons I Learned from Them:
  - St. Elizabeth the New Martyr
  - St. Juliana of Lazarevo
  - Dorothy Day (OK, not Orthodox!)
- Your Contributions

#### Session VI: How is God Calling You to Use Your Story? Drafting Your Plan of Action

- How is God calling you to use your story?
- What Changes do you need to make to your life/prayer life to do this?
- What kind of help do you need? (Spiritual Father/priest, friends, family.)
- Draft in your journal and share a round.

### Closing Discussion and Questions/Answers

### Informal Conversation and Network Building

### Vespers