



## **An Encounter with St. Clare of Assisi**

While struggling with the restrictions placed on medieval women, St. Clare fought passionately with the Church hierarchy, gave generously to those in need, and helped to end a three hundred year war with one of the world's first peace movements. She inspired St. Francis to live in peace and love, and her life story continues to inspire today.

**Professional actor and playwright Maureen Rooney and her colleagues (Paul Punyi and Karen Gartner) will facilitate an experience of Clare's story through a play reading. Using three professional actors, each with over 25 years experience in Stage TV Film and Radio, the play of St. Clare is read aloud at music stands.**

**After staff and/or students get to know her, they will be treated to a power point tour through Assisi, Italy while listening to the music of that time. (For staff PD retreats a taste of Lemonchello is offered to enhance the experience of the Tuscany lemons!)**

Participants at Star of the North Retreat Centre /04,/05,/06,/07 as well as GETCA /07, "Encounter with St. Clare" and "Encounter with Hildegard" filled out evaluation forms where they unanimously gave the event a 5 out of 5, and many insisted that this should be toured throughout the Catholic Schools.

**Students and Educators of all ages will find this presentation very entertaining and inspiring.**



## **An Encounter with Hildegard of Bingen**

In the 11th century, an age when women rarely managed to speak out, to write or to be educated in any way, Hildegard of Bingen was an amazing exception. Although at the age of eight she was confined to an anchorage where she spent the next 34 years of her life, Hildegard was instrumental in building a monastery. She was a preacher; a playwright and a composer of music still enjoyed today. Her visions continue to challenge Church theologians.

Professional actor and playwright Maureen Rooney and her colleagues (Paul Punyi and Karen Gartner) facilitate an experience of Hildegard's story through a play reading. Using three professional actors, each with over 25 years experience in Stage TV Film and Radio, the play of Hildegard is read with scripts in hand at music stands. After staff and/or students get to know her, they will be treated to a power point slide show of her many visions while listening to the music that she composed. (For staff PD retreats ale and bread are offered to enhance the experience Bingen, Germany!)

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**Hildegard's story is one of visions and faith and of the incredible risk and courage it takes to follow the call of God. Students and teachers will find this presentation both entertaining and inspiring.**

**Audience:** Staff PD Retreat Session and/or High School Religious Studies Students  
**Supplies:** School must supply and have set up 3 music stands.  
**Space:** A library, drama or music room is best.  
**Audience size:** under 100 students. Or up to 300 adults for conventions.  
Schools can book up to 3 performances in one day  
**Time:** Play reading, and Slide Show with music 60-90 min. including question/answer.  
**Fee:** Please contact us directly for pricing.

**Contact:**  
**Maureen Rooney**  
**Artistic Director**  
**Rooney and Punyi Productions Ltd.**  
**780-458-9790**  
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**For references or letter of recommendation, please call Linda McIsaac at Star of the North (780)459-5511**

