



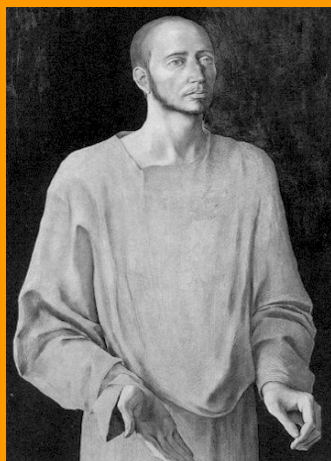
IGNIS



Newsletter of the Ignatian Spirituality Institute

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Message from the Director:

I am happy to report that we have a “bumper crop” of students for this thirteenth year of the ISI: eighteen entering the first year, and fourteen beginning their internship, the most we have ever had all together in any given year. You can read about all of them in this issue of *Ignis*. We will celebrate the class of 2015, to be certified on August 30, in our next issue, and our growing community of graduates in the following issue. Stay tuned! For now, welcome back to all of you for another year of discovery in the ISI’s continuing journey.

Since January I have spent time with the writings of Thomas Merton, the centenary of whose birth we celebrate this year. One of the notions I have learned from him is that of “parrhesia” or “free speech,” defined by Michel Foucault as “frankness in speaking the truth.” Merton connected this idea to the courage to speak the voice of his true self. He bemoaned some of his earlier writings because in them he wore the mask of what he thought a monk should be. In doing so his true self was submerged. As he matured as a writer, his authorial voice gradually became more genuine, if at times less consistent with the *status quo*.

This free expression of our true self is nourished by contemplative prayer, in which we find our ground in the One in whom we live and move and have our being. But it is also enabled by interaction with others. To quote Merton:

We do not fully know ourselves so long as we are isolated in our own individual self. Our identity comes to light only when it fully confronts the “other.” We are created for freedom, for the options and self-dedications implied by the highest kind of love. We discover and develop our freedom precisely by making those decisions which take us out of ourselves to meet others as they really are. But we are incapable of knowing and experiencing reality adequately unless we see things in the light of the One who is All Being, all real. The Spirit of God, penetrating and enlightening our own spirit from within ourselves, teaches us the ways of freedom by which alone we enter into vital spiritual contact with those around us. In this contact we become aware of our own autonomy, our own identification. We find out who we really are. And having made the discovery we are ready for the love and service of others (*The New Man*, 1961, slightly emended).

One of the questions I ask the interns at the end of their practicum is “What have you learned about yourself through the practice of spiritual direction?” In the interaction between director and directee, if both are sincerely rooted in God, each is able to find one’s truth in new and life-giving ways. Gradually they learn to let go of concerns about “what should I be doing?” and gracefully ease into simply being themselves.

The story of the hemorrhaging woman in the synoptic gospels illustrates this concept of *parrhesia* beautifully. The woman’s instinct to reach out and touch Jesus, hoping in his power to heal, enabled him to become who he truly was for her, to exercise the truth of his identity as the one for others. Jesus’ response enabled her to recognize her true self as a woman of faith who dared to defy the cultural norms that left her isolated and despised. This is not who I am, she realized. In spite of her fear, vulnerability and weakness, she dared to speak her truth without words, by touching his cloak. And Jesus was enabled to bring the healing power and love of God to her need.



Points of Interest

- Message From the Director
- Reflections from the Interns
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- Campus Nitty-Gritty

Message from the Director

What a beautiful image of the spiritual direction relationship! The directee's need, expressed sincerely, enables the spiritual director, rooted in Christ, to allow God's healing love to meet that need. In the process, the director begins to realize as well the unique, human gifts of his or her own personality through which that healing love is freely given. This is who I am, the director realizes – my own unique, personal way of being the one for others. These are the gifts that I bring to this ministry. And here also is where I need to grow.

This notion of *parrhesia* applies to the classroom experience as well – we can bring out each other's truth – student to student; teacher to student; student to teacher. We all learn a great deal about who we are if we each can be unafraid to speak our own truth to one another. One of the values of the ISI experience is the sense of trust in community experienced by each class, and by the greater community of graduates after the classroom experience is over. You may encounter fellow students or colleagues very different from yourself, and through your mutual sharing discover many new things about yourself and one another.

And now, to get back to where I began with Thomas Merton, let me say a word about the writing process. There is a great deal of writing you will be asked to do in both years of the ISI. The purpose of the papers is for you to give voice to how the material you read has affected you. This is an exercise of *parrhesia*! It helps you to find out who you truly are and to give expression to it as best you can. This then enables classroom discussion in which you share what you found through your writing with each other. It also helps me to get to know you as you truly are, and perhaps to adjust my teaching to meet your needs. While there has been a good deal of (mostly good-humored) complaining about the papers through the years, if push comes to shove, many ISI'ers will admit that the writing process is a good exercise for deeper learning and appreciation of course content which eventually comes to fruition in one's life and ministry.

Peace and all good things,
Joan

Reflections from the Interns



~Steve Bodey

I enjoyed my first year in the ISI immensely. I found the material presented very instructive to my spiritual journey and helpful in my preparation to become a spiritual director. The information expanded the world of my own religious views and helped to provide focus to my development as a spiritual director and as a person. The thirty-week Ignatian retreat was helpful as well for me to grow closer in my relationship with God and develop discernment around my desire to be a spiritual director. I increased my insight on where God wants me to use my talents and gifts.

~Liz Campbell



My journey to the internship at the Ignatian Spirituality Institute at JCU took me through my first year at the Manresa JRH, in Bloomfield Hills, MI. Previously, I knew nothing about Ignatian Spirituality, but at Manresa I was surprised to learn that I had a natural disposition for the spirituality of St. Ignatius. At one time I thought of becoming a religious, but chose to remain a secular in order to influence those in the world who needed God's love and care through my ministry as a nurse wherever that might take me. I have lived and worked in the Detroit area, Cleveland, and Latrobe, PA, and currently live in Ligonier, PA. I grew in my own spirituality through the Cursillo Movement where I was quite active until my marriage in later life (I am now a widow). I think much of what Cursillo teaches also has an Ignatian dimension. At Manresa I learned that it is not enough to live one's life in glory to God, but one's life should bring *greater* glory to God; the *magis* in Ignatian Spirituality. At two weekend retreats we not only learned about the discernment of spirits and discerning God's will, but we learned to share each other's insights, growing so much more in understanding. We learned several means of gospel contemplation and the examen, and we learned how to know Jesus through sacred scripture. Finally we learned how to be a disciple of Christ in service to the people God loves, willing to sacrifice who we are for what we could become. It was through this practice of "listening" that I took a look at the program here at the ISI. All that I learned and Dr. Nuth's willingness to accept me into the internship brought consolation! I look forward to learning, working and growing with you in the coming year.

~Donna Clark

It is hard for me to fit into my regular routine the continued study of theology (there is really no regular routine). I appreciated the requirement to write a paper every other week so I was “forced” to read some great books and articles that allowed me to think some deep thoughts about God, Jesus, grace and prayer. I truly enjoyed digging into the theology behind *The Exercises* and testing the edges of our theology and the limits of what we know about God. I am grateful for the support of my husband Matthew whose encouragement landed me in the ISI program. I am also grateful to my boss who generously allows me to commute to ISI from Erie, PA and complete my school work without having to make up the time I am away from work. I found the exchange with my classmates quite stimulating and beneficial to my education and understanding. I look forward to expanding the limits of my knowledge of God.



~Brenna Davis

The past year in the ISI has been another life-giving one. While I decided to pause on completing my practicum last year because of work demands, I thoroughly enjoyed attending classes and hearing about the experiences of my classmates as they began practicing direction with others. During this year I was also able to do a Nineteenth Annotation Retreat myself which was personally enriching and has made me all the more excited to begin directing retreats as I join the class of 2016.



~Liz Duarte

At the end of the last school year, I retired as an English teacher from Walsh Jesuit High School. Having attended several Jesuit Secondary Education Association symposia., I became increasingly interested in learning more about St. Ignatius and how people were moved by following his ideas. I also wanted to establish a close relationship with God as I had heard accounts of the practice of Ignatian spirituality doing just that for so many individuals. Walsh Jesuit wanted to make the *Spiritual Exercises* available to as many people as possible, so between my interest and the school’s need, the principal asked me if I would be interested in attending the Ignatian Spirituality Institute. I enrolled in the class of 2011. Through Joan’s teaching, the readings and class discussion, I learned so much about Ignatius, of course, and about my faith. That God might actually be calling me to be a spiritual director seemed a real possibility as I worked with retreatants at school. However, I did not complete the second year at the Institute. Fortunately, I am still on Joan’s e-mail list and saw the invitation to make the silent retreat at JRH. Still looking for that close personal relationship with God and perhaps fulfilling the continuing need at Walsh for spiritual advisers, I approached Joan about completing the second year at ISI. She generously agreed. The retreat was unbelievably moving in many ways. I now look forward to meeting my classmates and completing my studies with the Class of 2016.



~Joyce Gordon

Within one month of starting ISI, my position in hospice nursing was eliminated and I found myself in full retirement with limited resources. I learned firsthand that “all is gift” and that God will provide for our wants and desires when they are in accordance with His will. With careful reflection and meditation on the Principle and Foundation I realized that my only want and desire TRULY IS “to choose what better leads to God’s deepening love in me.” I was gifted with the luxury of time necessary to devote myself to the reading and studying of the texts. I am grateful for Karl Rahner, Joseph Tetlow, William Barry, Michael Ivens, and Brian McDermott for these are people who kept me awake nights challenging my thinking while renewing my mind. I include Joan Nuth among these scholars in Ignatian spirituality. Through Joan’s artistic presentation of scripture I have come to love and practice *lectio divina* and through Joan’s knowledge in theology I have grown in my awareness of the Historical Jesus and the Risen Lord. In addition to the renewing of my mind I also experienced a conversion of heart through the *Spiritual Exercises* in the Nineteenth Annotation Retreat. I am deeply grateful for spiritual guidance from my spiritual director who listened to my joys and heard my cries. While attending an eight-day silent retreat I received healing, a sense of wholeness and oneness with the Creator of my soul and Creator of the Universe. I eagerly await next year’s internship. Although my practicum is still in the planning stages, my hope is to present an eight-week retreat to members of my Methodist church and offer a Nineteenth Annotation for someone in the John Carroll Community.





-Dan Guion

My journey through the first year of ISI has been one of rewarding hard work and growth in relationship with our Trinitarian God. I have also been making the Nineteenth Annotation Retreat during this time. I have found myself becoming closer to Christ through my engagement in the scriptures. A special thanks to ISI grad Colleen Lasky who is my spiritual director and has helped me see the greatness of using imagination in reading scripture. Jesus Christ has continued to become more alive to me because of this journey. The loving support of my wife Carolyn and the love of my daughter Clara Rose have made God's presence ever more real to me. The support of my classmates and Joan's steady guidance during this process has enlightened me intellectually and has lightened my heart. We are all at different places in our faith lives, but we all have a love of God that has brought us together at this moment. As we continue on this journey together I pray for the strength of Christ to see us through our trials and tribulations and to help us see the joys in life that God has given us. Keep the Faith!

~Dave Jesenovec



How blessed I've been by this first year of ISI. I feel as if I've learned to wade deeper into the river of God. This year was like a long feast of rich theological studies, warm friendships, and most of all, deep intimate prayer. I feel I've needed the summer (probably a lot longer) to digest all the new insights, knowledge, and challenges that I've experienced this year. I feel exceedingly grateful to be a part of this program. Thank you all. Thank you God! There is one special gift that I'm aware of daily that has changed my personal prayer. I've learned to begin my prayer by offering myself to God based on Ignatius' *Take Lord Receive* prayer. This simple practice has had profound effects on me. As for my practicum, I'm anticipating it with excitement tinged by apprehension. I'm excited by the opportunity of helping others grow closer to God. I'm apprehensive when I consider how inadequate I feel for such an amazing endeavor. I believe God will teach me how to use these feelings to rely more on the Holy Spirit's guidance. Currently, I plan to lead one person through the Nineteenth Annotation retreat. I hope to meet one person for monthly spiritual direction. I also desire to lead someone through an eight-day or eight-week retreat. God has given me a deeper thirst for His living water and encourages me to drink deep. I want to share with others any way that I can.

~Rick Krivanka



The first year of ISI has been a great gift and fit for this chapter of my life and my role at Jesuit Retreat House. It has provided a deeper grounding and foundation, and made connections with roots of my life and images that have inspired me for many years. I have enjoyed our community of learners and our engaging conversations that reflect the depth of faith, life experience, humor and mutual support in our class. We have a good spirit together! I appreciate Joan's wisdom and dedication in leading us on the way. And I have been inspired by getting to know the wider ISI community and the many gifts being empowered on our shared journey. My Nineteenth Annotation retreat was blessed with many profound moments. I appreciate growing to understand the wisdom of Karl Rahner in encountering God's love and seeing a world of grace, the meaning of the kingdom for Jesus, and the First Principle and Foundation and its stunning relevance to my life and life for all. I have a more clear sense of what it means to be a spiritual director as a companion on the spiritual journey, and look forward to putting the past year's learning to work in my practicum year.

~Mary Mondello

It's been a joy and a challenge to audit and accompany the class of 2016 in the ISI training program. In exploring the meaning of *midrash*, *acatamiento*, the humanity of Christ, the annotations and countless descriptions and opinions written by known authors, theologians, and our professor, the graced knowing and understanding of this material contributed to our communal experience. Simultaneously we saw each week as part of a greater whole leading to a conversion of heart as well as an acquisition of important tools and knowledge needed in our practice of spiritual direction. I look forward to the coming year, our development, the teachable moments, and the graces we can expect to receive.



~John Scarano

My first year of the ISI program was everything I expected and more. I re-acquainted myself with Karl Rahner, an old favorite of mine, and was introduced to a treasure-trove of newly discovered resources. I found the Ivens book, Smith and Merz, Tetlow, and Barry and Connolly to be indispensable gifts that will remain with me throughout my journey in spiritual direction and beyond. I consider myself to be immeasurably blessed to have embarked on this journey with a cohort that has become a community with whom I have laughed, mourned, prayed, and learned. The feeling of support and care that enveloped the room and dominated each class is a testament to Joan and to each of us who gathered. I can't shake the sense that I am in the midst of something undeniably meaningful. I'm certain that the Spirit of the Living God is in this place and with our little community of seekers. Even though my Wednesdays had become marathon events, I never ceased to become reinvigorated by our gatherings. Even though my weekends had been hijacked by ISI reading assignments and papers, I always found myself enthralled by content that served to take me to a place of prayerfulness and reflection. I'm very much looking forward to our second year, our practicums, and the ability to give life to all that we have learned. I'm also grateful to be on this road with a group of fellow pilgrims who have become a blessing in my life.



~Sr. Carol Anne Smith, HM

As I entered the Jesuit Retreat House this past August 22nd, I had no idea what to expect from the opening ISI retreat. I anticipated the start of a program to which I felt deeply drawn, but what would this retreat and course be like? Would others in the program feel as I did? Would this new venture really guide me in response to God's call? When I left JRH on the following Sunday after the deeply inspiring and humbling closing prayer and sharing, I knew I had entered a community of disciples, a group of companions genuinely seeking to learn and to experience and share God's presence and love. My enthusiasm and gratitude have only deepened from that Sunday until now. The outstanding dimensions of my first year of the ISI program included: genuine spiritual sharing; meaningful prayer together; challenging substantive theological course work and reading; a fine balance of reading, assignments, sharing and lecture; expert input during Saturday workshops; exposure to rich and practically helpful resources; classmates whose love and search for God inspired me greatly; and a professor whose love for God and relationship with the risen Christ shone through in every class and served as a model of the "quiet" ministry of spiritual direction. I left this first year affirmed in what I experience as a call to spiritual direction and deeply enriched, grateful and eager to begin my practicum. I look forward to being with my classmates again as we continue in the ISI program.





-Mike Sweet

My first year of ISI was a great theological learning discovery. Not having a lot of structured spiritual education did not hinder the grace of God for me to understand the readings and materials we studied. That same grace was the thread that wove through Joan's instruction, class discussion, workshops and our prayer and fellowship together as a group of brothers and sisters on a journey together. Though some reading was difficult, the fruit of study is priceless. I look forward to beginning spiritual direction this fall, putting to use all we have learned in this past year and witnessing again God's blessing on us all as disciples of Christ.



-Kathy Wray

What a blessing this first year in the ISI has been for me! Our class times, the required readings, and yes, even the assignments, have been food for my brain AND my soul. I immediately felt at home with my fellow classmates and with Joan, and have come to really care for each member. As I begin to desire a slower, deeper way of sharing my love for God and God's love for us with others, spiritual direction just seems so right for me. This past year has affirmed that and has given me so many tools to prepare me for this shift, whenever it comes. Thank you, thank you to each of you, and to our good God who brought this Pittsburgher to Cleveland!

Meet the Incoming Class

~Virginia Bemis



I'm a retired English professor and former prison chaplain, living in Ashland, Ohio with my husband, Robert, a retired industrial chemist. I got my Ph.D in English from Michigan State University, and my M.Div from the Methodist Theological School in Ohio. I'm an Episcopalian, but wound up being ordained as a Congregationalist so that I could keep on working at the prison. Prison ministry was a true calling for me, and I hated having to leave it, but when the state cut back on the budget for contract chaplains, I had to go. I still haven't turned back into a civilian, though. One Sunday last year I walked into church as an ordinary member of the congregation and walked out as a spiritual director. Our rector asked me to mentor a young man who needed guidance. As I worked with him, I found a new calling and decided to get proper training as a spiritual director. In my "spare time" I study disability theology and disability studies in general. I particularly enjoy the work of Stephen Kuusisto, Nancy Eisland and Nancy Mairs. Disability activism on-line and in print goes along with this. I co-moderate a discussion list on disability studies in the humanities (DS-HUM). For lighter reading, science fiction is my preference. Clearly, studying at ISI is going to be a life-changing experience to add to going to prison, living in England, seminary, and graduate school. Should be interesting.

~Kristian Bendoraitis



I currently live in Bay Village, Ohio and although I am about a hundred miles from where I grew up in Toledo, my journey to Cleveland has footprints all over the globe. The best parts, of course, were explored with my travel companion and wife, Susanne. As a result of our shared interest in ministry, we completed our Master of Divinity degrees at Fuller Theological Seminary. When we graduated, my wife won a scholarship that funded a year of international travel intended to experience God's work in other parts of the world. After spending time in Croatia, Scotland, Malaysia, and a hospital chaplaincy course we emerged with deepened global interests, humbled egos, and an acceptance letter to the graduate program at the University of Durham, England. The following autumn, we moved to the UK, where over the next six years I studied and completed a masters and doctoral degree, my wife worked as a youth pastor for an ecumenical foundation, we gave birth to both our children (who are 5 and 7 years old now), and all fell in love with a small city in the northeast of England and its people. In September 2011, we moved to Cleveland, where my wife accepted a job as an associate pastor at John Knox Presbyterian Church and I began full-time care of our children and a job teaching online for Spring Arbor University. In my 'free time', I enjoy Legos with my boys, photography, woodworking, gardening, traveling, hiking, and baking (and eating) pizza.

~Susan Carey

Hi, my name is Susan Carey and I am an Associate of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine. This will be my first year with ISI and I am really looking forward to it. I feel very blessed to be on this path. It is something I have desired for a long while. I believe the Lord has been preparing me for this moment and I am overjoyed it has arrived. In recent years, I have had opportunities that changed my life view. I never expected to be in the relationships I am in, or to visit places that are completely foreign to me where I never imagined I would go. This is part of the reason I am happy about attending ISI. Through ISI, it is my hope to gain a better understanding of Scripture. That has always been important to me. I find Ignatian Spirituality particularly attractive so am pleased to learn more about it. Because of my own personal experience with spiritual direction, I have wanted to work in that area and share with others what has been given to me. In my eyes it only makes sense to pursue the path I am on and see where it leads me.



~Ricky Chambers

It is a joy to be joining the Ignatian Spirituality Institute. It is really about coming full circle in my spiritual journey. I am originally from Texas. I have been married to my wife Nicole for eight years. We have two cats named Clapton and Ella and one dog name Auggie. I have been a Benedictine Oblate of Mount Saint Benedict from Erie, PA since 2011. I received a Bachelor of Science in Pastoral Ministry from Oklahoma Wesleyan University. I moved to Ohio in 2006 in order to pursue a Master of Arts in Practical Theology, with a concentration in Spiritual Formation, and a Master of Divinity from Ashland Theological Seminary. I have had the privilege of serving as a youth minister and as a senior pastor. I am now moving toward the ministry of clinical pastoral education which I believe will help me minister to those God brings on to my path. My spiritual life has been influenced by Henri Nouwen and Thomas Merton. I believe God can be found in the little things of life if we just take the time. I look forward to learning from everyone in the class and continuing to grow in my spiritual life and understanding of Ignatian Spirituality.



~Andrew Costigan

Greetings! My name is Andy Costigan and I am very excited to be joining the ISI Class of 2017!! I am originally from Akron, Ohio and came to John Carroll for my undergraduate degree, where I first fell in love with Ignatian spirituality. My desire to deepen my relationship with God and grow in my lived understanding of Ignatian spirituality led me to serve with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps where I ministered to former gang members in Los Angeles and subsequently to earn my master's degree in theology and ministry from Boston College. I have had the privilege of working for the Catholic Volunteer Network, the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, and am currently entering my third year as a full-time Campus Minister here at JCU. My primary areas of ministry are retreats and immersion experiences –both of which have been immense blessings in my life. I love working with college students, accompanying them on their journey, and introducing them to Ignatian spirituality. I love to wake up early to watch the sun rise and encounter God at the very beginning of my day. One of my favorite prayers is St. Ignatius' *First Principle and Foundation*, particularly David Fleming's paraphrased version, and I strive always to remember that "the goal of our life is to live with God forever."



Meet the Incoming Class



~Sr. Mary Josephé Fernández, SND

I consider myself so blessed—the opportunities and gifts I have been given over the years are countless—from the time I was a child, right up to the present moment. As a Sister of Notre Dame, I am privileged to live and minister with women who have shared their hearts, their faith, their life struggles and joys. I have found my sisters to be as Pope Francis said in *The Joy of the Gospel*, a community of missionary disciples ...involved and supportive, who bear fruit and rejoice ... involved by word and deed in people's daily lives ...touching the suffering flesh of Christ in others." I have spent over 45 years in education as teacher, coach and guidance counselor, as well as a number of years in leadership and service positions in our community—all of which have deepened and stretched me and given me innumerable opportunities for growth and the chance to assist others in their growth as well. Over the past few years I have been praying and discerning the possibilities of a new ministry as I leave the field of high school education. In my prayer, the Lord has moved me to seek the training to become a spiritual director and I so am privileged to be a part of this year's ISI program. I look forward with great joy to all that it will mean, not only for myself, but for all those who will be a part of the program with me.



~Elyse Garver-Hughes

I am from a rural community outside of Findlay, in NE Ohio. I have lived in Akron for nearly thirteen years and my parents still do not understand why my husband, two children and I live there. They think it's the "big city" while I call it home. I am currently an elder at the Akron Christian Reformed Church (ACRC). I began attending ACRC while a college student at Kent State University and have held various positions of leadership over the years. I did not grow up in the reformed tradition but attended an independent fundamental church throughout my childhood. In college I was a member of the CCO campus ministry that introduced the concept that all of life is "redeemed." When I think through the various stages of my spiritual/faith journey, I look back and smile. Only God could take a kid from the country attending an independent fundamentalist church to this place; enrolled in a Jesuit program focused on spiritual direction in the tradition of Ignatius of Loyola. I am excited to experience what God has for me during this new chapter of my life.



-Craig George

My spiritual journey began in earnest about twenty years ago. Prior to that, my intellect allowed me to accomplish enough to gain the praises of people: a medical degree, an organization behavioral master's degree, a wife, three children, all the trappings of a good life. It also allowed me to survive in my frightening and chaotic world. Eventually, all the material things became stale and I began to wonder about this God of Whom I had heard all my life. Though I had been raised in the Orthodox Tradition, my pursuit for the love and mercy of God took me to a charismatic Episcopalian Church. It was there that I began to heal from the battle wounds of a life devoted to worldly success. This healing led me to the loving arms of the Divine Physician and eventually back to the Christian Tradition of my childhood. While my marriage did not survive, I am still a practicing physician and, of course, still the father of three now grown children. Ten years ago I remarried a wonderful, godly woman and am currently enjoying the God-centered life filled with His love, mercy, and grace. The spiritual battles continue as I strive to develop the image of God, but I know I now stand on solid ground.



~Jeff Goggins

"Quest for truth" are words I might use to describe my life. Over the course of my life I have searched in many places, many things, and many relationships for truth, meaning, value, and purpose; and at the end of the day I have found it in only one place: Jesus, the one who is the way, the truth, and the life. Along this "quest for truth" God's Spirit continues to open and awaken my mind, my heart, and my soul to the Spirit's presence in me and in all of creation, each and every moment of life. The Spirit continues to set my soul on fire with a deeper and stronger desire and passion to know Jesus more intimately, to love Jesus more intensely, and to follow Jesus more closely. I have experienced God's loving presence in my life through over twenty moves spanning five states, ten plus cities/towns, and eight colleges that have led to living in Canal Fulton. For me, it hasn't so much been a place where I've experienced the Spirit's presence as the people, the relationships. Who I am is about who I am in relationship with. First and foremost, I am a beloved child of God. (continued)

Then, I am a husband to the woman with the most beautiful heart and spirit I've ever known, and father to three young ladies who also have beautiful hearts and spirits. And beyond my biological family, God has richly blessed me with a large, loving family of sisters and brothers in Christ. I look forward with great hope and joy to joining the ISI family, and to witnessing how God's Spirit is present and moving in and through you and your lives!

~Lynn Goggins

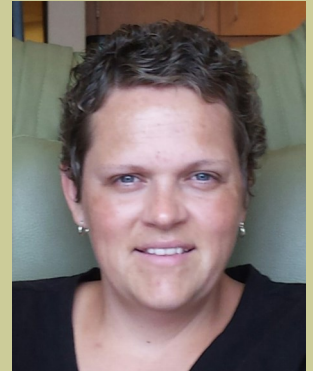
I am a beloved daughter of God. I enjoy contemplating new insights, singing, cooking, gardening, learning, listening to others, understanding people and ideas, and inspiring others in their faith. I practice the art of living in each moment with God. I enjoy writing about my experiences and thoughts in ways that help others relate to God. I have been in spiritual direction for over four years and I find it to be very rewarding. I am excited to journey with each of you through the *Spiritual Exercises* of St. Ignatius. What a privilege God is calling me to, that I may be equipped, through this program, to offer spiritual direction to others. I have experienced God's radiant love through many joys, struggles, and mountaintop experiences in my life, like the joy of being married to a wonderful husband who encourages me to be who God calls me to be. It is also a joy, and a privilege, and a struggle to raise three beautiful daughters. And this past year God has walked ever more closely by my side as I struggled with cancer. These experiences and others have filled me with an intense desire to know my Creator more intimately. My hope and prayer is that this program will fulfill that intense desire beyond what I could ever imagine.

~Dennis Guritza

Embarking on the ISI journey is such a great opportunity in so many ways. My journey of life/ faith began in Detroit, Michigan where I met my bride Diana almost 48 years ago. We have three children and six grandchildren. We have resided in Cleveland since 1984. I have recently retired from full time employment in the environmental field. In 2005 I was ordained as a permanent deacon and incardinated in the Diocese of Cleveland, where I serve at St. Joan of Arc, Chagrin Falls. Over the last year we have begun spending much time (mostly winters) in Tucson AZ, where our daughter resides with her husband and son (#6 grandchild). Consequently, I have established faculties at St. Mark's in Oro Valley as well. Guided study of the underpinnings of Ignatian Spirituality, along with the opportunity to develop the ability to share and assist others in their faith journey as well as our own, is so truly exciting. I look forward to expanding the network of people and resources which form the community of faith that we share.

~Millie Haynam

I am filled with excitement and joy about entering the ISI this fall. Having been raised Catholic all my life, attending Catholic school and even Camp Isaac Jogues as a youngster, I was surrounded by faith. Life, career and family pulled me in so many directions that the opportunities for growing in faith unfortunately took a back seat. Most recently, confronted with a few very challenging years and the deaths of my father and sister, I returned home to my faith, to what would forever sustain me. Seeking my roots in church would lead me to Holy Angels where I was invited to dig deeper. I attended retreats, bible studies and have become a lector and an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist. I taught eighth grade students preparing for confirmation last year and was reminded of the call to serve. I entered into the Nineteenth Annotation Retreat last September and it opened a world I never knew existed. As a cosmetologist for the last thirty-nine years, I have had the opportunity to travel the world speaking and training. But it is the possibility of directing someone's inner beauty and peace that compels me now. Drawing closer to Christ and his word has matured my faith and helped me recognize the Holy Spirit working in me and through me. I can't wait to see what God has in store for me next. When I'm not working or volunteering I enjoy cooking and spending time with my two children, Melissa 25 and Arthur 23 and my fiancé William.



~Janet Kurtz



With a deep love of nature, my husband and I have sculpted a place on our sixty-four acre farm where we live. I am an OSU master gardener who loves gardening. In Wayne County surrounded by corn fields, we have raised five amazing adults (three boys and two girls) with the last one currently in an undergraduate program at Walsh University. And then there is the joy of two grandbabies. I worked in the field of podiatry, until recently, for over fifteen years. I have owned my own greenhouse business, my own flower shop and have thoroughly enjoyed being around people. I've been told that I am outgoing, easy to talk to, friendly, energetic and calming. This last trait came in handy for raising five kids. I attend St John Lutheran Church in Canal Fulton and teach the adult Sunday school class. I also lead a weekly non-denominational bible study. Teaching is a love. I have a deep interest in mental health and its devastation and have spent the last sixteen years learning all I can. This was triggered by my son's being diagnosed with a severe mental illness. In addition to gardening, I enjoy reading, listening to music, hiking, bird watching, traveling and well, just about anything I can do outside. I don't collect snowmen or pieces of art; instead, I collect friends. Needless to say, I have a priceless collection. I believe in a God who transcends all our ideas of love and gives us more than we can comprehend.

~Gretchen Nock



What are you doing? What does ISI stand for again? What does a spiritual director do? These are some of the questions I am fielding and asking myself. Gretchen Nock, soon to be 50, mother of four beautiful girls, wife of an amazing husband. Is this my mid-life crisis? I am a graduate of John Carroll University from the 1980's, and a cradle Catholic, raised in a parochial school until eighth grade. In my high school years, I was involved in youth ministry nights. Truthfully that was more social than anything, but it was a tie to my Catholicism. John Carroll was an opportunity for me to be exposed to the Jesuit life, where I had many wonderful teachers. After graduation I worked at an advertising agency and worked on commercials. I married and had four girls in six years. My children's early years were very busy. My mother was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 1992 and I started and now run a non-profit, OROC- OutRun Ovarian Cancer, to fund research and increase awareness of ovarian cancer. I am currently on the MetroHealth Foundation board and have volunteered with many organizations involving children and the underserved. I recently had the privilege of completing my Nineteenth Annotation Retreat. I realized through the process, that I have always been a life long seeker of my religion and I am thirsting for more. I believe this program is just the beginning!

~ Brother Mario Parisí, OSB



Amid the outskirts of Akron's Goodyear blimp hanger, I grew up with a liking for the "3 R's" - in my case, "reading, 'riting and reflecting." The reviving and experiential nature of the *Life in the Spirit* seminars helped me realize that God was real. Caring folks gave living testimony and helped me find the joyful community of Borromeo Seminary (where I was among the first set of students to have regular classes at JCU in the early 1990's). The complementary nature of such a partnership gave us collegians a well-rounded preparation for theological studies at St. Mary's. After taking time off to do manual labor, I eventually felt a need to make a retreat somewhere. But where? How about St. Andrew Abbey? Determined to try something new, I ended up knocking on the huge doors of a water treatment plant. No answer. Circling MLK Drive one last time, I found a welcoming home up the hill. Assisting guests and oblates these dozen years has reinforced in me the value of hospitality for which Benedictines are known. Like every other maneuver of the Holy Spirit, the inspiration to embrace a life of prayer as a monk came as a surprise to me. "Sustain me, O Lord, as you have promised, that I may live" is the *suscipe* that we sing at solemn vows, which for me was on June 10, 2003. I received the religious name "Brother Mario" to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe, an image of inculturation of the faith and patroness of the Americas.

~*Judy Ringler*

My name is Judy Ringler. I am married to Tom (39 years this August). We have four grown sons, one giggly daughter still at home (she is 13), four lovely daughters-in-law, and seven lively grandchildren. We live on a small farm near Mansfield, Ohio. We raise a few head of beef and grow grain to feed and sell. We own and operate Ringler Plumbing, Heating & Electric, Inc. (since 1990). I graduated from Ashland Theological Seminary in 2006 with a Masters in Practical Theology. My focus of study was spiritual discipline and formation. I currently serve as co-director of the LifeSpring School of Spiritual Formation. LifeSpring is a two year program consisting of six retreats per year which emphasizes the spiritual practices of solitude, silence and prayer. I attend Faith United Methodist Church (since 1987) where I currently assist with women's ministry and serve as a member of the worship design team. I enjoy preparing Sunday dinner for my family; digging around in the flower and vegetable gardens; my daily walks with my neighbor, Kay; Fun-Filled Friday with the grandkids; reading anything that comes before my eyes; and finding myself and God through writing/journaling. I am eager to participate in ISI and hone my skills as a spiritual director. I feel this will nourish my own desire to grow and develop spiritually. I count it an added blessing to assist others as they also seek the deeper and hidden matters of our existence.



~*Sr. M. Kelley Rush, SND*

It is often when we least expect it, that God calls us to something more. I've experienced this in my own life. While working as a social work intern at the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Detention Center, I was inspired to become an educator for students with behavior/emotional concerns. After nine and a half life-giving years as an Intervention Specialist for students with severe behaviors, God called me to become a religious Sister of Notre Dame. During my first years of religious formation, I taught two years at Julie Billiart School, volunteered one year at the Juvenile Detention Center and Women's Outreach Center and taught three years at Cleveland Central Catholic High School. Presently, my full-time ministry is in Vocation Discernment, along with working with young adults. My final profession of vows will be in August, 2017, at the conclusion of the ISI Program which I am blessed to be a part of. My faith and life journey has become a journey out of self and into God with Christ as the only narrow passageway. I believe all my life experiences were necessary to bring me where God intended me to be. Now, I live my life in Christ as a temporary professed Sister of Notre Dame, with a freedom and interior peace that this world cannot give. I am blessed to have been led down this path to a closer union with God and believe I am to bring my gift of faith and personal encounter with Christ to all I meet, accompanying those seeking a deeper relationship with the Divine and encouraging them to live that deeper reality of their experience of God.



~*Michael Tracy*

Originally from rural Illinois, I see myself as a displaced farm boy who has settled in Cleveland after bouncing around the country for some years chasing God and hunting for my vocation. For the past thirteen years, I have happily served as a campus minister at St. Ignatius High School where I have led student retreats, organized immersion trips and assisted with liturgy planning and other student faith-formation programs. More recently, I have begun to work with new faculty and staff at SIHS in adult faith formation programs. I am particularly excited to be part of the ISI program at this time as I look forward to ways that I can bring my ISI training back to my work at St. Ignatius High School. Prior to living in Cleveland, I received a B.A. in English from St. John's University in Collegeville, MN and a M.Div. Degree from the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. I am married to Katia Almeida, and we have one child, Clarinha, who is a third grader at St. Angela Merici School in Fairview Park. Our whole family recently returned from an enjoyable trip to Brazil, which is my wife's home country, visiting her family there. We live in the Westpark neighborhood of Cleveland. After wearing the hat of a teacher for so many years, I am looking forward to returning to the role of student, which I have always enjoyed, as a member of the ISI program.



Tuition

Tuition is billed directly from and payable to the ISI Office. Make checks payable to John Carroll University, and send them addressed to the **Ignatian Spirituality Institute** or give them to Joan in class. Tuition is payable quarterly. Due dates are August 31, November 30, January 31 and March 31. Reminder bills will be sent to you. If you prefer, you may pay the entire amount at the beginning of the year, or half at the beginning of each semester (August 31, 2015 and January 29, 2016).

Nineteenth Annotation Retreat

Making the full Exercises is a requirement of the program. The ISI Director will provide assistance in finding directors for those who need to make this retreat, which usually begins in September or October. Finances are arranged privately between retreatant and director.

Parking

You must pay for a new parking sticker for each semester. They require records of the make, model, year, color and license plate number of your car and accept **cash or checks only**. The charges are as follows:

All-day Parking: \$125.00 per semester
 After 4:30pm: \$60.00 per semester
 Summer Time: Open Parking on campus lots (no permits needed)

Since our classes are in the evening, you will not need the all-day permit unless you want the luxury of coming to campus anytime.

Second year interns will receive the information they need directly from Patti Taylor/Parking.

Student ID (optional):

Student ID cards are necessary to check out books from the library, to use computer labs and athletic facilities, and to cash checks. The first card is free; there is a \$15 replacement fee for lost cards.

First year students are scheduled to have photos taken in the Carroll Office for these cards between 5 and 6pm on Wednesday, September 2nd. If you are a Second year intern and you need a card, you are scheduled on Wednesday, September 9th from 5 to 6pm. The Carroll Office is located in Room 12 of the Administration Building (Garden Level) near Einstein Brothers. (Cards are optional).

Library

The Grasselli Library is located across from the Administration Building. The hours are:

Sunday: 11:00am-2:00am
 Mon-Thu: 8:00am-2:00am
 Friday: 8:00am-7:00pm
 Saturday: 10:00am-8:00pm
 Holidays: as posted
 Special Days: as posted

Student Service Center

Located on the Garden Level of the Administration Building, this center provides a check cashing service for students. Hours of operation:

Monday-Thursday: 8:30am-6:30pm
 Friday: 8:30am-4:30pm

Einstein Brothers Bagels

The café is open from 7:30am-7:00pm Monday thru Thursday, and 7:30-2:00 Friday. It is located on the Garden Level of the Administration Building.

RecPlex

Your ID card gives you access to JCU's recreational facilities. Hours of operation are as follows:

	Rec Center Corbo & Cardio Room	Pool
Monday – Thursday	6am - 12am	11am - 1pm, & 6pm - 9pm
Friday	6am - 9pm	11am - 1pm, & 6pm - 9pm
Saturday	9am-9pm	noon—6pm
Sunday	9am - 12am	noon - 6pm

***Please check the JCU website for up-to-date changes that may occur for the hours of operation for these facilities, due to inclement weather, a power outage or interior maintenance.



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