

LAY LEADERSHIP UPDATE

August 2015

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A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

This coming program year is taking shape as leaders respond to the call to be with Christ on mission. Here is what's happening:

Praying with St. Ignatius Retreat. A new opportunity for leadership development, called "team mentoring" will be piloted this fall. A committee comprised of Margaret Balewski, Martha Campbell, Patrick Cleary-Burns, Kathy Haag and Janet Lehane met this past month with Sr. Judy Cauley, CSJ (an expert in education and group process facilitation). Using the work of John Whitmore's "Grow Model," we are working to create a process that will help us to help one another in "growing" our leadership skills.

Called and Sent Spiritual Formation Program. Now that all six modules of this program have been designed, developed and piloted, we are planning to offer each module during the 2015-2016 program year. Meet the module designers:



From left to right) Andy Kereky (Encountering Jesus Christ), Karen Broer (Embracing the Mystery), Sharon Bramante (The Christian at Work in the World), Patrick Cleary-Burns (Discernment and Decision-Making), Joan Carney (Embracing the Mystery) and Martha Campbell (Ignatian Foundations and Living Prayer)

Food for the Journey. Registration deadline for the fall program: August 28th. We will reflect on three women doctors of the Church who have helped to shape Christianity: Hildegard of Bingen (12th Century), Catherine of Siena (14th Century) and Thérèse of Lisieux (19th Century). The emphasis will be on deepening our understanding of Ignatian Spirituality in light of these women's teachings. (See pg. 2 for fall program details.)

Nurturing the Call. Janet Lehane and Martha Campbell will join together to facilitate the fall program for our *Praying with St. Ignatius* and *Spirituality Program for Adults/Encountering Christ* retreat leaders. The program will offer opportunity to hone the skills involved in small group facilitation as well as leading "Gospel Contemplation" and other prayer forms for large groups. (See pg. 2 for further details.)

COMING IN SEPTEMBER - IGNATIAN CURRENTS

KIDNAPPED BY BUSYNESS? AN IGNATIAN REMEDY
Cultural "Busyess" and
The Ignatian "Two Standards"

MEET DR. LAURIE CASSIDY



Laurie Cassidy, PhD is a spiritual director and theologian. With a master's degree in Christian Spirituality from Creighton University she has ministered in the area of spirituality for the past thirty years through spiritual direction, retreats and workshops at the diocesan and parish levels, and in campus ministry. Laurie has guided people through the *Ignatian Spiritual Exercises* at Jesuit retreat houses throughout the United States. In addition, she holds a doctorate in Christian Ethics from Loyola University/Chicago. She has taught at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut and at Marywood University in Scranton, Pennsylvania, where she was chair of the religious studies department. Laurie is an award winning author and editor; her writing explores how Christian spirituality provides practices for both personal and social transformation.

Laurie will be here at the Jesuit Retreat House on October 30th and 31st. The programs she will facilitate are meant for all who are "hungry for God" and seeking a deepening appreciation of the *Spiritual Exercises*. See page 2 of this newsletter for program details.





DEEPENING OUR AWARENESS - SOMETHING TO PONDER

LAUDATO SI - ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

A Reflection by Rev. Phillip B. Cover

The poet Drew Dellinger raises poignant questions posed him by his great, great grandchildren in a dream: What did you do while the planet was plundered? What did you do once you knew? Pope Francis issued a response to questions like these in his encyclical, *Laudato Si*, On Care for Our Common Home.

The encyclical has been met with conflicting points of view while the critical question remains – What did you do once you knew? What scientists, ecologists, environmentalists, biologists, and Pope Francis are calling for is *an urgent and radical reordering of a global way of life* affecting the life of every human being on this planet. We are at a tipping point and unless there is a radical reordering of our way of life the consequences may be irreversible.

Every human action impacts the planet’s ecosystems; and the ecological footprint is such that today “it now takes one year and six months for the Earth to regenerate what we use in a single year.” That is why Pope Francis’ appeal is passionate. “I urgently appeal . . . for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone...” “The urgent challenge [is]...to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change.”

Let me suggest three courses of action that are truly needed as a starting point. Our first immediate responsibility is to pray from a compassionate heart, from a stance of powerlessness and helplessness—asking the Spirit to pray a personal answer into every human being to a two-pronged question: God, how would You have me *be* with these ecological challenges? What would You have me do?

Our second immediate responsibility is to read the encyclical, *Laudato Si*. It’s on the Internet. This encyclical has been crafted to be very readable. After you read it for information, read it again prayerfully, reflectively, until the Spirit has possibly reshaped your worldview or prompted within you an answer as to what love is calling forth from you.

Our third immediate responsibility is to transcend the political rhetoric, to engage in dialogue that seeks at the outset to rise above dualistic thinking that separates, divides or condemns, and to willingly hold incompatible opposites together for however long it takes until an informed conscience emerges that we are all in this together.

Rev. Cover is a priest of the diocese of Lafayette IN. These reflections are adapted from a homily given at the Catholic Community at Relay, MD, July 12, 2015.

COMING THIS FALL ... NEW PROGRAMS SAVE THE DATES



FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

Accidental Theologians: Women Who Shaped Christianity
by Elizabeth A Dreyer

A Book Reflection Group Facilitated by Martha Campbell
Open to Spiritual Directors, Retreat Leaders, Pastoral Ministers and Those Who have Made the Full Sp. Exercises
Saturday Mornings from 9:30 - 12 noon
(Coffee and Conversation beginning at 9:00 a.m.)

September 19
November 21
December 12

NURTURING THE CALL

Open to Leaders/Facilitators of *Praying with St. Ignatius*
and the *St. Ignatius & Walsh Spirituality Program for Adults*
Tuesday Evenings from 6:30 - 8:30

(Coffee and Conversation beginning at 6:00 p.m.)
September 15
September 29
October 13

Saturday Morning from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
(Coffee and Conversation beginning at 9:00 a.m.)
November 7

**IGNATIAN CURRENTS - OPEN TO ALL
KIDNAPPED BY BUSYNESS? AN IGNATIAN REMEDY**
Cultural “Busyness” and the Ignatian “Two Standards”
Facilitated by Laurie Cassidy, PhD

Friday, October 30th
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 31st
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



SPIRITUAL DIRECTION NETWORK

Under the leadership of Jean Sullivan, the Jesuit Retreat House has developed and is now updating a network for spiritual direction referrals. When a request for spiritual direction comes to the retreat house, Jean receives the call and works with the inquirer to help meet his/her needs. If you are a spiritual director and would like to be part of this ministry, contact Jean at jean.r.sullivan@gmail.com
In addition, Jean may be contacting you!

QUESTION WORTH PONDERING

We are co-creator with God in the ongoing creation of the world, called to generate just conditions into every corner of human society. How are you acting, choosing, praying so that your way of life enhances the good of the earth?

- Phillip B. Cover

Lay Leadership Program - Martha Campbell, Director

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