

First Ignatian Morning

November 22 was the fulfillment of a dream expressed by LIS's executive director, Fr. Steve Corder, SJ, at a fall staff meeting. The staff excitedly welcomed the idea of sharing Ignatian spirituality in a two-hour frame for busy people. The "Ignatian Morning" would speak to persons not familiar with Ignatian spirituality and likewise, to persons who resonated with Ignatian spirituality and desired to be prayerfully renewed.

A guided Ignatian contemplation on discipleship by Br. Charles Jackson led to time for personal prayer, followed by graced sharing in small groups. Anny Chang, LIS Associate, then gave touching testimony to the life-changing experience evolving from her introduction to Ignatian spirituality: "I stand before you as someone who has been turned upside down by an Amazing God through my experience of Ignatian spirituality. I came to the USA to make money. Now I have more deposit in heaven than on earth. My motto about God was 'It's

wise to keep some distance from him.' Now I enjoy resting near the heart of Jesus and appreciate the beauty of God's Creation and his work. I was a self-centered person, but now I am committed to my Lord as the song says: 'Here I am, Lord. If you lead me, I will hold your people in my heart.' I could talk forever about my experience of Ignatian spirituality."

Fr. Steve Corder, SJ, put a closing touch on this memorable "first" with a special prayer. However, the really "closing touch" came later from an attendee, Chester E. Givens, Jr., who found himself compelled to capture his impacting experience in poetic expression. Entitled "Rest", it concludes with these four lines:

"Rest in me and find peace.
Abide in me and I will be your refuge today.
Abide in me and I will be your hope for tomorrow
And I will comfort you
Even 'til the end of time!"



Participants begin the morning with contemplative prayer.



Sr. Barbra Ostheimer, S.N.D., Associate Director of LIS and one of the facilitators for this morning.



Fr. Stephen Corder, S.J., Executive Director of LIS, joins the group.

LIS Associate: Anny Chang

In June, 2008, I was graced to become a LIS Associate after graduating from the Ignatian Spiritual Formation Program. As a LIS Associate, I am an ordinary person – a single mom and have a son, John, at Berkeley and an 11 yr. old daughter, Tiffany, at home with me in Cerritos. I operate Combo Print, a small printing business. However, my greatest love is spiritual ministry.

Currently I am directing two persons of the LA Archdiocese in the 19th Annotation retreat, The Spiritual Exercises. I am also a Eucharistic minister in my parish and take the Eucharist to the sick. This is my favorite ministry because I take Jesus, the host,

as Good News who shares the fullness of His love and goodness with the receiver. As part of our parish's Bible Study Group and Education Working Team, I sense the spiritual hunger of parish members. It is a wonderful opportunity and challenge to help people build a personal relationship with God as we pray and study.

I have also completed an observation of a ten weeks course on the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises in a neighboring parish. My hope is to become a facilitator in this type of course because I believe this can be a gift for hungering people.

From the Director



Dear Friends of LIS,

As we move into the new year, over 50 people are making the Spiritual Exercises in Daily Life through Loyola Institute in English, Spanish, and Korean. Many have shared their experience of imaginatively praying the Incarnation and the Nativity from the beginning of St.

Ignatius' "Second Week." Together we have reflected on the great gift and truth of "God-with-us." Especially during these challenging times for our world and country, it is all the more important to remember and to treasure this truth. God is with us in our joys and struggles, in the events of our daily lives, and showed this so profoundly by becoming human and journeying with us.

To see the spiritual transformation taking place this year gives great hope for the future of ministry and the Church. Our course enrollment is growing and some classes have almost exceeded the capacity of our Rosita Diaz classroom. We are confident that what God is doing through Loyola Institute has an effect even greater than we will ever know. People are being inspired and prepared as spiritual ministers to bring much-needed formation to others as they seek God, build communities, and serve those most in need.

We need your help to continue as God's instruments of multicultural spiritual formation. We rely on your prayers and generous financial support especially during these difficult times. \$1,500 would provide an eight day guided retreat experience; \$500 would offer a workshop or conference on *Ignatian Spirituality*; \$200 would make a parish retreat available; \$100 would support scholarships for individuals to make the *Spiritual Exercises in Daily Life*. Please donate today either with the enclosed envelope or through PayPal on our website which is safe, easy, and does not require an account.

Save the date for our annual Hearts on Fire Award and Celebration Dinner which will be Saturday, April 25, 2009, at the Doubletree Guest Suites in Anaheim. Fr. James Martin, SJ, the author of *My Life with the Saints* and an Associate Editor at *America* magazine, will speak and accept our Writer's Award. I look forward to seeing you there for a wonderful evening of celebration!

Gratefully,

Rev. Stephen Corder, S.J.
Executive Director

2008-2009 LIS Benefactors

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Thank you for your generous support!

LIS Annual Appeal

Ever since Loyola Institute for Spirituality (LIS) began over ten years ago, benefactors have occupied a special place in this ministry. Please consider making a tax deductible donation either by mailing a check to our office or calling us.

If you would like more information please call
(714) 997-9587

En Español

De Parte del Director

Queridos Amigos de LIS,

Mientras comenzamos un año nuevo, más que 50 personas están haciendo los Ejercicios Espirituales en la Vida Cotidiana con sus acompañantes espirituales. Hemos meditado el gran misterio de Dios-con-nosotros. Sobre todo en estos tiempos difíciles para el mundo y para el país, es importante recordarnos de la presencia de Dios cada día.

El Equipo Latino Ignaciano (ELI) ha ofrecido varios retiros recientemente y ahora está dando un curso sobre la vida y sabiduría de San Ignacio de Loyola. Lo invitamos a participar en este curso y hablar con el Padre Tacho cómo formarse parte del Equipo.

Esperamos verlo a todos Uds. en la cena de Corazones Ardientes, el 25 de Abril, sábado, 2009, en Doubletree Guest Suites, Anaheim. Celebraremos el premio Rosita Díaz y será una noche muy divertida!

En Cristo
Pa. Stephen Corder, S.J.
Director Ejecutivo

Br. Charlie's Corner

The God Who Communicates

Written by Br. Charles Jackson, S.J.

For me, one of the most poignant stories that followed upon the tragedy of 9/11 was that of the many people, hopelessly trapped in the Twin Towers or on United Flight 93, using their cell phones to speak with loved ones in the final moments of their lives. I was reminded of the Japanese passengers on an ill-fated airplane writing notes to their loved ones, knowing that their crippled plane would crash when it ran out of fuel; and of the injured climber on Mt. Everest speaking by cell phone with his pregnant wife as evening fell on the day he knew would be his last; and of Lt. Dmitry Kolesnikov, one of the few crewmembers of the Russian submarine Kursk to survive the initial explosions that doomed the boat, knowing that he could not get to the surface, yet scrawling a note to his wife in the darkness. Each of these actions speaks eloquently of something within us that truly says who we are as humans: the instinctual need that each of us has to communicate.

This instinctual need to communicate, however, is simply a pale reflection of God's need to communicate – *with us*. We are created in God's image: God is a God who communicates. The love that defines God is active; it radiates outward into the world of creation. God not only created us; God is continuously 'at work' in us, continuously communicating his love to us. What we need to do is to listen.



MISSION

In the Ignatian tradition, Loyola Institute for Spirituality accompanies people on their journey toward a life-giving relationship with God, self and others, through experiential formation to help transform the world.

The values of collaboration, ecumenism, and cultural diversity, guide the programs and services of Loyola Institute for Spirituality.

SERVICES/PROGRAMS

- The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius
- Parish Missions
- Ignatian Spiritual Formation Program
- Estudios Ignacianos
- Diaconate Programs
- Biblical Programs
- Lay Ecclesial Ministry Program (LEMP)
- Workshops/Conferences
- Retreats
- Days of Prayer
- Spiritual Direction

ELI Ayuda con el Programa LEMP

El diciembre 5 pasado un par de miembros del Equipo Latino Ignaciano (ELI) tuvieron la oportunidad de ayudar a facilitar un retiro de fin de semana para el programa LEMP de la diócesis de Las Vegas en el estado de Nevada. Los miembros de ELI que estuvieron ayudando en ese retiro fueron Julia y Humberto Ramírez. También estuvieron el Pa. Tacho Rivera, S.J., Pa. Felix Just, S.J., y el Hermano Charlie Jackson, S.J.

Con la colaboración de LIS y la diócesis de Las Vegas, el programa LEMP va a formar y entrenar a laicos para sus iglesias. Por años la diócesis de Las Vegas ha visto la importancia de laicos en las parroquias.

Miembros de ELI y varios miembros de LIS seguirán ayudando con LEMP hasta el año 2010.

FOTO: El equipo que ayudo con el retiro de fin de semana son Mark Gonzalez, Pa. Felix Just, S.J., Hmno. Charlie Jackson, S.J., Pa. Tacho Rivera, S.J., Julia Ramirez, y Hum-



Mark Your Calendars:

Enjoy a Night Out and Help Raise Funds for LIS

Every year LIS honors those who have shown their community what it is to truly have their hearts on fire. Join us this year for an unforgettable event, our annual Hearts on Fire Award and Dinner Celebration, which will take place:

Saturday, April 25, 2009

A percentage of ticket sales will directly benefit LIS



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Upcoming Course

Human Development & Spiritual Maturing

SP-04: 6 weekly sessions
Instructors: Sr. Barbra Ostheimer, S.N.D., & Dr. Tammy Ichinotsubo-Ezzi, Ph.D.

This course fosters deeper understanding of the impact of human growth and personal development on spiritual maturing. We will consider how appropriation of our desires, affects and imagination promotes healing, inner freedom and wholeness. Sessions will include opportunities for integrating the human and holy through reflective exercises and practical applications.

For more information on this course or to register please call
Sr. Barbra Ostheimer, S.N.D. at
(714) 997-9587

Calendar

February 7

Conference Workshop
Mount St. Mary's College
Los Angeles, CA

February 7-11

Parish Mission
St. Bernadine of Siena Parish
Woodland Hills, CA

February 14

Weekend Retreat
LMU Pastoral Program
Los Angeles, CA

February 16-20

Retreat for Priests
House of Prayer
Los Angeles, CA

February 21-22

Lay Ecclesial Ministry Program
Las Vegas, NV

February 27-March 1

L.A. Religious Education Congress
Anaheim Convention Center
Anaheim, CA

March 7-11

Parish Mission
St. Columban Parish
Garden Grove, CA

March 13-18

Parish Mission
Holy Spirit Parish
Honolulu, HI

For information on any of these events
please contact the LIS office at 714.997.9587
or visit our website at www.loyolainstitute.org