

LAY LEADERSHIP UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2014

VOL V NO 2



A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

With the coming of fall, we begin another ministry year. Encouraged by Michael Himes (see pg. 2) we continue to discern God's call to serving Christ's mission. We begin this year of grace with joy, hope and generous hearts! Witness the following:

Praying with St. Ignatius Parish Retreats. On September 10th, two retreat teams will be commissioned to serve in two diocesan parishes this fall: **Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Euclid** will host this 8-week retreat on Mondays beginning September 22nd. The leadership team includes co-leaders Jean Sullivan and Mary Ann Burke, SND and facilitators Sandy Appeldorn, Peggy Duffy, OSU, Liz Nau, Kathy Michael, Sue Palmer and Carl Toomey. **Blessed Trinity Parish, Cleveland** will welcome the retreat on Tuesday evenings beginning on September 30th. The retreat team is comprised of co-leaders Patrick Cleary-Burns and Claudette Matero and facilitators Margaret Balewski, Bill Hunt, Jackie Krejcik and Agnes Strada.

Nurturing the Call. Martha Campbell and Janet Lehane will once again team up to offer a learning process to the Leaders/Facilitators of the *Praying with St. Ignatius and the St Ignatius & Walsh Jesuit Spirituality Program for Adults*. See page 2 for further details. **Registration deadline: September 30th.**



Participants in the **Food for the Journey Program** enjoy a conversation: Diane Vreuls Friebert (left) and Julie Michelson (right)

Food for the Journey. Spiritual directors, retreat leaders, pastoral ministers and those who have made the full Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius Loyola will gather this fall to reflect on the process of conversion as seen in the life of a contemporary spiritual leader, Karen Armstrong. Details on page 2. **Registration deadline: September 12th.**

SOME LAY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM STATISTICS

As we begin this 5th year of service, 15 lay groups will participate in our programs. Of the 69 lay leaders prepared to offer leadership, 35 have committed to serve this coming year. In spring 2014, a new program, "Leading Contemplative Group Programs and Retreats," was initiated. This program prepared 8 lay leaders to offer retreats at Jesuit Retreat House. In addition, we are blessed with a 14 member Lay Leadership Advisory Committee, committed to offer vision and insight to our Lay Leadership Programming within the context of tri-annual meetings. God has blessed our desire to serve with enthusiasm and opportunity!



CALLED AND SENT SPIRITUAL FORMATION PROGRAM - FALL MODULE NEWS

Ignatian Foundations. This 7-part, monthly module will be offered to the **St. Ignatius High School Board of Regents** beginning on Monday, September 22nd. **Martha Campbell and Rich Jerdonek** will facilitate this program which will be enriched by selected St. Ignatius faculty and staff. **Fr. Larry Ober, SJ** will be shedding light on the person of Ignatius Loyola at the September session.

Encountering Jesus Christ. This new 6-week module, designed and developed by **Andy Kereky**, will be piloted at **St. Raphael Parish, Bay Village** beginning on September 25th. Commenting on the program, Andy reflected, "My hope in designing this program is that participants will get to know God better through 'heart knowledge' of Jesus Christ gained through engaging in imaginative prayer."

Discernment and Decision-Making. This 6-week module, originally offered in 3 parts has been completely revised by **Patrick Cleary-Burns**. Co-facilitated by **Pat Cleary-Burns and Janet Lehane**, it is designed for those intent on applying Ignatian "Discernment of Spirits" in their daily lives. The program will begin on October 2nd. Contact Pat (pclearyburns@gmail.com) with questions or register on-line www.jrh-cleveland.org



DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND TABOR FUND

The Diocese of Cleveland offers financial support to persons who are seeking to re-energize their spirituality and faith. Awards can be applied to programs in Education/Formation and Retreats. Eligibility for the Tabor Award includes any employee (paid or volunteer), who works in a recognized ministry actively serving the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland. These awards allow qualified applicants to access programs at local retreat centers (including **Jesuit Retreat House**) throughout the year. **Application deadline is September 15th so apply today!** Details and application form are at: <http://www.catholiccommunity.org/page.aspx?pid=378>



DEEPENING OUR AWARENESS - SOMETHING TO PONDER



Discerning the Call to Serve A Reflection by Michael J. Himes *

In Matthew's gospel there is an important instruction given by Jesus to his disciples when he sends them out to preach which does not appear in the gospels of Mark or Luke. You know the familiar story in which Jesus tells them not to take a walking staff or extra sandals or any money with them and to eat whatever is set before them. Basically Matthew includes the same instructions as we find in Luke. But Matthew adds one final instruction from Jesus: "What you receive as a gift, give as a gift" (Mt 10:8). This seems to me the ultimate instruction to all disciples: what you have been given as a gift, give to other people as a gift. ...

But how do we find the best way to give ourselves away? What are some criteria that we can use in decision making? How do we discover what the call to service means for each one of us concretely? There are three signs which, taken together, are nearly infallible. The first is to discover whether this work or service is a source of joy for you. Please notice that I am speaking of *joy*, not *happiness*. [H]appiness is dependent on a thousand external factors, whereas joy is the interior conviction that what one is doing is good even if it does not make one happy or content. ... [W]hether or not [a particular way of living] is a source of joy, a profound conviction that it is a good way to live a life and spend one's energy and talent, is, in fact, the first sign that one may have found the will of God.

The second sign is ability and the opportunity for growth. Do you have the strength, the knowledge, the skills needed to do this work or serve in this way? There are really two questions intertwined here. 1) Do you have what is required for this work, and is that ability sufficiently formed and shaped at this point? If it requires more forming and shaping are you willing to undergo that training? 2) Will this way of living and working make you grow and continue to expand? Will it call forth your talents and gifts? Will it stretch you? If these questions can be answered affirmatively, then one may have the second sign of the will of God.

The third sign is that the [work] which you are considering is a concrete expression of *agape*. Does this way of living and working meet a genuine need in the community? Is it a real way to give yourself away to other people? In what ways can you most fully give who and what you are and have another person receive who and what you are in a way that genuinely advances that other person? ...

Now, take those three qualities together, joy, ability/growth, and *agape*. What is it that allows you to find those three qualities? ... When those qualities come together, that is your decision.

*"Responding to God's Love: Compassionate Service," in Doing the Truth in Love by Michael J. Himes, pp. 56-58

COMING THIS FALL ... NEW PROGRAMS MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

The Process of Conversion: Insights from "The Spiral Staircase" by Karen Armstrong

A Book Reflection Group

Open to Spiritual Directors, Retreat Leaders, Pastoral Ministers and Those Who have Made the Full Spiritual Exercises

Saturday Mornings from 9:30 - 12:00 noon

(Coffee and Conversation beginning at 9:00 a.m.)

October 11, November 8, and December 6

Facilitated by Martha Campbell

Held at The Franciscan Center, Garfield Heights, OH

Register by September 12th with Martha Campbell

campbellmarthal@gmail.com



NURTURING THE CALL

Open to Leaders/Facilitators of *Praying with St. Ignatius and the St Ignatius & Walsh Jesuit Spirituality Program for Adults*

Tuesday Evenings from 6:30 - 8:30

(Coffee and Conversation beginning at 6:00 p.m.)

October 14, October 28, November 11

Facilitated by Martha Campbell and Janet Lehane

Held at Jesuit Retreat House Lounge

AND / OR

Saturday Morning, December 13 from 9:30 - 11:30

(Coffee and Conversation beginning at 9:00 a.m.)

Facilitated by Martha Campbell and Janet Lehane

Held at St. Ignatius SPA Classroom

Register by September 30th with Martha Campbell

campbellmarthal@gmail.com



ALSO CONSIDER ...

An Evening of Hope - Haunted by God

(A One-Woman Play About the Life of Dorothy Day)

Support the Ignatian Spirituality Project by coming to this fund-raiser!

October 25th at St. Ignatius High School

6:30 p.m. Reception - 8:00 p.m. Performance

For information contact Linda Catanzaro: 216-409-4997

Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths

Three local ministers, representing the three Abrahamic religions (Islam, Judaism, Christianity) will share what their sacred texts say about Abraham and his role in their faith.

September 23rd at River's Edge, Cleveland

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

For information contact Joe Konen: 216-252-3928



DISCERNING MY CALL TO SERVE

In discerning the call to serve, there are three signs which, taken together, are nearly infallible. Is this work a source of joy? Does it offer opportunity for growth? Is it an expression of *agape*? In what service do you find these qualities?

- Michael J. Himes

Lay Leadership Program - Martha Campbell, Director

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