

# LAY LEADERSHIP UPDATE

January 2015

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## A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

Doris Klein's essay, "Discernment of the Heart" (see page 2), challenges us to stay grounded in that "inner cave of Mystery where we wait to know the integrity of our call." Please join me in praying that our efforts be grounded in the integrity of our call to serve Christ's mission in northeast Ohio. Here is where you will find us:

**Praying with St. Ignatius Retreats.** We take this retreat to two different sites this winter: **St. Barnabas Parish (Northfield)** and **Forest Hill Church (Presbyterian, USA)**. The team for the **St. Barnabas (Northfield)** retreat began its 8-week service to the 30 retreatants on Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. The team consists of **Joan Carney** and **Deborah Zawislan** (co-leaders) and **Pat Dubiel**, **Peggy Duffy**, **osu**, **Jan Leitch**, **Dottie**, **Rieman** and **Karen Zeleznik** (Table Companions). The team for **Forest Hill Church**, will begin its ministry on Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. Team members consist of: **Kathy Haag** (retreat leader) and **Margaret Balewski**, **Paul Barbins**, **Mary Downey**, **Claudette Matero** and **Liz Nau**. **Eric Muller-Girard**, a Forest Hill member and also an Ignatian Spirituality Institute graduate will be our retreat liaison, facilitating communication between Forest Hill Church and Jesuit Retreat House leadership. Re-named "Living in the Spirit," the retreat has been adapted for this ecumenical setting through the team effort of **Margaret Balewski**, **Martha Campbell**, **Kathy Haag** and **Eric Muller-Girard**.

**Nurturing the Call.** Piloted last spring and recently revised and expanded, **Leading Contemplative Group Programs and Retreats**, will be offered to 8 participants who are graduates of the Ignatian Spirituality Institute. The 10-part program begins with a day-long retreat on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Designed and developed by **Joan Nuth**, Ignatian Spirituality Institute Director and **Martha Campbell**, JRH Lay Leadership Programs Director, the program prepares individuals to lead Ignatian Contemplative Group Retreats.

## CALLED AND SENT SPIRITUAL FORMATION PROGRAM - MODULE NEWS

These modules will be offered during the early months of 2015:

**Ignatian Foundations.** This module continues as 11 members of the Board of Regents at St. Ignatius High School gather for the fifth of this 7-part module on February 9<sup>th</sup>. **Martha Campbell** and **Rich Jerdonek** co-lead the series. Members of the faculty and staff enrich the program with their input on various topics. To date the program has welcomed the following presenters: **Ryan Masterson**, SJ and **Larry Ober**, SJ on the Life of Ignatius and the *Spiritual Exercises*, **Jerry Skoch**, VP/Chief Mission Officer, who addressed Ignatian prayer and **Dan Bradesca**, School Principal, who spoke on Ignatian discernment and the practice of the Ignatian Examen. (Continued, next column)

**The Christian at Work in the World.** One part of this module, "Finding God in Daily Work," will be offered to parishioners at **St. Basil the Great Parish, Brecksville** beginning on Tuesday evening, February 7<sup>th</sup>. Comprised of three two-hour sessions and a half-day retreat, the program will explore ways to serve Christ more effectively at work and at home. **Claudette Matero** will co-lead the program with **Sharon Bramante**, who designed and developed it.



Karen Broer and Joan Carney, co-facilitators of the **Embracing the Mystery** module, hold the participants' "weaving of desires" for the program.

**Embracing the Mystery.** **Karen Broer** and **Joan Carney**, (see photo above) who collaborated in the design of this program, began its pilot on January 10<sup>th</sup> with 20 participants drawn from the ministries of spiritual direction, retreat leadership, pastoral ministry and those who have made the full *Spiritual Exercises*. Comprised of three three-hour sessions and an overnight retreat, the program addresses the participants' lived experience of Christ's paschal mystery and their own.

**Living Prayer.** This 6-session retreat-in-daily life will be offered at **St. Clarence Parish, North Olmsted** beginning on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Co-led by **Martha Campbell** and **Amy McKenna**, the retreat will offer a diversity of prayer practices and focus on the theme of "gratitude." Team members for this retreat include: **Mary Ann Campbell**, **Patrick Cleary-Burns**, **John Carlson**, **Jackie Krejcik** and **Susan Antall**.

**Two Modules** were offered this past fall. **Encountering Jesus Christ**, designed, developed and led by **Andy Kereky** and **Discernment and Decision-Making**, co-led by **Janet Lehane** and **Patrick Cleary-Burns**, who designed and developed this module.





## DEEPENING OUR AWARENESS - SOMETHING TO PONDER



### Discernment of the Heart\* A Reflection by Doris Klein, CSA

As an artist, author, and spiritual companion, I invite you to join me in reflecting on discernment using an intuitive perspective as a basis. The discipline of discernment demands a listening heart and a willingness to trust the deep inner call of Mystery. ...

Discernment is so much more than the sorting and sifting of facts. It is rather the descent into the depths of the soul where we walk into the inner cave of Mystery, intuitive energy, the deep self. There we wait to know, not the answer, but the integrity of the call. Today's culture is fraught with illusions that there is a "right" answer and if we work hard enough and gather enough information and opinions, we'll make the "right" decision. The discernment process challenges us to enter the paradox below the dualistic split of "right and wrong" and listen deeply in the darkness until we hear the whisper that invites us to risk following the movement of Mystery. ...

At the risk of appearing overly simplistic, breathing is the most essential element in moving into deep discerning space. As the body lets go of the breath, we can begin to open our hearts to Mystery, let go of the outcome, and risk the sacred journey. Conscious breathing quiets the dualistic inner chatter of judgment about a "right" or "wrong" outcome and draws us to deeper bodily knowing. The wisdom that resides in our body holds the key to the intuitive. Paying attention to how our body feels when we reflect on various choices is invaluable.

Taking adequate time to simply sit with the question is also essential. We often give limitless time to gathering facts and then move immediately into decision-making without allowing the information we collected to be influenced by the silence. Here in the stillness we simply ask to hear the voice of the Beloved in the depth of our heart. ...

It is God who leads us in this liminal space of discernment. Can we breathe into our deeper self, connect with the evolving Mystery of creation in the universe, and risk something new being born in us? Can we trust Intuitive Spirit to lead us through each decision and walk with us as each choice unfolds into an unknown future?

\*Full article can be found in *The Occasional Papers: The Leadership Conference of Women Religious*, Summer 2014.



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- Doris Klein, CSA

## COMING IN 2015 ... SAVE THESE DATES

### IGNATIAN CURRENTS PROGRAM SAVE THE DATES - AT JESUIT RETREAT HOUSE Fr. Joseph A. Tetlow, SJ

**WHAT HAS CHRIST TO DO WITH LUNCH?**  
Living the Christ-Life in the World Based on Pope Francis'  
Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*



OPEN TO ALL

Friday, May 29, 2015  
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 30, 2015  
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Followed by optional Liturgy of the Eucharist

More details to follow ...



### IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY CONFERENCE SAVE THE DATES - AT ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY July 16 - 19, 2015

Saint Louis University and the Jesuits of the U.S. Central and Southern province are excited to host the triennial Ignatian Spirituality Conference, **July 16-19, 2015**. The theme, *Ignatian Silence: Heart of Mission*, is drawn from a topic articulated by the General Superior of the Society of Jesus, Fr. Adolfo Nicolás, SJ.

*"We need the ability to become ourselves silence, emptiness, an open space that the Word of God can fill, and the Spirit of God can set on fire for the good of others and of the Church."*

The conference gathers leaders from Jesuit and Ignatian institutions and others who make Ignatian spirituality available to the People of God. The keynote addresses and some workshops play off of this overarching theme, other workshops pertain to Ignatian spirituality in general, or working with people in a particular apostolate, e.g. higher education, secondary education, parishes, etc.



Find out more about the Conference at:  
<http://www.slu.edu/x37857.xml>



To register go to:  
<https://connect.jesuitscentralsouthern.org/ignatianspiritualityconference>

Early registration discount deadline: January 31, 2015

## Discernment of the Heart

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