

LAY LEADERSHIP UPDATE

MARCH 2015

VOL V NO 8



A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

As we live into our Lenten journey, we are encouraged to know that our ministry is supported by friendship with God. The essay by Becky Eldredge (see page 2) offers a reflection on this reality. Our service in Christ's name is our contribution to deepening relationship with God. Here is where we are currently serving.

Praying with St. Ignatius Retreats. Snow and extreme temperatures have forced the cancellation of retreat sessions for retreats at St. Barnabas Parish (Northfield) and at Forest Hill Church (Presbyterian, USA). Thanks to the flexibility of the team members and retreat leaders, Joan Carney, Deborah Zawislak and Kathy Haag, the retreats have been extended to include make-up sessions and will be completed during this month of March.

Nurturing the Call: Leading Contemplative Group Programs and Retreats. 8 participants who are graduates of the Ignatian Spirituality Institute are participating in this 10-part program which has been completely revised by co-leaders, Martha Campbell and Joan Nuth. This year's program participants include: Paul Barbins, Elyse Wagner Berry, Mulba Borsay, Barbara Curran, Sharon Seyforth Garner, Chuck Herbruck, Liz Nau and Elaine Pearl. The program prepares individuals to lead Ignatian Contemplative Group Retreats for JRH and other venues.

CALLED AND SENT SPIRITUAL FORMATION PROGRAM - MODULE NEWS

The following modules are currently being offered:

Ignatian Foundations. The Board of Regents at St. Ignatius High School will gather for a day of retreat on Sunday, March 8th. Facilitated by Martha Campbell and Rich Jerdonek, presenters will include Dan Bradessa, Principal, Gerald Skoch, Vice-President and Chief Mission Officer and Michael Frantz, Board Chair. The retreat will focus on "Becoming Contemplatives-in-Action: The Ignatian Examen and Board Discernment."

The Christian at Work in the World. Co-leaders, Sharon Bramante and Claudette Matero, continue to offer sessions on "Finding God in Daily Work" at St. Basil the Great Parish, Brecksville. The module will be completed on March 28th with a retreat morning focusing on "Contemplative Listening and Action."

Embracing the Mystery. Karen Broer and Joan Carney will offer the third session of this module to the 20 participants drawn from various ministries based on Ignatian Spirituality. It will focus on the lived experience of Christ's paschal mystery.

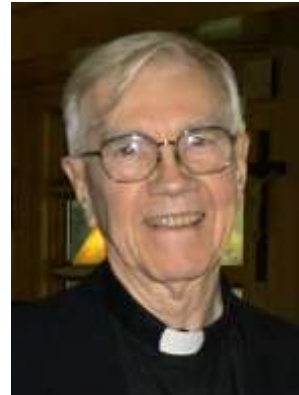
Living Prayer. This retreat-in-daily life continues this month at St. Clarence Parish, North Olmsted. Team members include: Martha Campbell, Amy McKenna, Mary Ann Campbell, Patrick Cleary-Burns, John Carlson, Jackie Krejcik and Susan Antall.

COMING IN MAY ... IGNATIAN CURRENTS

WHAT HAS CHRIST TO DO WITH LUNCH?

Living the Christ-Life in the World Based on Pope Francis' Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*

Meet Our Presenter



Joseph A. Tetlow, SJ began giving *Exercises in Daily Life* in the early 1980s and his *Choosing Christ in the World* has been translated into several languages. He was president of the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley, associate editor of *America* magazine, and director of Montserrat Jesuit Retreat House at Lake Dallas. He was assistant for spirituality to the Jesuit Father General Kolvenbach, traveling extensively to speak and organize spirituality programs. He was ordained in 1960 and holds a doctorate in American Civilization from Brown University. He is currently writer-in-residence at Jesuit Hall, St. Louis University.

See details on the next page

PILGRIM WAY OF IGNATIUS LOYOLA

On February 25th, 100 participants attended the first of this four-part introduction to Ignatian Spirituality which is being offered to the people of St. John Neumann Parish, Strongsville. Program leaders include: Martha Campbell, Robin Craig, Rich Jerdonek, Amy McKenna and Sue Palmer.

LAY LEADERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Lay Leadership Advisory Committee met for its tri-annual meeting this past January. Facilitated by Rick Krivanka, Jesuit Retreat House Executive Director, the committee began work on an Action Plan for developing programs for effective leadership for Jesuit Retreat House Retreats and Lay Leadership Programs.



**DEEPENING OUR AWARENESS -
SOMETHING TO PONDER
FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD
A Lenten Reflection by Becky Eldredge**

"I maintain that God—out of the abundance of divine relational life ...desires humans into existence for the sake of friendship. This thesis may sound strange, because it runs counter to much teaching about God. To be honest, I questioned it myself when I first began to think it through. But over the years, as my own relationship with God has deepened and I have listened to people talk about how God relates to them, I have become convinced that the best analogy for the relationship God wants with us is friendship" (William A. Barry, SJ, in *Lenten Meditations: Growing in Friendship with God*)

The idea that God wants to be friends with me seems absurd! Why in the world would God, the Creator of the universe, the Giver of all things, want to be in relationship with me? What can I possibly offer God in the realm of friendship?

There are many types of friendships in my life:

- the friends who can sit with me and hold everything going on in my life
- the friends who can sit in silence with me as we savor our time together
- the ones who laugh loudly with me and celebrate the abundance of life
- the ones who are present during the tough times
- the ones that are part of my day-to-day life and support me in motherhood

All of these friends offer a piece of themselves to me and by their doing so I experience what it's like to be loved by another. I, too, offer various types of friendships to men and women in my life. In being there as a friend, I am helping them experience what it's like to be loved by another.

God offers a relationship that encompasses all of these different types of friendships. In a sense, God is the totality of all of my human friends in one. God sits with me in silence, rejoices with me, laughs with me, celebrates with me, supports me in tough times, and walks with me in my day-to-day life. All of these ways that God is present deepen my understanding of God's love for me.

What can I offer to God, though? I offer my presence to God. I offer my response to the totality of God's love. I offer my love to God as I laugh, celebrate, cry, and share the depths of my heart with God. I offer my gifts and talents to God. In this mutual giving to each other and receiving from each other, we develop a deep friendship with each other.

(Excerpted from Lenten Meditations at www.ignatianspirituality.com)

**WINTER/SPRING OPPORTUNITIES
TUOHY LECTURE SERIES**

**PRAISE THE NAME OF THE LORD:
Meditations on the Most beautiful Names of God**

Monday Evenings, March 9 - 30, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.
John Carroll University-Donahue Auditorium, Dolan Center
Free and open to the public - No reservations needed.
For more information visit go.jcu.edu/tuohy or
call (216) 397-4700

IGNATIAN CURRENTS ... SOME DETAILS

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

Presented by Joseph A. Tetlow, SJ

OPEN TO ALL - SPACE IS LIMITED

Friday, May 29th

Discernment in My Life

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. (Coffee at 6:30 p.m.)

Saturday, May 30th

Thinking with the Church -

Discerning the Signs of the Times

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Coffee at 8:30 a.m.)

Program Options

Friday Evening Only: \$25.00

Saturday including lunch: \$50.00

Friday Evening and Saturday including lunch: \$65.00

Friday Evening and Saturday including lunch + overnight
accommodations including breakfast: \$98.00

*Although the programs can be taken separately, it is
encouraged that you participate in both the Friday and
Saturday programs to receive the full benefit of the
experience.*

To Register: Contact Barbara Leggott at jrhcleve@att.net OR
(440) 884-9300 OR register online: www.jrh-cleveland.org

**ON-LINE LENTEN REFLECTIONS
Igniting Our Values**

Read and pray with these daily postings which are offered
by the Jesuit provincials of the U.S. by logging onto:
<http://jesuits.org/story?TN=PROJECT-20140619032505>

A LENTEN INVITATION - FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD

As I continue my Lenten journey, I pray to understand what it means for my life that God wants to be friends with me.

- William A. Barry, SJ



Lay Leadership Program - Martha Campbell, Director

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