

**Special Issue:
The ISI Story:
The First Ten Years**

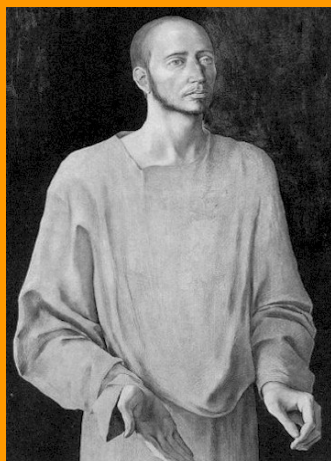
IGNIS



Newsletter of the Ignatian Spirituality Institute

Volume 11, Number 1

July 31, 2013



Message from the Director:

It gives me great pleasure to present to you this special tenth anniversary alumni edition of *Ignis*. In November 2008 we published our first alumni issue entitled "Gathering the Harvest," which presented the results of a survey sent to all ISI grads, 36 strong at that point. Two subsequent alumni issues followed: "Forever Young" in July 2010 and "Hearts on Fire" in July 2011. These issues attempted to follow ISI grads in their ministries after they left the ISI. Now, as we complete the celebration of our tenth anniversary, it seems fitting to publish another alumni edition, celebrating the achievements of our 90 graduates to date.

In searching for a theme for this issue, I do not think I can do better than return to the image I used at the very beginning of the ISI in 2003 -- that of story. I remember quoting from Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*, where Sam asked, "I wonder what sort of story we've fallen into?" We didn't know then what the ISI's story would be. We did have hopes; we knew we would be entering in some way into the story of Ignatius, the story of Jesus, and the story of the Christian community of fellowship and prayer. But we knew no details of how all of that would play out. Now, ten years later, we do know some of that. So, I name this issue "The ISI Story: The First Ten Years."

Points of Interest

- **Message From the Director**
- **Tracking ISI Alums**
- **Tenth Anniversary Dinner**
- **The ISI: A Story of Collaboration**
- **The ISI: An Ecumenical Story**
- **Club 31 Report 2012-13**

On Saturday, April 13, the ISI celebrated its tenth anniversary in high style with a festive dinner at John Carroll. At one point I stood looking out at the assembly of guests, members of all ten classes gathered together, with Paul Panaretos, SJ. He told me he was moved to tears. Paul was with the ISI from the very beginning, when it was only a hopeful idea. And now we could each see its fruit. Later, to welcome everyone, I stood at the podium next to our copy of Holly Shapker's painting of St. Ignatius, and



I had the distinct impression that Ignatius was welcoming everyone as well. This painting depicts Ignatius with a smile on his face, and I imagine that his smile includes a great feeling of pride and pleasure at what the ISI has become, as does my smile. We have continued the story he began in sixteenth century Spain in our own unique way in Northeast Ohio, our own little corner of the world.

This story has, of course, been inhabited and enabled first and foremost by the God in whom we all live and move and have our being. Ever since I was a teenager, I have made the *Adoro Te* of St. Thomas Aquinas part of my daily prayer. It ends with the following lines:

Director's Message (cont.)

*Oh Jesus, whom at present veiled I see,
What I so long for grant to me:
That I may see thy sacred self unfolding
And may find rest thy glory in beholding.*

These lines have meant various things at different points of my life. Seeing Jesus "unfolding" early on meant simply learning to get to know Jesus, similar to the grace of the Second Week of the Exercises. Then later it began to be a prayer that Jesus be "unfolding" in me, that through his presence in me, I might become Christ to others. But one day, in a meeting at the Jesuit Retreat House to evaluate and plan for the Praying With St. Ignatius program, I looked at the gathering composed mostly of ISI grads, and realized that I was seeing Jesus "unfolding" there in the little part of the Body of Christ that I have had the immense privilege to form and shape over these ten years. I was filled with joy at this realization. So folks, when I looked at all of you at our tenth anniversary celebration, I remembered that moment, and once again saw Jesus "unfolding" in all of you, his Body.

Today's liturgy gave us the story of the Good Samaritan. Early Christian theologians such as Origen and Augustine interpreted the story by seeing the Samaritan as Christ who moves to help the wounded person lying by the side of the road. We might see a connectedness here to what we do in spiritual direction. Our directees are those by the side of the road needing help to continue on their journey. We help them get up to do that, but we are able to do so only because Christ, the Good Samaritan, lives in us through his gracious Spirit. We are also often the ones lying by the side of the road, needing help to get up and go farther. Here is where we need the ministrations of other Christs ourselves. In the ISI we have all learned how to be ministers to one another in Christ and how to be ministered to by Christ through one another. And we have taken those lessons beyond the walls of the ISI to many others. This issue of *Ignis* spells out some details of what this has meant for those graduates who answered our most recent survey.

Peace and all good things,
Joan

Tracking ISI Alums: Charter Class of 2005



Mary Ann Baran, SND

Since being certified, I have provided on-going, individual spiritual direction, averaging six to eight directees each year. I have supervised three ISI interns and accompanied three women and two gentlemen as they made the full Exercises in the thirty-week format. I have read a number of books on Ignatian spirituality, the history of the Jesuits, and Ignatian discernment, and found them to have reinforced and/or deepened and expanded what I learned while studying at the ISI. I'm still at Notre Dame College. Here's one new and exciting thing I've the joy to share: I'm part of a planning team, consisting of Sisters from five Catholic congregations based in northern Ohio working together collaboratively. We have just established the Collinwood Neighborhood Catholic Ministries Center at the corner of St. Clair and Royal Avenues. Our house, established primarily to provide a ministry of presence, will offer programs, tutoring, referral services, and opportunities for prayer & faith sharing to

the people of or near the greater Collinwood area, many of whom are at or below the poverty level, live alone, and/or are in need of a listening ear. The house opened in February, and bit by bit, we're starting to offer services. I plan to volunteer there in the summer and as much time "in between" as my schedule permits once the next academic year begins.

Rita Carfagna

I regularly do Nineteenth Annotation retreats and usually direct two people a year. I have supervised two ISI interns, which has been a very good experience for me. I also co-led this fall's SPA retreat with Maria Skrabec. Additionally, I have three people for ongoing spiritual direction. I am part of a prison ministry team that meets with women at Northeast Ohio Pre-Release Center on Monday evenings. We pray together and usually reflect on spiritual reading we are all doing. I try to participate in the program Nurturing the Call sponsored by JRH and St. Ignatius SPA. I am in a peer supervision group with several other ISI grads, which meets monthly. I find it very helpful to pray together and to listen to each other's journeys in this ministry. I have been helped a lot by my group's prayerful contributions to the cases I have presented. Our second son got married in July, 2012 so now two of our four are married and we have an eleven-month old granddaughter. God is definitely gifting and fulfilling me in this new role of grandmother!





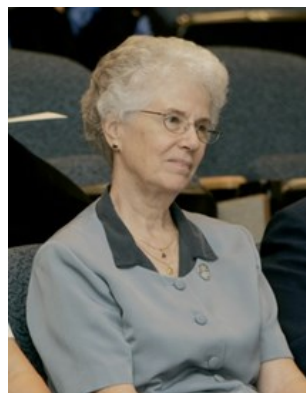
Debbie Dacone

In my work as a campus minister for six years, I had many opportunities to direct college students. From Busy Student Retreats, to overnight retreats, to eight-day silent directed retreats in collaboration with John Carroll, to one-on-one spiritual direction of the Eighteenth Annotation, campus ministry provided many opportunities to help students identify the presence of God in their lives. Several of the students I directed long-term have kept in touch with me as they headed off to graduate school. This has been a fulfilling continuation of my efforts on campus. Currently, I direct one adult in the Eighteenth Annotation. Our weekly meetings have been a wonderful way to keep current in the Exercises in their entirety. At this time, one adult is just right for my responsibilities as the Parish Catechetical Leader at St. Christopher in Rocky River. My obligations in PSR, catechist formation and sacramental preparation afford me the opportunity to introduce components of the Exercises such as the Examen. The adaptability of the Exercises is amazing and I find myself using Ignatian vocabulary any time I am discussing prayer and spirituality with anyone who will listen. While I

know there has been an historical rivalry in theology between Jesuits and Dominicans, I have found a home in both spiritualities. I have recently earned the title Candidate in the Doctorate of Ministry in Preaching at Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis. I am working on my thesis project, "Healing Words: What the Post-Abortive Woman Can Teach the Preacher." The past three years have immersed me in the preaching life and bring my academic endeavors full circle. This is who I am, not merely what I do. My goal is to graduate in May of 2014.

Marian Durkin

Since I received my certification I have been busy! I usually have three to five individuals coming for on-going spiritual direction. I have thoroughly enjoyed being a spiritual director on the Busy Student Retreats at both CWRU and Kent State. The young people give me hope for the future of our Church. I have been asked to direct persons on both weekend retreats and week-long retreats over the last two summers at the Jesuit Retreat House. Most recently I have acted as a table companion for the eight-week Praying With St. Ignatius retreat at Lakewood Catholic Academy. I also regularly attend a peer supervision group. I am always grateful for the graces of the ISI experience and find the ministry of Spiritual Direction very rewarding.



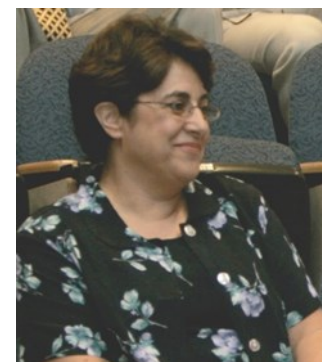
Eugenia Gyi

I have three areas of involvement with spiritual direction: 1) My parish (St Richard) and the two sister-parishes (St Clarence & St Brendan) where I offer the Spiritual Exercises in an individual, nine-week format each summer. So far I have prayed the Exercises in this way with fifty-two people. Some of the participants remain in monthly spiritual direction; on the average I have four to five directees from this environment. 2) The Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) where I coordinate the other reflectors who meet monthly with the volunteers, and plan, attend and sometimes lead the monthly meetings. I am also a reflector (spiritual director) for IVC, and direct three to five people. 3) The Busy Student Retreats (BSR) at Case Western University where - for five days in the Fall - we meet individually with students; I have done this for five years now. I usually have three to four students assigned to me. Some stay for monthly direction; I have had one student in direction now for four years. I attend lectures and workshops at JCU and St. Mary Seminary fairly regularly to help me keep up with the spiritual currents of today. Also, I read the literature of past and present theologians. An

"informed director" is just as important in my book, as a holy, prayerful director. I learned about the Carmelite spirituality of St. Teresa of Avila by attending the seminar on the *Interior Castle*, and reading some others of her books. I am part of the West Side Spiritual Directors' Support Group. We meet monthly at St. Ignatius High School. Five to seven of us gather to present, listen, and discern our own feelings and concerns as directors. The group formed shortly after my graduation from ISI, and still is together and going strong.

Mary Kay Jones

Since leaving ISI, I have directed several people through the Nineteenth Annotation, some of whom were ISI students. I am currently seeing two people for ongoing spiritual direction. I have also been heavily involved with the eight-week Praying With St. Ignatius Retreat from The Jesuit Retreat House. Currently I am working with the Diocese of Cleveland in religious certification for religion teachers. I am leading a group of teachers through an "apprenticeship" program that leads to religion certification. I am still teaching first grade at Sacred Heart of Jesus Academy in South Euclid, Ohio. I am living by true Ignatian teaching by allowing God to show me how I am to serve. I remain active with my own children and grandchildren and thank God for the many blessings they bring me every day.





DonnaMarie Kaminsky

I have had a regular practice of spiritual direction since the ISI. In addition to spiritual direction, I also facilitate one-on-one retreats at Epiphany Hermitage. I have run Epiphany Hermitage since 2004 and it is in regular use. Sometimes it is used by my directees; other times it is used by people who just want to get away for a few days for prayer and spiritual conversation. I continue to give the Nineteenth Annotation Retreat, and sometimes a shortened version of it as an introduction. Additionally, I facilitate Franciscan Spirituality retreats. I participated in a Franciscan Spiritual Direction enrichment program two years ago. At the core of all spiritualities is the gospel, so it is so enriching to be able to hear the gospel proclaimed from different perspectives. The training from the ISI has also helped me in my job at the VA where I am a grief counselor, bereavement specialist, and coordinator of the VA Contract Home Hospice Program. I visit veterans and their families in their homes, helping them to deal with terminal illness and prepare for death. When individuals are facing death, the conversations also turn to spiritual concerns. It's a different type of spiritual guidance,

but the skills for spiritual direction can be applied to a wide variety of situations; truly listening to, supporting and encouraging people is much needed in our society. I have had major health issues for the past sixteen months, and had major surgery in December, but now am on the road to recovery. I have maintained my spiritual direction and retreat practice during this time. I have three brand new grandsons: Grayson (age 3), Matthew (age 2) and William (3 mos.) who are such a delight. They actually teach me quite a few things about God and spiritual direction with their innocence, honest directness, and unconditional love and delight! I see them a couple times a week, and they are such a blessing!

Daryl Koning

Since moving to New Mexico in 2007, I have been involved in facilitating a number of adult Christian education classes on various social justice and theology issues, and most recently, on "missional" church (which is such a challenge to do within the established church). There is a tremendous need here for tutors to facilitate English as a Second Language, and I am currently doing three different classes each week. Sonja is a NICU nurse at Presbyterian; I'm still in HR with US Cotton, and we hope to retire in four years. We left two of our sons in Ohio who are now married - three grandchildren - so we visit whenever possible. With the help and encouragement of Rita Carfagna and Martha Campbell, last fall I explored the desire for a small spiritual direction group in our church community (UCC). Six of us met every Sunday for six weeks to read and discuss Fryling's *Seeking God Together: An Introduction to Group Spiritual Direction*. In January, we began a thirty-two week Retreat in Daily Living, using Smith and Merz's *Moment by Moment* and other materials.



Barbara Patterson (r.i.p.)

Barbara Patterson, during her time with the ISI, directed several staff people at JCU through the eight-week retreat, and dedicated her energies to our fundraising efforts. Barbara wrote this summary of her first year in the ISI. Her words, written in her inimitable down-to-earth, yet rhetorically refined style, sum up what many ISI students have experienced: "How many times can one person read one *Ignis* (Volume I, Number I) and still find new insights? My first reading was for initial knowledge of companions on a new faith journey. I noted that many class members had significant experience and/or seminary degrees in theology, taught or counseled at the college level, were active in parish ministry, had led retreats, or were already working with directees. I wondered what a lay person with secular rather than spiritual skills (me) was doing in this rigorous class. I gradually found answers. We all had to wrestle with Rahner, reflection papers, and the intrusion of our other lives on reading time. And as many of us met for suppers in the snack bar

(conveniently located where we could see Joan passing by so we knew when it was time for class), we became a group. We shared not only pretzels, parking ticket woes, rides and experiences with the ever-recalcitrant coffee machine, but also insights, faith stories, prayer and loss. Thus the ISI became our story. *Ignis* Vol. I, No. I also included a message from the director, suggesting we allow the story metaphor to guide us as we travel through the program: Ignatius' story, the larger Christian story of Jesus, and our own place through baptism in Jesus' life. After some time in the class I began to see all these stories more clearly, and now I see a fourth story, that of our class itself. We bonded, an insufficient word for the relationships formed in this charter class. I learned a lot about Ignatius Loyola, Jesus in his humanity, discernment and grace. But most of all I learned what I want to do with the rest of my life." Barbara died of pancreatic cancer on November 9, 2006. We remember her with love, and believe she remembers us as well.



Karen Broer

I have done ongoing spiritual direction and the Nineteenth Annotation. Currently I am directing three people. I am always drawing on what I learned in ISI in my spiritual direction. In my work as a psychologist and professional clinical counselor, I am more aware of integrating spirituality in treatment. When patients are open to spiritual interventions, I draw on Ignatian spirituality themes: God in the present moment, the Examen, and gratitude. I also integrate spirituality into my counseling treatment course at John Carroll. I have given presentations on spirituality/patient care and gratitude as a spiritual discipline. Serving on the Advisory Committee for Clinical Pastoral Education gives me the opportunity to meet staff chaplains, supervisors and ministries in CPE training. I try to develop spiritual direction skills through reading, attending workshops and doing spiritual direction. My library is well stocked with religious and spiritual books, and my hope is to learn from wisdom seekers before me. I belong to a peer supervision support group

which has been immensely valuable in developing spiritual direction skills and in providing prayer support. I continue to learn from these special individuals who share their professional and personal wisdom. I have four grandchildren who keep me busy. My family is taking me on a Mediterranean cruise this summer through Barcelona, France and Italy. As I reduce my work at the Cleveland Clinic, I look forward to spending more time with family, reading all the books I have collected, learning more about photography and becoming more involved with spiritual direction. My prayer is to stay out of the way and let God's plan for me unfold. I have no doubt that God has many blessings for the latter part of my life.

Mary Ann Burke, SND

I've done two eight-day retreats, two Nineteenth Annotation Retreats, two parish retreats and Busy Student Retreats. I have ten directees. What we learned in ISI regarding listening skills I find extremely helpful for ministry and living in community. I attended a forty-day Institute at Guelph, a Jesuit retreat Center in Canada, which included a thirty-day retreat with people from all over the world. I have also attended Nurturing the Call, the book study program on Teresa of Avila, and two or three day programs sponsored by ISI. More recently I attended the program with Dr. Hahnenberg, entitled "The Christian at Work in the World: Our Calling." Our peer supervision group meets monthly. I find it very helpful to share ideas, improve on personal skills and gain confidence. It's a source of remembering and deepening what we were taught in ISI. Presently, I'm working with our sisters in Health Care & the Homebound of Geauga County so they can communicate, through phone calls, writing or visits, depending on their skill at this time in their lives. I will be giving an eight-day retreat for our sisters in Covington, Kentucky this summer and possibly a few directed retreats. I have the Joy of celebrating my Golden Jubilee as a Sister of Notre Dame this summer.



Pat Cleary-Burns

I currently am directing twenty-six men and women. Three are making the Spiritual Exercises (Nineteenth Annotation). I am also serving as a spiritual director on seven directed retreats in 2013 at JRH (Parma), Campion Renewal Center (Weston MA), Jesuit Center (Wernersville PA), Loyola on the Potomac (Faulkner MD), and Eastern Point (Gloucester MA). Through JRH, I serve as a retreat leader for Praying With Saint Ignatius retreats and the Called & Sent programs. I have attended Nurturing the Call programs, three Spiritual Directors International conferences, two retreats for directors at Villa Maria, and programs at ISI. I have also served on the faculty of the School for Spiritual Direction at the Pecos Benedictine Monastery. I am currently making the Spiritual Exercises (Nineteenth Annotation) under the direction of ISI intern Rev. Liz Nau. I am in a peer supervision group that meets most months. I also meet with a spiritual director each month and belong to the Magis Christian Life Community. All three are key supports to me as I try to stay true to my call as a spiritual director. Jeannie and I now have five grandchildren: Aidan, Nora, Clara, Madeline, and Aideen!

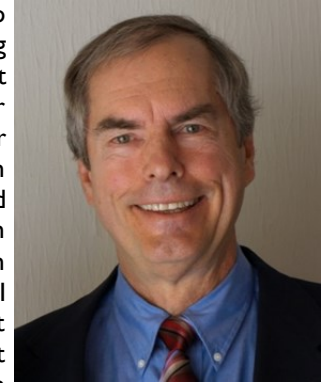


Harry Finkbone

I have had, on average, about ten directees in ongoing spiritual direction since graduating. They come and go, and come back, as the tides of life ebb and flow. Somewhat disappointingly, I have not yet found a directee both ready and willing to engage in a Nineteenth Annotation retreat. I use the Eighteenth Annotation often to get started with a new directee. In February, we moved into a new home, leaving behind our home of nearly thirty years. Letting go can be hard. However, in the same month, February 2013, we gained our second granddaughter. We are so blessed. God is good, all the time.

Rich Jerdonek

I devote about half my time to spiritual direction. My focus is individual direction, but I also develop retreat materials, lead group retreats, and present workshops each year. This includes: directing several adults in Nineteenth Annotation Retreats; conducting Busy Student Retreats at CWRU, Kent State, CSU, and Notre Dame College, for which I prepare retreat materials, lead group prayer sessions, and direct four to six students in week-long retreats; serving as an ongoing spiritual director for about ten people, including members of the Ignatian Volunteer Corps and follow up direction with retreatants; supervising a second year ISI student in the practicum year; leading eight-day and weekend individual directed retreats at the Jesuit Retreat House, including Jesuit Volunteers; assisting with planning and presenting the St. Ignatius High School Board of Regents Formation Program with the Lay Leadership Program at JRH; co-presenting a Peer Supervision Workshop for the ISI graduating class; planning, leading, and presenting the weekend group retreat for St. Ignatius alumni at JRH; participating in advisory groups and committees to support and develop the retreat ministry at JRH, ISI, St. Ignatius High School, and the diocesan Newman Centers. My ISI and spiritual direction experience also help me to be more effective in my work as a management consultant and other volunteer work. I attend workshops conducted by the ISI program, JRH, and St. Ignatius High School for spiritual directors. I have attended the *Ignatian Spirituality Conference* at Saint Louis University. I belong to a peer supervision group which meets about ten times per year. Our peer group is a valuable support for my growth as a director and helps to maintain contact and community with other directors - especially since my practice is primarily individual. Everything is good. Julie and I are grateful for all of God's gifts - especially our fifth grandchild expected in June.



Janet Lehane

I have been involved in spiritual direction and Ignatian retreat offerings since ISI certification at St. Ignatius High School, River's Edge and the Jesuit Retreat House. I see varying numbers of directees, generally ten during any particular time period. I am in a monthly peer supervision group and meet with a spiritual director regularly. I am grateful for the ISI foundation as I grow in this ministry. I continue my own formation through JRH's offerings - Nurturing the Call, Ignatian Currents, and Food for the Journey, as well as spiritual readings. Summer retreats at River's Edge are enriching. This summer I am going to Guelph Ignatian Centre for a spiritual director's workshop and retreat experience. My husband John, daughters Clare and Beth, and our dog Abbey are all doing well and I love being with them. They continue to support my Ignatian adventures as seen in my updated photo taken near Manresa in Spain. I was fortunate to go on an Ignatian pilgrimage with educators and staff from Jesuit Chicago-Detroit Province High Schools in 2011. It was truly amazing to walk in Ignatius' footsteps!



Rev. Peter Nielsen

Since graduating I have consistently provided direction for two or three persons at a time, using either the Nineteenth Annotation, or on-going direction. As an Episcopal deacon, I have found receptivity to Ignatian spirituality that is both welcomed and transformative within the Episcopal community, and that brings me great joy. However, the practices of meditation and contemplation, as well as the use of the imagination and discernment of spirits have contributed to my ministry in so many other ways. I have found a consistency in my prayer life that gives me strength to serve where I never dreamed of going. This has resulted in a significant ministry with youth in the Episcopal dioceses of Belize and of Ohio. I have also found strength to enter into many new relationships with those who are homeless and live at the periphery of our society here at home. I find myself much more empathetic and much less judgmental when addressing the needs of the poor. My prayer life, and the privilege of sharing in the lives of my directees, has informed my preaching, as well as my work with both youth and adults at Cedar Hills Camp and Conference Center where I serve as the Executive Director. In this capacity, the practices of prayer offered in the Exercises are often central to the programs I offer in this venue. However, the graces I have received (cont.)



Peter Nielsen (cont.)

through both the ISI program and ISI community have not simply given me tools for the road, but rather, they have transformed who I am as a human being. I find myself having internalized more fully the knowledge that I am both loved and lovable. This fall my bishop has been gracious in granting me a sabbatical leave so that I might spend some concentrated time in discernment. During this time, I have made arrangements to make a Thirty-Day Retreat using the Spiritual Exercises at Enders Island Retreat Center in Connecticut. All in all, I truly believe I have been blessed beyond measure through the teaching of Joan Nuth, Ph.D. and the community she has gathered in the Ignatian Spirituality Institute. I will be eternally grateful.

Class of 2007

Joan Carney

Since certification, I have been blessed with beautiful retreatants with whom to share Ignatius' *Spiritual Exercises*. What an amazing gift it has been to accompany these (brave) souls on their spiritual journeys! Throughout, I have been grateful for the wonderful training I received, both the theological and the practical. That training has been incredibly helpful as I lead retreats for the Saint Ignatius SPA (Spirituality Programs for Adults) and Jesuit Retreat House *Praying With St. Ignatius* retreats, supervise ISI interns, and even teach undergraduates at John Carroll University. I enjoy keeping current on matters relating to spirituality and spiritual direction through reading and attending a variety of programs. Among my favorites have been the ISI seminars on *Anger with God* (thanks, Julie!) and *Family Systems*, the ISI/SPA collaborative *Nurturing the Call* program (thanks Janet and Martha!), and the two week seminar for Spiritual Directors at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Guelph, Ontario (highly recommended!). Peer Supervision has also been a tremendous support for me in ministry. Our Saturday morning group meets regularly to share consolations and desolations in our experiences of direction. One recent development that I am happy to share with my fellow ISI alums is the recent acquisition of my MA in Theology and Religious Studies from John Carroll University. I am deeply grateful for the encouragement and assistance of my mentor and advisor, Joan Nuth, who helped me craft an essay entitled *Taught by the Master: Ignatius of Loyola and the Grace of Christ*, to complete the program's requirements.

**Julie Exline**

I saw two directees last year at JCU, one for an eight-week retreat and one for the Nineteenth Annotation. Most of my focus is still on doing spiritual direction as opportunities arise in everyday life, rather than doing more formal direction. I continue to do psychology research and writing related to religious and spiritual themes. In January 2013 I started a blog for *Psychology Today's* website called "Light & Shadow: Challenges in Religious & Spiritual Life." Here is the link: <http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/light-and-shadow>. I took Joan's Systematic Theology class at JCU for continuing education credit and found the course very thought-provoking. I also participated in the monthly Food for the Journey series with Martha Campbell, where we read and discussed Teresa of Avila's *Interior Castle*. At my church (Gateway Church in Aurora) I'm part of a small group that has gone through three books on spiritual formation by James Bryan Smith: *The Good and Beautiful God*, *The Good and Beautiful Life*, and *The Good and Beautiful Community*. I'm also involved with the prayer ministry team at my church.

Andy Kereky

Currently I have four regular spiritual directees. The spiritual direction I offer is split between the Nineteenth Annotation and folks just looking for spiritual guidance. Overall, I've probably guided fifteen folks since graduation. ISI has helped me far beyond the spiritual direction I am blessed to give to others. While it certainly has deepened my spirituality and love of Ignatian spirituality, it also has made me more aware of the diverse spiritual journeys of others. It certainly helped me in adapting the *Exercises* for children as part of my doctoral project. I'm a directee with a very gifted spiritual director. While receiving wonderful direction from him, I've also gained a greater knowledge of and appreciation for guiding others as a spiritual director. I'm a grandpa! My son and his wife live a short distance from me in Bay Village. I am very blessed to babysit "Lucas" a couple days each week. His fourteen-month journey in life reminds me anew of my son's early years and the fun (and few challenges) that have drawn us closer over the years. Now I get to re-live it in and through Lucas.





Jackie Krejcik

Up until last year, I companioned one or two people through the Nineteenth Annotation Retreat. I have been a general spiritual director for as many as five people at one time. I currently meet with two people monthly. I have facilitated several Praying With St. Ignatius eight-week retreats, supported by the Jesuit Retreat House; I am also on their volunteer team for developing relationships with inner city and Hispanic parishes for the retreat. In 2009, I became a spiritual care volunteer for the Hospice of the Western Reserve. In 2010, I was hired as a spiritual care coordinator there and that is my forty-hour per week job. I consider this job a great gift and am grateful for having learned so much about listening and being open to other people and their spirituality in the ISI program. I am in the midst of the certification process for lay ecclesial ministry through the Diocese of Cleveland. For that, I am attending classes, one class per semester. I am also in a formation program for this certification. At St. Malachi's, my home parish, I coordinate an evening speaker program

about spirituality; I facilitate one prayer group, and support two others. I am helping a group of women parishioners and others who live in the neighborhood build community towards making a retreat together next spring. I am a Eucharistic Minister, a sacristan, and am active on the liturgy commission. I am also a core member of the Affirming, Welcoming, Engaging Committee, a group who is working to invite more parishioner participation in the ministry of the Church. I attend programs at the Jesuit Retreat House as much as time permits. I listen to CD's and read books on spirituality and different types of prayer. I am currently listening to *Christian Spirituality* by Dr. James Finley. I am grateful to the people of the Ignatian Spirituality Institute; I am grateful for what I experienced and the places the experience took me.

Eileen Novotny

I am blessed in that I have a space for spiritual direction at the Ursuline Center/Motherhouse in Youngstown, where I am an associate of the community. The sisters provide me a lovely space--a "parlor." I have led several people through the Spiritual Exercises and usually have anywhere from ten to fifteen directees. Most come monthly and a few come periodically -- maybe three to four times a year. For Advent I have advertised and provided *Lightworks*. Each lent I offer an eight-week "Busy Persons' Retreat" and usually get six to eight individuals for that. I have also done spiritual direction via Skype with someone who moved. I make an annual retreat. I attended one led by Margaret Silf who focuses on Ignatian themes. I constantly read and am part of a spiritual/theological book club. I go monthly for spiritual direction, which is an effort, since I travel eighty miles



one way. Since I was injured in a head-on auto accident in July 2011 and am still dealing with the results of the broken bones, I am much more cautious about driving. I belong to a Peer Supervision Group which I try to participate in as often as possible -- for me it is a ninety-minute drive and since it is a two hour evening meeting I do not go when the weather is bad. Some of my ISI confreres are part of the group. Life is good. At the Ursuline Center I work with a group of talented and faith-filled volunteers who provide support and planning of special programs such as facilitating guided labyrinth walks monthly, offering retreats for RCIA or other groups, running a support group for the unemployed, scripture classes, a Prayer Shawl ministry which has made and given out almost 700 prayer shawls to AIDS/HIV affected individuals, cancer patients, and group homes. I also handle many requests via the internet and phone for the shawls. Some have gone as far as El Salvador and Las Vegas. I also have five grandchildren -- The photo is of the just-turned-one-year-old, red-haired Bryn. I am so blessed!!!



Nancy Rowell

Since my certification, I typically see about ten to twelve people a year for spiritual direction. That includes one or two Nineteenth Annotation Retreats, and the rest are monthly or bi-weekly ongoing spiritual direction sessions. I participate in peer supervision and I have done supervision for one or two people a year. I worked on a variety of advisory group/committees/programs with Martha Campbell in developing the Lay Leadership program. I continue my ministry with the homeless and the Ignatian Spirituality Project, but I am no longer co-coordinator since I took on a new job. My new job is with The Aldridge Group which uses skills I learned in ISI, since I interview candidates for employment and use a psychological assessment tool, the I6PF, to determine best fit and provide developmental coaching. What has been most helpful, besides the skills learned in the practicum year which deepened my understanding of human/psychological/spiritual development, is the ongoing connection and support I feel from ISI friends.





Maria Skrabec

Since certification, I have led fourteen people through the Nineteenth Annotation retreat through the SPA program at St. Ignatius High School. Last year I had the privilege of presenting a retreat with Rita Carfagna for the eight-week Ignatian Spirituality Retreat at SPA. I have also acted as supervisor for ISI interns. ISI has been tremendously helpful for my job in Occupational Therapy Rehabilitation Services at Euclid Rehab. I now work with my patients in a more compassionate and holistic manner, with a deep awareness of God's love for all of us. ISI has sharpened my own listening skills and has been so helpful in my own spiritual growth and relationship with Christ. In July 2012 I had the opportunity to go to Guelph, Canada to attend a spiritual directors' workshop with Joan Carney. It was a great retreat that taught me more about the Rules of Discernment, Ignatian decision making, and understanding the Spiritual Exercises at a deeper level. I have been able to integrate this experience and learning into my ministry. I continue to be part of a peer supervision group at St. Ignatius. We meet monthly and have enjoyed prayerful support and camaraderie. I appreciate the support of my husband Joe, and my family. Our family of three children has grown and we now have two beautiful grandchildren who give us so much joy and help make family time such a gift!

Mary Ann Spangler, HM

I am presently providing spiritual direction for adults, young adults and students on college campuses, and am companionship someone through the Nineteenth Annotation retreat. These have all been profound and grace-filled experiences. Along with that, I have participated in Praying With St. Ignatius parish retreats and campus Busy Student Retreats, as well as providing training for campus and parish ministers for these retreats. During the summer, I assist with retreats at the Jesuit Retreat House. In companionship young adults, I am facilitating the development of a new program called "Leadership for a New Day" which is designed to help young adults navigate through the intersection of faith, values, mission and the workplace. My peer supervision group has provided on-going support and a framework for reflection and personal growth. The context of prayer and trust have been a wonderful gift. This year I have also served in some congregational [Sisters of the Humility of Mary] roles as we discern, envision and plan for the future.



Class of 2008



Arlene Anderson [Gladura]

Since certification I have worked with about six directees, most on a short-term basis. Currently I am working with three directees on a monthly basis. The training received through the ISI program has helped me develop a closer relationship with God and has deepened my prayer life. It has given me a greater sensitivity to those who are struggling in their spiritual journey. The ISI program has also awakened a greater awareness of my need for God's guidance and direction in life. I am currently involved in several areas of ministry within my church. As a participant in our Prayer Teams, I have the opportunity to pray with persons during a worship time or at other times when called upon. I also teach a bible study which is now going into its fifteenth year. The studies keep me focused on the scriptures and encourage meditation. I facilitate a Grief Support Group which meets once a month all year long. As we work through our grief issues, our discussion also focuses on how God is working through our lives to help the healing process. All these ministries continue to develop the spiritual directions skills I learned in ISI. I have learned to trust God completely and to be open to his direction in my life. As for something new in my life: after having been a widow for nine years, God graciously brought someone into my life and gave both of us a chance at additional happiness. We celebrated three years of marriage this April. We are enjoying retired life, spending time with our family, four children and five grandchildren. Another joy for us is meeting the exchange students that our youngest daughter and her family host every year -- girls have come from China, Germany, Slovakia, Morocco, and Russia. It has been delightful to get to know these girls and their various cultures and traditions. We have gladly become "grandma and grandpa" to all of them.



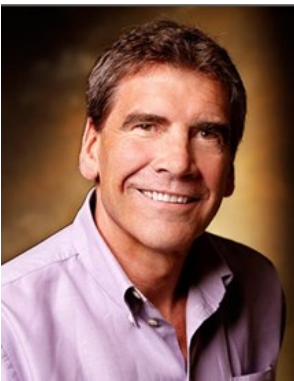
Chuck Herbruck

I retired two years ago and have been happy, grateful to have "extra time" to spend on things I already enjoyed. I take more time working out and try to make a meditation out of it. I swim "aggressively" for thirty to sixty minutes as I love it. One of the great things I learned from the Spiritual Exercises was the importance and value of desire. Shortly after being certified by ISI, I started reading books by Thomas Keating, a Trappist monk who started a program called Contemplative Outreach. The mission of Contemplative Outreach is to teach Centering Prayer. I have been active in this group and their efforts. I host a prayer group every other Thursday at my office. I enjoy praying with this group. John Roper drives up from Akron to make our 7:30 am meeting. We welcome others to join us or start up a second group. Most recently I have been reading and following Richard Rohr, founder of the Center for Action and Contemplation based in Albuquerque, NM. His message is around non-dual thinking-

inclusiveness. Last month I went to a CAC conference which featured James Finley who spoke on St. John of the Cross. Very powerful. Now I am reading his book on Merton. I love the reading and studying and have made a couple presentations but feel I need to get out there and do something. I have recently started seeing Sharon Bramonte for spiritual direction; she was my supervisor at ISI, and she is very helpful.

Joanne Sheldon

Since I earned my certificate I have consistently had three to four directees. These include members of the IVC (Ignatian Volunteer Corp), three Methodist ministers, and six directees from various areas. I have also helped facilitate Praying With St. Ignatius groups at four different churches. Three years ago, I developed and offered "Living Room Retreats" that I advertised in my church bulletin. The first year I had a ninety-three year old. She continues to keep in touch and we meet occasionally. The second year a group of women from a retirement community met once a week for eight weeks, and this past year I have had only one directee. I discovered that we had a large community of elderly parishioners who so much want to grow spiritually. So using the format of St. Ignatius, I adapted the Exercises to be used specially with them. This has been a most enjoyable journey. I also helped with the retreats of the Samaritan Women, the homeless women of Cleveland. My contact with the Methodist ministers presented itself during my last year of ISI. The Spiritual Formation Director of the newly ordained called to discuss the possibility of providing direction for these newly ordained. Their diocese pays for the first year and thereafter it is up to the individual to pay as they recognize the need. So far, mine have continued. I also have presented several sessions on Ignatian Spirituality to various groups, mainly on the Examen. I am constantly looking for programs for my own enrichment whether it is through attending workshops or reading books; I have collected quite a library of Jesuit related books and plan to continue.



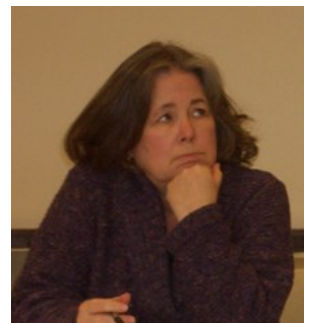
Larry Vuiliemin

Most of my spiritual direction is incorporated into the ongoing work I do with Heart to Heart Communications and its work as a community catalyst for personal and spiritual development in the workplace. It includes leadership development and group work, parish missions, and retreat involvement as presenter/facilitator. I'm a better professional counselor/lawyer as a result of our experience. "I don't know" better fits for me, presence overrides any felt need to fix, and naming grace in appropriate ways helps to transition folks through the tough stuff. The retreat work mentioned has included individual direction. The other programs in which I am involved have provided me a heightened sense of the "pervasive lack of interiority" (to quote Rohlheiser) out there which ISI helps to meet. One new development involves an association with the Franciscan Retreat Center in Scottsdale, Arizona. I was recently involved there as presenter/spiritual director at a New Year's retreat and in February at a men's retreat. I have also connected with John Roper recently regarding a spiritual formation series we developed in Akron through Heart to Heart, at which he presented and which he may facilitate in the Cleveland area.

Class of 2009

Rev. Robin Craig

I usually see about four or five people every month or so in spiritual direction and usually am accompanying someone through the Exercises. I use my spiritual direction training all the time in my work as a pastor. This winter I participated as a director in the Busy Person's Retreat at the College of Wooster and led a Lenten retreat for an ecumenical group of women from three churches in Dearborn MI. I am in a peer supervision group with several other members of our class. It is without a doubt one of the most moving and satisfying experiences of my ministerial life. We have become very close and are a tremendous support to one another.





Elaine Fechko

I carry one or two regular directees at a time. I have offered the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Annotation retreats and ongoing direction. Dottie Rieman, Deborah Zawislan and I have been offering two Busy Person Retreats a year in our cluster of churches. The retreats are formatted similarly to the Busy Student retreat. The feedback from participants is always positive and we do have repeat participants. I continue to meet with my colleagues for peer supervision. I am blessed to be in a very gifted group and am constantly learning from their experiences. I also enjoy reading from leading authors in the field of spiritual direction and try to attend talks and retreats. All are great sources of inspiration and growth. I now have three married sons with four grandchildren between the ages of one and three. They all live nearby and I enjoy them a lot. My daughter graduated from college last year and is now living and working in Dallas, Texas. I have been working at St. Matthias Church in Parma as a pastoral minister. The usual job description is 'whatever needs to be done and everything else.'

We all know how that goes. But the beauty of it is that I can bring my skills to the position and develop my own niche. Spiritual direction is one of those skills. Right now, retirement is not in my vocabulary. I tell God, "As long as I can, I will." My ministry is a great source of blessing.

Kathy Haag

I have mostly directed various individual retreats, including several Nineteenth Annotation retreats and several eight-week or eight-day retreats. I have met for ongoing direction with one person on a somewhat irregular basis. I have also supervised an ISI intern. I have co-directed or been a table facilitator for the eight-week Praying With St. Ignatius retreats offered in parishes through the Jesuit Retreat House. In addition to spiritual/retreat direction, my experience with ISI has helped me in my work as a formatter of lay ecclesial ministers in the diocese of Cleveland. Our candidates are formed in four pillars of development: human, spiritual, ministerial and academic. Although I cannot serve as their spiritual director, I do use my ISI formation in discussing spiritual practices and the integration of all four pillars in individual meetings with the Pastoral Ministry candidates. My own prayer life, individually directed retreats, and workshops help me in developing my skills. I have also enjoyed the experience of supervision of an ISI intern; working with her has made me reflect more honestly on my own spiritual journey. I cannot say enough about the benefit of my peer supervision group! We try to meet monthly, although our schedules usually prevent all of us from coming together each time. The group is very trusting and honest; I feel not only safe but challenged and supported at the same time.



Becki Haller

I typically see about seven people for individual spiritual direction throughout the year. This year is the first time I am seeing four people for small group direction, which seems to be going very well. I have had the opportunity to be a companion to two individuals this past year through the Nineteenth Annotation Retreat. I have also recently served as a supervisor for an ISI intern. I have given retreats to Caregivers, Men and Women Weekend Retreats and Faith and Light ministry for the physically and mentally challenged. These are annual retreats for me. In addition to the above, I have been giving Days of Reflection to women, both Catholic and Protestant groups, using a wonderful book as guide, *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*. All of the retreats have a strong dimension of Ignatian Spirituality. I am not in a peer supervision group, but would welcome the opportunity to meet with other interested spiritual directors in or close to my area -

- Akron/Canton. My husband and I are grandparents to ten beautiful children, six girls and four boys. We have monthly slumber parties with a "theme" that we all enjoy! I continue to serve the ministry of Loyola Retreat House as Executive Director. I am pleased to announce that the ministry of Loyola has been financially secured for many years to come through the generosity and prayerful support of many.



Dottie Rieman

I have been very active in my ministries in spiritual direction, healing, Stephen's Ministry, Centering Prayer, pastoral care, and spiritual growth. I have had some health issues in the past two years but now am on my way to vitality and wholeness. I have participated in parish retreats, group spiritual direction, and hospitality. I have four directees and hope to pick up a few more. I am currently enrolled in the Donna Eden Energy Healing program in my formation year which is quite intense and I hope to continue my studies. I believe the ISI training has launched a universal cosmic growth in me that continues to energize me even further--life is good and staying radiantly alive is where I want to continue BEING.



Agnes Strada

I have directed two Nineteenth Annotation retreatants each year, and have worked on both fall and Lenten eight-week retreats as table leader through both SPA and JRH. I also have one person for ongoing direction. One of the most surprising benefits of my ISI training is that in my conversations with my children, my responses and reactions have changed. Their teenage years might have been a little easier if I had been more aware then! Thanks to Martha Campbell, there are plenty of opportunities available for growth. I've attended the Nurturing the Call programs at SPA, as well as the sessions on the *Interior Castle* of Teresa of Avila. The peer supervision group I am in meets once a month. It has become a time of enrichment whether I am the one presenting or listening. There is always a wonderful give and take of ideas, and the presence of the Spirit is palpable. Love it! Our empty nest is constantly changing! Andy is retired (almost!), so we have lots of time to travel and

visit the grandchildren and spend time with them when they come to visit. This is a wonderfully blessed time of our lives

Jean Sullivan

I have been enjoying and very grateful for journeying with directees for both ongoing spiritual direction and for the Spiritual Exercises. Directees have been referred through SPA, JRH, peers and even through Spiritual Directors International. I have a very profound connection to my peer supervision group, spirit moving for our freedom and discernment. Even during my wintertime in Florida direction flows smoothly through ongoing phone calls. Directees say they are comfortable with this. My work with the JRH Lay Leadership program as program assistant includes maintaining a spiritual directors list for referrals, maintaining a retreat team list for parish and community retreats, mentoring new retreat team members, directing retreats and marketing the retreat to local parishes. There is a wonderful community and collaboration between the retreat teams at JRH and the SIHS SPA program that blesses me with ongoing enrichment programs. Two advisory groups include ISI and St. Dominic Parish Women's Spirituality group. I just hosted an overnight retreat at my house for the Women's Spirituality advisory group. It was very peaceful and inspired.

**Carl Toomey**

I have been very busy in my ministry as a deacon. I have directed a few folks in my parish in the Nineteenth Annotation retreat as well as in eight-week retreats. But more than that, my training in spiritual direction has taught me to be a better listener in pastoral situations. I minister to many who are home bound, in the hospital, and in nursing homes. Ignatian Spirituality and my spiritual direction tools have enabled me to help those who are hurting find God in everything. The examen prayer is a good thing to use in these situations because it starts with thankfulness. I have also helped out on a few Praying With St. Ignatius retreats and have a great peer supervision group to meet with.

**Micky Wolf**

Ignatian spirituality continues to inform nearly every aspect of my life. My husband simply smiles while friends nod knowingly, clearly aware of how this way of being impacts the way I think, feel, and live as a Christian. Writing is my major priority. I post weekly on my inspirational/instructional blog and am in the process of building a new web site, along with trying to finish editing my first non-fiction book. I was recently invited to collaborate with an LPCC on a book about how the practice of contemplative prayer can be helpful to those recovering from trauma. Then there is the novel I spent six months researching a year ago, but it seems that will have to wait for now. I also anticipate presenting some new programs and leading retreats for Affirmation Ministries in the fall. On average, I see four directees per month. Additionally, I was invited to facilitate a series of problem solving/conflict resolution meetings, using Ignatian precepts, last summer for an area ministry group, a truly blessed experience all the way around. I was also invited to speak to a Catholic women's group this past February. The title of my presentation: "Women of the Cross—Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow."

At present, reading is the best way for me to continue to refine my direction and ministry skills. I typically have half a dozen books in progress including recent titles by authors Chris Lowney, Margaret Silf, Kevin O'Brien, and Gerhard Lohfink. Both of our adult children are now married. Grandkids one of these days? In the meantime, plenty to keep me out of mischief—which reminds me, need to check with my beloved to see where we are headed for our next road trip adventure to wine country.



Mary Ann Bowers

St. Ignatius instructed us to "Go out and set the world on fire." With the help of the Holy Spirit, and of course, St. Ignatius, I've tried to light a few sparks in my corner of the world. Since graduating from the ISI I have coordinated and facilitated three retreats at my parish: the Community of St John Bosco. Two of the retreats were ten weekly sessions on the Spiritual Exercises. The third retreat was based on Fr. Gallagher's DVD series on the Rules for Discernment. During the up-coming year I plan to offer a retreat based on Precious Blood Spirituality, one on the Spiritual Exercises, and possibly one on Alpha for Catholics. God has abundantly blessed me as I journey with my fellow pilgrims! The skills I've learned at the ISI have also helped me as I continue working as a hospice nurse at Holy Family Hospice Home. In February, my husband and I were fortunate to participate in a five-day immersion experience in El Salvador. We joined a group from St. Dominic Church (where my son, Jodie is a pastoral minister). We thank St Dominic's Church for inviting us to join them on this wonderful retreat!

John Carlson

Although I have only three people in spiritual direction, I have become a spiritual care volunteer at Fairview Hospital. I have found this to be very rewarding and it has allowed me to see more of the medical profession and how it works. I am awed by the healing and the wonderful caring people I have met in hospitals. In May I began my Hospice training.

**Pam Chaney**

After graduation from ISI, I completed a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education at St. Vincent Charity Medical Center. I spent my time in Rosary Hall, the nation's second oldest addiction treatment center. I was hired in 2010 by SVCMC as a spiritual director and chemical dependency counselor in Rosary Hall. I now work with people with the disease of addiction and their family members. My work has been a source of deep consolation and joy to me. I feel as if God is using all that I am, and all that I have, to serve, learn, and love. My work with patients has brought me more deeply to my self; it is gratifying and humbling. Each day, my Nineteenth Annotation, through which I was led by Rita Carfagna, informs my work and my being. Each month, with my friend and co-facilitator Sister Dion Horrigan, Rosary Hall is home to a spiritual retreat for women. This setting has increased kinship among women from various places, with disparate lives, who come to know and care for each other. The women tell us these retreats increase their hope that they can create – with the God of their understanding – a life they want to live in. I am profoundly grateful for the ISI. It was here I found my spiritual tribe, and learned to co-create with God, and you, a life I want to live in.

Liz Cotter

I am still amazed by how the Spirit moves through my life and the lives of the seekers that I am blessed to serve. It's been almost three years since I began my spiritual direction ministry. Some have come for an individual Eighteenth Annotation experience and we spend ten weeks meeting. Others come for an ongoing monthly experience. Others I have companioned for an eight day or weekend silent retreat. Currently I have one weekly seeker for the Eighteenth Annotation retreat and four others who come monthly for ongoing direction (some have been with me all three years). All together since my certification, I have had sixteen people in different forms of ongoing and regular spiritual direction. The programs I'm participating in include Nurturing the Call, other Lay Leadership programs, JRH Board Retreats, my prayer group of twelve years, and a peer supervision group, which meets once a month. Deep insights and companionship with fellow directors has proven not only valuable in my work, but has been heartfelt and moving. I have met wonderful people through Ignatian Spirituality and ISI. How blessed I feel to have learned and to keep learning from my colleagues and friends in this ministry. As far as what's new...we are selling our home and moving into a smaller one now that our three children are out navigating their own lives! In May my husband and I travelled to Italy for our thirtieth wedding anniversary.





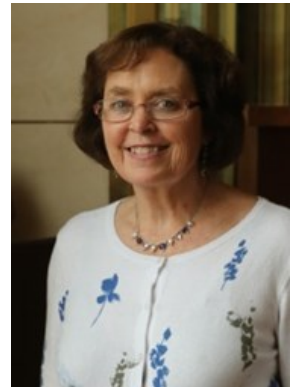
Mary Downey

I suppose the apostles never really knew what was in store for them as they dropped their former lives and trudged off with Jesus. I feel a new kinship with those disciples of long ago. When I entered the ISI, with the guiding grace of God, I too had no idea what would unfold. What I did know was that it was time to answer the call. What I found was grace beyond measure. The journey through classroom learning, the Nineteenth Annotation retreat and the weekend workshops all brought me to an understanding of what Ignatius might have meant when he reminds us that the road to deeper relationship with God is one that moves from the head to the heart. For me the time spent in class provided the stuff of reflection and learning that fueled the journey toward my heart. Integration occurred between my head and heart that I now understand in a new way. In the end I realize that my heart is made of the same stuff as the Sacred Heart of Jesus. My journey partners are precious beyond words and I marvel at how the Spirit of God moves among our rag-tag bunch of seekers! They are bodily manifestations of grace. No journey is possible

without skilled and grace-filled guides, and that is what I received in Joan first and foremost, then Brian McDermott and Paula Britton. The hymn "Be Still My Soul" says it well, I think: "Be still my soul: for God is on your side; Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to order and provide; in every change God faithful will remain. Be still my soul: your best eternal friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end."

Syndie Eardly

Since graduating from ISI in 2010, I have been actively involved in the ministry of Centering Space in Lakewood. Located on the Lakewood Catholic Academy property overlooking Lake Erie, Centering Space is a ministry of prayer, listening and discernment. Our goal is to enable ordinary people from any background to discover the presence of God in their lives through quiet attention to the voice of the Spirit. As a member of the Core Team that oversees programming at the house, I plan and lead our Tuesday/Wednesday lectio divina meditation experience on a rotating basis. I also plan and lead other days of reflection and evening programs at the retreat house. This ministry is the kind of experience I always envisioned I would get involved in after graduating and I am thrilled to be a part of the team there. Centering Space can accommodate up to five retreatants for overnight retreats. The house is also available for group meetings of up to twenty, and for individual spiritual direction. Several ISI graduates currently conduct their spiritual direction sessions at Centering Space. I invite all ISI graduates to drop in for a prayer meeting, or set up a meeting with a Core member to learn about ways you could use the space in your own ministry.



Laura Fibbi

Currently, I have only one ongoing directee. Over the last couple of years, I have been involved, off and on, with the Praying With St. Ignatius eight-week retreat at the parish level. I use my training from ISI in my work as a pastoral minister in weekly group sessions to pray with the Sunday scriptures. I also find the skills of a director (listening, asking open-ended questions, waiting on the Spirit, etc.) to be essential in my work with RCIA candidates. I belong to a peer supervision group. We meet monthly. It is very helpful to explore the many aspects of spiritual direction with my peers. New experiences: my husband Terry and I enjoyed a wonderful trip to Paris and Belgium this past fall.

Chris Madsen

I continue to offer spiritual support to the staff and patients in the Chronic Pain Rehabilitation Unit of the Cleveland Clinic. My participation in ISI has given me confidence and tools to be present in this setting as a source of comfort and healing. I also attended the Christian in the Work Place program through the Lay Leadership Program of the Jesuit Retreat House. I am working to encourage graduates of the Chronic Pain Rehabilitation Program to start support groups in their local communities. I am a member of the choir of The Community of St. Peter, praying twice as I sing. I continue relationships with the Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland, my second family. I thank God daily for the beautiful spiritual experience I was given through prayer, direction, and work within the ISI program.



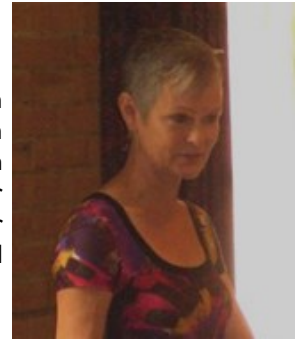


Ginny Pippin

It's been an interesting ride since I graduated. I continue to offer spiritual direction and the Spiritual Exercises. I have a few people seeking personal spiritual direction who have either made the Spiritual Exercises or have come to me by referral. There are others seeking professional spiritual direction, who have come as off-shoots of retreats or again from word-of-mouth. They seek direction and spiritual awareness to inform their professional lives. I've led week-end retreats for Catholic and non-Catholic churches and formed small prayer groups. My training through the ISI has helped me add academic learning to the spiritual sense that informs me as I listen to others. I continue to develop my skills through spiritual reading, retreats, the company of spiritual friends, and regular spiritual direction.

Sharon Rowland

Since graduating from the ISI, I have continued to offer group and individual spiritual direction, either in person or by Skype. What a privilege this work is! I also offer experiential retreats focused on connecting with God in all the ordinary and extraordinary moments of life. A ministry website is in progress to let people know about this work. With the Renovare International Institute for Christian Spiritual Formation, I am privileged to facilitate online academic discussions and paper grading. My newest adventure is adjunct teaching at Richmond Graduate University and Ashland Theological Seminary.



Class of 2011



Margaret Balewsk

I recently participated as a table companion and co-leader (in training) with a parish eight-week Praying With St. Ignatius retreat. I have also been involved for the last two years with ongoing direction and Nineteenth Annotation retreats for two individuals. I attended last spring's Nurturing the Call program at St. Ignatius offered by Martha Campbell through JRH, and also this spring's sessions on the Myers Briggs Personality Indicator. Our class's peer supervision group meets every month with very rich insights at each meeting. I am recently spending more time in parish ministry of RCIA and the Spiritual Life Commission. Also, I hope to focus more full time on parish retreats beginning next fall and continue with individual direction and new opportunities.

Julie Bradley

I am directing the Nineteenth Annotation retreat currently with three candidates; this has been my primary form of spiritual direction so far. I have also become one of the leaders for the Consolation and Healing ministry at my parish, Holy Angels in Bainbridge. I have found this ministry to be very meaningful. I meet with a spiritual director myself on a regular basis. I also take advantage of any opportunity for workshops or retreats to stay focused spiritually, and I do a great deal of spiritual reading. Our class has formed a peer supervision group that meets monthly. I have found this to be a great source of guidance for myself. We, as a group of classmates, have been very faithful to this time together and I do not think my own ministry as a spiritual director would be as graced without this group. Life is good and I continue to enjoy being part of a large extended family, taking pride in all of their accomplishments. I have been blessed with good friends and a wonderful parish at Holy Angels and that brings so much meaning to my life.



Kathi Chapman

Through the ISI program, my world has become smaller yet much richer. I have had one regular companion, on and off since graduation, and our journey is a gift to both of us. The ISI experience has allowed me to "become" more of the person God created. As a consequence, I connect to people in a deeper way and have felt honored and joyful as others share their stories. . . and there are some marvelous stories! I continue to be involved in the RCIA Program at St. Joseph Church in Strongsville and have experienced a deeper connection with each person. Contemplating my time during the ISI program makes me smile. Thanks to Joan for such a good program and to wonderful classmates! This picture shows me with Heather, my one-year old collie!



Mike Feldtz

Since being certified I have been helping out with individual retreats through JCU, CWRU, either eight-day or thirty-two week retreats. Occasionally, I have been journeying with individuals in a one-on-one relationship. The studies and lessons from ISI have helped me tremendously as I began the Pre-Theology program at St. Mary Seminary for the Diocese of Cleveland. Besides bringing a different perspective to the seminary from my prior career and life, I think I bring a fresh perspective in spirituality. Like St. Ignatius, I feel I am sitting down with students half my age to study again in the classroom. Most of my classmates are more than half my age, but I think there is an appreciation for the different spices I bring to the table. I continue to read and attend lectures that will help me in directing. Also, I feel that keeping some involvement with inner-city volunteer work helps me to stay grounded in humility and the service of others. Being open to finding God even growing in the cracks of the sidewalk is important to me and volunteering helps me find this angle. I am not "strictly" in a peer supervision group. I have attended one meeting with my classmates, but for the most part I try

to seek out a spiritual mentor that I think may be helpful to me and to the person that I may be directing at the time. Well, as mentioned above, I started in the Pre-Theology program at St. Mary Seminary for the diocese, and at this point I feel that I am in sync with God's will for me. It will be interesting to continue with this path, as it can only show the divine love and humor that God has for us. My prayer is that my supervisors see this same divine humor.

Claudette Matero

I have been doing individual spiritual direction with four people and I have worked on two teams of the Praying With St. Ignatius module out of the Jesuit Retreat House. I have directed a person in the Nineteenth Annotation and directed two groups in the eight-week Ignatian Retreat. I regularly attend the Nurturing the Call Program at St. Ignatius for spiritual directors. It is an on-going support for spiritual directors and extremely beneficial. I also attended the presentations Martha Campbell has given on Teilhard de Chardin and Teresa of Avila. I am currently attending the pilot program out of JRH entitled "The Christian at Work in the World." I belong to a monthly peer supervision group as well. Peer supervision is a sacred time for me. I am heard, I listen, and I grow in the wisdom shared by all the members and the power of the Spirit that is present.



Andrea McGovern

I currently have seven directees, who come to me monthly or twice a month. I am finishing the Nineteenth Annotation with one woman, and have recently finished the retreat with another. We meet either at JCU or St. Gabriel's. I have used my ISI skills to develop a small ministry of reading and reflection at St. Gabriel's. One group (six members) has finished four books; the most recent was *Hope Against the Darkness*, by Richard Rohr. I also am leading a monthly evening reflection group of fifteen people that uses *Inner Compass* by Margaret Silf as the focus. Last year I was able to launch a website, ACatholicinCleveland.com, which is focused on spiritual direction. It contains a blog site, where I try to post a spiritual reflection at least monthly. I am a regular participant in JRH's lay leadership programs, coordinated by Martha Campbell, including Food for the Journey and Nurturing the Call. I am currently participating in the pilot for "The Christian at Work in the World." I attend most of the Ignatian Volunteer Corps meetings, as several of my directees are referred from that program, and it's a great monthly day of reflection. I attend monthly peer supervision meetings with several

members of my class. I find this is a powerful opportunity to reflect on the gifts and drawbacks of being a spiritual director. It also assures that we have close peers who understand the issues of our chosen ministry. I really love getting together with my ISI friends!



Kathy Michael

I continue to see one person on a regular basis for spiritual companionship and she happens to be the same person I started with as an intern in the ISI program in 2010. I also make myself available at Gesu for prayer and retreat programs offered in the Ignatian tradition and this year I facilitated a Lent faith sharing group with Linda Elliott from ISI. I participated in the new JRH program, "The Christian at Work in the World," developed by Sharon Bramante and held at Communion of Saints and Gesu. This program has offered me an awareness of Catholic social teachings and provided me with an opportunity to reflect on my personal relationship and feelings with and about the poor. It also included an abundance of reading, reminiscent of ISI. I have had the opportunity to go to some of the Nurturing the Call sessions conducted jointly by SPA and JRH and have attended the program Exploring Personality Type for Personal Growth and Ministerial Effectiveness. In addition to learning more about spirituality, these programs have all offered fun opportunities to reconnect with former ISI classmates. (cont....)

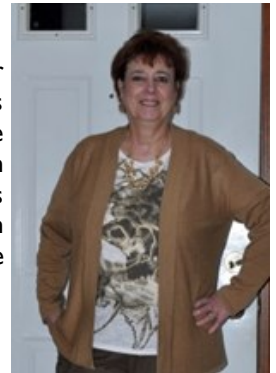


Kathy Michael (cont.)

This year marks the tenth anniversary of my prayer group which meets on a weekly basis. Three of the four of us came together when we did the Nineteenth Annotation retreat at Saint Ignatius High School and then just kept going. We feel so blessed to maintain our prayer practice and sharing. I continue in my position at John Carroll University as the Assistant to the Vice President for Finance and Treasury Specialist. One of the benefits of working here is taking advantage of very interesting lunch time programs and speakers on sacred matters. Regarding family, two of my children, who were in college when I started ISI, have graduated. Jimmy is an architect, has lived in Washington D.C. and recently moved to Vero Beach, FL. Joe and I have had a great time visiting him in both cities. Jeannie lives in Cleveland and is a CPA working in audit assurance for PricewaterhouseCoopers. Our youngest, Colleen, is a freshman at Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, IN.

Karen Zeleznik

I am currently doing very little direction as I am having a difficult time finding directees. I had one last year and I have one this year. The first lasted four visits; the second is in the early stages and I believe she is going to quit, since I am not sure she is ready for direction. Both last year's and this year's directees were interested in ongoing direction. I have had information put in a number of parish bulletins. A deeper faith is the main effect my ISI experience has had on me. We have a peer supervision group and I love our times together. I am hoping to attend the eight-week Praying With St. Ignatius retreat in my parish. We are in the early stages of planning for it. I have decided that retirement is not in my immediate future. I still love what I do.

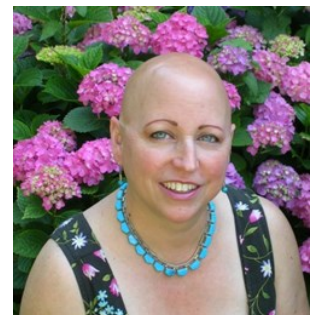
**Class of 2012****Henedine Aldana**

Since my certification, my life has been unfolding in ways that continue to surprise. My breast cancer, diagnosed within two months of certification, turned out to be a gift that forced me to evaluate my changing needs in the light of God's will for me. I am acutely aware that it is only by the grace of God that I am physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually well and my experience has been eye-opening not just for me, but also for everyone who came into my circle. Through it all, I have been lifted up in prayer in such a heartwarming way, that I now have a much deeper understanding of what it means to be part of the communion of saints. And all the while, the Holy Spirit has been nudging me to attend to souls rather than just to bodies. Consequently, I have decided to hang up my stethoscope and retire from medicine after thirty years. Nothing fills my soul like the graced experience of spiritual direction. Earlier this year, I accepted the role of spiritual director at a fledgling nonprofit, Affirmation Ministries, in North Canton, Ohio. Presently, I accompany a woman on an Eighteenth

Annotation Retreat at my parish, St. Ladislav Church, in Westlake. For me, spiritual direction continues to be an intensely powerful, yet totally humbling experience. I look forward to monthly peer supervision sessions with my beloved classmates who companion me, inspire me, and help me stay firmly grounded in the Ignatian way.

Sandy Appeldorn

Since my certification, I have been active with on-going spiritual direction of one directee, supervision of one intern, peer supervision, and working with weekly sophomore prayer groups at St. Ignatius High School, teaching them about different ways to pray and planting the seeds of Ignatian spirituality. I have also participated in several Nurturing the Call presentations by Martha Campbell and Janet Lehane, and have found them very reinforcing, insightful and inspiring. I am looking forward to two weeks in Guelph, Canada on a retreat for spiritual directors this summer on discernment and decision-making. Our peer supervision group of my classmates has made monthly meetings part of our lives, as we continue to nurture and support each other in our ministries and keep in contact. I look forward to these meetings immensely to keep me grounded and to remind me of what is really most important in our busy lives. Our group has developed such a symbiotic relationship that often we don't even have to articulate all that is going on -- simply being with each other in silence and prayer is very nurturing and refreshing. It is truly a gift to me and serves as a reminder to stay out of my own way. Since certification I have been immersed in a new human resources position at work which has consumed much of my time on and off the job, including seminars, chapter meetings, and evening certification classes. I sat for a certification exam in May and hope to enter a phase in my life that does not involve intense reading, writing, and studying. As much as I have enjoyed all of the work for both the ISI and HR, I feel called to a quieting and am looking forward to the peace and joy of no deadlines--and simply being present to enjoy the moment and to discern what's next for me and my family. I have been so abundantly blessed and I deeply desire to sit quietly in gratitude and recognition of these gifts and to just "be still and know that God is." Amen.





Bob Howell

I currently have one active directee who is making the Nineteenth Annotation Retreat. I have directed six group retreats in the past. I'm hoping to "grow" a couple more individual directees. I have found what I learned in ISI training to directly apply to my ministry, which is pastoral care for an aging congregation and a retirement community, as the pastoral needs of this population almost always involves spiritual distress to some degree. I hope to attend some additional offerings at both ISI and JRH. Our peer group meets monthly. It keeps me connected and is a place to air concerns and problem solve. I got my wife a new car for her birthday. It is a little Fiat 500C, a limited edition version. \$2000 of the purchase price went to breast cancer research. Naturally it has pink accent touches all over the place. I wish she would let me drive it once in a while!

Colleen Lasky

Last year I directed three Nineteenth Annotation Retreats. I was involved with the Food for the Journey program through JRH, in which we read Teresa of Avila's classic *The Interior Castle*. This was an amazing experience and I look forward to the next book which will be *The Confessions of St. Augustine*. I will also be attending the Supervision Workshop that Joan will be putting on this summer. The most surprising thing has happened! About four months ago I said a prayer asking God to help me to help God's suffering world. I didn't know how one person could do much as the problems seemed so large and looming, but I prayed this prayer often anyway. In the meantime, due to health issues, I was drawn to a documentary called "Vegucated," and it immediately flipped over my culinary journey toward vegan eating. The documentary was not spiritual at all, but I saw God's created and suffering world throughout the entire thing: needless suffering from heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol, and some forms of cancer that can be caused by poor nutrition. Plus the very real suffering of God's animals that occurs at the 18,000+ overcrowded farm factories across the United States, and the massive amounts of methane gases that are put into God's created world from these farm factories . . . the same gases that cause global warming. Long story short, I felt called to create a cookbook called *The Mostly Vegan Diet*, designed to help people transition away from overdependence on meat, dairy and processed foods. It has an accompaniment called, *The Mostly Vegan Diet Food Journal* which will help track food consumption as one embarks on this healing culinary journal. They will both be available on Amazon.com. One person can make a significant difference, but together we can change the world.



Amy McKenna

This year I directed one person through the Nineteenth Annotation, and two John Carroll students (one for ongoing and one for an eight-week retreat). I also just finished presenting and small group directing at the SPA Lenten eight-week retreat at St. Ignatius High School. I have attended Nurturing the Call presented by Martha Campbell and Janet Lehane, at St. Ignatius, and I also am working on my M.A. in Theology at John Carroll. I am a part of an Ignatian Reflection Group which meets once a month to listen, discuss and pray on Ignatian themes. Nurturing the Call focuses on Spirit-led small group direction (wonderful!). The Masters program enriches my theological knowledge (fantastic!) and the reflection group feeds my soul and my need for faith sharing. Our class has a peer supervision group which meets once a month for discussion and prayer. We are still evolving toward what that means for us, but I am confident that it is led by the Spirit and will become what we need.

One aspect of supervision that stands out, which has been said repeatedly but is no less relevant, is how much spiritual direction enriches each of us as well as our directees. Seeing how God works through each of us, using our own unique qualities, allows me to grow in awe at the work of the Holy One. It has given me a deeper appreciation for the Ignatian phrase, "God in all things." I am grateful every day for the Exercises and the ISI; both have changed my life in ways too numerous to count.



Sue Palmer

Currently I'm not doing any spiritual direction but hope to in the Fall. However, what I learned at ISI about spiritual direction, has been immensely helpful to me, both personally and in my volunteer work. I lead bible studies at my church, participate in the prayer life of our congregation by leading prayers during worship, have led workshops on prayer, and a retreat for Stephen Ministers. Sharing what I've learned through the ISI about prayer, discernment and being present to someone through active listening and listening to the Holy Spirit has been a delight. I also have a book in the works on how Ignatian Spirituality can help people come close to God in the midst of our fractured, exceedingly busy lives, aimed specifically at young moms. Personally, what I learned about discernment at ISI has had a considerable impact on my spiritual life, especially my prayer life. The many different types of praying that Ignatian spirituality opened up to me has ignited my prayer life and turned it into 3D! I am in a peer supervision group, and when I've been able to attend I find it an anchoring, calming and very encouraging experience. Maintaining close contacts with my ISI classmates is important to me, as is encouraging each other in our Spiritual Direction endeavors and pursuits. This group of people is a group that I will forever be connected to in an intimate way. Our daughter just got accepted into a PhD program at the University of Minnesota to study lions in the Serengeti and received a full fellowship! She is currently a snake researcher in Guam. Our son is still a full time student, and is actively involved in the Aquinas House Catholic Student Center at Dartmouth College - even though he's a Protestant :-). I've been dividing my time between Arizona and Cleveland due to various family considerations, and am also pursuing my love of painting.

Valerie Stultz

Since graduation last August I have begun direction with five individuals and continue direction with one person. Four of the six are at various points in the *Nineteenth Annotation* (Tetlow). A fifth person is enjoying the *Take and Receive Series*. The person who is ongoing in direction is finding delight in a variety of spiritual readings. I continue to be moved, converted, drawn deeper and changed by the amazing privilege of spiritual direction. Though sometimes weary due to a busy schedule, I find myself filled, refreshed and intrigued by God's work, not only with my directees but with myself in the process. In the midst of my daily routine of superintending seventy-five United Methodist churches, I find myself looking eagerly forward to the sessions with my directees. I know that God's plan for my retirement next year includes a large dose of spiritual direction. My heart leaps up at the thought of it! When time permits, I greatly enjoy the peer supervision group with my ISI classmates. I continue monthly direction with another former ISI graduate. Jan never ceases to challenge and encourage me in both my inner and outward journeys. How very thankful I am that God placed my feet upon the ISI path. Not only has it changed my life, but the lives of those who know me. This is indeed the joyful mystery of drawing closer to God, closer to myself, and closer to all with whom I live, work and play.



Donna Wimbiscus

Last year I met at SPA with a directee for the Nineteenth Annotation retreat. A second directee, who is just beginning her journey in spiritual direction, I meet every other week in my home. Both of these women are members of my parish. I also participated as a facilitator in training at an eight-week SPA retreat at St. Ignatius High School, and I attended a "Nurturing the Call" session in Fall and Spring this year. The peer supervision group that I am a part of is comprised of my ISI classmates. Thus far it has been exceptionally beautiful and very spiritually enriching; I am so grateful for the opportunity to meet and be touched by the Holy Spirit living in each member. Recently I submitted a notice to advertise my spiritual direction ministry in my parish Sunday Bulletin at the suggestion of our deacon and okayed by the pastor. In August when I graduated I realized that I was very close to being burnt out from the combination of classes, papers due, and sharing my home with my youngest son's family that included two beautiful baby boy twins. Both opportunities gave me the time to get to know God's love through those who attended and taught at John Carroll and the family members who shared life, laughter, love, and food together at my home. But in December I realized that I had tried to do too much, as I caught the flu followed by a sinus infection, bronchitis, and asthma problems. It was time to slow down and take care of myself, to take it easy - a lesson I thought that I had learned but didn't. During those 3 1/2 months I was taught to stop and smell the roses!



From the very beginning the Ignatian Spirituality Institute has been a story of collaboration with various groups and institutions, all of which have as their aim the promotion of Ignatian Spirituality in Northeast Ohio. We began at the request in 1999 of both Ed Bourguignon, at the time Cleveland area coordinator of the Christian Life Communities (CLC), and John Libens, SJ, then provincial of the Detroit Province of Jesuits. We are housed at John Carroll University, the Jesuit University in Cleveland, specifically in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies, which is proud to provide the ISI as part of its contribution to the Catholic and Jesuit nature of the university. Our presence at a university reflects the strongly academic nature of the training our spiritual directors receive, and conversely, they, both interns and ISI alums, gladly provide spiritual direction services to faculty, staff and students at JCU.



John Carroll University



Manresa Jesuit Retreat House



St. Ignatius High School

Our program was modeled on that of the spiritual direction internship program at Manresa, the Jesuit Retreat House in Bloomfield Hills, MI, although it has attained its own unique character over the years, departing rather significantly from that model. Some of our first students came from the Spirituality Program for Adults (SPA) at St. Ignatius High School, where the ISI continues to maintain a strong collaboration. Many of our interns do their first spiritual direction there, mainly through providing 19th Annotation Retreats to its participants. Janet Lehane ('06), the present SPA director, is a graduate of ISI. Quite a few who are introduced to Ignatian Spirituality at SIHS eventually join the ISI as students.



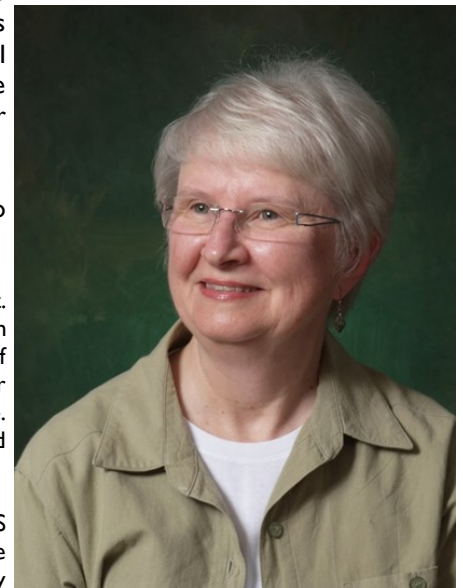
Since the beginning the ISI has enjoyed a home at the Jesuit Retreat House in Parma (picture at left) for its Opening Retreat every year. Occasionally ISI grads have returned to the Retreat House to provide retreats and spiritual direction services. This collaboration has grown strongly with the development of the Lay Leadership Program (LLP) at the Retreat House and the coming of Martha Campbell as its first director. Martha and Joan, the ISI director, meet frequently for collaboration. These conversations help preserve the distinctiveness of both programs, and prevent unnecessary duplication. The continuing education opportunities offered by ISI are aimed at ISI grads and focus specifically on tools and techniques for the exercise of spiritual direction. Lay Leadership programs generally envision a broader

audience, or provide training designed to further its own programs. Many ISI grads have helped develop the programs Martha provides; they both learn from and serve as facilitators for the LLP. As a result, there has grown a large community of ISI alums who continue to meet through the opportunities provided by Lay Leadership. This happy, Spirit-led development has expanded the ISI community beyond what was experienced by the individual classes. There is now a large "ISI family" who learn, share, collaborate and grow together as they engage in their ministries.

In the reflections you have read from ISI grads above, there are many references to participation in the LLP. Here are summaries of those mentioned most frequently:

Praying With St. Ignatius (PWSI) is a parish retreat program initially modeled on SPA at St. Ignatius High School, largely the brain child of Jim Lewis, SJ. It is an 8-week group retreat which introduces people to the Spiritual Exercises. It came to the Retreat House under the leadership of Rita Carfagna (ISI '05) and Ginny Pippin (ISI '10). Rita had adapted it for use in her parish during her practicum year, and it was her desire to see it duplicated in many parishes in the Cleveland diocese. It is now under the management of the Lay Leadership program. ISI grads serve as presenters and table facilitators for group sharing.

Nurturing the Call is a program designed specifically for those who minister in the SPA at SIHS and in PWSI. It focuses on skills needed for those who make group presentations, and for those who serve as table facilitators for those programs. This program meets at SIHS and is offered jointly by the SPA and LLP.



Martha Campbell

Food For the Journey is an enrichment program designed primarily for those who have made the 19th or 20th Annotation Spiritual Exercises. It offers the opportunity to examine spiritual classics or topics in spirituality through significant reading and then reflecting upon felt responses to that reading in a communal, prayerful atmosphere. Participants are asked to compare this material to their experience of the Spiritual Exercises. Many ISI grads find this program stimulating for the depth of the sharing that happens in the meetings. To date the program has explored Teilhard de Chardin and Teresa of Avila. Next year it will turn to Augustine and Francis of Assisi.

Ignatian Currents is a program designed for a broader audience, offered twice annually. It consists of a Friday evening lecture followed by a day-long Saturday workshop. It focuses on current interpretations of Ignatian Spirituality from a variety of perspectives. Speakers invited for next year are Janice Bachman, OP and Howard Gray, SJ.

Called and Sent is a program for adult faith formation based in the Spiritual Exercises and offered to various groups. To date four modules of this program have been developed and piloted. Several grads mentioned their participation in the most recent one, "The Christian at Work in the World," which aims at nurturing spiritual deepening for the service of Christ's mission in the world. ISI grads have assisted Martha Campbell in developing and promoting these various modules of faith formation.

The ISI's collaboration with LLP has been extraordinarily fruitful and has given many grads the opportunity to continue meeting and ministering together in various venues for the benefit of all concerned.

Two other Ignatian groups with whom ISI grads are associated should be mentioned. One is the **Ignatian Spirituality Project**, which originated in Chicago under the leadership of Bill Creed, SJ, offering group retreats for the homeless and those in transition. The Cleveland-based program for women (called Samaritan Women) was managed for a time by Nancy Rowell (ISI '07). Another program for women is based in Akron, and there are men's programs in both Cleveland and Akron. Many ISI grads are active in these groups. A second program that provides a venue for ISI grads' ministry is the **Ignatian Volunteer Corps**. Modeled on the Jesuit Volunteer Corps for young people, this program provides men and women fifty years and older the opportunity to work for justice in ways suitable to their talents and professions. Part of the requirement for participation involves meeting regularly with a "spiritual reflector" to make connections between their ministry and spirituality. Some ISI grads serve as these reflectors.

THE ISI: AN ECUMENICAL STORY OF THE ONE CHURCH OF CHRIST **A Personal Reflection from Joan Nuth, ISI Director**

This year we have been celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the Second Vatican Council, which, among other things, desired to promote ecumenical understanding and collaboration among the various denominations of Christianity. In reflecting back over the last ten years, I realize that I have experienced this ecumenical spirit in palpable ways through the integration of Catholics and Protestants in our program.

A few statistics are in order. Of the 90 who have been certified so far through the ISI, 22 have belonged to various Protestant denominations. Of the 26 currently in class, 11 are not Catholic. Many of our Protestant students are clergy men and women who bring a richness of perspective, especially to our discussions of scripture and ministry.

While I intended our program from the beginning to be ecumenical, I wondered initially if there would be doctrinal issues that might prove intractable in class presentations or discussions. That has not been the case. For the most part we have all found common ground in the spirituality of St. Ignatius, and, perhaps more remarkably, in the theology of Karl Rahner. Many ISI students from both sides say how refreshing it is to be with folks who have a slightly different perspective on things. These differences usually revolve more around church practice than doctrine. I have felt no qualms about matching Catholic students with Protestant directors or supervisors and vice versa. I smiled when I read an evaluation at the end of his first year from a Protestant minister, who remarked how happy he was to see how much St. Ignatius and John Calvin had in common! Who would have thought?

In chapter two of *Lumen Gentium*, the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, the Vatican Council described the Church as primarily the "people of God," inclusive of "the catholic faithful, others who believe in Christ, and finally all of humankind" (LG 13), all of whom are called to unity in the one Church of God. Of course, the council also delineated various levels of participation in this one body. But it nonetheless made clear that there is only one Church to which all are called and in which all participate.

At the end of his professional life, Karl Rahner published with Heinrich Fries a book entitled *Unity of the Churches: An Actual Possibility* (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1983). In it the authors issue a clarion call to the Church to work harder to exhibit the unity that already exists among Christians, notably in their devotion to the person of Christ who, it should be remembered, commanded that "all be one" (John 17:21). After guiding the ISI for ten years, I have experienced the ISI community as indeed one. One of the greatest blessings of my experience of the ISI has been to realize that we are all essentially one, and yet mutually respectful of differences where they exist.

***As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they be one in us,
so that the world may believe that you have sent me (John 17:21).***

*NB: A more accessible version of the book's thesis can be found in Jon Nilson's *Nothing beyond the Necessary: Roman Catholicism and the Ecumenical Future* (NY: Paulist, 1995).

Tenth Anniversary Dinner

On Saturday, April 13, Joan and Carol proudly welcomed guests to the ISI's Tenth Anniversary dinner. It was a festive time of reminiscence and sharing. A PowerPoint presentation ran throughout the evening recounting the history in pictures of the ISI from its beginning. The pictures below capture some of the fun and merriment that marked the occasion.





At our tenth anniversary gala dinner, the ISI story continued to be recounted as a member from each class reminisced about their time in the ISI. Rev. Robin Craig ('09) served as mistress of ceremonies, introducing each speaker with her characteristic aplomb and wry humor. Class members followed suit, remembering their ISI experiences with enthusiasm, gravity, affection, gratitude, occasional pathos and much good humor, as can be seen reflected on the faces below.



Rita Carfagna ('05)



Sr. Mary Ann Burke ('06)



Andy Kerecky ('07)



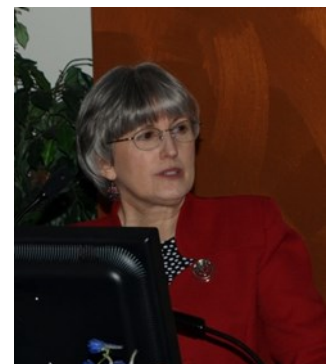
Larry Vuillemin ('08)



Marcia Lewan ('09)



Dave Schrader ('10)



Margaret Balewski ('11)



Sandy Appeldorn ('12)



Rev. Bill Karg ('13)



Elyse Wagner ('14)

Thanks to Mary Downey ('10) who donated her time and talents to decorating the tables for our dinner. Every table was adorned with a lovely arrangement of tulips in various colors, and the large arrangement of spring blossoms before the podium was truly spectacular (see front page)! Thanks as well to Rich Jerdonek ('06) who organized the art show that graced the walls of the Jardine Room. Rich has prepared a meditation booklet containing all these items which will soon be available.



Club 31 Report 2012-2013

Club 31 Donations 6/1/2012 - 5/31/13
Grand Total: \$ 8,307.00

Class of 2005 - 38% - \$ 811.00	Class of 2010 - 64% - \$ 876.00
Class of 2006 - 89% - \$1,040.00	Class of 2011 - 36% - \$ 740.00
Class of 2007 - 54% - \$ 990.00	Class of 2012 - 63% - \$ 335.00
Class of 2008 - 29% - \$ 180.00	Class of 2013 - 31% - \$ 260.00
Class of 2009 - 33% - \$ 510.00	Class of 2014 - 38% - \$ 356.00
Other Friends of ISI: \$2,228.00	

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Diane Anthony '13
Margaret Balewski '11
Bruce Batchelor-Glader '05
Ed Bourguignon
Mary Ann Bowers '10
Julie Bradley '11
Sharon Bramante
Paula Britton
Karen Broer '06
Sr. Mary Ann Burke, SND '06
Kate Campbell '11
Martha Campbell
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John Carlson '10
Joan Carney '07
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Barbara Schubert
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Melinda Smith '07
Agnes Strada '09
Jean Sullivan '09
Larry Vuillemin '08
Donna Wimbuscus '12
Sr. Fran Woznicki, SSJ/TOSF



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Photos from the dinner are by Rich Jerdonek. Others are from ISI grads or the ISI archives.

Visit our website:
www.jcu.edu/isi



THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU