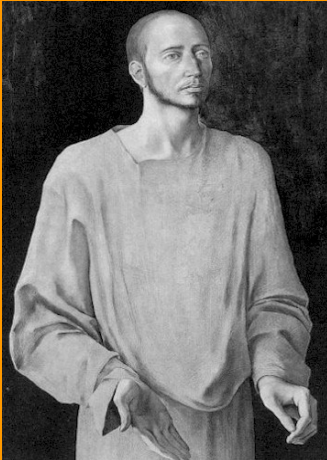




Newsletter of the Ignatian Spirituality Institute

Volume 11, Number 2 August 23, 2013



Points of Interest

- Message From the Director
• Reflections from the Interns
• Meet the Incoming Class
• Upcoming Events
• Campus Nitty-Gritty

Message from the Director

This newsletter marks the beginning of the second decade of the ISI and I welcome all of you to share in the joy of what has been and the anticipation for what is to come.

In looking back over the last ten years of the ISI's existence, I am amazed by two things: the robust community that continues to exist among those who have been through the program, and the outreach members make to countless individuals and communities throughout Northeast Ohio.

I recently read these encouraging words of Chiara Lubich, founder of the Focolare Movement, which seem to bespeak what continues to happen in the ISI:

Two or more people fused in the name of Christ, who are not afraid or ashamed to declare explicitly to one another their desire to love God, but who actually make of this unity in Christ their Ideal, are a divine power in the world. . . . It is not necessary for them to be saints already, or Jesus would have said so.

This sounds very like what Ignatius meant when he told his followers to go out and set the world on fire. It seems that, in the Ignatian spirit, this is happening in our little corner of the world in Northeast Ohio.

Though our denominational affiliations may be diverse, our common unity is found in Christ. This unity in Christ is truly our home. Though we have used the image of the journey in describing the ISI, the image of home is equally appropriate.

This makes what we do as ministry a very human enterprise, because as Paul reminds us, "we have this treasure [Christ] in earthen vessels" (2 Cor 4:7). As Chiara Lubich says, we do not have to be saints.



Peace and all good things,
Joan



The class of 2014 poses at the beginning of Year One.

## Reflections from the Interns



*~Paul Barbins*

I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the ISI program. Professionally, the ISI course requirements have dramatically helped me in my work with congregations and individuals seeking to enhance their spiritual lives. But, more importantly, Ignatian Spirituality has transformed my own faith journey by allowing God to draw me closer. I am thankful for both Ignatius and the ISI.



*~David Feldman*

I feel gratitude for the extraordinary experience of going through the first year of ISI and making the Nineteenth Annotation of the Exercises. It has been, and continues to be, a transformative experience in numerous ways. Ignatian spirituality has opened many new perspectives, including the use of imaginative prayer and an increased appreciation of the role of grace. A greater sense of peace, accompanying acceptance of the modest control we have, is useful, aging in our chaotic society. The instruction, curriculum and guidance have all been first rate. It has been a privilege to be part of a unique group of students from different backgrounds who genuinely share themselves and develop together. An enlarging perception of God in all things and a sense of how to collaborate with him (not just being productive) is an unsurpassable gift. Remaining challenges for me include avoiding confusing comfort with consolation, developing competence in the practicum while “always being a beginner,” and discerning how to integrate this ministry with my role as a psychiatrist. I am interested in how ISI’s approach might apply across the “platforms” of different faith visions.



*~ Sharon Seyfarth Garner*

After many years away from any formal theological education, it has been both a blessing and a challenge to get back into the groove. One of the greatest gifts of this past year has been the way that the Spiritual Exercises have reacquainted me with the humanity of Jesus. I have always had a close relationship with the prophet Jonah, who has walked with me through many seasons of my life. Thanks to the gift of Ignatian imagination, I now see Jesus and Jonah walking hand in hand, reaching out to me and inviting me into this powerful ministry of Spiritual Direction. I am profoundly grateful for the way that this year has reawakened a part of me that had been gently sleeping. I look forward with anticipation and a bit of trepidation to the adventure of the coming year. God is indeed good – all the time – and I trust that Jesus and Jonah will be my companions as I step into the adventure of the upcoming practicum year.

## ~ Joe Gibbons

My experience with Ignatian Spirituality is like a mystery bus tour, something inspires you to go, you have no idea where you are going and you have quite a time along the way. With God as my tour guide I feel comfortable but I never have any idea what is going to happen next and I don't have any notion of what the rest of the trip will look like. I quite enjoyed the First Year Ignatian Spirituality Institute leg of the tour. Guest Tour Guide Dr. Joan Nuth had mapped out an ambitious itinerary that left most of the passengers puffing to keep up. The Holy Spirit smiled on us with the best passenger roster I could imagine. They were keen travelers from many backgrounds who had already trod many different paths but all possessed a great thirst for the Divine. As we traveled down the main road of the *Spiritual Exercises*, writing our biweekly travelogues (Reflection Papers) was challenging. It wasn't enough to just be on the bus and bring the occasional snack; Tour Guide Nuth demanded a thorough knowledge of the tour guidebooks as well. With long side trips into Theology, Christology and Elementary Spiritual Direction, we finished this leg of the journey a little worn but eager to get back on the bus in the fall if we find our name on the roster again.



## ~Betsy Hamm

"Take my heart, O Lord, take my hopes and dreams. Take my mind with all its plans and schemes..." Beginning with the opening retreat when that song was played, my first year at the ISI has been about surrender. I have learned that no matter how much I plan and scheme, I am not the one in the driver's seat. Around this time last year, I was certain that it was the perfect time for me to embark on this journey; but, I soon found out that there is no such thing as the perfect time. Getting through the last few months of our first year was a challenge for me; however, I learned that God puts people in our life who can help us through and that is exactly what happened to me. I honestly don't know how I could have made it to this point without the support of my classmates as well as the prayer and reflection that is so much a part of this program. So, I begin this next year with a renewed prayer life, a deeper relationship with and a complete surrender to God - trusting that what has been started is meant to be finished. I have many plans and schemes and hope by God's grace I can see them through.



## ~ Jenny Leiter

To answer your request for a reflection on my first year of the ISI, I wrote a poem. Here it is:

It really is about seeing  
Finding God in all things  
Practicing attentiveness

Doing this at a bird feeder  
I was  
Sitting, struggling...  
again, doubting your existence  
And then they appeared  
Trinity of chickadees  
Acrobats of the bird kingdom  
Jostling, turning, hanging  
Dangling from the faintest of branches  
Chattering

I saw them  
As if for the first time  
Black caps  
White streak  
Ebony eyed  
A line of demarcation between each hue

Who spoke those feathers to be white?  
Who declared them black?

A movement in my soul  
I savored  
Christ does play in 10,000 places  
As Gerard said

Learning to see  
I receive You  
And am born again



~*Bob Linton*



A sign at a local church sums up my first year experience: “God doesn’t call the equipped. He equips the called.” I couldn’t be sure if I was called. But I knew for sure I wasn’t equipped. My classmates were a different story. Most had not only heard the bell, but trained for the fight. They were a loving community, more saintly than sinful, many of whom held a license to preach. I wondered how God let a personal injury lawyer like me slip into class. True, my trial skills help with the mechanics of being a spiritual director. I know how to ask a question—even open ended “evocative” ones. I know the art of the head bob like a sideline reporter for ESPN. Just be interested (which I am), nod and listen to the spiritual story unfold. But understanding the *content* of the class was something else. The federal tax code seemed easier to grasp than the theological musings of Karl Rahner. There, my equipment was sorely lacking. And yet I just put one foot in front of the other, and tried to find God in all things, even ISI. Even when I felt I was in the wrong place at the wrong time, struggling to make sense of it, the great divine mystery nudged at me and assured me our director Joan Nuth was right. We really *do* learn what we’re supposed to learn. And maybe I was where I was supposed to be—being fitted with new equipment for the spiritual journey, one we all take in our own way and at our own pace. I came to see that my doubts and fears and struggles with my faith were no longer something to hide behind, but the very things God uses to equip us for the call. Most of all, I learned that God didn’t just call it quits after seven days. He is a continuous creator still tangibly at work right here, right now, in present tense in each of us. In spiritual direction, I am given a back stage pass to watch another’s spiritual evolution unfold, where I can see in them, far more than me, yet another Exhibit A—proof that God not only exists, but is alive and well. And for that, I can’t be grateful enough

~*Aida Mandapat*



What initially started as “I know not what” and “more” led me to the Ignatian Spirituality Institute with its curriculum integrating theology, spirituality, and psychology. As I look back at the past year, my heart is bursting with gratitude. With the class requirements and the serious study habits deeply ingrained in me on one hand and work and family issues on the other hand, I soon found out how daunting a challenge the year would be. It was greatly and gently balanced, however, by Joan’s much awaited explanation in class (although she lost me several times) and the diverse composition of my class as we bonded. Add to these the richness of the Saturday workshops. Doing the Nineteenth Annotation of the Spiritual Exercises using O’Brien’s Ignatian Adventure and a six week retreat at Gesu wrapped it up. As I came to know God through Jesus more especially in his humanity, I came to know myself better. I realized that I have to trust God and myself. Thanks a bunch, Everyone. Writing my own Principle and Foundation and reflecting over significant feelings (positive and negative) that surfaced over the day as I did the Examen of Consciousness made me more aware that who God is to me has evolved as well. Now He is my liberator! God has a lot still to teach me. Let the second year begin...

~*Bob Meyer*



Staring at a blank page with the task of trying to express what the first year of the ISI program has meant to me, the words of St. Francis come to mind: “*preach the Gospel at all times, and when necessary use words.*” How can one express the wonder of the deep bonds of community that formed among my fellow classmates? Or the challenge of theologically climbing Mount Rahner? Or the awakenings of insight from a lecture point by Joan or an assigned reading? Or when one’s heart warms to the idea that God has truly called and will equip one for this ministry of spiritual direction? This has been a challenging year for me personally as halfway through the course I had major surgery. The love of God and the prayers of so many helped me to stay the course and keep moving. Words cannot express my deep gratitude for the power of God’s presence among my supportive and encouraging friends in the ISI program. This year I also made my first Nineteenth Annotation Retreat. I am thankful to Sr. Mary Ann Spangler for her firm but gentle hand guiding me to a deeper awareness of God’s love, and helping me name and clarify my personal gifts for ministry at this stage of the journey of faith.

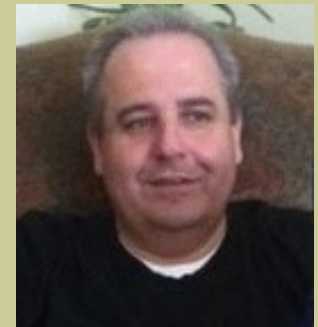
### *~Jeff Nelson*

After serving as a pastor and thus removed from my college and seminary coursework for several years, I began assessing possibilities for taking on some form of continuing education more concentrated and in-depth than a one-day workshop. I suppose that my desire was twofold: to scratch an itch that I was feeling to return to some form of academic study, and to gain knowledge and training in something that would enrich my practice of ministry. For me, the ISI has satisfied both of these. I have been grateful for the theological and spiritual exploration that I have been able to do through this program. The writings of Ignatius, Rahner, and others have been at times challenging and at other times engaging, and have already made their way into more than one sermon since my beginning this program. In addition, exercises provided through the occasional case studies and Saturday workshops have also noticeably influenced pastoral conversations that I've had with church members. I have also been glad for the camaraderie of my classmates, as we have come together to support and encourage one another. I've considered it a privilege to listen to the life experiences of these new friends and colleagues, as well as be encouraged by them in my own journey. They have been one of my sources of support as I've transitioned into a new ministry setting and as I anticipate the birth of a daughter this fall. I greatly look forward to my second year with the ISI, and the continued personal and professional growth that it surely will invite.



### *~Mark Salchak*

This past year at the ISI has been transformational for me in most every area of my life. I have received spiritual and emotional invigoration and have experienced change in perspective and outlook. My first year experience has inspired me to dig deeper and to press farther into my personal spiritual development journey. God had provided the Grace, but the Ignatian Spirituality Institute was the instrument. I love and admire my classmates and the whole process of spiritual direction has permanently redirected the rudder and changed the course my life into new and fascinating waters. The coursework is challenging, but that challenge, with Dr. Nuth's guidance, has allowed my roots to "grasp new soil." My work with those who suffer from addiction has blossomed, and I know that there is more to come. The assignment of a spiritual director has produced a great mutual friendship, and I am grateful for him and our spiritual expedition together. Eagerly, I look forward to next year and the adventure the future holds. I am humbled and grateful for the Ignatian Spirituality Institute and all this experience has afforded me.



### *~Mary Senechal*

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 having finished my first year. 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, 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. "



## Reflections from the Interns

~*Elyse Wagner*



This past year has been quite dynamic and life changing for me, personally, vocationally, professionally, spiritually, and the ISI community has been there every step of the way. My classmates, Joan, my spiritual director, St. Ignatius, Rahner, and God have given me support, wisdom, affirmation, and encouragement through the changes and growth this past year brought. Doing the Nineteenth Annotation as a twenty-something has been incredibly life-giving. I truly feel like I'm growing into a woman of God and learning more and more what that looks, acts, and feels like. This growth will certainly come in handy in my job as a chaplain, but also as a newlywed. I will actually be flying back from my honeymoon right when the August retreat begins! And since our reception will be held at John Carroll, I'll be sure to bring pictures of me in my wedding dress next to the statue of St. Ignatius to share. In a past reflection on my first year in the ISI, I related myself to Thomas encountering Jesus after the resurrection. This year has been an encounter with the Body of Christ for me. And like the women at the tomb I have found Christ resurrected, and resurrected in us. Although there has been much joy and cause for celebration this year, there have also been some difficulties and pains. But having encountered Christ within and around me, I can say that I agree with Paul: "For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption...I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God" (Romans 8:15;18). Only God knows where this second year will take us, but I am looking forward to every moment of it. I "wait with eager longing" for the potential *births* and *adoptions* about to take place for those I direct and for my peers as we encounter the living God together.

## Meet the Incoming Class

~*Raul Botha*



Greetings! My name is Raul Botha, a now 29 year-old young man who came with his family all the way from Romania to find and fulfill his and their destiny here in America: to come alive and awaken life in others. My social identity is MBA student at John Carroll University, my domestic one is husband and father, my religious identity is Greek-Catholic, while my inner most personal one (or spiritual) is a soul seeking to comprehend his comings and goings through a meaningful relationship with his Creator. My personal journey up to this point was a long and winding road. From the timid yet observant child, to the musically filled yet physically inhibited pre-teen, all the way to the rebellious adolescent athlete, the senior high-school student in America, back to Romania and meeting the Jesuits, and finally the philosophizing college student, the weird phase of husbandry, the unexpected fatherhood stage, and back to studying in America - all this and now the ISI. I am extremely excited to be in this program since this fills a profound desire and aspiration of mine – to become a good listener, an encourager and a channel to spiritual healing and revitalization for the people in my life. From my previous eight years of experimenting with the Ignatian Spirituality type of retreats (eight-day, weekend, and thirty-day) I discovered that God loves unconditionally, despite our best and worst intentions and actions, He never misses an appointment, and He always offers his Grace (you name it) to his unworthy, imperfect and fallen creature just so we can grow... in faith, hope and love.

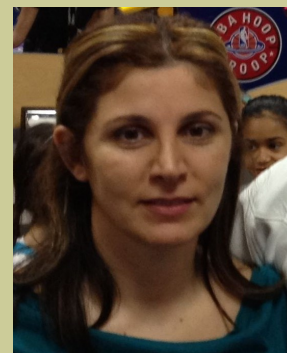
~*Brenna Davis*



Although I was originally raised in Clarksville, Tennessee, I have called Cleveland home now for three years. After graduating college, I moved to Ohio City in 2010 as a Jesuit Volunteer at the West Side Catholic Center and fell in love with the community/cloud of witnesses I encountered in the area. As a result, two of my housemates and I decided to stay in Ohio City after our volunteer year ended. Before moving to Cleveland, I had the opportunity to study theology at Boston College and to spend my junior year abroad in Santiago, Chile. Speaking Spanish, riding my bicycle, reading, running, cooking and meeting new people are a few of my favorite activities. I currently teach theology and coach cross country at Saint Martin de Porres High School, and I will be beginning my third year there this fall. My hope is to be able to use what I learn in ISI in my ministry with students at the high school. I look forward to getting to know everyone in this ISI cohort and having our spiritual journeys intertwine and enrich one another in the coming months and years.

### ~Rula Elias

I am a Maronite Catholic from Lebanon and have been living in the United States for eighteen years. I am married to my husband George, and we are blessed with eight beautiful children. In the past couple years, I have learned what I thought I always already knew: God is always with us! Being freed from old ways of thinking, through the grace of God, and the love and prayers of friends who showed me the Face of Christ, I have lived and believed in the reality of Christian joy, and cherished it in the ways that I have experienced it: all the way from levity, to the simple contentment of knowing I am God's princess, to "dying to myself." This last one is most challenging, yet I know it is possible, just because God is always with me! The hand of God has brought me to participate in the ISI program this year. I thank Him for this opportunity, I adore Him. I ask Him to teach me, correct me and form me, to dwell in His peace and joy. I ask Him to "make me an instrument of (His) peace," and maybe even, in my modest capacities, a little ambassador of His joy!



### ~Julie Graham

I am a grateful and proud single mom of an eighteen-year-old boy who has recently graduated from St. Ignatius High School and is heading to college this Fall. In 1996 I received a BA in history from UNC-Charlotte and earned an MA in history from CSU in 2003. My educational interests have generally focused on social justice issues in America. I am a founding member of The Sullivan Scholars and Sandy's Learning for Life GED program. Both organizations provide educational opportunities to those in financial need. The Sullivan Scholars are high school students who have excelled in the classroom and their community, while GED scholarships are awarded to adult students striving to improve their life circumstances. It is inspiring to witness their successes. I am also president of the Thomas C and Sandra S Sullivan Foundation. This work has exposed me to the large and generous philanthropic heart of Cleveland and the people who so willingly give of their time, talents and finances. It is with gratitude that I visit different charitable sites in Cleveland. I am often humbled by those who serve our city's most vulnerable populations and by the clientele that they assist. I was raised Catholic but do not believe that this is the only path to seeking, finding and connecting with God. Over the last eighteen years I have become a seeker, of sorts, and have participated in a variety of retreats. But a spiritual understanding hadn't "clicked" for me until I participated in the eight-week and thirty-two week Ignatian retreats. I believe that God speaks to us, all of us, in many different ways. He is Love and we are His loved sinners! I am excited and hopeful that ISI will deepen my understanding of and relationship with Spirit.



### ~Maria Green

I immigrated from Davao, Philippines with my family when I was six years old. I graduated with a Food Science and Technology degree at OSU, where I also met my wonderful husband Doug. Upon graduating I worked at the R&D lab at Matrix Essential in Solon, Ohio. We then moved to Marshall, Michigan after Doug graduated from residency to start our family and his practice. I became a stay at home mom and found my vocation. In 2007 we moved back to Ohio because I felt a strong urge by the Spirit to come back home. It has resulted into a happy decision and has brought our family closer to our faith. Our home is in Hudson where we are busy with the daily joys (and heartache) of raising three active and independent fast growing teenagers. Recently, I just finished the Nineteenth Annotation and am so profoundly grateful for the spiritual experience. It has brought an increase of my dependence on God and my interior freedom. I spearheaded St. Mary's annual fair trade bazaar a few years ago after completing the social justice program of Just Faith. I coordinate and co-facilitate an Ignatian Spirituality Project retreat for homeless women dealing with addiction. I am a regular Tuesday volunteer at the Catholic Worker's Peter Maurin Center in Akron, where we offer lunch and hospitality to our guests. I have just recently joined a human trafficking initiative that specifically targets young girls brought into prostitution. I am taking dance, my first passion as a child and teenager, again after years, never realizing I would do it again. It is again giving me so much joy. I look forward to the upcoming ISI journey and meeting my new friends.



*~Megan Hren*

The Ignatian Spirituality Institute is calling my name. I am incredibly excited and feel equally blessed by the opportunities that await me within this program. I am a Milwaukee, Wisconsin native and first moved to Cleveland in 2009 to serve a year with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps. after getting a degree in Journalism and Social Welfare & Justice from Marquette University. Ignatian Spirituality has always resonated with my natural faith life, and I am so grateful that I will be able to continue to explore the path of spiritual direction. For the past three years since my Jesuit Volunteer year, I have been working at Saint Ignatius High School as a Communications and Program Evaluations Coordinator for the faith and Christian service programs. This fall is a blessed and busy one, complete with my beginning this program, hopefully finishing the Towpath Marathon in good time, and beginning married life with my fiancé as we will celebrate our wedding the last week of October. I am enjoying a great community of neighbors and former volunteers in Ohio City, but constantly missing my family who mostly live in Milwaukee, with the exception of my brother studying at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, California (it's in the genes?). My favorite quotation of St. Ignatius of Loyola's is, "Laugh and grow strong," both of which I hope to do a lot of this year!

*~Rose Kaval*

My name is Rose Kaval. I first heard about the ISI when I enrolled in an eight week Ignatian Retreat at the invitation of our parish leadership at St. Basil the Great. A short while after beginning the Retreat I knew I wanted to start with a Spiritual Director. I was given several names and decided to start direction with Rich Jerdonek. That step has led to this incredible journey of entering into the Spiritual Direction Program of the ISI. Within a period of three months the suggestion was made to me that I might want to consider becoming a Spiritual Director. When the opportunity was made available to me to apply to the ISI I did just that. Happily I have been accepted into what I believe will be a spiritual turning point in my life. I am married to a wonderful man, Vince Kaval. We just celebrated our thirtieth wedding anniversary two weeks ago and renewed our wedding vows. We live with our fourteen year old Shih-Tzu named Midnight Spirit. I also celebrated a milestone birthday this year by turning sixty five. It just seems exactly the right time to embark on this wonderful journey. My background includes a Bachelors Degree in Speech/Communications and Involves a Bachelors Degree in Speech/Communications and Theater and a Masters in Psychiatric Social Work. I have used both of those educational programs in my work of parish ministry over the last fifteen years. I have been involved in numerous adult formation programs at St. Basil. I have also been a volunteer for our city of Broadview Heights Department of Human Services for the past five years. For three years I was involved with a group from the men's homeless shelter at 2100 Lakeside, putting on monthly spiritual retreats for the men at the Jesuit Retreat House. When not involved in Retreats we were doing various programs at the shelter. This proved to be the most fulfilling ministry I have ever experienced. I am looking forward to meeting everyone involved in this wonderful program. For me, being able to journey with like-minded people in a formation program for two years is the answer to my prayers.

*~Emma Krueger*

I was born in Cleveland, Ohio on September 16, 1945, to Emma and Anthony Zaranko. I had two brothers, Raymond and Anthony (Mickey). Raymond was eighteen years older and Mickey was twelve years older. I was baptized Catholic at St. Agnes Church on November 18, 1945. My father died when I was five years old. My mother worked in a factory. She taught me to see the beauty in all people. I made my First Communion at Our Lady of Fatima. I attended public school until the fourth grade when we moved to St. Colman's Parish and I attended school there until I completed the eighth grade. It was interesting being the only Lithuanian in an Irish school! I attended and graduated from St. Joseph Academy. I worked in an office after graduation. I married, and had three daughters, Cindy, Cathy and Julie. I became a Registered Nurse after my children were born. My first husband died when I was forty-one years old. I remarried. (Cont.)



### *~Emma Krueger (cont.)*

I have a B. A. in International Studies from Lake Erie College. I completed a certificate course in Contemplative Prayer and Retreat Leadership through Shalem Institute. I am an Oblate with the Benedictine Sisters of Erie Pa. I am in the process of becoming an associate of the Sisters of St. Joseph (CSJ). I work as the Spiritual Counselor at Senior Independence Hospice. God has always been present in my life. I love Contemplative Prayer and leading small groups in a variety of prayer forms which enable people to find "The Presence" in all things. My goal in life is to continue to grow closer to God every day and take 'hostages' along the way. I love to travel. Along with my mother's example, my affiliation with the Sisters of St. Joseph and Benedictine Sisters of Erie, and my work, travel has helped me to see the unity of creation. I am looking forward to being a part of The Ignatian Spirituality Institute. Hopefully, I will prove that one is never too old to learn and grow!

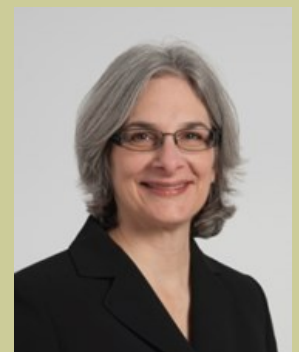
### *~Krysti Lyn*

I grew up in Hudson, Ohio and reside in Chagrin Falls. I was raised Catholic and consider myself an Ecumenical Christian. I completed a degree in Public Relations at Ursuline College. After graduation, my focus changed; God realigned all, so I could come into my soul purpose and authenticity. I endured transformations due to the Holy Spirit and a community of love, which awakened a new life within my inner and outer world. During this time, I experienced healing, maturation, clarity and a sense of God's love at an extremely profound level, which keeps me in awe. As this conversion took place, I became a Poetess, Yoga Instructor, Yoga Therapist, Usui Reiki Master and Hospice Visitor. As a result, I integrate holistic practices and spiritual gifts to live, grow and serve, as called. Personally, I enjoy the mystery and combination of eastern and western approaches to spirituality, health, love and freedom. And I treasure and honor the life of a soul; the marvelous miraculous soul to soul language of love, wisdom and Spirit shared in ways beyond all; this mystical life force of a soul; a divine nature all of its own! Today, I feel led to root, expand and sustain my personal devotion, practice and Christian foundation by furthering my education. Therefore, I'm excited and grateful to be accepted into the Ignatian Spirituality Institute! And I look forward to spiritual direction, devotion, teachings and experiences coupled with interactions with all at ISI, so I can serve and develop, as God desires and I aspire. It's a calling to be present, so I'm open to the mystery, God's path and Christ Consciousness that ISI will bring to light, so all can blossom as intended in God's mansion.



### *~Patrice Nerone*

I am a holistic nurse, mother to three adult children and grandmother to six. I love learning and actively seek opportunities for personal growth. I am interested in Ignatian Spirituality because I am seeking to deepen my personal relationship with God and I desire to help others do the same in my work as a holistic nurse. A rich spiritual life is crucial to my own wellbeing and fostering spiritual growth is fundamental to holistic practice. My faith background is Catholic but I am currently learning about Jewish spirituality and Messianic Judaism. I am eager and excited to learn theology and gain a better understanding of God's word. I particularly enjoy connecting with God in nature and strive to appreciate His presence in others. I look forward to the journey ahead and sharing it with others.



*~Terri Preskar*

After several years of God's promptings that I consider training in spiritual direction, I'm taking the plunge... and timing couldn't be better. My experience with the Spiritual Exercises over the past several years, including the Nineteenth Annotation, has grounded me ever so much more in prayer, discernment, Scripture, and true communion with our loving God. Personally, I am proud to be the wife of Joseph Preskar, celebrating our thirtieth year anniversary in 2014. We've lovingly parented three children who are now adults. Each has served as a teacher in my life—most especially of courage, forgiveness, and a deepened appreciation for the blessings of God's creations (*from the smell of a fallen leaf, to noticing hummingbirds hovering in midair, to winter animal tracks in the snow*). Our family continues to grow, including a wonderful son-in-law and three beautiful grandchildren who all continue to teach me joy in the power of the present moment. Professionally, I consider it my privilege to serve as a staff member of the Catholic Community Foundation, having enjoyed various roles over the past ten years. My current ministry as Director of Stewardship has been my greatest joy. Leading, directing, and developing resources that help engage stewards in the life of the Church—and living their most holy selves—is a legacy I will be most proud of in this lifetime. I believe as St. Catherine of Siena, "*If you are who you should be, you will set the world ablaze.*" If you can have only one priority in life, let it be in building the kingdom of God, using all the gifts that God has abundantly given lovingly and intentionally to you. Loved ones fully support the ISI adventure I'm about to embark upon, all too sure "it's about time"!

*~Kristina Reich*

I am Kristina Reich, and am excited to join the Ignatian Spirituality Institute class of 2015. Throughout my many collaborations, partnerships, and relationships, I try to radiate a sincere passion for helping others grow personally, professionally, and spiritually. In my work as healthcare professional, I am dedicated to delivering excellence in patient care, developing programs that improve patient outcomes, and advancing medical research. As a certified Reiki Master I support the health of others through educational Reiki training classes and treatments to patients, medical staff and caregivers at community and hospital wellness events. God has always held a special place in my heart and has directed me consistently throughout my life. By participating in the ISI program I am looking forward to learning how to assist others in deepening their connection with God and continuing to grow on my own faith journey.

*~Carla Robison*

I grew up in Ashtabula, Ohio and I am the oldest of five children. I attended a Catholic grade school, high school and college. I've been married to my husband Van for twenty-seven years and I have two grown sons who've made me very proud. I was taught to use my gifts and talents to help those who are less fortunate. I look at the things I do in life as a ministry rather than jobs. This is the reason I became a teacher. I love children and my love for sports drew me into coaching. I began my teaching career in 1985. I've taught pre-school, first grade and second grade. My coaching duties included Jr. High and JV volleyball, softball and cheerleading. I am currently teaching second grade at Saint John School in Ashtabula. I try to instill in my students a love of the faith and ways they can share their gifts and talents to serve others. I am an active member of my parish and I've worked in several ministries throughout the years with both children and adults. My life has been a journey of faith. I truly believe that God provides. During various times of my life, it seems that God has placed people or things in my life that help me through my journey. Last year, I began an Associate with the Sisters of Notre Dame. I feel that God has brought me to the Ignatian Spirituality Institute for a reason and I look forward to all that God has planned for me.

### ~*Jamie Schmotzer*

It's so nice to be counted among you! I'm a transitional deacon in Anglican Church in North America and belong to the Order of St. Michael the Archangel. I graduated from Walsh Jesuit High School in 1992. Currently, I am also doing post-graduate courses at Nashotah House Theological Seminary. My wife and I live in Cuyahoga Falls. She teaches adapted physical education for the Medina County Board of Developmental Disabilities. I am really looking forward to learning more about spiritual direction and the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola; doing this program will be an exciting journey!



### ~*George Shunk*

My name is George Shunk and I live in Jeromesville, Ohio which is about half way between Wooster and Ashland. I am a pastor of an independent Christian church in West Salem. My family consists of my wife Janet (to whom I have been married for forty years this October) and two adult sons, Benjamin and Jeremy, his wife, Lisa and our granddaughter, Lena. I spent twenty years in the United States Army both on active duty and as a reservist. My occupational specialty was a chaplain's assistant. It was a very rewarding and satisfying ministry and I had the opportunity to interact with chaplains of many different faith groups. The hobbies I enjoy are reading, gardening, bicycling and horseback riding. I also work part time at a research laboratory in addition to my pastoral obligations. When my wife and I have the opportunity, we like to go on retreats at monasteries which are within a reasonable distance. We have been to the Abbey of Gethsemane several times and the Abbey of Genesee once. These are great times of rest and meditation and allowing God to speak in a more intimate way. I find these types of opportunities are very helpful in experiencing the love of God in my heart in ever more expanding ways. I am looking forward to this next adventure in my Christian journey at ISI.



### ~*Paris Wolfe*

In Summer 2009, St. Ignatius High School's well-known and irreverent Fr. Jim Lewis recruited me into the Spirituality Program for Adults. My experience – including a burning bush moment – was so powerful that I returned for two more eight-week SPA retreats and a thirty-two week Nineteenth Annotation retreat. Each was led by a different director, thus I learned differing styles of prayer. Now, I'm at ISI to extend my faith journey. My career has taken me to newspapers, magazines and corporations. I've spent the past sixteen years working as a communications consultant and raising my now-teenage sons Dominick Ferrante, fourteen, and Dante Ferrante, sixteen. Both will attend Lake Catholic High School this fall. I've been separated/divorced from their father for four years. In my free time, I taxi my children to activities – soccer, rugby, Academic Decathlon, band, bass lessons and more. I love to ski, crochet, journal and explore food. By the time we meet in August, I will be days away from finishing a master's degree in public relations from Kent State University. Getting a master's degree is part of my career reentry plan, not to mention key on my bucket list. Other items on my bucket list include world travel and further studies in theology. At my current home in Concord Township, I'm accidentally becoming a cat lady. Our headcount went up to four cats when two strays moved in this past year. My favorite passage in the Bible is Psalm 139, a reminder that God knows and loves us no matter what.



## SAVE THESE DATES:



ISI Alumni Quiet Retreat  
November 22-23  
Friday 5:00pm - Saturday 6:00pm  
Jesuit Retreat House



ISI Annual Reunion and Reflection Day  
Saturday, April 5, 10 am - 4 pm  
"Working with Dreams in Spiritual Direction"  
With Janice Bachman, OP

**Tuition**

Tuition is billed directly from and payable to the ISI Office. Make checks payable to John Carroll University, and send them addressed to the **Ignatian Spirituality Institute** or give them to Joan in class. Tuition is payable quarterly. Due dates are August 31, November 30, January 31 and March 31. Reminder bills will be sent to you. If you prefer, you may pay the entire amount at the beginning of the year, or half at the beginning of each semester (August 31, 2013 and January 29, 2014).

**Nineteenth Annotation Retreat**

Those making the Nineteenth Annotation Retreat through the ISI will be billed monthly. The total cost for the 30 weeks is \$600.00. The retreat begins in October. Spiritual directors will be assigned in September.

**Parking**

You must pay for a new parking sticker for each semester. They require records of the make, model, year, color and license plate number of your car and accept **cash or checks only**. The charges are as follows:

All-day Parking: \$125.00 per semester  
 After 4:30pm: \$60.00 per semester  
 Summer Time: Open Parking on campus lots (no permits needed)

Since our classes are in the evening, you will not need the all-day permit unless you want the luxury of coming to campus anytime.

**Second year interns** will receive their parking pass differently. Carol will contact you.

**Einstein Brothers Bagels**

The café is open from 7:30am-7:00pm Monday thru Thursday, and 7:30-2:00 Friday. It is located on the Garden Level of the Administration Building.

**Student ID (optional):**

Student ID cards are necessary to check out books from the library, to use computer labs and athletic facilities, and to cash checks. The first card is free; there is a \$15 replacement fee for lost cards.

**First year students are scheduled to have photos taken for these cards between 5 and 6pm on Wednesday, August 28th. Second year interns are scheduled on Wednesday, September 5th between 5 and 6pm. (Cards are optional).**

**Library**

The Grasselli Library is located across from the Administration Building. The hours are:

Sunday: 11:00am-Midnight  
 Mon-Thu: 7:30am-Midnight  
 Friday: 7:30am-9:00pm  
 Saturday: 10:00am-6:00pm  
 Holidays: as posted  
 Special Days: as posted

**Student Service Center**

Located on the Garden Level of the Administration Building, this center provides a check cashing service for students. Hours of operation:

Monday-Thursday: 8:30am-7:30pm  
 Friday: 8:30am-4:30pm

**RecPlex**

Your ID card gives you access to JCU's recreational facilities. Hours of operation are as follows:

|                          | <b>Rec Center Corbo</b> | <b>Cardio Room</b> | <b>Pool</b>                |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Monday – Thursday</b> | 10am - 12am             | 6am - 12am         | 11am - 1pm,<br>& 6pm - 9pm |
| <b>Friday</b>            | 10am - 9pm              | 6am - 9pm          | 11am - 1pm,<br>& 6pm - 9pm |
| <b>Saturday</b>          | 10am-9pm                | 9am - 9pm          | noon—6pm                   |
| <b>Sunday</b>            | 10am - 12am             | 9am - 12am         | noon - 6pm                 |



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