

A MINISTRY IN THE DIOCESE OF LANSING



# Institute for Spiritual Direction

703 E. Main Street DeWitt, MI 48820 | [www.isdmichigan.org](http://www.isdmichigan.org) | 517.388.5291

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## THOUGHTS FROM FR. DAVID



Every year at this time I'm blessed to get to know those inquirers who come forward in search of answers to their questions about their worthiness to enter our institute. We discuss the essence of their calling. It consoles me to hear that they feel they are a person who is interested in spirituality, prayer, and learning more about God's ways in their own life, but most especially in the lives of others.

The Institute holds three tenets at the core of its teaching mission: a call to quietude and prayer, strong academics, and formation of faith sharing groups. Our students learn how to listen to the Word of God in Scripture, to be disciplined in study and spiritual practices, and to guide directees toward worship and sharing in the celebration of life. In short, they are trained to offer spiritual guidance. The Institute provides a training ground for those desiring to bring the full potential of discipleship to their faith communities. If this sounds like you, and you have been thinking about becoming a spiritual director, then please contact me so we can discuss your calling: [drosenberg@stfrancis.ws](mailto:drosenberg@stfrancis.ws)

I invite you to take a quiet moment, relax and enjoy our newsletter. We hope you find it inspiring.

## WHAT'S IN YOUR CROCKPOT?



### *Tasty ingredients for your spiritual stew*

We all know the longing of having a best friend who accepts and loves us just for who we are. We as directors, through the power of the Holy Spirit, can lead our directees to the ultimate best friend ever: Jesus Christ. He is someone who will always be with them and never abandon them. We can be an example of Christ in listening and loving all those who God sends to us and teaching them how to pray and about the healing power that they can receive through the Eucharist.

Patty Stevenson, Class of 2019

## IN OUR PARISHES

Having the support of your pastor is critical to your growth as a spiritual director. The pastor sets the stage for the success of the spiritual direction program at their parish. When I met with Fr. Mark Rutherford, the pastor at St. Mary Church in Williamston, to discuss becoming a spiritual director, he was incredibly supportive. He works with me to monitor my progress and is always available to share ideas and to give pastoral guidance. Fr. Mark recommends directees to me and we work together to ensure that the directees are receiving the care they need. The support and encouragement of their pastor helps both the director and their directees to flourish.

Leslie Floeter, Class of 2019

Increase your knowledge of Scripture by taking *Introduction to the Old Testament*, presented by Sr. Katherine Collard.

This class will be available on both Tuesday and Wednesday evenings from 4-6 PM, beginning Sept. 10 or 11. Pick the best evening for your schedule.

This class is required for anyone attending the Spiritual Direction internship program. It is also excellent for anyone involved in parish ministry and those who simply want to deepen their understanding of Scripture.

Contact Sr. Katherine for more information or to register: [kcollard@stfrancis.ws](mailto:kcollard@stfrancis.ws)



## SAINTLY INSPIRATION ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA



“If it happens that the soul is attached or inclined to a thing inordinately, that one should move themselves, putting forth all their strength, to come to the contrary of what they are wrongly drawn to”

“Be slow to speak, and only after having first listened quietly, so that you may understand the meaning, leanings, and wishes of those who speak. Thus you will better know when to speak and when to be silent.”

Jeff Nunham, class of 2019

## WHAT'S NEW AT THE INSTITUTE

*It's All About St. Ignatius of Loyola*

St. Ignatius is a hero of our faith and of all those desiring a deeper union with God in prayer. His spiritual exercises and rules for discernment of spirits give solid guidance to those on the spiritual path. His inspired teaching will help all those navigating both the consolations and desolations that come to every seeking heart. We offer two opportunities to delve more deeply into his teaching.

### **Three Day Ignatian Weekend: July 12-14 (Repeated November 15-17)**

A solid introduction to the life and teaching of Ignatius and an opportunity to begin your own spiritual discernment process with the aid of a spiritual director.

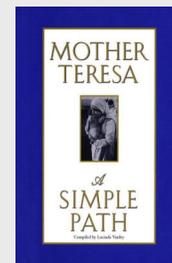
### **Seven Day Silent Ignatian Retreat: July 14-20**

- Daily spiritual conferences with retreat director, Fr. David Rosenberg
- Focus on absorbing God's Word in Scripture through the process of Lectio Divina
- Daily liturgical prayer, including Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours
- Learn about and pray The Examen daily
- Prayer and discussion with a spiritual director each day

For more information about both these retreats visit our retreat calendar at <http://www.stfrancis.ws>

## ONE LAST THING

*A SIMPLE PATH*



Based on Mother Teresa's prayer of the same name, this book walks one through Prayer, Faith, Love and Service to the interior

destination of Peace.

Following this path, St. Teresa and her sisters and volunteers recount stories of their experiences in the field. The prayer alone is a source of many meditations. The stories help highlight the various steps. Enjoy!

Lynda Shea, class of 2018



For more information on the Institute for Spiritual Direction, on how to become a spiritual director, or how to find a spiritual director, please visit [www.isdmichigan.org](http://www.isdmichigan.org), or email Fr. David Rosenberg at [drosenberg@isdmichigan.org](mailto:drosenberg@isdmichigan.org).