

## ISFP Graduation

On Sunday, June 14, LIS celebrated the graduation of the 2009 Ignatian Spiritual Formation Program (ISFP) participants. This three-year formation program empowers individuals to become LIS Associates who work side by side with LIS staff to provide retreats, conferences, workshops, days of prayer, spiritual direction and many more spiritually based events in Orange County and beyond.

### Congratulations to the class of 2009:

Julie Ann Barrios  
Paul M. Bryant, Jr.  
Victoria K. Eagleson  
Shirley Espique  
Penelope L. Hansen  
Liliana Ling-Ning Hsueh-Gutierrez  
Sr. Mary Phuongthao La  
Lina Ponder  
Victoria Marchica  
Howard S. Rhee  
Roberto M. Sinson, Jr.  
Sr. Maria Loan Tran

Many blessings to this exceptional group of individuals. We are truly blessed to have them be part of our team!



## Seeking Holy Ground

*By Penny Hansen (2009 ISFP Graduate)*

St. Ignatius teaches us that all of life is sacred and that we can meet God in all of life. Whether young or old, at work or at rest, at home or abroad, in sickness or in health, in plenty or in want, in joy or in despair—in any and all circumstances we are not alone but held within God's loving embrace.

It is one thing to acknowledge this truth intellectually or even to embrace it spiritually, but it is quite another to live this truth out practically day by day. In the midst of our often busy and over-scheduled lives we wonder, "How can I meet God and find holy ground in my life today?" One answer to this cry of our hearts is to become more aware and to seek to be more sensitive to God's presence in the details of our lives.

Traditionally, we may find holy ground as we prayerfully contemplate Scripture, as we participate in Eucharistic liturgies, as we interact open-heartedly with family and friends, and as we open our eyes to the beauty of God's creation. However, holy ground can also be found in the messiness, pain, and difficulties of life—as we sit by the bedside of a loved one who is dying or as we open up our wounded heart to God's loving and grace-filled touch.

The Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins wrote, "The world is charged with the grandeur of God." Why not take some time today to ponder your past experiences of meeting God on holy ground and then to open your heart to where God may be calling you to encounter him in the midst of your life today?



# From the Director

Dear LIS Friends and Benefactors,

I hope that you have had a graced and renewing summer! We here at LIS have continued our ministry through the summer with our largest Ignatian Spiritual Formation Program Graduation Ceremony ever; an Ignatian Retreat for Brophy College Preparatory in Phoenix, Arizona; a Retreat for a community of Sisters in Toledo, Ohio; a Guided and Directed Silent Retreat offered at the Mary and Joseph Center in Rancho Palos Verdes; several parish workshops; and presentations given at Biblical Conferences including the University of Notre Dame. God continues to bless our LIS ministry and provide us with many opportunities!

On July 18, we celebrated the many accomplishments of Fr. Anastacio "Tacho" Rivera, SJ, who asked to go on sabbatical next year at Loyola Marymount University. We will miss him and are so grateful for his presence and all that he did to build the Equipo Latino Ignacio. We hope that he will return to visit often.

In God's good providence, Fr. David Robinson, SJ, a Jesuit of the California Province who was recently Director of Nestucca Spirituality Center near Portland, Oregon, will be joining us in September. Fr. David is an accomplished retreat presenter, professor, musician, and liturgist. He is also fluent in Spanish and plans to continue collaboration with the Equipo Latino Ignacio. We will be very blessed by his presence and his ministry.

This year our calendars are already filling up and we are looking at some new creative possibilities. Due to popular request, we are planning to offer two silent Ignatian weekend retreats. One will be during Advent and one during Lent, and will be held at the ProSanctity Center in Fullerton. Please contact the office for more information. We are also exploring the possibilities of collaborating with the Ignatian Spirituality Project from Chicago, IL, to pilot a retreat experience for our recovering homeless brothers and sisters. Please keep this in your prayers.

This year we have a record number of people who have been accepted into the 19th Annotation Spiritual Exercises. They will begin their nine month journey on September 10. We are also expanding our program into the Korean language with translated materials. Our Ignatian Spiritual Formation Program evening classes will be beginning in September.

Thank you for your prayers and for all that you do to support the LIS ministry. It is a blessing to begin our 13th year of service, multicultural spirituality, and lay leadership formation and collaboration. Please know of our prayers for you and your families. We are grateful and rely on your continued support during these challenging economic times.

In Christ,  
Fr. Stephen J. Corder, SJ



## The LIS Newsletter is "Going Green"!

The green movement is something that everyone is talking about, and for good reason! Recent news reports and scientific findings have caused us all to realize that we can not take God's earth for granted any longer, and that we must all make concerted efforts to conserve natural resources, reduce waste and pollution, eliminate the use of toxic chemicals, and try to live in a more simple and sustainable manner. Not only is caring for the earth's ecology a wise decision, it could also be considered a spiritual one as well.

Ignatian spirituality encourages us to find God in all things, inviting us to encounter God's beauty and divinity through the experience of God's creation. So caring for the earth could easily be considered a very Ignatian concept!

In order to do our part towards conservation, we have reduced the number of printed newsletters we will be sending out from a quarterly distribution cycle to twice annually. You also might notice that the paper that this edition of the Ignaciano is printed on is not as white and shiny as usual. That's because we are now using 100% recycled paper!

In an additional step, we will be using e-mail as a preferred method of keeping our donors and associates informed regarding LIS news, events, classes, and retreats. We think you will be very pleased with the content and quality of our new publication plan, and we thank you in advance for supporting our efforts to "go green"!

You can help us! If you are not already receiving LIS e-Newsletters and e-Calendars on a monthly basis, please contact our office to provide us with your email address at your earliest convenience.



This newsletter is printed on 100% PCW recycled paper. Please recycle again.

## Join Fr. Steve on an Amazing Journey to Portugal, Spain & France!

Visit Lisbon, Fatima, Santiago de Compostela, Loyola, Xavier, Lourdes, Montserrat, Barcelona & More!

15-Days: May 28 to June 11, 2010

Estimated Special Cash Discount Price:  
\$3799 from Los Angeles

(Plus taxes, security fees, fuel surcharges & tips)

To be placed on the priority mailing list to receive your free color brochure and registration form please contact:

Fr. Stephen J. Corder, S.J.

Tel: (714) 655-1922 / E-mail: [scorder@calprov.org](mailto:scorder@calprov.org)



## A Very Special Anniversary

On August 11th, Sr. Barbra Ostheimer, S.N.D., celebrated the 50th Anniversary of her religious profession. A very special Mass and reception were held for her on July 19 in Toledo, Ohio. Sr. Barbra says that the event brought her tremendous joy, because her entire family and many of her friends were able to be present.



Sr. Barbra says that she is "full of gratitude to God for His countless blessings and tremendous love during the past 50 years. I've never regretted – not even for a moment – following the path I was called to. I have always found joy in community with my Sisters, and in the variety of ministries that God has called me to." These ministries have included teaching, formation work for her order, retreat work, international ministry in Rome, and her current position as an Associate Director of LIS.

"Not to say I never met a challenge", Sr. Barbra explained, "but the Lord's love and support were always with me. I am so grateful for all the wonderful people whom God has brought into my life. I ask for a blessing for each and every one of them."

We are so grateful to have Sr. Barbra with us at LIS. Her sweet spirit, wonderful sense of humor, and gentle humility serve as examples for us all. God Bless you, Sr. Barbra!

## We Need Your Summer Support!

Traditionally, summer is a time when most non-profit organizations experience a dramatic decline in the number of donations they receive. This often leads to a critical cash flow shortage.

Many donors plan on making a year-end gift rather than giving year round, and other regular donors simply forget about making their planned donations once the children or grandchildren get out of school and vacation plans begin.

Please prayerfully consider helping us through the "summer slump" by making a gift to LIS today at one of the following levels:

- Ignatian Circle - \$3,000 (Either one gift or an annual pledge of \$250 per month)
- Francis Xavier Circle - \$1,200 (Either one gift or an annual pledge of \$100 per month)
- Peter Faber Circle - \$600 (Either one gift or an annual pledge of \$50 per month)
- Friends of LIS - \$420 (Either one gift or an annual pledge of \$35 per month)

*Please know that your gift or pledge in any amount is deeply appreciated! **Please help LIS continue to be available year-round for all who are seeking a closer walk with God!***

LIS is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501 (c) (3). Federal Tax ID # 95-1684071. If you have any questions regarding making a donation, or to make a credit card donation, please call us at 714-997-9587 or visit our web site at [www.loyolainstitute.org](http://www.loyolainstitute.org).

## Farewell to Father Tacho!

Father Anastacio Rivera, S.J., will be completing his ten year position with LIS this summer. He has also been a great leader and true friend to all who have come to know him during his stay at LIS.

After joining LIS in 1999, Father Tacho (with Fr. Allan Deck's full support) created the program that came to be known as Equipo Latino Ignaciano (ELI). Looking for similar programs to collaborate with and glean ideas from, Fr. Tacho quickly learned he would have to look pretty far! He sought the advice of Fr. Joe Tetlow, who gave Fr. Tacho the names of two similar organizations in Santiago, Chili and Lima, Peru. It quickly became obvious that in order to meet with other Jesuits who were teaching Ignatian Spirituality to Spanish speaking people, he would need to travel to South America.

After his return, the ELI program quickly took shape. The program was designed to address the acute shortage of lay people trained for leadership in Hispanic parishes. Conducted in Spanish, ELI became an intensive three-year formation program. Graduates become "LIS Associates" who were competent to work as volunteer retreat presenters, teachers, and leaders in their own parishes. All graduates had gone through the Spiritual Exercises as part of their formation, and were thrilled to discover that they could now successfully lead new program participants through the Exercises!

Fr. Tacho remembers the great feeling of witnessing how the new ELI program really was successfully training new lay leaders. Watching ELI graduates lead retreats, make public presenta-

tions, and lead others through the Spiritual Exercises fills him with great emotion and gratitude.

Fr. Tacho returned to South America in 2001 in order to attend the annual meeting of "CLACIES", the "Confederacion Latino Americana de Centros Ignacianos de Espiritualidad". He hopes that LIS will continue to be a model that others will eventually want to follow, especially considering the immense need present in the Hispanic community for trained lay leaders.

During the coming year, Fr. Tacho will remain on sabbatical at LMU. When asked where he hopes to be sent following the sabbatical, Fr. Tacho was thoughtful. "I would welcome the opportunity to again be involved in a parish setting, especially if I could combine it with some retreat work."

Although he will soon move on to the next chapter in his life, Fr. Tacho will always remain a very vital member of LIS. His years of service with LIS are now part of the very foundation of the organization. If not for Fr. Tacho, it is unlikely that the ELI program would have ever come to life. His loving presence, his humor, his devotion to Ignatian Spirituality, and his deep passion and commitment to serving the Hispanic community will be deeply missed by the LIS staff and Associates.



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## Upcoming LIS Events:

**Ignatian Spiritual Formation Program (ISFP)** - This program is offered to those who desire to begin or have already begun to exercise some form of spiritual ministry and are looking for further growth and expertise. The ISFP is composed of three parts, each taking approximately one year. These first-year courses are open to all, whether or not you intend to complete the full three-year program:  
ISFP 1st Year Classes - Tuesday evenings 7:00-9:30 p.m.  
Cost: \$130 per course

- SP-01 Biblical Foundation in Spirituality**  
Instructor: Sr. Barbra Ostheimer, S.N.D.  
Sept. 15, 22, 29, Oct. 6, 13, 20, 2009
- SP-02 Ignatian Prayer**  
Instructor: Br. Charles Jackson, S.J.  
Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8, 2009
- SP-03 Spirituality**  
Instructor: Br. Charles Jackson, S.J.  
Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26, Feb. 2, 9, 2010
- SP-04 Human Development & Spiritual Maturing**  
Instructor: Sr. Barbra Ostheimer, S.N.D.  
Feb. 23, Mar. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2010
- SP-05 Ignatian Discernment**  
Instructors: Sr. Barbra Ostheimer, S.N.D. & Br. Charles Jackson, S.J.  
Apr. 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11



For more information, or to receive the full schedule for year 2 or year 3 ISFP classes, please call our office or visit our website.

**"The Spiritual Exercises" of St. Ignatius (Presented in the form of the 19th Annotation Retreat for Daily Life)** - This 9-month program offers daily scriptural prayer, weekly individual spiritual direction, and monthly group faith-sharing. Call now to begin preparations for the next retreat! Groups will meet one Wednesday evening per month, 7:00-9:00 p.m. Orientation meeting on Thursday, September 10th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Cost: (\$700-\$900) For more information, call Sr. Barbara Ostheimer, 714-997-9587 ext. 26.