The JESUIT WAY of Proceeding

Encountering Christ in all things
Dear Friends,

It is often difficult to narrow this cover letter to one page, and this is certainly true at this time as we enter a new year, a new decade, and soon a new USA East Province. So much has happened in 2019 to lead us to this historic moment, and so many exciting developments are on the horizon for 2020.

Last year, the canonization process began for Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ, a former Superior General for the Society of Jesus who challenged Jesuits to be leaders in the service of faith and justice in the world. After extensive dialogue with fellow Jesuits and lay partners from around the globe, our current Father General, Arturo Sosa, SJ, promulgated four new Universal Apostolic Preferences that will guide our mission for the coming decade. These preferences include showing the way to God through the Spiritual Exercises; walking with the poor and those on the margins in a mission of reconciliation and justice; accompanying young people in the creation of a hope-filled future; and collaborating in the care of the earth, our common home. These preferences represent points of inspiration for all future discernment about our lives and ministries as Jesuits with our colleagues in mission.

On July 31, 2020, the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces will come together canonically to create the USA East Province. This collaboration as the largest province in the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States will include approximately 650 Jesuits, 11 colleges and universities, more than 20 secondary and pre-secondary schools, and over 20 parishes and retreat centers—all with a continued mission to serve the Church and the People of God.

We wish to extend our immeasurable gratitude to you and to all who have supported the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces in preparation for this soon-to-be-created province. We will continue to serve you, our communities, and most especially those who have been forgotten in the world, with the same joy and humility as our founder St. Ignatius Loyola.

May Christ’s peace be with you and your family in this new year.

Sincerely in Christ,

FROM OUR PROVINCIALS

Very Rev. Robert Hussey, SJ
Provincial, Maryland Province

Very Rev. John Cecero, SJ
Provincial, USA Northeast Province

“What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination, will affect everything.”
— Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ
ABOUT OUR COVER

Fr. Mark Horak, SJ, is pastor at St. Thomas More Catholic Church near Atlanta, the most recent parish in the Maryland Province to be staffed by Jesuits. In this issue, we explore what makes a Jesuit parish unique.

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Pope Francis’ decrying of the world’s “throwaway culture” parallels its effects of exclusion and waste as applied to people as well as our planet.
In October 2019, a week after signing an official decree to create a new East Coast province of the Jesuits in July 2020, Father General Arturo Sosa, SJ, named Fr. Joseph M. O’Keefe, SJ, as its first provincial, effective July 31, 2020—the feast day of St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuit order.

Fr. O’Keefe entered the Jesuits through the New England Province in 1976. He graduated from the College of the Holy Cross and went on to receive advanced degrees from Fordham University and the Weston School of Theology in Weston, Mass. He was ordained a priest in 1986. After completing an Ed.D. in education from Harvard University, Fr. O’Keefe became a member of the faculty at Fordham University, and then at Boston College, where he also served as dean. He was a visiting professor at Georgetown University as well. He currently serves as superior of the Ciszek Hall house of First Studies and the Spellman Hall Jesuit Community at Fordham University. Fr. O’Keefe was a delegate to the Jesuits’ 36th General Congregation in Rome in 2016.

In 2014, the New England and New York Provinces established what is currently the USA Northeast Province. When it canonically joins with the Maryland Province this summer, it will create the USA East Province, the largest in the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States.

“I am humbled and gratified by the confidence that Father General has placed in me,” said the newly appointed Fr. Joe O’Keefe, “and I am consoled by the support and encouragement of Jesuits in the Maryland and Northeast Provinces. I look forward to working with my brother Jesuits and our lay colleagues as we build our new USA East Province. God has been so good to us in the past; God will lead us anew into a hopeful future.”
Fr. Harry Geib, SJ, has assumed the appointment as superior of the St. Aloysius Gonzaga Jesuit Community in Washington, D.C. Fr. Geib previously served as superior of the Colombiere Jesuit Community in Baltimore. He has also been the director of Manresa Hall Jesuit Community in Philadelphia and the Health Care Coordinator for the Maryland province.

Author and Jesuit historian, Fr. Thomas McCoog, SJ, has assumed the appointment as superior of the Colombiere Jesuit Community in Baltimore, Md. Fr. McCoog has worked as an archivist and historian for the Maryland Province, Fordham University and the British Province of the Society of Jesus. He was also a history professor at Loyola College in Maryland.

Camille Naughton has been named the second president of Cristo Rey Atlanta Jesuit High School, effective July 1, 2020, when Deacon Bill Garrett retires after serving as the founding president. Ms. Naughton, vice president of advancement and corporate partnerships, has been with Cristo Rey Atlanta since the school was founded in 2013.

McQuaid Jesuit announced that Fr. Philip Judge, SJ, will succeed Fr. Robert Reiser, SJ, as the school’s 14th president, effective July 1, 2020. In May, Fr. Reiser announced that he would step down as president following the 2019-20 academic year. Over the summer, members of the board implemented a process to find Fr. Reiser’s successor.

The Gregorian University Foundation Board announced that it has chosen Fr. Michael McFarland, SJ, to be the Foundation’s next president, with his term beginning on Jan. 1, 2020. He succeeds Fr. Alan Fogarty, SJ (CAN) who has served as president since 2014. Fr. McFarland has served as the treasurer for the Northeast Province since 2013.

Fr. Adam Rosinski, SJ, has been appointed assistant director of vocations for the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces, effective July 1, 2020. Fr. Rosinski was ordained a priest in June 2019 and recently served at St. Raphael the Archangel Church in Raleigh, NC.
Destinations of Faith
It was an early evening in March of 2013, and the world was learning that an obscure cardinal from Argentina had been elected pope. In Richmond, Va., members of Sacred Heart Church—an overwhelmingly Latino congregation—were sending up cheers. A woman strode up to the pastor of this Jesuit parish and exclaimed, “Father, Father, one of us made pope!”

“Yes,” replied Fr. Shay Auerbach, SJ, thinking he knew what she meant. “A Latin American.”

“No,” said the parishioner, correcting him—“a Jesuit!”

Fr. Auerbach relates this anecdote about the election of Francis, the first Jesuit pope, and he does so to illustrate something else. Whether they’re serving immigrants in Richmond, young professionals in New York, or others in settings ranging from Toronto’s inner city to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, Jesuit parishes are different. They share a particular sense of identity, stemming from the distinct blend of religious sensibilities and spiritual practices that Jesuits refer to unassumingly as “our way of proceeding.”

The Society of Jesus and its institutions are widely known, but as Fr. Dan White, SJ, points out, “People don’t think of
There are 67 parishes in the United States and Canada, and increasingly the Jesuit provinces are looking to their parishes as one way to animate the contemporary Jesuit mission.

Jesuit parishes. They’re not what we’re known for.” Fr. White is pastor of St. Francis Xavier College Church, a full-service parish at Saint Louis University. “When most people think about Jesuits, they think of teaching at high schools and universities,” he notes.

Still, there are 67 Jesuit parishes in the United States and Canada, and increasingly the Jesuit provinces are looking to their parishes as one way to animate the contemporary Jesuit mission. That mission includes, among other priorities, collaborating with the laity, sharing Ignatian spirituality and practicing a “faith that does justice” through solidarity with the marginalized and other forms of advocacy.

Fr. White has a straightforward explanation of what a Jesuit parish does and how it’s different from other parishes: “It’s one that is doing the mission of the Society of Jesus in a parish setting. That’s the difference.” He also adds light-heartedly that the parishes are different from the famed Jesuit universities in this way: “You don’t have to pass a test to get in.” The parishes are open to all.

Conventionality is not in the operating manual of these parishes. In a 1979 document titled “Some Guidelines for the Parish Apostolate,” the beloved Pedro Arrupe, Superior General of the Society of Jesus from 1965 to 1983, stressed that a Jesuit parish “should not merely be a place where sacraments are administered to a small number of practicing Christians. Rather, it should be a center where the Word of God is preached and inspires deep probing; where there is a sense of openness to local social, economic, and cultural problems.” Fr. Arrupe, whose cause for beatification and canonization opened recently in Rome, added: “The parish should be a meeting place for everybody in the district.”

It’s no surprise, then, that some
members of Jesuit parishes tend to be parishioners by choice, not by geography. Some travel long distances, much like those at St. Francis Xavier College Church—who travel from no fewer than 60 zip codes in metropolitan St. Louis to reach their destination parish. Many of these seekers already have some familiarity with the Jesuits, typically as alumni of Jesuit schools rather than as parishioners of other Jesuit churches. And, one thing they’ll notice early on is that Jesuit parishes have a different pastoral feel. “Homilies inspired by the experiences of the Spiritual Exercises are often cited among the reasons why worshippers make the extra effort to attend our Jesuit destination parish,” says Fr. Joseph Costantino, SJ, pastor at St. Ignatius Parish in Chestnut Hill, Mass. “It is not unusual to hear Jesuit presiders relate the readings to the graces of the Exercises.”

“Someone once said that you never hear a bad sermon here, and I agree,” adds Bill Plante, a parishioner and lector at Holy Trinity Parish in Washington, D.C. “There is a presence of the Spiritual Exercises in everything.”

Fr. Kevin Gillespie, SJ, pastor at Holy Trinity emphasizes that engaging parishioners is the key. “We strive to make sure parishioners are engaged—engaged with scripture, with the Eucharist, with each other, and with our greater community. We want to encounter Christ in everything.”

Likewise, Catherine O’Hagan Wolfe, of the Church of St. Francis Xavier in New York City, says that when she was first introduced to the church close to a decade ago, she felt a pull toward the kind of place “where people introduce themselves to whoever is sitting next to them, at the beginning of Mass. Everyone sings—it’s infectious. Folks applaud.” Wolfe, an attorney in Manhattan who graduated from the College of the Holy Cross in Massachusetts and is now chair of Xavier’s pastoral council, referred to these and other qualities as “threshold manifestations of a healthy spiritual community.”

The spiritual journey goes to the heart of parish ministry, Ignatian-style. It’s what people are seeking when they find a Jesuit parish. “I wanted to live my faith life with a little more intentionality—that whole magis thing,” explains Wolfe, using the Latin word for “more” or “greater” popularized by Jesuits. Her faith became more intentional partly by her joining the Church of St. Francis Xavier’s “Lay Spirits” program, in which groups of parishioners commit themselves to getting together regularly for nine months to explore spirituality and learn better how to discern God’s presence in their lives.

Fr. Mark Horak, SJ, remembers when he became the first Jesuit pastor of St. Thomas More Church outside of Atlanta. “When Archbishop Wilton Gregory invited the Jesuits to assume responsibility for pastoring St. Thomas More parish, he said that he wanted the people of his archdiocese to have options when they considered joining a parish, and he expected a Jesuit parish to offer something distinctive. Jesuit parishes may not do different things, but we are expected to do things differently. The Spiritual Exercises shape our way of experiencing God, of

“Our striving for justice and peace within the parish”

Fr. Shay Auerbach, SJ, pastor at Sacred Heart Church in Richmond, stands proudly with the newly baptized Latino children at the Easter vigil.

Taking a “faith that does justice” outside parish walls, Fr. Mark Horak, SJ, (left), pastor at St. Thomas More Parish in Atlanta, traveled to the Texas/Mexico border to see firsthand the work done by mission churches for migrants. With him are Fr. Jack Wall, president of Catholic Extension, and Sr. Zita Threlkamp, CDP, director of La Posada Providencia, a shelter for migrants.
praying, and behaving.”

In Sacramento, St. Ignatius Loyola Parish took the bold step of launching the Center for Ignatian Spirituality two years ago. The center brings to the laity such robust Ignatian practices as the 19th Annotation, also known as “the Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life,” an eight-month version of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola that emphasizes daily prayer and weekly spiritual direction. Taking it a step further, the group is also training lay people to lead such programs at St. Ignatius, as well as in other settings such as retreat centers. This past May, 18 lay people earned their certificates in spiritual direction from the center, and one of them was Rufo, a retired attorney.

Although a graduate of Saint Joseph’s University in Philadelphia, Rufo recalls that his prayer life “used to be hit or miss.” But then he joined St. Ignatius and signed up for a three-day silent retreat during the mid-1990s. “For me, it was a new kind of praying—the contemplation and the meditation. It just felt like a different way of relating to God, a different kind of relationship with Christ, and it got me enthused,” he says. “I’m now more aware of God in my life.” So are many others, he adds: “I think the Ignatian spiritual idea has kind of permeated the parish. It’s amazing to see lay people owning this.”

The inner journey is characteristic of the Ignatian way, but Jesuit parishes don’t leave it at that. Our Lady of Lourdes in downtown Toronto, one of North America’s densest neighborhoods, is connecting spirituality to urgent problems such as poverty, housing, addiction and mental illness. “We don’t separate all that from the life of the parish. It’s our normal way of proceeding,” says pastor Fr. John Sullivan, SJ. This year, as part of their
ongoing spiritual discernment, the pastor and other parish leaders decided they were overly preoccupied with the everyday tasks of parish administration, and needed to mix more closely with their urban environs. Among other things, Fr. Sullivan started blocking out 45 minutes a day to roam this downtown district that contains both poverty and riches, new immigrants and affluent professionals. In his car one day, he noticed a familiar face on the sidewalk: a young man who had passed his days inside the church, homeless and addicted.

For decades, the Jesuit church has opened its doors to people with such afflictions, giving them a quiet, safe haven from the streets. Recently, however, the parish decided to become more intentional about this daytime outreach. In a spirit of “accompaniment” (a key word in the contemporary Jesuit lexicon), parish ministers and others began finding out the names of these people, learning their stories, encouraging them to get help and accompanying them to appointments. The young man in question, who had attended the parish as a child with his immigrant family, no longer lurks in the back pews on weekdays: he’s well on the road to sobriety, with an apartment of his own. Fr. Sullivan spotted him walking down a street, well attired and interacting with others. “You could see him now becoming his own person. You could see God’s fidelity to him, how God has been working through him and others to get him out of a very difficult place,” the pastor says.

St. Peter Catholic Church in Charlotte, N.C., is unique in this way too—actually turning part of their building into a homeless shelter one night a week during the colder months. “As a Jesuit parish, we are committed to a faith that does justice,” says Fr. James Shea, SJ, pastor at St. Peter. “Our Room in the Inn program operates weekly from December through March and provides hospitality, dinner, and overnight lodging for our homeless neighbors.”

Fr. James Casciotti, SJ, pastor at St. Ignatius Parish in Baltimore, views it as a calling. “We are called to discover, respect, protect, and enhance whatever is humane and graced in every person and in every culture. We believe that working hard to collaborate with and share God’s generosity and compassion is one of the privileges of being human—and that what we owe to God, to creation, to one another is gratitude, humility, reverence, and service.”

The call to collaboration runs deep in all Jesuit parishes. “We try to learn very hard from, and with, the people we serve,” says Fr. Auerbach in Richmond, “rather than telling them what we’re going to do. I think that’s typical of Jesuit parishes.” As to the struggling Latin American immigrant community that congregates at Sacred Heart Church, he says: “The parish is theirs.”
Mentoring those

DISCERNING

A VOCATION

By Mike Gabriele
Discerning a call to religious life is probably the one, distinct vocation that requires the most … well … discernment. Choosing to dedicate your entire life to God—to spreading the Gospel and serving the Church with all that you are and all that you have—carries with it a seemingly endless list of personal and spiritual questions and challenges, regardless of how clearly the Holy Spirit may be inviting someone. Very few people suddenly decide one day to enter the nearest novitiate, seminary, or convent—even those who may have been considering such a vocation through much of high school or college.

The two key areas both men and women find themselves wading through in their discernment of a religious life are 1) spiritual issues and 2) personal challenges. Most religious orders recognize the need for guidance through the former, but all too often leave the latter unaddressed. Yes, spiritual direction is helpful for anyone’s faith, especially for those considering a vocation where they will ultimately lead others in faith. But when it comes to more personal guidance and advice, those discerning a call to religious life must often rely on family and friends—people who surely love and care for them, but who usually cannot offer counseling and encouragement from the perspective of somebody who has also experienced the same call.

For young men considering a call to the Society of Jesus in the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces, this personal void is now being filled in a unique and inspiring way. In addition to meaningful spiritual direction, these men are now assigned individual mentors: mentors who have actually been in their shoes—true Jesuits in formation—scholastics already studying to be priests or brothers in the Society.

Think of the many questions these discerners have, these souls who have taken the first brave

How do I tell my parents and friends about my vocation? How will they react? How do I go about moving away from the dating scene? What is religious community life like? How do I navigate the application process?
steps in following their call to religious life. How do I tell my parents and friends about my vocation? How will they react? How do I go about moving away from the dating scene? What is religious community life like? How do I navigate the application process?

While a spiritual director can help an individual recognize the Holy Spirit and offer leadership through prayer and discernment, a mentor’s job is simply to be there for personal advice, much like an older brother—someone who is a quick email or phone call away when all those other questions arise.

Fr. Phil Florio, SJ, provincial assistant for vocations for the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces, implemented this mentorship program. “Scholastics are indeed the closest peers and make the best mentors for those seeking to advance in their vocations discernment,” he said.

“A vocation is truly a gift from God, and the joy and witness of younger Jesuits can help others to discern their own vocation. Putting Jesuit scholastics and brothers in formation in contact with those interested in the Society of Jesus is a great resource for them—and a source of hope and inspiration for us as well.”

John Pignone, SJ, a third-year scholastic in First Studies and a fellow mentor, agrees. “The

“They speak the same language as our young discerners. I even try to assign a mentor based on compatibility—military service, the school they graduated from, a love of the classics, sports they played, etc.”

“When I was discerning a vocation to the Society and to the priesthood, I found the examples and the prayerfulness of younger Jesuits inspiring,” said Bill Woody, SJ, a second-year theology scholastic who serves as a mentor. “A vocation is truly a gift from God, and the joy and witness of younger Jesuits can help others to discern their own vocation. Putting Jesuit scholastics and brothers in formation in contact with those interested in the Society of Jesus is a great resource for them—and a source of hope and inspiration for us as well.”

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FR. PHIL FLORIO, SJ.

a Jesuit mentor, finds hope and inspiration from those he mentors.

BILL WOODY, SJ.

a Jesuit mentor, finds hope and inspiration from those he mentors.
questions a man has when he is discerning a call to the Society are vast and varied. Having a relaxed and organic conversation with someone who is living out some of those answers can help iron out hearsay and assumptions. It has been a privilege for me to be involved in these conversations. I see the Spirit moving when some concern the inquirer has evaporates simply because I say, ‘yes, we can go to baseball games,’ or something to that effect. In these conversations, I reflect back on my own journey and the questions I had.”

Talking to and interacting with peers who have already said yes to the call is a welcome opportunity for those still contemplating their own discernment. Paul Phillipinio, SJ, a second-year scholastic in First Studies, who benefitted from a mentor in his career before becoming a Jesuit, now enjoys being one to others thinking of entering as well. “I appreciated each time I came in contact with Jesuits in formation. I met solid guys at each stage of formation, and it seemed to me that as the men progressed, they became freer and freer to follow the unique way God was calling each of them into service for the greater glory of God.”

“Right now we have 27 scholastics mentoring 31 young men in various stages of discernment,” said Fr. Florio. “We are the first Jesuit province to offer this kind of official mentorship, and I hope the idea catches on in others.”

“It has given me a lot of joy to encounter men who take discernment seriously,” added Paul Phillipinio. “They have been open and honest. God is clearly at work in their lives. And it’s easy to imagine them being my Jesuit brothers someday.”
Jesuits in Formation

in the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces

The Path of Formation

Jesuit novices from the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces enter Saint Andrew Hall in Syracuse, N.Y., for the two-year Novitiate program, culminating in the profession of perpetual vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. In First Studies after the novitiate, most Jesuits study philosophy and theology for three years at Loyola University Chicago, Saint Louis University or Fordham University. In Regency, Jesuits work full time for two or three years at a Jesuit worksite or apostolate, such as an educational institution, or in pastoral ministry. In Theology, Jesuits continue advanced studies for three years.
at one of three locations in North America (the School of Theology and Ministry at Boston College, the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University, located in Berkeley, Calif., or Regis University in Toronto) or at the Gregorian University in Rome. Recently Ordained men are those who completed theology studies and were ordained as priests.

Jesuit Brothers undergo a slightly different but equally rigorous formation process of studies and apostolic work.

Tertianship is the final step in the formation process, and the period of preparation before making final vows in the Society of Jesus.
On June 8, 2019, five Jesuits from the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces were ordained to the priesthood by Cardinal Joseph Tobin, Archbishop of Newark.

They were among 22 Jesuits in the United States, Canada and Haiti to be ordained this summer. This year’s Ordination Mass for our two East Coast provinces was a picture-perfect day. Hundreds of friends and family gathered at Fordham University Church to celebrate these five men completing their formation journey to the priesthood. From left to right in the photo are Adam Z. Rosinski, SJ (Maryland Province); Christopher E. Grodecki, SJ (Maryland Province); Ricardo Ávila Natividad, SJ (USA Northeast Province); Richard H. Nichols, SJ (Maryland Province); and Vincent J. Marchionni, SJ (Maryland Province).

These men from Philadelphia, Illinois, Texas and Baltimore who stood before God, fellow Jesuits, family and friends, were ordained priests to serve the Church and the People of God. A decade of formation that comprised studies, ministry, prayer and discernment, culminated in this heartfelt commitment to serve Jesus by going where the need is greatest.
Four Jesuit novices of the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces pronounced first vows on Aug. 10, 2019 in the Chapel of St. Joseph at Saint Joseph’s University in Philadelphia. Pictured from left to right are Christopher M. Holownia, SJ (USA Northeast Province), Brian F. Engelhart, SJ (Maryland Province), Bryan P. Galligan, SJ (USA Northeast Province), and Matthew J. Briand, SJ (Maryland Province).

What has been their journey so far? It usually starts after months, if not years, of discernment, when a man enters the Jesuit novitiate not knowing quite what to expect of the two years to come. Through this foundational time of formation, a novice learns the joys and challenges of religious life, learns new ways of praying, and over time becomes accustomed to seeing the world the way St. Ignatius invites us to. Prayer, study and apostolic service all help to build a stronger relationship with Jesus—a companionship—that empowers each novice through grace and courage so that he can confidently kneel before the Eucharist and pronounce perpetual vows of poverty, chastity and obedience.

FIRST VOWS for Four Jesuit Novices
In the spring of 1988, Fred Enman was a Jesuit in formation preparing for his ordination in June. While he would have to continue his theology studies after ordination, there was one class that would influence the rest of his life in the Society. “Our class read True Church and the Poor by Jon Sobrino, which talked about how Christians needed to make the gospels concrete,” explains the now, Fr. Enman, who took the message to heart.

“Before becoming a Jesuit, I was a legal aid lawyer and had a background in legal services work. A problem that I had seen frequently was housing. You can really help people when they have stable housing and they have no fear of losing it,” said Fr. Enman. It was an unconventional idea for a school project. He started a non-profit to buy uninhabitable homes and transform them into single- and multi-family homes for people in need.

When it came time to name the non-profit, Fr. Enman went back to the 25th chapter of the Gospel of Matthew. In it, Jesus explains to his followers that whatever they do (or fail to do) for the poor, hungry and naked, they do for him. “I had read that passage before, but that time it struck me hard. I wanted to
make those words concrete,” said Fr. Enman. And so, Matthew 25 was born.

By raising money from friends and family, as well as high school classmates and Holy Cross alumni, Fr. Enman was eventually able to save up enough to purchase the first house. Matthew 25 started work on it in 1994 and finished it in 1995. In the 30 years since the founding of Matthew 25, Fr. Enman and his volunteers have successfully transformed 10 houses in the Boston and Worchester areas, and are already working on the 11th.

Unlike a non-profit like Habitat for Humanity, which gives a house to a family, Matthew 25 still owns the house. This allows it to make the cost of rent accessible for families living in a restored house. The rent for tenants is 25% of their income. “As long as people need to stay, they can. The average stay is 8-10 years, but most tenants have moved on,” says Fr. Enman.

While some might think that running a non-profit like this is a full-time job, Fr. Enman only serves as executive director of Matthew 25 part-time. His primary role is serving as the assistant to dean for students at the Boston College law school. His jobs in academia at Boston College (and Holy Cross before that) helped his work in social justice, thanks to students willing to help with demolition work. By his estimate, hundreds of Jesuit-educated students have helped Matthew 25 in its mission.

Additionally, he has established relationships with nearby vocational schools, which have helped supply carpentry, electrical, and plumbing students, along with their teachers to supervise. Every member of Matthew 25 works as a volunteer, aside from one paid employee, a licensed construction supervisor.

When asked about his plans going forward, Fr. Enman can only think about the next project. “The process of restoring a house can take anywhere between two to three years,” he explains. “Once we finish the construction of house 11, we’ll start working on 12, and keep going forward from there.”
#WorksofLove:
Ignatian Spirituality and the Pursuit of Justice

By Henry Frank

World Day of Migrants and Refugees | Season of Creation
The Service of Faith and the Promotion of Justice
Shelter the Homeless | Walking with the Excluded
Caring for Our Common Home | Racism in America
Human Trafficking | The Salvadoran Martyrs
Blessed Are You Who Are Hungry Now
In 1975, the Society of Jesus published “Our Mission Today: The Service of Faith and the Promotion of Justice.” Composed under the leadership of then-Superior General Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ, the document reminds us that we are to understand the pursuit of justice in the world as integral to the Ignatian way of proceeding. At the heart of Ignatian spirituality is the invitation to be a contemplative in action, and “action” means, in large part, working to create a more just society.

Some things have changed since 1975—for example, we are now #blessed with Twitter—but “Our Mission Today” remains as relevant as ever. The needs of the poor and marginalized cry out for justice. Pope Francis has decried the world’s pernicious “throwaway culture” of exclusion and waste, where people are reduced to the same value as the tons of waste that are thoughtlessly pumped into the oceans and atmosphere each year.

Discerning how to respond can seem as daunting as the problems themselves. St. Ignatius Loyola, who preached discernment as the foundation of all Christian decision-making, believed that all action in pursuit of justice begins with conversion of the heart. “Justice” is the proper ordering of one’s relationship to God. “Conversion” is the ongoing process of getting that ordering right.

By God’s grace, we begin to see the world as God sees it, and in response our hearts are moved to take concrete action. In Evangelii Gaudium, Pope Francis writes: “Works of love directed to one’s neighbor are the most perfect external manifestation of the internal grace of the Spirit.” When our hearts are filled with the love of God, how can we not respond to the cry of the oppressed?

Of course discernment can be messy in practice, which is why Ignatian spirituality encourages us to ask first for the grace of spiritual freedom. From there, we are able to see more clearly where the Spirit is moving, where injustice lives, and what God is calling us to do.

None of us could possibly respond to every one of the world’s injustices. We must discern where and how to act. What gifts do we have to share? Where is God pulling our hearts? As contemporary followers of the Ignatian way, each of us must discern our individual call to the service of faith and the promotion of justice. When discernment yields sufficient clarity and freedom, we are able to move forward in action.

To aid this prayerful process, the Office of Ignatian Spirituality launched its “Works of Love” campaign this past fall, focusing on ten issues of justice in the world. It contains resources to guide prayer and reflection, helping you to discern where your gifts can have an impact and where God is inviting you. A new way of engaging the 45-year-old invitation of “Our Mission Today”!

Check it out at www.JesuitsEastOIS.org/worksoflove.
In Memoriam

Deceased Jesuits of the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces ~ July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

MARYLAND PROVINCE DECEASED

Fr. Charles L. Currie, SJ
Born July 9, 1930; died January 4, 2019

Fr. Charles G. Gonzalez, SJ
Born January 22, 1934; died February 23, 2019

Fr. Harry G. Hock, SJ
Born January 16, 1932; died April 5, 2019

Br. John J. McLane, SJ
Born January 29, 1938; died January 30, 2019

Fr. Paul V. Osterle, SJ
Born April 5, 1928; died June 14, 2019

Fr. Francis X. Reese, SJ
Born June 8, 1927; died November 20, 2018

Fr. Richard J. Ryscavage, SJ
Born March 25, 1945; died April 26, 2019

Fr. Joseph P. Sanders, SJ
Born June 10, 1930; died November 18, 2018

Fr. Francis Schemel, SJ
Born March 7, 1925; died August 4, 2018

Fr. Joseph N. Tylenda, SJ
Born June 26, 1928; died August 13, 2018

USA NORTHEAST PROVINCE DECEASED

Fr. Joseph T. Bennett, SJ
Born December 19, 1926; died September 23, 2018

Fr. James F. Bresnahan, SJ
Born December 28, 1926; died October 23, 2018

Fr. Clarence Burby, SJ
Born April 15, 1935; died December 29, 2018

Fr. Denis R. Como, SJ
Born January 3, 1936; died August 14, 2018

Fr. Charles B. Connolly, SJ
Born December 16, 1945; died March 9, 1999

Fr. Lawrence E. Corcoran, SJ
Born July 27, 1932; died January 6, 2019

Fr. James J. Curry, SJ
Born July 13, 1944; died January 14, 2019

Fr. Paul J. Dugan, SJ
Born March 20, 1924; died May 11, 2019

Fr. Gerard H. Ettlinger, SJ
Born September 30, 1935; died July 15, 2018

Fr. Mallick J. Fitzpatrick, SJ
Born August 16, 1929; died April 24, 2019

Fr. D. James French, SJ
Born February 6, 1940; died December 2, 2018

Fr. George A. Gallarelli, SJ
Born November 25, 1927; died February 18, 2019

Fr. Paul Gilmartin, SJ
Born March 21, 1932; died February 4, 2019

Fr. Richard J. Hoar, SJ
Born April 11, 1926; died February 22, 2019

Fr. Robert J. Kaslyn, SJ
Born April 19, 1956; died March 13, 2019

Fr. James M. Keegan, SJ
Born July 19, 1940; died October 9, 2018

Fr. William J. McGarry, SJ
Born February 15, 1928; died December 29, 2018

Fr. Charles L. Moutenot, SJ
Born June 16, 1946; died February 4, 2019

Fr. Daniel J. O’Brien, SJ
Born August 31, 1928; died November 9, 2018

Fr. William P. Poorten, SJ
Born June 28, 1930; died November 14, 2018

Fr. Thomas F. Sable, SJ
Born August 16, 1945; died September 21, 2018

Fr. Ramon Salomone, SJ
Born November 25, 1933; died August 25, 2018

Fr. William M. Sullivan, SJ
Born April 21, 1936; died August 3, 2018

Fr. Robert F. Taft, SJ
Born January 9, 1932; died November 2, 2018

Fr. Wayne Tkel, SJ
Born September 3, 1963; died January 1, 2019
Now in the loving embrace of their Creator

Merciful Father, hear our prayer and console us. As we renew our faith in Your Son, whom You raised from the dead, strengthen our hope that all our departed brothers and sisters will share in His resurrection. Amen.
A Multi-Apostolic Jesuit Community for Philadelphia

Jesuit mission in the city of Philadelphia extends to multiple apostolic works—Saint Joseph’s University, St. Joseph’s Prep, the Gesu School (which recently celebrated its 25th anniversary), and Old St. Joseph’s Church, the oldest Catholic parish in Philadelphia. To better support Jesuit engagement in these apostolates for the future, we are building a new, multi-apostolic Jesuit community for Philadelphia.

Much more than a place to eat and rest, a Jesuit community serves as a collaborative, religious hub for priests and brothers, a place of spiritual conversation and communal discernment where our shared life is at the service of our mission. This much-needed Jesuit community will allow us to:

- Gather active Jesuits from multiple works into a single community
- Establish a modern facility and a new structure of community life that is aligned for the future of our ministry in Philadelphia and is more engaging for younger Jesuits
- Provide a place of apostolic hospitality with space suited for gatherings with our companions in ministry to share our Jesuit charism

The community will be named for Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ, the charismatic Superior General of the Jesuits from 1965 to 1983, whose cause for canonization was opened in early 2019. It will be located on the Saint Joseph’s University campus and will serve Jesuits missioned throughout Philadelphia.

The Pedro Arrupe Jesuit Community, which is scheduled for completion in fall 2020, will include 15 bedrooms, common living areas, an inspiring chapel, and space designed for apostolic hospitality. As Jesuits working full time in our apostolates move into this new community, the present community on the university campus will take on a new identity for retired Jesuits.

The Jesuits have served Philadelphia for more than 200 years, continuing to adapt in our sharing of the Gospel. Today, we are creating a contemporary community for the future of our ministry in this historic city.

Become a Partner in Mission

We are forever grateful for the support of our lay colleagues and benefactors who make possible our mission of sharing Christ’s message with students, parishioners and those in need. We hope that your care and support for establishing this new Jesuit community will allow us to enrich our works in Philadelphia for generations to come.

Please Contact James Skurka, Provincial Assistant for Advancement and Communications: 212.774.5544 or jskurka@jesuits.org.
An Unforgettable Pilgrimage to Portugal

From October 21st through the 31st, 21 men and women joined the USA Northeast Province for a once-in-a-lifetime pilgrimage through Portugal, home of St. Anthony of Padua and Jesuits like St. Joseph of Anchieta, Blessed Miguel de Carvalho and the missionary St. John de Britto.

Among the pilgrims were James Skurka, provincial assistant for advancement and communications for the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces, and Fr. Rodolfo Casals, SJ, vocation promoter for the Maryland and USA Northeast Jesuit Provinces.

“Our pilgrimage to Portugal offered many moments of peace and prayer that strengthened all of us as we continue our pilgrimage on Earth,” said Skurka, who served as the pilgrimage coordinator for the group.

“While on the road, we spent all of our days together sharing stories and experiences,” said Fr. Casals, who led the group in spiritual direction. “By the time we left Portugal, we were a community that had drawn closer to Christ, and to one another.”

The highlight of the pilgrimage was the visit to the city of Fatima, where the shrine of the same name is located. These 21 pilgrims joined others from around the world to visit the spot where the Virgin Mary appeared to nine-year-old Lúcia dos Santos and her cousins Francisco and Jacinta Marto.

“They each gave themselves generously and courageously to a mystery, with no guarantees,” said Fr. Casals of the young Catholics who encountered Mary. “So too, the Fatima pilgrims in 2019 ventured out into an experience of mystery and hardship. We traveled to Fatima, because whatever God had to say to us, had to be said in Fatima, had to be heard in the context of a group of fellow travelers.”

“By the time we left Portugal, we were a community that had drawn closer to Christ, and to one another.”

— Fr. Rudy Casals, SJ
You may have met—or golfed with—some of the Rose Hill Jesuit scholastics who are here today,” said Fr. Cecero. “The formation of these men lasts between nine and twelve years, and is something that is funded entirely through the province office. Thank you wholeheartedly for taking part in our special appeal. Your participation today certainly helps us to support them.”

The guests were then treated to a lively auction, and placed bids for the chance to play on some of the best golf courses in the country. Group awards were given out for foursomes with the best scores. This year’s outing was yet another resounding success. We are grateful to our friends who supported the outing through their participation, sponsorships and donations.
Save the Date for these Upcoming Events:

MARCH 15, 2020 – Mass and Brunch with Father Provincial

Join the USA Northeast Province on Sunday, March 15, 2020, for a special gathering at the Naples Sailing and Yacht Club for Mass, with brunch to follow. We will be joined by a special guest, the Very Rev. John J. Cecero, SJ, Provincial of the USA Northeast Province of the Society of Jesus. Fr. Cecero will lead a discussion and talk about exciting updates in the province.

For more information, contact Ann Marie Houston at 617.607.2814 or ahouston@jesuits.org or visit www.jesuitseast.org/naples2020

APRIL 21, 2020 – Planned Giving Seminar at the Jesuit Center in New York, NY

The USA Northeast Province of the Society of Jesus cordially invites you to attend “Planning Your Legacy,” an estate planning program. With changing tax laws, learn strategic ways to plan your estate!

Mr. Winthrop Rutherfurd, a longtime parishioner of the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola in New York City, will be the event’s presenter. As Partner Of Counsel at White & Case, LLP, Mr. Rutherfurd has offered his expertise for more than 35 years, counseling individuals and families on all aspects of estate planning.

Please RSVP with Mary Ann Lynch by March 31st. Contact Mary Ann at 212.774.5548 or mlynch1@jesuits.org

MAY 7, 2020 – JESUIT GALA IN BOSTON

On Thursday, May 7, 2020, the USA Northeast Province will hold the Jesuit Gala in a new venue, the Sheraton Boston Ballroom. The event will not only be an opportunity to support the Jesuits and ministries of the province, but also a chance to honor this year’s AMDG Award honorees, John and Kathleen Murphy.

John is the retired chairman and CEO of Oppenheimer Funds, and is currently an independent director of Legg Mason Global Asset Management. He served 12 years on the BC High board, including two years as chairman. Additionally, he served as a trustee of Boston College for eight years. Kathleen has served as a volunteer and supporter of various organizations, including Nativity Prep in Boston. Additionally, they are quietly philanthropic, supporting diverse causes in Boston and Cape Cod in leadership categories.

For sponsorship or ticket information, contact Ann Marie Houston at 617.607.2814 or ahouston@jesuits.org

More on the web

For more information on the GALA, please visit www.JesuitsEast.org/GALA2020
How are you helping Jesuit Parishes in the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces respond to the Universal Apostolic Preferences?

Gathering parish leaders by interest (communications, evangelization, Hispanic ministry, etc.) facilitated the sharing of best practices in addressing the Preferences. At the 2019 Evangelization Conference, parish leaders outlined programs inviting individuals into a relationship with Christ. One participant, a candidate for the novitiate, spoke of his own journey in walking with youth. Another example was when representatives of the Office of Ignatian Spirituality spoke to the Hispanic Ministry Conference of their program on Ignatian Spirituality in Spanish. They are making Ignatian Spirituality available to underserved communities.

Our cover article in this issue looks at what makes a Jesuit parish unique. What do you think contributes to a Jesuit parish being distinctively Jesuit?

When I visit parishes, I look for Ignatian spirituality and a focus on, and implementation of, the Church’s social teaching. Discerning communities, where the staff and the councils integrate prayer into their process of decision making. I also hope to see retreat offerings, days of prayer, presentations, and opportunities for spiritual direction. When I encounter a parish community whose prayer leads them to social ministry, I am delighted! I appreciate homilies that address Ignatian spirituality and social ministry, youth ministry that includes both, and when the calendars display an abundance of these programs.

In your new role as provincial assistant for international ministries, what has inspired you most about our Jesuit schools and ministries in Micronesia and other parts of the world?

Our ministries in Micronesia demonstrate remarkable adaptability in pursuing their mission. When the power goes out, or when expected materials do not arrive as promised, ministers and teachers adjust. This response to obstacles is a valuable lesson for the students. In Amman, Jordan, the Jesuit Center works predominantly with immigrants with few resources. Fr. Michael Linden, SJ, introduced a dance theater, linking movement, with song, and vocabulary. This approach enhances learning and student investment. I am inspired by this commitment of Jesuits and friends who walk with the underserved.
Whether you’re a graduate of a Jesuit school, a parishioner at a Jesuit parish, or have come to know the Jesuits through an Ignatian spirituality program, our monthly e-newsletter will inform and inspire you, offering spiritual opportunities and ways to expand your experience of our Ignatian mission to serve others—especially those on the margins.

Retreat opportunities, special events, news and feature stories from the Jesuits of the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces ... delivered monthly to your email inbox.

Sign up today at www.JesuitsEast.org/Enews

Will you consider a gift to the Jesuits?

To make a gift that supports the Jesuits and their work, please contact:

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To learn more, visit BeAJesuit.org

The East Coast Jesuits in formation