

BELLARMINE BROADCAST



news, stories, and photos from Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House

WINTER 2016, VOLUME 52, NO. 1



Prayer: Exploring One of Bellarmine's Core Values A Note from Executive Director, Fr. Paul B. Macke, SJ

Here at Bellarmine, we hold six core values: Ignatian Spirituality for Adults & Youth, Silence, Prayer, Hospitality, Service to the Poor, and Sacred Spaces. In future issues of *Bellarmino Broadcast*, we will highlight each value. In this issue, I want to focus on Prayer.

One reason we come on a retreat is to pray. But why do I pray? Answer that question for yourself now. The answer you give today may be different from the answer you gave yesterday or last year. I have heard many reasons for prayer: it is an obligation; I want to get God off my back; I have a lot of needs; I want to thank God; I am a sinner and need God's mercy, etc. When I answer this question, I realize that my reasons continue to change.

As a child, prayer was simply a ritual my parents taught me before bed and before meals. When I

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entered the novitiate to become a Jesuit, we prayed for about an hour each morning, a half hour in the afternoon, and two Examen per

day along with Mass and meal prayers. This obligation to pray stuck with me so much so that I enjoy an hour of prayer each morning with my coffee, a candle, and (occasionally) music. At a deeper level, I realize now that I pray because I am in a significant relationship.

If I am to be a Companion of Jesus as a Jesuit, I want to spend time with my friend. Sometimes we have lots to talk about; sometimes I do all the talking; sometimes the Spirit needs to speak to me; and usually, we just spend quality time together.

Just as with a friend, spouse, or significant other, you make time in your busy day because it is important. I pray first in my day because I do not want anything to become more important than prayer and daily Eucharist. Hopefully prayer changes us in a positive way: we become more deeply in love with God, realize we are loved and forgiven without condition, and become more loving toward our brothers and sisters.

Prayer is often enriched by mulling over Scripture, like the healing of the bleeding woman in the Gospel of Mark or the disciples on the road to Emmaus after the Resurrection. Occasionally, I like to supplement prayer with spiritual reading or to journal on deeper movements occurring during my prayer, such as being filled with awe, joy and consolation, or with anxiety, sadness, and agitation when I am in desolation.



For St. Ignatius of Loyola, God is not "out there somewhere." God is present in our deepest desires and everyday lives. We need to pay attention to our daily experiences. That is why Ignatius insisted on the Examen of Consciousness as the most important type of prayer that should never be neglected. It is here we become aware of God's graces in our daily life, through the gift of the Holy Spirit, so that we can give thanks; we become aware of how we are being sucked dry by desolation and temptations so that we can ask God to bring us healing.

We hope that the silence, sacred space, and hospitality on your retreat at Bellarmine helps you pray better and more consistently when you go home. And we pray that, through the grace of God, it changes our world for the better as you go forth, as a Companion of Christ, working to build the Kingdom of God. ✠



Directions in Development By Development Director, Kathy Caudill

I believe that 2016, in addition to being the Year of Mercy, is truly a “year of grace-filled gratitude” for me. It is my pleasure and privilege to serve as Bellarmine Development Director. Since my arrival in September, I have witnessed firsthand Bellarmine’s core values (Ignatian Spirituality, Silence, Prayer, Hospitality, Service to the Poor, and Sacred Spaces).

I have been deeply moved by the many prayer requests we receive – those written by retreatants in our book of prayer intentions, as well as the prayer requests we receive with annual appeal donations, via email, or by phone. Each day as we gather together for Mass as a staff, we remember those who seek our prayers and receive a wonderful reminder of the power of prayer. We ask, too, for your continued prayers for our retreat ministry.

Each week, I am thankful for the opportunity to meet with our captains, greet our retreatants as they arrive on Friday evening, and listen to retreatants share their stories about their first retreat at Bellarmine or their favorite retreat memories.

If you request prayers for yourself, your family or special intentions, or if you would like to share your favorite retreat stories, we would love to hear from you (kcaudill@jesuitretreat.org or 847-381-1261). ❖



Listening By Associate Director, Erin Maiorca

It is a joy to witness and listen to the stories of graces that come from the connections with God found in times of prayerful silence here at Bellarmine. Thank you for sharing your stories with us; you warm our hearts and lift our spirits while also informing our continuous improvement process.

One of the ways we learn about these experiences is the weekend feedback form. If you have been on a weekend retreat at Bellarmine in the last four months, you may have noticed we added a supplement to the weekend feedback forms – a Spiritual Interest Survey, which seeks to learn the themes, topics, and program formats that will help you on your spiritual journey. We appreciate the time spent thoughtfully sharing the experience of your weekend retreat and your spiritual interests. As you grow in your spirituality, so must we. We are listening intentionally to the longings of your soul as captured by our Spiritual Interest Survey.

One of our dreams is to fill the house for each program. You can help us make that dream a reality – invite a friend (or two) to join you on your next retreat. In addition to serving the Bellarmine retreatants who have faithfully come to Bellarmine year after year, we also work together to raise awareness of our ministry and draw new people in for the retreat talks, the silence, and the time with God that nourishes the soul. We hope to continue to hear from you as together we look to the future and adapt the *Spiritual Exercises* to our time and our world. ❖

New Handicap-Accessible Bathrooms at Bellarmine

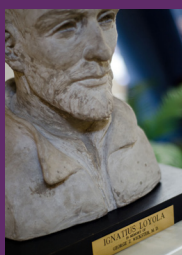
Bellarmino Jesuit Retreat House is pleased to announce that handicap-accessible bathrooms, for women and men, are now located in close proximity to the Sacred Heart Chapel. While there are still finishing touches to be completed, we thank the Helen Brach Foundation and many other generous donors who made this important facility improvement possible.



Good News for Those with Mandatory IRA Distributions!

Once again, it is possible for those who have reached the age of 70½ to make tax-favored charitable gifts to Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House from traditional and Roth IRA accounts. To make such a tax-deductible gift, the gift must be distributed directly from an IRA to the qualified charity.

For more information, please check with your IRA administrator or your tax advisor. If you have any questions about making this donation to Bellarmine, please contact Development Director, Kathy Caudill (kcaudill@jesuitretreat.org or 847-381-1261). ✠



St. Ignatius Says...

"Ask for interior knowledge of all the great good we have received, in order that, stirred to profound gratitude, we may become able to love and serve."

An Excerpt from Pope Francis' Prayer for the Year of Mercy

Lord Jesus Christ, You have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees You sees Him. Show us Your face and we will be saved....



You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests His power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be Your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified....

Send Your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with His anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and Your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this of You, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy; You who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen. ✠

Text taken from: <http://www.im.va/content/gdm/en/giubileo/prehiera.html>

We Give Thanks to Our God at Every Remembrance of You...

Philippians 1:3

We remember our deceased retreatants, their spouses, and loved ones.

Barbara Bergman - 9/4/2015
Richard Bez - 5/30/2014
Joseph H. Boel, SJ - 4/5/2014
Richard C. Conroy, SJ - 1/5/2013
Richard F. Costigan, SJ - 8/29/2013
Richard Dawidowicz - 2/2014
Kenneth L. Delrose - 12/11/2015
Robert C. Dressman, SJ - 10/22/2013
John J. Gallagher - 3/6/2014
Jean Glunz - 8/18/2015
Joseph M. Gowgiel - 12/2015
Paul T. Greening - 11/9/2015
James E. Hayes - 8/24/2015
Dave L. Henderson, SJ - 3/6/2015
Edward C. Hill - 3/21/2015
Robert Hoffmann - 5/17/2015
Raymond Hudash - 2/5/2015
Sheila Hulseman - 8/30/2015
John A. Kearney - 1/10/2013
Bob Koller - 8/9/2015
Marion J. Koziol - 9/20/2015
Louis J. Lipps, SJ - 1/11/2013
Patrick Malone, SJ - 7/22/2014
Nancy Moloney - 12/3/2013
John "Joe" O'Connor - 1/17/2015
Denis O'Keefe - 9/23/2015
James W. Paul - 10/15/2015
John F. Pennington, SJ - 3/27/2015
Paul Pfeifer - 9/1/2015
Frank Raimonde - 9/28/2015
Angela M. Reilly - 3/31/2013
Nancy Stemwedel - 4/18/2015
Matthew Daniel Stroick - 1/31/2012
Thomas L. Swint - 10/7/2015
Ken Walleman, SJ - 9/15/2014

If you learn of the passing of a fellow retreatant, please let us know so that we may join you in praying for the repose of their souls as we gather for daily Mass. Thank you!

2016 RETREATS AND SPIRITUALITY PROGRAMS

= MEN ONLY
 = WOMEN ONLY
 = MEN & WOMEN

DATE	NOTES	RETREAT MASTER
Feb 19-21	Men's Weekend Retreat	Fr. Peter Fennessy, SJ
Feb 22	Lenten Day of Reflection for Men & Women	Fr. Michael Sparough, SJ
Feb 26-28	Men's Weekend Retreat	Fr. Michael Sparough, SJ
Feb 28	"Coming Home" Retreat for Military Veterans & Families	Veterans Committee
Mar 3-6	Men & Women's 4-Day Retreat	Mary McKeon
Mar 11-13	Men & Women's Friends/Family of Bill W Weekend Retreat	Fr. Tom Weston, SJ
Mar 18-20	Palm Sunday Men's Weekend Retreat	Fr. David Meconi, SJ
Mar 22	Women's Lenten Evening of Reflection	Mary McKeon
Mar 24-26	Men & Women's Holy Week Retreat	Fr. Bob Flack, SJ
Mar 31- Apr 3	Men & Women's 4-Day Retreat	Fr. David Shields, SJ
Apr 8-9	Women's Overnight Retreat	Mary McKeon & Lynn Sprehe
Apr 10	Men & Women's Hispanic Day of Prayer	Fr. John Foley, SJ
Apr 15-17	Father/Son Weekend Retreat	Keith Maczkiewicz, SJ
Apr 22-24	Sacramentally Married Couples' Weekend Retreat	Fr. Jim Kubicki, SJ
Apr 25	Men & Women's Day of Reflection: <i>Spirituality of Aging</i>	Fr. Jim Gschwend, SJ & Mary McKeon
Apr 29 - May 1	Women's Weekend Retreat	Fr. Kevin Kersten, SJ
May 15	"Coming Home" Retreat for Military Veterans & Families	Veterans Committee
June 6-14	Individually Directed Retreat	Multiple Directors
July 15-22	Individually Directed Retreat	Multiple Directors
Sept 9-11	Matt Carpenter Men's Weekend Retreat	Fr. Michael Sparough, SJ
Sept 16-18	Men's Weekend Retreat	Fr. Jeff Puthoff, SJ
Sept 23-25	Men's Weekend Retreat	Fr. David Shields, SJ
Sept 30 - Oct 2	Women's Weekend Retreat	Fr. David Shields, SJ
Oct 4-6	Women's Midweek Retreat	Mary McKeon
Oct 7-9	Men's Weekend Retreat	Fr. John Foley, SJ
Oct 14-16	Men's Bill W Weekend Retreat	Fr. Kevin Ballard, SJ
Oct 28-30	Men's Weekend Retreat	Fr. Doug Leonhardt, SJ
Nov 4-6	Women's Bill W Weekend Retreat	Fr. Tim Meier, SJ
Nov 11-13	Men's Bill W Weekend Retreat	Fr. Tim Meier, SJ
Nov 17-20	Men & Women's 4-Day Retreat	Fr. Larry Gillick, SJ
Dec 2-4	Men's Weekend Retreat	Fr. Jeff Putthoff, SJ
Dec 9-11	Men's Bill W Weekend Retreat	Fr. Kevin Ballard, SJ
Jan 6-8, 2017	Four Shepherds Men's Weekend Retreat	Fr. Michael Sparough, SJ

Invitation to Prayerful Silence

In January 1948, Bellarmine welcomed its first retreatants. Some of our retreatants identify the graces they received from their recent retreat:

"The power of prayer, the practice of seeking God in all people always."

"I came for the silence and found it to be a balm for my soul."

"Being quiet this weekend will help me to listen better."

"To disconnect and quiet my mind was an amazing experience."

Something brought you here to Bellarmine for your first retreat. Perhaps you came with your dad. Maybe a friend invited you for several years, you finally said "yes" and have been coming back ever since. Whatever your path to Bellarmine, we are glad you are part of the Bellarmine family!

What first brought you to Bellarmine? What keeps you coming back? ✠



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