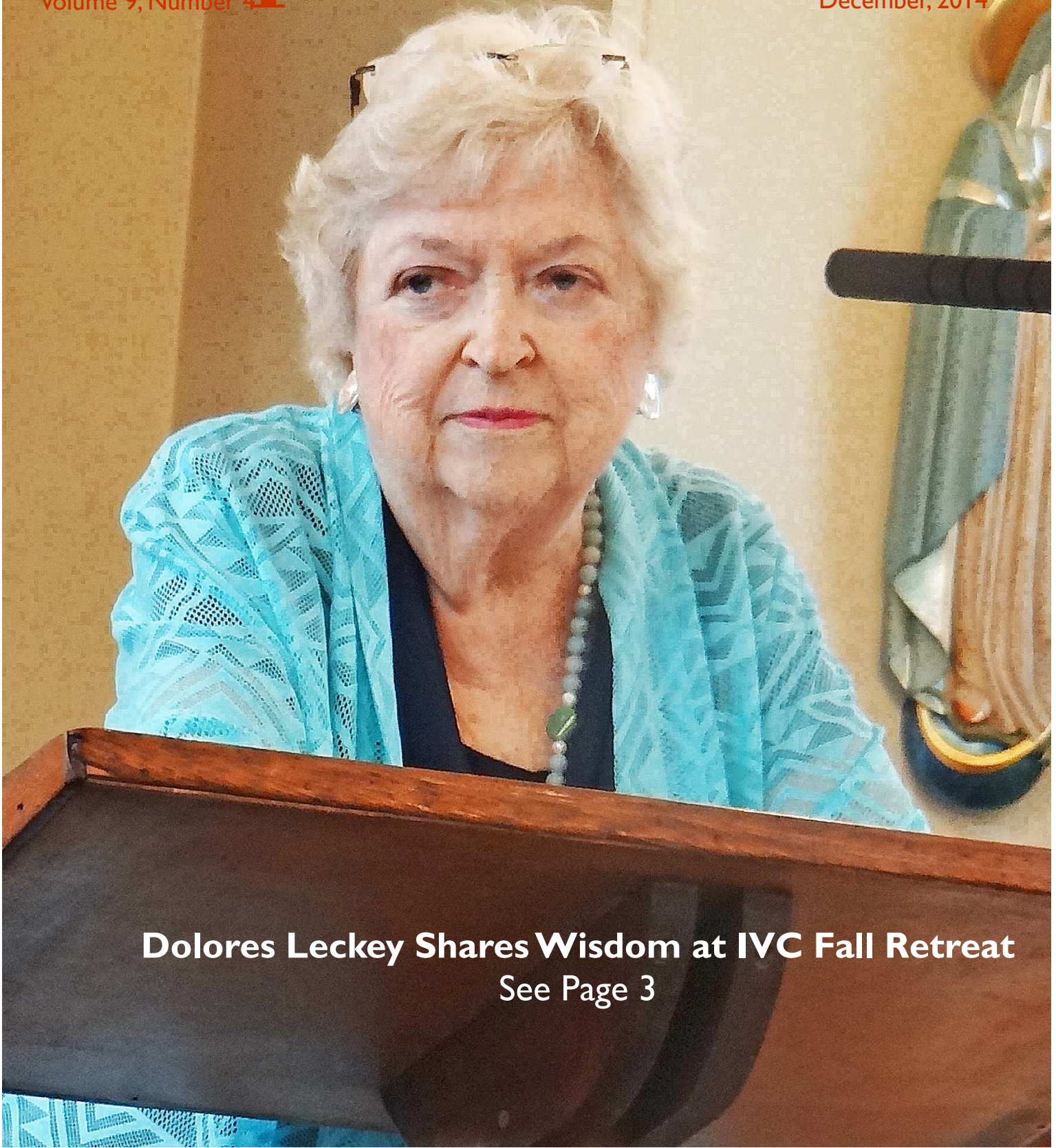


Corps Connector

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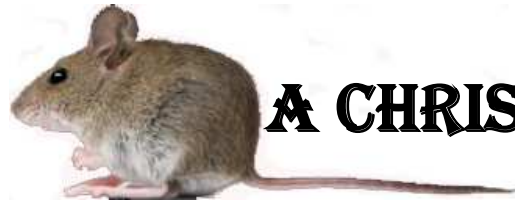
Dolores Leckey Shares Wisdom at IVC Fall Retreat
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Joseph Raia
Grace Risetto
Joe Sobierajski, SJ
Richard Urban

Notes from the Editor



A CHRISTMAS TAIL

**Wee, sleekit, cowran, tim'rous beastie,
O what a panic's in thy breastie....
The best laid schemes of Mice and Man
Gang aft agley.**

--Robert Burns "Ode to a Field Mouse"

I think of Bobby Burns' poem as I reflect on this morning's surprise/adventure. Here's what went down: Around mid-night, I'm awakened by...who knows what? Maybe it's Nellie shifting or stretching next to me. She's my year and a half old cat. Then a tiny something, startled, streaks across my back and down the bed with Nellie in hot pursuit. I hear her scrambling around the room, then all is quiet.

Was it a mouse? Over the years I have occasionally hosted them in my condo. What happens is they find their way into the attic, fall down between the walls and make their way into my apartment. They don't eat much, just a corner off a bag of cereal. They usually drop in as the weather turns cold.

Lying there, I tell myself: In the morning I'll look for any remains, if Nellie's accomplished her mission and duty.

When I wake up I almost forget. Now I always hang my bathrobe on a peg. Actually, there are four pegs there. Next to the bathrobe are my gym clothes. And next to that are the pants I'm going to wear that day.

Today is Wednesday, gym day. Mistakenly I reach instead for my day pants and as I do I notice a slight movement out of the corner of my eye by my bathrobe. I take a closer look. It's my wee, sleekit, beastie clinging to the collar of my bathrobe. In the past if I caught one of these little fellows I'd have, as my friend once called it, 'a burial at sea': flush it down the toilet! But, I'm not like that anymore.

How to capture her? What to do with her after I capture her? I quietly lay my pants on the bed as a plan slowly starts to form. I'll try to grab her and release her outside on the patio. But do mice bite? Most likely they do! I haven't got time to find a glove, so I cover my hand with a handkerchief.

I look and she is still in the same place. Handkerchief in hand, I grab. Got her. As I carry her out to the patio, I can feel her little heart racing. She struggles a little, but doesn't bite.

"I'll open the patio door and set her on the porch and close the door," I tell myself. But, I don't reckon on Nellie following us. When I open the door, she takes a mighty lunge out the door ahead of us. I don't want to put the little beastie down where Nellie can chase her. I live on the third floor and I fantasize a chase that results in one or the other or both of them flying off the edge of the porch.

I think: mice can climb brick walls—that's how they get into the attic. So I try as best I can to attach my little friend to the bricks next to the porch. I let her go, but did she grab the wall? or did she fall to the ground? I'll never know. It's still dark out.

Farewell, I mean FARE THEE WELL my wee, sleekit cowran beastie. Will you be back again in a month?

I wonder how long these two bedfellows slept beside me before Nellie discovered she was there.

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Corps Connector

is published three to four times annually by the Northern Virginia and DC/Metro Maryland Regions of the Ignatian Volunteer Corps.

Dick Bowling, Editor
Associate Editor for DC/ Metro Maryland: **Cliff Hackett**

Send submissions or comments to dbowling@ivcusa.org.

Photos by Dick Bowling unless otherwise noted

Dick Bowling

Dolores Leckey Shares Her Wisdom at the Fall Retreat

WHO SAYS AN IVC RETREAT LEADER can't do the impossible? Dolores Leckey, the distinguished theologian, spiritual writer and lay leader did just that at the IVC annual fall retreat at Faulkner MD on September 8-10, 2014. She made contemporary theology interesting, intelligible and practical for all participants, even those without any theological background. With a house as the metaphor, she guided everyone on a whirlwind tour of theology's many rooms, using poetry, music, Scripture, church history, personal stories and a cast of leading edge thinkers, poets and mystics to illustrate key points for small group discussion and individual reflection.

1. "Building Theology's House" focused on what theology does—namely, *searching to understand the divine mystery, from the vast horizon of the cosmos to the smallest piece of reality*. She described the Basilica of St. Clement in Rome, an archaeological wonder. The church has several tiers. The top tier was built in the 11th century, before the Middle Ages. Inside, at a lower level, is a fourth century basilica, created out of the first century home of a Roman nobleman and his wife, a Christian convert. A small sanctuary, once devoted to cult worship, is in the basement.

Each tier built on what came before. Nothing was destroyed. The building offers a rich symbol of Christianity since it builds on the past (i.e. Aquinas builds on Greek philosophy—Plato and Aristotle), renews with additions, and is always becoming. Theology does the same. It is not to argue but to explore. Pope Francis uses a house, with open doors, as a metaphor for the Church. Mary Oliver's powerful poem, *The House*, reinforces the Pope's welcoming message.

Creativity is the dynamism of contemporary theology. Pope Francis describes creativity as God's gift to renew the Church and the world. Creation is not finished. God is always creating. St. Paul's experience in Athens, then the crossroads of the world (Acts 17:11-28), illustrates God's self-revelation through encountering other religions. Contemporary theology follows a four step process:

- Takes what has been (e.g. insights of Augustine, Aquinas, Desert Fathers, etc.)
- Places them in dialogue with today's culture and our sacred Scriptures
- Peels away some of the coverings to see what is at the core
- Seeks to discover the mystery of God in our time and culture today

2. "Contemporary Additions to Theology's House" ex-

plored the critical issues of:

- Science and Evolution. How Darwin's insights into evolution are found in the past—(i.e. Dante's *Divine Comedy* and *Psalm 19* declaring the glory of God in all creation)—and developed in the future (i.e. Teilhard de Chardin's *universe evolving into the Cosmic Christ*, and the work of modern theologians into the evolution of consciousness. i.e. *Ilia Delio, John Haughey SJ and Elizabeth Johnson*.) (Note: A 90 minute documentary about Teilhard, produced by Frank Frost, will air on public television in late 2015.)
- Feminist Theology. Patriarchy is the root of the problem. Elizabeth Johnson and Sandra Schneiders are leading thinkers. Women are change agents in the church today (i.e. comprise 85% of parish lay ministers, report directly to Bishop in 150 dioceses, more teach theology now and form Church leaders.) Key insight: ecology is where science and feminist theology are coming together

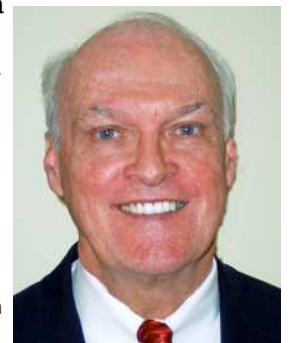


3. "Pillars of Theology's House" are faith, hope and charity, which Bernard Lonergan, SJ, one of the 20th century's greatest theologians joins together into his theology of Hope, linking them to human progress and moving toward God. In the 2013 *America* article "Holding On," Vincent Miller identifies why we don't see

hope today: a) we are not attentive; (thus the need for the daily Examen) and b) we don't see what is happening personally (the failure to see God's grace working in our life).

4. "The Foundation of the Building" is **Spirituality** (a 1960's addition to the Christian vocabulary.) Dolores brought the lofty theological exploration home by sharing her personal journey as a mother of four young children; in becoming a fair housing activist in Arlington VA in 1964; and the people she met who changed her life. Fr. Ray, Our Lady Queen of Peace pastor, told her she needed to read Evelyn Underhill, one of the greatest writers of mysticism, and Tilden Edwards, the saintly Episcopal pastor and civil rights leader inviting her into his daily Zen Meditation group for clergy.

Their friendship taught her a profound truth: "Without the soul growing as deep as the river, you'll never make it in social justice. It will kill you." In closing, she gave everyone another gift of wisdom. "Remember, the more active you are, the more you need a spiritual practice!"



by Marty Walsh, Spiritual Companion

Introducing...

New Northern Virginia and DC/Metro Maryland Volunteers



Nancy Woodley (NoVA) worships at Holy Trinity Catholic Church and St. Charles Borromeo and lives in Rosslyn with her husband. In addition to raising children, she worked with the GED Readiness and New Technology Skills, a federal program to prepare at-risk students for today's world. She has a

Masters degree in Education, Counseling and Development from George Mason University and finished her undergraduate education at Dumbarton College of the Holy Cross. Her many volunteer activities include serving on the Board of Paul VI High School in Fairfax. She has recently begun her IVC placement as a Basic Needs Counselor with United Community Ministries in Alexandria.



Teresa Wessendorf (NoVA) attends Holy Trinity in Gainesville, VA. She recently retired from 27 years of government service as a Bio-Tech Patent Examiner for the Patent and Trademark Office. She has a B.S. in Chemistry from the Mapua Institute of Technology and has received computer-

programming training from a vocational school in Pittsburgh, PA. She has previously volunteered at the Lamb Center, a day center for those without homes, in Fairfax, and she currently coordinates daily Eucharistic Adoration for her church. Teresa has been thinking about joining the IVC for eight years, and is excited for the new season the Lord has prepared for her! Possible service with SERVE, Inc. in Massachus is pending.



Marie Van Ness (NoVA) attends Holy Trinity parish in Georgetown and has been discerning volunteering with IVC for over a year. She's here for a "Come and See" experience (John 1:43-49).



Dolores Royston (DC/MD) attends Catholic parishes in Montgomery County such as Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Chevy Chase and St. Jane Frances de Chantal in Bethesda, where she first saw a bulletin announcement about IVC. She is a graduate of Stone Ridge and Newton College of the Sacred Heart and holds certificates as a legal

assistant and in financial planning. She served as Principal of Royston Financial Services in Bethesda before her retirement in 2005. She is the mother of four children (three of them graduates of Gonzaga College High School!) and grandmother of five (including a current Gonzaga junior.) Dolores recently began her placement at the Father McKenna Center at Gonzaga.



Rosalie LaMonica (DC/MD) is a parishioner of Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Potomac, Maryland. She describes herself as semi-retired and wants so much to find a way to use her gifts for the benefit of others. Rosalie is just beginning her service at St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Families.



Ruth Coyne (DC/MD) was a longtime member of St. Nicholas Church in Laurel, where she befriended veteran IVC spiritual reflector Ginny Novak. Like Ginny and Regional Director Mike Goggin, Ruth holds an MA degree from the late, great Washington Theological Union. She is also Jesuit educated, holding an undergraduate degree from St. Louis University

and a terminal degree (all but dissertation) from Marquette University. In the past twenty-five years, she has provided professional leadership to a number of local and national non-profit organizations including Service Coordination, Inc., The ARC of Frederick County (MD), Jubilee Association of Maryland (an IVC partner agency!) and the American Red Cross. She is serving at the Columban Center for Advocacy & Outreach.



Greg Cleva (NoVA) attends St. Charles of Borromeo in Arlington and has already embraced the IVC, participating in retreats and City Groups. He has recently been placed at The Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life, housed at Georgetown University, where he will use his research and organiza-

tional skills to assist Center Director John Carr implement his vision to elevate dialogue on policy issues impacting the poor. Greg earned a B.A. in the Social Sciences from St. John's University in New York, and a M.S. and Ph.D. from Catholic University here in Washington D.C. After retiring from a government career as an International Affairs Analyst, Greg has spent countless hours serving at AACH, which serves those who are homeless, and at his Church's food pantry. This winter, Greg will facilitate a course on various expressions of Catholic Spirituality for the OLLI institute, affiliated with George Mason University. (See page 12 for more about this).

Look for more new IVC Volunteer faces in the next issue of the *Corps Connector*

Two DC/MD Volunteers Honored By Their Agencies

THE DC / METRO MARYLAND REGION IS PROUD to report that two of its members were honored by their respective partner agencies this October during evening ceremonies held in Washington, D.C. They are Tom Carty, who received a Benjamin E. Cooper Award from Friendship Place, and Juliet Orzal, who received a *Caritas* award from Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington.

Tom has volunteered at Friendship Place since 2008, serving in the organization's back office. Utilizing his accounting degree from Georgetown University and his 28 year career at Verizon and its predecessors, he helps to pay bills for the agency's clients. His service is indirect and out of the public eye, but still exceptionally valued by Friendship Place and its Executive Director Jean-Michel Giraud. The agency has grown exponentially in recent years, adding programs for homeless veterans and homeless young adults.



Tom Carty Photo by David Moss Photography

The Benjamin E. Cooper Awards, now in their 17th year, recognize outstanding leaders making a lasting impact in our community through their work to end homelessness. At the time of his tragic death in 1997 at the age of 17, Georgetown Day School student Ben Cooper was a committed and enthusiastic volunteer at Friendship Place. His encouragement of those coming through the doors for help inspired both staff and volunteers at the time, and perennially through the awards named in his memory. Every year, Friendship Place honors a handful of individuals and/or companies in his honor. Tom's award this year marks the second year in a row that an Ignatian volunteer has been honored. Vicki Bell received a similar award in 2013, and

she was in the audience this year as Tom received his award in an October 7 ceremony at Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church.

IN HER TWENTY YEAR NON-PROFIT PROFESSIONAL career, Juliet Orzal had a penchant for matching the right volunteer with the task at hand. She practiced that craft at Martha's Table and later N Street Village, both located in the District. In retirement, Juliet joined IVC in 2011 and was in turn matched to a position at Catholic Charities that called on her once again to utilize her volunteer acumen. Catholic Charities honored Juliet this October 23 at the *Caritas* volunteer recognition event held at Pepco's Edison Place Gallery in Chinatown.

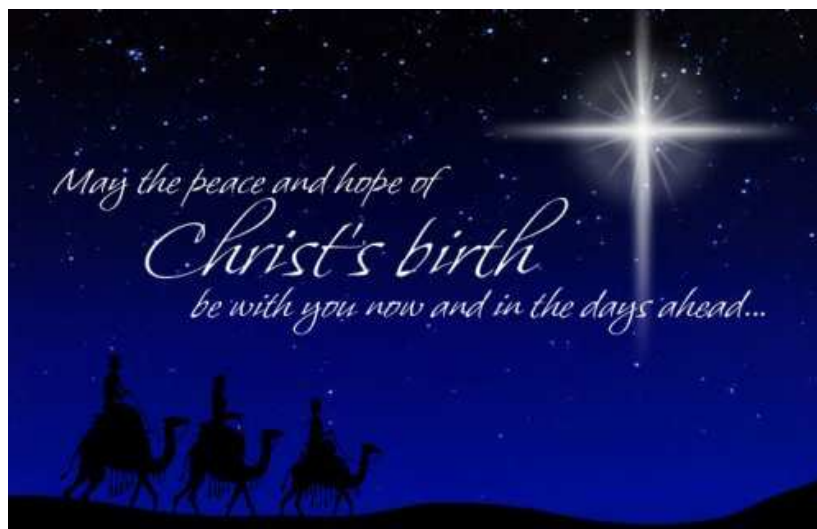
Juliet was quite humbled to be singled out for her service in receiving the award, but she is happy to say that rather than viewing the award as an honor for herself, it really is a tribute to IVC. That's kind of her to say, but we know that Juliet would be singled out in any crowd for her deep faith and abiding attention paid to the needs of her partner agency.

Congratulations, Tom and Juliet – you exemplify the best of the Ignatian Volunteer Corps!

—Mike Goggin, DC/Metro MD Regional Director



Catholic Charities Photo: Juliet Orzal: Second from right



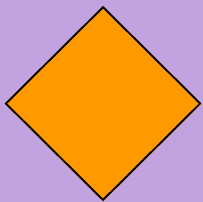
Save
the
Dates
Jan.

16 & 28

2015

Dr. Richard R.
Gaillardetz

January 16



Day of
Prayer
January 28

Dr. Richard R. Gaillardetz leads January Day of Reflection

Dr. Rick Gaillardetz, Joseph Professor of Catholic Systematic Theology at Boston College and the current President of the Catholic Theological Society of America, will travel from New England to lead the DC / Metro Maryland region's Winter Day of Reflection 2015 on Friday, January 16 at the Josephite Seminary in Washington, D.C. Gaillardetz's topic that day will be "Pope Francis and the Future of Catholicism" and the day will include two talks offered by the professor, time for quiet reflection, small group discussion, lunch and an "ask the theologian" roundtable at the end of the day.



Most Rev. John Ricard, SSJ, retired ordinary of the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee and past auxiliary bishop of Baltimore, will preside and preach at a Eucharistic liturgy scheduled for 11:30 a.m. that day.

The day's activities will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude by 4 p.m. The Josephite Seminary is located at 1200 Varnum Street NE near Providence Hospital and Washington Jesuit Academy. Carpooling is encouraged that day as parking on the seminary grounds is limited.

The cost of the day will be \$35 for IVC members and \$17 for any guests new to IVC that you may want to bring along with you. Please plan to register for the event no later than January 10 by writing to Regional Director Mike Goggin at mgoggin@ivcusa.org.

Gaillardetz was a commentator for ABC Radio on the day that Jorge Maria Bergoglio, S.J. of Buenos Aires became Pope Francis. He is a renowned ecclesiologist and the current head of the largest group of theologians assembled anywhere in the world. He also knows IVC well, as his spouse Diane is an IVC volunteer herself in the Boston area.

A Day of Prayer with the IVC Community

Wednesday, January 28, 2015

9:30-3:00

The Benedictine Pastoral Center, Bristow, Virginia

A Day of Renewal, Contemplation,

Imaginative Prayer and Fellowship

** 27 Gardens,*

Peace Silos,

Forgiveness Garden



What six weeks with IVC did for me...

with Emily Kral



DON'T KNOW WHAT I EXPECTED from my internship with IVC, but I got so much more than I could have imagined. When I thought about an internship, I imagined something from my college days.

I knew nothing about IVC and didn't realize the impact the non-profit aspect of the organization would have on me. I was at a very low point in my life. After graduating from George Mason in 2009 I dealt with addiction, worked in sales at a radio station and had a brief stint as a liquor rep. Following that, I bounced from hostess to waitress jobs for over two years.

I began to lose my focus, my faith and my dreams for myself in life. I didn't know what I needed, but I needed something big. I prayed to God for help, and in retrospect I realize that God brought me IVC, and more importantly God brought me Joanie. It's so simple, but at that point in my life I just needed to believe that I could succeed.

My first IVC experience was the spiritual retreat. I was so nervous because I had never experienced anything like that, and everyone was older, wiser and more experienced than me. I felt so welcome and was so fascinated by all of the amazing people around me. People who took their faith seriously, that gave of themselves so freely and without asking anything in return. I didn't realize how much the entire IVC experience would affect my faith, but I truly feel closer to God. It's true. Nothing makes God seem more real than when you pray, day after day, and get an answer.

For a long time I didn't feel like I could hear God speak to me. I needed direction in my life. I needed a job that I could see a future in, and I needed to feel like I could do a good job at something in my life. My internship at IVC became integral, first of all because it gave me a way to get back into the nine to five. I started helping Joanie around the office. Having responsibilities, getting

dressed up and going to work, just felt good.

I spent my days working with Joanie and sending my resume out to every job I could find on Craigslist. One day Joanie suggested I apply at a temp agency. I sent them my resume, and somehow that turned into an amazing job. It all happened so fast, it was like a miracle. I ended up getting a job with their staffing agency and it has been more than I could have hoped to find in a job.

This is a very condensed version of events, but I want my point to come through. IVC is an amazing group of people, through which amazing things are happening. My life was touched by you, and it was changed for the better because of you. Thank you for letting me be a part of IVC, even for a short time. I'll never forget it.



Desert Island Spirituality

with Dick Bowling, Editor

"If you knew you were to be stranded on a desert island for ten or more years, what five spiritual books including the *Bible* would you take with you?" I sent this question to the Spiritual Reflectors and selected others in the DC/Metro Maryland and Northern Virginia regions. These books were to include what Bible translation they would take, a couple of Spiritual "Classics" and a selection of Contemporary Spiritual Books. From

time to time I will publish in the Newsletter a selection of the books they said they'd like to have by their side. Here are some of their suggestions:

Bibles (according to the translations used):

The Complete Parallel Bible ; four translations: New Revised Standard Version, Revised English Bible, New American Bible, New Jerusalem Bible --Oxford Press

Favorite Spiritual Classics:

The Way of Love-- Anthony De Mello

Open Mind, Open Heart--- Fr. Thomas Keating

Contemporary Spiritual Books:

Understanding the Human Jesus--Andrew Canale

Friends of God and Prophets--Beth Johnson

The Divine Milieu--Teilhard de Chardin, SJ

Guidelines to Mystical Prayer-- Ruth Burrows, OCD

IVC Volunteer Bob Stewart Receives “Volunteer of the Year” Award From S.A.L.T.

Longtime IVC Volunteer Bob Stewart received Social Action Linking Together’s (SALT) “Volunteer of the Year” award for his tireless advocacy for Virginians suffering from unjust social and economic policies. Executive Director John Horesji presented the award to Bob during SALT’s annual conference on November 1st, highlighting the theme of the growing trends of economic inequality. IVC members Mary Anne Cummins, Maryellen Rodgers, Art Baltrym, and Jim Kelley, along with keynote speaker Sister Simone Campbell and several hundred participants, were present to hear Bob praised for his valuable contributions to SALT’s work. Bob’s research, writing and organizational skills bolster SALT’s policy analysis, legislative advocacy and community education efforts. Many would say that SALT advocates speak truth to power on critical public policy issues impacting our communities, and especially those who have little voice in politics.

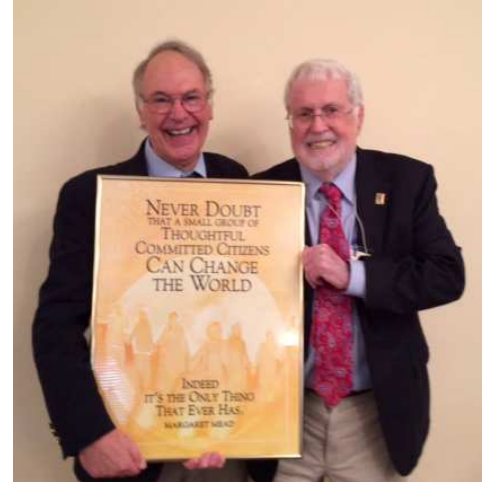
As an IVC volunteer since 2007, serving with Center of Concern in Washington DC and currently with SALT, Bob also keeps the IVC membership informed on important issues related to the many clients that our volunteers serve across Washington, DC and Northern Virginia. He even featured the importance of Catholics engaging in social justice action in their local communities in an article he wrote in the *Catholic Standard*. He’s our go-to-guy on current advocacy issues, recording lectures, sending us legislative alerts and reminding us when we need to go to Richmond. [By the way, the Virginia Catholic Conference advocacy day in Richmond will be January 29, 2015.]

Two remarkable qualities about Bob stand out personally for me: 1) Bob reads widely drawing on philosophy, politics, and theology as he creatively thinks about today’s

societal complexities. As one who has a command of great thinkers and powerful ideas in the history of social transformation, he has served as a valuable resource to our interns (as well as to the Regional Director); and, 2) Bob’s intense compassion for those who are marginalized extends to all those with whom he interacts. IVC Volunteer Tim O’Connor recalls a season in his life when he was a recipient of Bob’s generous service to others. When Tim’s physical ailments prohibited him from driving, Bob essentially became his chauffeur...and he’s still doing it! Bob Thomsen recalls a time when Bob Stewart gave him a beautiful photo of Pope Francis. On that particular day, this gift meant more than words can express, and it now sits framed on a bureau for daily viewing.

Thank you Bob, and all our tremendous IVC volunteers, for your generosity of time, of resources, and your acts of kindness that embrace the Ignatian spirit, and profoundly witness to Christ’s expansive love language that “sometimes uses words’.”

-Joanie Coolidge
IVC NoVA Regional Director



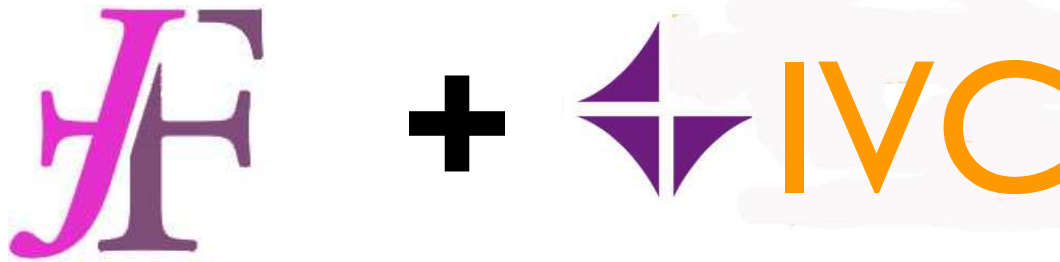
Executive Director John Horesji (l) and Bob Stewart

IVC Spiritual Reflectors Meet for a Day of Reflection at the Dominican Retreat House on November 14th

THERE WAS SUCH WARMTH AND PLEASURE AS OLD FRIENDS GREETED ONE ANOTHER and the newer additions to the IVC group of reflectors were welcomed with great hospitality. The day contained time for prayer and Scripture led by Rea McDonnell who asked thought provoking questions which can apply to all in IVC: What affirms your experience of God? What challenges it? What stretches it? Then there was time to reflect quietly in the chapel or outdoors in the cool autumn landscape. Faith sharing followed in groups of 4 or 5.

The sisters prepared a delicious lunch during which there was more visiting, getting to know each other and discussion of the morning activities.

On this day of reflection the afternoon was led by Mary Lou Miller and was spent focusing on the Spiritual Reflection Practice itself and how the IVC reflector handles the various challenges that come up with his or her reflectee. At that point a discussion opened about changing the name from reflector to companion and most of the group liked that better. It brings the reflector down to a more equal level with the reflectee and that was the desired effect. This is sure to come up again in the future. [\[See Photo of Gathering on Page 10\]](#) Contributed by Kate Finan, DC/IMD Spiritual Reflector/Companion



The Ignatian Volunteer Corps and JustFaith Ministries: A Partnership.

In May, Joanie Coolidge, the IVC Northern Virginia Regional Director contacted me about accepting a new assignment for this new year. It would be with JustFaith Ministries (JFM). IVC is in the process of developing a partnership with JFM. I would serve as a Volunteer representative for JFM. This new volunteer position would be a pilot position to determine how to proceed both here in Virginia and in other parts of the country.

JustFaith Ministries is based in Louisville, KY. It provides programs that transform people and expand their commitment to social ministry. Through these life-changing opportunities members of a church or parish can study, explore and experience Christ's call to care for the poor and vulnerable in a lively, challenging, multifaceted process in the context of a small faith community. (For full details go to JustFaith.org.)

Why JustFaith Ministries and IVC?

When IVC and JFM first considered collaborating they evaluated their respective missions.

- JustFaith Ministries inspires people to action.
- The Ignatian Volunteer Corps places people of faith in organizations that serve the materially poor, while providing an opportunity to deepen their inspiration through on-going reflection on their social ministry experience.

The goal of this collaboration is to introduce more parishioners throughout the diocese to Catholic Social Teaching and to grow the number of IVC volunteers working on behalf of the materially poor.

How did I get here? – Parallel Paths

In 2006, I became an IVC volunteer. Since then I have worked with Hogar Immigration Services, St. Margaret of Cortona Family Transitional Housing, both sponsored by Catholic Charities, and OAR of Fairfax helping prisoners return to civilian life. I found that my background of 20+ years with the United States Navy and 17 years working in the private sector in Information Technology, while helpful, did not prepare me fully for my volunteer assignments.

I chose to be an Ignatian Volunteer where I can serve the poor while gaining the support of increased spiritual growth through ongoing reflection on my social ministry and interactions with the poor.

My experience with JustFaith Ministries also began in September 2006. I signed up as co-facilitator for a JustFaith program in my home parish. My co-facilitator was my wife, Pequitte Schwerin. Pequitte joined IVC in 2006 also. During the 30 weeks of the program I learned a great deal about Catholic Social Teaching and became more aware of injustices here in our communities as well as nationwide and worldwide.

Since the initial program, my JustFaith group has completed 4 of the JustMatters modules. When JFM offered its GoodNews People program of two, seven-week sessions, I was one of 97 parishioners at St. Francis of Assisi Parish who signed up for the pilot roll-out in the Arlington Diocese. I have personally seen the impact JFM can have on individuals and parishes and I find it easy to promote JustFaith Ministries programs. A recent example:

In mid-November I finished a JustMatters eight-week program titled: *In the Spirit of St. Francis and the Sultan*. All of our meetings except the final session were held in a mosque. We attended their prayer service and they had attended Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Triangle. They were warmly welcomed by our Franciscan Friars, Order of Friars Minor, and our parishioners. All participants, seven Muslims, five Catholics and one Protestant were united in their praise of the importance of this program in promoting closer ties between Christians and Muslims.

What do I do?

I handle the coordination between IVC and JFM via email and phone calls. I reach out to pastors, parish staff and volunteers, to the diocesan staff, program graduates, and potential service sites. Because my efforts also serve as an opportunity to discuss my Ignatian Volunteer Corps experience, I provide Joanie Coolidge copies of the bi-weekly status reports and I send a To-Do List to JFM. Joanie and I compare notes and see how our individual efforts can be coordinated to develop potential IVC volunteers and supportive parishes to IVC and JFM.

—John Enzmann

(Heather Lanasa has also just begun her role as JustFaith/IVC Coordinator in the DC/Metro MD region.)



Some 2014 IVC Events



Spiritual Companions' Day of Reflection, at the Dominican Retreat House on 11-14-2014



IVC visits Benedictine Monastery Bristow, VA
Pictured is retreat conference room.



Joanie Coolidge, panelist for the Senior Health Care Expo, speaks about the Ignatian Volunteer Corps. The Expo was held at St. John the Beloved Church on October 20. The event was organized by Phil Wehle of the Senior's Luncheon Group.

Joanie Coolidge leads an Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) course on Ignatian Spirituality at George Mason University in July



Joanie introduces the more than 70 students to the basics of Ignatian Spirituality.



Kathleen Curtin discusses the Methodology and Practice of Ignatian Spirituality.



OLLI Students listen attentively to Kathleen's inspiring discussion on the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises.

IVC in Northern Virginia Leads the Way in Lifelong Learning

THE JESUIT LOVE OF LEARNING and its tradition of integrating thought and action is much in evidence in the Northern Virginia IVC community. Its Regional Director, Joanie Coolidge, and four IVC volunteers and Spiritual Reflectors (Marty Walsh, Jean Sweeney, Cynthia Gillespie and Greg Cleva) will teach courses on themes related to Catholic Spirituality in the four week winter session of George Mason's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI).

OLLI, one of many lifelong learning institutes affiliated with the Bernard Osher Foundation, is committed to providing the Northern Virginia community with a wide range of intellectual and cultural experiences for residents in their retirement years.

"The goal of our life is to live with God forever," writes David Fleming, SJ in *Hearts on Fire*, a work dealing with the Ignatian spiritual exercises. In this manner, Dr. Coolidge's summer 2014 and spring 2015 class provide an introduction to Catholicism through the lens of Jesuit teaching and practices. Students will discuss a number of related subjects including the role of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the methodology of Ignatian Spirituality, the Jesuit's mission and world engagement, and, of immediate interest, how Pope Francis' Jesuit perspective will impact his Church leadership.

How compelling a thinker was fellow Jesuit Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ that he could write: "Someday, after master-

ing the winds, the waves, the tides and gravity, we shall harness for God, the energies of love, and then, for the second time in the history of the world, man will have discovered fire." Marty Walsh's class will focus on the life and thought of Teilhard, Jesuit priest, paleontologist, explorer and visionary. Teilhard is one of the great thinkers of the 20th century, whose principal works, *The Phenomenon of Man* and *The Divine Milieu*, are still widely read and discussed with great interest. Teilhard's thought, including the notion of the evolution of man towards union with the Cosmic Christ, provided a framework for Vatican II and set

the stage for renewal movements today. Our spirituality is the most significant dimension of our human personality and existence. Clearly, it is a subject worthy of our inquiry. But what is Catholic spirituality and what forms does it take for those who seek to live a life of purpose and fulfillment? To this end, Jean Sweeney, Cynthia Gillespie, Greg Cleva, and Fred Pugarelli (an IVC in spirit but not in fact) will join to discuss various types of Catholic Spirituality—

Catholic Spirituality

Greg Cleva: Jan. 21

Jean Sweeney: Jan. 28

Cynthia Gillespie: Feb. 4

Fred Pugarelli: Feb. 11

Benedictine, Celtic, Desert, and Ignatian.

OLLI classes are primarily held at Tallwood Campus, 4210 Roberts Road, Fairfax, VA., near the main GMU campus. The winter session entails four classes running from 21 January 2015 to 11 February 2015 (with 17-23 February for makeup classes). Further information can be obtained through OLLI at 703-503-3384 or visit its website at www.olligmu.edu.

The Work and Philosophy of Pierre Teilhard de Chardin GMU, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Course:

Instructor: Martin Walsh, IVC Spiritual Reflector/Companion

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ (1881-1955) Jesuit priest, paleontologist and geologist, explorer and visionary, stands out among the world's greatest thinkers in the 20th century. He was part of the expedition that discovered the Peking Man in China. His focus, however, was not on the past, but on the future of man, the universe and God. *The Phenomenon of Man* sets forth a sweeping account of the unfolding of the cosmos and the evolution of matter to humanity and ultimately to a reunion with the Cosmic Christ, while *The Divine Milieu* shows how all our human activities and efforts are not only useful, but necessary for this Omega Point to happen. Chardin's revolutionary ideas got him into trouble with the Vatican and his own Jesuit order. He was forbidden to teach, speak publicly on religious subjects and was banished from his native France. The Catholic Church censored many of Teilhard writings during his lifetime. Yet his ideas provided the framework for the Second Vatican Council and set the stage for its renewal movements today. Martin Walsh, former Jesuit and retired non-profit executive will lead you on an exciting, challenging journey into the future with Teilhard as your guide.



Tuesdays, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 20–Feb. 10 United Christian Parish in Reston Campus



**CATHOLIC
MOBILIZING
NETWORK**
TO END THE USE OF
THE DEATH PENALTY

The Catholic Mobilizing Network to End the Use of the Death Penalty (CMN) is one of the newest partner agencies of the DC / Metro Maryland region of IVC. Volunteer Nancy Brouillard McKenzie has served two days per week in its office at Theological College in D.C. since the summer of 2014. IVC National Executive Director Mary McGinnity has recently joined its Board of Directors. CMN Executive Director Karen Clifton is a Holy Trinity Georgetown parishioner who is steeped in Ignatian spirituality. Her own husband Guy considered joining IVC in recent years. It seems to be a partnership made in heaven.

At its core, this activist organization helps to proclaim the Catholic Church's unconditional pro-life teachings in their fullness and in their application to capital punishment and restorative justice. This work is carried out in many ways in the organization through the work of a focused coordinating committee and staff in Washington, DC and at Mount Saint Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

The organization is still in its youth. Late in the summer of 2008, veteran proponents of ending the death penalty gathered in Washington, D.C. to consider how best to engage lay American Catholics in the struggle. Among them were Sister Helen Prejean, CSJ, author of *Dead Man Walking*, and leadership from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Catholic Charities USA, the Franciscan Action Network, the Maryland Catholic Conference (led at the time by current IVC national board member Dick Dowling), Catholics Against Capital Punishment, Murder Victims' Families for Human Rights, the National Coalition To Abolish the Death Penalty, Equal Justice USA, and others.

The group determined that a national Catholic networking organization should be created to inform and facilitate the death penalty-related work of state Catholic conferences, diocesan offices, and other Catholic organizations and institutions. Among other services, the new organization would provide bilingual resource materials and education programs (in both English and Spanish), workshops, speakers for conferences and special events, and a website with downloadable media.

Thanks to the involvement of Vicki Schieber, a nationally recognized spokesperson for Murder Victims' Families for Human Rights, it was also determined that restorative justice, which seeks to repair the hurt caused by the violent taking of human life, should be a concept integral to CMN's on-going work.

CMN was formally launched on January 25, 2009. Karen Clifton has been the Executive Director since the beginning. In fact, her work against the death penalty dates back to 1996 in Houston, Texas, when her social justice and advocacy projects intersected with those of Sr. Helen Prejean.

Numbering more than 67 million, Catholics comprise about 22 percent of our nation's 309 million citizens. In states where repeal efforts have succeeded, or have made greatest headway, Catholics have been in the advocacy vanguard. Firm in the conviction that Catholics can make the difference, CMN seeks to significantly increase the number of American Catholics who embrace the Church's death-penalty opposition and, with that teaching as its basis, work for the end of all state capital punishment laws.

CMN is able to count among its supporters Pope Francis. On October 23, the Pope wrote, "It is impossible to imagine that states today cannot make use of another means than capital punishment to defend peoples' lives from an unjust aggressor...All Christians and people of good will are thus called today to struggle not only for abolition of the death penalty, whether it be legal or illegal and in all its forms, but also to improve prison conditions, out of respect for the human dignity of persons deprived of their liberty."

IVC is privileged to partner with CMN in this important work of educating against a culture of violence and revenge.

Upcoming Events

DC/MD Winter Day of Reflection
 January 16, 2015
 Josephite Pastoral Center
 1200 Varnum St. NE
 Washington, DC
 Facilitator: Dr. Rick Gaillardetz

A Day of Prayer
 January 28, 2015
 Benedictine
 Pastoral Center
 Bristow, VA

Evening of Gratitude
 April 26, 2015
 Gonzaga College High School
 The Commons

Northern Virginia Region 2015 City Groups

Our Lady Queen of Peace 2700 19th Street South Arlington, VA 22204 2nd Tuesday 10:00 am-12:00 noon	St. Charles 3304 Washington Blvd Arlington, VA 22201 Room 103 2nd Thursday 10:00 am-12:00 noon	St. John Neumann's 11900 Lawyers Road Reston VA 20191 3rd Tuesday 10:00 am-12:00 noon	St. Joseph's 711 Columbus Street, N. Alexandria, VA 22314 3rd Wednesday 10:00 am-12:00 noon
Feb. 10, 2015	Feb. 12, 2015	Feb 17, 2015	Feb. 18, 2015
Mar. 10, 2015	Mar. 12, 2015	Mar. 17, 2015	Mar. 18, 2015
Apr. 14, 2015	Apr. 9, 2015	Apr. 21, 2015	Apr. 15, 2015
May 12, 2015	May 14, 2015	May 19, 2015	May 20, 2015

DC/Metro MD Region 2015 City Groups

The Albrecht's 5814 Ogden Court, Bethesda, MD 20816 1st. Thurs.— 9:30–11:30 Feb. 5, 2015 Mar. 5, 2015 Apr. 2, 2015 May 7, 2015	Wash. Jesuit Academy 900 Varnum St., NE Washington, DC 2nd Tuesday—11:00-1:00 Feb. 10, 2015 Mar. 10, 2015 Apr. 14, 2015 May 12, 2015
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Merry
Christmas
from the
Staff of the
Corps Connector



Original Drawing by IVC
Volunteer Greg Cleva



WANT TO KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS?

FEED THE HUNGRY, CLOTH THE NAKED, FORGIVE THE
GUILTY, WELCOME THE STRANGER AND THE UNWANTED
CHILD, CARE FOR THE ILL, LOVE YOUR ENEMIES.

