

Corps Connector

Volume 7, Number 3

August, 2012



**Joe Jones Sings
“Danny Boy” in
Farewell (Page 7)**



Washington DC/
Metro Maryland
& Northern
Virginia Regional
Council

Mike Goggin
Patricia Holley
Regional Directors

Joseph Dempsey
James Kelley
Pamela Lucey
Dennis Lucey
Joseph McCloskey, S.J.
Francis Murphy
Joseph Raia
Grace Risetto
Richard Urban

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Corps Connector

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Dick Bowling, Editor

Send submissions or comments to dbowling@ivcusa.org.

Photos by Dick Bowling unless

WELCOME TO A NEW YEAR WITH THE IGNATIAN Volunteer Corps. IVC provides its members with not just the opportunity to serve people who are poor, but supports them in this effort with a program of integrated spirituality. And that's what a lot of this issue of the *Corps Connector* is all about.

As the liturgy has its three year A.B. C. cycle of readings, so IVC has its three year cycle of spiritual themes: "Ignatian Spirituality" is this year's theme, "Contemporary Theology" was last year's, and "Faith and Justice" will be next year's theme. Rose Mary Dougherty, a School Sister of Notre Dame, and an IVC Spiritual Reflector will set the tone for our theme in September at our Fall Retreat (p. 3).

A national team headed by Northern Virginia Spiritual Reflector Mary Lou Miller has once again chosen our book: *An Ignatian Spirituality Reader*, edited by George Traub, S.J. to go along with this year's theme (p. 6).

(For further reflection and to deepen your insight into Ignatian Spirituality you may want to read [or re-read] the book we used in 2009-2010, when this theme last came around: *New Perspectives on the Transformative Wisdom of Ignatius of Loyola*, by Dean Brackley, S.J.)

The team has also prepared a thought-provoking Reflection Guide for this year's monthly gatherings of Volunteers and Spiritual Reflectors (City Groups) (see schedules: p. 10). This guide provides prayer suggestions, Scripture readings with discussion questions as well as stimulating comments and questions on this year's book.

Art McNeill is retiring, See our interview him ("Farewell," p. 8) Also in this issue we extend fond farewells to a number of other people who are either retiring or leaving IVC service (pp. 9, 11 & 12) and we welcome Mike Goggin as the new Regional Director of DC/ Metro Maryland (p. 5). Vicki Bell has contributed a moving reflection on our June Retreat (p. 4).

Dick Bowling

SEPTEMBER
RETREAT

Sept. 18-20, 2012

Loyola-on-the-
Potomac
Faulkner, Maryland

The theme for the Fall
Retreat will be:
"Being with God in All
Things"

In the Hands of God

More than ever I find
myself in the hands of
God. This is what I
have wanted all my life
from my youth.

But now there is a differ-
ence,
the initiative is entirely
with God.

It is indeed a profound
spiritual experience
to know and feel myself
so totally in God's hands.

—PEDRO ARRUPE, SJ

*(Pedro Arrupe composed this prayer after
he suffered a debilitating stroke, the effects of
which he patiently endured for the final ten
years of his life)*

Hearts on Fire

Edited by
Michael Harter p. 119

The Overall Theme for
2012-2013 IVC Year
will be:
Ignatian Spirituality

Rose Mary Dougherty, SSND

To Facilitate Fall 2012 Retreat

ROSE MARY DOUGHERTY, SSND was born in 1939 in Cumberland, Maryland. She made her final profession as

a Roman Catholic Sister of the School Sisters of Notre Dame in 1965, in Baltimore, Maryland. She has a B.A. in Education from Notre Dame of Maryland College, an M.A. in Spiritual Theology from St. Louis University, and a Certificate from the Shalem-Washington Theological Union's Graduate Program in Spiritual Guidance.



Rose Mary established and directed a retreat center in Baltimore, Maryland, and was on the staff of Bon Secours Spiritual Center in Marriottsville, Maryland. She also taught at the secondary level in Baltimore schools for fifteen years. During this time, she received training in retreat ministry through a Jesuit training program and worked part-time in retreat and parish renewal programs. She has ministered in the area of spirituality for over 30 years and is well known to many as spiritual teacher, author, end-of-life companion and spiritual guide.

For 25 years, she worked on Shalem's core staff, shepherding Shalem's Spiritual Guidance Program and creating and directing Shalem's Personal Spiritual Deepening and Facilitating

Group Spiritual Direction Programs. (The Shalem Institute provides in-depth support for contemplative living and leadership— a way of

being in the world that is prayerfully attentive and responsive to God's presence and guidance.)

In the late 1980's, she introduced a process of group spiritual direction, which became the subject of two books and a DVD. Although she retired from the Shalem staff in 2003, she continues to lead Shalem workshops and retreats as well as selected seminars in Shalem's long-term programs. She is also author of the book, *Discernment: A Path to Spiritual Awakening*.

After leaving Shalem Institute, Rose Mary has continued her varied ministry in the area of spirituality, especially through spiritual direction, retreats and workshops for hospice care-givers. She is also a volunteer companion for residents at Joseph House, a hospice for the formerly homeless in Washington DC and has worked with the staff and volunteers in establishing a contemplative compassionate presence in the house. In 2006 she completed the Metta Institute End-of-Life Counselor Program, an outgrowth of the Zen Hospice Project in San Francisco. In 2009 she began and continues to co-direct COMPANIONING THE DYING: OPENING FULLY TO LIVING, a year-long program offering both formation and on-going formation for those who feel called to deepen their own spiritual grounding as they companion the dying.

But community life can be a challenge. One Jesuit thinks we aren't living simply enough. Another thinks we are living too simply. One thinks that if you find someone's wet clothes in the community washing machine, you should put them in the dryer. That's common courtesy, he says. Another is angry when you do just that with his clothes. "You've shrunk my cotton shirts!"

—*The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) EVERYTHING*

— JAMES MARTIN, S.J.

Fr. Tim Brown: ‘Appreciate Your Charisms’

A Reflection on the June 2012 Retreat by Vicki Bell

THREE NEIGHBORING IVC REGIONS, Northern Virginia, DC/Metro Maryland and Baltimore, came together as a community to participate in this year’s June Retreat, on June 11-13, 2012. Father Tim Brown, S.J. was facilitator. He titled the retreat *A Fire that Kindles Other Fires: Rediscovering Our Charism*.

Marilyn Dunphy, IVC Baltimore Regional Director, speaking on behalf of the directors of all three regions, welcomed us and reminded us that this would be a time to reflect back on the end of this IVC service year so we could move forward better prepared for the next.

Father Tim used his engaging style of presentation to explore the mystery of God and ourselves and the importance of silence and reflection to probe those mysteries. With this foundation, Father Tim helped us to know and appreciate our charisms.

Over three days, through five gathering-meditations, Father Tim put before us an unexpected palette of multimedia tools for us to become better listeners to what God has to say to us. God wants to connect with us, one-on-one. Sometimes we can’t hear his personalized messages because we are always talking. Listening is needed and becomes possible in silence. Father Tim showed us how to “listen” in many new ways.

In his presentations, we had many opportunities to look at works of art and listen to music. At the beautiful site at Faulkner, we had the opportunity to look at the art of the woodlands and the cliffs overlooking the waters of the Potomac.

Father Tim challenged us to spend time in silence to contemplate experiences that we find attractive in works of art or music or nature. With practice in using that reflective canvas of silence, we became better able to use the power tools of art, music, nature and to recognize the importance of our emotional and sensory responses to them. This was prayer-time in a new but very Ignatian style of using our senses and emotions.



Small group discussions followed each gathering—meditation and silent prayer/reflection time. Sharing brought yet more richness to those just-ended prayer-conversations, learning more about who God is and who we are. Some in the small group found sharing the messages added yet more richness to the conversations they had just had. Just listening to comments offered freely from the group was yet another type of prayer that some chose.

Who is God, how do you relate to him expressed as Trinity? Father Tim suggested that the concept of Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

could be experienced with a different set of words, Giver, Gift, Giving. Doesn’t this novel set of words convey an inherent connectivity to God’s communion with his creatures, their charisms, and creation?

This love of words complemented Father Tim’s love of the arts. He shared how we can use the treasures of language as yet another way to probe into spiritual mysteries; to highlight some examples found in current biographies, current stories and figures of speech, such as metaphors. The result was a deeper awareness of the impact of metaphors in describing the depth of feeling that factual statements do not convey.

Who am I? It is important, Father Tim said, to accept, as gift and blessing, all the realities of our lives, even the sufferings, losses and hurts. With this last piece in place, through God’s grace and through Father Tim’s charism of communication and love of life, we discovered our own charisms. Throughout this retreat, he helped us attend to the moment, look beyond the obvious, strive for connections, view the Holy Spirit as our travelling companion, view Jesus as our guide and seeing God in all things.

Linda Stone, an IVC Volunteer of the DC/Metro Maryland Region, memorably summarized this retreat experience and its blessings when she said, “At the end of the retreat, this is what I feel Father Tim had accomplished with and for us: pulling down little pieces of heaven for us to examine while acknowledging the pain of life.”

Welcome to Mike Goggin

New DC/Metro Maryland Regional Director



MIKE GOGGIN COMES TO IVC AS THE NEXT LOGICAL STEP in his career in ministry. Now 42 years old, he has worked in various ministry settings since he was 24. In those 18 years, he has ministered in a Catholic parish, with an interfaith organization, for a missionary clearinghouse and now with IVC. For Mike, ministry means working to serve God's people, helping them to realize the presence of God in their lives and helping them attain greater justice for themselves and for other people in need.

Mike has been exposed to the Jesuits and Ignatian spirituality since he was 14 years old. As the only child of a career Air Force officer and a former Dominican nun, Mike attended Boston College High School after spending the first nine years of his education in public schools in suburban Revere. He excelled academically at BC High, becoming the valedictorian of the class of 1988. He also had the great honor of being elected from among 800 of his peers to represent his home state of Massachusetts at American Legion Boys Nation in Washington, D.C. in the summer of 1987. In this capacity, he met President Reagan as well as Senators Kennedy and Kerry. It was this experience that motivated him to apply to Georgetown University.

Mike's parents could have never afforded the expense of a Georgetown education for their son, but fortunately he received the Robert Bellarmine Scholarship, which is awarded to students ranking first in their class at a Jesuit high school. So he matriculated at the

School of Foreign Service at Georgetown and found his niche as a leader in campus ministry, an editor for The HOYA newspaper and in such service initiatives as the DC Schools Project and the District Action Project (DAP). As he transitioned into the latter half of his undergraduate experience, Mike chose humanities in international affairs as his area of concentration given his growing academic interest in Catholicism and other world religions. In his 30s, Mike had the chance to work professionally in the interfaith arena for seven years with the Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington (IFC). During that time, Mike contributed a chapter to the book *Building the Interfaith Youth Movement: Beyond Dialogue to Action* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2006) and served for two years as President of the North American Interfaith Network (NAIN), 2006-08.

Mike twice passed the Foreign Service Written Examination, the entrance exam to the United States diplomatic corps. He went on to oral examinations at the State Department but failed to pass those rigorous exams. He realizes that opportunity has now passed him by.

While working full-time for the Interfaith Conference, Mike pursued a Master's degree in Theology from the Washington Theological Union on a part-time basis for four years. He completed that degree in 2005. His area of concentration there was Word and Worship, complementing his longtime love of liturgy and ritual prayer that he hopes will one day culminate in his ordination to the permanent diaconate.

Mike met his wife Tess in 2001, not long after the drowning death of her first husband in a commercial shipping accident in the North China Sea. She is related to a family that belonged to the parish where Mike worked and worshipped. She had the chance to visit her family from her native Philippines and the couple's relationship deepened during that extended stay. They later married at St. Ignatius Chapel at Holy Trinity Church in Georgetown and together are raising a big family, very much unlike Mike's family of origin. The oldest child is 18 and the next turns 14 this summer. There is also a 9 year old and a toddler who is 2½. The oldest is a girl; the other three are boys.

Mike sees his greatest challenge at IVC being the need to find new volunteers to replace those who have served for many years in this region and who are now beginning to age out. Longer term objectives include making sure that IVC has a presence in southern Maryland where Jesuit roots run so deep. Considering DC's ethnic make-up, Mike would also like to see IVC become more reflective of the city's diversity.

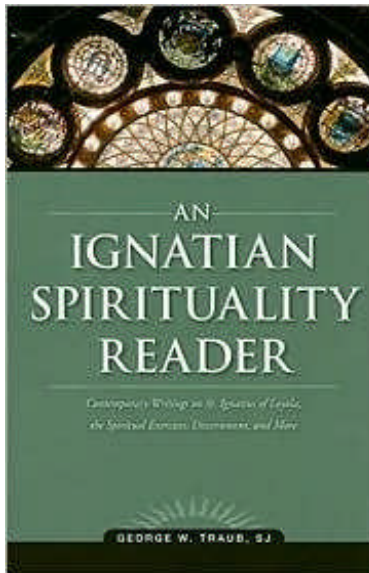
An Ignatian Spirituality Reader by George W. Traub, S.J.

Chosen as IVC's Book for the Year

AN **IGNATIANT SPIRITUALITY READER** is a collection of the finest short essays on Ignatian spirituality and its founder, Ignatius Loyola. The eighteen offerings are conveniently organized by theme. George W. Traub, S.J., provides an introduction, suggested further readings, and a short glossary of key terms and concepts for each section. The selections compiled here are written by a veritable "Who's Who" of Ignatian spirituality experts (including Howard Gray, SJ; William A. Barry, SJ; Dennis Hamm, SJ; Ron Hansen; and many others). The entries will be of particular interest to those involved in all forms of Jesuit ministry, but also to any lay individual seeking to broaden his or her understanding of Ignatian practices and principles.

—Published August 1st, 2008 by Loyola Press

George W. Traub, S.J., a member of the Jesuit Community at Loyola University Maryland, has spent more than two decades fostering greater understanding of Jesuit mission and identity and has spent almost thirty years in Jesuit education. Prior to Loyola, he was a Professor of Theology and Executive Director of Ignatian Programs/Mission and Identity at Xavier University.



even to those who are already familiar with the topics. In his introduction to the section on Finding God in All Things, Traub cites Howard Gray, S.J., who analyzed Jesuit spirituality and came up with three progressive themes: attention (to the world

around us), reverence (appreciation for what we attend to), and devotion (experience of God). Each article unveils some aspect or aspects of how this progression from attention to reverence to devotion occurs and what markers to look for along the way.

The final article stands out from the others in that it is less on Ignatian spirituality than God, Christianity, and Catholic education. "Living Conversations: Higher Education in a Catholic Context" is essentially the talk Father Michael Himes gave to six special gatherings of faculty from the western Jesuit universities. He also gave the talk at the Heartland Conference, a meeting of faculty

and staff from the eleven Midwestern Jesuit Colleges and Universities. So, it is a reasonable guess that many readers of this publication will have heard Himes' talk. Even so, they should read it again. This is perhaps the best short presentation on God, Christianity, and Catholic education to be found anywhere.

An Ignatian Spirituality Reader is a fine book, very useful for those working in Jesuit colleges and universities. It will also serve anyone interested in Ignatian spirituality, indeed anyone seeking to deepen his/her relationship with God in a busy world. Finally, it is a terrific book for Jesuits to deepen their own understanding of trying to find God in all things.

A Review by

Edward F. Kinerk, S.J., (2009):

...[Father George Traub's] selection of articles is excellent and the layout quite helpful. After an interesting introductory article, which grabs our attention by noting that the U. S. Episcopal Church has added Ignatius to its liturgical calendar, the editor guides the reader through clusters of articles on Ignatius' life, Finding God in All Things, Prayer, the Spiritual Exercises, Discernment, and the Theology to Support the Spirituality. Each section is preceded by a brief introduction giving a short précis of the articles and concludes with an excellent bibliography for further reading. Although every article or section can be read independently, the sequencing of articles will aid those whose time and preferences allow them to read the book from front to back. Finally, Traub supplies an appendix, "Do You Speak Ignatian?: A Glossary of Terms Used in Ignatian and Jesuit Circles." The appendix

From: Conversations on Jesuit Higher Education, Vol. 36, Issue 1 (2009) Article 27.

Edward F. Kinerk, S.J., former Missouri Province provincial and retired president of Rockhurst College, is administrator of the Sacred Heart Jesuit Retreat House in Sedalia, Colorado.

Joe Jones Sings Farewell

BLESSING US WITH HIS strong yet oh so slightly quavering voice, Joe Jones bade us a fond farewell to his tenure as Regional Director of the DC/Metro Maryland region at the end of the June retreat. He performed a moving rendition of 'Danny Boy' that touched the hearts of us all. It seems that Joe decided to sing Danny Boy at the last minute after much wavering. But knowing Joe he probably planned to sing it all along and had it well-rehearsed ahead of time. This was not the first time he had performed Danny Boy for an IVC gathering. At a farewell luncheon on Tuesday, May 8th, at Sir Walter Raleigh Inn

in Berwyn Heights, MD he delighted us with a spontaneous performance after lunch.

Doing a little Internet research on the history of Danny Boy, this was found: Danny Boy was originally set to the tune of the ancient melody "The Londonderry Air." It is purportedly the story of an Irish father singing to his son, Danny. The pipes have called him to go off and fight for Ireland. Tradition links the composition of the piece to a seventeenth century blind harpist, Rory Dall O'Cahan. (see: www.songfacts.com.detail.php?id=3588)



From "A Punk Rocker's Angry Christ," by Nick Cave

Then, one day, I met an Anglican vicar and he suggested that I give the Old Testament a rest and read Mark instead. I hadn't read the New Testament at that stage because the New Testament was about Jesus Christ and the Christ I remembered from my choirboy days was that wet, all-loving, etiolated individual that the church proselytized. I spent my pre-teen years singing in the Wangaratta Cathedral Choir and even at that age I recall thinking what a wishy-washy affair the whole thing was. The Anglican Church: it was the decaf of worship and Jesus was their Lord.

"Why Mark?", I asked. "Because it's short", he replied. I was willing to give anything a go, so I took the vicar's advice and read it and the Gospel of Mark just swept me up....The Christ that emerges from Mark, tramping through the haphazard events of His life, had a ringing intensity about him that I could not resist. Christ spoke to me through His isolation, through the burden of His death, through His rage at the mundane, through His sorrow. Christ, it seemed to me was the victim of humanity's lack of imagination, was hammered to the cross with the nails of creative vapidty.

The Gospel According to Mark has continued to inform my life as the root source of my spirituality, my religiousness. The Christ that the Church offers us, the bloodless, placid 'Saviour' - the man smiling benignly at a group of children or serenely hanging from the cross - denies Christ His potent, creative sorrow or His boiling anger that confronts us so forcibly in Mark. Thus the Church denies Christ His humanity, offering up a figure that we can perhaps 'praise' but never relate to. The essential humanness of Mark's Christ provides us with a blueprint for our own lives so that we have something we can aspire to rather than revere, that can lift us free of the mundanity of our existences rather than affirming the notion that we are lowly and unworthy.

Merely to praise Christ in His Perfectness keeps us on our knees, with our heads pitifully bent. Clearly, this is not what Christ had in mind. Christ came as a liberator. Christ understood that we as humans were for ever held to the ground by the pull of gravity - our ordinariness, our mediocrity - and it was through His example that He gave our imaginations the freedom to fly. In short, to be Christ-like.

—From the December, 1998 issue of Harper's magazine
Nick Cave is the leader of the Punk Band: *The Bad Seeds*



Nick Cave
Internet Photo

Farewell *Art McNeill,*

As Interviewed by Dick Bowling



[Art McNeill is leaving IVC after serving nearly six years as a volunteer and group leader. I interviewed him at his home in Alexandria during July of this year. DB]

Art, what attracted you or sold you on IVC?

I don't think I can give you a profound answer to that. I think it's a lifetime of a variety of factors. I just feel it was the Holy Spirit that gave me a kind of a little shove, and I had the good sense to act on it.

My wife Mary died in June 2005 after a long illness. I spent a year wearing my heart on my sleeve in grief. Then one day I said, "Hey this isn't good. I've got to get out and do something." During the year I was grieving I received some information about the Ignatian Volunteer Corps, put it aside for a full year then I came across it again. I called Jim Kelley, who was Regional Director at that time, filled out the application and met with him and Jean Sweeney. This was on a Wednesday in September, 2006 and I found myself at Loyola on Retreat the following Monday.

Tell me a little about your volunteer experience.

Jim Kelley, recommended three placement possibilities for me. The third place I went to was the DC Central Kitchen. They had a twelve-week-long culinary job program, they conducted about 4 times a year. They could handle up to 20 students. Many of these students were ex-convicts, both men and women, most were involved in drugs or alcohol and most were still in recovery. I joined a fellow named Ron Swanson, a retired episcopal priest, who conducted a life-skills program that met first thing every morning five days a week. And I sat with the students. In a way I was a student myself. Gradually Ron turned the class over to me using my own experience. After the class was over the students would go on to their cooking training and I would spend time with each trainee: learning what were the pitfalls in their lives: problems with the residents in the halfway house; with their probation officers, some people lacked documentation, some didn't have ID's or birth certificates. I was trying to smooth the way for them, trying to clear things up so they could concentrate on their studies. I was doing a lot of counseling as well as classroom teaching. And I loved it, absolutely loved it.

You had some doubts in the beginning whether or not these people would accept you.

I had tremendous doubts: could I relate with the trainees? would they accept me? Sitting in class with them one day, Ron asked the class: Describe what it felt like when you ran into personal discrimination. When it came my turn I described my own situation. When I finished one of the students said to me, "Man, you sure got soul!" And boy for me, that was a fantastic dawning, that was a wonderful, wonderful thing.

Do you have one special memory of how you and Ron Swanson worked together?

I hadn't thought about it until this very moment. Ron and I kind of represented foils for each other. Ron was very tough. He was the House Boss, like if the students came in late, he was very tough on them. By contrast I overlooked a lot of stuff to try to get to know the person. I think we made a good team in that way.

Do you remember one particular incident...

There was an incident of a trainee who was absent beyond her three-time absence allowance. She was a single mother with several children. She had to either put them in day-care with a sitter or take them to school herself. So she was missing too many classes and they were going to bounce her from the program. I interceded for her as I could see she was up against some fairly difficult circumstances: no income, uneducated, raising three children, and I thought she deserved some slack. And it worked!

More Farewells

WITH A SENSE OF DEEP GRATITUDE IVC wishes to bid a fond farewell to the following Volunteers who are either retiring from IVC or leaving service at the end of this year:

Mena Whitmore: Mena joined IVC on September 9, 2009 and was immediately assigned to the Lamb Center where she worked faithfully for almost three years in the kitchen preparing snacks and serving lunch to the more than 100 guests who sought help and refuge at the Center. She also worked with members of the Hispanic community who visited the Lamb Center and gave freely of her time speaking with, counseling and advising them one on one, either in the chapel or at the main table. She wrote once of her experience praying to the Holy Spirit with a gentleman who was coping with a bipolar condition.



Mena previously served as Director of the Pentagon Library, as librarian at the Government Printing Office, as Director of Libraries at the American College of Puerto Rico and librarian at San Ignacio High School of Puerto Rico and at Country Day High School in San José, Costa Rica. Mena and her husband Les will shortly be moving to Florida.

Heather Salt: Heather applied to IVC in August of 2009. Her first assignment was with N St. Village Luther Place Night Shelter in Washington, DC. Of that experience she once said: "I feel I have grown in my knowledge of homelessness and my skills in working with people, but more importantly, my heart has grown in love for the people you serve and the people who serve with you." This past year she has served as administrative coordinator at the Culmore Clinic at Bailey's Cross Roads.



Before joining IVC Heather served as a Coordinator of Administrative Services in the College of Nursing & Health Sciences, Florida International University. She plans to return to Coral Gables, Fla. where she and her husband 'Rock' have maintained a home.

Eugene Dwyer: Gene applied to IVC in June 2005 and was assigned that Fall to the St. Martin de Porres Senior Center in Alexandria where he has faithfully served ever since.



In April 2011 he listed his activities at the Center as follows:

"On my way to the senior center I stop by Starbucks where I pick up their donation of day-old pastry. When I get to the center at 7:30 I make coffee and hot water for tea, set out the pastries, cups, plates, napkins, etc. Usually I will then drive to the supermarket, for breakfast supplies such as milk, yogurt, bananas, etc.

"I often use my car in my work at the center in many ways. For example I use it to
—take money to the bank;
—buy office supplies from Staples; gardening supplies from Home Depot and stamps at the post office;
—take the monthly newsletter to the printer and then to the post office to be mailed.

"Around the center I usually
—set up tables and chairs for the day's activities;
—meet and greet the seniors, and have lunch with them on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays ;
—help clean up the center after the seniors leave.

"I also teach the seniors computer skills: I help new users get an email address and show them how to access the Internet, and I teach more experienced users how to track their financial information using spreadsheets."

Gene has been a long-time member of Holy Spirit Church in Annandale. He was educated at the following Jesuit institutions: Cranwell High School in Lenox, Mass. and Georgetown University in DC. He also attended the Catholic University Columbus School of Law and took courses at George Mason University.

Gene says that now that he's 80 years old he's looking forward to relaxing a little from the strenuous schedule he's been keeping at St. Martins for the last seven years. He says he also has a lot of paperwork to catch up on that he's been neglecting.

Goodbye and thank you to:

John Rausch for your service to the Regional Council. (John also served as volunteer at HACAN.)
Bob Kroll, S.J., Tom Clifford, S.J., and Ed McCormack for your dedicated work as Spiritual Reflectors.

Upcoming Events

Fall, 2012
Retreat:
September 18–20, 2012
 Loyola Retreat House
 Faulkner, MD.
SR. ROSE MARY DOUGHERTY, SSND
FACILITATOR

January Day of
Reflection
January 16, 2013
 Dominican Retreat House
 7103 Old Dominion Drive
 McLean, VA 22101
ED MCCORMACK
FACILITATOR

Northern Virginia Region 2012-2013 City Groups

Our Lady Queen of Peace 2700 19th Street South Arlington, VA 22204 2nd Tuesday 10:00-12:00 am	St. Anthony's 3305 Glen Carlyn Rd Falls Church, VA 22041 Room 1 2nd Thursday 9:30-11:30 am	St. John Neumann's 11900 Lawyers Road Reston VA 20191 3rd Tuesday 10:00-12:00 am	St. Joseph's 701 Columbus Street Alexandria, VA 22314 3rd Wednesday 10:00-12:00 am
Oct. 9, 2012	Oct. 11, 2012	Oct. 16, 2012	Oct. 17, 2012
Nov. 13, 2012	Nov. 8, 2012	Nov. 20, 2012	Nov. 21, 2012
Dec. TBD.	Dec. TBD	Dec. TBD	Dec. TBD
Feb. 12, 2013	Feb. 14, 2013	Feb 19, 2013	Feb. 20, 2013
Mar. 12, 2013	Mar. 14, 2013	Mar. 19, 2013	Mar. 20, 2013
Apr. 9, 2013	Apr. 11, 2013	Apr. 16, 2013	Apr. 17 2013
May 14, 2013	May 9, 2013	May 21, 2013	May 15, 2013

DC/Metro MD Region 2012-2013 City Groups

Bartholomew House 6904 River Road Bethesda, MD 1st Thurs.—11:00-1:00	Wash. Jesuit Academy 900 Varnum St., NE Washington, DC 2nd Tuesday—11:00-1:00	Bartholomew House 6904 River Road Bethesda, MD 1st Thurs.—9:30-11:30
Oct. 4, 2012 Nov. 1, 2012 Feb. 7, 2013 Mar. 7, 2013 Apr. 4, 2013 May 2, 2013	Oct. 9, 2012 Nov. 13, 2012 Feb. 12, 2013 Mar. 12, 2013 Apr. 9, 2013 May 14, 2013	Oct. 4, 2012 Nov. 1, 2012 Feb. 7, 2013 Mar. 7, 2013 Apr. 4, 2013 May 2, 2013

Thank You So Much, Fran & Jeanie, For All You Have Done for IVC



Fran Butler talks to Jim Kelley at Regional Council Meeting

FRAN BUTLER

Asked what she saw as her contributions to IVC, recently retired Regional Council member Fran Butler responded:

"I've been involved with IVC since 1995. At that time I was working at the Corporation for National Service with the 'Senior Corps' programs. I read an article in the Gonzaga newsletter about the new volunteer program for older people being started by two Jesuits who resided at Gonzaga where our son was a student. I was so taken by the reflection aspect of the program that I invited the two Jesuit founders, Jim Conroy and Charlie Costello, to do a workshop at

our national training conference on the value of reflection on volunteer service. I said to Jim, 'this is a wonderful concept you have, but you can't just keep it in Maryland and DC, let's take it nationwide. Let's gather some people together who can help make this happen.

"We did just that, had a meeting at Gonzaga, and the rest is IVC's history. Jim Conroy invited me to serve on the first independent national board and I readily agreed. We organized ourselves, developed by-laws, worked on strategic plans and ways to attract donors—all the things good non-profit boards do. It became clear to us that the long-term stability of IVC depended on strong local presence. We came up with the idea of having Regional Advisory Councils to support each region. When I was term-limited off the national board by the very by-laws I helped write, I was asked by Jim Kelley to serve on the local Regional Council. I told him I would do this for one year. That was 7 years ago! We developed our model for fundraising – the Evening of Gratitude—and helped Jim as we could

in all the roles of the Regional Director."

Fran was a great help with the planning for and the many details of organizing the Evening of Gratitude. Drawing on her contacts in the world of non-profit organizations, Fran referred our Regional Directors to a number of funding sources. She also referred the Regional Directors to prospective partner agencies, for example: Language ETC, and to prospective volunteers, for example, Rosemary Lawlor who now serves with Northern Virginia Family Services.

Fran concluded her remarks with the promise, "I will always stay involved with IVC. What kept me on the Regional Council all those years was the inspiration we received from the volunteers and partner agency directors who started off each of our meetings by describing their work and the meaning of IVC to them, and the goodness of the people who make up IVC. Now it is time for me to spend more time in direct service."

JEANIE SWEENEY

After seven years of faith-filled service to IVC as mentor spiritual reflector for the Northern Virginia Region, Jeanie Sweeney has resigned. She contributed in major ways to the quantitative and qualitative growth and development of the Region. In addition to serving as spiritual reflector for 5-6 volunteers annually, Jeanie assisted in:

- ◆ facilitating small group sharing at monthly city group meetings, retreats, and days of reflection;
- ◆ interviewing prospective volunteers;
- ◆ conducting information sessions for recruiting volunteers; and
- ◆ organizing an annual bi-regional gathering of all the spiritual reflectors.

Jeanie drew from her 20+ years of pastoral counseling and such service experiences as Kairos prison ministry at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women to perfect her reflection leadership skills. Volunteers related to Jeanie's service experiences. They also appreciated her extemporaneous prayer and her choice of prayers appropriate to the season or the situation. Jeanie was successful as a spiritual reflector because of her perfect calm, her deep attentiveness, and her prayerfulness with and for the other.

Jeanie's many hours of service to IVC were matched by her generous financial contributions over the years. She also served as a helpful IVC liaison to her parish, St. Charles Borromeo in Arlington.

IVC is grateful to Jeanie for all her contributions of time and talent and applauds her plans to bond more closely with her family and to be more available and provide greater service at Fluvanna. She also intends to pursue her artistic interests.



A Goodbye Note

From Guy Massamba

Volunteering at Living Wages: A Meaningful Journey that Involved Conversion

by Guy Massamba



I am taking a leave from IVC in order to deal with other pressing matters of life. I characterize my two-year IVC volunteer experience at Living Wages as: a meaningful journey that involved conversion. I suppose all meaningful journeys carry that necessity of change. Ignatius of Loyola's journey is an example. Of course, I don't wish to be ostentatious or place myself at the level of the Great Inigo. In this note I humbly wish to recognize the call to conversion I was prompted to heed each day at Living Wages, an adult learning center in South East Washington, DC.

How can I speak of conversion when all activities, interactions and sharing at Living Wages seemed aligned with my past as a former Jesuit, that is, a life of service, a man for others? I could say much about poor social and economic conditions in the neighborhood. I don't intend to discuss that. Rather, just as conversion is liberating, service at Living Wages was cathartic, constantly challenging my views and ways of relating with others. Causing me to redefine teaching and opening my mind to a different paradigm of educational settings and interactions: the teacher and the student are both learners.

Service at Living Wages was not primarily to the poor, but to human beings who have aspirations similar to anyone else; that is, aspirations to grow and reach the best in them in order to fully express their human identity through dealing with the uniqueness of day-to-day life conditions. What I learned at Living Wages was not to see people as poor, but as human beings responding to the divine call to reach the highest that is in them, with the desire to transcend socially and economically determining factors. Service to the poor, which has become a buzz word in catholic charitable organizations, is first and foremost service to, and love for human beings.

That's how God sees them and that's how I summarize my IVC volunteer journey. I express my profound gratitude to the DC/Metro MD IVC volunteers for the lessons I learned with them, and my special gratitude to Joe Jones, a loving mentor and friend I'll always remember.

Guy