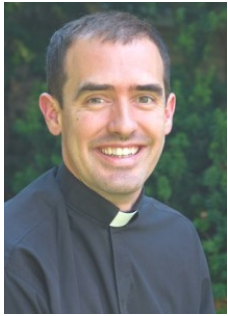


Greater Cincinnati Region

Summer 2017

Volume 5, Issue 4



Fr. Eric Sundrup, SJ
of America Media/Magazine
will be with us August 11th!
Eric will celebrate Mass
at 6 PM & share his
pilgrimage on

“The Ignatian Way”

(the “new” Camino in Spain)

at St. Bernard’s Church

735 Derby Ave, Cincinnati OH 45232

Supper is in the Annex at 7 PM.

Cost for IVC volunteers & their guests \$25
each, others \$50 (includes welcome pack).

Please support the work of IVC!

I was introduced to Eric by his mother, Diane Sundrup when she called to inquire about the Ignatian Volunteer Corps. “My son, Eric, told me I should get involved.” We are so glad he did! Despite health issues she and her husband have weathered this year, Diane has been a Godsend with Making Sense of Language Arts tutoring program.

When Diane shared that Eric would be with the Jesuit pilgrimage on the Ignatian Camino last fall, I became even more anxious to meet Eric. Tim Boyle shared with us his pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago 2 years ago. Since then several of our volunteers have expressed interest in the Camino. How cool would it be to have IVC volunteers on the Ignatian Camino?

I emailed Eric that my husband, son and I would be in New York and asked if there was any chance he could have lunch with us somewhere? In late May we met at St. Francis Xavier Parish in New York

City for Mass and then headed to a local restaurant for breakfast. Eric amazes me! My son had recently been to Peru so they swapped stories & seemed like friends from the start. Then he asked about where my husband works and found common ground with his foreclosure prevention and affordable housing work. Eric strikes me as a man of many talents who finds common ground with whoever sits at the table. And yes he agreed to come to Cincinnati and share with us his experience on the Ignatian Way!

So here’s more about Eric from the Provincial website...

Father Eric Sundrup, SJ, is a calculated risk-taker, tech nerd, imperfect Spanish speaker, and Jesuit through and through.

A Cincinnati native, Fr. Sundrup met the Jesuits as a student at Xavier University. His experience with Ignatian spirituality on a sophomore retreat was so profound that he considered leaving college and joining the Society of Jesus before graduation. He continued his discernment, remaining active in service groups and earning a bachelor’s degree in biology before entering the Jesuits in 2003.

As a novice, Fr. Sundrup discovered a love of Spanish language and culture during a trip to Peru. He was later missioned to the Instituto de Idiomas Maryknoll in Bolivia, for intensive Spanish study, followed by a teaching assignment at Colegio Miguel Pro in Peru. Sent next to teach biology and serve as a college counselor at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Chicago, Fr. Sundrup found his ability to communicate with students’ parents in their native Spanish tremendously valuable.

“My Spanish is ‘good enough,’ certainly not great,” he laughs. “It continues to be a humbling experience, but people are wonderfully accepting of my imperfections.”

Eric Sundrup continued...

"Working with people to tell their stories, and witnessing how God is moving them to express their faith, is a great privilege." During his formation, Fr. Sundrup earned master's degrees in philosophy at Loyola University Chicago and divinity at the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University, also serving as a deacon at a bilingual parish in California.

It was during his formation that he & two other young Jesuits founded *The Jesuit Post* (thejesuitpost.org) (if you are reading on your computer click to see), a website that discusses the intersection of faith and culture for a young adult audience.

"We had been talking about this idea for years," he says. "By the time I started theology studies, I said, 'This is it; we need to move this thing from theory to practice.' That night, I bought the domain names and a year of server hosting."

The calculated risk became a sensation. Over the past four years, the website has averaged 48,000 unique visitors a month.

"It's obvious people are still searching for God," says Fr. Sundrup. "We just need to talk to them about faith with the normal tools they're using to communicate, in the everyday language they're speaking, about the experiences in their daily lives. We trust God is already working where they are."

Engaging in this digital world comes naturally to Fr. Sundrup, who has applied a fascination with complex biological ecosystems to his ministry on social media. It also flows from his vocation.

"*The Jesuit Post* takes its lead from St. Ignatius's Spiritual Exercises: speaking to readers, to each other, and to God 'as one friend speaks to another,'" he explains. "The Jesuits have always been pragmatic. Saint Ignatius bought a printing press in 1556, and sent his companions to engage people in relatively secular spaces like classrooms — evangelizing by the way they found God in all things."

Following his ordination in 2014, Fr. Sundrup was assigned to St. Mary Student Parish at the University of Michigan. In 2016, he became associate editor and the first director of audience development for *America* magazine. Founded in 1909, *America* is known for a unique brand of relevant and impactful coverage of faith and culture, exploring topics ranging from theology and spirituality to politics, international relations, and social justice. "This is a dream job for me," says Fr. Sundrup.

Hometown Hero



Bob Saal remembers when fellow airmen were surrounded by enemy fire in Vietnam and his crew was asked to descend into the battle to rescue them. The fear was overwhelming! When he reached his seat in the helicopter and saw that someone before him had painted on a panel "Let it be!" The words of the popular Beatle's Song came to mind, "When I find myself in times of trouble Mother Mary comes to me..." and peace enveloped him. Soon the mission was ended and they were back safely on the ground. He and his buddies still try to get together annually; they're grateful to be alive!

But Bob is more than a war hero. He has been visiting homebound seniors of St. Bernard's Parish in Cincinnati as a member of the Ignatian Volunteer Corps for four years now. Bob is well-loved by those he visits and their families! He spends time chatting and consoling folks as they struggle with aging issues. He helps to host and clean up monthly "Aging with Grace" luncheons for parish seniors and others as well.

On a recent visit to one of the homes Bob brought communion and a whole lot more! When he walked into the house of a man he sees regularly, he was surprised by the smell of gas. He called the man's son and explained that he was taking his father out to his car to stay warm & out of the gas filled house, calling the utility company and opening windows etc. I shiver to think of what may have happened if Bob hadn't showed up that day. The family is grateful their dad is alive, and he will celebrate his 90th birthday in July! Thank you Bob for being there for others! You're our hero!



Education Matters GED Program

by Bob Meyer

Two of our more senior students amaze me at Education Matters.

Belinda is in her early 60s, has 7 children and about 16 grandchildren. She has been working on her GED for several years and is determined to get her diploma. Most of her children graduated high school and some have graduated college. She often watches a 4 year old grandson and brings him with her to school, using the child care service offered to our students. Belinda has recently convinced her one daughter to come to Education Matters also to work on a GED. I am sure Belinda's example helped get the daughter going.

Angela is in her mid-50's and also working on a GED. She was diagnosed with MS about 10-12 years ago. On her good days she walks in on her own—on bad days she needs a cane. She depends on her son for transportation, and he has enrolled in the GED program as well.

In both these cases they may have little to gain financially for themselves for their efforts. Yet they have gained personal fulfillment and have set a strong example for the following generations.

Regional Director's Note

It is no small feat to tutor GED students in math these days. Standards have improved and the demands on the tutors are tougher. Two different volunteers shadowed Bob to see if they had the skills to tutor math and decided it was a stretch for them. Recently Ignatian Volunteer, Terry Borths shadowed Bob and has been tutoring at Education Matters since. (Terry also tutored with Making Sense of Language Arts during the school year. It's a rare find when someone can work with kindergartners and adults and do a great job with both!) Thank you Bob and Terry for making a difference! Bob also is doing double duty. He stepped in for a volunteer with medical challenges and serves at Churches Active in Northside—starting in the midst of tax season!

Rave Reviews

by Service Site Supervisors

Janet is a welcome presence in the home! There is a volunteer on House Duty at all times, and Janet's shift (and grocery shopping) is a reprieve to the live-in volunteers. She makes a necessary contribution to the smooth running of the house and is always available to coo at babies. *Lydia's House*

We've really appreciated Bob this year. He has been one of our most consistent volunteers and a joy to work with. Students really enjoy working with Bob as well. *Education Matters*

Anne is a fantastic coordinator. She has done a wonderful job integrating herself into an already formed team and running our ministry smoothly. She is dedicated to the mission of ISP and is great at sharing leadership and responsibilities with other team members. Programmatically, Anne and her team have a wonderful ongoing accompaniment program that meets once per month. I am always impressed with their reflections and the ability to meaningfully connect with participants. She is also fantastic at communicating with me at the network office. We thoroughly enjoy having Anne as part of our ministry. She is an asset to ISP, the team she works with, and the women she accompanies through our ministry. We are eager to have her back for another year. *ISP*

Tim is a fantastic coordinator. He is dedicated to the mission of ISP and does a wonderful job organizing and coordinating his team to facilitate retreats. Tim recognizes a growing need to offer spiritual retreats for men in recovery and has responded by increasing the number of participants invited to retreat as well as offering additional retreats throughout the program year. Moreover, Tim works closely with network staff and is interested in accompanying others as they begin ministries in new cities. We thoroughly enjoy having Tim be part of our ministry. He is an asset to our organization, and above all, the men he touches through our shared ministry. We are eager to have him back for another year. *Ignatian Spirituality Project*

Michael's calm and compassionate manner is appreciated by guests as well as other volunteers. Michael provides guests with valuable assistance by helping them enroll in the SNAP program, assisting them file their income tax, taking advantage of the Earned Income Credit as applicable and directing them to the Crises Assistance Coordinator for additional needs. He also regularly picks up bread & produce to ensure that guests are offered nutritious choices in the pantry. *CAIN*

Sr. Carolyn's peaceful presence enabled staff and volunteers an opportunity to talk about issues of concern to them and learn techniques to help them care for themselves. *Churches Active in Northside*



Rave Reviews
continued
Making Sense of Language Arts relies heavily on IVC volunteers to plan, tutor and even support parents. Though I'm the Regional Director of IVC, as an IVC volunteer I am also

the Director of MSLA.

Bill Mackey led group activities and provided individualized tutoring, empowering children to succeed in language arts. He also recruited tutors from St. Ursula High School that enriched the lives of our students and their own. Bill served 3 days a week and was instrumental in starting the afterschool program.

Joyce Donnellon served with us the first half of the year and was instrumental in getting things organized and tutored.

Chris Hils committed to serving a child who had struggled to achieve last year, empowering her to read, write and comprehend by the end of the year. Chris served 3 days a week.

Diane Sundrup tutored in both the in-school & afterschool programs and assisted with preparation in between. Her patience is legend.

Kelly Spataro helped with preparation and tutoring at Rothenberg and Winton Hills Academies. Having been an intervention specialist in Cincinnati Public Schools she has been a great asset!

Terry Borths joined us near the end of the year and filled in for others. He learned quickly & the students he served prospered.

Other IVC volunteers served as tutors and, as all of our tutors, helped not only with language arts, but character development. These include: Jean Shannon, Judy Singer, Lou Yauss, Mariann Dunn and Don Ottke,

This year, for the first time we offered 4 parent training sessions and the IVC volunteers were involved in planning, preparation, presentation and received praise from the grateful parents!

Like all the other Service Site Supervisor I realize that the women and men of the Ignatian Volunteer Corps are committed and consistent. They are servant leaders who transform the lives of others with consistent caring. In the process their lives are transformed as

well! *Linda S. Wihl*

Wisdom from Other IVC Regions

On July 19th, for 3 days IVC Regional Directors from around the country gathered to learn and share insights. On the last day cofounder Jim Conroy, SJ asked us to take some time to reflect on what IVC means to us. Here are some thoughts from other regions...

Well one of the internal goals of most business is to maximize resources. The goal being to put the best resources towards the greatest needs. When that can be done a business has achieved **maximum resource allocation.**

I have often thought about this theory and how it pertains to our mission with IVC. When we bring our partners such rich resources in the form volunteers, they can direct them toward great needs.

In my mind, that is the kingdom of God.

Most things have to have some kind of utilitarian/business/goal oriented way to make sense to me. It is how I am wired...*Becky Erhman Omaha*

If we really enter into the moment we know God is here, every where. But do we know God is every when? —Rich Massaro, South Pennsylvania, New Jersey

(I couldn't write fast enough to catch who said these.)

As I watch the capacity of love grow In the generosity of volunteers, I have found that reality overwhelming.

We heard the beatitudes in morning prayer, in Fr. Jim's talk, in Maureen Egan's talk yesterday. The beatitudes are our mission statement. Jesus is saying, "You gotta love the way I do."

You don't know who you are and what you can do until you put the



IVC Director, Staff & RDs on Retreat

you put it in

New Service Sites Seeking Volunteers

Brighton Center—Family Center

If you're great at hospitality and navigating the computer, you are needed! They are seeking 2 volunteers to work 2 days a week each, greeting folks at the front desk or on the phone and directing them to staff & services that will provide food, clothing & access to other support. I have shadowed folks who serve there twice (about 8 hrs.) and have come to appreciate all of our volunteers that do intake at area nonprofits. You are the gateway to hope and healing! Refer a friend and help us secure our 1st Northern Kentucky official partnering organization!

Vivian's Victory— supports needy Tristate families with children fighting for life in long-term intensive care. Support includes short-term financial assistance, humanizing in-hospital programs, and one-on-one 'hope and comfort' meetings. Learn more at viviansvictory.org. Vivian's Victory is the only organization providing this critical assistance in the Tri-state. Needy families often face serious economic consequences when children require long-term intensive care. Often they must choose to leave their child alone in the hospital to keep working to provide at least some income. These situations can impact medical outcomes and pull families apart when they need most to be together.

About our Volunteer Manager Positions – positions of significant leadership, responsibility. These roles require special individuals who give of their time and functional expertise to personally deliver on the organization's mission. Time requirements can range by position from less-than-half to full-time commitments. Expectations of these managers are high. Accordingly, applicants are interviewed carefully to gauge their experience, commitment, judgment and functional excellence.

PR/Marketing Coordinator

Generates informed awareness of VV in the Tristate & beyond through online & offline media vehicles. Likely 50-75% at home; balance in the field.

Program & Project Coordinator

Creates, organizes, executes & maintains ongoing in-hospital programs & one-time projects for the benefit of families with children in intensive care units.

Online Coordinator

Responsible for website, social media & other online communication design & content. Creates online content & design including editorial, promotion, newsletters, etc..

Special Events Coordinator

Plans & executes successful large fundraising events.

Client Coordinator

Gather information to complete applications with hospital social worker and prospective clients families).

Provides grant/funding recommendations.

Communicates with executive director.

Communicates funding decisions to client.

Executes follow up (with client social worker).

Client Social Worker

Meet client families to assess additional needs. Outcome and follow-up with families.

Ongoing communication with hospital social workers to coordinate client meetings.

Document findings and recommendations to executive director and client coordinator.

Post-stay client outcome calls 3,6,12 months.

Creates surveys and other data tools with client coordinator.

Data entry of results in database.

Proposes improvements to position

More details about VV positions available on request.

Thank you to Recent Donors & Sponsors!

Tim Boyle & Mary Ann Barnes

Michelle Calhoun

Mariann & John Dunn

Mary Jane Hack

Anne Holbrook

Sue & Robert Ivory

Ruth & James Kinne

Mary Macias

William & Carolyn Mackey

Robert & Joanne Meyer

Carrie Moran & GiGi

Don & Kathy Ottke

Anne Shaffer

Caroline "Kelly" & Frank Spataro

Jean Marie Stross

Diane & Mark Sundrup

Dennis Kinne & Linda Wihl

Robert Wihl

Welcome New Volunteers

Terry Borths—MSLA & Education Matters

Ed Harvey—MEAC

Larry Vondrell—Placement pending

Gary Yerke—Placement pending

May you be blessed as you have blessed others!



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Thank you to those of you receiving this by email. Not only are you empowering us to “Care for Our Common Home” as Pope Francis urges, you save the expenses we would incur.

To support the Ignatian Volunteer Corps Cincinnati with a tax deductible donation you can do so online at <https://www.gifttool.com/donations/Donate?ID=2033&AID=1984> (Be sure to designate Cincinnati in the drop down menu.)

Or send your donation to:
IVC Cincinnati
4714 Chickering Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45232



IVC volunteer Mariann Dunn and I bumped into one another at St. Ursula's Community Service Partners' year end breakfast. Mariann was representing Friends of Batahola, her IVC service site and I was representing Making Sense of Language Arts, now my IVC service site (20+ years after founding the ministry I now am blessed with IVC support through several of our volunteers!). We had the good fortune of sharing our table with Maria Dunlap, the founder of Vivian's Victory. Their "mission is to provide support, programs and resources to parents of children with a poor prenatal diagnosis or a prolonged illness, not only during their hospital stay but during and after their transition home. They believe no child should fight alone and no parent should choose between their child and "life". Vivian's Victory began in 2012 as a way to help Rod and Maria Dunlap, and their sweet daughter Vivian, who had been diagnosed in the womb with a congenital heart defect called Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome (HLHS). Vivian was born on July 24, 2012 and became a saint on September 21, 2012, after 59 glorious days of teaching family & friends the true meaning of love and suffering." Maria has transformed her heart ache into an amazing mission! Ironically, while shopping we ran into one another later that same day and she had a cartful of her 3 children. She shared how very much she would like the services of IVC to keep Vivian's Victory thriving! It amazes me how God works through IVC! Incredible women & men willingly give of their time & talents, spending their retirement "giving back". In the process we get so much more in return: purposeful work, a community of like minded companions and spiritual growth! So spread the good news and empower others to realize they're not over the hill, they're ascending

