

LIM EXPRESS

LOYOLA INSTITUTE FOR MINISTRY

Loyola Institute for Ministry • Fall 2008

HEADLINES:

Message from the Director
News Notes from Cecelia
LIM Office Closure
Commencement Activities
Campus Wide ID Numbers
Loyola Email Accounts
Multiple Incompletes
To the Home and Heart of St. Ignatius
Resources for Students
Lectures Online
Library Tutorial
Short Reminders
Give Yourself a Christmas Gift
LIM Summer Session
Good Bye to Long Time Staff Member
Staff Changes

Message from the Director

Thomas Ryan, Ph.D.

The Election's Over. Now What?

This past November, more people voted in a U.S. election than ever before. On a recent visit to our students and graduates in the Diocese of Shrewsbury, England, I also learned that it generated great international interest. Indeed, my impression is that many in the world now wait with us, as if in Advent anticipation, to see to what extent election promises can and will be fulfilled.

Since the U.S. elections, I have been able to step back and reflect more broadly on faith's implications for politics. Doing so has taken me back to my Catholic Worker days.

After graduating from college, I wanted to do something practical, something that complemented my fascinating but primarily intellectual bachelor's degree in theology. So I decided to join the New York Catholic Worker community (where I would end up living for two years). To call it a practical experience, with its soup line and other work with the homeless, is accurate but understates the matter. In retrospect, it really was my initial experience of practical theology. Life at the Catholic Worker was thoroughly influenced by Dorothy Day's love for the Catholic tradition and the classics of Christian spirituality. Thus, my studies at school and at the Catholic Worker sharpened my vision and helped me to reflect on God's glory and human sin on the Lower East Side of Manhattan (and elsewhere) in ways I could not without them. Yet the Lower East Side, then not as punctuated by galleries and boutiques as now, helped to give flesh to the hungry, thirsty, strange, naked, ill, and imprisoned in today's (Continued on Page 6)



**Best Wishes
for a Blessed Christmas
and New Year.**

-The LIM faculty and staff

News Notes from Cecelia

Cecelia M. Bennett, J.C.L.

LIM Office Closure

The LIM office is closed from December 23, 2008 through January 4, 2009, and for Mardi Gras on February 23 and 24, 2009. Please remember these dates when e-mailing course registration materials to Loyola and when e-mailing papers to the writing tutor service.

Commencement Activities

The 2009 spring commencement activities will be held the weekend of May 9, 2009. Degree candidates for May, August, and December 2009 are invited to participate in commencement ceremonies on Saturday, May 9th at 10:00 a.m. in the Louisiana Superdome.

<<http://www.loyno.edu/ia/publicaffairs/commencement.html>>. All certificate and degree candidates are invited to the LIM liturgy and reception on Saturday afternoon, May 9, at 4:30 p.m. By now all our 2009 graduates should have applied online. If you have not, here is the link <<http://www.loyno.edu/records/application/ordegree.php>>.

This past May, we celebrated the graduation of degree and certificate candidates. Groups graduated from the (Arch) dioceses of Baton Rouge, Charlotte, Columbus, Evansville, Houma-Thibodaux, Knoxville, Lafayette, Lansing, Marquette, Monterey, Orlando, Palm Beach, Phoenix, Pueblo, San Bernardino, Shrewsbury in England, Stockton, Syracuse, Wilmington, and Glenmary Home Missions in Tupelo, Mississippi, and from St. John's Junior College in Belize, Central America.

Campus Wide Identification Numbers

Please remember to use your Campus Wide ID that you received in your admissions letter. If you don't happen to have your letter of admission, you can find out your id number by logging on to LORA student services at <<https://lorasec.loyno.edu/>>. To keep your own personal information secure, please do not use your social security number.

Checking your *loyno.edu* email account

You were assigned a Loyola email address when you were admitted to the university. If you don't happen to have your letter of admission, you can find out your email address by logging on to LORA student services at <<https://lorasec.loyno.edu/>>. Once you know your email address you may check your Loyola email from the LIM or Loyola home page <<http://www.lim.loyno.edu/>> by clicking on the word "Webmail" located to the far

right in the gray bar across the top of the web page.

Both LORA and webmail require a user id and a password. The user id is your campus wide id number or your social security number. **If you started at Loyola before March 2008**, the password pattern will be YYYYMM; that is, the four digit year of your birth followed by the two digit birth month. **If you started at Loyola after March 2008**, your default PIN is the first 2 letters of your first name and the last 4 digits of your social security number. **For international students after March 2008**, without U.S. social security numbers, your default PIN is included in your letter of admissions.

All students will be required to change the PIN when logging in for the first time. Pick something that you will remember and write it down and keep the pin in a safe place.

It is important for you to learn how to check your Loyola e-mail account because general communications from the university and the institute are normally sent to this address. This includes email that is an automatic reply from any Loyola online forms is only sent to loyno.edu addresses. Loyola campus wide emails are only sent to Loyola e-mail address.

Multiple Incompletes

Students who have multiple incompletes (a grade of "I") in courses have been receiving letters instructing them how to resolve these incompletes and to contact their advisor. Students with three or more incompletes are being blocked from registration until their academic deficiencies are resolved. When the registration roster arrives at Loyola, we are notifying your facilitator that you are not able to be registered and attend class until the incompletes are resolved. If you received one of these letters, please do not ignore it. If you have forgotten who your advisor is you can find their name and contact information by logging on to LORA student services at <<https://lorasec.loyno.edu/>>.

To the Home and Heart of St. Ignatius

Catherine P. Zeph, Ed.D.

Twenty-one graduates and friends of LIM, half of them from around the United States and the other half from the New Orleans area, enjoyed a 10-day pilgrimage "To the Home and Heart of St. Ignatius" in late July. Led by Fr. Jerry Fagin, S.J., LIM faculty member, and Sr. Noel Toomey, O.P., Director of the Spirituality Center of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, the pilgrims spent four nights in Azpeitia, Spain, home of St. Ignatius, followed by five nights in Montserrat, a 1000-year old Benedictine monastery way up on a mountainside an hour away from Barcelona. We traveled by bus and saw beautiful landscapes reminiscent of the American West, which at the height of summer were filled with lush green and other colors. We flew into Bilbao, on the northern coast of Spain, and flew out of Barcelona on the northeastern coast, so we were traveling along the lowlands of the Pyrenees.

Through our journey, we came to know the early life of Iñigo López de Loyola, a young Basque, who through a year of solitude while recovering from battle wounds in his leg, came to know God and experienced a deep and powerful conversion. This central experience of his life shaped his spirituality and continues to inform the Jesuit order today. After his convalescence, Iñigo visited many places in his immediate area and eventually made his way to Jerusalem, then back to Barcelona, and finally to the University of Paris. When studying in Paris, Iñigo took on the Latin form of his name, Ignatius, and gathered companions around him. These companions would become the Society of Jesus.

Celebrating Mass in the Room of Conversion at the Loyola Tower House, Fr. Fagin spoke of "a thin place," an Irish expression used to describe places where God seems especially present and accessible. This theme of "thin places" followed us through our pilgrimage. Mass was celebrated each day, and we experienced many "thin places": the La Magdalena Chapel and the Santa Casa in Azpeitia; the Shrine of Our Lady of Aranzazu; the family castle of the great Jesuit missionary St. Francis Xavier, who was Ignatius' roommate in Paris; the Sanctuary of our Lady of Montserrat; the Manresa Cave where Ignatius wrote his Spiritual Exercises; and the Santa del Mar, Barcelona Cathedral, and La Sagrada Familia churches in Barcelona. We came to know the beauty of the land in the Basque and Catalan area of Spain and to understand why Ignatius saw God in all things. In between times and on the bus, the pilgrims took in the local sights and culture, all the while knowing that this was a pilgrimage and not a "tour." Through faith sharing and the fun of story telling and experiencing "thin places" together, a small Christian community evolved over the week and a half we were together.

This pilgrimage was planned to honor the 40th anniversary of the Loyola Institute for Ministry. We are all grateful for the prayers and support we received and all that we discovered about ourselves and learned and shared while on the pilgrimage, and look forward to enjoying future "thin places." See <<http://lim.loyno.edu/>> for pictures of the trip and one pilgrim's journal.

Resources for Students

Thomas Ryan, Ph.D.

Lectures Online

In order to provide our students, facilitators, and liaisons with academic resources related to the Loyola Extension program, we will be placing videos of on-campus lectures and conferences at this site: <<http://lim.loyno.edu/extension/lectures/index.php>>. The password for this site is available on the student section of the LIM Documents Webpage. Check out the lectures! We hope you find this

valuable. Please give us feedback on this new endeavor. NOTE: Due to the changing nature of electronic access to information, this information may go out-of-date at any time. To find the most recent copy of the Distance Library Services handout go to: <http://lim.loyno.edu/extension/documents/libraryhandout_02.pdf>

Library Tutorial

As Loyola students, you have access to a breathtaking range of electronic resources, including to full-text, online books and journal articles. To see what you have access to, go to

<<http://library.loyno.edu/find/databases/>>

. In order to teach you how to use the databases of most relevance to your work in the Loyola Extension program, the Library has created a video tutorial that is available at

<<http://library.loyno.edu/find/databases/>>

. Remember, you also have access to books in hardcopy that the Loyola library owns as well as to journal articles in hardcopy that the Loyola library owns and can provide you through Interlibrary Loan. For assistance with Library questions, please contact our library liaison, Beth West:

<http://library.loyno.edu/about_us/faculty

[_staff/profiles/bwest.php](http://library.loyno.edu/about_us/faculty)>. We welcome feedback on your use of library resources.

Short Reminders

- Don't forget about the ***Guide To Written Theological Reflection!*** It contains valuable resources for planning and carrying out your writing assignments.
- If you have questions about a course, please remember that you may call or email the Instructor of Record for the course for assistance. His or her contact information is on the front of the student syllabus and at <<http://www.lim.loyno.edu/faculty>>.



December 11, 2008, snow in New Orleans

Give Yourself a Christmas Gift: Consider Joining a Lay Ministry Professional Organization (An article reprise from Fall 2006)

Cecelia M. Bennett, J.C.L.

Since the publication in November 2005 of *Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord: A Resource for Guiding the Development of Lay Ecclesial Ministry* by the United States Catholic Bishops, there has been a renewed energy and conversation in many arenas on the formation and development of lay ministry. In *Co-Workers* the bishops provide a listing of the ways to engage in on-going formation. The first suggestion on their list talks about "active participation in the work of diocesan, regional, and national ministerial associations." (p. 51)

As a student in the Loyola Institute for Ministry, one way for you to engage in this on-going formation is for you to participate in one of the many professional organizations for Lay Ministry. Several of these organizations provide student memberships.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat for Family, Laity, Women, and Youth include many resources on their web page including links to some of these national organizations <http://www.usccb.org/laity/laymin/assns.shtml>.

Take a quiet moment this holiday season to view the web pages of some of these professional organizations and to review their purpose and mission, membership benefits and how they relate to your chosen focus area or overall ministry interest. Take advantage of the student membership rate and join one of the organizations. Not only will you be supporting lay ministry, but you will also be increasing your opportunities to network with other professionals in your field.

LIM 2009 Summer Session in New Orleans

Join us in New Orleans next summer for an exciting summer session. Visiting faculty include Marion Danforth, Carole Eipers, Thomas Sweetser, Peg Bishop and Bernard Cooke. All courses may be taken for graduate or CEU credit. To register, email Diane Blair at <dblair@loyno.edu>.

*Session 1, Wednesday, June 24-
Wednesday, July 8*

Intro to Practical Theology

Dr. Marion Danforth
8:30-11:50

Spirituality, Morality, & Ethics

Jerry Fagin, S.J., Ph.D.
1:30-4:50

Catechetical Leadership

Dr. Carole Eipers
6:10-9:30

Intro to Pastoral Care and Counseling

Dr. Jim O'Neill
6:10-9:30

*Session 2, Thursday, July 9-Wednesday,
July 22*

Jewish Roots of Christian Faith

Dr. Evelyn Thibeaux
8:30-11:50

Spirituality for Ministers

Dr. Bernard Cooke
1:30-4:50

Pastoral/Educational Praxis

Dr. Kathleen O'Gorman
Time TBA

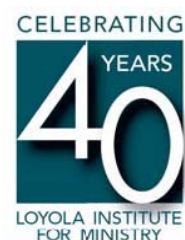
Courses Leading to Loyola Pastoral Life Center (LPLC) Specialized Certificate in Parish Life and Administration

The Dynamic Parish Today

June 29-July 2, 1:30-4:50
Thomas Sweetser, S.J.
Director, Parish Evaluation Project
and Peg Bishop, O.S.F.
Co-Director, Parish Evaluation Project

Stewardship and Financial Management

July 6-July 10, 1:30-4:50
Dr. Brian Reynolds
Chancellor and Chief Administrative
Officer, Archdiocese of Louisville



Good Bye to Long Time Staff Member Ellen Casanovas

Ellen Casanovas resigned her position in LIM to move on to other opportunities. We thank her for her years of service to LIM as the Enrollment Coordinator. In addition to managing the admissions process Ellen also processed the dean's certification list for graduation, processed facilitator payments and assisted with the set-up of the facilitator workshops. We sent Ellen off in fine New Orleans style with food and gifts, and we wish Ellen well in her new endeavors.

Staff Changes

Thomas Ryan, Ph.D.

When Ellen resigned her position in LIM, I was saddened that we lost a very good worker who had been with us for ten years. However, her departure also allowed reconsideration of LIM's needs and resources.

As a result of this reconsideration, I have asked Diane Blair to take the position of Manager of Admissions and On-Campus Retention. Her previous position—Manager of Recruitment, Promotion, and Student Services—had become a catch-all and, therefore, overly burdensome.

Her new position, at the managerial level, will involve following students from admissions through to graduation. She will be responsible for the admission of all students. She will also be responsible for on-campus programming and student services.

To make this position more manageable, I have asked Claire Moldthan and Cacey Beaulieu to take over some of the responsibilities in Ellen's previous position. Claire will work with facilitator payments, data base and workshop duties. Cacey will work on discernment, admission to candidacy, change of status, leave of absence and probation letters. We will be changing LIM forms accordingly after the New Year.

As a result of this change, a position has opened up for someone to focus on recruitment, promotion and LPLC. Therefore, we have begun a search for a Manager of Recruitment, Promotion and LPLC.

<<http://www.loyno.edu/human.resources/employment/staffemp.html#Professional>>

I am deeply grateful to Diane for taking this important new position, to Cacey and Claire for assuming some of Ellen's responsibilities, and to Cecelia, Cacey, Claire, and Cindy for bearing the interim burden that resulted from Ellen's departure.

I am also pleased to announce that we have hired Casey Lefant as a part-time writing consultant to assist Jennifer Shimek with writing consultant work. Casey has an MFA from University of New Orleans in creative writing, a BA in English from Tulane, and is a graduate of Dominican High School here in New Orleans. She has taught at the university level, works well with undergraduates, ESL and graduate students, is sensitive to adult pedagogies, knows Blackboard, evaluates papers on the computer, and has an approach that fits well with LIM's mission. We welcome Casey to Loyola and the Institute. She will begin working with us in January.

Message from the Director - continued from page 1.



world that Jesus speaks of so movingly in Matthew but who were up until then primarily abstractions for me. The Catholic Worker made me both a better Catholic and a better theologian. In addition, I was introduced to new theological and philosophical perspectives, such as personalism and its emphasis on personal responsibility. One of personalism's surprising implications has to do with elections and voting. I remember that some Catholic Workers would only vote for those political offices whose holders they could influence personally. They would vote in local and statewide elections because it is possible to meet

with such officials. There was a time when citizens could even shake hands with and potentially influence presidents during White House open houses, a traditional post-inauguration event up until the late nineteenth century. Today it is practically impossible for

most voters to meet with and try to persuade a President. This inability dissuaded some of my Catholic Worker colleagues from voting for President.

I remember admiring my friends for considering their position on voting so carefully before deciding not to do so, at least for the Office of President, but I did not agree with them. One thing I did agree with them about was that the political process entails more than voting. Our political responsibility does not end when we push the red "finish" button in the voting booth or direct our paper ballot through an optical scanner, and I had this insight confirmed at an event held on campus at Loyola just before the election about the document entitled *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States*. (For a video of the event, see <<http://www.loyno.edu/jsri/forums/faithful-citizenship.html>>. For a link to the *Faithful Citizenship* website, see <<http://www.faithfulcitizenship.org>>). I would be interested to hear from our international friends what implications *Faithful Citizenship* would have for their elections and if their bishops' conferences have published something similar.

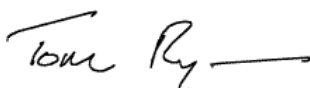
Two of the speakers were the keynoter John Carr, Executive Director of Social Development and World Peace for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and panelist Theodore Cardinal McCarrick of Washington, D.C. John Carr claimed that we Catholics are not "the Democratic party at prayer" nor the "religious caucus of the Republican Party." Instead, "we are part of a community of faith committed to defending human life and dignity; so we are a Church, not an interest group." He went on to cite *Faithful Citizenship* to the effect that "[P]articipation in political life is a moral obligation" (FC 13). It is important to note that he does not say that voting is a moral obligation. It is participation in political life, which includes voting, that is obligatory. So the election's conclusion did not bring our political responsibilities to an end.

No, with the election's conclusion, we Catholics are called to what Catholic Worker co-founder Peter Maurin spoke of as gentle personalism. We need to persuade elected officials and others of the reasonableness and importance of our beliefs. The Bishops articulate seven key themes of Catholic social teaching that the two-page *Faithful Citizenship Bulletin Insert* nicely summarizes. These include the right to life and the dignity of the human person, call to family, community and participation, rights and responsibilities, option for the poor and vulnerable, dignity of work and the rights of workers, solidarity, and caring for God's creation (see <<http://www.faithfulcitizenship.org/resources/bulletin>>). Ultimately it is not just some politicians that need to hear our challenge. All do, right and left, liberal and conservative, Democrat and Republican; none are entirely in alignment with Catholic Church teaching. All need to hear from us.

To be sure, we in the U.S. are all subject to election fatigue; would that the election and all that it implies were over. But we live between the times; Jesus has already inaugurated God's Reign on earth, but it is still not yet fully realized. In the meantime, we are called to highlight where God's Reign has broken into history and to critique those people and situations that stand in its way.

My prayers are with all members of the Loyola Institute for Ministry community, our students and graduates, our liaisons, facilitators, and friends, and our staff and faculty during this upcoming Christmas season. I pray that we will encounter Jesus not only through the memory of his birth, life, death, and resurrection, but also through the anticipation of his Reign breaking forth definitively on earth. I pray that this memory and anticipation can fortify us in our studies, our work, and our participation in the political process that our Bishops so persuasively call for in *Faithful Citizenship*.

Best wishes,



Thomas Ryan, Ph.D.
Director, Loyola Institute for Ministry