

## Letter from the Director

By Thomas F. Ryan, Ph.D.

**W**hat joy the readings of the 3rd Sunday of Advent convey. It is Gaudete (Rejoice!) Sunday after all.

Check out instances of “joy” and its cognates, and notice how often they are the modifier, not the modified—“Shout for joy!... Sing joyfully!” Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

The second reading identifies joy’s season—“Rejoice in the Lord always!”

The Gospel is occupied not with spiritual heroes but with the unexceptional. John the Baptist doesn’t urge his audience to sell all they have but to donate if, that is, they already have enough for themselves, “Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none.” Neither does he advise abandoning professions deemed questionable by some. Just do your jobs—no scamming and no griping!

[Continue reading»](#)

## Loyola Inaugurates New President

**O**n November 16th, Tania Tetlow, J.D., was sworn in as the 17th president of Loyola University New Orleans. President Tetlow grew up in New Orleans, earning her undergraduate degree from Tulane University and her law degree from Harvard University. She has been a distinguished attorney and member of the faculty at Tulane University Law School. Her ties to Loyola include her parents who taught here and her uncle who served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. In a video sent to the Loyola community, she noted, “I am humbled and truly honored to serve as the 17th President of Loyola University New Orleans.” We are happy to have her and wish her every success!

Read more about President Tetlow [GO»](#)



New Loyola President Tania Tetlow, J.D., at the inauguration Ceremony

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## Alumni Spotlight: Vanesa Manzano, SJC (MRE '18)

Recent LIM graduate Sr. Vanesa Manzano is a Sister of the Congregation of St. Joseph of Cluny in the Archdiocese of Port of Spain on the island of Trinidad. She teaches English and Religious Education to preteen and teen students at Providence Girls' Catholic School.

As a religious educator, Sr. Vanesa faces a particular challenge: helping her students to see the primacy and importance of religious education as a subject, even though it is often not a graded class in the Caribbean.

As a way to energize her students and help them to grow in their faith and knowledge, Sr. Vanesa has begun using the LIM reflection model as a process for learning in her classes. She recently wrote to LIM professor emerita Barbara Fleischer, "I have changed my method of teaching and have slowly started to use the LIM method in the classroom.

.... Now, I let them write out their initial understanding and I invite each student to share what they have written. .... What I have

observed is that it allows students to become aware

of what they know or do not know and it makes me aware also.

Collectively, the content of my lesson appears in students' sharing and I have started to build on what they already know and when it comes to offering new information, they are eager and open.

After the lesson, I ask them to write any new understandings which they have experienced."

By teaching her students this methodology, Sr. Vanesa is offering them a framework for reflection

that will, hopefully, guide them to their vocation as they connect their gifts and talents to God's purpose for each of them.

In this way, Sr. Vanesa is sharing her vision of Religious Education as extending beyond the formation of her students to nurturing their self-actualization so that they may

participate in kingdom building here on earth.



Sr. Vanesa Manzano, SJC



Sr. Vanesa with students.

## Holiday Office Closure

The university and the Institute for Ministry are closed from December 21<sup>st</sup> through January 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Consulting Service will also be closed during this time. The last day to submit a paper to receive it back on the 20th is close of business on Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>. Papers received on December 14<sup>th</sup> will be returned on January 5<sup>th</sup>, on December 15<sup>th</sup> will be returned on January 8<sup>th</sup>, on December 18<sup>th</sup> will returned on January 8<sup>th</sup>, on December 19<sup>th</sup> will returned on January 9<sup>th</sup>, and on December 20<sup>th</sup> will returned on January 10<sup>th</sup>. Papers received during the closure will be processed on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, with return dates beginning on January 11<sup>th</sup>.

## LIM at Gulf Coast Faith Formation Conference: January 10-12, 2019

This year's conference, sponsored by Archdiocese of New Orleans with the support of 7 regional dioceses, will be held at the Pontchartrain Center, 4545 Williams Blvd Kenner, Louisiana. This year's theme is GO FORTH: That All May Be One. A number of presentations by LIM students, alumni, and faculty are scheduled:

### Steven Botsford, MRE

- Flipped Catechesis: What Every Catechist Needs to Know  
January 11 @ 1-2 pm
- Liftoff! Launch Your Environment into a Thematic and Immersive Learning Space  
January 12 @ 11 am - 12 pm

### Stephanie Cloutre Davis, MPS student

- Anxiety and the Ignatian Way  
January 11 @ 1-2 pm
- Getting Real with Retreats  
January 11 @ 4 - 5 pm

### Denise Donahoe , MPS

- Aging with Grace: Spirituality for the Second Half of Life  
January 12 @ 11 am - 12 pm

### Becky Eldredge, MPS

- The Gift of the Inner Chapel  
January 11 @ 4-5 pm
- Where Do I Go?  
January 12 @ 3 - 4 pm

### Tracey Lamont, Ph.D.

- Engaging Youth and Young Adults as Missionary Disciples  
January 11 @ 4 - 5 pm

### Tom Ryan, Ph.D.

- Faith Formation in the Key of Beauty  
January 11 @ 1– 2 pm
- An Invitational Evangelization:  
January 12 @ 3 - 4 pm



LIM is also hosting a reception/happy hour on Friday, Jan. 11 at the adjacent Hilton Garden Inn. Please join us to hear about developments in LIM, meet fellow students/alumni/friends, and have a drink on us! Please stop by the booth for details.

To learn more about the conference and presentations listed above or to register [GO»](#)

## Summer Institute for Catholic Educational Leadership: June 2019

LIM is working with the Archdiocese of New Orleans to finalize plans for the 2019 Summer Institute, held on the main campus of Loyola University New Orleans in June. Each year, the Summer Institute explores a theme related to religious education and leadership.

Religious educators from the region as well as those from farther away come to explore concepts and practices that will enhance their, spirituality, teaching, and leadership. Check our SICEL webpage for updates in the spring. [GO»](#)

## Graduation Anticipation and Planning

by Diane Blair, MA, Manager of Admissions and Student Services

We are excited to welcome LIM graduates from all of our programs to campus to celebrate Commencement on May 11, 2019. Those earning an MRE or MPS will be participating in the university's commencement in the morning, and then we will have a special Mass on campus at 4:30 p.m. to honor our graduates of all of our programs – degree, CEU, and certificate students are invited to participate!

If you are a student who is planning to graduate in any term of 2019 (spring, summer or fall), please make sure you have applied to graduate at The Student Records' [Graduation Application page](#), and we will be auditing your records soon. If you can't

remember if you applied, please contact Diane Blair at [dblair@loyno.edu](mailto:dblair@loyno.edu) so she can check.

The [LIM commencement web page](#) provides you with important dates and deadlines. The [university's commencement web page](#) provides you with information on the university-wide celebrations and links to help you with your visit to New Orleans!

We in the LIM office are available to assist you and offer our suggestions.

Questions about Commencement can be directed to Diane Blair at [dblair@loyno.edu](mailto:dblair@loyno.edu)



## FaithActs Summer Youth Theology Institute: June 2019

Blair, MA, Manager of Admissions and Student Services

Our third FaithActs Institute on Loyola's campus June 17-21, 2019 is on the horizon; it is made possible through the High School Youth Theology Institute grant from the Lilly Foundation. Rising high school juniors and seniors are welcome to participate in the program. The students can receive college credit or community service hours for the week.

The program draws from themes of Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'* and the participants will be looking at solidarity at macro and micro levels – solidarity with God, with neighbor, with community, and with creation. Each of the 4 days will feature hands-on activities in southeastern Louisiana in and



around New Orleans to reinforce the day's theme and discussions with Loyola faculty members so students have time to process what they've learned

individually and in small groups. Spiritual formation is another crucial element of the week as we draw on the rich Ignatian tradition for reflection time. There will also be time for fun! Students will stay in the residence halls on campus with current Loyola students serving as mentors.

The cost is \$500 per student; financial assistance is available. Registration will start in January.

Learn more at the web page. [GO»](#)

Questions? Contact Diane Blair [dblair@loyno.edu](mailto:dblair@loyno.edu)

## Screening of Flannery O'Connor Documentary in March 2019

As part of its annual Lenten lecture series, Loyola University will screen *Flannery*, a documentary about the life of short story writer and novelist Flannery O'Connor, on Wednesday, March 27 at 7 pm in Nunemaker Hall.

The full-length documentary is the product of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities created with the support of the Flannery O'Connor trust, Emory University's Manuscript, Archive & Rare Books library, and the Georgia College & State University. The documentary uses animation, archival footage, and current writers and artists to tell O'Connor's life story.

O'Connor (1925-1964), born into one of the oldest Catholic families in Georgia, explored in her writing themes of freedom and free will, the lack of spirituality, and the possibility of redemption. Her



engagement with the world, which was evident in her fiction, correspondence, and lectures despite the limitations she faced due to her health, is at the core of the documentary.

Two of the filmmakers—Mark Bosco, S.J. (vice president for mission and ministry at Georgetown University) and Elizabeth Coffman, Ph.D. (associate professor of communication at Loyola University of Chicago)—will be present at the screening.

The Institute for Ministry is co-sponsoring the event with the Office of Mission and Identity.

## Letter from the Director *continued*

To be sure, some of us can achieve spiritual heights, but, for the time being, most of us inhabit lower ground.

May this Christmas be a source of astonishment for you that the Creator would enter the created order and dwell among us creatures. May you recall “the stable where for once in our lives/ Everything became a You and nothing was an It.”

In the meantime, may this Advent be a reminder that joy can radiate even from the ordinary and everyday, even in our incompleteness and flaws, even in abiding expectation.

Wishing you joy,



Dr. Tom Ryan, LIM Director

## The Loyola Institute for Ministry

The mission of the Loyola Institute for Ministry (LIM) is to prepare women and men for religious education and ministerial leadership in Catholic and other Christian communities through professional graduate education and through professional continuing education. The Master of Religious Education and the Master of Pastoral Studies degrees are offered in the Institute. A number of continuing education options are also part of Institute programming.

This newsletter is designed for students in all the LIM programs, alums, current liaisons, facilitators, faculty, and friends.

The content of the newsletter is collected, edited, and prepared for digital distribution by Jennifer Shimek.

## Programs of Study

### Graduate Degrees

- Master of Pastoral Studies
- Master of Religious Education
- Master of Pastoral Studies/Master of Business Administration
- Master of Pastoral Studies/Master of Science in Counseling
- Master of Pastoral Studies/Master of Criminal Justice

### Graduate-Credit Certificates

- Graduate Certificate in Theology and Ministry
- Post-Master's Certificate in Pastoral Studies

### Continuing Education Certificates

- Certificate in Pastoral Studies
- Certificate in Religious Education
- Continuing Education Certificate in Theology and Ministry
- Advanced Continuing Education Certificate in Pastoral Studies
- Certificación de Educación Continua en Teología y Ministerio

### Bachelor's Degree Programs

- Bachelor of Arts in Ministry and Theology
- Religious Studies BA/Master of Pastoral Studies or Master of Religious Education

For more information about studying with the Institute for Ministry:  
[cnh.loyno.edu/lim](http://cnh.loyno.edu/lim)



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