



*Forests and fields, sun and wind and sky, earth and water,
all speak the same language: peace, solitude, silence. ~ Thomas Merton*

A special note of thanks to our donours,

Hello everyone, and a Happy and Blessed New Year to you all. On behalf of the IJC Board of Directors, it is my pleasure to thank each and every one of you for your ongoing support, especially over the last nine months since our initial lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Loyola House has continued to serve the most vulnerable in our community, first as an isolation shelter, and as of this fall, as the site of a pilot project with Wellington County to offer shelter for those who are experiencing homelessness. Our decision aligns with one of the four guiding preferences of the Society of Jesus - "To walk with the poor, the outcasts of the world, those whose dignity has been violated, in a mission of reconciliation and justice."

The LHSTAP is showing its first signs of success, where the residents are beginning to understand the strong bonds of community living, enjoying shelter, good food, and camaraderie. The grounds are still available for all to enjoy, and we encourage anyone to come to IJC and walk and pray on the land.

These are challenging times, and we've all had to learn new ways to communicate, to work together apart, and to do the best to see our way into the future of IJC. There are no crystal balls to gaze into, and the way isn't always clear, and in the face of this uncertainty your support has made a world of difference. We are so grateful for each and every one of you, and look forward to hearing from you in the future.

I wish you all the best in 2021. Know that you and your families are in our prayers.

Hilary Jenkins, Chair and Vice-President
Ignatius Jesuit Centre Board of Directors



DONATE NOW

Your online donation allows you to send any number of our beautiful e-cards to your friends with your personal message.

LOYOLA HOUSE RETREATS & PROGRAMS

VIRTUAL RETREAT OFFERINGS IN 2021

[The 2021 retreats up on our website!](#) Here are some that are coming up in the next month or two:

- [8-Day Directed Retreat](#) - January 20-28 (There still is room, do sign up!)
- [Ignatian Spirituality Retreat: A Practical Introduction](#) - February 14-19
- [Knowing the Heart of Jesus; with Fr. Bill Clarke SJ](#) - February 26-28
- [Finding Your Way: Weekend of Discernment](#) - February 26-28
- [Turn, Turn, Turn Weekend Retreat](#) - NEW! - March 5-7

COMING TO A LOCATION VERY NEAR YOU...

As the IJC retreat team awaits the safe return of onsite live-in retreats and programs at Loyola House, we have decided to take our spiritual show on the road!

In addition to our online offerings, members of the team are ready to lead in-person retreats in other viable venues: religious communities, mother houses, parishes and other retreat houses are all possible stops for a visiting band of Ignatian spiritual directors from Guelph.

Inquiries can be made through our registrar, Leanne McCann, at registration@ignatiusguelph.ca or 519-824-1250 ext. 266.

IN-PERSON - SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS' WORKSHOP

July 5-17 2021

The Spiritual Directors' Workshop (SDW) is an intensive 12-day training program in spiritual direction. It includes material and experience which we consider foundational to everyone engaged in spiritual direction.

This year, the Loyola House Team is taking the SDW "on the road" as this in-person workshop will be held at the beautiful Villa Saint Martin, outside of Montreal. [Read more about this workshop here.](#)



WOMEN'S WEEKLY PRAYER GROUP - for Non-ordinary Times

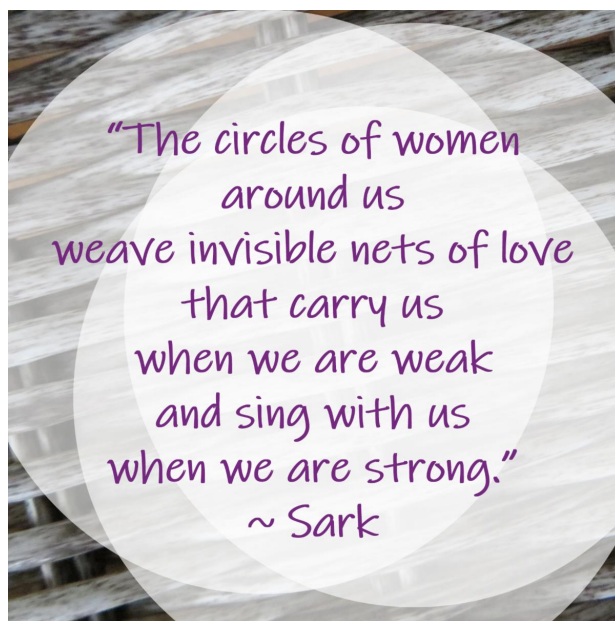
Mondays, January 18 - February 15

7:15-8:45 pm. Online with Zoom.

Facilitated by Yvonne Prowse

It may be "Ordinary Time" on the Church calendar, yet it's anything but ordinary in our churches and our lives. Many are feeling the absence of usual support systems. Hence this prayer circle - an avenue to support one another through these challenging times.

In this (virtual) circle of (real) women, we will seek to deepen our connection with God, our Source of Life; with our sense of ourselves as God's beloved; with Hope, Peace and even Joy. We will be guided by Scripture, music, poetry, and sharing with one another. We will name our gratitude, honour our pain -including fear, anger, anxiety- and cultivate hope to help each of us navigate this extra-ordinary time.



The group will meet on five consecutive Mondays. Please plan to join the whole course so we can build a sense of mutual support. **Space is limited**, to allow time for all to share. Sign-up at registration@ignatiusguelph.ca.

Participants - please pay what you can, to support our ministry at Loyola House. \$15/session is suggested.

To register, [please email registration@ignatiusguelph.ca](mailto:registration@ignatiusguelph.ca) or call 519-824-1250 ext 266.

AT IGNATIUS FARM



Ignatius Farm Team 2020

2021 CSA AND COMMUNITY GARDEN REGISTRATION

Sign up for your garden plot or vegetable share [online!](#)

Your paper registrations are welcome! Submit with payment, registration, and COVID forms in the red cashbox outside the farm workshop or mail.

- [Community Garden Registration form found here.](#) **Please also include** the [Community Gardens COVID-19 Protocols form with the registration form.](#)
- [CSA Registration form found here.](#)

Got any questions? Just email farmregistration@ignatiusguelph.ca. See ignatiusfarm.ca for more information on the Farm!

IGNATIUS FARM: NEW FARMER TRAINING PROGRAM

Did you miss the 2020 Ignatius Farm New Farmer Training Program? Are you curious about our webinars and virtual field days?

You can now sign up for a bundle of 12 recorded webinars spanning the entire program. We will include links to 8 of the virtual field day tours as well!

The webinars can be watched on your own time but there will be two zoom meet up sessions for participants to meet other new farmers, discuss what they have learned, as well as ask questions. **These sessions will be January 27 and February 24 both at 7pm.**

For those interested in the full 2021 program stay tuned for more information to come over the winter.

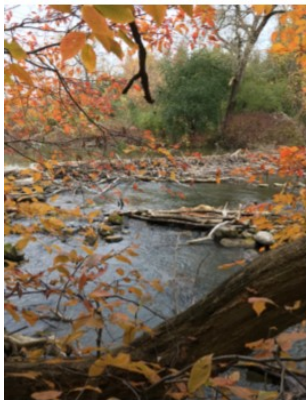
For registration see <https://efao.ca/event/nft-highlights/>



IN THE OLD-GROWTH FOREST PROJECT

Do check out the January 2021 edition of the OGF E-News!

See what transpired in 2020 and what is coming up in 2021. And yes, the beavers have taken down a few trail markers! [Have a read here](#)



POETRY & STORIES - for you to read, listen to, and reflect on

Beaver Dam on the Speed

Greg Kennedy, SJ

A sudden wildness was built
into this suburban river
the day the beaver
(out of the wily nowhere
that puts species on the map)
jammed the flow
and amplified the water-music

escaping the downside of the dam.

Wide and pacified the river has grown
up against the urge to control
made of mud and trees pinched
from the surrounding crowd of forest.
Geese and ducks feel right at home.
Likely they pay rent.

Walkers who think too hard
stop on the bank
slowly losing ground
and try not to compare but can't
help bumping heads on low-hanging
metaphysics that never ripen:
how to categorize qualities,
shared and distinct,
between the human and the wild
the concrete and the stick
constraints to this same single river?
Why does one roar
with furious power,
while the other releases
such enchanting strains?



*Fast Flowing Waters over Beaver Dam
Turn your speakers on and listen to the roar!*

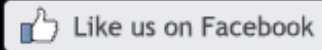
The Crimson Robber

Chris Dobson, printed with permission

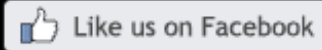
cedar bound,
waits in darkness
for his chance
to steal
golden nuggets
piled high
in a vaulted prison
- the bars too narrow for his passing -
as black capped chickadees
move freely
to and fro,
taking his bounty,
while
yielding
a new harvest
in their fecundity -
laughing at their solitary friend
and his plan,
as they make good
on their promise
of a great escape,
and leave only one thing
behind
...a banquet of pure
Joy...



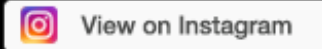
Be sure to check out our social media links!



Ignatius Jesuit Centre's Facebook page



Ignatius Farm's Facebook page



#ignatiusfarm #loyolahouse #oldgrowthforestproject #ignatiusoldgrowthforest

ignatius@ignatiusguelph.ca
<https://www.ignatiusguelph.ca>

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