

THE IGNATIAN CHARISM FOR THE WORLD OF TODAY
An International Immersion course on Ignatian Spirituality

Wednesday 27th April (evening) to Friday 4th June (morning), 2011

Language: English

Objective

The Ignatian charism clearly has a valuable contribution to make to Christian life in our world today. This course provides an opportunity to study the legacy of Ignatius of Loyola in some depth, both as an inspiration for authentic Christian living in contemporary society and Church, and as a means for the spiritual formation of individuals and groups.

Programme

We begin by looking at the personal experience of Ignatius, the pilgrim, an experience which sheds light on how people come to grow in Christian life. Then, after an 8-day Individually Guided Ignatian retreat, we will approach the *Spiritual Exercises* from a mystagogical and pedagogical angle. An overview of Ignatius’ oeuvre will culminate in a study of the Jesuit “Formula of the Institute” and *Constitutions*. The whole course will conclude with sessions on the theology and spirituality which flow from the life and teachings of Ignatius, and with an analysis of the various projects for Christian living which continue to emerge from Ignatian spirituality.

Method

Lectures will take place alongside personal study and an on-going dialogue aimed to helping participants to integrate their various experiences. It will be an important part of the method to live in this place where Ignatius himself spent an important part of his life (Manresa) and to visit various other Ignatian sites (Montserrat, Loyola, Javier), so that the study can be vivid and contextualised. This quality of spiritual experience will be a constant theme throughout the course as will appropriate times of prayer and Eucharistic celebration.

Co-ordinating Team (Cristianisme i Justícia and The Cave of St. Ignatius): Pere Borràs (Director of EIDES), Francesc Riera (Superior of Manresa Jesuit community), Josep M. Rambla and Javier Melloni (lecturers in the Theology Faculty of Catalonia).

Co-ordinator: Josep Sugrañes, SJ (Manresa, Spain)

1. Ignatius of Loyola and Us. The *Autobiography* and the *Spiritual Journal*

(Thursday 28th April to Tuesday 3rd May)

*A sapiential reading of the *Autobiography* as the matrix of a spiritual process, comparing the experience of Ignatius with our own experience and spiritual autobiography. The study of the *Spiritual Journal* will not only introduce us to the highest levels of Ignatius’ spirituality but will also make it possible better to understand the characteristics of Ignatian mysticism.*

Lecturer: **Javier Melloni, SJ**, (Manresa, Spain; lecturer in the Theology Faculty of Catalonia).

a visit to Ignatian Manresa (several days)

a visit to Montserrat (Wednesday 4th May)

2. An 8-day Individually Guided Retreat

(Wednesday evening 4th May to Thursday 12th May)

Director: **Cecil Azzopardi, SJ** (Rome-Malta), assisted by: J. Giménez, J. Sugrañes, J. Salord, A. Blanch and others.

a visit to Loyola and Javier (Friday 13th to Monday 16th May)

3. A Mystagogical and Pedagogical Approach to the *Spiritual Exercises*.

(Tuesday 17th to Saturday 21st May)

In the light of the experience of making and giving the Spiritual Exercises, we study the text, looking at it both as mystagogy and as a way of forming each person.

· Lecturer: **Philip Endean, SJ** (UK; Theology Faculty of Oxford)

a visit to Ignatian Barcelona (Sunday 22nd May).

4. The Society of Jesus as a different form of religious life and the mould of a new apostolic enterprise.

(Monday 23rd to Friday 27th May)

It was an intense desire to help souls and to establish a group of companions dedicated to the service of the Kingdom that led Ignatius and his first companions to found a new religious order which was to break with the norms that had hitherto been applicable. This idea becomes a reality in the Formula of the Institute of the Society of Jesus and in its Constitutions. Moreover, the experience of Ignatius shapes a “way of proceeding” or spirituality with particular traits. This rich and charismatic legacy has been not only an inspiration to many other subsequent religious congregations of both women and men, but has also resulted in different historical and ecclesial movements and institutions (Christian Life Communities, Schools and Universities, social and cultural centres, etc.) whose particular Ignatian traits will be studied.

Lecturer: **José García de Castro, SJ** (Lecturer in the Theology Faculty of Comillas University, Spain).

visits or free days (Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th)

5. Ignatian Theology and Spirituality for Today

(Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June)

New and turbulent times call for a spiritual wisdom that stems from a clear and critical appraisal of a changing reality and helps us to read our society and history evangelically, as the history of salvation. The contribution of Ignatius of Loyola has been of proven worth and is of great relevance today as we seek to learn this spiritual discernment necessary and to find concrete ways forward.

· Lecturer: **Dean Brackley, SJ** (USA; Lecturer in Theology at UCA, El Salvador).

For more details and to apply please sent an e-mail to jsugranyes@covamanresa.cat explaining the reasons why you want to participate in the *International Immersion course on Ignatian Spirituality*.

Cost: 1.100 Euros. This amount includes complete room and board, trips to ignatian related places, other activities and written notes.