

Faith Formation in the Key of Beauty

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International

Catholic



Ignatian

Compelling Focus Areas



07/04/2018

Parishes' Young Adult Ministries Must Be Focused To Be Effective

\$500
**New Student
Scholarship
Toward Fall
2019 Tuition**



Go Conference attendees who visit the Loyola Institute for Ministry's booth are eligible to receive a one-time, **\$500 scholarship** toward their Fall 2019 graduate tuition. Additional scholarship funds available for on-campus students.

Recipients must:

- have given their contact information at Loyola's booth
- be new graduate students in Summer or Fall 2019
- complete their application by July 15, 2019 (or April 1 for summer)
- be fully admitted, matriculated, and registered for a fall 2019 course by August 15, 2019 (or May 15 for a summer course).

“Flannery” film on Flannery O’Connor
7 p.m., March 27, Loyola





Summer Institute for Catholic Educational Leadership June 3-5

<http://cnh.loyno.edu/lim/lplc/summer-institute>



FaithActs Youth
Theology Institute, June 17-21
<http://cnh.loyno.edu/lim/lplc/faithacts>

Goals

As a result of this session, I hope you will gain a better understanding of

- Beauty
- Beauty's impact
- Beauty's challenge
- What 'faith formation in the key of beauty' could look like for you.

- In what sense are the following beautiful?
- What impact do they have on you?

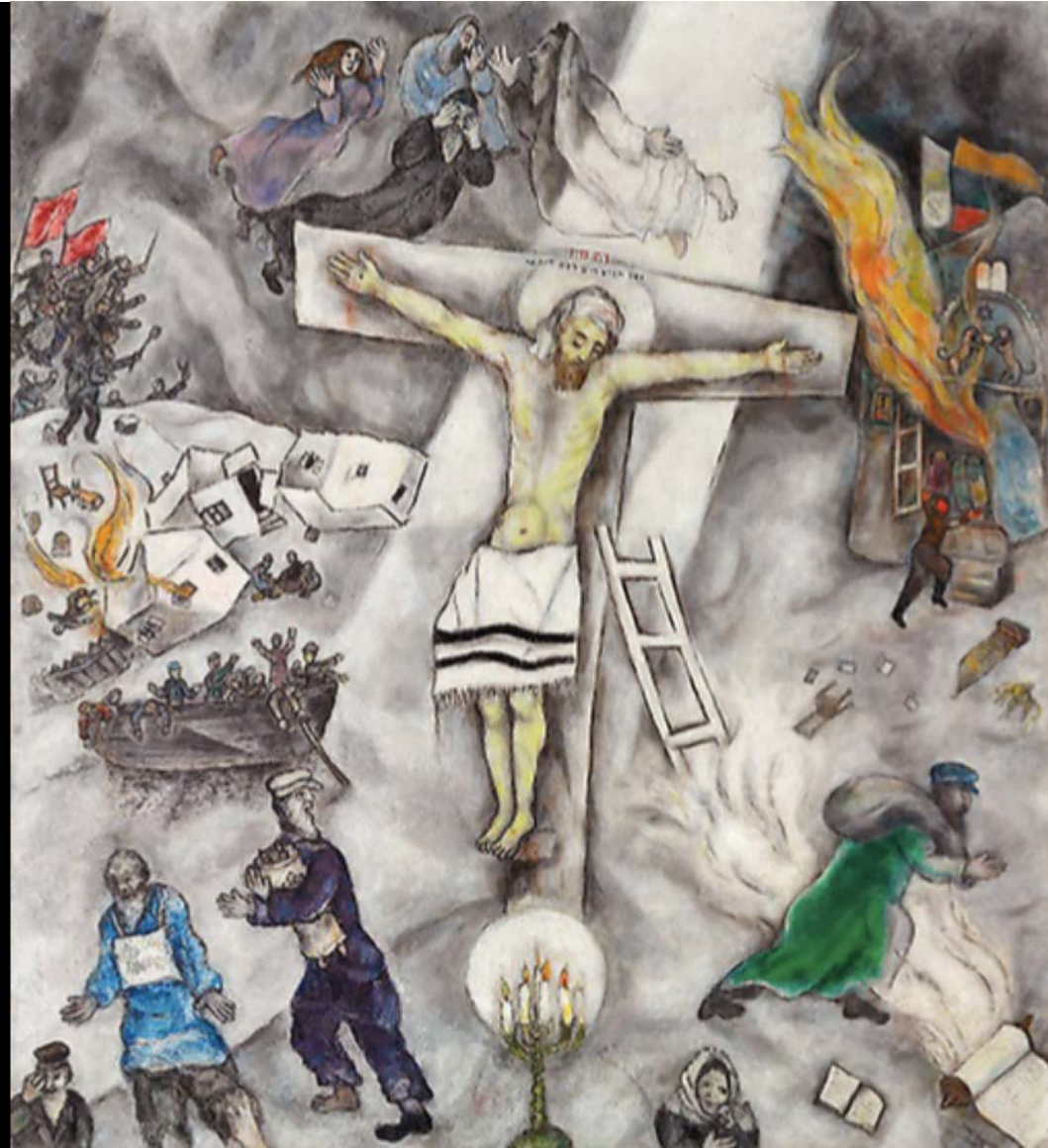


Mt. Kilimannjaro, Tanzania



Unknown Artist, African Jesus Encountering St. Ignatius Loyola ,
Benin City, Nigeria

Chagal,
The White Crucifixion
Paris, 1938

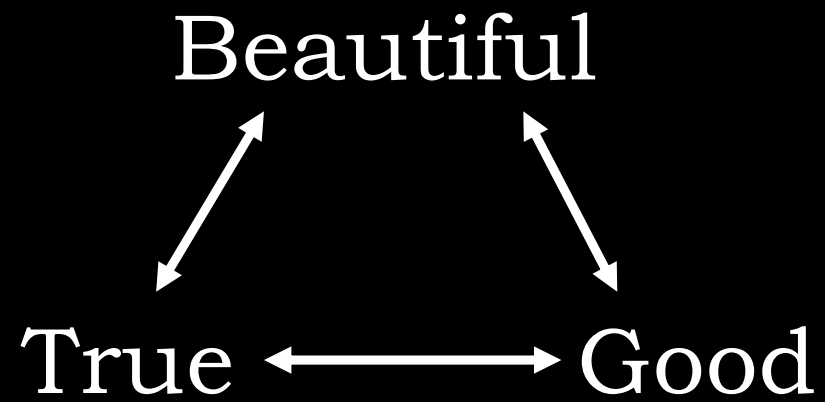




Grünewald, from
the Isenheim
Altarpiece
16th C Germany

Hans Urs von Balthasar

3 Transcendentals



Hans Urs von Balthasar

“In a world without beauty..., which can no longer see it or reckon with it: in such a world the good also loses its attractiveness, the self-evidence of why it must be carried out....In a world that no longer has enough confidence in itself to affirm the beautiful, the proofs of the truth have lost their cogency”; they no longer captivate (1.19).

Pope Francis, *Joy of the Gospel*

Christians have the duty to proclaim the Gospel without excluding anyone. Instead of seeming to impose new obligations, they should appear as people who wish to share their joy, who point to a horizon of **beauty** and who invite others to a delicious banquet. It is not by proselytizing that the Church grows, but '**by attraction**' (EG 14).

Problem for Pope Francis

The Church, in order to survive, must stop "living within herself, of herself, for herself" (from speech during conclave).

Beauty is not luxury/decoration.

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si*

If we approach nature and the environment without ... **openness to awe and wonder**, if we no longer speak the language of **fraternity** and **beauty** in our relationship with the world, our attitude will be that of masters, consumers, ruthless exploiters, unable to set limits on their immediate needs (11).

Well, so that is that. Now we must dismantle the tree,
Putting the decorations back into their cardboard boxes --
Some have got broken -- and carrying them up to the attic.
...There are enough
Left-overs to do, warmed-up, for the rest of the week --
Not that we have much appetite, having drunk such a lot,
Stayed up so late, attempted -- quite unsuccessfully --
To love all of our relatives, and in general
Grossly overestimated our powers. Once again
As in previous years we have seen the actual Vision and failed
To do more than entertain it as an agreeable
Possibility...

The Christmas Feast is already a fading memory,
And already the mind begins to be vaguely aware
Of an unpleasant whiff of apprehension at the thought
Of Lent and Good Friday which cannot, after all, now
Be very far off. But, for the time being, here we all are,
Back in the moderate Aristotelian city
...where Euclid's geometry
And Newton's mechanics would account for our experience,
...The streets
Are much narrower than we remembered; we had forgotten
The office was as depressing as this. To those who have seen
The Child, however dimly, however incredulously,
The Time Being is, in a sense, the most trying time of all.
...Remembering the stable where for once in our lives
Everything became a You and nothing was an It....

W. H. Auden, "Christmas Oratorio" in *For the Time Being*

Solidarity

The ultimate purpose of other creatures is not to be found in us. Rather, all creatures are moving forward with us and through us towards a common point of arrival, which is God (*Laudato Si'* 83).

Contributions to the Hymn of Praise

It is not enough to think of different species merely as potential “resources” to be exploited, while overlooking the fact that they have value in themselves. ...Because of us [and our contribution to extinctions], thousands of species will no longer give glory to God by their very existence, nor convey their message to us (*Laudato Si'* 33).

Roberto Goizueta, *Christ Our Companion:
Toward a Theological Aesthetics of Liberation*

The particularity and historicity of Christ's body (the wounds!) are what draw to him all those victims of history whose own historical bodies have for centuries been deemed mere abstractions in the face of progress (119).

This is where the glory of God is revealed, not only in the terrifying silence of Calvary and in the shocking vision of the risen Christ, but in the Jewish peoples of the Galilean borderland, that godforsaken place from which nothing good has ever come (129).

An Invitational Evangelization

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Goals

As a result of this presentation, you will be able to

- Identify the outlines of an invitational evangelization
- Discern implications for
 - you,
 - your ministry,
 - the Church,
 - the world

Problem

The Church, in order to survive, must stop "living within herself, of herself, for herself" (from speech during conclave).

Response

Christians have the duty to proclaim the Gospel without excluding anyone. Instead of seeming to impose new obligations, they should appear as people who wish to share their joy, who point to a horizon of beauty and who invite others to a delicious banquet. It is not by proselytizing that the Church grows, but 'by attraction' (EG 14).

Characteristics of an Invitational Evangelization

- Creative (“delicious banquet”)

St. Thomas Aquinas/Creative

- Quidquid recipitur per modum recipientis recipitur (STh I.75.5c).
- Whatever is received is received according to the manner of the recipient.

St. Teresa of Avila on the Song of Songs

O my Lord, how poorly we profit from the blessing You grant us! You seek ways and means and devise plans to show your love for us; we, inexperienced in loving you, esteem this love so poorly that our minds, little exercised in love, go where they always go and cease to think of the great mysteries this language spoken by the Holy Spirit, contains within itself (217).

St. Teresa of Avila on the Song of Songs

What more was necessary than this language in order to enkindle us in His love and make us realize that not without good reason did he choose this style (217).

St. Teresa of Avila on the Song of Songs

God “gives us permission to think that He, this true lover, my spouse and my good needs us. Since He gives us permission, let us repeat daughters, ‘My beloved is mine and I am my beloved’s’ (Sgs. 2:16)” (247).

Characteristics of an Invitational Evangelization

- Creative
- Persistent

Francis Thompson, "Hound of Heaven"

Protagonist doesn't know Gerard Manley Hopkins, SJ

- The world is charged with the grandeur of God.
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;
....And for all this, nature is never spent;
There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;
- Christ plays in ten thousand places, Lovely in limbs,
and lovely in eyes not his

Francis Thompson, "Hound of Heaven"

Either/Or

- For, though I knew His love Who followed,
 Yet was I sore adread
Lest, having Him, I must have naught beside.
- Still with unhurrying chase,
 And unperturbed pace,
Deliberate speed, majestic instancy,
Came on the following Feet,
And a Voice above their beat...

Characteristics of an Invitational Evangelization

- Creative
- Persistent
- Joyful

Joyful

An evangelizer must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral! (EG 10).

Joyful

There are Christians whose lives seem like Lent without Easter. I realize of course that joy is not expressed the same way at all times in life, especially at moments of great difficulty. Joy adapts and changes, but it always endures, even as a flicker of light born of our personal certainty that, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved (EG 6).

Characteristics of an Invitational Evangelization

- Creative (“delicious banquet”)
- Persistent
- Joyful
- Attentive to Solidarity (especially with creation)

Attentive to Solidarity

The ultimate purpose of other creatures is not to be found in us. Rather, all creatures are moving forward with us and through us towards a common point of arrival, which is God (*Laudato Si'* 83).

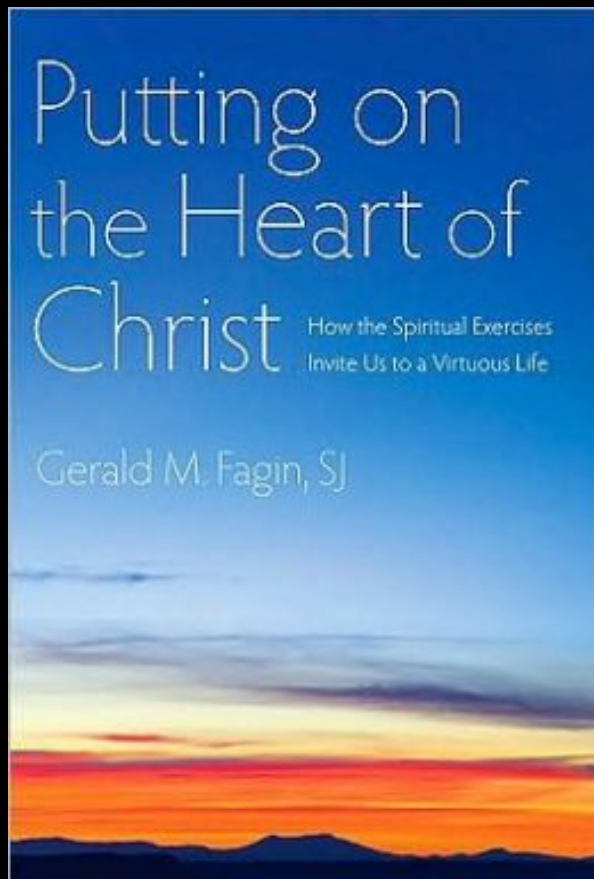
Attentive to Solidarity

It is not enough to think of different species merely as potential “resources” to be exploited, while overlooking the fact that they have value in themselves. ...Because of us [and our contribution to extinctions], thousands of species will no longer give glory to God by their very existence, nor convey their message to us (*Laudato Si'* 33).

Characteristics of an Invitational Evangelization

- Joyful
- Attentive to Solidarity (especially with creation)
- Creative
- Persistent
- Indifferent

Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola



Preliminaries

- We are loved
- Our goal is to love God and neighbor

Suscipe

Take, Lord, receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, my entire will. You have given all to me. Now I return it. Everything is yours. Do with it what you will. Give me only your love and your grace and that is enough for me.

Ignatian themes

- Suscipe:
 - You have given all to me: All is gift
 - To you, Lord, I return it: Need for Action
 - Everything is yours; do with it what you will. Give me only your love and your grace. That is enough for me:

Ignatian Relativism

- Choose gifts leading to goal/avoid what doesn't
- St. Augustine: Love God and do what you will

Ignatian themes

- Suscipe:

- You have given all to me: All is gift
- To you, Lord, I return it: Need for Action
- Everything is yours; do with it what you will. Give me only your love and your grace. That is enough for me:

Ignatian Relativism

- (Holy) Indifference: Remain undecided. "We ought not to be led on by our natural likes and dislikes even in matters such as health or sickness, wealth or poverty, between living in the east or the west, becoming an accountant or a lawyer" (Fleming).

Ignatian themes

- Suscipe:

- You have given all to me: All is gift
- To you, Lord, I return it: Need for Action
- Everything is yours; do with it what you will. Give me only your love and your grace. That is enough for me:

Ignatian Relativism

- (Holy) Indifference: Decide only in terms of goal, i.e., love of God and neighbor.

Ignatian themes

- Suscipe:
 - You have given all to me: All is gift
 - To you, Lord, I return it: Need for Action
 - Everything is yours; do with it what you will. Give me only your love and your grace. That is enough for me:
Holy Indifference

Gift, Action, Indifference

“Prophets of a Future Not Our Own,”
Bishop Ken Untener, 1979

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.

The Kingdom of God is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.

Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.

Prophets of a Future Not Our Own

...No prayer fully expresses our faith.

...No program accomplishes the Church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

...We plant the seeds that one day will grow.

We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.

Prophets of a Future Not Our Own

...We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.

This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.

Prophets of a Future Not Our Own

...We may never see the end results.

But that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders.

Ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.

Reflections

What can you do to make your evangelization invitational and so:

- Joyful
- Attentive to Solidarity (especially with creation)
- Creative
- Persistent
- Indifferent

Questions/Comments?