



Jesuit Retreat House
4800 Fahrnwald Road
Oshkosh, WI 54902

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The Jesuit Retreat House in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, fosters spiritual enrichment rooted in the Gospels, the Catholic tradition and the spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Our ministry is dedicated to creating a rich variety of retreat experiences and providing an atmosphere of quiet, peace and prayer in which men and women of all faiths are encouraged to discover and respond generously to God's personal invitation to wholeness and holiness.

www.JesuitRetreatHouse.org

Employee Spotlight

Lance Andrae general labor/ grounds keeping



Lance was born and raised in Milwaukee. He worked in the automotive industry for thirty years as a salesman while living in the Cedarburg and West Bend area before retiring and moving to Van Dyne four years ago. Lance recalls, "One day last year my neighbor Dawn, who happens to be the housekeeping supervisor at JRH, told me that there was a part-time groundskeeper/laborer position opening up at the retreat house. Dawn said that I would love working with the entire staff and she was right!" Lance joined the retreat house staff in September 2015 and has truly enjoyed his work. "I love the outdoors and when I found out that I would be primarily working outside on those beautiful grounds ... well, it's probably the closest I'll ever get to heaven."

Lance and Linda his wife of nearly 50 years live in Van Dyne. They have three grown children and six grandchildren who live in the Fond du Lac area.

End of year giving: Annual Appeal and Matching Gifts

As 2016 comes to an end, we want to thank all retreatants and donors for your continued support of our silent retreat ministry with prayers and monetary gifts. The Holy Spirit has truly blessed us for nearly 56 years! We are committed to providing a sacred place and experience to individuals and families that will hopefully continue for another 56 years.

In that light, we would like you to prayerfully consider an end of year gift through our annual appeal process. You should have received your *Annual Appeal* mailing in late October outlining our needs for the coming year. As you ponder how you may help us, did you know that 18 million people work for companies with *matching gift* programs? Unfortunately, participation among employees at these companies can be as low as 5% due to lack of awareness. That means as many as 95% of employees at some companies are not taking advantage of their matching gift programs. *If you are still in the workforce, please check with your employer to see if they offer a matching gift benefit.* Peace and blessings.

Advisory Council: 2016-17

The Jesuit Retreat House continues to be blessed with talented and dedicated retreatants who are willing to serve on our advisory council to help maintain and grow our sacred retreat ministry. Council members come from many walks of life and backgrounds: automotive, law, manufacturing, service sector, development, religious, finance, accounting and more. Below are our current board members, hometowns, and council sub-committee assignments:

Paul Eberle (Council Chair) Elm Grove, WI Development Committee	Daniel J. Kolb Brookfield, WI Finance Committee
Jordan Skarr Chicago-Detroit/Wisconsin Provinces Chicago, IL Society of Jesus - Province Liaison	John A. O'Connell Milwaukee, WI Finance Committee
Mark Frederick Brookfield, WI Marketing Committee	Lynn Ann Reesman Jackson, WI Programming Committee
Ruth Hoenick Slinger, WI Marketing Committee	William Reilley Brookfield, WI Development Committee
Cathy Holmes, CPA Fitchburg, WI Finance/Personnel Committee	James Schlater Brookfield, WI Facilities Committee
	Tim Weiss Milwaukee, WI Development Committee

Overwhelming blessing ... so much learning

It's been nine months since I arrived, time enough to give birth! In some ways I still feel like an infant, living in starry-eyed wonder as I watch the seasons unfold in stunning beauty, meeting new faces, shaking so many hands, struggling to remember names, giving and receiving hundreds of hugs. Overwhelming blessing ... so much learning.

Though I've never had the honor, in some ways I feel like a mother who has carried the child as I learn a new "way of proceeding," as St. Ignatius liked to say! Again, overwhelming blessing ... so much learning!

Most of all, as the seasons turn again, I find myself tremendously grateful. God led me to this blessed place; I have found a new home. I never cease to be amazed by the goodness I see in you who come to us at the Jesuit Retreat House. We are incredibly blessed by your presence and your generosity. Each



weekend retreat gives me pause as I reflect on my own response to God's action in my life. I have the privilege of listening to and receiving snatches of your sacred stories as you share your life with me. And just as I gaze at the beauty of the surroundings with starry-eyed wonder, so too do I gaze at the beauty you dare to share. God is truly at work in your lives and your sharing strengthens us as well.

The holidays will be here soon. Families will gather, laughter will be shared, footballs teams cheered, bountiful meals devoured, gifts given and received. I've often heard it said that God especially hears the prayers of the little ones, the children, the ones considered least among humanity. If that be the case, I claim my

Sr. Susan Kusz, SND

Sr. Susan Kusz, SND
Associate Director



“Everything that the Father gives me will come to me.” - Jn 6:37a



Do you have a “go-to” person or saint when you need guidance or help? Many of us do, and the Jesuit Retreat House does as well. Over the years you may have noticed some of them while you’ve been here on retreat. Primary, of course, is Jesus Christ, followed by Mary, His mother, and then, St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits).

All of the saints and souls in our lives – people who have gone before us and continue to be sources of guidance, strength and encouragement – come to mind at this time of year when we celebrate the solemnity of All Saints, November 1, and commemorate the faithful departed (All Souls), November 2. Here are some of the lesser-noticed saints and souls who accompany you while here on retreat. How many of them can you find the next time you’re on retreat?

St. Maria Goretti (1) – A relic of this young Italian saint is in Mary’s Chapel, in the basement of the Loyola building, surrounded by a circle of children figurines in traditional Korean clothing. Maria was only 11 when she died in 1902 resisting a neighbor boy’s attempt to rape her. Maria came to him in a dream years later, and forgave him, which brought about his conversion and decision to be a monk. He witnessed her canonization in Rome in 1950. Her feast is July 6, the date of her death. She is patron of youth, young women, purity, and rape victims.

St. Peter the Apostle (2) – The white Italian marble statue of St. Peter the Apostle in our porch area has been here since 1968, dedicated to the memory of Katherine G. Trecker, and reminds us of the fisherman who Jesus asked to be a shepherd. He is known as the first of the Roman Catholic Church’s unbroken succession of popes. Patron of fishermen, net makers, and ship builders, he was crucified in 64 AD during Emperor Nero’s reign. His feast day is June 29.



St. Jude the Apostle (3) – The white Italian marble statue of St. Jude, also in the porch area, arrived in 1965 along with the polished Botticino marble statue of St. Ignatius of Loyola in the Loyola Lounge. St. Jude’s statue is dedicated to the memory of Earl William Barcome. The son of Clopas and brother of St. James the Less, St. Jude’s mother Mary was the Virgin Mary’s cousin. The flame atop his head signifies his presence at Pentecost when he accepted the Holy Spirit with the other apostles; an image of Christ is on his chest. As patron of desperate causes, desperate situations, and lost causes, he is a popular intercessor. His feast is October 28.

St. Joseph (4) – A print of the oil painting, “Joseph the Carpenter,” showing a young Jesus beside St. Joseph as he works, is just outside the Loyola Lounge. Painted by Georges de La Tour, about 1645, the original hangs in the Louvre at Paris. In many of his works, a strong light source is surrounded by the shadows it casts; the light that shines through Jesus’ raised hand in this painting, as if in benediction, is symbolic of Jesus as the “Light of the World.” As patron of the Universal Church, unborn children, fathers, travelers, immigrants, and a happy death, his feast is celebrated March 19. May 1 is the feast of St. Joseph the Worker.

St. Thomas More (5) – The lawyer, father, martyr, and saint, has been portrayed on stage (1960) and in movies (1966) in, “A Man for All Seasons,” by playwright Robert Bolt. Martyred in 1535 at the hands of Henry VIII, who he had served as a councilor and Lord High Chancellor of England from 1529 to 1532, More’s opposition to the King’s separation from the Catholic Church, the declaration of Henry as Supreme Head of the Church of England, and the king’s annulment of his marriage to Catherine of Aragon, led to his martyrdom. His feast is June 22. He is patron saint of adopted children, lawyers, civil servants, politicians and difficult marriages. He was canonized in 1935. His portrait also is just outside Loyola Lounge.

St. Francis Xavier (6) – His image near the La Storta second-floor conference room taken is from a German publication extolling his missionary endeavors. Born in 1506, the patron saint of foreign missions was a college roommate of St. Ignatius of Loyola at the University of Paris, and became one of the seven companions who founded the Society of Jesus in 1540. Fifteen years younger than Ignatius, he was much more interested in non-religious pursuits during his university days, until convinced by Ignatius to make the Spiritual Exercises. The two became closest of friends in the process, and Xavier’s purpose in life forever changed. In 1540 he was sent by Ignatius to the Far East in response to the Pope’s request for missionaries. After a year’s voyage, including six months in Mozambique, he arrived in Goa, India, where he baptized thousands, before moving onto various parts of the Far East, including Japan. He died in 1552 on the island of Sancian, off the coast of China. His feast day is December 3.

Reliquary of saints & blessed (7) – Framed above our memorial book of JRH retreatants, these relics are just inside the glass double-doors leading to St. Ignatius Chapel. They represent a who’s who of Jesuit saints and blessed of the Roman Catholic Church, including St. Ignatius of Loyola, St. Francis Xavier, St. Edmund Campion, and the North American Martyrs, who were martyred in the 17th century among the Huron. Relics of four non-Jesuit saints are included: St. John the Apostle, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Pope Pius X, and St. Charles Borromeo. What are relics? From the Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy (2001) Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments:

236. The Second Vatican Council recalls that “the Saints have been traditionally honored in the Church, and their authentic relics and images held in veneration”(323). The term “relics of the Saints” principally signifies the bodies - or notable parts of the bodies - of the Saints who, as distinguished members of Christ’s mystical Body and as Temples of the Holy Spirit (cf. 1 Cor 3, 16; 6, 19; 2 Cor 6, 16) (324) in virtue of their heroic sanctity, now dwell in Heaven, but who once lived on earth. Objects which belonged to the Saints, such as personal objects, clothes and manuscripts are also considered relics, as are objects which have touched their bodies or tombs such as oils, cloths, and images.

Retreatants Memorial Book (8) – One of the greatest gifts we have been given over the years are the retreatants who come annually to the Jesuit Retreat House, and when one of our retreatants dies we include them in a Memorial Book placed just inside the glass double-doors leading to the St. Ignatius Chapel. More than 1,500 deceased retreatants are remembered in this way, and each year friends, family, and fellow retreatants notify us when a retreatant has died, so that we update the list so all can be remembered in our prayers. Deceased retreatants are listed three ways: alphabetically, by month of death, and by year of death, for easy reference. During this month of remembering the saints and souls who have blessed us in our lives, we offer a prayer for the Jesuit Retreat House retreatants and their eternal peace.



New artwork on 2nd floor of Manresa Retreatant Wing

A series of 15 prints from the late Arizona artist Ted DeGrazia depict the Stations of the Cross, plus the Resurrection. Fr. Chris commented, “Since the overall theme of the building’s art is ‘journey,’ Christ’s journey to the cross and the resurrection is paramount and necessary to include artistically in the building. In addition, the DeGrazia prints provide color and a difference in style that we think will help balance the more muted earthtones already in the building.”

The matting, framing and installation of the artwork were made possible by a donation from long-time retreatants John and Pat Waymel, in memory of John’s mother Marion Waymel.

