





## Discernment The art of appreciating the gifts we have been given and discovering how best to use them/share them. Discovering where my talents meet the worlds deepest hungers... What it is NOT: finding the divine blue print and then complying with it.



#### AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM





## CHOOSING THE "MAGIS"

#### TRUSTING THE HEART



According to Ignatius of Loyola, the discernment of spirits is defined as that process by which we seek to distinguish between different kinds of spiritual stirrings in our hearts\*, identifying those that are from a Divine Source and those that are not, in order to accept the former and to reject the latter.



\*These affective stirrings include the likes of joy, sadness, hope, fear, peace, anxiety, and similar feelings — with their related thoughts and reactions, that influence our life and our progress toward inner peace and wholi-ness.

#### **ID QUOD VOLO**

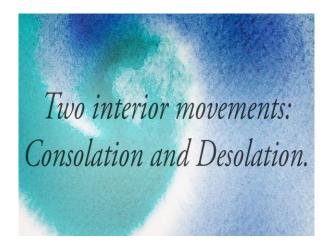


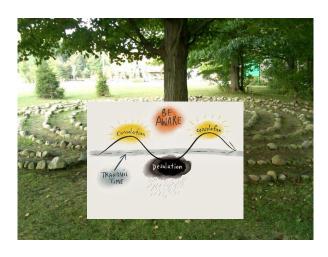
**DESIRE** is not just about what we say or think we want. More importantly, it is about what we really long for deep in our hearts. In the **EXERCISES** we pray for what we truly desire, Ignatius says – *id quod volo* – is the old Latin phrase. For example, we do not so much ask for job security as we ask for a profound and personal peace underneath our employment situation. We do not ask for

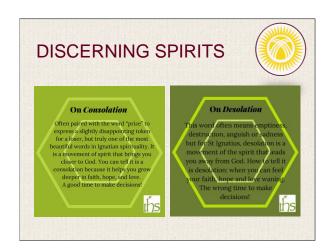


the resolution of some particular conflict, we ask for the gift of understanding others and ourselves. Once awakened, our deepest, soulful desires necessarily lead to action.













## What a Spiritual Companion is NOT...

- A traditional spiritual director
- (Necessarily) a long-term relationship
- Focused on the typical director-directee practices or dynamics
- Focused beyond experiences of the Spiritual Exercises



## What a Spiritual Companion IS...



- -A companion and prayerful presence through the Exercises
- -A witness for the retreatant in trusting their experiences of the Exercises
- -One who directs the seeker back to the principles of discernment that are highlighted in the weekly Exercises



# SACRAMENT OF THE SACRED QUESTION

## THE EXERCISES: FOUR WEEKS & MOVEMENTS

- · WEEK ONE: Awareness, Desire & Freedom
- WEEK TWO: Gratitude, Imagination & Service
- · WEEK THREE: Suffering & the Cost of Loving
- · WEEK FOUR: The Fruits of Discernment

#### **DAILY EXERCISES**



- MORNING REFLECTION
- Wisdom from the Exercises
  - Reflection Question
  - Enneagram Insight/Awareness
  - Devotional Reflection
  - Awareness for the Day

#### **DAILY EXERCISES**



- MID DAY REFLECTION
  - Mini-EXAMEN (Holy Noticing)
  - Gratitude

#### **DAILY EXERCISES**



- EVENING REFLECTION
  - The EXAMEN
  - Discernment Journal
  - Points for Tomorrow
    - Theme for Tomorrow
    - Ignatian Teaching
    - Enneagram Wisdom

#### THE EXAMEN



- The EXAMEN should take about fifteen minutes; consider using the Five R's to help guide your time:
  - REQUEST the presence of Mystery (however you imagine it) to lead you through the review of the day
  - 2) RELISH the moments that went well and gifts received today
  - 3) REVIEW (walk back through your day) using the daily suggested focus questions as your guide, for example:
    - -"Where did I most find freedom today?"
    - -Or, "Where did I least find freedom today?"
  - 4) REPENT for any mistakes or failures by simply acknowledging them without drama or self-loathing. If you feel called to at-one-ment with another, with Mystery or yourself, note that desire for whenever an appropriate time arises.
  - 5) RESOLVE with a concrete intention to live tomorrow consciously and free

#### **DAILY JOURNAL**





Perhaps the most essential tool for discernment in The Exercises

Deep Discernment is more possible because we record and can then track our daily affective movements

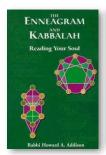
Spiritual Companion can ask if a retreatant gives 'permission to mandate' the daily journaling practice

#### IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT YOUR DAILY SPIRITUAL EXERCISES

- As you consider and engage with the recommended daily exercises for this retreat please keep a few important guidelines in mind...

  3) There are several recommendations made for each day of the Thirty Day Retreat experience. You are not expected to complete every suggestion. This retreats TOVIE ROPERING. Recommendations are just that—offerings that can support and complement your retreat experience.
- During the retreat you will be learning about the Ignatian principle to strive towards the MAGIS (the greater good) not the MAGIS as in 'more is better.' Whichever exercises you practice, look towards quality vs. quantity
- Daily options are offered, for example, regarding different texts that you
  might want to consider for your contemplative time. Pay attention to
  where/if you are drawn and trust your preferences.
- 4) The overall goal should be to find a space of time in the morning and evening to reflect on the daily themes and wisdom begin offered. Find a daily rhythm that works for you and stay with the exercises that are most life-giving for you.
- 6) Above all, please do not dispense with the recommendation to engage with some form of daily journaling. This will be an essential component for your ongoing spiritual discernment.
- Finally, please make the weekly webinars and meetings with your spiritual guides a priority.

#### SPIRITUAL EXERCISES & THE ENNEAGRAM







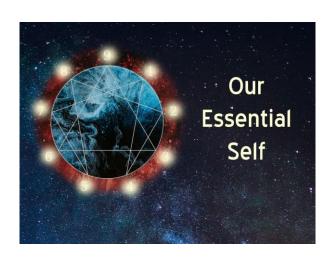
#### SPIRITUAL EXERCISES & THE ENNEAGRAM

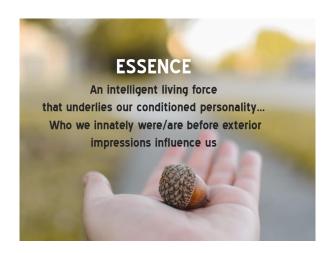


A Daily Invitation to engage with Enneagram Insights in order to see where our True Self and False Self might be influencing our spiritual movements









"The Enneagram's purpose is to help us uncover the traps that keep us from living fully and freely as our true self so that we will use our unique, authentic gifts for the good of others and the world." -Richard Rohr

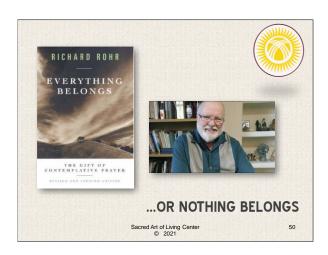
### DITUM EDEEDOM

#### SPIRITUAL FREEDOM

We grow in Spiritual Freedom when we become more aware of our distorted attachments that get in the way of Love.

We experience full spiritual freedom when we recognize our belonging in Wholeness to even what we may consider sinister, objectionable or wrong.

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#### WHY SPIRITUAL FREEDOM?

If you do not understand what spiritual freedom is, you will try to live your life by manipulating your outer experience to get your own way or (worse) you will twist reality to manipulate your inner experience rather than surrender.

A.H. Almaas



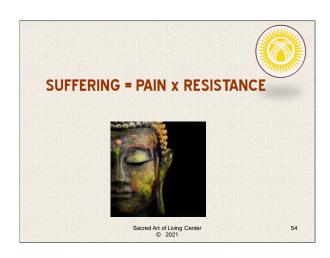
#### **OSCAR ICHAZO**

"The awareness that Reality, moving with direction and its natural laws... flows with a certain force.

The easiest way to deal with this force is to move with it. This is true freedom."

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#### **BEFRIENDING THE SHADOW**



-Which one may especially be asking for attention?

Bringing the shadow into your consciousness drains its dark power...

The Shadow wants to be heard and when it is received, can be a source of emotional richness, healing and vitality.

Carl Jung, 1958

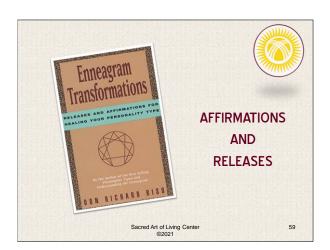
WEEK ONE/DAY ONE Theme: From Unfreedom to Freedom
MORNING EXERCISES
3. ENNEAGRAM INSIGHT
Simply observe how the following Enneagram insight complements today's teachings.
Reality moves with direction and follows the laws of nature; it flows with a certain
force. The easiest way to deal with this force is to move with it. This is true freedom.  Oscar Ichazo, Enneagram Pioneeer
4. ENNEAGRAM AWARENESS
Spend a few minutes with today's Enneagram insights; consider making a journal entry which you could return to at the end of the day.
-Read the RELEASES of your Ennea-Style in <u>Enneagram Transformations</u> (cf. online Enneagram references #3).
Identify which once echo areas of un freedom in your life

#### **EVENING EXERCISES** POINTS FOR TOMORROW The Spiritual Exercises recommend that, before retiring, we consider the spiritual geography for the next day. As we settle into deeper rest we prepare our unconscious for the next day's exercises. This is not a time for study and analysis but a gentle pointer towards our next movement and direction. DAY TWO THEME: **Discerning Our Strongest and Deepest Desires** WISDOM FROM IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY: To trust your affective experiences and desires ENNEAGRAM TEACHING:

We grow in spiritual freedom when we become more aware of disordered attachments that get in the way of love. The 'work' is to re-member and affirm our essential gift and goodness.

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#### **RELEASES OF ENNEA-STYLE ONE** I now release: Holding myself and others to impossible standards. My fear of being condemned for being wrong. Refusing to see my own contradictions. All bitterness and disappointment with the world. Believing that I am in a position to judge others. Driving myself and others to be perfect. Feeling angry, impatient and easily annoyed. Feeling that it is up to me to fix everything. Sacred Art of Living Center 60

#### WEEK ONE/DAY FOUR Theme: Nothing to Fear



#### 4. ENNEAGRAM AWARENESS

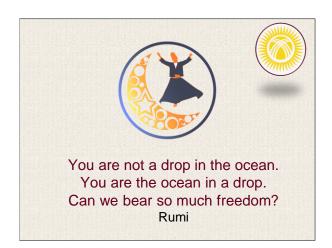
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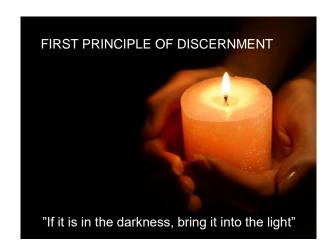
-Consult the <u>Enneagram Chart of Characteristics</u> (cf. Enneagram References #1; also note that there is an associated document (Enneagram References #2) that defines each of the terms listed in the chart of characteristics).

-Put your finger at the top of the descending Characteristics of your Type. Note the developmental unfolding from VIRTUE to PASSION (say the words out loud). Follow down to the lines from AVOIDANCE to TRAP (which moves us away from our HOLY IDEA) and say these terms out loud. Now notice how the OBJECT OF ATTENTION triggers our CHIEF FEATURE and say these two terms aloud. Notice how it feels to say, 'this is what I do.' Next notice and say out loud your IDEALIZATION followed by your TALKING STYLE and a DEFENSE MECHANISM which create a DICHOTOMY within yourself. All the while your ESSENCE is like a diamond in the rough waiting to emerge with enhanced self awareness. Finally, how could you remind yourself today that your ESSENCE is the True Self which you neither create nor work toward. It is the never-changing YOU created in the Divine Image.

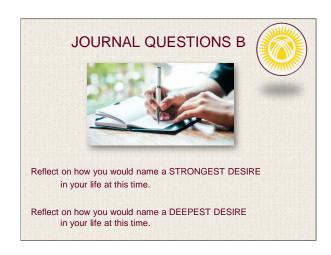
			<b>ENNEAGRA</b>	M CHART	OF CHARAC	TARISTICS			
	Type 1	Type 2	Type 3	Type 4	Type 5	Туре 6	Type 7	Type 8	Type 9
VIRTUE/STRENGTH	Serenity	Humility	Truthfulness	Equanimity	lonattachmen	Courage	Sobriety	Simplicity	Diligence
PASSION/	Anger	Pride	Vanity	Envy	Stinginess	Fear	Over-	Arrogance	Indolence
CHALLENGE									
AVOIDANCE	Imperfection	My Needs	Failure	Ordinariness	Emptiness	Deviance	Indulgence Pain	Weakness	Conflict
TRAP	Perfection	Service	Efficiency	Authenticity	Knowledge	Security	Idealism	Justice	Self
						,			Abasement
HOLY IDEA	Growth	Freedom	Compassion	Mystical	Guidance	All-embracing	Co-Creation	Truth	Unconditiona
				Union	of Nature	Trust			Love
OBJECT OF	Error	Others	Tasks and	Missing	Detaching to	Worst Case	Best Case	Moving in to	Others
ATTENTION		Needs	Goals	Elements of Happiness	Observe	Thinking	Thinking	Take Control	Agenda
			Over-	Melancholia	Withdrawal				
CHIEF FEATURE	Resentment		Compensation		Withdrawai	Paranoia	Planning	Vengeance	Sloth
IDEALIZATION	l am	I am	Lam	I am		Lam	Lam	Lam	Lam
	Righteous	Helpful	Successful	Elite	Know	Loyal	Okay	Competent	Comfortable
TALKING STYLE	Preaching	Giving Advice	Promotion	Lamentation	Treatise	Setting Limits	Stories	Laying Trips	Saga
DEFENSE	Reaction	Repression	Identification	Introjection	Isolation	Projection	Rationalization	Denial	Self-
MECHANISM	Formation								Narcotization
DICHOTOMY	Rigid/	Militant/	Overactive/	Analytic/	Social/	Pushy/	Inferior/	Puritan/	Believer/
	Sensitive	Libertine	Fantasy	Disoriented	Antisocial	Surrender	Superior	Hedonist	Doubter
ESSENCE	Purity	Altruism	Love	Joy	Peace	oure Intelligence	Absorption	Cosmic Power	Awareness

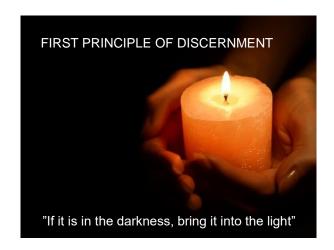
















#### "Una Vez Que un Alma Despierta"

 Once a soul comes awake, an eternal search begins and you can never go back. From then on, you are inflamed with an intense longing that will never again let you settle for the lowlands of complacency or partial fulfillment. The eternal makes you urgent (la eternal le hace urgente) and you will never let compromise or a threat of danger hold you back.



Original text inspired in—
The Celtic & Iberian Books of Living & Dying

### MARY GROVES

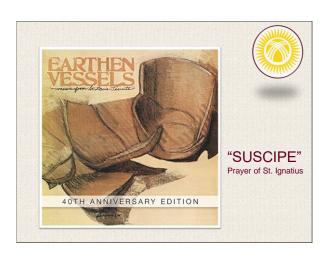


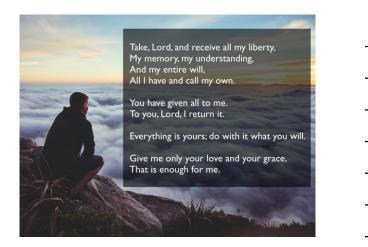
With God's grace and love...

I have lived with courage
I honestly accept my mistakes
I hope to die with no regrets.

Her Journal, 7/31/07 Loyola Casa Retreat Feast of St Ignatius







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