

Parish Social Ministry Gathering

St. Ignatius Parish – November 3rd

For I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
a stranger and you welcomed me.

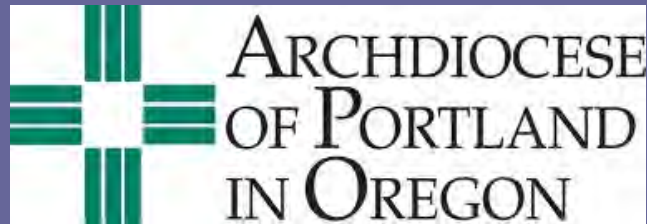
MATTHEW 25:35



ART BY ROBERT HANSON

Creating space for exploring justice
issues as a parish

*Given our unique parish mission and
the mission of the Church –*



*how is God inviting us to work for
justice as a faith community?*

Assumptions of Ignatian Discernment:



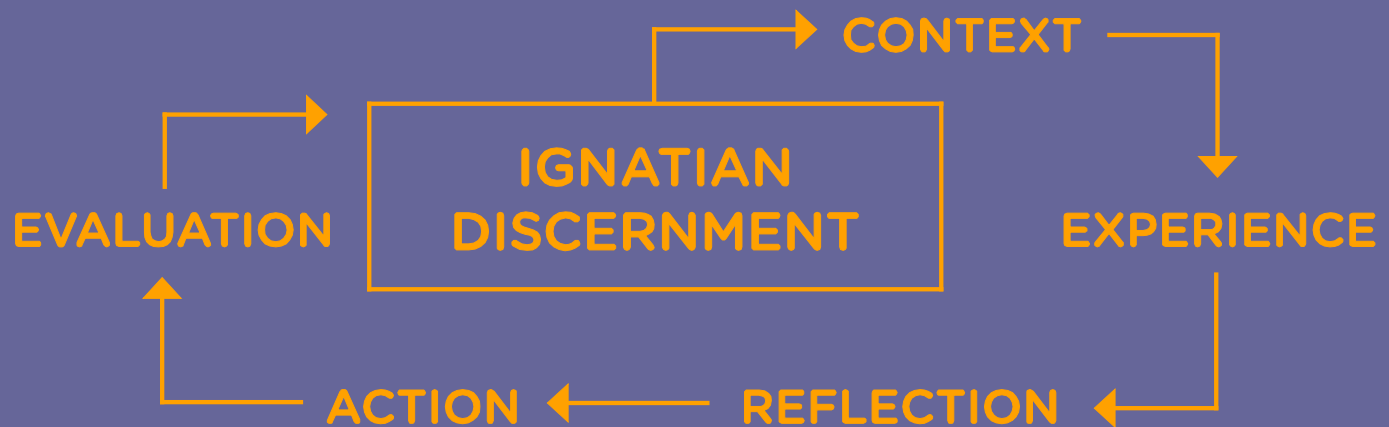
- **God wants to be known**
- **God's spirit** is moving within individuals, community, the Church
- For the sake of **action**
- Choosing between two competing goods
- **Conflict** – differing notions of what is the greatest good – will naturally arise



To begin we...

- Open ourselves up to **God's hope for us**
- Are attentive to **God's Spirit**
- Instead of having the right answers, we ground ourselves in the **key questions**

Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm



1. CONTEXT



External factors:

- history, culture, and environment
- laws, civil structures
- Scripture & Tradition, especially Catholic social teaching

2. Experience



- **Internal**
- Personal encounters that shape our worldview
- Each person has a **unique identity** and perspective
- Helps us see where we need **more information or dialogue**
- **Safe space** is essential for authentic sharing

3. Reflection

- Bring the **general context** and our own **experience to prayer**
- We notice **consolation** and **desolation**
- We foster freedom and attentiveness by making reflection an on-going practice.



4. Action



- As a community, we decide how **God is calling us to respond to the issue**
- While we cannot know the full context of the issue or the implications of our actions, **we act in humility, trusting that God is with us.**

5. Evaluation

- What happened as a result of our action?
- What was life-giving?
- Where is there room for improvement?
- Further informs our context and experience - groundwork for future discernment.





Timeline

Parish Kick-Off Event

Intro to Ignatian Discernment and World Café



Stages 1, 2:
Context &
Experience



Timeline

- **Wednesday, October 15, 2014 - 7:00 pm**
Synod on the Family - Human Trafficking
- **January 1, 2015 - 10:00 am**
New Year Peace Mass- Immigration
- **Friday, February 27, 2015 6:00 pm**
Stations of the Cross - Economic Justice
- **Wednesday, April 22, 2015 7:00 pm**
Earth Day - Ecological Justice

Stages 1, 2, 3:
Context,
Experience,
Reflection



Timeline

Saturday, May 23, 2015

Pentecost Weekend - Year of
Discernment Parish Retreat

Stages 1, 2, 3, 4:
Context,
Experience,
Reflection,
Action



- Send recommendations to Pastoral Council
- Take **Action and Evaluate (Stage 4 & 5)** as a parish

Discernment Event Template



- **Liturgy: grounding in prayer/worship**
- **Formation: education on the particular issue being highlighted**
- **Going deeper: offering further opportunities for Action/Reflection**

