

Ignatian Exercises Director Training

Starting
May
2024

- Online training cohort
- In-person deep dive retreat
- Learn as you lead
- 2 years of included support
- Join an ongoing community of directors
- Proven method, over 45 directors trained

Led by
Dale
Gish

Ignatian Exercises Director Training led by Dale Gish: Starting May 2024

This program, started by Bill Zuelke, who spent 20 years as a Jesuit, trains Protestant spiritual directors to offer the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. Dale Gish now leads this program following Bill's method.

Advantages of this training program:

- Builds on your spiritual direction training, provides you with upfront Ignatian training and ongoing support, allowing you to learn the rest as you lead others through the Exercises.
- Begin offering the 19th Annotation of the Exercises as soon as September 2024, while your support and training continue for the first two years you offer them.
- Join a community of trained directors who use the same model and accompany one another.
- Your efforts leading the Exercises can pay for your training costs.
- It is richly Ignatian in content, Catholic in the best sense, but accessible for Protestants.
- Be trained to use Dale's reworked prayer materials (following the approach of Joseph Tetlow).
- Flexible and gentle approach trusts the Holy Spirit to be the primary director of the Exercises.
- Dale's ongoing support, direction, and supervision help make this a rich experience.

Advantages of this model:

- Group sessions provide a rich context for retreatants, and further motivation to pray.
- Individual sessions allow personalized adjustments and deep conversations with retreatants.
- Your group stays together as it goes, allowing you to remain focused and in tune with them.
- Follows the liturgical calendar. Jesus' birth at Christmas, passion in Lent, resurrection at Easter
- Teaching videos available to help provide teaching and content for the group times you lead.
- Focus on belovedness and a love relationship with Jesus are profound and impactful.
- Allows you to offer the Exercises at a price retreatants can afford and you can make a living by.
- Allows more people to pray the Exercises. More than 100 people are praying this year.

Interested? Questions? Contact Dale Gish for more information - dalemgish@gmail.com

Details and timeline for the first year of training:

- A book to read in preparation
- Online cohort training on the “weeks” or themes of the exercises and how to lead in each theme. Includes teaching, individual prayer, and reflection on the theme, sharing the graces of the prayers together. -late May – mid-July.
- Nuts and bolts training and preparations to gather a group of people through the Exercises -mid-July
- Discernment with interested retreatants, who begin praying warmup/discernment prayers starting mid-July- September
- Deep dive retreat at Mt. Angel Guesthouse, Mt. Angel, OR. Aug 12-18. An expectation that cohort participants would attend this retreat either in Aug 2024 or Aug 2025. The retreat will be a deep dive on advanced Ignatian themes in a beautiful Benedictine monastery guesthouse.
- Full Ignatian Exercises kick off in late Sept 2022. Monthly support group and periodic 1-1 meetings with Dale for support and supervision.

Requirements:

- Have prayed the Spiritual Exercises accompanied by a director. If not, consider praying the Exercises with Dale or someone else this year and beginning training in 2024.
- Have a deep experience of the graces of the Exercises and a desire to share them with others.
- Have completed a spiritual direction training program, having the skills to lead individual sessions. Those who have not completed spiritual direction training but have extensive experience with the Exercises and equivalent spiritual care experience may be considered.
- A love for and personal connection with Jesus.

How /When to apply:

- Email Dale to set up a conversation to learn more and begin discernment.
- Complete the Ignatian Training Interest Form. <https://forms.gle/RrLoKTewUAJevsES6>
- Specific dates for the online cohort May-July will be set on April 1 in consideration of those who are accepted by then. Interest after April 1 will not have input.

Cost: over the course of 2 years

- \$2,800 (if you attend in-person deep dive in 2024)
- Cost for in-person deep dive could increase for 2025
- The cost of training may be offset by what you receive from those you lead through the Exercises during the 2 years.

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