



Mercy Spirituality Center

TO: Retreat Applicants
FROM: Mercy Spirituality Center
SUBJECT: Application Process & Packet
DATE: May 2018

Thank you for expressing an interest in the Spiritual Exercises for Everyday Living. The Retreat consists of 30 weekly sessions: Each week includes a teaching and one-on-one time with a certified prayer guide. Participants can choose to attend 30 weekly sessions at Mercy Spirituality Center either in the morning or evening, or to participate virtually using Skype, FaceTime and SoundCloud. The 2018-2019 Spiritual Exercises will begin on September 26, 2018, but we also offer a “rolling admission” option.

To apply, please complete the following:

- Application Form**
- Application Questionnaire**
- Recommendation Form**

A Personal Interview is also required and will be scheduled once the application has been submitted.

Return your application via mail or email to:

Holly Rockwell
Mercy Spirituality Center
65 Highland Avenue
Rochester, NY 14620
hrockwell@mercyspiritualitycenter.org

The cost of the thirty-week group Retreat at Mercy Spirituality Center is \$800; the cost of the virtual option is \$500. Fifty percent of the retreat cost is due prior to beginning the Retreat. The remaining balance is payable monthly or in two installments. The fee will be discussed and finalized at the time of the personal interview. If you are in a financial position to contribute more, it will be gratefully appreciated and applied to our Scholarship Fund to assist persons in need of financial assistance.

You have taken the first step of a potentially amazing journey to deepen your relationship with God and come to understand the working of God’s Spirit within you and in your daily life. As you continue to pray and decide whether this is the appropriate time for you to make the Spiritual Exercises, be assured that our prayers are with you also.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mercy Spirituality Center (585) 473-6893.



What are the Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life?

The Spiritual Exercises grew out of the lived experiences of Ignatius of Loyola more than 500 years ago and have since drawn thousands and thousands of people into deeper relationship with Jesus. The Exercises are an experience, not an academic study; the practices Ignatius developed invite us into a personal journey from the head to the heart. Companionship is also an essential part of Ignatian spirituality. Everyone who participates meets weekly with a certified Prayer Guide.

Commitment

- 30 weekly sessions (either at Mercy Spirituality Center or virtually)
- One hour of prayer and Scripture meditation daily
- Journaling the daily prayer experience
- Willingness to share prayer experiences with a trained Prayer Guide

Readiness

- Experience in prayer with Scripture or willingness to learn
- Recommendation of a spiritual advisor or close friend familiar with your spiritual life
- Physical, emotional and psychological health
- Desire and ability to meet the time commitment required of the retreat

Recommendation

The nature of this Retreat is such that we ask you to obtain a letter of recommendation (*the form is in the Application Packet*) from a close associate, spiritual advisor or pastoral leader who knows you well, and who has a sense of your readiness for this retreat experience.

Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life Application Form

Date: _____

Name: _____

Prefer to be called: _____

Date of birth: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____

Zip: _____

Preferred phone: _____ Other phone: _____

Email: _____

Employer: _____

Job title: _____

Medical condition: Very Good _____ Good _____ Fair _____ Poor _____

Any medical condition we should be aware of: _____

Recommendation will be sent by:

Phone: _____

I prefer the following session:

_____ Wednesday morning _____ Wednesday evening _____ Virtual



Mercy Spirituality Center

Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius in Everyday Life

2018-2019

Applicant Questionnaire

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please complete and return with the Application Form. Please type, if possible. Forms are available via email upon request.

Family Background

Please describe your Family of Origin (growing up years). Include parents, siblings, extended family, socio-economic information, significant problems, etc.:

Please describe your current family & family relationships:

Relationship with God

Describe an early experience of God:

What are your Images of God?

Do you relate to a particular person of the Trinity? If so, please describe / explain why.

Describe your current relationship with God.

Church Membership

Are you a member of a church / faith community? ___ Yes ___ No

Please tell us a little about your church experience:

Experience of Prayer & Retreats

Please describe your prayer: (type, frequency, content, location)

Have you ever made a retreat? If so, how many and where?

What was/were these experiences like for you?

What did you most enjoy/struggle with during your retreat time?

Why are you interested in making the Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life retreat?

Personal Readiness

Do you have any personal issues that we should know about? If so, you can share them here **OR** at the personal interview, whichever you prefer.

Is there anything else you want to tell us?

Having read the material, prayed on the possibility of making the Spiritual Exercises this year, and completed the application process, are you willing and able to commit to the time, effort and fee required to make the retreat?

_____ **YES** _____ **NO**

Signature: _____

Upon receipt of the Application Form, Applicant Questionnaire, and Recommendation, a Personal Interview will be arranged which is the final step of the Application process.



**The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius: Retreat in Daily Life
2018- 2019 Recommendation**

Name of Retreat Applicant: _____

Name of Person making the Recommendation: _____

Recommender's Phone Number: _____

We ask each applicant for the 19th Annotation Retreat to submit a recommendation from a spiritual advisor, close friend or associate. Please comment on the following questions and give any other information you feel would be helpful in determining readiness for the retreat. *If you are not familiar with the Spiritual Exercises, please review the outline of retreatant qualifications we have found important over the years.*

No applicant will be accepted until the Letter of Recommendation is on file, so we ask for your cooperation in responding promptly. **Please type your responses**, if possible (*This form is available via email upon request*). Thank you for your help with the discernment process on behalf of this applicant.

1. In what capacity and how well do you know the applicant?

2. How familiar are you with the Spiritual Exercises? Have you ever made them?

3. Do you feel the applicant is spiritually & emotionally mature and ready to engage in the Spiritual Exercises Retreat at this time

If yes, how so?

If no, why not?

4. Do you have any reservations in recommending this applicant?

_____ Yes _____ No Comment:

5. Is there anything else you wish to tell us about this applicant that you think will be helpful for us to know?

Return within one week to:

**ATTN: 19th Annotation Coordinator
Mercy Spirituality Center
65 Highland Avenue
Rochester, NY 14620
585.473.6893**

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