

# Lord, Teach Me To Pray

*A Three-Part Ignatian Prayer Series*

## Save the Dates



The LTMTTP 2012 Weekend of Prayer will be held **February 2-5, 2012**. This will be our fifth annual Weekend of Prayer. It will be held at the Airport Hilton in New Orleans. Once again this year, attendees will spend the weekend *Adoring and Loving Jesus Christ* in the overall context of *The New Evangelization for the World!!* Our presenters will be Fr. Andrew Apostoli, C.F.R.; Fr. Brian Dunkle, S.J.; Fr. Marty Gleeson, O.P. and Mrs. Carol Weiler. **Go to "Upcoming Events" on our website for details and additional information:**  
[www.lordteachmetoprayer.com](http://www.lordteachmetoprayer.com)

## VERITAS

*The Order of Friars Preachers, founded by St. Dominic, is known to have been established, from the beginning, for preaching and the salvation of souls, specifically. . . . The object of our preaching is either to cause the faith to be born, or to allow it to penetrate people's entire lives more deeply, thus building up the Body of Christ which is brought to perfection by the sacraments of faith (from paragraphs II and V of The Fundamental Constitution of the Order of Friars Preachers; i.e., the Dominicans).*

Every now and then someone will ask me, "Why are you, a Dominican friar, involved with Jesuit prayer?" I have come to look forward to hearing that question.

Of course, St. Ignatius is the founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits); and Ignatian prayer is at the heart of every Jesuit's spirituality and prayer life. But Ignatian prayer is more than that. It is a gift to the whole Church. This is one reason why, I suspect,

*continued, Fr. Gleeson, pg 2*

## OUR AVAILABILITY TO YOU

For the past nine years, Fr. Marty Gleeson, O.P. has served *Lord Teach Me To Pray* in the capacity of Spiritual Advisor. He did this on a very part-time basis during those years given the fact that he was serving the Dominican Province of St. Martin de Porres in the very demanding full-time ministry of Provincial. Effective July 1, 2011 Fr. Gleeson's Provincial blessed both him and LTMTTP with a ministry assignment consisting of full-time ministry with LTMTTP and associated prayer ministries. (These associated which he has been engaged in part-time with hours inside the prison each week ministering Gleeson will continue as Spiritual Advisor, but in Carol Weiler in her role as Director of the

Given Fr. Gleeson's new assignment, and capacity as Spiritual Advisor, he is now available reached at [mgleesonop@gmail.com](mailto:mgleesonop@gmail.com) or on his Carol Weiler is always available at [carolweiler@cox.net](mailto:carolweiler@cox.net) or on her cell phone at (540)439-5933.



ministries are an inner-healing prayer ministry Mrs. Carol Weiler for nine years; and a couple of to the inmates.) In this new assignment Fr. an expanded capacity; and he will assist Mrs. LTMTTP series.

the additional time he is able to spend in his capacity as any LTMTTP facilitator or pray-er. He may be cell phone at (504)717-8770. Of course, Mrs.

In addition, Fr. Marty and Carol are available to LTMTTP facilitators and pray-ers on Tuesdays in New Orleans, by appointment, for inner-healing prayer. These prayer sessions normally last from 1 hour up to 1 ½ or 2 hours. If you do not live in New Orleans and would like to travel into the city for prayer, please call well in advance so that we assure an appointment time for you.

Fr. Gleeson, from pg 1

I have never heard a Jesuit refer to Ignatian prayer as “Jesuit” prayer. The spiritual journey which is embodied in the Spiritual Exercises is the spiritual journey of countless saints; Jesuits and non-Jesuits alike; canonized saints as well as holy men and women in our midst and those unknown to us of centuries past.

I literally stumbled into Ignatian prayer nine years ago when Mrs. Carol Weiler and her husband John asked me to serve as Spiritual Advisor to the LTMTTP series within the first year of its existence. It did not take very long for me to realize that I had stumbled into a treasure! Two aspects of Ignatian prayer resonate solidly with my Dominican charism. The first is the Ignatian way of contemplation. The holy Dominican theologian and philosopher of the 13<sup>th</sup> century, St. Thomas Aquinas, coined one of our principle mottos: *“To contemplate and to give to others the fruits of our contemplation.”* Once I began to receive the grace of Ignatian contemplation and found myself entering into gospel scenes that had come alive in my prayer, I could not wait to “give to others the fruits” of that prayer experience. The fruits of Ignatian contemplative prayer naturally flow into the pulpit and out to the faithful!

The second aspect is the evangelizing and re-evangelizing nature of LTMTTP. Dominicans are, first and foremost, evangelizers! As LTMTTP continues to grow and spread across the country, the evangelizing and re-evangelizing nature of LTMTTP has become more and more evident. Lives are being changed; souls are being saved! Facilitators often will say, “I just show up, follow the script, and watch the Holy Spirit work!” Indeed, our role as facilitators is just that! The Lord works powerfully with each individual as they pray their daily scriptures. And as we “make the space” in each small group for the Holy Spirit to move through the circle without human interference, we “make it easy” for each pray-er to enter into that deep place of prayer and faith sharing where they can receive the direction they seek as the Spirit speaks through the sharing in the group. We will never know how many lives are touched and changed, and how many souls are ultimately saved, through LTMTTP. As we have all witnessed, the graces of Ignatian prayer do not stop with the pray-er, but rather flow through each one into their marriages, families, Churches and workplaces.

My Provincial, even before he succeeded me as Provincial, was never one of the people who would ask me why, as a Dominican friar, I was involved with “Jesuit prayer”. I never once had to explain it to him. He could easily see why I was so on-fire with the Lord through my involvement with LTMTTP. As you all know by now, when it

continued, Fr. Gleeson, pg 4



I H S

## Jesus' Trust in You and Me!

*“Go out to the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature.”* (Mark 16:15)

How did the disciples feel when they heard this command from Jesus? I would have been shaking in my sandals. It wasn't long, maybe seconds, after Jesus gave this command that He left them and ascended to His Father. Suddenly they were on their own. He told them to wait together because He would send them His Spirit very soon. And on Pentecost morning our Church was born as the Spirit descended upon the apostles. At that moment they became totally equipped for their mission to spread the Good News.

Well, do you realize that this command is meant for all in the Church? That includes us! We too have been equipped for the mission as we received the Holy Spirit at our Baptism. It is truly the most exciting mission I could ever imagine. To share with everyone we know that the LIGHT has overtaken the darkness; that God has sent His Divine Son in the FLESH of the Son of Mary – a Mother – a Virgin – to redeem us. We now have a way back home to God. Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth and the Life. I cannot imagine a greater gift. It truly is Good News! The LIGHT has overtaken the darkness – mine and yours. Nothing, absolutely nothing can ever separate me from God's love.

Do you realize that as a facilitator you are fulfilling the command of Jesus in Mark 16 to “go out” with the Good News? LTMTTP is going out further and further because of your efforts.

continued, Carol Weiler, pg 3

## Facilitators' Q & A with Fr. Gleeson & Carol

**Q:** Sometimes during the time of group FAITH SHARING a pray-er will begin to express doubts, or even outright disbelief, about a doctrine of our Catholic faith or a moral teaching of the Church. As a facilitator, how am I supposed to handle this?

**A:** The answer to this question becomes clear as we remind ourselves of a few important things.

First, as facilitators we always operate on the assumption that Jesus Christ brings each pray-er to the LTMTTP series. In the Gospels we see Jesus inviting tax collectors and sinners, as well as those who do not yet believe, to come into his presence. He never condones their sin and he never compromises on the truth. That being said, he invites them to come as they are. He knows that when they meet him and spend time with him, something will happen. Jesus invites people to LTMTTP because he wants to personally free them and bring each one to the truth in all things, or more correctly, to the Truth (i.e., himself).

Secondly, even if a facilitator is a trained Spiritual Director or Catechist or Pastoral Minister in their parish, during the LTMTTP sessions the facilitators always remain in the role of facilitator. As facilitators, we must never forget that the Holy Spirit is the Spiritual Director and the Lord Jesus himself is the teacher. The place where the Holy Spirit's direction is most evident is in the group FAITH SHARING. As long as the facilitators strictly adhere to their role and gently but firmly keep the pray-ers from straying from the FAITH SHARING guidelines, the Holy Spirit will be free to direct everyone exactly as needed. Each one of us should remind ourselves of the uneven pace of our own progress on the spiritual journey over time; i.e., sometimes fast; sometimes slow. It is important to let the Holy Spirit and the Lord Jesus himself work with each pray-er on the divine timetable and not our timetable; even if a pray-ers sharing makes us uneasy or uncomfortable.

Thirdly, notwithstanding the forgoing, pray-ers are never allowed to teach, preach or in any way use the FAITH SHARING time as a soapbox to air their concerns or their issues about doctrines of the Church or moral teachings of the Church or anything else. If such things come up in the FAITH SHARING time in the context of a pray-er's personal struggles as they enter into (or are trying to enter into) their daily prayer, do not interfere or try to correct them, help them, fix them, etc. However, if the pray-er begins to preach, teach or "get on the soapbox", the facilitators must intervene in a kind, gentle but firm manner. Most often a gentle reminder to return to what happened in their prayer will be sufficient. In difficult cases, the two facilitators should discuss an approach before the next session to address the situation if it continues. Facilitators are encouraged to consult with Carol Weiler and/or LTMTTP Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Marty Gleeson O.P., if a difficult situation persists.

**Do you have technical problems with the newsletter? Change of email address? Contact Dianne Caverly at [caverlyd@cox.net](mailto:caverlyd@cox.net) or 504-283-9292.**

Carol Weiler, from page 2

You are LTMTTP!!!! You have volunteered your time, ability and resources to be a facilitator. LTMTTP would not exist without you and your sacrifices. We have responded generously to Our Lord's command, but he now seems to be pushing us to continue going out further; so, we are asking you to take another step, to step out even further. For you, maybe that would mean inviting a stranger to the prayers series, or offering LTMTTP to a new parish or diocese, or sending a relative or friend information about LTMTTP.

For any one of us, all we need to do is stop for a few minutes and reflect a little bit on our lives before Ignatian prayer and after Ignatian prayer. We will quickly realize how, almost miraculously, God has transformed us; and we can say with humility and truth that we know God. Isn't that just the most awesome reality? You and I personally know God. This is the result of the beautiful prayer of St. Ignatius of Loyola which seemed to have just fallen into our laps not so long ago. Would you agree that it is Good News?

So I ask that each of you take a few days of prayer and ask our Lord Jesus, "To whom shall I go with LTMTTP?" Then, as the Lord responds to your prayer, call or e-mail me or Fr. Gleeson to let us know what we need to do to support your efforts. God has entrusted the work of Salvation to the whole Church. Remember, Jesus' thirst on the cross was for souls – souls to love Him, souls to reconcile with His Father. I would like to quench His thirst daily with souls, reconciled souls, and souls to love Him forever.

I will never forget those who brought me to the prayer of St. Ignatius and who gave me the opportunity to "know God" so I can burn today with love for Him!

*With much gratitude and love in Christ Jesus  
to everyone,*

*Carol Weiler*

came time for him to give me my new ministry assignment after the completion of a discernment Sabbatical, he directed me to immerse myself full time in Lord, Teach Me To Pray and associated prayer ministries, with the vast majority of my time dedicated to serving LTMTTP as Spiritual Advisor and assisting Carol Weiler in her role as Director of LTMTTP.

I am very grateful that since July 1, 2011, with the blessing of my Provincial and by means of your generous financial support to my priory, St. Dominic Priory, I am now fully at your service through the Lord Jesus! Praised be Jesus Christ!

Gratefully in the Christ Jesus,

Rev. friar Marty Gleeson, O.P.  
Spiritual Advisor to LTMTTP



Contributors:  
Carol Weiler, LTMTTP Director  
Fr. Marty Gleeson, O.P.,  
Spiritual Advisor  
Dianne Caverly, Layout



## To Whom Shall I Go With LTMTTP?

In this Newsletter's article entitled "Jesus' Trust In You and Me", Carol Weiler writes that the Lord seems to be pushing us to go out further with LTMTTP. We believe He is asking every facilitator to "take another step; to step out even further". This could mean inviting a stranger to the prayer series or offering LTMTTP to a new parish or diocese. Or it could mean sending information about LTMTTP to a friend or relative in another city or state. Carol asks that each of us take a few days of prayer and ask the Lord Jesus, "To whom shall I go with LTMTTP?" As the Lord responds to your prayer, let us know what we need to do to help you take another step. Call or e-mail Carol Weiler (504-439-5933 or [carolweiler@cox.net](mailto:carolweiler@cox.net)) or Fr. Gleeson (504-717-8770 or [mgleesonop@gmail.com](mailto:mgleesonop@gmail.com)) or if it is easier, print this page and clip this short form and mail it to us at LTMTTP, 11 Warbler, New Orleans, LA 70124.



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