

# IBC Newsletter

Friends,

Habemus papam! Pope Leo XIV! He is a Chicagoan, with a stop at Philly and at Villanova, continuing the work of Francis, adding an Augustinian touch on unity and community, and invoking the tradition of Pope Leo XIII, a pontiff who “read the signs of the times”! It appears the Holy Spirit is at work.

I write on a beautiful spring day on the eve of Memorial Day, on a restful weekend with my wife recovering from a cold and I allowing my soul to catch up with my body. This is a late start, because I hadn’t seen or read anything to grab my attention until today. An email from Korn/Ferry raised aspiration and inspiration, and then I caught up on my *America* and *Commonweal* reading. But the initial impetus was a conversation last Saturday with an Ignatian Wisdom Fellows group planning a retreat on the water in the great Northwest. A cancer survivor spoke about the healing power of water—particularly, for her, on the ocean where there were strong memories. So, a theme for June begins with water, then the land, and the environment, and art, and a wonderful Jesuit theologian. A trifecta of articles to inspire conversation in our groups, in your homes and offices.

For your summer reading, keeping the water theme top of mind, I recommend *Blue Mind: The Surprising Science That Shows How Being Near, in, on, or under Water Can Make You Happier, Healthier, More Connected and Better at What You Do* by Wallace J. Nichols. (I am reading the updated 10th anniversary edition). I also heard, on a College of the Holy Cross podcast, Roger Landry MD, MPH, who wrote a book, *Live Long, Die Short: A Guide to Authentic Health and Successful Aging*. A good summer reading book for getting back on track! As we await Father’s Day and summer, seize some time to be rejuvenated by water and nature and “the living water” mentioned in our scripture reading.

Pray for the pope and for the Church and for the renewal of the earth in spring. “He is Risen!”

Pax,  
John Fontana



## MISSION

The Mission of the Ignatian Business Chapters is to establish and lead a national and international network of business executives to explore their respective religious traditions in order to help the individual executives

- integrate faith, family, and professional life,
- develop a corporate culture that is reflective of their religious faith and values, and
- exercise a beneficial influence upon society at large.

The chapters, grounded in the Roman Catholic tradition, welcome believers who are open to and respectful of one another's religious traditions. They are committed to the conviction that ethics and values grow out of one's religious heritage.

## SCRIPTURE READING:

### Revelation 21:5-8

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children. But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the polluted, the murderers, the fornicators, the sorcerers, the idolaters, and all liars, their place will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."

## ARTICLES

### ["When Aspiration Meets Inspiration"](#)

by Gary Burnison, *KornFerry.com*, May 26, 2025

### ["Andor,' Star Wars and the costs of radical discipleship"](#)

by Maurice Timothy Reidy, *America*, May 23, 2025.

### ["Listening to the Land"](#)

by Jean-Paul Heil, *Commonweal*, April 30, 2025.



## REFLECTION

**Be attentive:** The trifecta of articles this month are on the environment as inspiration and aspiration. Which article impacted you the most and why?

**Be intelligent:** Which article was most intriguing or troubling for you?

**Be reasonable:** What was it like to meet Drew Christianson, S.J. in print and in a discussion of art and the environment?

**Be responsible:** What were key insights that surfaced in today's discussion? Any food for further contemplation? Any action steps? What are the implications for you at work, in your community, and at home. Leverage the conversation for good!



## CLOSING PRAYER

### Personal Prayer of Pedro Arrupe, S.J.

Grant me, O Lord, to see everything now with new eyes;  
to discern and test the spirits that help me read the signs of the times;  
to relish the things that are yours, and to communicate them to others.  
Give me the clarity of understanding that you gave Ignatius.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen!

*The scripture passage is taken from the New Revised Standard Version Bible: Catholic Edition, copyright © 1989, 1993 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*

