

NOTHING IS MORE PRACTICAL THAN FINDING GOD, THAT IS, THAN FALLING IN LOVE IN A QUITE ABSOLUTE, FINAL WAY. WHAT YOU ARE IN LOVE WITH, WHAT SEIZES YOUR IMAGINATION WILL AFFECT EVERYTHING.

IT WILL DECIDE WHAT WILL GET YOU OUT OF BED IN THE MORNINGS, WHAT YOU WILL DO WITH YOUR EVENINGS, HOW YOU SPEND YOUR WEEKENDS, WHAT YOU READ, WHO YOU KNOW, WHAT BREAKS YOUR HEART, AND WHAT AMAZES YOU WITH JOY AND GRATITUDE.

FALL IN LOVE, STAY IN LOVE, AND IT WILL DECIDE EVERYTHING.

PEDRO ARRUIPE, S.J.

together **we** find
GOD in all things

The First Principle and Foundation and First Week of the Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola reflect profoundly our deeply essential human need to be a real part of God's everlasting love which will decide everything.

A Christian Life Community, or CLC, is a proven opportunity to show people of faith the way to open our hearts to fall more deeply in love with God via small faith groups of companions who commit to joining together regularly in prayer, support, and mission.

CLC is based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola, who discovered a way to freedom and holiness that is well suited to a busy modern lifestyle. St. Ignatius shows us that we can find God's everlasting love in all things, and that this lived spirituality of being companions who desire to be contemplatives in action can lead to a more authentic and full human way of life. Turning to God and one another in companionship can assist our fundamental purpose to praise, reverence, and serve our loving God in all things for God's greater glory.

CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMUNITY:

- * is a lay organization.
- * is a world community lived out in a local community of 6-10 people.
- * has a common way of life based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola.
- * has members in all walks of life.
- * provides the space for members to turn more wholeheartedly to God's everlasting love.



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everlasting LOVE

"TRUE REVOLUTION CONSISTS IN SIMPLY TURNING TO GOD WHO IS THE MEASURE OF WHAT IS RIGHT AND WHO AT THE SAME TIME IS EVERLASTING LOVE."
POPE BENEDICT XVI

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“From the very start
open up your heart
be a lasting part of
everlasting
LOVE”

Ignatian Companions for Mission

CLC SHOWS REAL WAYS TO TURN MORE DEEPLY TO THE EVERLASTING LOVE OF GOD IN A COMPANIONSHIP WITH OTHERS WHO OPEN THEIR HEARTS TO THE GIFTED GRACE OF THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST THROUGH IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY, COMMUNITY, AND APOSTOLIC MISSION ROOTED IN THE LOVE WHICH WILL DECIDE EVERYTHING!

IGNATIAN

CLC members have as their foundation the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola, not simply as a retreat, but as a way of life. Ignatian spirituality is an integrated spirituality – a “process” which shows us a way to bring together our **faith and daily living**. Ignatian spiritual discernment is a way of prayerfulness in the midst of all of our human life experiences that leads us to:

- * a greater awareness of God’s presence in all areas of our lives.
- * a deeper appreciation of God’s everlasting love and grace in all of creation.
- * an increased sensitivity to those activities, desires, and attitudes that lead us to either:
 - a deeper participation in God’s life and a sense of peace or
 - a sense of alienation, frustration, and burnout.
- * A freedom to fall more deeply in love with God and respond more fully to God’s loving desires for us.

COMPANIONS

The primary commitment in CLC is to a common worldwide way of life lived out in a small local faith **community of companions**. This holy communion provides:

- * a sense of graced history – we experience the power of the Spirit working through our history of companionship with others.
- * a forum for an on-going spiritual discernment that brings the fruits of deliberations at the local level to the world community and the fruits of discernment within the world community to the local companions.
- * a sense of the sacredness of unity in diversity; and an awe of the Spirit reflected in all cultures and ethnic groups.
- * a broader context for discernment in our local community, seeking the more universal good which transcends geographical and cultural world views.
- * solidarity with those around the world living the CLC way of life.

FOR MISSION

Mission in the context of CLC is not an activity, but a focusing of one’s energy and passion on **living for Christ** in the world today. This expresses itself through:

- * a preferential option for the poor.
- * a simplicity of lifestyle.
- * a sense of Church that leads us to be present where people and situations limit God’s love.
- * a desire to share fully Christian companionship in all things: family, work, church, society, etc.
- * a willingness to collaborate with all people of good will to reveal God’s presence.
- * an openness and flexibility towards life that enables us to respond to the needs of the world.
- * creative fidelity – living Gospel values in a way that speaks to our society today.

