Resources – An Immersion Trip

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Resources – An Immersion Trip

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The purpose of this section of the Journal is to provide Jesuit/Ignatian resources for use in instruction, inspiration, contemplation and action. Resource suggestions from our readers are warmly received. Contact Dr. Suzie Perry at the email address noted above.

Want to become immersed in useful, innovative Jesuit and Ignatian resources? Tired of fishing around for ideas for programs, classes and groups? Under water with your work and don’t have time to navigate the web to find beautifully executed books and other resources that you can buy online? Time to set sail for the Xavier University’s incredible mission and identity website. See: http://www.xavier.edu/mission-identity.

After clicking on the link above, you will arrive at a whole cascade of choices. Resist the temptation to dive right in to the jesuitresource.org link which is found in the banner at the top of the page. There is so much to be found there that you might never come back. First plumb the depths of the other alternatives on the home page. There is more than meets the eye that can be found right below the surface. In fact, just about every element on the page is clickable, from the scrolling pictures that flow across the screen, to the section titles for the Conway Institute, the Mission and Identity Programs and even Xavier’s Mission. Submerged beneath the headings are an amazing variety of programs and events, most of which are also clickable. The website even recognizes the opportunities members of other Jesuit Universities have created for faculty, students and staff in the Best Practices section. See: http://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/news-events/featured-programs.cfm

Since this site is absolutely overflowing with information and opportunities, I want to steer you to some of my favorites:

- On the home page you will find a link to Mission and Identity programs. Within this link there is a list of programs. One of the offerings that I just love is the “How I Live the Mission” section. Featured are videos from members of the Xavier community, from professor to help desk technician and locksmith to director of finance about how they individually make the mission come to life. See: http://www.xavier.edu/mission-identity/programs/Living-the-Mission-Videos.cfm.

- When you return to the home page, you can chart your course for the jesuitresource.org link. Plunge in! There is so much to absorb. See: http://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/.

- I find the Jesuit A-Z link fascinating. Of course I had to check to see if they were able to come up with anything for Q or Z and in fact they did find several legitimate entries for both. Information bubbled up in this comprehensive section that was completely new to me. You might have the same experience! See: http://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/jesuit-a-z/.

- The free resources that are available in the jesuitresource.org are plentiful and very useful. Just when I think I have found a way to use every one of the free resources, more come trickling in, so check this area often. Note that just because the resources are free definitely does not mean that they lack quality. There is an expansive and well categorized prayer index and also an inviting and applicable index of...
quotes. There is a whole cargo of videos, labeled by topic, which are very useful to enlighten and enhance presentations for students and others. A multi-faith calendar, daily reflections, and resources in Spanish all fill this wide-ranging site. See: http://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/online-resources/

- Finally, traverse over to the paid resource region. There is a whole cascade of valuable materials that can be ordered from this location at extremely reasonable prices. Alum Holly Schapker’s exquisite art illuminates several of the books and other materials. Not to be missed is the classic, “Do You Speak Ignatian” with its new companion volume, “Do You Walk Ignatian?” I also personally delight in a lovely Ignatian journal/day planner that will solve Christmas shopping dilemmas and allow loved ones to “soak in” Jesuit quotations and ponder reflection questions. Prayer cards, posters, primers, notecards, books and bookmarks are all available at this site. A final favorite of mine is the Prayers for an Academic Year book. It is filled with prayers and invocations for every academic occasion. See: http://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/ignatian-resources/

- Although the Xavier Jesuit Resource site is unquestionably helpful for everyone at Xavier, I would venture to say that it also has touched lives around the globe. There are many who know a bit more about God and Ignatian Spirituality thanks to the generosity of those in Mission and Identity at Xavier.

A shower, or better, a downpour of appreciation to Dr. Debra Mooney, Assistant to the President for Mission and Identity and Chief Mission Officer who welcomed me for a campus visit to Xavier’s Mission and Identity program and sent me back with a whole boatload of precious resources. If you are thirsty to learn more about all things Ignatian, you have just come to the right place to drink in the living water of mission at Xavier University.