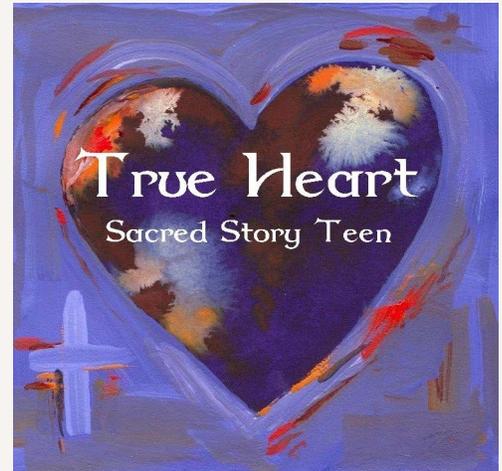


Sacred Story Institute

Ignatian Spirituality for Third Millennium Evangelization

INFORMATION FOR FLACSI

TRUE HEART: SACRED STORY TEEN



Dear FLACSI Presidents:

We are gratified to extend Jesuit High Schools in Latin America an offer to participate in the beta program to develop a powerful new Ignatian meditation prayer resource for high schools students. I am grateful to Fr. Hugo Alexis Moreno, S.J. for providing the time at your FLACSI meeting to present with Fr. Hermann Rodriguez, S.J. the concept of this Ignatian program for high school age students.

My history with creating Ignatian programs goes to back to Jesuit High School in Portland Oregon as director of Campus Ministry in the 1970's. My work on Ignatian-based programs continued with my first priest assignment at Georgetown University (1986-98) where I founded the Retreat Programs Office. Sacred Story Institute was founded in 2012 to develop Ignatian resources for adults, youth and teens to stay connected to God in the day to day.

My goal for the FLACSI presentation is to explain my interest in unlocking the Ignatian Examen in a powerful new way for all age groups—the purpose and goal of the Sacred Story Institute. I will also extend to each of your schools an invitation to participate in the development of a Spanish version of **TRUE HEART**, our new teen program. Currently, we have over 100 faculty from 18 high schools across North America starting the research for the English version. We hope to begin our Spanish project in January 2016.

Development for this **TRUE HEART** project will have two phases:

- 1) A year-long spiritual program for faculty in your schools to engage our **Forty Weeks** adult Examen program. During this year, we will have participating teachers do a short survey each week to tell us what they are learning and how they would apply the insights to their students. From this data, [Michael Gurian](#) and I will build a beta project for students.
- 2) A semester-long program to test with your students the program developed with input from your faculty. This two level approach is how we developed our [Sacred Story Youth](#) (Pre K-8th Grade) program that was released June 21st.



Fr. Bill Watson SJ has 35 years' experience creating Ignatian formation programs for teens adults and CEO's authored five books and is founder of Sacred Story Institute

WILLIAM WATSON, S.J., D. Min., has spent over thirty five developing Ignatian programs and retreats used by Georgetown University, Seattle University, Santa Clara University, Gonzaga University, and several other institutions. In the spring of 2010, his provincial missioned him to start [The Sacred Story Institute](#) to take what he learned about Ignatian program development and build a project for the Society of Jesus and the Church to bring the time-tested Examination of Conscience of St. Ignatius to as wide an audience as possible.

Fr. Watson founded and directed the Retreat Programs Office at Georgetown University in Washington, DC, was Gonzaga University's first Vice President for Mission and served as Director of International Ministries for the Jesuits of the Northwest where he worked with Fr. Jose Aguilar, S.J. of Colombia for 10 years on the Twinning agreement between The Colombian and Oregon Jesuits.

Fr. Watson received his Doctor of Ministry degree in 2009 from The Catholic University of America (Washington D.C.). He also holds Masters in both Divinity and Pastoral Studies, respectively (1986; Weston Jesuit School of Theology, Cambridge Massachusetts). He is a specialist in Ignatian Spirituality and the Ignatian Examination of Conscience and has made presentations nationally to multiple audiences on topics of spirituality and education.

His books through [Sacred Story Press](#) are: *Sacred Story--An Ignatian Examen for the Third Millennium*; *Forty Weeks--An Ignatian Pathway to Christ with Sacred Story Prayer*; *Inviting God into Your Life--A Practical Guide for Prayer*; *Sacred Story Rosary--An Ignatian Way to Pray the Mysteries*; *Historia Sagrada El Rosario: Una Manera Ignaciana de Rezar los Misterios*. *Affirmations: Meditation on Discernment of Spirits*. www.sacredstory.net; www.sacredstory.net/about/board

Michael Gurian is the New York Times bestselling author of twenty eight books published in twenty two languages and co-founder of The Gurian Institute



MICHAEL GURIAN is the New York Times bestselling author of twenty eight books published in twenty two languages. He has pioneered efforts to bring neuro-biology and brain research into homes, schools, corporations, and public policy. A number of his books have sparked national debate, including THE WONDER OF GIRLS, THE WONDER OF BOYS, BOYS AND GIRLS LEARN DIFFERENTLY!, THE MINDS OF BOYS and LEADERSHIP AND THE SEXES.

Michael has served as a consultant to families, corporations, therapists, physicians, school districts, community agencies, churches, criminal justice personnel and other professionals, traveling to approximately 20 cities per year to keynote at conferences. His training videos (also available as DVDs) for parents and volunteers are used by Big Brother and Big Sister agencies in the U.S. and Canada.

Michael's work has been featured in various media, including the New York Times, the Washington Post, USA Today, Newsweek, Time, People Magazine, the Wall Street Journal, Forbes Magazine, Psychology Today, Educational Leadership, Family Therapy, Good Housekeeping, Redbook, and on the Today Show, Good Morning America, CNN, PBS and National Public Radio. www.michaelgurian.com; <http://gurianinstitute.com>

Michael has been called "the people's philosopher" for his ability to bring together people's ordinary lives and scientific ideas.