

Ignatian spirituality



Surprised

by

Joy

Chapel for Europe



1491 – Spanish Bask Country



The pilgrim's story



Ignatius the knight



1521 : canon ball in Pamplona



12 long months



What to do?

Pious books... Great!



Different feelings

*“Still there was this difference: that when he was thinking about that worldly stuff he would take much delight, but when he left it aside after getting tired, he **felt dry** and **discontented**.*

*But when about not eating except herbs, and about doing all the other rigours he was seeing the saints had done, not only used he to be **joyful** while in such thoughts, but he would remain **content** and **happy** even **after** having left them aside.*

(The pilgrim's story, nr 8)

Reflection

*But he wasn't investigating this, nor stopping to ponder this difference, until one time when his eyes were opened a little, and he began to marvel at this **difference** in kind*

*and to **reflect** on it, picking it up from **experience** that from some thoughts he would be left **sad** and from others **happy**,*

*and little by little coming to know the **difference** in kind of **spirits** that were stirring: the one from the **devil**, and the other from **God**.*

The pilgrim's story

Conversion of Ignatius

◉ Discernment of the spirits

- Learning how to listen to the praying heart als ultimate place where to find God's voice
 - No emocracy
 - Rather pedagogy of reflection upon the experience
- Right relationship between heart , mind and will

◉ Optimistic concept of man

- Faith in deepest desire
- Growth, a life long

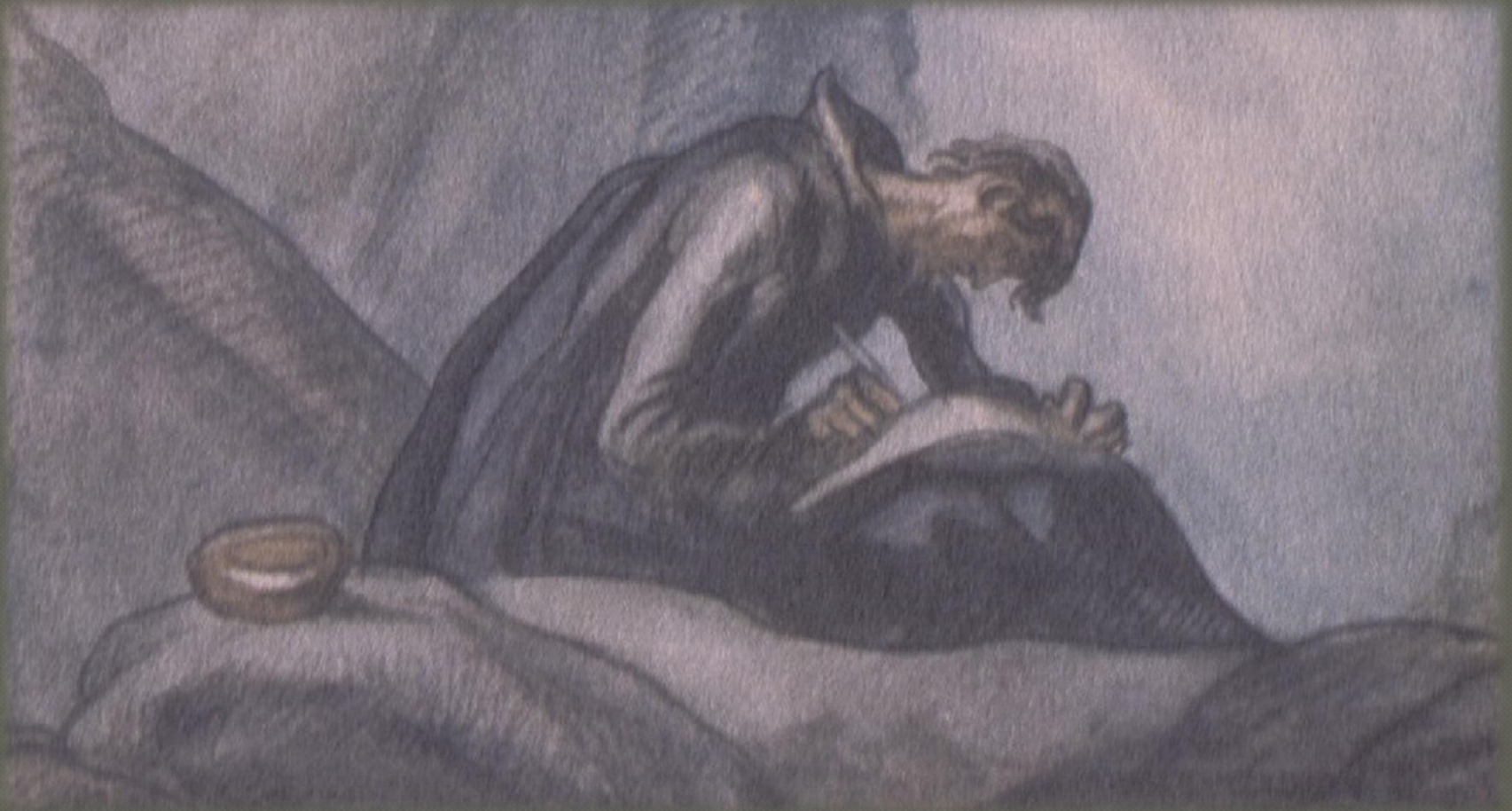
Surrender to joy



20 years along the way (1521-1540)



Compiling the *Spiritual Exercises*



The discernement continues...

1534: first VOWS (Montmartre)



The challenge of discernment



The challenge of discernment



In concrete terms

The challenge of discernment



I. Before

The challenge of discernment



I. Before

1. To atune the heart

The challenge of discernment



I. Before

1. To atune the heart
2. To inquire

The challenge of discernment



II. The discernment itself

The challenge of discernment



II. The discernment itself

1. Leave outcome open
2. Joy as compass
3. Magis
4. Accompaniment

1) Place of arrival: unknown



Outcome open

Joy as compass

Magis

Accompaniment

- Result unknown beforehand

INDIFFERENCE

- Presupposes:
inner freedom and availability -
trust – faith



There are three things that even God doesn't know:



There are three things that even God doesn't know:

- Exactly how many congregations of religious women there are;

SEP



There are three things that even God doesn't know:

- Exactly how many congregations of religious women there are; [SEP]
- The amount of money that the Franciscans have stashed away;



There are three things that even God doesn't know:

- Exactly how many congregations of religious women there are;
- The amount of money that the Franciscans have stashed away;
- What the Jesuits really think and what they are going to do next [SEP]

2. Using the compass of joy



Outcome open

Joy as compass

Magis

Accompaniment

- ◉ Joy, hope, peace, trust ... = pointer
- ◉ Fear, sadness, anger ... = dead end

Tweet February 24th 2017

*In the heart of the Christian there is always joy.
Always! ...*

Francis

3) *MAGIS*



*Outcome is open
Joy as compass*

Magis

Accompaniment

More, deeper, ...

- ◆ Personal
- ◆ Depends on desire
- ◆ Leads towards the other



4) Accompaniment



*Outcome is open
Joy as compass
Magis*

Accompaniment

- ◉ Space ↔ content
- ◉ Guidance ↔ direction
- ◉ Church/community ↔ ego-centered

Approval Societas Jesu by Paul III

27th of september 1540



6.641 letters

Io Ignatio de Loyola, Preposito gnale della Compagnia di Gesù, in nome mio et di tutta la Congregatione di questa casa nostra di Roma, prometto confirmare al Instrumento fatto fra il Mag.^{ro} M.^o Camillo stalla nobile Romano, et la bo. me. del nro. char.^o fralle M.^o Pietro daccio, che le feresse di certe case che si comprano del detto M.^o Camillo, a dirimpetto a quelle di sua solita habitatione, si faranno a lume et non a vista, et se fossero fatte a vista, et piacesse al detto M.^o Camillo che si facciano a lume solamente, prometto di far scelerare l'Instrumento detto ad ogni sua requisitione, et in fede di ciò ho sottoscritta la presente sigillata del nostro solito sigillo, hoggi. iv. di ottobre. 1550.

Ignatio L.



Letter from Ignatius to Francis Borgia sj



Letter from Ignatius to Francis Borgia

5th June 1552

... In the business of the hat I think it will be best if I give you some account of the process of my feelings, as if I were examining my soul for myself, for the greater glory of God. As soon as I was informed for certain that the Emperor had given your name, and that the Pope was happy to make you a cardinal, I **felt** a kind of **agreement or inspiration** that I should prevent it as far as I could. At the same time however, as I was **not certain** about the divine will – so many reasons occurred to me for and against.

... During this period of three days, there were times, as I turned over the matter in my mind and debated it, when I **felt** some sort of **fear** and I lost that **freedom of spirit** to speak out and prevent the business. “How do I know what God Our Lord wants me to do?” I thought, and I could not **feel sure** about preventing it.

Letter from Ignatius to Francis Borgia

5th June 1552

But at other times, when I began the normal meditations, I could **feel** these **fears** vanishing. I continued with this petition on several occasions, occasionally **feeling fear**, and occasionally **the opposite**.

At last, on the third day, I **felt** during the normal meditation, and **ever since constantly, that my mind was quite made up** and that I was **decided** – in a way that was **gentle** and left me **feeling quite free** – to impede the nomination to the best of my ability before the Pope and the cardinals. If I did not act thus, I would be (**and indeed am**) quite **certain in myself** that I would not give a good account of myself before God Our Lord, ...

Death of Ignatius (1556)



Contemplative in the action

examen of consciousness

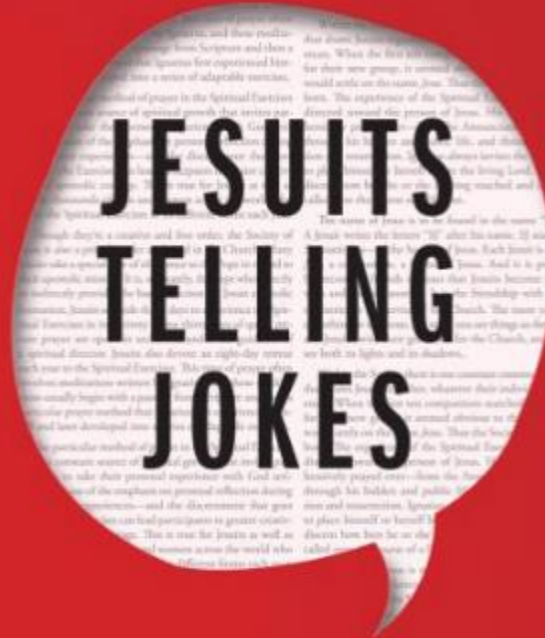


Examen

1. Thank you
2. Sorry
3. Please

The prayer for when I am at the dentist

NIKOLAAS SINTOBIN, SJ



A

[SERIOUS]

Introduction
to Ignatian
Spirituality

Nikolaas Sintobin

Moquez-vous des jésuites...

Humour et spiritualité



Nikolaas Sintobin, SJ

Viñetas cómicas de Joris Snaet

EN TODO AMAR Y REÍR

Una introducción
[seria]
a la espiritualidad ignaciana

2.^a
edición

