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To: Fr. Mike Keane, Pastor, St. Isabella's Church
Sheri Belloni / Parish Secretary via Email stisabella@comcast.net

Fr: Frank Cox *and Tom Egan (Elder)*
Men's Weekend Retreat August 10-12, 2007

Re: Drafts of possible notices to put into our
Weekly Bulletin

This year's Silent Men's Retreat, ***On Pilgrimage with Ignatius***, by Fr. Joe Fice, S.J., at The Jesuit Retreat Center of Los Altos (formerly: *El Retiro*), 300 Manresa Way, Los Altos, CA 94022 is set for the weekend of August 10-12, 2007. The weekend begins with registration 5-6:30 p.m. on Friday, and closes about 1:30 p.m. Sunday. The modest cost of \$220 per person, with a \$50 deposit, includes excellent meals and comfortable lodgings in a setting of extraordinary beauty and peace. The Retreat Center has put much of the information about this retreat online, and you may want to examine their notice at: <http://www.jrclosaltos.org>.

Both Tom Egan and I will be available to answer questions prospective attendees may ask about the Men's Retreat. In addition, we would like to ask a few men from the Parish who have attended past retreats to make a brief announcement at the end of some of the Sunday Masses about the Retreat. As I recall from last year, Tom and I should check first with Sheri Belloni at the Rectory, to make sure other announcements at the end of Mass are not scheduled.

For many families, the month of August is a prime time for end of the Summer weekend trips, or planned vacations. I suggest you may want to put some or all of the following language into the Weekly Bulletin as the summer progresses. I've tried to find something from each week's readings that could build on the need for prayer, scripture, and sacraments, and lead men of the parish to take a few days of the year to reflect on these gifts.

Please feel free to edit or omit any of the following suggested drafts:

July 8, 2007: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time:

"Behold, I am sending you like lambs among wolves." *Taken from today's readings Luke 10:1-12, 17-20*

Everyone does it – right? It's almost impossible to turn on a TV, or read a newspaper, without being exposed to daily violence. At some point, most of us conclude: "It's just the way things are." It is no accident. We are among wolves. He told us: "I am sending you like lambs among wolves." Yet, we do not travel alone, or unarmed. This year's men's retreat: ***On Pilgrimage with Ignatius*** with Fr. Joe Fice, S.J. retraces the steps of St. Ignatius Loyola, the founder of the Jesuit Order, on a path found in our own lives. His Spiritual Exercises have energized generations of men – and point to the promise in today's Gospel - that whatever house we enter, His peace may rest there. Please join us from Friday Aug. 10th 6:00 p.m. through Sunday Aug. 12th at 1:30 p.m. at the Jesuit Retreat Center of Los Altos. The Weekend: \$220 per person / applications available at the Church entrances, or call Frank Cox (472 3764), Tom Egan (499 9079), or the Retreat Center at (650) 948 4491. Register online, or learn more at: <http://wzwww.jrclosaltos.org>

July 15, 2007: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time:

"Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" *Taken from today's readings at Luke 10:25-37*

And – who is my neighbor? Our lives are never for ourselves, alone. Sometimes those who travel with us – our wives, our families, our companions – fall by the side of the road. Other days, it is we who have fallen, and we are most in need of bandaging and care. Jesus tells us we must be neighbor to one another, whether Samaritan, Jew, Christian, family or strangers. Yet, without an intimate relationship with the Lord, our God, we lack the strength to continue. This year's men's retreat, ***On Pilgrimage with Ignatius*** a traditional Silent Retreat for Men at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Los Altos, led by Fr. Joe Fice, S.J., can help us walk together on this journey. A retreat is our gift to those who share our days, our lives, and our hopes. Join us from Friday Aug. 10th 6:00 p.m. through Sunday Aug. 12th at 1:30 p.m. The Weekend: \$220 per person / applications available at the Church entrances, or call Frank Cox (472 3764), Tom Egan (499 9079), or the Retreat Center at (650) 948 4491. Register online, or learn more at: <http://www.jrclosaltos.org>

July 22, 2007: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time:

"Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things..." *Taken from today's readings at Luke 10:38-42.*

So: it seems like we just don't have time. Everything is overdue, and seems like a crisis. Jesus says much of this is an illusion. "There is need of only one thing." When we, like Mary, spend even one weekend, listening at His feet – we choose the better part, and it will not be taken away from us. You are invited to walk **On Pilgrimage with Ignatius**, this year's Men's Retreat, sponsored by St. Isabella's Parish at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Los Altos, from Friday Aug. 10th 6:00 p.m. through Sunday Aug. 12th at 1:30 p.m. Generations of men and women have found peace here, and return, year after year. The beautiful wildland setting, gardens, chapel, and bookstore offer you a vacation for body and soul alike. The single rooms are comfortable and have been upgraded. Please join us. The Weekend: \$220 per person / applications available at the Church entrances, or call Frank Cox (472 3764), Tom Egan (499 9079), or the Retreat Center at (650) 948 4491. Register online, or learn more at: <http://www.jrclosaltos.org>

July 29, 2007: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time:

"I tell you: ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you...." *Taken from today's readings at Luke 11:1-13*

Waylon Jennings' hit song: "looking for love in all the wrong places" sometimes tells the story of our lives. We ask for the wrong things. To our dismay, we sometimes do get what we choose – and we often choose badly. The disciples in today's Gospel asked: "Lord, teach us to pray." One brief weekend spent in prayerful, restful reflection, can teach us how to pray, to ask, and to receive. This year's men's silent retreat, **On Pilgrimage with Ignatius** can open the door for us. The retreat is sponsored by St. Isabella's parish at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Los Altos, from Friday Aug. 10th 6:00 p.m. through Sunday Aug. 12th at 1:30 p.m. The quiet, wooded site is a beautiful spa for the soul. Please join us. The Weekend: \$220 per person / applications available at the Church entrances, or call Frank Cox (472 3764), Tom Egan (499 9079), or the Retreat Center at (650) 948 4491. Register online, or learn more at: <http://www.jrclosaltos.org>

August 5, 2007: 19th Transfiguration of the Lord:

"Take care to guard against all greed – one's life does not consist of possessions...." *Taken from today's readings at Luke 12:13-21.*

Last Call! One weekend - and perhaps a day's salary or less. For this small sum you may find treasure beyond counting - for your Father is pleased to give you the Kingdom. **On Pilgrimage with Ignatius** is the theme of this year's Mens' Retreat, sponsored by St. Isabella's parish at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Los Altos. The retreat begins Friday Aug. 10th 6:00 p.m. and lasts through Sunday Aug. 12th at 1:30 p.m. Generations of men and women have found peace here, and return, year after year. The beautiful wildland setting, gardens, chapel, and bookstore offer you a vacation for body and soul alike. Please join us. The Weekend: \$220 per person / applications available at the

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Finally, St. Isabella's Parish Website at: <http://www.stisabellasparish.org/> has a "Parish Calendar" as well as a "News" area, and I would offer to post a reference to the Men's Retreat on the Calendar and upload the following "News" item if authorized to do so:

Annual Men's Retreat August 10-12, 2007:

This year's Men's Retreat: *On Pilgrimage with Ignatius* will be held the weekend of Friday Aug 10, 2007 – Sunday Aug 12, 2007 with Fr. Joe Fice, S.J.,. The Jesuit Retreat Center (El Retiro) in Los Altos is a gem – beautiful woodland paths, quiet, excellent food, and great talks. Check this week's Bulletin for details, or go online at:

<http://www.jrclosaltos.org/eventDetail.jsp?eventID=1996&categoryID=159>

Sincerely,

Frank Cox

cc Tom Egan, (the Elder) CoChair for Men's Retreat
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Fr. Tom Carroll, S.J., Director, Jesuit Retreat Center
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