

WE ARE HAPPY TO WELCOME PAM COSTER AS OUR KEYNOTE ADDRESS!



Pam Coster is the Executive Director of Charis Ministries, a Jesuit ministry to those in their 20s and 30s. She has been involved in adult formation for many years, having served as a parish Director of Faith Formation and a consultant to parishes and dioceses. Pam is a writer and speaker, who has given workshops on adult faith formation throughout the country. Prior to her time in ministry, Pam worked for a number of years in international banking. She has an MBA from the University of Chicago and a Masters in Religious Education from Loyola University-Chicago. Pam serves on the boards of Catholics on Call - a young adult vocation program, and Loyola Press. She resides in Winnetka, IL with her husband, Ruud, and has three twenty-something children!

About Charis Ministries:

The work of Charis Ministries is rooted in the 450-year-old tradition of Ignatian Spirituality that we have adapted for 21st century adult Catholics. Each Charis event – including retreats, days of reflection, service days, speaker series - reflects the teachings of St. Ignatius and is relevant to and designed especially for men and women in their 20s and 30s.

The word “Charis” is from the Greek and can be translated as “Grace” or “special presence of the Divine.” At our events we desire to think more about life, faith, relationships, service, where we are being led and ways to have and lead faith-filled and spirit-filled lives.

Charis programs are designed with just this in mind. The mission given to us by the Chicago Province of the Society of Jesus is to bring the gifts of Ignatian Spirituality to people under 40 through what we hope are grace-filled experiences.

We primarily serve in the Chicago area where we often collaborate with parishes and encourage those at our events to get connected to their communities. More recently we are working with partners in Dioceses, retreat houses, ministries and other groups around the country in conjunction with publication of our retreat manuals by Loyola Press.

Mission:

Charis Ministries nurtures the life-long desire of men and women in their 20’s and 30’s for spiritual growth through a closer friendship with Jesus Christ. We do this using the gifts of Ignatian Spirituality, primarily through prayer, education and service opportunities. Charis serves as a bridge for men and women to the Catholic Church and develops leaders for the Church. We are a work of the Jesuits of the Chicago Province of the Society of Jesus and our lay colleagues.