



Dear Friend of Charis,

Since 2000, Charis Ministries has been a bridge to a deeper friendship with Christ Jesus and a doorway into the Roman Catholic Church. Through our unique style of retreat presentations, days of prayer, service trips, pilgrimages, workshops, and other ways of bringing the faith alive, Charis has been an anchor of hope for men and women in their 20's and 30's searching for something more.

Our ministry is rooted in the *Spiritual Exercises* of St Ignatius Loyola, the 16th century Spaniard who had a life changing conversion as a young adult. The Church has named him the patron saint of retreats, and it is his spirituality Charis teaches.

We're proud of what we've been able to accomplish.

- The Catholic bishops named Charis one of the best practices in the Catholic Church.
- Loyola Press published three of our retreat manuals, making these resource materials available in print and on the web to parishes and dioceses across the country.
- Hundreds of men and women in their 20s and 30s have come to Charis events.

The modest stipends that Charis requests for our programs cover only a fraction of our operating costs. Each year the Jesuits Chicago Province has backed our ministry with a significant grant. Many individual donors, corporations, and foundation have contributed additional gifts. We are very grateful for this support!

As Charis expands its outreach and attempts to touch the hearts and souls of many more, we need more donors that are generous. We ask you to help us continue to make a difference in the lives of those who stand at the crossroads of their faith life.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fr. Michael". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small "o" over the "i" in "Michael".

Rev. J. Michael Sparough, SJ
Executive Director
Charis Ministries