

September 2007 – August 2008

Dear Applicant:

As you carefully read over the criteria you will notice that *Spiritual Directors' Institute, Phase One*, begins a year of serious discernment around the ministry of spiritual direction.

Your application will be reviewed by a member of the SDI team. You may be called for a personal interview. Not everyone who applies is necessarily accepted. The cost for this program is \$900, which includes a \$50 application fee.

When your application is completed, please attach a recent photograph *no smaller than 2" X 3"*. (It will not be returned to you.) Please mail the completed application, photo, typed or printed responses, along with \$50 non-refundable/non-transferable processing fee to:

Mercy Center
Attn: Program Office
2300 Adeline Drive
Burlingame, CA 94010-5540

All applications must be received by August 15, 2008.

Thank you for your interest in Mercy Center's spiritual formation programs.

Sincerely,

Colleen Shannon Soracco

Colleen Shannon Soracco
Program & Projects Administrator
650.340.7495
csoracco@mercyburl.org



2008 Application
Spiritual Directors' Institute, Phase One
Mercy Center, Burlingame, California

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP _____

PHONE CONTACT – Please circle whether the phone number is a home, work, or cell number.

PHONE 1: _____ H/W/C PHONE 2: _____ H/W/C

PHONE 3: _____ H/W/C

E-MAIL: _____ FAX: _____

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION: _____

OCCUPATION _____

Do not forget to enclose a recent photo with this applicaiton.

CRITERIA FOR APPLICANTS

1. Monthly spiritual direction for a MINIMUM of one year; and currently in direction.
2. Active participation in a faith community.
3. Some educational background (e.g., workshops, series, courses in scripture, contemporary theology, spirituality, psychology) that grounds and supports the ministry of spiritual direction.
4. *Once accepted and enrolled* in the SDI Program you will be required to:
 - A. Make a silent directed retreat at least once during the three years.

Options:

 1. Five day summer home directed retreat
 2. Annual six day silent Ignatian Retreat (June)
 3. 30 week Ignatian Retreat (Spiritual Exercises)
 4. two or three day silent directed retreat
 - B. Annually make a weekend workshop/program of your choice.



The following questions are designed to assist the staff in getting to know you in terms of background, experience, a call to this ministry, and your expectations as they relate to our program.

PLEASE USE COMPUTER OR TYPEWRITER FOR RESPONSES.
DO NOT HAND WRITE

1. Do you feel “called” to the ministry of spiritual direction? Briefly explain. What experiences have attracted you to seek training in spiritual direction at this time?
2. What has been your experience of receiving spiritual direction? Are you currently in direction? For how long? What in this relationship has been most helpful to you?
3. What has been your experience of participation in a community of faith? How has this experience hindered/supported your spiritual growth?
4. Describe experiences you have had as an “informal companion” in faith, spiritual counselor, or “sought-out listener” for other people, which have encouraged you to explore this ministry.
5. If you have actually served as a spiritual director, briefly describe your experience.
6. What recent theological or ministerial education have you had? (e.g., courses; workshops; series in scripture, contemporary theology, spirituality, or psychology) that ground you and support the ministry of spiritual direction. Be specific.
7. What particular strengths do you feel you bring to the ministry of spiritual direction?
8. In what areas do you feel you most need to grow?
9. How/where do you see yourself being of service, following completion of this spiritual direction formation program?

For legal reasons, we are now required to include the following two questions:

10. Have you ever been convicted of a felony? If “yes” please explain, briefly.
11. According to ADA regulations, do you have a disability that our staff should know?

How/where did you find out about our programs in spiritual direction?

Date

Signature

Mail to: Mercy Center, Attn: Program Office, 2300 Adeline Dr., Burlingame, CA 94010-5540.

