TO: MICAH AND IBC PARTICIPANTS
FROM: MONSIGNOR RICHARD LIDDY
SUBJECT: CRISIS IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH
DATE: OCTOBER 2018

- Welcome and Self-Introductions
- Ignation Business Chapters Mission Statement
  - The Mission of the Ignatian Business Chapters is to establish and lead a national and international network of business executives to explore their respective religious traditions in order to help the individual executives:
    - To integrate faith, family, and professional life,
    - To develop a corporate culture that is reflective of their religious faith and values
    - To exercise a beneficial influence upon society at large.
  - The conference, grounded in the Roman Catholic tradition, welcomes believers who are open to and respectful of one another’s religious tradition. It is committed to the conviction that ethics and values grow out of one’s religious heritage.

- Scripture Reading: Mark 10:35-45—Ambition of James and John
  (Zebedee’s sons, James and John, approached Jesus.) “Teacher,” they said, “we want you to grant our request.” “What is it?” He asked. They replied, “See to it that we sit, one at your right and the other on your left, when you come into your glory.” Jesus told them, “You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup I shall drink or be baptized in the same bath of pain as I?” “We can,” they told him. Jesus said in response, “From the cup I drink of you shall drink, the bath I am immersed in you shall share. But as for sitting at my right or left, that is not mine to give; it is for those to whom it has been reserved.” The other ten, on hearing this, became indignant at James and John. Jesus
called them together and said to them: “You know how among the Gentiles those who seem to exercise authority lord it over them; their great ones make their importance felt. It cannot be like that with you. Anyone among you who aspires to greatness must serve the rest; whoever wants to rank first among you must serve the needs of all. The Son of Man has not come to be served but to serve—to give his life in ransom for the many.”

- **Quiet Reflection:** 5 minutes followed by sharing insights

- **Article:** “One Priest’s Analysis of the Never-Ending Crisis. Pedophile Priests, Bishops, and the Sex Abuse Crisis in the Catholic Church 1985-2018,” by Richard G. Malloy, S. J., Ph.D.

The article, by Richard G. Malloy, S. J., Ph.D., discusses this crisis in the Catholic Church. Click [here](#) to read the full article.

“To understand what happened in past decades in the Catholic Church, one must realize this: what previously had been considered a sin came to be understood as a crime. What once was seen as a treatable, compulsive condition, understood as something to be handled quietly by an institution’s authorities, came to be seen as something best dealt with by the Criminal Justice System, with the full light of the mass media shining on the proceedings. Cultural mores shifted, obviously for the better” (Malloy, 2018).

- **Additional Article:** “Why I’m staying in the Church”, Rev. Kevin O’Brien

This article by Rev. Kevin O’Brien discusses the difficulties currently facing the Catholic Church and his reasoning for remaining loyal to his religion. Click [here](#) to read the full article.

**Questions to initiate discussion:**

- **Be Attentive:** The Catholic Church has been in the news over the last month with the continued focus on child abuse and the role of priests and bishops in various scandals. These news reports have provoked a good deal of emotions, and emotions point to values. What have been your emotions as these stories continue? What values are being tested, what values and beliefs are being challenged—or affirmed? What reactions to these issues have you observed in family, friends, and co-workers?

- **Be Intelligent:** Richard Malloy, S.J., Ph.D., provides some historical context to the progression of these issues over the last 50 years. Context is important as we reflect on the issues. What insights, particularly as Catholics, do we have to contend with as we confront the shadow side (the sinful side) of our Church?

- **Be Reasonable:** How did you respond to Kevin O’Brien, S.J., as he addressed the challenges of beginning an academic year responsible for the formation of Jesuits and the laity as they seek degrees and qualifications for ministry?
• **Be Responsible:** How do we react, responsibly and intelligently as people of faith, to this crisis that seems to have no end? How will this conversation today affect you as you move into your work, family, and community?

• **Closing Prayer: Suscipe, St. Ignatius**
  
  *Take Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will, all I have and call my own. To you Lord, I return it. Everything is yours; do with it what you will. Give me only your love and your grace that is enough for me. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen*