## CENTER FOR CATHOLIC STUDIES

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TO: IBC AND MICAH PARTICIPANTS

SUBJECT: REFLECTING ON OUR HUMAN LIMITATIONS

**DATE: DECEMBER 2021** 

## **December 2021 Meeting**

Welcome and Self-Introductions

- Ignatian 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:
- integrate faith, family, and professional life
- develop a corporate culture that is reflective of their religious faith and values
- exercise a beneficial influence upon society at large
- The chapters, grounded in the Roman Catholic tradition, welcome believers who are open to and respectful of one another's religious tradition. They are committed to the conviction that ethics and values grow out of one's religious heritage.

Scripture Reading: Mary's Canticle (Luke 1:45-55)

And blessed is she who believed that there would be[a] a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Quiet Reflection: Five minutes followed by sharing insights

Articles: "How Long Can We Play?"

**Be Attentive:** As time rolls on and we start another liturgical year with Advent, aging is evident at all stages of the life cycle and an issue at work, at home, and in our communities. The holidays, Thanksgiving and Christmas, seem to visibly mark our families as we age. Chris Ballard's article unpacks athletic mortality. What is your story or stories about athletic mortality?

**Be Intelligent:** How is aging impacting other issues at work, times for promotions, time for retiring or changing careers or jobs? How is aging impacting your families and family decisions?

**Be Reasonable:** Aging at all stages of life invites discernment and decision making. Is our appropriation of Bernard Lonergan's method, (Be Attentive, Be Intelligent, Be Reasonable, and Be Responsible,) helpful for you? When have you applied the method on key decisions?

**Be Responsible:** What where key insights that surfaced in today's discussion? Any food for further contemplation? Any action steps? What are the implications for you at work, in your community, and at home? Leverage the conversation for good!

## **Closing Prayer:**

Above all, trust in the slow work of God.

We are quite naturally impatient in everything to reach the end without delay.

We should like to skip the intermediate stages.

We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown, something new.

And yet it is the law of all progress that it is made by passing through some stages of instability -

And that it may take a very long time.

And so I think it is with you; your ideas mature gradually—let them grow,

Let them shape themselves, without undue haste.

Don't try to force them on, as though you could be today what time

(that is to say, grace and circumstances acting on your own good will) will make of you tomorrow.

Only God could say what this new spirit gradually forming within you will be.

Give Our Lord the benefit of believing that his hand is leading you,

And accept the anxiety of feeling yourself in suspense and incomplete.

## --Teilhard de Chardin

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

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