



## Developing a Listening Heart: Experiencing God In Myself And Others

### Spiritual Direction Formation Two-Year Certificate Application Form Cohort V January 2024—December 2025

Date \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home or Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday (MDY) \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

Male  Female  Married  Single  Religious  Ordained

Religious Denomination \_\_\_\_\_

Diocese or Religious Congregation (*if applicable*) \_\_\_\_\_

Work/Ministry \_\_\_\_\_

Application Page

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## Developing a Listening Heart: Experiencing God In Myself And Others

Spiritual Direction Training

**CONFIDENTIAL REFERENCE FORM (2 required)**

**January 2024-December 2025**

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Referee \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation/Ministry \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

This reference is for \_\_\_\_\_ who has applied for the Spiritual Direction Training Program at the Center for Ignatian Spirituality of Fairfield University. This two-year certificate training is titled, *“Developing A Listening Heart: Experiencing God In Myself And Others.”*

1. How long have you know the applicant? In what context do you know the applicant (e.g. friend, spiritual director, etc.)?
2. What can you tell us about his/her ability to interact with others? What are the strengths and weaknesses that he/she brings to a community or work situations? How would the person function as part of a team of men and women, religious and lay, etc.?
3. Does this person have an adequate degree of self-knowledge with a capacity to deal with his/her strengths and weaknesses? Can this person speak freely and easily of his/her interior spiritual experiences?

4. Do you have any reservations about this person being accepted into the proposed training program? Please indicate them.
  
5. Would you judge this person to be physically and psychologically strong enough for a rather intense and extended training experience? On what basis?

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Reference Form (1 of 2)

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Reference Form (2 of 2)

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## **Developing a Listening Heart: Experiencing God In Myself And Others**

### **Spiritual Direction Formation Guidelines for Personal History Essay January 2024—December 2025**

Include with your application for the Spiritual Direction Training Program a personal history essay. Please use the following questions as the basis for your reflections. You are encouraged to provide any other data that would be helpful for us to know more about you.

Your reflections should be typed (double-spaced) not more than 10 pages in length.

1. What in your family history and experience of Christian community will help us to know you? What are the essential points in your history (family, education, work, ministry, community, etc.)?
2. What is your theological background?
3. Describe the history of your personal relationship with God.
4. What is your present work or ministry situation?
5. Please describe your own experience of receiving spiritual direction. How has it been helpful to you?
6. What other growth experiences and/or religious experiences have fostered self-understanding and the articulation of personal issues?
7. How do you see this training program as being a help to you in your present and/or future ministry?
8. Describe the process by which you have discerned that you are called to the ministry of spiritual direction.
9. Which of your personal gifts and talents will contribute to your ministry as a spiritual director?
10. What challenges do you anticipate in engaging this formation?
11. What areas of growth do you feel called?