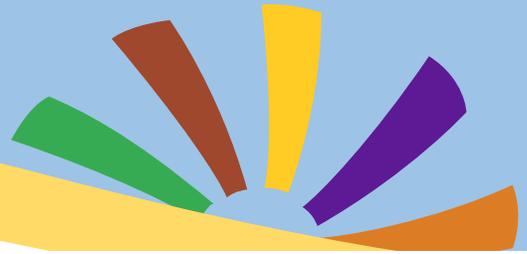


PLACE Corps Pillars



Ignatian Spirituality

At the heart of the PLACE Corps experience is an open, honest engagement with spirituality and faith. PLACE Corps facilitates prayer, retreats, and other activities grounded in the Catholic Ignatian and Marymount traditions: finding God in all things, living in a spirit of discernment, and putting their faith and reason into action.

PLACERs are provided with opportunities and resources to reflect on their work as Catholic school educators and intentional community while deepening their commitment to God and others.



In the words of a PLACER. . . The pillar of spirituality played a significant role in sustaining me through the long days in the classroom. When I stand in front of the classroom, I look out at my students, and experience the many faces as the face of Christ looking back at me. The opportunity to take these reflections and share them with my community allowed for me to deepen my experience and understanding of my own faith. It was a gift to share in the diversity of experience of spirituality that my community mates would bring to our intentional spirituality nights. Through the retreats, we would get a chance to take a break from the classroom and reflect on how deepening our faith leads us to act more justly for our students, our schools, and our communities. I am grateful for the spaces that PLACE provided for my personal and communal spiritual growth.

Marcos Gonzales, SJ, Cohort 9, San Gabriel Mission High School
Currently at Homeboy Industries, Los Angeles, CA

Intentional Community

During their PLACE Corps experience, graduate students live in peer communities that foster growth and engagement. PLACERs share common meals, reflect and pray together regularly, and challenge and support one another in their common endeavors as Catholic school educators. Communities are built on accountability, respect and mutual support and the desire to create a better world.



In the words of a PLACER. . . Living at Saint Albert the Great community with 11 other Catholic school teachers sounded like a crazy idea, but it turned out to be one of the most transformative aspects of my PLACE Corps journey. After a long day of teaching, it was a true blessing to come home to my community members and reflect on our highs and lows of the day. Our community captain led us through challenges and disagreements we faced, and I learned how to find the best in people who were different than me. We looked forward to spirituality nights on Tuesdays, community dinners on Thursdays, and weekends filled with a healthy balance of work and LA adventures.

Madison Beall
Cohort 14, 4th Grade at Saint Joseph Elementary School
Long Beach, CA

Professionalism

As PLACE Corps teachers serve in primarily under-resourced schools in the archdiocese of Los Angeles and in the dioceses of Orange and San Bernardino, they actively pursue their Master of Arts in Elementary or Secondary Education as well as their California Preliminary Teaching Credential. Students who already hold a teaching credential have the option of pursuing a Master of Arts in Reading Instruction or Educational Studies. PLACE Corps teachers find support and advice from PLACE graduates, on-site mentors, university supervisors, academic advisors and within their cohort communities.

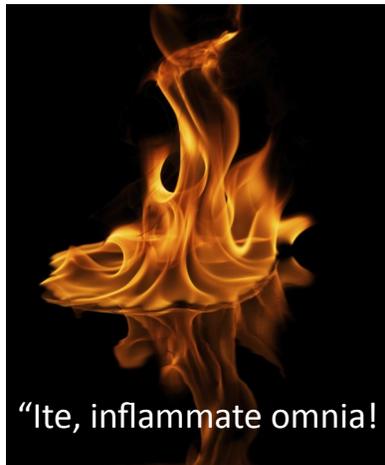


In the words of a PLACer. . . “When my first day of school came, and I had 32 fourth graders staring at me and suddenly I felt I definitely wasn’t sure of what I was doing. How do you collect and organize 64 boxes of tissues without chaos erupting? I wasn’t alone in this journey.

Professionalism in PLACE Corps means the support of your community, your colleagues, and the PLACE Corps Alumni will guide your first years of teaching so you are able to not only succeed, but learn from your mistakes. Professionalism in PLACE leads to daily growth as an educator and the opportunity to be the best version of yourself daily for your students.

Angelica Izquierdo

Cohort 9, Onward Leaders Resident Principal



Go, set the world on fire

Ignatius of Loyola, 1491—1556

The PLACE Corps is a two-year teaching service program founded by Loyola Mary University and the (Arch) dioceses of Los Angeles, Orange and San Bernardino. It is a member of the University Consortium for Catholic Education.

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