Discovering God in all places is an Ignatian desire that calls us to look always for opportunities to experience the spirit working in our everyday lives. Finding times and places to do this can often seem a luxury in the hectic pace of contemporary life.

This *Prayer Map* identifies several sites on the Boston College campuses where members of our community have found the space for cultivating the habit of reflection and prayer. These prayers, poems, and passages mirror experiences from a variety of religious traditions, and they invite you to your own prayer and reflection. May you find God in all things—and in all places.
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One does not enter a temple—a shrine that encloses the holy and cuts it off from a godless and secular world that remains outside. This entire world belongs to God, who is adored, experienced, and accepted everywhere as the one who, through grace, has set all things free to come to share his life. This adoration takes place not in Jerusalem alone but everywhere in spirit and truth.

Adapted from Karl Rahner
LABYRINTH

The love of our neighbor in all its fullness simply means being able to say: “What are you going through?”

It is a recognition that the sufferer exists, not only as a unit in a collection, or a specimen from the social category labeled “unfortunate,” but as a person, exactly like us, who was one day stamped with aspecial mark by affliction. For an adolescent, capable of grasping this truth and generous enough to desire this fruit above all others, studies could have their fullest spiritual effect, quite apart from any particular religious belief.

Simone Weil
Bench on Linden Lane

What are you dreaming, Soldier, 
What is it you see? 
A tall grey Gothic tower, 
And a linden tree. 
You speak so sadly, Soldier, 
Sad and wistfully—
I cannot hear the tower bell 
In the swirling sea. 
What meaning has it, Soldier, 
A tower bell, and tree? 
Nothing, nothing—only once 
It meant my life to me.

Thomas Heath
Nothing is more practical than finding God, that is, falling in love in a quite absolute, final way. What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination, will affect everything. It will decide what will get you out of bed in the morning, what you will do with your evenings, how you will spend your weekends, what you read, who you know, what breaks your heart, and what amazes you with joy and gratitude. Fall in love, stay in love, and it will decide everything.

Pedro Arrupe
It helps, now and then, to step back and take the long view. The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts; it is beyond our vision. We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is the Lord’s work. We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted knowing they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that affects far beyond our capabilities... We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something, and to do it very, very well.

_Oscar Romero_
Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, we fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, our Mother. To you do we come, before you we stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word incarnate, despise not our petitions but in your mercy hear and answer us.

Memorare
God, may He be exalted, cannot be comprehended by the intellect. None but Himself can comprehend what He is. Thus all the philosophers say: We are dazzled by His beauty, and He is hidden from us because of the intensity with which He becomes manifest, just as the sun is hidden to eyes that are too weak to apprehend it. The most apt phrase concerning this subject is the statement in the Book of Psalms, Silence is praise to You (65:2). Interpreted, this means, Silence with regard to You is praise. This is a most perfectly put phrase regarding this matter.

*Maimonides*
O’NEILL LIBRARY PLAZA

The university remains the place where fundamental questions that touch the person and community can be aired, in the areas of economics, politics, culture, science, theology, the search for meaning. The university should be a bearer of human and ethical values; it should be the critical conscience of the society; it should illuminate with its reflection those who are addressing the problematic of the modern or postmodern society; it should be the crucible where the diverse tendencies in human thought are debated and solutions proposed.

Peter-Hans Kolvenbach
FULTON QUAD

The Angel of the Lord declared, “Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you!”
She replied: “Behold I am the handmaid of the Lord. Be it done unto me according to Your Will.”
And the Word was made flesh, And dwelt among us.
Pray for us, O holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Angelus
Teach us, good Lord,
To serve You as you deserve;
To give and not to count the cost;
to fight and not to heed the wounds;
to toil and not to seek for rest;
to labor and not to ask for reward,
save that of knowing that
we do your will.

Ignatius Loyola
STOKES AMPHITHEATRE

Take my Hand, Precious Lord,
Lead me on, let me stand.
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night,
lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, Precious Lord,
lead me home.
When the darkness appears
and the night draws near
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand,
Guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand, Precious Lord,
lead me home.

*Thomas Dorsey*
THE CHOCOLATE BAR

Paperwork, cleaning the house, cooking the meals, dealing with innumerable visitors who come all through the day, answering the phone, keeping patience and acting intelligently, which is to find some meaning in all those encounters—these things, too, are the works of peace, and often seem like a very little way.

Dorothy Day
Our prayer brings great joy and gladness to our Lord. He wants it and awaits it. So he says this, “Pray inwardly, even though you find no joy in it. For it does good, though you feel nothing, yes, even though you think you cannot pray. For when you are dry and empty, sick and weak, your prayers please me, though there be little enough to please you. All believing prayer is precious to me.” God accepts the good-will and work of his servants, no matter how we feel.

Julian of Norwich
Summer ends now; 
now, barbarous in beauty, the stooks rise 
Around; up above, what wind-walks! 
What lovely behavior 
Of silk-sack clouds! has wilder, wilful-wavier 
Meal-drift moulded ever 
and melted across skies? 
I walk, I lift up, I lift up heart, eyes, 
Down all that glory in the heavens to glean 
our Saviour; 
And, eyes, heart, what looks, 
what lips yet gave you a 
Rapturous love’s greeting of realer, 
of rounder replies? 
And the azurous hung hills 
are his world-wielding shoulder 
Majestic- as a stallion stalwart, 
very-violet-sweet! 
These things, these things were here 
and but the beholder 
Wanting; which two when they once meet, 
The heart rears wings bold and bolder 
And hurls for him, 
O half hurls earth for him off under his feet.

Gerard Manley Hopkins
LAWN BEHIND SHAW HOUSE

Say: Follow me,
If you love God;
He shall love you,
And forgive you your wrong actions.
He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

*Qur’an 3:31*
I cannot walk an inch without trying to walk to God. I cannot move a finger without trying to touch God.

Anne Sexton
O Lord, You have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
You understand my thoughts from afar.
Even before there is a word on my tongue,
Behold, O Lord, You know it all.
For You formed my inward parts;
You wove me in my mother’s womb.
I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Search me, O God, and know my heart.

Psalm 139
Earth’s crammed with heaven,
And every common bush afire with God;
But only he who sees, takes off his shoes,
The rest sit round it and pluck blackberries,
And daub their natural faces unaware.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning
LANDING ON THE HIGGINS STAIRS

May all beings be happy.
May they live in safety and joy.
All living beings, whether weak or strong,
tall, stout, average or short,
seen or unseen, near or distant,
born or to be born,
may they all be happy...
As a mother watches over her child,
willing to risk her own life
to protect her only child,
so with a boundless heart should one
cherish all living beings,
suffusing the whole world with
unobstructed loving kindness.

Gotama the Buddha
TOP OF COMMONWEALTH AVENUE GARAGE

Well, I don’t know what will happen now; we’ve got some difficult days ahead. But it really doesn’t matter with me now, because I’ve been to the mountaintop. And I don’t mind. Like anybody, I would like to live a long life—longevity has its place. But I’m not concerned about that now. I just want to do God’s will. And He’s allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I’ve looked over, and I’ve seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land. So I’m happy tonight; I’m not worried about anything; I’m not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.

Martin Luther King
ROBSHAM PATIO

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Matthew 5:3–9
CORCORAN COMMONS

Oh God,
Bless this food we are about to receive.
Give bread to those who hunger;
and hunger for justice to us who have bread.

A Grace before meals based on Ghandi’s principles
MULTI-FAITH CENTER

More than ever I find myself in the hands of God.
This is what I have wanted all my life from my youth.
But now there is a difference;
The initiative is entirely with God.
It is indeed a profound spiritual experience to know and feel myself so totally in God’s hands.

Pedro Arrupe
RESIDENCE HALL REFLECTION SPACE

You, neighbor God, if sometimes in the night
I rouse you with loud knocking, I do so only
because I seldom hear you breathe;
and I know: you are alone.
And should you need a drink, no one is
there to reach it to you, groping in the dark.
Always I hearken.
Give but a small sign.
I am quite near.
Between us there is but a narrow wall, and
by sheer chance;
for it would take merely a call from your lips or
from mine to break it down,
and that without a sound.
The wall is builded of your images.
They stand before you hiding you like names.
And when the light with me blazes high that in
my inmost soul I know you by, the radiance
is squandered on their frames.
And then my senses, which too soon grow lame,
exiled from you, must go their homeless ways.

Rainer Maria Rilke
See, in the creation of the heavens and the earth and the alternation of day and night there are signs for those with insight.

Qur’an 3:190
My song is love unknown,
My Savior’s love to me,
Love to the loveless shown
That they might lovely be.
O who am I that for my sake
My Lord should take frail flesh and die?

He came from His blest throne
Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none
The longed for Christ would know:
But O! my Friend, my Friend indeed,
Who at my need His life did spend.

*Samuel Crossman*
ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH

We must remember that liberation is costly. It needs unity. We must hold hands and refuse to be divided. Let us be united, let us be filled with hope, let us be those who respect one another.

Desmond Tutu
NEWTON LOCATIONS

Where is that secret place—dost thou ask, “Where?”
O soul, it is the secret place of prayer!

Alfred Lord Tennyson
TRINITY CHAPEL

O eternal Trinity, my sweet love!
You, light, give us wisdom.
You, supreme strength, strengthen us.
Today, eternal God,
let our cloud be dissipated
so that we may perfectly know
and follow your truth,
in truth,
with a free and simple heart.

Catherine of Siena
Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,
my memory, my understanding,
and my entire will,
All that I have and possess.
You have given all to me.
To You, Lord, I return it.
All is Yours.
Dispose of it wholly
according to Your will.
Give me only Your love and Your grace.
That is sufficient for me.

Ignatius Loyola
BARAT HOUSE BACK PATIO

O God, I love Thee.
Not for heaven’s sake;
not to be out of hell by loving Thee;
not for any gains I see;
but just the way that Thou didst me
I do love and I will love Thee:
What must I love Thee, Lord, for then?
For being my king and God.
Amen.

Gerard Manley Hopkins
CROSS ON THE HILL

If you believe and I believe and we together pray,
The Holy Spirit must come down
and set God’s people free,
and set God’s people free,
and set God’s people free;
The Holy Spirit must come down and set God’s people free.

Zimbabwe Folksong
CUSHING EAST LAWN

God take me by Your hand. I shall follow You faithfully, and not resist too much, shall evade none of the tempests life has in store for me. I shall try to face it all as best I can.

Etty Hillesum
These are the deeds which yield immediate fruit and continue to yield fruit in time to come: honoring parents; doing deeds of loving-kindness; attending the house of study punctually, morning and evening; providing hospitality; visiting the sick; helping the needy bride; attending the dead; probing the meaning of prayer; making peace between one person and another, and between man and wife. And the study of Torah is the most basic of them all.

*Talmud 127*
FIELD ON COLBY ROAD

If you walk toward Him,
He comes to you running.

Muhammad
Maybe I’m not making big changes in the world, but if I have somehow helped or encouraged somebody along the journey then I’ve done what I’m called to do.

Thea Bowman
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