

# FINDING GOD

*in all places*

BOSTON COLLEGE

START ►

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.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### CHESTNUT HILL LOCATIONS

1. Labyrinth  
*Simone Weil*
2. Bench on Linden Lane  
*Thomas Heath*
3. St. Mary's Chapel  
*Pedro Arrupe*
4. Rose Garden  
*Oscar Romero*
5. Statue of the Blessed Mother  
*Memorare*
6. Lawn at Bapst Library  
*Maimonides*
7. O'Neill Library Plaza  
*Peter-Hans Kolvenbach*
8. Fulton Quad  
*Angelus*
9. Rahner House Garden  
*Ignatius Loyola*
10. Stokes Amphitheatre  
*Thomas Dorsey*
11. The Chocolate Bar  
*Dorothy Day*
12. St. Joseph's Chapel  
*Julian of Norwich*
13. O'Connell House Grass Patio  
*Gerard Manley Hopkins*
14. Lawn Behind Shaw House  
*Qur'an 3:31*
15. Williams-Welch Quad  
*Anne Sexton*
16. St. Ignatius  
*Psalms 139*
17. Cushing Hall Chapel  
*Elizabeth Barrett Browning*
18. Landing on the Higgins Stairs  
*Gotama the Buddha*

### NEWTON LOCATIONS

19. Top of Commonwealth Avenue Garage  
*Martin Luther King*
20. Robsham Patio  
*Matthew 5:3-9*
21. Corcoran Commons  
*A Grace Before Meals based on Ghandi's principles*
22. Multi-Faith Center  
*Pedro Arrupe*
23. Residence Hall Reflection Space  
*Rainer Maria Rilke*
24. Chestnut Hill Reservoir  
*Qur'an 3:190*
25. Evergreen Cemetery  
*Samuel Crossman*
26. St. Ignatius Church  
*Desmond Tutu*
27. Trinity Chapel  
*Catherine of Siena*
28. Trinity Chapel – Choir Prayer Room  
*Ignatius Loyola*
29. Barat House Back Patio  
*Gerard Manley Hopkins*
30. Cross on the Hill  
*Zimbabwe Folksong*
31. Cushing East Lawn  
*Ety Hillesum*
32. Cushing Patio  
*Talmud 127*
33. Field on Colby Road  
*Muhammad*
34. Brookside Path  
*Thea Bowman*

## CHESTNUT HILL LOCATIONS

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 a special 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*



## ST. MARY'S CHAPEL

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*

## ROSE GARDEN

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*





## STATUE OF THE BLESSED MOTHER

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*







## LAWN AT BAPST LIBRARY

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*



### RAHNER HOUSE GARDEN

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*

## ST. JOSEPH'S CHAPEL

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*



## O'CONNELL HOUSE GRASS PATIO

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*



## WILLIAMS-WELCH QUAD

I cannot walk an inch  
without trying to walk to God.  
I cannot move a finger  
without trying to touch God.

*Anne Sexton*



## ST. IGNATIUS

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*

**CUSHING HALL CHAPEL**

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*



## ROBESHAM 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*



## CHESTNUT HILL RESERVOIR

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*

**EVERGREEN CEMETERY**

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,  
lets 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*



## TRINITY CHAPEL CHOIR PRAYER ROOM

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*



## CUSHING PATIO

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*



### BROOKSIDE PATH

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*

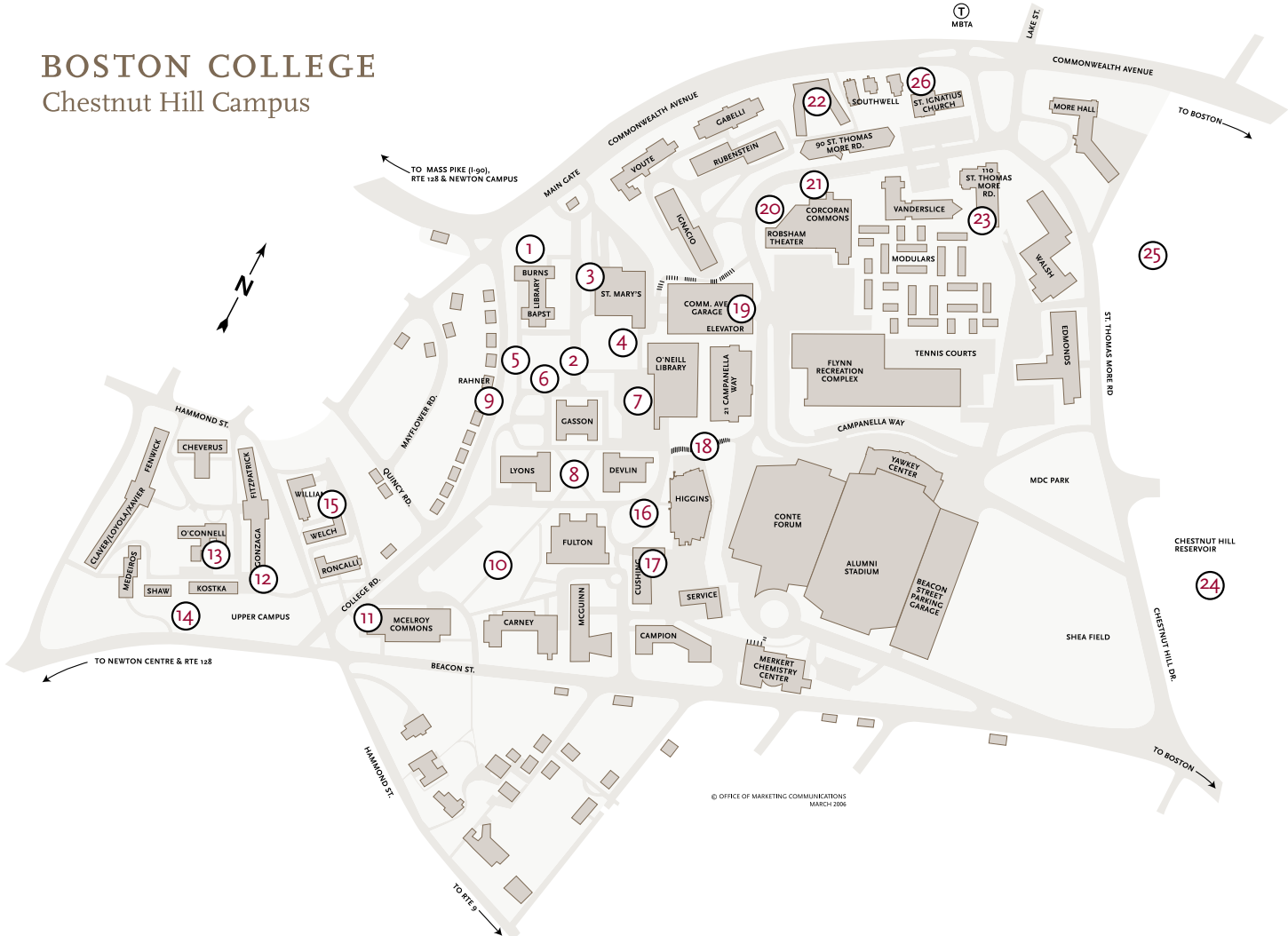
## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The prayers, poems and passages included in this *Prayer Map* are taken from the red book, *What are we?: An Introduction to Boston College and its Jesuit and Catholic Tradition*, Center for Ignatian Spirituality, Boston College, 2002. The Division of University Mission and Ministry thanks Professor James O'Toole, Clough Chair of History and author of *Habits of Devotion*, the students, staff and faculty from Campus Ministry, the Capstone Program, the Office of AHANA Student Programs and Media Technology Services. This Prayer Map project owes its inspiration to Joseph Corcoran '59.

PRODUCED BY BOSTON COLLEGE'S OFFICE OF MARKETING  
COMMUNICATIONS. 2846. 09/15

# BOSTON COLLEGE

## Chestnut Hill Campus





# BOSTON COLLEGE

## Newton Campus

