

# FAITH DOING JUSTICE

## DISCERNMENT SERIES

**Purpose:** The Faith Doing Justice Discernment Series will be a 6-month experiment in relationship building, training, and communal discernment across our Jesuits West apostolates. The series will be an opportunity for people at every level of our apostolates to explore working together in order to act more powerfully in their work for justice and practice community organizing as an Ignatian way of leadership and collaboration. We believe these conversations can lay the groundwork for other forms of cross-apostolate collaboration in the coming years.

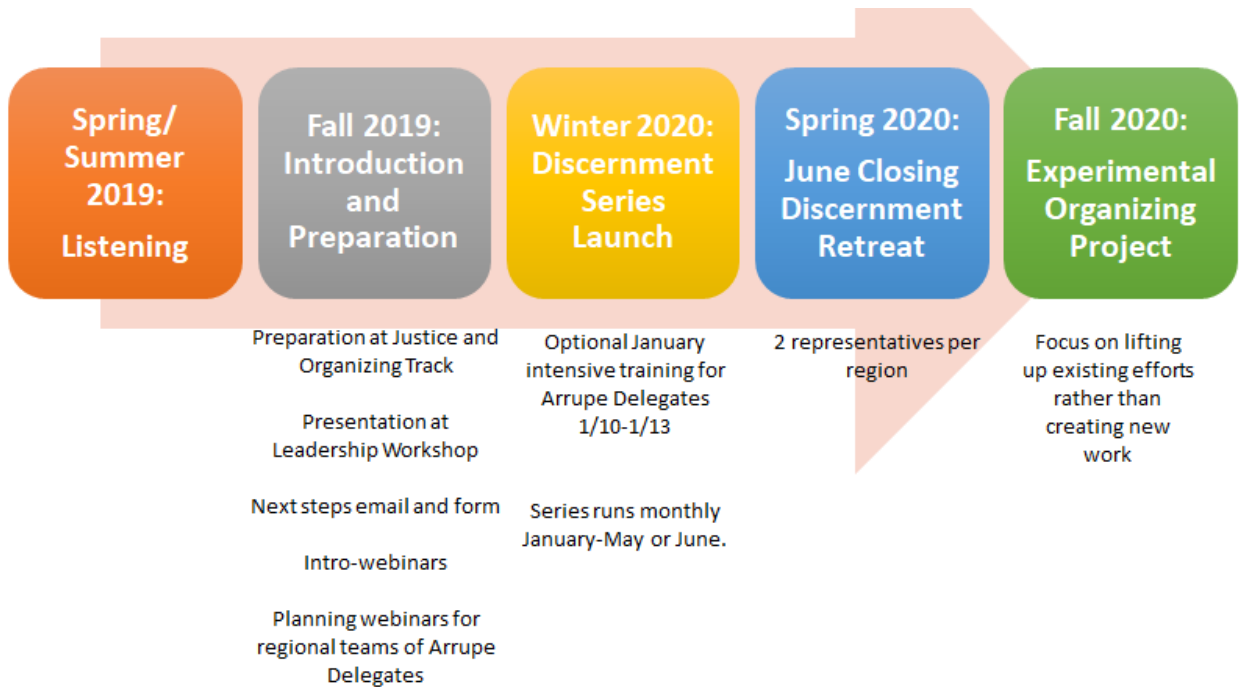
**Fall Preparation:** Each ministry is invited to appoint an Arrupe Delegate who will serve as the liaison from your site to the program. The Arrupe Delegates are expected to familiarize themselves with the Faith Doing Justice Discernment Series, participate in two regional planning calls in the fall, recruit 3-10 people from their site to participate in the series, and serve as the general liaison to the program.

**4 day in-person Intensive for Arrupe Leads:** The project will kick-off with an in-depth 4 day training for 3-4 Arrupe Delegates from each region who choose to become local facilitators for their region. These local facilitators, the Arrupe Leads, will get trained in intentional relationship building, power analysis, prophetic advocacy, Catholic Social Teaching, Ignatian spirituality and communal discernment, and prepared to facilitate local conversations as part of the Discernment Series. This training will be held, Jan 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> at El Retiro, in conjunction with the Jesuit Theological School as a partial credit course for their students.

**5 month Online Listening and Formation:** The January training will launch a 5 month listening, reflection and formation series that will begin the last week of January. 3-10 representatives from each apostolate, recruited will by that ministry's Arrupe Delegate, will meet monthly at one regional table with people from other local apostolates. Each session will consist of training through an online portal, an in-person group activity led by an Arrupe Lead, and end with conversation between regions using the online portal. The monthly formation groups will help participants build deep relationship with each other in their region; do social analysis around (in)justice and power in their region; grow in their understanding of scripture, Catholic Social Teaching, and the Ignatian call to 'a faith that does justice.' The sessions will be grounded in Ignatian spirituality as a tool for grounding ourselves in God's love and mercy, seeking freedom from the bias of disordered attachments, confronting sins of privilege and inequality in our society, and discerning our role in a common call to action.

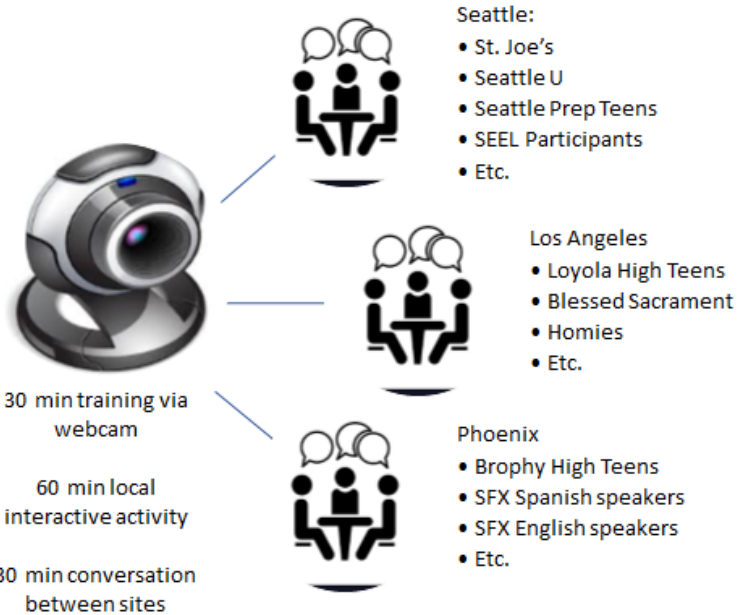
**Project Discernment Gathering in June or July:** At the end of the formation series, 2 representatives from each region will represent their region at a Province-wide gathering in June or July. This spring session will serve as both a reflection space and opportunity for teams to imagine a joint organizing project for the fall of 2020.

**Fall 2020 Initiative:** The fall initiative will be an experiment in leveraging the power our Jesuit network to generate excitement and power on a common issue or body of work. The project may be a provincewide unified advocacy campaign on one federal bill, or a set of local regional projects connected through support, branding, and training provided by the Province- such as a series of local immigration actions, census counting efforts (Jesuits Count) or non-partisan get-out-the-vote efforts (Jesuits Vote). Our imagination is wide.



- Session 1: Encounter**  
Grounding ourselves in God's love for our beloved community. Loving God and getting free by loving each other.
- Session 2: Disruption.**  
Confronting communal sin of power and privilege embedded in our society.
- Session 3: Reimagination.**  
Listening to the call of Jesus and the Prophets to confront injustice and build God's kingdom on earth.
- Session 4: Prophetic Action.**  
Uniting to publicly challenge systems of injustice.
- Session 5: Discerning our way forward.**

3-8 people from each apostolate, led by 3-4 Arrupe Leads  
Gathering once a month. Theoretical examples:



Register for an intro webinar or a regional planning webinar at [bit.ly/FaithDoingJustice](https://bit.ly/FaithDoingJustice)