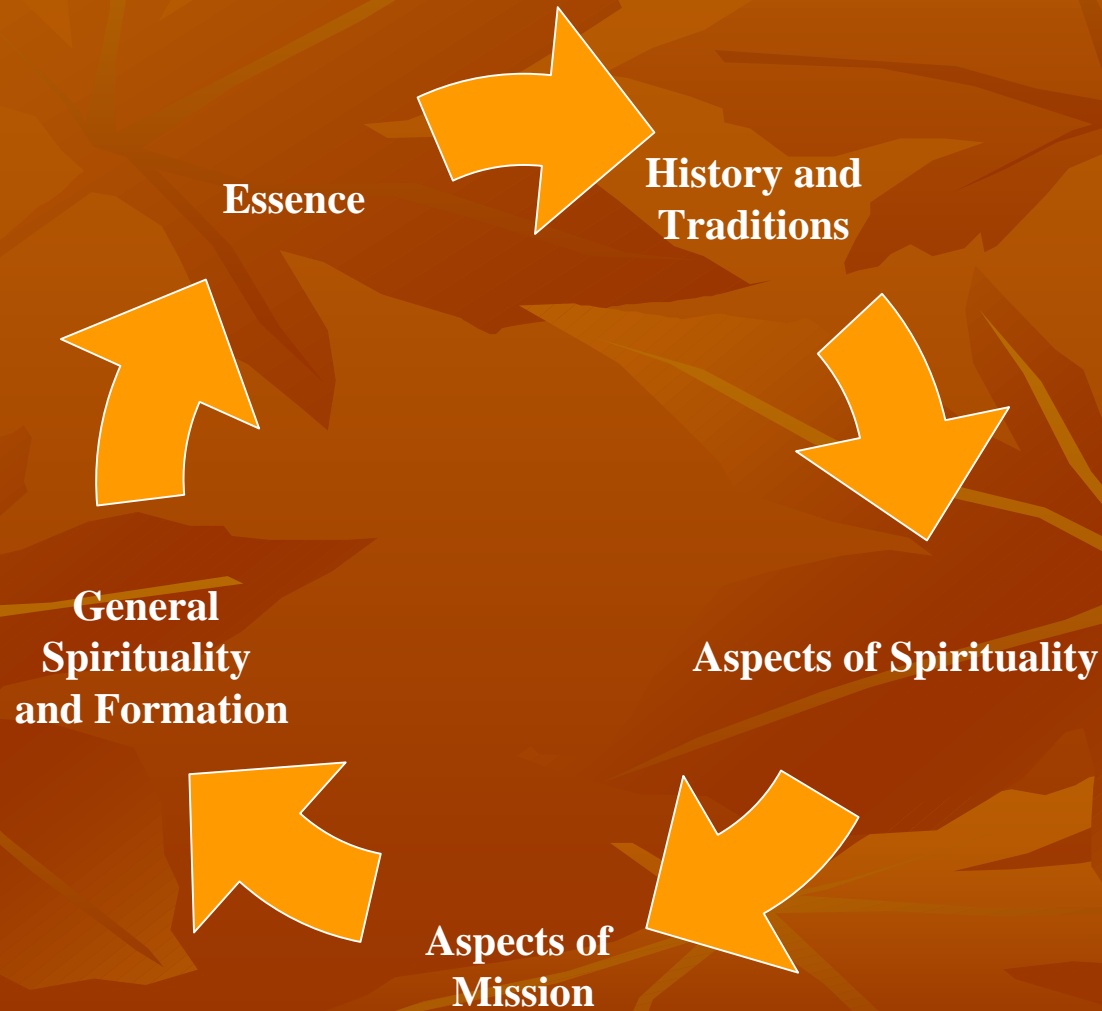


# **Best Practices for Formation**

Sheila Hammond, RSCJ

Marianne Basila, Associate

# Major Areas of Formation



# Essence of the Society of the Sacred Heart

- Discover and reveal God's love
- Wholly contemplative/wholly apostolic
- Sacred Heart/Pierced Heart of Christ Focus
- Mission of transformative education
- Internationality – Provinces Around the World

# “**Essence**” Resources

- Constitutions of 1982 (approved in 1987)
- Constitutions of 1815
- Sacred Heart Spirituality Today – Barbara Bowe, RSCJ/Kathleen Conan, RSCJ – 2005
- The Sacred Heart of the World: Restoring Mystical Devotion to Our Spiritual Life, David Richo
- Sacred Heart Gateway to God, Wendy M. Wright
- Religious of the Sacred Heart, U.S. Province – <http://www.rscj.org>

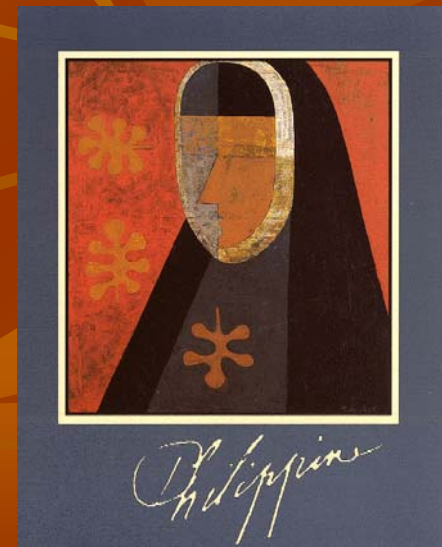
# Our History and Traditions

- Our Mothers Past and Present
  - Sophie
  - Philippine
  - Mothers General
  - Others
- Evolution of the Society
  - 1815 Constitutions
  - 1982 Constitutions
  - General Chapters (1970, 1988, 1994, 20000)
  - Act of Hope, etc.
  - Associates

# Our Mothers Past and Present

## Resources

- Madeleine Sophie Barat: A Life, Phil Kilroy, RSCJ
- Philippine Duchesne: A Woman With the Poor, Catherine Mooney, RSCJ
- The Life and Letters of Janet Erskine Stuart, Maud Monahan, RSCJ
- Circular Letters of the Superiors General
- Website on Madeleine Sophie Barat,  
<http://www.madeleinesophiebarat.com/pathway.html>



# Evolution of the Society

## Resources

- General Chapter Documents of 1970, 1976, 1982, 1988, 1994, 2000
- An Interior Spirit: Anthology of Writings of the Superiors General of the Society, 2000
- International Website of the Religious of the Sacred Heart – <http://www.rscjinternational.org>
- Associates of the Society of the Sacred Heart, U.S. Province – <http://www.rscjassociates-usa.org>

# Additional Characteristics of Our Spirituality

- Eucharistic
- Mary
- Interior Spirit
- Relationship-Based



# Society Spirituality Resources

- In The Shadow of the Word, Dolores Aleixandre
- Interior Life – What M.S. Barat Meant by Interior Life, M.H. Quinlan, RSCJ
- Prayer on the Feast of Mater, Marie-Therese de Lescure, RSCJ
- Helen Rosenthal's RSCJ BLOG –  
<http://www.reflectionsofanrscj.blogspot.com>
- Virtual Community of Prayer –  
<http://www.virtualprayer.org>

# Additional Characteristics of Our Mission

- Plan of Studies
- Goals and Criteria
- Network of Sacred Heart Schools
- Other ways the mission is lived/our ministries today
- International apostolic community
- Dialogue of cultures

# Society Mission Resources

- The Education of Catholic Girls, Janet Erskine Stuart, RSCJ
- Education: A Commitment, International Education Commission Working Paper, 1988
- Network of Sacred Heart Schools – <http://www.sofie.org/ftm/introduction>
- Website on Sacred Heart Mission – <http://albert.sacredsf.org/~buscher/Home.html>



# Other Dimensions of Spirituality and Formation

- Evolving experiences of God
- Contemplation and other forms of prayer
- Scripture and other holy books
- Discernment

# General Spirituality and Formation Resources

- Spirituality, Contemplation, and Transformation, Thomas Keating, 2007
- The Holy Longing: The Search for A Christian Spirituality, Ronald Rolheiser, 1992
- The Miracle of Mindfulness, Thich Nhat Hanh, 1999
- Daily Reflections from Jesuits of England,  
<http://www.pray-as-you-go.org>
- Creighton University Website,  
<http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>

# Best Practices For Formation Summary

- Formation for Associates
  - Essence of the Society of the Sacred Heart
  - Our History and Traditions
  - Additional Aspects of Our Spirituality and Mission
  - General Spirituality and Formation
- A Wealth of Resources is Available
  - Books and videos
  - Websites
  - Handbook is being given to each attendee with regular downloadable updates on the Associates Website