Spiritual companionship is an ancient practice of accompaniment that helps the seeker to discern the presence of God in his or her unique and sacred journey.

*Do people come to you for a listening ear? Do you have a desire to grow in attentiveness to God’s movement in your life in community with others? Are you being called to the practice of spiritual direction?*

“The place God calls you to is that place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.”

FREDERICK BUECHNER
The Franciscan Spiritual Direction Program

Our two-year program combines the rich resources of spiritual literature with contemplative practice and hands-on experience of accompanying others. Creative arts are integrated into the program, which includes:

- Ignatian and Franciscan Spirituality
- Discernment
- Contemplative Prayer Practices
- Practice of Spiritual Direction
- The 12-Step Path
- The Enneagram Contemporary Social Contexts including family, gender, and life transitions

Course Requirements

- Commitment to attendance and participation in all classes and small groups
- Monthly reading and reflection papers
- Oral presentations
- Monthly spiritual direction
- Individual and peer supervision
- Meeting with two directees, with individual supervision, during the interim summer through the second year
- Attendance at two retreats

Criteria for Admission

We welcome women and men of all faiths, whose experience includes:

- A daily practice of prayer. A year of having been in spiritual direction
- Completed application and two letters of recommendation
- A personal interview

Program Schedule

Saturdays 9:30am - 4:30pm

2018  September 15, October 20, November 17, December 15
2019  February 16, March 16, April 27, May 18 - Graduation for Class of 2017-2019
2019  September 21, October 19, November 16, December 14
2019  February 15, March 21, April 18, May 16 - Graduation for Class of 2018-2020

Tuition and Fees

- $50 non-refundable application fee
- $100 or less for books each semester
- $275 for Individual Supervision (11 sessions at $25 each)
- $2375 tuition includes: four semesters, two overnight retreats, and graduation fee

The Deadline for Application is August 1, 2018

*$250 deposit due upon acceptance to the program will be applied to the first semester fee.

Scholarships are available.
LEADERSHIP TEAM

CAROL MITCHELL
PROGRAM DIRECTOR

I trained as a spiritual director almost 25 years ago and it has been my great privilege and joy to accompany many people in spiritual direction since that time. I have been involved in the training of spiritual direction as well as working on preached and directed 30 day retreats. My first career was as a clinical psychologist and in that capacity I periodically teach in a program in the California prison system to train long term prisoners to become addiction treatment counselors. I am married with three grown children and five grandchildren, two of whom live across the hall from us. I feel very blessed to live in my favorite city doing work that lets me continually see new aspects of the face of God.

BR. JOHN MAGANZINI, OFM

I am a member of the order of Friars Minor (Franciscans), Holy Name Province. I hold Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Education, Religious Education and Religious Studies. I have completed post-Masters studies in adult faith formation, pastoral counseling, church leadership, and spiritual direction. My ministerial background includes teaching, spiritual direction, counseling, retreat work, workshops, and ministry to women and men in Twelve Step programs. I am a spiritual director (companion) in the Franciscan Spiritual Companionship Ministry at St. Anthony Shrine. In addition to teaching in the Spiritual Direction Training Program at the Shrine, I have also taught in the Spiritual Direction Training Programs at Boston College and San Damiano House of Prayer. I serve this Spiritual Direction Training Program as an “adjunct” team member and teach two courses in the program. I also serve as a spiritual director and supervisor for candidates presently in formation and for graduates of the program.

MARY PAT WHITE, RSCJ

After serving in Network Schools of the Society of the Sacred Heart in Missouri and Texas, I served in campus ministry in several Newman Centers at universities in California. After hurricane Katrina, I directed a Service and Immersion Program at Duchesne House for Volunteers in New Orleans and as vocation director for the United States-Canada Province for six years. I received training as a spiritual director at the Center Point Spiritual Direction Center in Santa Barbara, CA. I currently live and minister in Boston as a member of a community open to Young Adults in the Boston Area, offer spiritual direction, and serve on the Core Team of Sophie’s Well: A Center for Sacred Heart Spirituality for the US-Canada Province.

CLARA WOOD

I have been practicing spiritual direction at St. Anthony Shrine for seven years, with a particular interest in realizing the sacred through prayer and storytelling, the creative arts, and attention to the gifts of the natural world. I worked with the homeless and as a pastoral visitor following my certification in Pastoral Ministry at Boston College, and played a leadership role in the sacramental and community life at St. Stephen Priory in Dover for sixteen years. I am a widow with four grandchildren, the other delight of my life.
St. Anthony Shrine is conveniently located in Downtown Crossing in Boston, easily accessible from the T with stops at Park Street and Downtown Crossing. Parking garages nearby offer reasonable Saturday rates.

For an application or further information, please contact:

CAROL MITCHELL
PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Franciscan Spiritual Direction Certification Program
St. Anthony Shrine
100 Arch Street, Boston, MA 02215
(727) 492-8315
cmitchell@stanthonyshrine.org