

# JOSEPH CARDIJN

*To See, Judge and Act as Jesus--  
A transformational process*

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Paul and Jane Leingang

Executive Directors

Christian Family  
Movement, USA



# Joseph Cardijn

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*Visionary  
Leader  
of Lay  
Movements*





# Overview

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- Cardijn's life and contribution to our understanding of the role of the laity
- Review of Life process
- Cardijn's observations on family
- Implications

# Joseph Cardijn

## *REVIEW OF LIFE* Method

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- Observe
  - Judge
    - Act





# The Cardijn Movements

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- Young Christian Workers
- Young Christian Students
- Christian Family Movement
- Movimiento Familiar Cristiano
- International Confederation of Christian Family Movements



# Cardijn on Formation of the Laity

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- Laity not formed by books
- Laity formed by discovery of facts
- Followed by Christian judgment
- Resulting in actions carried into effect



# The Value of the Human Person

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- An individual's role is not only human: it is also divine
- Each one is the image of God
- God has entrusted each with a mission that is irreplaceable.




# Leo XIII–*Rerum Novarum*

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- Foundation of Catholic Social Teaching
- Makes a connection between religion and social conditions
- Workers more important than capital.






# Cardijn and “Religious Liberalism”

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- Experiences of childhood
- Experiences as an adult of a disconnect between life and practice of religion
- Calls this disconnect  
“Unconscious, anonymous apostasy”



# Cardijn and “Religious Liberalism”

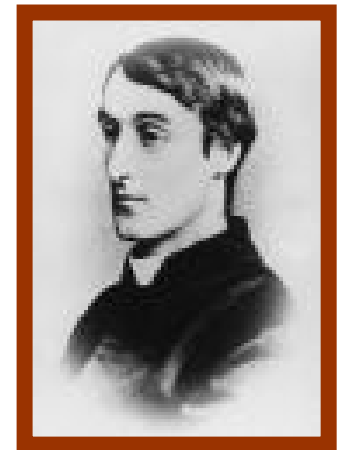
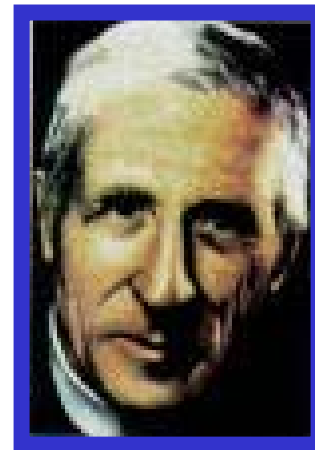
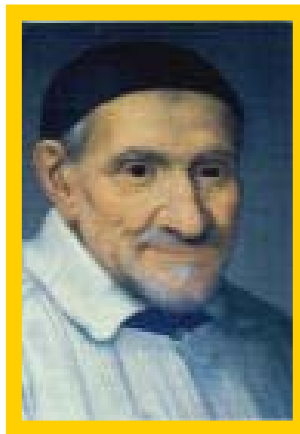
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“Unconscious, anonymous apostasy”



# Cardijn's spirituality

*Religion is the whole of Life*





# Cardijn's View

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- Cardijn's integrated spirituality was ahead of its time
- "Religion is the whole of life which like the host should be consecrated to God"
- The pious practice of faith not enough
- "Faith without works is dead."



# Origins of Cardijn's Ideas

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- *Sillon* and Marc Sangnier
- Work with Victoire Cappe
- Ministry in Laeken

# The *Sillon*

- Lay organization that advocated change in society
- Predominantly men
- Idealistic rather than practical



# Victoire Cappe

- Victoire Cappe who had used a method similar to observe, judge, act with young women workers.
- Very practical in orientation



# Cardijn was “La Flamme”



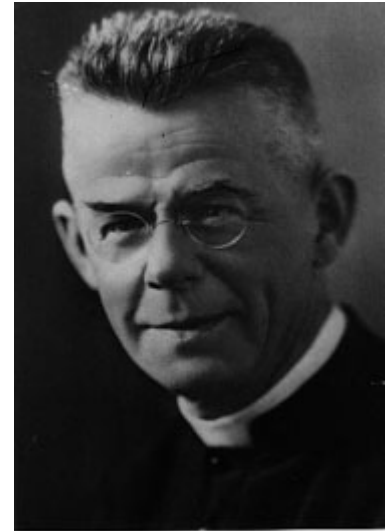
- Young leaders responded to Cardijn’s guidance and became the leaders of YCW.
- Fernand Tonnet, Paul Garcet, Jacques Meert.



# Cardijn's Aim

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- To change the world for Christ
  - “It is not your business to imitate priests and religious.”
  - “Prayer and religion must transform life.”



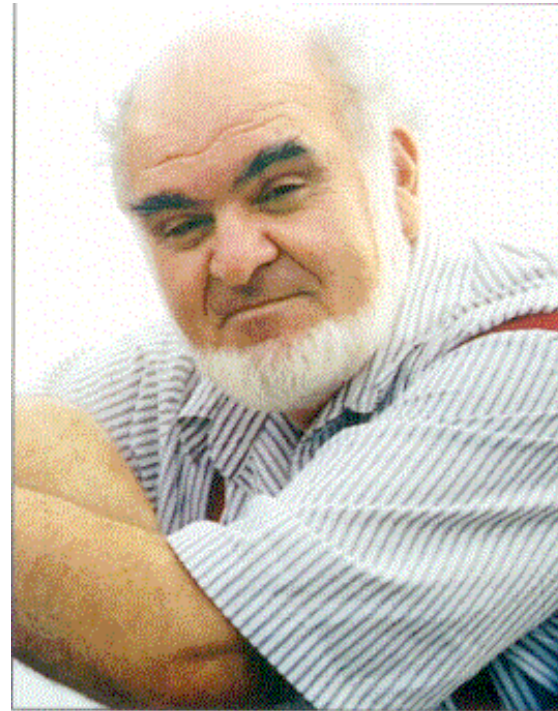
# Cardijn's Influence

- *Gaudium et Spes*
- Created an instrument to renew Church and society



# The Inquiry Method

- ◆ **See**
- ◆ **Judge**
- ◆ **Act**



Romeo Maione



# The Inquiry Method

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◆ **See**

*Just as one is trained to read,  
one must be trained to see.*



# The Inquiry Method

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◆ **See**

*See-Judge-Act:  
the integrity of the process*



# The Inquiry Method

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◆ **See**

*To see beyond the culturally acceptable*



# The Inquiry Method

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◆ **See**

*Away from theory into reality*

*Raising confidence*

*Personal knowledge rich and fruitful*



# The Inquiry Method

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◆ **See**

*Reality comes alive in the world of today*

*A balanced view of the world*





# The Inquiry Method

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◆ **See**

*Seeing the world today, today*

*We are collaborators, heirs of God, partakers of the  
Divine Nature*



# The Inquiry Method

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◆ **See**

*Eternal destiny can no more be separated from temporal destiny than religion is separated from morality.*

*The eternal destiny of each human being . . . is achieved in temporal life always and everywhere on earth as it is in heaven*



# The Inquiry Method

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- ◆ **See**
- ◆ **Judge**

*The “See” part of the enquiry plunges us into the real.*

*The “Judge” part plunges us into faith*



# The Inquiry Method

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- ◆ **See**
- ◆ **Judge**

*Energy and urgency*

*Moving from fact to statistic to person to friend to Jesus*



# The Inquiry Method

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- ◆ **See**
- ◆ **Judge**

*Who is called to see and to judge?*



# The Inquiry Method

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- ◆ **See**
- ◆ **Judge**

*The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us*

*The solution is within us*



# The Inquiry Method

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- ◆ **See**
- ◆ **Judge**
- ◆ **Act**

*To remedy the concrete distress of specific people*

*Suffering does not allow any neutrality . . .*



# The Inquiry Method

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- ◆ **See**
- ◆ **Judge**
- ◆ **Act**

*How Christians are formed*





# The Inquiry Method

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- ◆ **See**
- ◆ **Judge**
- ◆ **Act**

*One can preach and teach love  
but it is only by loving that one comes to love*



# The Inquiry Method

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- ◆ See
- ◆ Judge
- ◆ Act

*“Formation through action . . . is essential.”*

— Monsignor Reynold Hillenbrand



# The Inquiry Method

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- ◆ **See**
- ◆ **Judge**
- ◆ **Act**

*Awareness, Analysis and Action:  
“the circle of faith-in-action.”*

— Joe Holland and Peter Henriot SJ



# The Inquiry Method

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- ◆ See
- ◆ Judge
- ◆ Act

*The mustard seed,  
or, “Is a small act worth doing?”*



# The Inquiry Method

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- ◆ **See**
- ◆ **Judge**
- ◆ **Act**

*“The basic tool of the Christian Family Movement.  
It is the heart of all its efforts.”*

— Monsignor Reynold Hillenbrand



# The Inquiry Method

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- ◆ **Seeing** the world as Christ saw it
- ◆ **Judge:** Putting on the mind of Christ
- ◆ **Action:** The love of Christ through love of others

— Monsignor Reynold Hillenbrand

# The Inquiry Method

- ◆ See
- ◆ Judge
- ◆ Act

*The vision of Cardijn*





# The Inquiry Method

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- ◆ The **SEE** part of the inquiry trains the mind,
- ◆ the **JUDGE** part forms the heart
- ◆ and **ACTION** incarnates it all.





# Cardijn on the Family

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- There are two fundamental truths: the human person and the family.
- If the pillars are removed, humanity is lost and everything becomes slavery, barbarism and dictatorship.



# Cardijn on the Family

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- There is one institution which cannot be replaced by anything else,
- It is the family ... first cell and the first center of life, the first home.
- The family is an image of God



# Cardijn on Marriage

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- Marriage is a call from God
- It is a divine vocation
- It is holy and it makes holy
- It is apostolic and missionary

# Family--

## Artisans of an Evolving Society

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- The family is an image of the union of Christ and the Church
- The family is instituted to build the kingdom.
- This is true of every family, whether black or yellow or white
- All are created in the image of God with an irreplaceable mission in the world.




# The Special Charism of the Christian Family Movement

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CFM's Unique Contribution to the  
Church in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

A Message to ICCFM



# The CFM Method of Observe, Judge and Act (the OJA Way)

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- Special gift of the Spirit to the life of the church
- Special contribution to the building up of the Christian community
- A unique charism for forming Christian leaders with a distinct spirituality
- A powerful spiritual technology and approach for mission and ministry

# OJA Method for Leadership

- OJA is a way to empower and expand our Christian capacity given in Baptism and developed through the other Sacraments
- To transform the face of the Earth





# OJA Empowers Disciples for Apostolic Leadership

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- To follow Christ our Master as 21<sup>st</sup> century Christians in a global culture
- To imitate him as prophet, priest and leader within the Catholic tradition
- To become a prophetic, priestly and kingly people announcing the vision and values of the Kingdom of God





# Three Historic Stages of OJA

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- Cardinal Cardijn's original insight following the First World War with the Young Christian Workers
- Founding of the Christian Family Movement (CFM-MFC) after the Second World War in mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century
- Next Step of ICCFM Applying OJA to Family, Church and Society in 21<sup>st</sup> Century within the New Global Village and Planetary Civilization



# OJA & Catholic Social Teaching

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- Modern Era: Earlier Papal Teaching and the Leonine Vision & Strategy:
  - Leo XIII
  - Benedict XV
  - Pius XIIChurch and Society in the Modern World
- Post-Modern Era: More Recent Papal Teaching and the Second Vatican Council: the Johanine Vision and Strategy from John XXIII to John Paul II
  - Gaudium et Spes
  - Familiaris Consortio



# Quantum Spiritual Leap: ICCFM in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

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- Our Challenge: To Christianize the Emerging Global Civilization through Family as Artisans of the Future
- Our Transformation: Spiritually Committed & Empowered Leadership
- Our Charism: OJA in Groups/Teams