The Institute for Leadership and Entrepreneurship in Education (ILEE)

A one-of-a-kind professional community for Catholic school leaders

ILEE'S MISSION

INSTITUTE FOR LEADERSHIP AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN EDUCATION

Our mission is to reinvigorate and transform the Catholic education ecosystem through a nurturing, dynamic, **faith-grounded fellowship** consisting of our most committed, talented, and visionary leaders.

www.ileeconnect.org

Lone Rock Retreat Center, Bailey, CO – site of the ILEE Seminars

ILEE SEMINARS at LONE ROCK, COLORADO

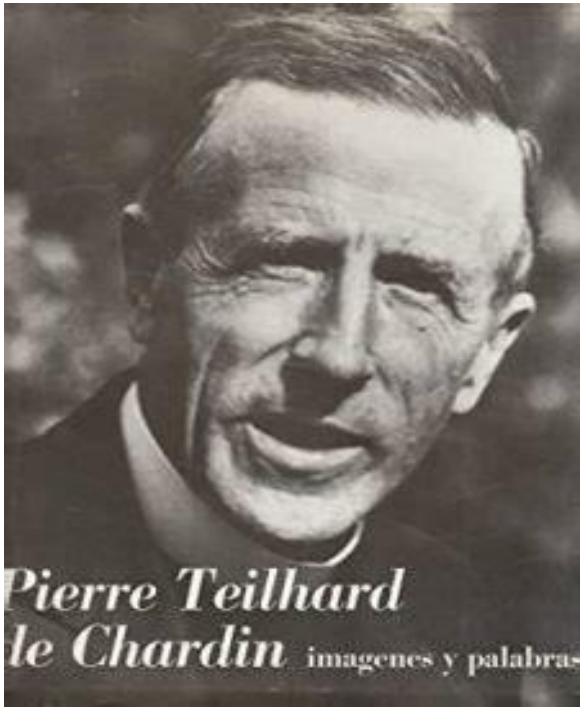
ILEE has developed highly popular, cohort-based Executive Leadership Seminars that are guided by two principles.

(97% of ILEE Fellows say it is the best professional development experience they ever had!)

1. Catholic schools are all about relationships; let’s tend to them and to each other.

2. Our faith permeates all that we do; let's intentionally center it in our lives and work.

"We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience."



Now our seminars are complemented by similarly themed retreats for Catholic school leadership and faculty/staff.

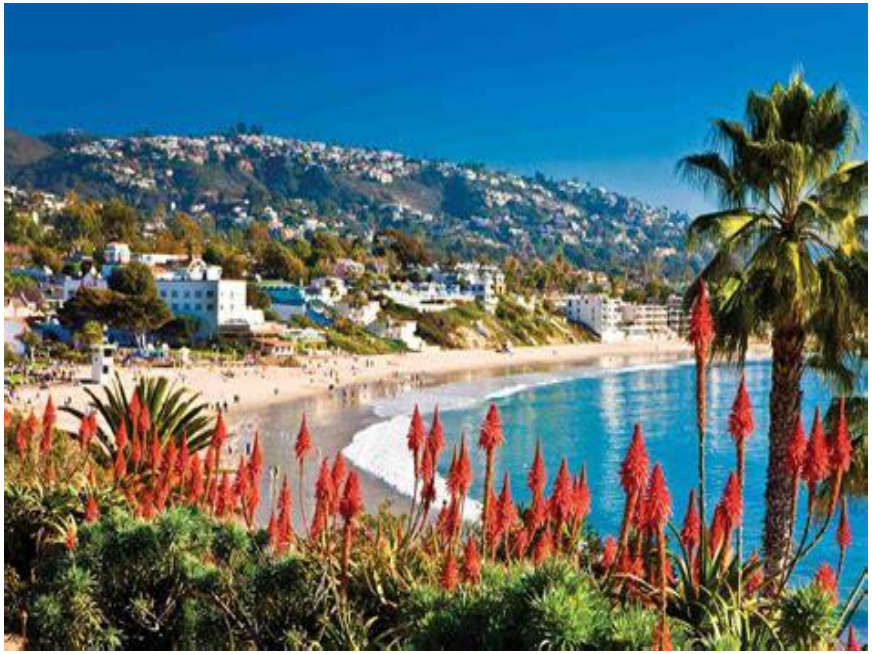
ILEE has expanded its vision and offerings because…

Not everyone can go up the mountain (Lone Rock).

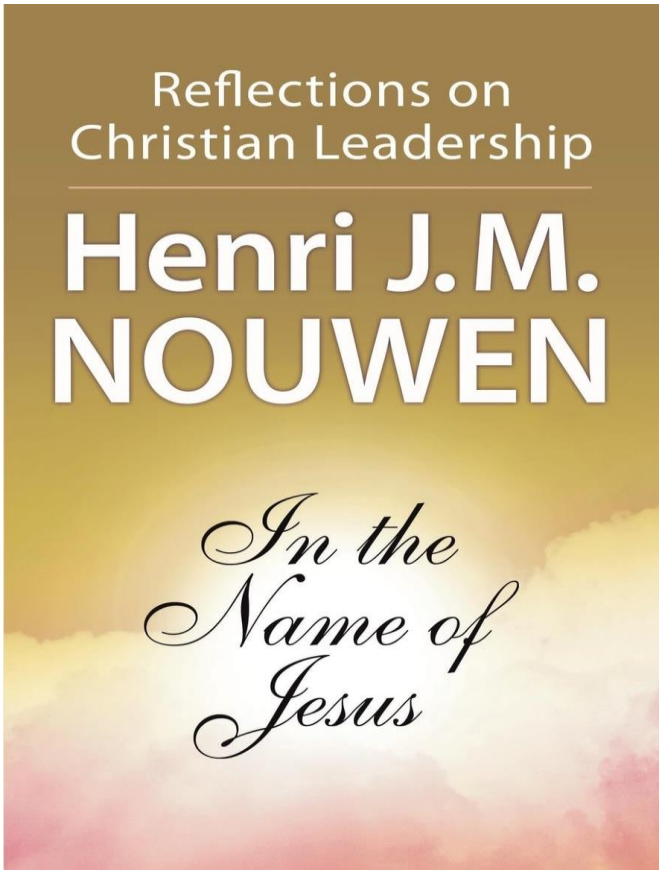
All faculty/staff – not just administrators – benefit from ILEE programming.

What is offered at Lone Rock through the seminars can also be cultivated at our schools and dioceses – affecting the broader Catholic ecosystem.

In 2025-2026, ILEE offers retreats from Orange CA to Boston…and all points in between!



Two-Day Retreat for Catholic school administrators



This retreat is…

- Text and discussion based.
- Perfect for building trust, mutual care, and mission-focused leadership teams.
- Guided by highly skilled moderators and is highly participatory in nature.
- Connects to the work, while connecting the retreatant to a deeper space where call aligns with fulfillment and purpose.
- Christ-centered.

One-Day Retreat for faculty/staff – single school or multiple schools gathered together.

"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."

– Elizabeth Barrett Browning

What does a faculty/staff retreat based on a four-line poem look like?

- Individual contemplation
- Scripture meditations
- Experienced and engaging facilitation
- Connections to the life and work of faculty/staff
- Small group discussions
- Gratitude for the work and the workers

- Probing reflection questions:
  - What does “plucking blackberries” in a school look like?
  - Discernment as “he who sees”
  - Awe of God and creation
  - The common bushes afire with God in the here and now

“

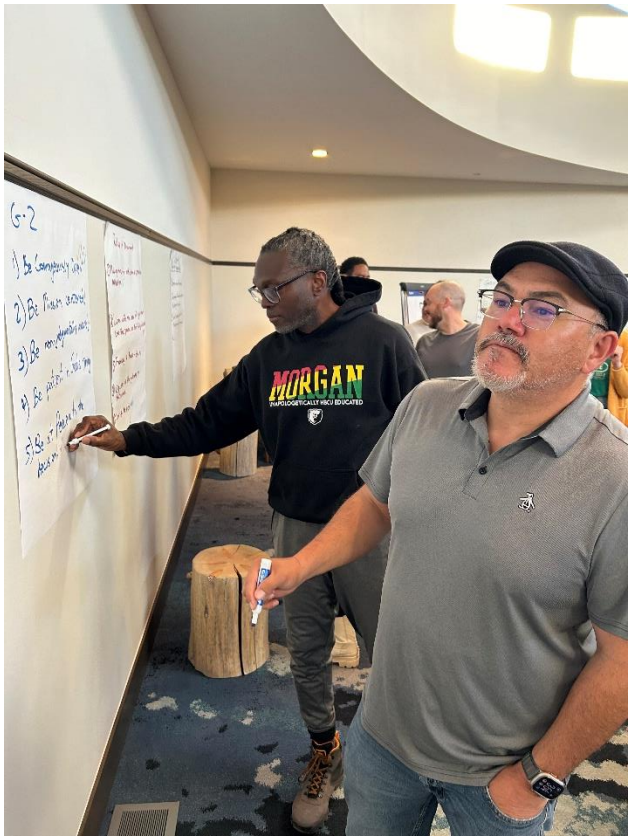
Costs and Benefits

INSTITUTE FOR LEADERSHIP AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN EDUCATION

Retreat Fees: $3,000 per day for one ILEE moderator plus expenses (lodging and travel).

Collaboration: While ILEE proposes models for retreats, each is modified to meet the needs and desired outcomes of each participating school or diocese.

Follow up: Our fee includes follow up opportunities such as check-in's with leadership teams and/or zoom prayer services with faculty/staff.



For information about ILEE seminars or retreats, contact Rob Birdsell at rob@amerigoeducation.com or kenthickey13@gmail.com

The “One Rock” Cohort at the Firepit, Lone Rock, CO.

Want to learn more about the ILEE Executive Leadership Seminars? Check out this 6-minute video! 2025 is full but there are cohort openings for 2026.