Hello. My name is Gloria Naify and my journey with the Jesuits began when my son attended Jesuit high school in the early 80's. I held several positions on the Loyola Guild Board and was involved with Christmas Tree Lane for almost 20 years.

When Kairos began at Jesuit High School several of us moms wanted to experience what our sons had at Kairos, so we began our Ignacio Retreats for women and followed the Kairos model for 7 years. This was life-changing.

Thirty years ago, I was privileged to go on a pilgrimage with 4 other women and a Jesuit priest from Jesuit High School who also directed our Ignacio Retreats. We followed the footsteps of St. Ignatius from Spain to Rome… a deep and moving experience that continues to direct my life and my faith.

St. Ignatius is where I found my church family. I knew Father Mike Moynahan, who was the pastor at the time, so this felt like home and nurtured my spirit.

When St. Ignatius School began their campaign to build a new school in 2017, I was asked to be a co-chair. I gladly accepted and it was such an exciting time!

I met Father Tom in the midst of COVID. Father Mike was transferring to Portland and Father Tom was our new pastor. He was interested in continuing an evening of Advent that I had been hosting for 20 years. With his direction and generosity, we televised our Advent Gathering over YouTube for parishioners, friends and family. There were only 7 or 8 of us in the church. It was a holy experience!

Father Tom has welcomed our women's faith group to St. Ignatius and has given us space to meet each Wednesday. Our 1st session started at Jesuit High School 35 years ago and we are forever grateful to Father Tom for the opportunity to continue our ministry.

Gratitude – gratitude – gratitude. This is why I give. This is my home. This is where I thrive. This is where I am nourished.

Whatever I can do, whatever I can give…I will continue to do.