



ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA





**THE JOURNEY FROM
KNIGHT TO SOLDIER OF
CHRIST**





- ❑ **Founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits)**
- ❑ **A Legacy of Spiritual Transformation**



DAY 1



BIRTH AND FAMILY



- Born in 1491 in the Basque region of Spain
- Youngest of 13 children in a noble family
- Originally named Íñigo López de Loyola

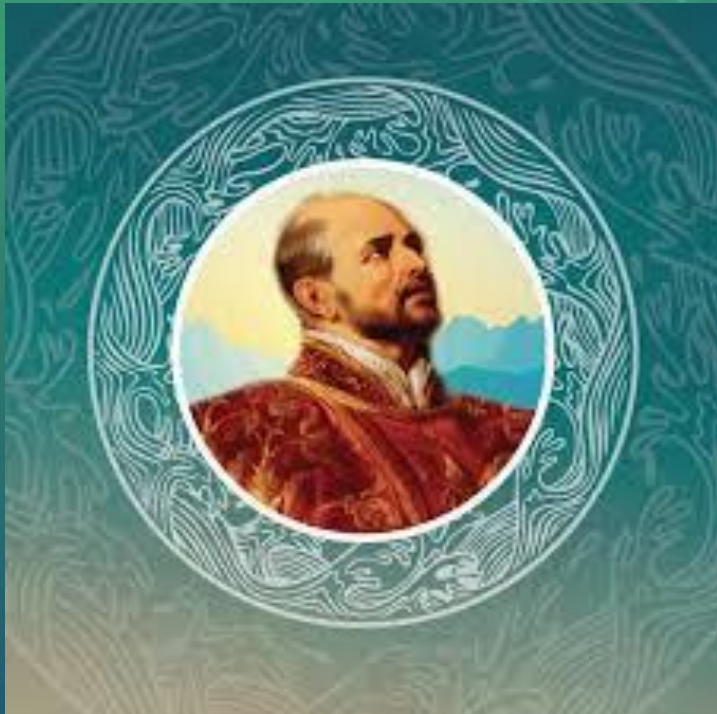


DAY 2





Childhood at Castle Loyola



- Raised in a sturdy medieval stone fortress
- Immersed in traditions of ancestral pride
- Taught basic literacy and upper-class manners



DAY 3





LIFE AS A COURTIER



- ❖ Sent to Arevalo to serve the royal treasurer
- ❖ Developed a love for fine clothes and poetry
- ❖ Eager to establish a name in high society



DAY 4





DREAMS OF KNIGHTHOOD



- ☐ Fascinated by romantic tales of chivalry
- ☐ Obsessed with winning military fame
- ☐ Motivated by worldly honour and romance



DAY 5





THE YOUNG SOLDIER



- ❑ Entered military service under the Duke of Nájera
- ❑ Known for his fierce, stubborn bravery
- ❑ Proudly wore armour and carried weapons

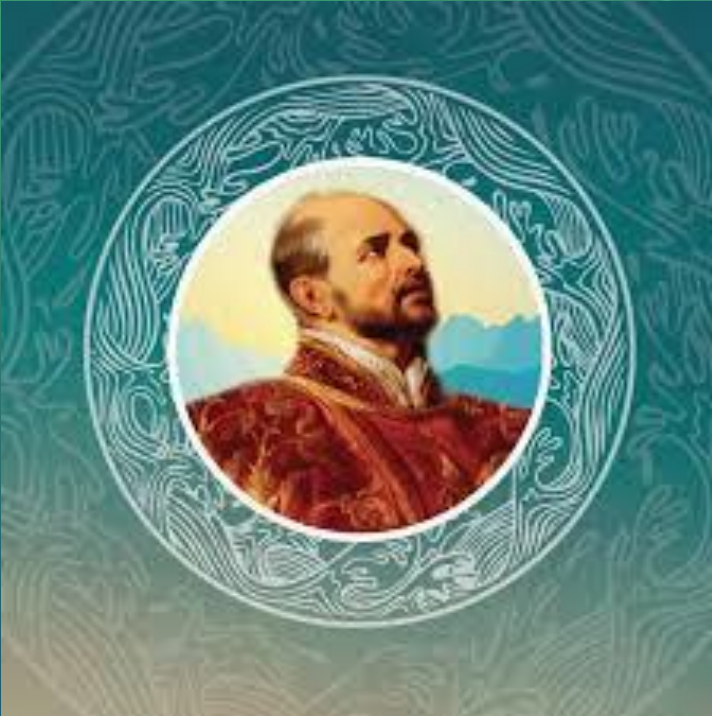


DAY 6





THE BATTLE OF PAMPLONA



- Occurred in May 1521 against French forces
- Spanish army was heavily outnumbered
- Íñigo refused to surrender the fortress

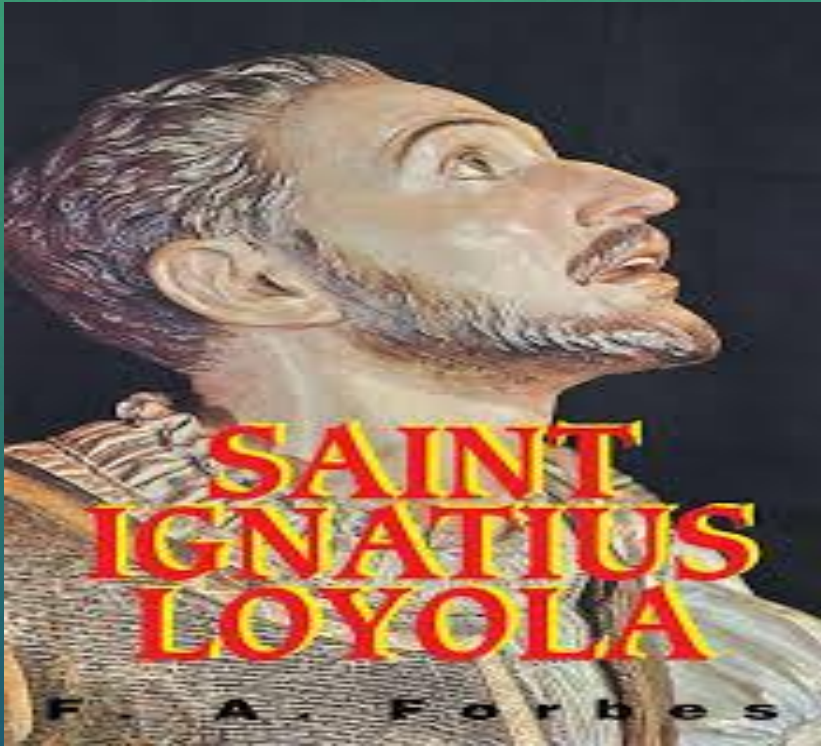


DAY 7





THE CANNONBALL STRIKE



- **Struck in the legs by a flying cannonball**
- **Right leg was shattered completely**
- **Left leg was seriously injured**



DAY 8





PAINFUL RECOVERY



- ✓ **Carried back to Castle Loyola by French soldiers**
- ✓ **Endured agonizing surgeries without anaesthesia**
- ✓ **Confined to a bed for months of healing**



DAY 9





DESIRE FOR PHYSICAL HEALING



- ❖ Ordered doctors to saw off a protruding bone
- ❖ Wanted his military boots to fit properly again
- ❖ Suffered long, gruelling stretches on a rack



DAY 10





THE SHIFT IN READING



- Requested romance novels to pass the time
- Found only two books in the entire castle
- Given the Life of Christ and Lives of the Saints



DAY 11





THE TWO KINGDOMS



- ❖ Noticed different feelings after reading
- ❖ Worldly daydreams left him dry and unhappy
- ❖ Holy thoughts left him peaceful and joyful



DAY 12





VISION OF THE VIRGIN MARY



- ✓ Experienced a vivid night vision of Mary and Jesus
- ✓ Felt cleansed of past moral failings
- ✓ Firmly resolved to change his life forever



DAY 13



SETTING OUT AS A PILGRIM



- Left his family castle in early 1522
- Began a journey toward the Holy Land
- Dedicated his future entirely to God



DAY 14





VIGIL AT MONTSERRAT



- ✓ Visited the Benedictine monastery of Montserrat
- ✓ Hung his sword and dagger at Mary's altar
- ✓ Traded his fine clothes for rough sackcloth



DAY 15





THE CAVE OF MANRESA



- ☐ Intended to stay a few days; stayed ten months
- ☐ Lived in a cave praying and fasting intensely
- ☐ Faced severe doubt, depression, and spiritual trials

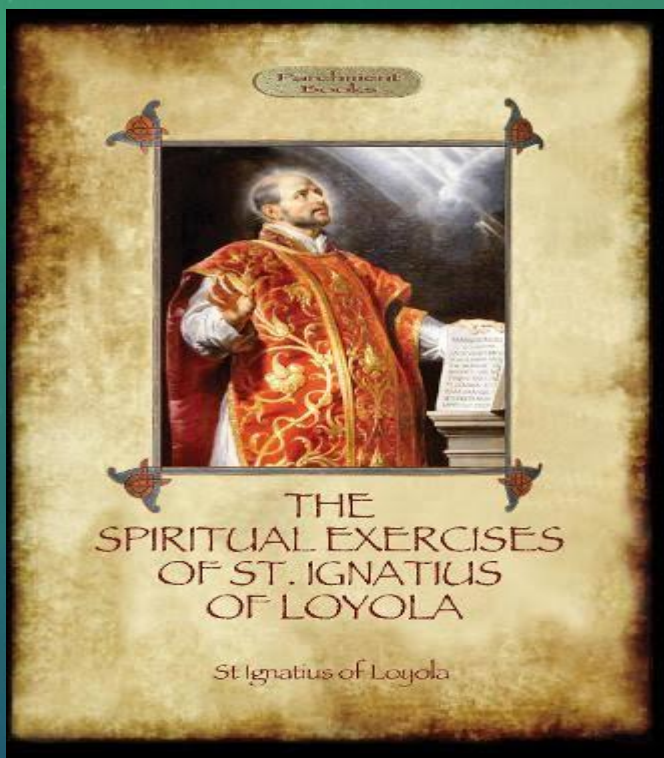


DAY 16





DEVELOPING THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES



- Recorded his inner struggles and insights
- Formulated a structured guide for prayer
- Created a manual to help others find freedom



DAY 17





Seeking Education



- ❖ Realized he lacked the training to preach safely
- ❖ Decided to return to school at age 33
- ❖ Sat with young children to learn basic Latin



DAY 18

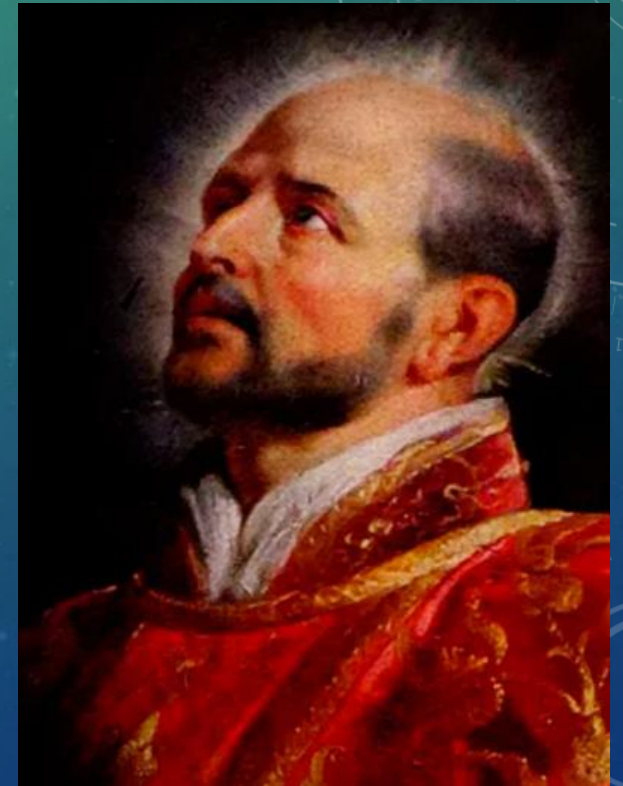




Studies in Barcelona and Alcalá



- Faced suspicion for teaching without a degree
- Questioned by the Spanish Inquisition
- Forbidden to preach until completing his studies



DAY 19





THE UNIVERSITY OF PARIS



- Arrived in Paris in 1528 for theology studies
- Changed his name from Íñigo to Ignatius
- Lived in poverty while working toward his Master's



DAY 20





THE FIRST COMPANIONS



- Gathered a group of six brilliant roommates
- Included Francis Xavier and Peter Faber
- Bound together by a shared spiritual vision



DAY 21





VOWS AT MONTMARTRE



- ❖ Met in a small chapel on August 15, 1534
- ❖ Took formal vows of poverty and chastity
- ❖ Promised to go on mission to Jerusalem



DAY 22





THE SOCIETY OF JESUS



- War prevented travel to the Holy Land
- Group travelled to Rome to serve the Pope instead
- Adopted the official name "Society of Jesus"



DAY 23





PAPAL APPROVAL



- Presented their formula of life to the Vatican
- Officially approved by Pope Paul III in September 1540
- Formed a new kind of active religious order

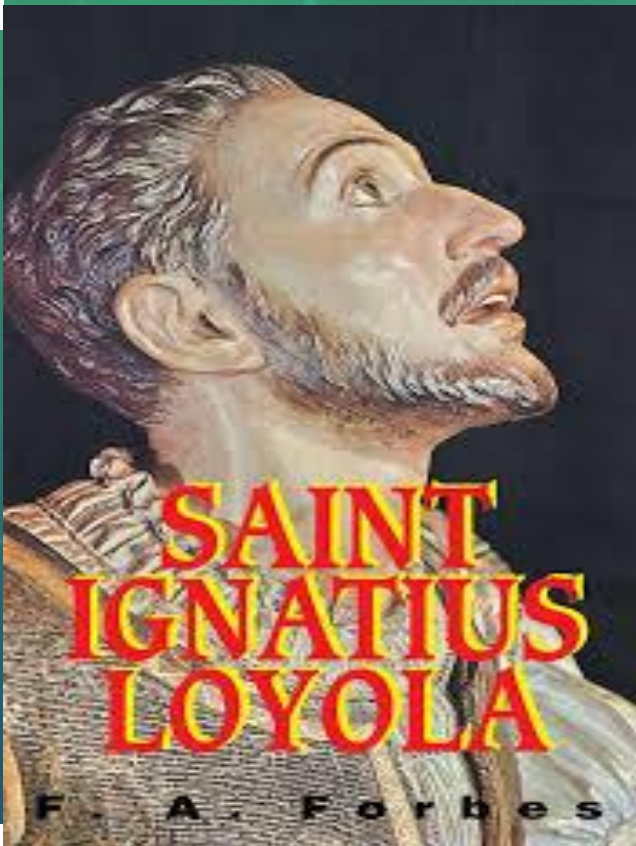


DAY 24





FIRST SUPERIOR GENERAL



- ☐ Ignatius was elected unanimously as leader
- ☐ Governed the growing order from a room in Rome
- ☐ Wrote the official Constitutions of the Society

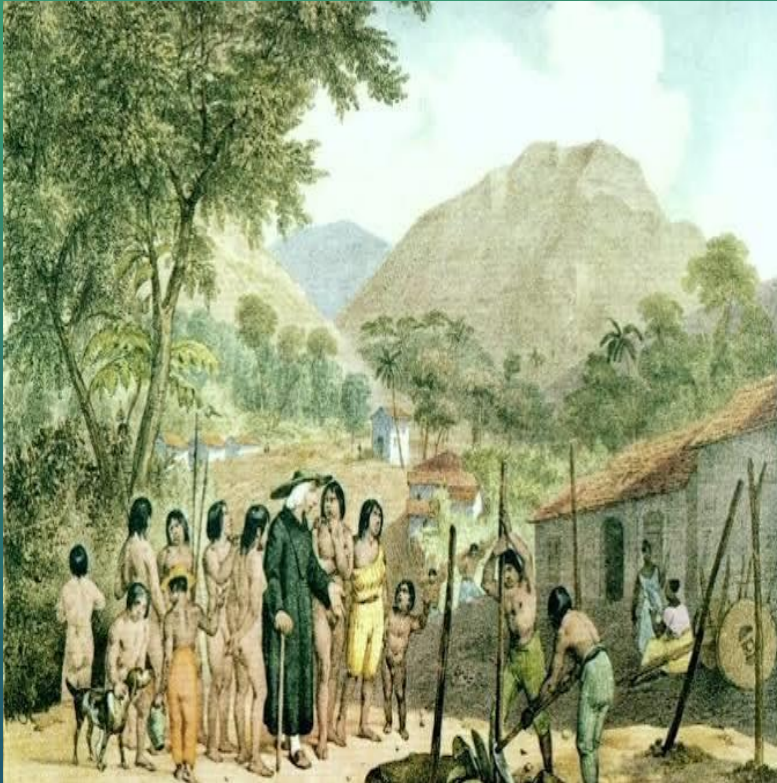


DAY 25





EXPANDING GLOBAL MISSIONS



- Dispatched Jesuit priests across Europe and Asia
- Famously told Francis Xavier: "Go, set the world on fire"
- Opened schools to provide excellent free education



DAY 26

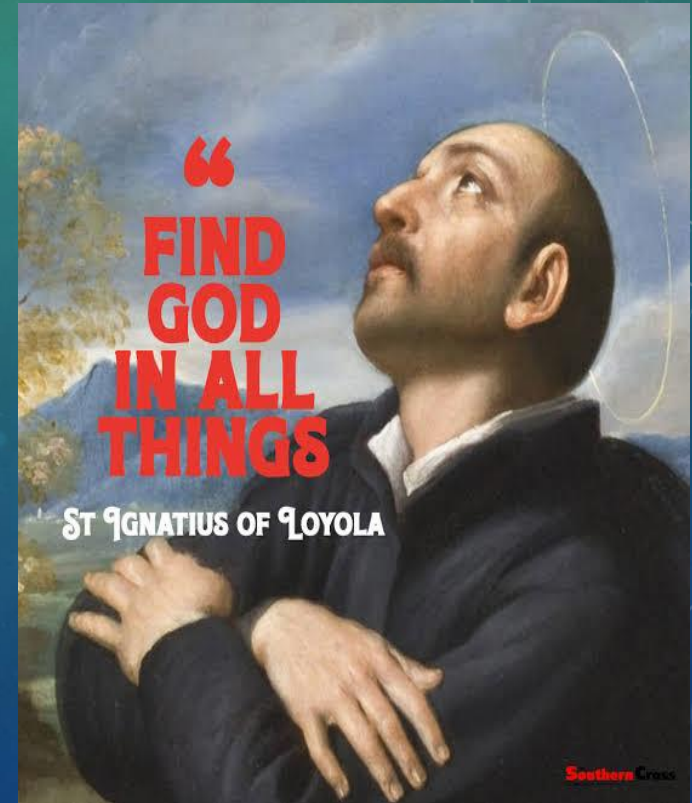




FINDING GOD IN ALL THINGS



- Core principle of Ignatian spirituality
- Validates sacred value in everyday human experiences
- Stresses being a "contemplative in action"

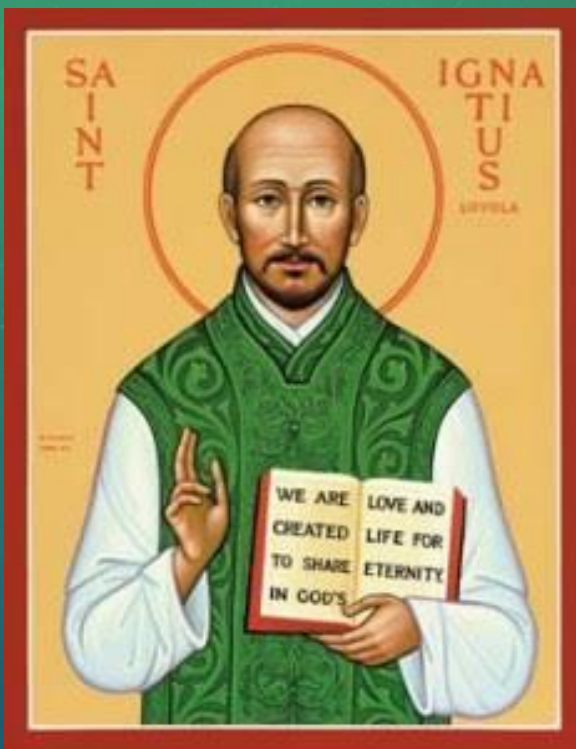


DAY 27





THE DAILY EXAMEN



- A short, five-step reflective prayer
- Focuses on gratitude, awareness, and correction
- Done twice daily to track spiritual movements

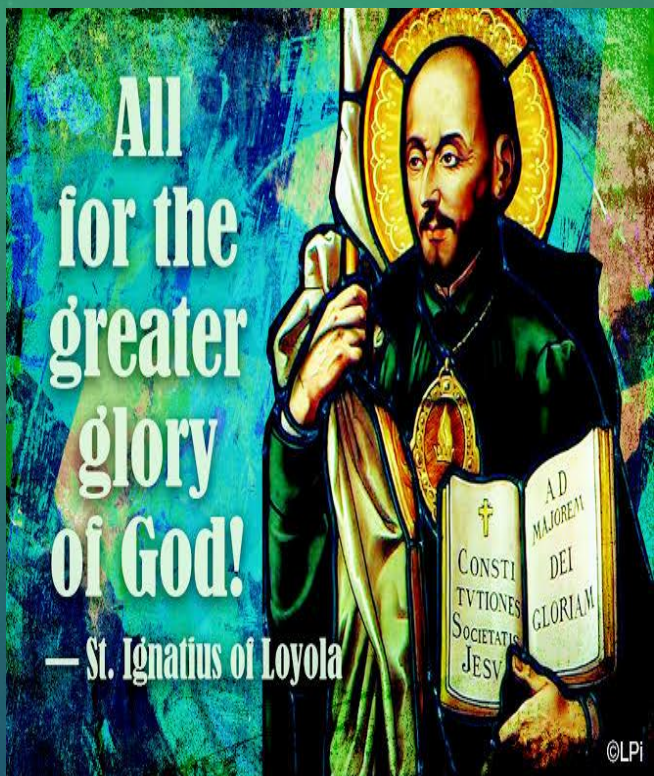


DAY 28





FOR THE GREATER GLORY OF GOD



- ❖ Adopted the Latin motto: Ad Maiorem Dei Gloriam (AMDG)
- ❖ Intended for every action to honour God
- ❖ Guided all administrative and spiritual decisions



DAY 29





DEATH AND CANONIZATION



- ❖ Passed away peacefully in Rome on July 31, 1556
- ❖ Canonized a saint by Pope Gregory XV in 1622
- ❖ Feast day is celebrated globally on July 31st



DAY 30





ENDURING GLOBAL LEGACY



The Feast of
ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA
July 31st

- Patron saint of soldiers and spiritual retreats
- Jesuits remain influential in global education and justice
- Spiritual Exercises continue to guide millions worldwide



DAY 31





Happy
FEAST DAY
of

St Ignatius
of Loyola



DAY 3 I