



# Ignatian Humanism: A Dynamic Spirituality for the Twenty-First Century

*Ronald Modras*

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## **Ignatian Humanism: A Dynamic Spirituality for the Twenty-First Century** Ronald Modras

“Ignatian Humanism puts into perspective our contemporary search for a spirituality that responds both to our search for meaning and desire for God.”

—John W. Padberg, S.J., director, Institute of Jesuit Sources

“Modras integrates fascinating history, contemporary theology, and inspiring spirituality with consistent focus on central issues for our day.”

—Joann Wolski Conn, associate professor of religious studies, Neumann College

“A stunning book! Modras has profiled a number of Jesuit thinkers and activists as role models for our time—revitalizing humanism as a model for moderns.”

—Leonard Swidler, professor of Catholic thought and inter-religious dialogue, Temple University

Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuit order, is one of a mere handful of individuals who has permanently changed the way we understand God. In this vividly written and meticulously researched book, Ronald Modras shows how Ignatian spirituality retains extraordinary vigor and relevance nearly five centuries after Loyola's death. At its heart, Ignatian spirituality is a humanism that defends human rights, prizes learning from other cultures, seeks common ground between science and religion, struggles for justice, and honors a God who is actively at work in creation.

The towering achievements of the Jesuits are made tangible by Modras's vivid portraits of Ignatius and five of his successors: Matteo Ricci, the first Westerner at the court of the Chinese emperor; Friederich Spee, who defended women accused of witchcraft; Karl Rahner, the greatest Catholic theologian of the twentieth century; Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, the scientist-mystic; and Pedro Arrupe, the charismatic leader of the Jesuits in the years following Vatican II.

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