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John Anderson

John was received into Aspirancy at the August Conference this year and serves the Institute as Director of Liturgy. John lives in New York City where Andrew Sioletti, who was his CPE director at Cabrini Medical Center, introduced him to Voluntas Dei. He is a member of the Central Park Lagoon team and directs spiritual care and quality of life initiatives at Kateri Residence, a Catholic nursing home on Manhattan's Upper West Side.



A native of Fairfield, CT, John studied Political Science and Theology at Boston College followed by six years in sales and marketing before studying for the priesthood. His call to ministry was first answered in Atlanta where he served in parish ministry after studying at the North American College in Rome.

John's spiritual roots were imbedded at a small Benedictine Grange not far from where he grew up. Celebrating Mass in a barn where the liturgy imbued a sense of contemplative mystery and beauty had a deep impact on his soul and spirit. Longing to return to that initial font of grace, John found his way back to the northeast where he could be part of the Grange community and closer to his family.

John's path has led his Catholic roots to be nourished with a mixture of religious and cultural traditions including becoming a teacher of Kundalini Yoga. His work with hospice and his own journey of grief have helped him trust that from our losses and the slow process of mourning there arise reveries of the soul's capacity to love and to heal.

The practical spirituality of the Three Fives, Fr. Parent's wisdom in how to live in the present moment and life-giving friendships are why John feels called to begin training in the Voluntas Dei Institute. Other sources of inspiration for his work and leisure include the contemporary writer Thomas Moore, C.G. Jung, Joan Chittister, the performing arts, travel, exploring art and creating mandalas (like the one below).

