

BALTHASAR

Whom it is for?

- Young celibate men and women who want to make *personally guided Spiritual Exercises* (one to four weeks), having as their purpose the overcoming of self and the ordering of their lives on the basis of a decision made in freedom from any disordered attachment.
- Young people who have more time at their disposition and who want to be given a longer *program of formation and vocational discernment* (a few months or more).
- Young male students or professionals who are ready to take one or two years out from their current commitments and stay for a longer period of time devoted to discerning and consolidating a vocation.
- Young people who have the possibility of *attending regular seminars of the Accademia Balthasar*.
- *University students and researchers who want to deepen their knowledge*, thanks to the specialized library with nearly 10.000 books and journals connected with the theological, literary and cultural milieu of Hans Urs von Balthasar.
- *Anyone interested in the conferences and public debates or study sessions* which take place during the Christmas, Easter and summer vacations.

The Casa Balthasar was founded in Rome in 1990 under the patronage of then-Cardinal J. Ratzinger.

It is a work of the Lubac-Balthasar-Speyr Association and is directed by Jacques Servais S.J.



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CASA BALTHASAR



The only act with which man can correspond to the God that reveals himself, consists in giving his boundless availability.

Hans Urs von Balthasar

Come and see ...

To young people who perceive in their heart a yearning to give their lives a fuller sense of purpose, Christ does not immediately show a way.

What are you looking for?

He desires from them a free, personal response. Andrew and John respond with another question:

Rabbi, where are you staying?

They feel inwardly attracted by the love of the Lord and they are already on the way, but they do not know how to formulate their deep aspirations.

A school for Christian living

The primary purpose of the Casa is to help each one to live as a Christian the goal for which they were created: “to praise, reverence, and serve God our Lord” (St. Ignatius of Loyola), subordinating to this end everyday decisions and activities.

The Casa, open to all that is wholesome and alive today in the world and in the Church, seeks to instill a sense of “symphonic” truth: that which alone can make the witness of God's love truly credible in the eyes of the world.

**Discernment and formation**

The Casa offers *personally guided Spiritual Exercises* or a longer *program of vocational discernment*, that includes a formation both intellectual and spiritual in the spirit of the Gospel and the Tradition of the Church.



The Casa is also the home of a center of cultural formation called ‘Accademia Balthasar’. By means of conferences, study sessions and regular courses, a Christian liberal arts formation in dialogue with Western culture is offered, having the particular aim of discovering the significance of the evangelical counsels: poverty, virginity and obedience, which are three dimensions for the layman to be genuinely in – but not of – the world.

Sure references

The Casa is inspired by Hans Urs von Balthasar, Adrienne von Speyr and Henri de Lubac, three great masters of the spiritual life for our time, deeply rooted in the Ignatian spirit of contemplation and discernment, and genuine attention to social reality.