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May 18, 2025 | Fifth Sunday of Easter

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## Notes from Our New Catholics

*Twenty six adults were received into the Catholic Church at the April 19 Easter Vigil.  
Here are a few highlights of their journeys to the Catholic faith.*

“Have you ever considered becoming Catholic?” asked my dear friend two years ago. Perhaps the seed was planted then, or maybe it was earlier in 2018 when I first visited Rome and felt an inexplicably strong emotional reaction when first entering the Colonnade of Saints at St. Peter’s Basilica, or even earlier still when I met my Catholic partner in the late 1990s. What was clear to me was the Holy Spirit was trying to awaken me for many years. The OCIA program at St. Ignatius Loyola finally allowed me to open the ear of my heart and begin the formal journey of becoming Catholic, teaching me along the way that my core values align with the Church. I will be ever grateful for this opportunity—and to our devoted OCIA team! – **Mitch Howell**

Throughout my life, I have had various interactions with different faiths. My husband is Jewish, and before I met him, I explored Buddhism. However, it was during my struggle with infertility that I developed a deep connection with God. Over a five-year period, I prayed daily for the blessing of a child. After experiencing seven miscarriages, my husband and I were finally blessed with our son on the eighth attempt. Although I believed God’s hand played a part in this miracle, it was the acceptance of my son into Saint Ignatius Loyola Elementary School which initiated my decision to join the Catholic church. I felt compelled to live as a devoted servant to God, grateful for the blessings and miracles in my life, and to share my faith with my son as he embarks on his Catholic upbringing. – **Jennifer G.**

I was drawn to the Catholic faith for many reasons, but perhaps the most formative was my experience providing tech support for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange during 2020. I had the honor of assisting with Zoom meetings throughout the formation process for more than 100 sisters around the world. Their example moved me deeply and set me firmly on the path to becoming Catholic. – **Alex Marcus**

At first in OCIA, we met as strangers in a room at the Parish. Then, in these moments of meeting, a flame was awakened within me and we became friends in Jesus. These little moments of being together, like snapshots, were given to me, to carry with me. Jesus had friends. Now I have a community to share and connect with. I love receiving the Eucharist and asking the saints to pray for me. I am letting this flame within guide me. – **Xavier Mejia**

The “call of God” manifested itself not as a voice in my head or a mystical vision, but in a continual drive to learn more and improve myself through my relationship with Christ. As I learned more about Catholicism and the Jesuits, often through the books of Father James Martin, S.J., but more often through the examples of my wonderful wife, I found myself wanting to learn more. I’ve come to understand this continued interest as my call from God. The Jesuit concept of finding God in all things led me to believe you can find God in yourself, too. This belief continually drives me to know myself better, implicitly leading me to getting to know God better. It is immensely comforting to know that the process of discovering your true self, the self God wants you to be, can be the same process of developing your relationship to God. – **Alex Blake**

Raising my child Catholic, studying, and learning with him made me understand that I wanted to be on this journey of growing in faith together with him. My Christian faith was always important to me, but now I had come to the realization that I was ready to embrace the Catholic faith and its teachings, and to become Catholic. Joining the OCIA group was such a blessing. Each meeting was really special, and our catechists were outstanding. I am also grateful for Father Yesalonia’s visits to our group. I am happy that now together with my child we can pray, receive the Eucharist, and be part of the community of Saint Ignatius Loyola. – **Anonymous**

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To read more Notes from Our New Catholics, visit [ignatius.nyc/2025-new-catholics](https://www.ignatius.nyc/2025-new-catholics).

## Parish Mission Statement

*The love of Christ impels us to welcome all,  
to worship joyfully and pray fervently,  
to walk together with those in need, and  
to reverence God in the wonder of Creation.*

### This Week at a Glance

#### **SUNDAY, MAY 18th**

**Community Coffee Hour.**

**12 PM. Outside the Parish House.**

#### **WEDNESDAY, MAY 21st**

**The “Overlooked Books” of the New Testament.**

**7 PM. Parish House & Zoom.**

*Details on page 3.*

#### **SATURDAY, MAY 24th**

**Lay Ministers Enrichment Day of Reflection:**

**Called by Name - Called to Discipleship.**

**8:30 AM. Wallace Hall.**

*Details on page 3.*

## Interfaith Prayer Service for Migrants

**Tuesday, June 10th**

**6:30 PM**

**Church**

As a people of faith, we join together to lift up in prayer the migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers in our midst.

In these troubled times, we remember the admonition from the Book of Leviticus: “The alien who resides among you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself...” [19:34]. And we, of course, remember that Jesus told us that we will be judged by whether we have welcomed the stranger.

Please join us in prayer and solidarity with all who dwell among us as aliens in a foreign land seeking our welcome.

## Low-Gluten Hosts

For parishioners wishing to receive a low-gluten host at the distribution of Holy Communion, please speak with a Hospitality Minister.

## Sign-up for Our Weekly E-Newsletter!



**To receive regular updates on parish news and events, scan the QR code or visit [ignatius.nyc](https://ignatius.nyc).**

## Electronic Methods to Donate to the Parish

A Donation Kiosk has been installed at the back of the church. Using it is quite simple—just select a fixed amount or an amount of your choosing and tap with your mobile device.

To learn more about the parish or to donate while sitting in a pew, signs have been affixed to the backs of the pews. Simply point your mobile device on the QR code under the heading, *Monetary Contribution*. The other QR codes may be used to access information about the parish.

## Guided Church Tour

**Sunday, June 8th at 12:30 PM**

**Church (Meeting Point: Narthex)**

The Church of St. Ignatius Loyola is a vibrant parish community whose foundation rests on the faith life and commitment of all who worship here.

We invite you to explore and learn more about our beautiful church through our monthly tours.



**To register, visit [ignatius.nyc/guidedtourtour](https://ignatius.nyc/guidedtourtour) or scan the QR code at left.**

Group size will be limited, so registration is required.

## The Spring Appeal is Underway!

The Spring Appeal is an important source of funds for the many ministries and ordinary operations of the parish.

Please support your parish and contribute to the 2025 Spring Appeal.



**To give online, visit [ignatius.nyc/annual-appeal](https://ignatius.nyc/annual-appeal) or scan the QR code at left.**

Thank you for your continued generosity.

## Parish Digital Publications

To access our Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Report, visit [ignatius.nyc/annual-reports](https://ignatius.nyc/annual-reports).

The Vision Statement Implementation Plan and the Laudato Si' Action Platform can be found at [ignatius.nyc/mission-and-values](https://ignatius.nyc/mission-and-values).

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook at [stignatiusnyc](https://stignatiusnyc).

## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul welcomes all St. Ignatius parishioners to volunteer with us—and join us at our meetings for prayer, reflection, spiritual growth, fellowship, and community service year-round.

Our regular meetings take place every other Wednesday at 7 PM in the Parish House. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 28th—and all are welcome!

**For more information, please contact us at**  
**svdpmembership980@gmail.com.**

## Ignatian Interfaith Ministry

### Interfaith Potluck Picnic

**Sunday, June 22nd**

**Start time between 12:45 PM and 1:00 PM**

**Seneca Village area of Central Park's Great Lawn**

*(In the event of rain, the picnic will be held  
in Wallace Hall)*

The Ignatian Interfaith Ministry, together with our Muslim friends of Peace Island Institute New York, welcome you to an interfaith potluck picnic following the 11 AM Solemn Mass.

This is a perfect opportunity to deepen friendships started with our Iftar in March and to welcome others.  
This is open to all faith traditions.

Since it is a potluck, please bring food for your group plus to share with another 3–4 people. Please remember: No pork, alcohol or shellfish. Kosher or halal meat appreciated.

**RSVP to [ignatianinterfaithministry@gmail.com](mailto:ignatianinterfaithministry@gmail.com)  
so we have an idea of the numbers attending.**

## Ignatian Social Justice

Our new migrant families are in need of help from social workers, dentists, and doctors.

- Social workers who know how to navigate the health care system, insurance plans, and/or low-cost housing.
- Dentists who can offer pro bono care to families who do not have dental insurance.
- Specialists who can offer care to children with special needs (Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy, a teenager with only one eye)

**If you are able to help, have questions, or wish to make a donation, please email Laura de Boisblanc at [socialjustice@stignatiusloyola.org](mailto:socialjustice@stignatiusloyola.org).  
Thank you for your consideration.**

## The “Overlooked Books” of the New Testament

**Wednesdays, through May 28th at 7 PM**  
**Parish House & Zoom**

Join us as we explore a selection of less familiar New Testament documents that nonetheless carry deep theological and spiritual wisdom.

Our presentations and discussions will focus on the letters of John, Jude, and James. Brian B. Pinter, Pastoral Associate, will present.

**To RSVP, email [pinterb@saintignatiusloyola.org](mailto:pinterb@saintignatiusloyola.org).**

## Ignatian Social Justice

### ISJ Potluck Picnic

**Sunday, June 1st, following the 11 AM Wallace Hall  
Family Mass**

Please join us at the June 1st Family Mass, and after Mass, walk with us to Central Park, where we will have a picnic with games for kids ages 5-10 and Spanish food to share. Relax with the families that we accompany.

**To RSVP, email Laura de Boisblanc at**  
**[socialjustice@stignatiusloyola.org](mailto:socialjustice@stignatiusloyola.org).**

## Lay Ministers Enrichment Day of Reflection:

### Called by Name - Called to Discipleship

**Saturday, May 24th, 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM in Wallace Hall**

**PRESENTER: Carol Mackey**

Do I really believe that God knows me, knows who I am, even knows my name? Let's spend a morning reflecting together on the awesome truth of God's unconditional love for each one of us. Through input, quiet prayer, music, and sharing, we can discern how God calls each of us to a more deeply personal and intimate relationship. We can then more easily support each other on our paths to discipleship and building up the kingdom of God.



**To register, visit [tinyurl.com/LMESpring2025](https://tinyurl.com/LMESpring2025) or scan the QR code at left. Registration is required.**

#### *About the Presenter*

Carol Mackey has been involved in pastoral ministry for almost thirty years. Having been trained through a variety of lay formation programs in the Diocese of Rockville Centre, Long Island, she ministers as a spiritual director, retreat facilitator, and bereavement.

**For questions, email**  
**[siloyolalayministersenrichment@gmail.com](mailto:siloyolalayministersenrichment@gmail.com).**

# CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA

980 Park Avenue at 84th Street • New York, New York 10028

(212) 288-3588 • Fax: (212) 734-3671 • [ignatius.nyc](http://ignatius.nyc)

## PARISH STAFF

### Pastor

Rev. Dennis J. Yesalonia, S.J.

### Associate Pastors

Rev. Mark C. Hallinan, S.J.

Rev. Michael P. Hilbert, S.J.

### Assisting Priest

Rev. James Martin, S.J.

### In Residence

Rev. James A. Casciotti, S.J.

### Pastoral Associates

Kate Noonan Brian Pinter Jean Santopatre

### Pastoral Assistant

Maureen Haley

### Music Ministries

Jen Arvay Kefalas Robert Reuter  
Daniel Beckwith Michael Sheetz  
Christina Kay Elizabeth Van Os  
Douglas Purcell  
Scott Warren, *Director*

### Assistant to the Pastor

Rebecca Brucas

### Administrative Assistant

Patricia Schneider

### Director of Communications

Elizabeth O'Sullivan

### Director of Facilities

Robert Cisternino

### Facilities Coordinator

Pattie Hughes

### Treasurer

Fernando Castro

### Weekday Masses (Monday to Friday)

8:30 AM, 12:10 PM, and 5:30 PM

**Saturday: 8:30 AM**

### Masses for Next Weekend:

Saturday Vigil 5:30 PM Fr. Hilbert  
Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Hallinan  
9:30 AM Fr. Hilbert  
Wallace Hall Family 11:00 AM Fr. Casciotti  
Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Martin  
7:30 PM Fr. Martin

## Religious Education for Children

Ms. Kate Noonan, Director

(212) 288-3588 x609

[noonank@saintignatiusloyola.org](mailto:noonank@saintignatiusloyola.org)

## Saint Ignatius Loyola School

### Upper Campus

(First Grade through Eighth Grade)

Ms. Mary Larkin, Head of School

M.S. Ed. (Admin.), M.S. Ed. (Literacy)

48 East 84th Street

(212) 861-3820 | Fax: (212) 879-8248

### Lower Campus

(PreK-3 through Kindergarten)

Ms. Mary Larkin, Head of School

240 East 84th Street

(212) 734-6427 | Fax: (212) 734-6972

## Children's Liturgy of the Word

Sundays at the 9:30 AM Mass.

## Confessions

4:30 PM Saturday or by appointment.

## Baptisms

Please contact Maureen Haley at  
[baptisms@saintignatiusloyola.org](mailto:baptisms@saintignatiusloyola.org)  
to arrange for a Baptism and  
the preparation given prior to Baptism.

## Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Contact Maureen Fullam, M.A.,  
Director, at the Parish House.

## Marriages

The Bride or Groom should contact  
Maureen Haley at  
[weddings@saintignatiusloyola.org](mailto:weddings@saintignatiusloyola.org)  
to begin preparation for Marriage,  
normally one year in advance.

## Visits to the Sick

Please contact the Parish House  
between the hours of  
9:00 AM and 9:00 PM.

## Ignatian Young Adults (IYA)

For more information about our IYA  
ministry, email Jean Santopatre at  
[santopatrej@saintignatiusloyola.org](mailto:santopatrej@saintignatiusloyola.org).

## Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

### Monday, May 19th

(Fifth Monday of Easter)

Acts 14:5-18 Psalm 115

John 14:21-26

**8:30 MEM** Edward Dugan

**12:10 MEM** Carla Fendi

**5:30 MEM** Kathleen Cavanaugh

### Tuesday, May 20th

(Fifth Tuesday of Easter)

Acts 14:19-28 Psalm 145

John 14:27-31a

**8:30 MEM** Alice & Winthrop  
Rutherford

**12:10 MEM** Stephen De Angelis

**5:30 MEM** Arthur Levine

### Wednesday, May 21st

(Fifth Wednesday of Easter)

Acts 15:1-6 Psalm 122 John 15:1-8

**8:30 MEM** Linh Doan & Tung  
Duong

**12:10 MEM** Jay Moyer

**5:30 ANN** Nathan Davidson

### Thursday, May 22nd

(Fifth Thursday of Easter)

Acts 15:7-21 Psalm 96

John 15:9-11

**8:30 MEM** Kelly Reilly-Gillebaard

**12:10 MEM** Margaret Grogan

**5:30 MEM** Living & Deceased  
Members of the Wallace Family

### Friday, May 23rd

(Fifth Friday of Easter)

Acts 15:22-31 Psalm 57

John 15:12-17

**8:30 MEM** Kieran Grogan

**12:10 MEM** Sose & Mark  
Prekelezaj

**5:30 MEM** Charles Denihan

### Saturday, May 24th

(Fifth Saturday of Easter)

Acts 16:1-10 Psalm 100

John 15:18-21

**8:30 MEM** Charles Denihan

### Sunday, May 25th

(Sixth Sunday of Easter)

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23

Psalm 67 John 14:23-29