



September 28, 2025 | 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Meeting Christ in Prayer: My Experience

I was deeply blessed to participate in the Meeting Christ in Prayer retreat this past spring. The thoughtful structure, inspiring facilitators, and supportive participants made the experience truly unforgettable. Each session was carefully designed, and the weekly exercises and assignments helped me stay disciplined and intentional in my prayer life. This structure encouraged me to carve out meaningful time for reflection and spiritual growth.

One of the most enriching aspects of the retreat was being introduced to various methods of prayer. I especially connected with Lectio Divina, which allowed me to engage more deeply with Scripture and feel a profound closeness to Christ. During these prayer exercises, I often felt the presence of God in a tangible way. It was like entering into a sacred dialogue with him.

Imaginative prayer was initially a challenge for me, but with time and practice, I was amazed at how vividly I could place myself within the Gospel scenes. When I engaged my senses of sight, sound, smell, and touch, the readings came to life and helped me experience Christ's love in a new and intimate way. These prayer practices have become part of my spiritual routine, and I plan to continue using them.

Overall, Meeting Christ in Prayer has transformed not only my spiritual life but also my personal and professional life. I feel more grounded in hope and more intentional about placing God at the center of my life above work, responsibilities, and distractions. I continue to prioritize time for daily prayer, trusting in Christ more fully and seeking his guidance in all areas of my life.

Equally powerful was the sense of community I experienced in Meeting Christ in Prayer. I felt truly seen, heard, and welcomed by both the facilitators and fellow participants. The love, acceptance, and encouragement I received filled me with immense hope, and I pray I can offer the same to others. I could not have asked for a more grace-filled group of people to share this journey with.

I am profoundly grateful for this retreat and wholeheartedly recommend it to anyone seeking a deeper connection with Christ through prayer and reflection. It is a beautiful way to encounter Christ in a personal and transformative way.

— Janet L.
Parishioner & Meeting Christ in Prayer Member

Meeting Christ in Prayer is an interactive 8-week guided prayer experience for small groups. Based on the *Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola*, it introduces participants to various ways of praying and provides an opportunity to support one another through faith sharing. For more information, see page 3.



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, SEPTEMBER 28th
Community Coffee Hour.
12 PM. Outside the Parish House.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1st
Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting.
7 PM. Parish House.

Meeting Christ in Prayer.
7 PM. Zoom.
Details on page 3.

Blessing of the Animals
Sunday, October 5th
1 PM
Outside the Parish House

Pet owners are invited to bring their leashed dog, cat, reptile or caged birds and bunnies for a blessing in celebration of the 10th Anniversary of Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical *Laudato si': Care for Our Common Home*.

Fall Bible Study

**Tradition and Innovation -
The Books of Sirach and Wisdom**
Wednesdays, through October 15th at 7 PM
Parish House and on Zoom

The book of Sirach—a favorite of Jesus—honors traditional ways while Wisdom seeks to bring ancient teaching into dialogue with new trends in thought and living. Our class gatherings will explore how these venerable texts present a model of mature faith that holds the tension between tradition and innovation. Brian B. Pinter, Pastoral Associate, will present.

To RSVP, email pinterb@nycignatius.org.

Low-Gluten Hosts

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

Parish Ministries Appreciation Dinner
Thursday, October 23rd at 7 PM
Wallace Hall

Fr. Dennis Yesalonia, S.J., Pastor, cordially invites those who have participated this year in the various ministries of the parish to the Parish Ministries Appreciation Dinner.

An RSVP is required. To register, email brucasr@nycignatius.org.
The RSVP deadline is Thursday, October 16th.
We look forward to sharing a meal together!

Guided Church Tour
Sunday, October 26th 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/guidedtour.

Group size will be limited, so registration is required.

**Laudato Si' Care of Creation Volunteer
Day at Carl Schurz Park**
Saturday, October 18th, 9 AM to Noon
Carl Schurz Park (Meet at the corner of East 84th
Street & East End Avenue)

Volunteers of all ages are welcome. We will mulch designated areas, including the green space between Catbird Playground and the chess/checkers tables, and install cribbing logs near the Peter Pan Monument. High School junior and Eagle Scout Philip Jow from our community is leading this event. This hands-on work advances our ministry's mission to embrace the vision of integral ecology through community involvement and participatory action.

Please RSVP to parishioner Antonio del Rosario at adelrosario@bhsusa.com or call/text 917-680-3382 with any questions.

Wear long pants, a red shirt (to be easily identifiable), and sun protection. Please bring a reusable water bottle if you can. Water, snacks, and lunch will be provided. We hope you can join us in making a difference!

Sponsored by the St. Ignatius' Laudato Si' Care of Creation Ministry, in collaboration with NY Restoration Project, Scouting America Troop 662, and Green Blue Eco Care.

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook at *stignatiusnyc*.

Circle of Friends

Come & Get Closer to The Frick Collection: Behind the Scenes at the New Frick

Tuesday, October 14th at 1 PM in Wallace Hall
(Enter through the Parish House at 980 Park Avenue)

PRESENTER

Dr. Marie-Laure Buku Pongo
Associate Curator of Decorative Arts

The Frick Collection is back! Join Dr. Marie-Laure Buku Pongo, Associate Curator of Decorative Arts, for an illuminating lecture exploring the reopening of The Frick Collection's historic Fifth Avenue home following the most significant renovation and enhancement in the museum's history.

This lecture will discuss the importance of The Frick's art collection and delve into the multi-year renovation that preserves the elegance and legacy of this elegant Gilded Age mansion while introducing state-of-the-art infrastructure, expanded galleries, and new visitor amenities. Come learn how these changes enhance the visitor experience, strengthen accessibility, and secure the institution's vitality for generations to come, all while offering a fresh encounter with The Frick's unparalleled collection and getting a sneak peek at upcoming special exhibitions.

**Registration is required. Email
slicircleoffriends@gmail.com to register.**

Although there is no cost for this program, free will offerings are encouraged.

Concerts at St. Ignatius

Works by Palestrina, Parker & Bach Wednesday, October 29th at 8 PM Church

We begin the season celebrating the momentous birthdays of two choral giants: Alice Parker (1925-2023) and G. P. da Palestrina (1525-1594). In addition to works by these luminaries, we offer two sublime motets by J. S. Bach, "Jesu, meine Freude" and "Der Geist hilft unser Schwachheit auf." Reception to follow in Wallace Hall.

**For more information and to purchase tickets,
visit ignatius.nyc/concerts.**

Lady Chapel Open for Private Prayer

The Lady Chapel is open daily for private prayer
from 1 PM to 4 PM.

During those hours, the Church will be closed.

Ignatian Interfaith Ministry

Keeping the Faith: Exploring the Place of Religion in Higher Education

Wednesday, October 15th in Wallace Hall

6:30 PM (doors open)

7 PM to 8 PM (Discussion and Q&A)

8 PM to 8:30 PM (Light reception)

PRESENTER

Dr. Ian Rottenburg, *Dean of Religious Life
at Columbia University*

MODERATOR

Bill McGarvey, *Author & Editor*

Join us as we have a fireside discussion to explore the role religion plays on campuses and how both parents and students can prepare to not only keep the faith but take the steps to nurture its growth.

**To register,
email ignatianinterfaithministry@gmail.com.**

Meeting Christ in Prayer

**Wednesdays, October 1st to November 19th
7 PM to 8:30 PM on Zoom**

Are you longing for a deeper relationship with God through Christ? Is your childhood way of relating to God insufficient now that you are an adult? Are you curious to learn what your Jesuit-educated friends mean by Ignatian Spirituality? If you answered yes, please join us in MCIP either via Zoom.

Meeting Christ in Prayer is an interactive 8-week guided prayer experience for small groups. Based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola, it introduces participants to various ways of praying and provides an opportunity to support one another through faith sharing.

The cost of materials is a sliding scale of \$30-\$50 and a good faith offering will be appreciated.

**To register, visit
ignatius.nyc/mcip-fall-2025-registration.**

Sign-up for Our Weekly E-Newsletter

To receive regular updates on parish news
and events, scan the QR code or visit ignatius.nyc.



**If you have lost an item while visiting the church,
please stop by the Parish House to check if
your misplaced article has been turned in.**

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

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.

Pastoral Year Priest

Rev. Jonathan P. Pennacchia, S.J.

In Residence

Rev. James A. Casciotti, S.J.

Pastoral Associates

Roxanne De La Torre 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 – 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. Pennacchia

Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Yesalonia

7:30 PM Fr. Yesalonia

Religious Education for Children

Ms. Kate Noonan, Director

(212) 288-3588 x609

noonank@nycignatius.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@nycignatius.org

to arrange for a Baptism and

the preparation given prior to Baptism.

Order 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@nycignatius.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@nycignatius.org.

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, September 29th

(*Ss. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael*)

Daniel 7:9–10, 13–14 Psalm 138

John 1:47–51

8:30 MEM Al Restivo

12:10 MEM Mr. & Mrs. Roger
Texier

5:30 MEM Bobby Doyle

Tuesday, September 30th

(*St. Jerome*)

Zechariah 8:20–23 Psalm 87

Luke 9:51–56

8:30 MEM Jason Gill

12:10 MEM Peter Costiglio

5:30 MEM William Powers

Wednesday, October 1st

(*St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus*)

Nehemiah 2:1–8 Psalm 137

Luke 9:57–62

8:30 MEM Ciro Saracino

12:10 MEM Gerald & Juliana
Davitt

5:30 MEM James Caprone

Thursday, October 2nd

(*The Holy Guardian Angels*)

Nehemiah 8:1–4a, 5–6, 7b–12

Psalm 19 Matthew 18:1–5, 10

8:30 MEM John Gill

12:10 MEM Sose & Mark
Prekelezaj

5:30 MEM Bill Terriberly

Friday, October 3rd

(*St. Francis Borgia*)

Baruch 1:15–22 Psalm 79

Luke 10:13–16

8:30 MEM Mrs. Vera de Rham

12:10 MEM Luisa & Maria Lisa
Lalarindin

5:30 MEM Jack Kehoe

Saturday, October 4th

(*St. Francis of Assisi*)

Baruch 4:5–12, 27–29

Psalm 69 Luke 10:17–24

8:30 MEM Franca Fendi

Sunday, October 5th

(*27th Sunday in Ordinary Time*)

Habakkuk 1:2–3; 2:2–4 Psalm 95

2 Timothy 1:6–8, 13–14

Luke 17:5–10