



October 26, 2025 | 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Nobility of Truth

In the early hours of 16 November 1989, Salvadoran government soldiers entered the compound of the Jesuit residence that was attached to the nearby Jesuit university. They forced four Jesuit priests into the garden, ordered them to lie face down, and shot them in the head at point-blank range. They then entered the Jesuit residence a second time and killed the remaining two Jesuit priests in the house, along with the caretaker's wife and young daughter. As the soldiers exited the premises, they left a written message near the bodies in the garden that claimed that the FMLN, a paramilitary group that had been fighting government forces, took responsibility for the murders.

The Jesuits were murdered for their efforts to find a peaceful solution to end the civil war between government forces and FMLN, a war that over the course of 12 years resulted in the deaths of 1.4 percent of the country's population. The conflict ended in 1992. Upon the signing of a peace agreement, a United Nations Truth Commission was formed to investigate the wrongdoings that occurred during the civil war. Its findings revealed that the murders on the night of 16 November 1989 were at the direct order of the highest level of El Salvador's military and government, and that the American Embassy in El Salvador, more likely than not, had prior knowledge of what was being planned. The government of El Salvador used its military to silence the voices of those who spoke the truth of what was happening in El Salvador. The Jesuit priests were considered a threat to those who held the power and wealth of the country. (The government officials and military commanders who ordered their murders were never brought to trial.)

Difficult though it was to learn the truth of what happened that night, it was also a balm to Father José Maria Tojeira, the Jesuit Superior at the time of the murders, who for years led the effort to discover what happened so that those responsible would be brought to justice. In his homily last November on the 35th anniversary of the murders, Father Tojeira preached about the lessons to be learned from that tragic evening. He said, "We must be honest even if we are disliked, and seek truth amid corruption...and the denial of transparency. We must also defend human rights while the blaring horns of power claim that human rights are a mechanism to defend criminals." The overarching message of Father Tojeira's homily was that truth matters, and we must be fearless in demanding it.

Sadly, the blaring horns of power are all around us in their effort to pervert the very meaning of truth. Its misuse is an attempt to alter reality to suit the needs of a pernicious agenda that is as far from truth as I am from the moon. The crude sign left by the government soldiers was an attempt to mask what really happened on 16 November. Times have changed, and the methods of deception have become more sophisticated. However, no amount of garish gold trimming, marble portals of tarnished glory, craven images on coins, or incessant bombast and orchestrated distractions can camouflage the attempt to create a reality that is anything but truthful.

There is a nobility to truth. Truth frees us from the torment of deception and lies. Father Tojeira experienced that first-hand when he discovered what actually happened under the cover of darkness in the garden of a Jesuit residence in San Salvador. If we, in our day, fail to recognize or pursue the truth, we become like Pontius Pilate who asked Jesus, "What is truth?" (Jn. 18:38.) Tragically, Pilate failed to see that the embodiment of truth stood before him, Jesus, the Son of God. In avoiding the challenge to stand up for the truth in the midst of the deceptions that overwhelm us every day, are we too denying the one eternal truth upon which our faith is based? Our inaction to confront those who govern by lies and deception tarnishes the nobility of truth and gives license to an altered reality.

— Rev. Dennis J. Yesalonia, S.J.
Pastor

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, OCTOBER 26th

Community Coffee Hour.

12 PM. Outside the Parish House.

**Sandwich-Making Event for the
New York Common Pantry.**

12 PM. Wallace Hall Stage. *Details on page 3.*

Guided Church Tour.

12:30 PM. Church.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29th

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting.

7 PM. Parish House.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1st

All Saints.

Not a holy day of obligation.

Blessing of the Sneakers.

5:30 PM. Church.

Details at right.

Saints' Lives: Holiness in History

Thursday, November 13th

7 PM

Wallace Hall

PRESENTER

Rev. Sam Conedera, S.J., Saint Louis University

Saints' lives are filled with miracles and heroic deeds, as well as legends or misunderstandings. Learn how an elite group of Jesuit scholars—the Bollandist Society—has spent the last 400 years sorting out fact from fiction.

Fall Blood Drive

Sunday, November 9th, from 9 AM to 3 PM

**St. Ignatius Loyola School's McKinnon Hall,
48 East 84th Street**

Your donations save lives!

**To schedule an appointment, visit
tinyurl.com/blooddrivesil.**

Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits. Please remember to eat and drink, and bring your ID with your name and photo.

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook at *stignatiusnyc*.

Snow Ball Dance

Saturday, December 6th at 7 PM

Wallace Hall

Please save the date and a few places on your dance card for our annual Snow Ball Dance.

Join us for what promises to be a very merry evening.

Come eat, drink, and dance to live music by The Morris Brothers Band with your friends and fellow adult (21+) parishioners.

IGNITE Tech Support for Seniors Program

November 2nd, November 16th, and December 7th

12:30 PM to 1:30 PM

Parish House

Our parish is launching a new initiative bringing high school students together with senior parishioners to provide one-on-one technology support. Seniors are invited to bring phones, tablets, or laptops for help with everyday tech questions.

Stop by our table after the 5:30 PM Mass on Saturday, October 25th and all morning Masses on Sunday, October 26th, to learn more!

**To express interest or ask further questions,
contact alexmarcus@gmail.com or visit ignite.nyc.**

Visions of Gratitude: An Exploration of Thanksgiving Celebrations through the Lens of Visual Art

Tuesday, November 18th at 1 PM

**Wallace Hall (enter through the Parish House at
980 Park Avenue)**

SPEAKER

Helen Lee, Art Educator & Lecturer

Join Circle of Friends for an inspiring exploration of Thanksgiving celebrations through the lens of visual art. *Visions of Gratitude* invites participants on a cross-cultural journey, examining how artists from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and time periods have expressed themes of gratitude, harvest, and community.

Our November program will feature artworks spanning traditional, contemporary, and indigenous representations of thanksgiving; insights into cultural traditions surrounding gratitude and harvest celebrations from around the world; a discussion on how historical and modern artists have interpreted the spirit of Thanksgiving in their works, and a special focus on how the American Thanksgiving has been represented in various artistic styles and narratives.

Registration is required at silcircleoffriends@gmail.com.

Ignatian Social Justice

Sandwich-Making Event for the New York Common Pantry

Sunday, October 26th, following the 11 AM Masses
Wallace Hall Stage

Family Ministry, Ignatian Young Adults, Ignatian Social Justice, and Laudato Si' Ministries are collaborating on our Annual NYCP Sandwiches event to make sandwiches and pack lunch bags.

Come and join us in this parish community event!

Meet on the Wallace Hall stage, where tables will be set up to pack sandwich bags for our food-insecure neighbors and distributed by New York Common Pantry.

For more information, contact
Jean Santopatre, Pastoral Associate, at
santopatrej@nycignatius.org.

Ignatian Interfaith Ministry

Eat This, Not That! Exploring Kosher and Halal Food Traditions

Monday, November 17th

6:30 PM – Doors open

7 PM to 8 PM – Discussion and Q&A

8 PM to 8:30 PM – Reception and Light Refreshments
Wallace Hall

SPEAKERS

Rabbi Joel Mosbacher & Imam Gazi Aga

MODERATOR

Fr. Dennis Yesalonia, S.J.

Join the Ignatian Interfaith Ministry, Temple Sharaay Tefila, and Peace Island Institute as we explore the similarities and differences between kosher and halal food traditions. Learn the origins of these traditions and their importance in modern observance. This is a terrific event leading up to the holidays, when food is so integral to celebrations.

To RSVP, email

ignatianinterfaithministry@gmail.com.

Registration deadline is Thursday, November 13th.

Blessing of the Sneakers

Saturday, November 1st at 5:30 PM
Church

Before running the New York City Marathon on Sunday, November 2nd, join us the day before at our 5:30 PM Mass for a special blessing for runners and all who are participating in the Marathon.

Ignatian Social Justice

Winter Clothing Drive for Families We Are Accompanying

Drop off, through October 29th,
at the Parish House

Clothing "Boutique" on November 1st in Wallace Hall

With your generosity, we helped the kids prepare for school. Can you now help get them ready for winter?

Needs: New or gently used laundered winter clothing—age 2 to adult sizes.

Monetary donations will be used to buy necessities, including boots, socks, and undergarments.

Note: Checks made out to St. Ignatius Loyola should have "Migrant Accompaniment" on the memo line.

Volunteers: We will be sorting the clothes in the Parish House and would love to have volunteers join the sorting party! As we have learned, it's always a great way to meet other parishioners.

For more information, contact
Laura de Boisblanc at socialjustice@nycignatius.org.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Thanksgiving Food Drive Through Sunday, November 16th

*For the Church of the Ascension Food Pantry
on the Upper West Side*

We're collecting canned goods and non-perishable items to help our neighbors in need during the Thanksgiving holiday. Your contribution matters!

SUGGESTED FOOD DONATIONS

Canned: beans, corn, green beans, yams, turkey gravy, cranberry sauce, tomatoes, other canned vegetables & fruits, chili, stew, soup, tuna, and other canned fish & meat, condensed milk

Boxed or Bags: rice, pasta, dried beans, stuffing, cornbread mix, brown sugar, baking/pancake mix (e.g., Bisquick), shelf-stable milk, hot or cold cereal, instant soups, cake or brownie mix with frosting, shelf-stable milk

Other: poultry seasoning and other seasoning, olive oil, or avocado oil in plastic bottles or cans

No glass jars or bottles.

**Items may be dropped off daily
at the Parish House.**

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



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

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. Casciotti

Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Hallinan

9:30 AM Fr. Hilbert

Wallace Hall Family 11:00 AM Fr. Yesalonia

Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Pennachia

7:30 PM Fr. Pennachia

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, October 27th

(*Ss. Simon & Jude*)

Romans 8:12–17 Psalm 68

Luke 13:10–17

8:30 ANN Mary Cecilia Sullivan

12:10 MEM Daniel Cronin

5:30 MEM Daniel Cronin

Tuesday, October 28th

(*Ss. Simon & Jude*)

Ephesians 2:19–22 Psalm 19

Luke 6:12–16

8:30 LVG John Mangin

12:10 MEM Emilio Dungca

5:30 MEM William Powers

Wednesday, October 29th

(*30th Wednesday in Ordinary Time*)

Romans 8:26–30 Psalm 13

Luke 13:22–30

8:30 MEM Enrica Oberg

12:10 MEM Richard Burke

5:30 MEM Willie O'Shaughnessy

Thursday, October 30th

(*St. Alphonsus Rodriguez*)

Romans 8:31b–39 Psalm 109

Luke 13:31–35

8:30 MEM Nicholas Amodeo

12:10 MEM Julianna G. Bruzzi

5:30 MEM Anna Chen

Friday, October 31st

(*St. Alphonsus Rodriguez*)

Romans 9:1–5 Psalm 147

Luke 14:1–6

8:30 ANN Sani Scaglione

12:10 MEM Barbara Conroy

McGovern

5:30 MEM Geraldine Kaupp

Saturday, November 1st

(*All Saints*)

Revelation 7:2–4, 9–14 Psalm 24

1 John 3:1–3 Matthew 5:1–12a

Sunday, November 2nd

(*The Commemoration of All the
Faithful Departed*)

Readings will be taken from the
Masses for the Dead