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January 18, 2026 | Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

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## More Prayer, More Intimacy

Meeting Christ in Prayer is famously practical—Jesuit practical. (There’s a familiar joke about a Franciscan, a Dominican, and a Jesuit when the church lights go out: the Franciscan praises simplicity, the Dominican preaches on divine light, and the Jesuit goes to the basement to fix the fuse.) That spirit of practicality shapes the entire program.

The eight-week series meets over Zoom on Wednesday evenings from 7 PM–8:30 PM. Each participant receives a workbook with a day-by-day guide. Even with a full life (including a toddler, two preschoolers, and a job), I found the program manageable and deeply enriching.

One of the highlights of *Meeting Christ in Prayer* is St. Ignatius’ Spiritual Examen, a daily prayer of awareness. The Examen unfolds in five steps: noticing where you are, recalling what you are grateful for, reviewing the day, asking for forgiveness, and preparing for tomorrow. Over time, something subtle yet profound begins to happen.

You start to recognize God’s steady presence in the ordinary moments of life—missed trains, bedtime meltdowns, successful meetings. St. Ignatius urged his companions to “find God in all things” by paying closer attention to everyday experience.

During our eight weekly meetings, we pray together, engage in guided meditation, and share honestly in a confidential setting. These faith-sharing moments foster genuine intimacy, with one another and with God.

After the final week, we attend Mass together. It was the first time I met my co-facilitator in person, and my one-year-old son gravitated toward him throughout the Mass—an unselfconscious openness that felt like a small parable. That openness stayed with me. At Christmas, while waiting to receive Communion, I recognized another participant I had known only through Zoom. We embraced immediately.

Ignatian spirituality invites us to be “contemplatives in action,” carrying what we receive in prayer outward into generosity, humility, and service. Since participating in Meeting Christ in Prayer, I’ve returned to Scripture through *Lectio Divina*, begun reading more deeply, and even started practicing the Examen with my children at bedtime. Together, we slow down to notice where God showed up during the day.

Jesuit theologian Walter Burghardt described this spirituality as “a long, loving look at the real.” That is what this program offers—not a retreat from everyday life, but a deeper awareness of God’s presence within it.

For me, Meeting Christ in Prayer has been a reminder that seeking intimacy with God and others through prayer—both privately and in community—is something I am capable of undertaking. In one of the last things he wrote before his death, Pope Francis said, “Believe in love, believe in God, and believe that you are capable of taking on the adventure of a love that lasts a lifetime.”

I hope you will consider joining us beginning February 4th at 7 PM.



To register,  
scan the QR code at left.

— Julia King Pool  
Parishioner & Meeting Christ in Prayer Co-Facilitator

## 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, JANUARY 18th

**IGNITE Tech Support for Seniors Program.**  
12:30 PM. Parish House.

*Details on page 3.*

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 19th

**Martin Luther King, Jr., Day.**  
One Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 AM.  
There will be no 12:10 PM or 5:30 PM Masses.

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 20th

**Information Session for Interfaith Trip to Spain.**  
7 PM. Wallace Hall.

*Details below.*

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21st

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting.**  
7 PM. Parish House.

#### **A Good Death Series:**

**A Spirituality of Simplifying Our Possessions.**  
7 PM. Parish House & on Zoom.

### Information Session for Interfaith Trip to Spain

Tuesday, January 20th at 7 PM  
Parish House

Emre Celik, Executive Director of Peace Islands New York, will be here to discuss the travel details for this trip.

#### **About the Trip:**

*Dates:* Saturday, October 10th to Sunday, October 18th

Explore Madrid, Toledo, Córdoba, Seville, and Granada. Experience Andalusia's rich cultural and religious heritage through guided visits to iconic landmarks and interfaith dialogue, and enjoy local culinary experiences.

*Price:* \$4200 (airfare not included)

*Package includes:* transportation, tour guide, accommodation, entry fees, inclusive meals, with two free days to explore local cuisine at your own pace

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



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

## George Washington and Abraham Lincoln: Character, Image, Leadership, and Personality

Tuesday, February 10th at 1 PM  
Wallace Hall

Circle of Friends welcomes back Helen Lee, our November 2025 lecturer, for its February program celebrating Presidents' Day. The program will explore the two presidents honored in February—George Washington and Abraham Lincoln—examining their character, leadership, personality, and public image as expressed through art, writings, and photography.

George Washington's image was carefully shaped not only by artists and historians, but by Washington himself. Nearly one hundred years later, Abraham Lincoln faced the challenge of creating a convincing public image in a very different era—one in which photography played a crucial role. With the help of the camera, Lincoln succeeded in shaping how he would be seen and remembered.

Join us for coffee, cookies, and conversation as we explore the powerful ways images and ideas helped shape the presidencies of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

Registration is required at [silcircleoffriends@gmail.com](mailto:silcircleoffriends@gmail.com). There is no fee for this program, but a free-will donation is appreciated.

## The Spiritual Exercises as a School for Cultivating a Sacramental Imagination

Saturday, February 14th in Wallace Hall  
8:30 AM to 12:30 PM

**PRESENTER: FR. KEVIN O'BRIEN, S.J.**

Fr. Kevin O'Brien, S.J., author of the bestselling books *The Ignatian Adventure* and *Seeing with the Heart*, will explore how Ignatius' *Spiritual Exercises* can help us "find God in all things" through the development of a sacramental imagination. He will suggest how such an approach to living, loving, and serving impacts our understanding of the church and our ministry. This morning of reflection will offer times for personal prayer and common sharing.

To register, visit [tinyurl.com/LMEWinter2026](http://tinyurl.com/LMEWinter2026).

## Lenten Blood Drive

Sunday, March 1st  
9 AM to 3 PM

Grammar School's McKinnon Hall  
at 48 East 84th Street

To register, scan the QR code at left.



## Book Launch

***Work in Progress* by Fr. James Martin, S.J.**  
Monday, February 2nd at 7 PM  
Wallace Hall

Join us for the launch of Fr. James Martin's newest book, *Work in Progress*.



*Work in Progress* is a coming-of-age memoir set in the 1960s and 1970s, tracing Father Martin's early years as he stumbles—often unprepared—into a series of jobs he never imagined himself doing.

From restaurant kitchens to golf courses to factory floors, he learns on the fly, usually uncomfortable and out of place, but always in need of a paycheck.

Told with humor and humility, this “spiritual memoir told slant” offers a fresh perspective on faith, work, and growing up. Illustrated with photographs from his youth, each chapter recounts small failures and quiet lessons, revealing how even the most disliked jobs can teach us about adulthood, human nature, and life itself.

## Lectures at St. Ignatius

**Walking Together: An Eyewitness Account of Pope Francis's Legacy of Synodality and the Renewal and Reform of the Church**

Monday, February 9th at 7 PM  
Wallace Hall

### PRESENTER

**REV. A.E. OROBATOR, S.J., DEAN, JESUIT SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY OF SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY**



Pope Francis believed that “it is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium.” As a participant in the Synod on Synodality (2021-2024), Fr. Orobator will offer an eyewitness account of the gifts and opportunities, promises and prospects of synodality for the renewal and reform of the Church in its local and global manifestations.

## IGNITE Tech Support for Seniors Program

Sunday, January 18th  
12:30 PM to 1:30 PM  
Parish House

This program brings high school students together with senior parishioners for one-on-one technology support. Seniors are invited to bring phones, tablets, or laptops for help with everyday tech questions.

For more information or questions, visit [ignite.nyc](http://ignite.nyc).

## Meeting Christ in Prayer

Wednesdays, February 4th to March 25th  
7 PM on 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. Join us as we approach Lent and Easter.



To register, email [MCIP@nycignatius.org](mailto:MCIP@nycignatius.org) or scan the QR code at left. You will receive further information about the retreat as well as a request for a good faith offering to cover the necessary materials.

## Ignatian Spirituality

**When Ignatius Was Young: A 4-Month Retreat for Young Adults Based on the *Spiritual Exercises* of Ignatius of Loyola**  
Starting Saturday, February 7th

9 AM to 3 PM  
Wallace Hall

### FACILITATORS:

**FR. JONATHAN PENNACCHIA, S.J., AND ROXANNE DE LA TORRE, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE**

The William J. Bergen S.J. Office of Ignatian Spirituality & Faith Formation, in partnership with the UEA Jesuit Province's Ignatian Young Adult Ministries, invites all those in their 20s & 30s to consider registering for "When Ignatius Was Young: a 4-Month Retreat for Young Adults Based on the *Spiritual Exercises* of Ignatius of Loyola."

Join a cohort of young adults who are excited to take a deep dive into Ignatian Spirituality and seek a deeper relationship with Jesus.

Must be able to attend the following in-person sessions: February 7th, February 21st, March 7th, April 25th, and May 23rd



To register, scan the QR code at left or email [delatorrer@nycignatius.org](mailto:delatorrer@nycignatius.org). Registration deadline is Wednesday, February 4th.

# 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

### Parish Administrative Assistant

Caitlin Caruso

### 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. Pennacchia

Festival Mass

11:00 AM Fr. Hilbert

7:30 PM Fr. Pennacchia

## 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, 6:30 PM Sunday,  
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, January 19th

(2nd Monday in Ordinary Time)

1 Samuel 15:16–23 Psalm 50

Mark 2:18–22

**8:30 MEM** Charlie Kirk

### Tuesday, January 20th

(St. Fabian & St. Sebastian)

1 Samuel 16:1–13 Psalm 89

Mark 2:23–28

**8:30 MEM** Carla Fendi

**12:10 MEM** Robert Marinaro

**5:30 MEM** Maria Ignacia Fuentes

### Wednesday, January 21st

(St. Agnes)

1 Samuel 17:32–22, 37, 40–51

Psalm 144 Mark 3:1–6

**8:30 MEM** Peter K. Collins

**12:10 MEM** Landon H. Wickham

**5:30 MEM** Nathan Davidson

### Thursday, January 22nd

(2nd Thursday in Ordinary Time)

1 Samuel 18:6–9; 19:1–7 Psalm 56

Mark 3:7–12

**8:30 MEM** Ryan O'Sullivan

**12:10 MEM** Shea Sheridan

**5:30 MEM** Carlo Pichini

### Friday, January 23rd

(St. Vincent & St. Marianne Cope)

1 Samuel 24:3–21 Psalm 57

Mark 3:13–19

**8:30 MEM** Jena Norman

**12:10 MEM** Marek Milewicz

**5:30 MEM** Joseph C. Crowley

### Saturday, January 24th

(St. Francis de Sales)

2 Samuel 1:1–4, 11–12, 19, 23–27

Psalm 80 Mark 3:20–21

**8:30 MEM** Charles Wolski

### Sunday, January 25th

(3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Isaiah 8:23–9:3 Psalm 27

1 Corinthians 1:10–13, 17

Matthew 4:12–23