



May 10, 2026 | Sixth Sunday of Easter

“Be Good” - A Mother’s Day Reflection

“Always remember the two words – be good.” This was my great-aunt Elsie’s sign-off at the end of every visit, every phone call, every conversation. Her trademark saying called forth what was best in me, what was most generous, most kind, most honest, most Christ-like. She was one of the many women who graced my life and loved me into the person I am today, who cared for me with nurturing, encouragement, wisdom, and devotion. Recalling her on this Mother’s Day, I am grateful for all the women, though they might not be biological mothers, who envelop us with motherly love.

My aunt Elsie was raised in a Hungarian Catholic family. She considered a vocation to the convent, but her father—my great-grandfather—always skeptical of church authority, would not permit it. My aunt found ways, however, to live out her calling—she adopted simple habits, never married, and dedicated her life to family, friends, and community. She made herself a “safe space,” a nurturing presence, a manifestation of loving kindness, encouraging all of us to develop our gifts.



Brian’s son Michael with his great-great aunt Elsie Slezak, summer 2008

Aunt Elsie shepherded me toward growth by gently introducing new experiences while providing a safe foundation. I recall, for example, our annual “Black Friday” adventures. The day after Thanksgiving was always a school holiday, so it became a tradition for the two of us to make a public transportation odyssey. We’d catch a bus a block from the house she shared with my grandmother in Milmont Park, Pennsylvania, then transfer to a trolley at 69th St. in Philadelphia for a ride to Media, another Philly suburb, for lunch. For a little boy who attended a private Catholic Academy in Bryn Mawr on the storied “Main Line,” this adventure was wonderfully eye-opening. She took me out of my comfort zone as we rubbed shoulders with people who didn’t look like me and passed through neighborhoods that didn’t feel like mine. I don’t know that it was her intention, but she was quietly instilling in me the confidence to make journeys into the unknown. To this day, when I am in a new city, feeling

some anxiety about taking a bus or train via an unfamiliar route to an unfamiliar destination, I think of my aunt and those Friday adventures so many years ago.

Teaching me how to pray was among the greatest gifts she gave me, and I learned by simply watching her. Every morning, she would sit quietly in her “prayer chair” as the day began. Stationing herself by the window to catch the morning light, she thumbed her rosary or silently read from prayer books. Aunt Elsie was tithing time to God, role-modeling for me what it looks like to have a spiritual discipline, a way of showing up with God, day after day, year after year. Inspired by her, I still begin each day with a Hail Mary upon waking as a way of saying “Yes!” to the new day, to God’s call to be fruitful in whatever way I can as the day unfolds.

Aunt Elsie died nearly 20 years ago, and I can only thank her now by the prayers that I send up through the communion of saints. Although she never bore children, Aunt Elsie became a mother in the deepest sense of the word. And so this Mother’s Day, in her honor, I thank all those, whether mothers to children or not, who have loved us into being who we are today, who bring out the best in us, and who continue to sustain us with their love, showing us by the generous way they live their lives what it is to “be good”, as my beloved aunt so often said. Thank you, mothers, may God richly bless you!

— Brian Pinter
Pastoral Associate

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 10th

Community Coffee Hour.

12 PM. Outside the Parish House. *Details at right.*

TUESDAY, MAY 12th

Michelangelo's Dark Night of the Soul:
The Last Judgment.

1 PM. Wallace Hall. *Details on page 3.*

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13th

The Overlooked Books of the New Testament.

7 PM. Parish House & Zoom.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting.

6:30 PM. Parish House.

ASCENSION THURSDAY

MAY 14TH

Vigil Mass at 5:30 PM on *Wednesday, May 13th*
in the Church.

Masses at 8:30 AM, 12:10 PM, 5:30 PM & 7:30 PM
on *Thursday, May 14th* in the Church.

Ignatian Social Justice Meeting.

7 PM. Parish House.

SATURDAY, MAY 16th

Retreat Day for Families.

12:30 PM. Wallace Hall. *Details on page 3.*

Community Coffee Hour

Sunday, May 10th, following the 11 AM Masses
Outside the Parish House

Join us on Park Avenue for a new season of our
Community Coffee Hour. We will have coffee as well
as an opportunity to mingle with fellow parishioners.

Corpus Christi Mass and Procession

Sunday, June 7th at 11 AM

Join us to proclaim Jesus in the streets of Manhattan
with a procession of prayer, song, banners, and
symbols, as we walk in solidarity with our brothers
and sisters who are being harmed by laws that have
failed to protect the most vulnerable.

The day begins with the 11 AM Mass here at St. Ignatius.

Procession Route (join us anywhere along the route):

12:30 PM: Gather in front of St. Ignatius.

The procession will move north on Park Avenue to
96th Street.

12:50 PM: East on 96th to 3rd Avenue

1 PM: North on 3rd Avenue to 102nd Street

1:20 PM: West on 102nd Street to Lexington Avenue

1:30 PM: South on Lexington Avenue to 96th Street

1:45 PM: Ends with a luncheon at the Church Hall
of St. Francis de Sales, 135 East 96th Street. Join us in
celebration & to enjoy a Latin American-inspired meal.

What to bring:

Signs affirming Catholic Social Teaching,
printed in color or black & white.

To join the procession, email

CatholicsinCommunionNY@gmail.com.

To join the luncheon, email latonapal@gmail.com.

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 2026 Spring Appeal.



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

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://www.ignatius.nyc).

Pray With Pope Leo:

The Pope's Monthly Intention

*The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (an evolution
of the Apostleship of Prayer) is an apostolic work of
the Holy Father that has been entrusted to the Society
of Jesus (the Jesuits) since 1844. Helping Catholics all
around the world pray for the mission of the Church,
the PWPN encourages us to pray daily for the needs and
intentions closest to the Pope's heart.*

**The Pope's Prayer Intention for the month of May is:
That everyone might have food.**

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to
small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food,
and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

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

Circle of Friends

Michelangelo's Dark Night of the Soul:

The Last Judgment

Tuesday, May 12th at 1 PM

Wallace Hall

PRESENTER

**John Paoletti, Emeritus Professor of Art History,
Wesleyan University**

Michelangelo is back for an encore! At our final program of this season, Circle of Friends again will be talking about Michelangelo Buonarroti (1475-1564), one of the most famous artists in the history of the world and the art he created after his sculpture of David. Michelangelo's *The Last Judgment* in the Sistine Chapel represents the biblical Second Coming of Christ and the final separation of humanity into heaven or hell. It is a dramatic, massive painting that evokes emotions of fear, awe and terror regarding the soul's destiny.

Professor John Paoletti, Emeritus Chair of the Art History Department at Wesleyan University, will decode for us the hidden imagery and meanings in this important painting and its connection to the Protestant Reformation and Michelangelo's final sculptures of the Dead Christ. Professor Paoletti also will briefly consider Michelangelo's contemporary poetry as a searing personal reflection of the uncertainties of the Church and its doctrines at the time.

Come join Circle of Friends for coffee, cookies and conversation and learn about the backstory of this brilliant and controversial masterpiece.

There is no charge for the program, though a free-will donation is appreciated.

**Registration is required at
silcircleoffriends@gmail.com.**

"A Good Death" Series: Funeral Pre-Planning Thursday, May 28th at 7 PM Parish House and on Zoom

Funeral and memorial services carried out with care, intention, and planning leave a lasting impression and impact on how survivors process grief. Our presentation and discussion will provide a brief introduction to Catholic funeral and burial rites, along with information about funeral pre-planning. Frances Cangero, director of advance planning, Frank E. Campbell - The Funeral Chapel, will co-present and be available for a Q & A. Brian B. Pinter, Pastoral Associate, will facilitate the conversation.

To RSVP, email pinterb@nycignatius.org.

Retreat Day for Families

Saturday, May 16th at 12:30 PM

Wallace Hall

Stuck in a cycle of school drop-offs, PowerPoint presentations, band & soccer practices, bills, and seemingly endless chores?

Is "family-time" harder and harder to come by as the kids get older? Carve out part of your weekend and join Fr. Jonathan Pennacchia, SJ, and Pastoral Associate Roxanne De La Torre for a Retreat Day for Families.

Spend a few hours with us in prayer, fellowship, and intentional time together with your family. The day will conclude with Mass at 4:30 PM (which counts for your Sunday obligation). Families with children aged 10-16 encouraged to attend with any number of accompanying adults (parents, guardians, grandparents, etc are all welcome!)

For more information, please contact Roxanne De La Torre, Pastoral Associate, at delatorreR@nycignatius.org.

Registration is open through Wednesday, May 13th.



To register, scan the QR code at left.

*Sponsored by the Father William J. Bergen SJ Office
of Ignatian Spirituality & Faith Formation*

Guided Church Tour

Sunday, May 24th 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, scan the QR code at left.

Group size will be limited, so registration is required.

IGNITE Tech Support for Seniors Program

Sunday, May 17th, from 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.**

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. Pennacchia

9:30 AM Fr. Hallinan

Wallace Hall Mass

11:00 AM Fr. Yesalonia

Solemn Mass

11:00 AM Fr. Martin

7:30 PM Fr. Martin

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, May 11th

(6th Monday of Easter)

Acts 16:11–15 Psalm 149

John 15:26–16:4a

8:30 MEM Beth Bongar

12:10 MEM Elizabeth Ann
Yesalonia

5:30 MEM Deceased Members of
the Scanlon & McLoughlin Families

Tuesday, May 12th

(6th Tuesday of Easter)

Acts 16:22–34 Psalm 138

John 16:5–11

8:30 MEM Victor Handal

12:10 MEM Susan Handville

5:30 MEM Marjorie C. Dunham

Wednesday, May 13th

(6th Wednesday of Easter)

Acts 17:15, 22–18:1 Psalm 148

John 16:12–15

8:30 MEM Dennis Bengels

12:10 MEM Cesare Dundara

Thursday, May 14th

(The Ascension of the Lord)

Acts 1:1–11 Psalm 47

Ephesians 1:17–23

Matthew 28:16–20

Friday, May 15th

(6th Friday of Easter)

Acts 18:9–18 Psalm 47

John 16:20–23

8:30 MEM Ted Kelly

12:10 MEM Aurora Dungca

5:30 MEM Richard Leverone

Saturday, May 16th

(6th Saturday of Easter)

Acts 18:23–28 Psalm 47

John 16:23b–28

8:30 MEM Douglas Handal

Sunday, May 17th

(7th Sunday of Easter)

Acts 1:12–14

1 Peter 4:13–16 Psalm 27

John 17:1–11a