



September 20, 2026 | 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"It's a Love Story"

*"Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will.
All that I have and call my own.
You have given all to me.
To you, Lord, I return it.
Everything is yours; do with it what you will.
Give me only your love and your grace,
That is enough for me."*

– **Suscipe, Spiritual Exercises. St. Ignatius of Loyola.**

The words of this well-loved prayer echoed through my mind as I knelt inside the Church of the Gesù, directly in front of the tomb of the man who had first uttered them approximately 500 years ago; an outpouring of his heart and soul to our Lord. It was a sweltering day this past July, and I had just completed a summer immersive history course tracing the beginnings of the Society of Jesus from St. Ignatius' birthplace in the Basque region of Spain to his resting place in Rome. The course was indeed intensive—an in-depth study of the *Autobiography of St. Ignatius of Loyola*, while journeying through the various cities and places of significance in the lives of Ignatius and his earliest companions. At the end of the course, I found myself in deep gratitude—not only for my personal experience of the past few weeks, but also most especially for the courage of Ignatius and his companions, each of whom chose to freefall into a love of Christ that would change their lives and the lives of countless others.

A few short weeks later in early August, I found myself kneeling in prayer in front of another tomb. This one was in a remote village in South Sudan called Cueibet, and it held the remains of one Fr. Victor-Luke Odhiambo, S.J., a Jesuit of the Eastern Africa Province who had been killed in the nearby Jesuit Community on November 15, 2018, just a few meters from where he was now buried.

I had been invited by the Jesuits in South Sudan to visit their schools across the country and facilitate a series of sessions and workshops on Ignatian Spirituality. Over the span of two weeks, I facilitated nine different sessions and had collectively engaged with over 1200 students, faculty, and teachers at three different schools. It was a lot of grace-filled work overflowing with many beautiful moments, but at the end of my time in the country, my mind couldn't help but drift back to the grave of Father Odhiambo.

Father Odhiambo had volunteered to serve in South Sudan shortly after the nation had gained its independence in 2011. The Jesuits who were called to this infant country knew that the big picture was a complicated one: poverty, lack of jobs, famine, a crumbling economy, limited education, and various cultural norms to navigate including multiple marriages in families. And underneath it all, the constant threat of civil wars always hovered as a possibility. Yet, Father Odhiambo and the handful of other Jesuits in-country dedicated themselves to the mission: to live in solidarity with the people of South Sudan, and to let the love of Christ lead the way to whatever would come next. It was this very mission that led to Father Odhiambo's death, and this same mission that would spur on other Jesuits to conquer their fears and to remain. *A freefall into the love of Christ.*

The story of the Society of Jesus, from the very beginning, was always a spectacular love story. The chapters began with St. Ignatius' Autobiography, but they continue through the hearts of many, like my Jesuit friends and their collaborators in South Sudan who are allowing the love of Christ to lead their work there—even in the most difficult of circumstances. The story continues as we joyfully celebrate our pastor this weekend as he marks his Golden Jubilee: 50 years in the Society of Jesus! And the story goes on, ever inspired by the Holy Spirit, as you and I are invited to fill it with our own pages of contributions. May God bless this enduring love story and may the words of the Suscipe continue to burn like embers in our hearts as we pray, *"Lord, give me only your love and your grace, that is enough for me."*

— Roxanne De La Torre
Pastoral Associate for Ignatian Spirituality & Faith Formation

This Week at a Glance

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th

Fr. Yesalonia's Golden Jubilee Mass & Reception.

11 AM Solemn Mass (Church) &
McKinnon Hall Reception (Following the 11 AM Mass).

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23rd

BOOK LAUNCH | *Mary Magdalene: A Novel* by Barbara Lee.
5:30 PM. Wallace Hall. *Details at right.*

SCRIPTURE CLASS | *In the Beginning: The Book of Genesis.*
7 PM. Parish House & Zoom. *Details at right.*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th

Friends of the Poor Walk.

9:30 AM. St. Patrick's Cathedral. *Details at right.*

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Friends of the Poor Walk

Saturday, September 26th at 9:30 AM

Join the Society of St. Vincent de Paul community across
New York City in supporting our neighbors in need.

This event is about fellowship and service
while also getting some exercise!

Walk Details: Gather at 9:30 AM outside St.
Patrick's Cathedral near 51st Street, then walk
approximately 2 miles to St. Ignatius Loyola.

The walk will conclude with a
celebratory Mass & Luncheon.

To register, donate, or sponsor a walker,
visit tinyurl.com/fopwalk2026.

Questions? Email fopwalk2026@gmail.com.

Welcome Back Sunday & Ministry Fair

Sunday, September 27th

Following the 11 AM Masses

Grammar School's McKinnon Hall

Join your fellow parishioners for fun and fellowship after
the 11 AM Solemn Mass and Wallace Hall Family Mass.

Featuring the return of our Community Coffee
Hour, plus the opportunity for parishioners
to become reacquainted with the various
ministries of the parish at the Ministry Fair.

The Ministry Fair will be located at the Grammar
School's McKinnon Hall at 48 East 84th Street.

Scripture Class

In the Beginning: The Book of Genesis

Wednesdays, September 23rd to October 14th

7 PM

Parish House and on Zoom

The Book of Genesis has captured imaginations
for generations. From mythical foundation stories
to the legends of the patriarchs, this inspiring—
and confounding—text presents timeless wisdom
coupled with profound questions about the
human condition and the nature of God.

This course will provide a contextual introduction to the
book as well as a deeper reading of selected passages.

Brian B. Pinter, Pastoral Associate, will present.

To RSVP, email pinterb@nycignatius.org.

Circle of Friends

From Affluence to Affliction: The Urban Development of the Upper East Side & How We Got Here

Tuesday, October 13th at 1 PM in Wallace Hall

PRESENTER:

William M. Singer, AIA, NCARB, LEED BC+C

From 59th to 96th Street, the Upper East Side is known
for grand townhouses, luxury apartments, Museum Mile,
and its "Silk Stocking District" reputation. Yet its history also
includes Yorkville's immigrant communities, low-income
housing, and periods of social and architectural change.

Architect William M. Singer will lead an in-
person "walking tour" presentation exploring
the neighborhood's development and the diverse
communities that have long called it home.

Registration is required at
silcircleoffriends@gmail.com.

Book Launch

***Mary Magdalene: A Novel* by Barbara Lee**

Wednesday, September 23rd

5:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Wallace Hall

Mary, Apostle to the Apostles, is a role model for
marginalized women of all times and places.

There will be a book reading and signing,
followed by time for questions and a
simple wine-and-cheese reception.

RSVP by Sunday, September 20th.

To RSVP, email Mfullam@ivcusa.org.

Sales will benefit the Ignatian Volunteer Corps.

Reading Course

***Magnifica Humanitas –
Magnificent Humanity***
**Encyclical of Pope Leo XIV on
Safeguarding the Human Person
in the Age of Artificial Intelligence**
Five weekly sessions beginning
Tuesday, October 13th
7 PM to 8 PM in the Parish House

Led by Fr. Mark Hallinan, S.J.

With so much attention now being given to artificial intelligence, its promise and its perils, it is an opportune moment to read together Pope Leo's encyclical. The first meeting will discuss the introduction and first chapter of his encyclical and then each subsequent week we'll discuss the following chapter.

Participants must commit to coming to the class having read the material in advance. Questions to focus your attention will be provided prior to each session. You will be responsible for purchasing your own copy of the encyclical.

Registration is limited to the first 25 persons. You can register by writing to hallinanm@nycignatius.org, or by calling the Parish House and asking to be put on the list for the reading course on the Pope's encyclical.

Receiving the Precious Blood at the Eucharist

It is our custom at Sunday liturgies to offer communion under both species—the bread and the wine. Those wishing to consume the precious blood must do so by taking the chalice from the minister of the cup and taking a small sip from the cup.

It is not permissible for you to take the host you have received and dip it into the precious blood. Church law prohibits this practice (known as 'intinction') for the laity. Lay persons may not, under Church law, receive the host from an ordinary, or extra-ordinary minister, of the Eucharist and then proceed to dip it into the precious blood being offered by another Eucharistic minister. All of our ministers of the Eucharist are instructed to not allow this practice. Thank you!

For Families with Young Children

For the safety of your child, please accompany them to the bathroom if there is a need during the course of the Mass.

They must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Religious Education

Registration Now Open for the 2026-2027 Session of IREP

Register now for the next session of our Interparish Religious Education Program (IREP).

IREP is an ongoing formation process for Kindergarten to 8th-grade students. IREP is intended for children who do not attend Catholic school but would like to be guided in the Catholic faith.

ALL NEW FAMILIES:



The QR code at left is for New Families only!

Once you complete this form, the IREP office will be notified and will review your application.

If approved, you will receive an automated email from Parish Giving with login credentials for an account that was created for you. Sign into your Parish Giving account to make a payment and select sessions for your child/ren.

ALL RETURNING FAMILIES:

If you're a returning family, please do not fill out the form. You will receive an email from Parish Giving on the morning that registration opens. This email will contain login credentials for a Parish Giving account that was created for you. There is no need for you to create a Parish Giving account.

If registration opens, and you don't receive this automated email, please contact the IREP office at 212-288-3588 x609 or email noonank@nycignatius.org.

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

Do you have a friend, family member, or a loved one who is considering becoming Catholic? Encourage them to reach out to us to inquire about our parish program designed to initiate adults into the Catholic faith.

**For more information,
contact Maureen Fullam at 212-288-3588
or email church@stignatiusloyola.org.**

Parish Digital Publications

To access our Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report, visit ignatius.nyc/annual-reports.

The Vision Statement Implementation Plan and the Laudato Si' Action Platform can be found at ignatius.nyc/mission-and-values.



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.

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. Hallinan

Sunday:

8:00 AM Fr. Casciotti

9:30 AM Fr. Hilbert

Wallace Hall Family 11:00 AM Fr. Yesalonia

Solemn Mass 11:00 AM Fr. Martin

7:30 PM Fr. Nolan

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.

Spiritual Direction

For more information or for help

finding a Spiritual Director, please

contact Roxanne De La Torre at

delatorreR@nycignatius.org.

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, September 21st

(*St. Matthew*)

Ephesians 4:1–7, 11–13 Psalm 19

Matthew 9:9–13

8:30 MEM Patrick Campbell

12:10 ANN Richard Johnston III

5:30 MEM Nathan Davidson

Tuesday, September 22nd

(*25th Tuesday in Ordinary Time*)

Proverbs 21:1–6, 10–13 Psalm 119

Luke 8:19–21

8:30 ANN Joyce Flammer

12:10 MEM Ian MacNabb

5:30 MEM Alexander MacNabb

Wednesday, September 23rd

(*St. Pius of Pietrelcina*)

Proverbs 30:5–9 Psalm 119

Luke 9:1–6

8:30 MEM Meehan Family

12:10 MEM Phil Hamwi

5:30 MEM Living & Deceased

Members of the Regan & Burke

Families

Thursday, September 24th

(*25th Thursday in Ordinary Time*)

Ecclesiastes 1:2–11 Psalm 90

Luke 9:7–9

8:30 MEM Saul Consuelos

12:10 MEM Martin Philip Murphy

5:30 MEM Domenico Vernice

Friday, September 25th

(*25th Friday in Ordinary Time*)

Ecclesiastes 3:1–11 Psalm 144

Luke 9:18–22

8:30 MEM Anne Fogarty

12:10 MEM Achille Luigi Calloni

5:30 MEM Jane Weaner

Saturday, September 26th

(*25th Saturday in Ordinary Time*)

Ecclesiastes 11:9–12:8 Psalm 90

Luke 9:43b–45

8:30 MEM Mario Ernesto

Gualberto

Sunday, September 27th

(*26th Sunday in Ordinary Time*)

Ezekiel 18:25–28 Psalm 25

Philippians 2:1–11

Matthew 21:28–32