



October 4, 2026 | 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Freedom of Heart

Pope Leo declared this year, from January 10, 2026, until January 10, 2027, to be the Special Year of St. Francis of Assisi. This extraordinary jubilee commemorates the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi on October 3, 1226.

Giovanni di Pietro di Bernardone (1181–3 October 1226), known as St. Francis of Assisi, was born into a wealthy Italian family and was inspired towards a life of simplicity, poverty, love of humanity and animals. St. Francis is the patron saint of Italy and Ecology. He followed the teachings of Jesus in the Gospel and placed God and neighbor above material possessions. St. Francis teaches us that freedom of heart is cultivated from detachment of material goods.

How might we detach ourselves from consumerism this year to commemorate St. Francis extraordinary life and begin to cultivate freedom of heart? How might we encounter Christ in ordinary ways through humility and mercy towards our neighbors, our Earth, and all God's creatures?

In this passage from Philippians 4:6–9, the teachings of Jesus remind us to be true, pure, just, and honorable.

*"...whatever is true, whatever is honorable,
whatever is just, whatever is pure,
whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious,
if there is any excellence
and if there is anything worthy of praise,
think about these things.*

*Keep on doing what you have learned and received
and heard and seen in me.
Then the God of peace will be with you."*



St. Francis of Assisi's life exemplified these words from Jesus. St. Francis was born into a wealthy family in Assisi and gave it all up to live a life of simplicity. He lived a true, honorable, just, and pure life pure as he founded the Franciscan Order. He encourages us to live a life a humility, mercy, and devotion in ordinary ways to encounter Jesus.

As the patron saint of Ecology and of animals, today, we can still learn the ways of being good stewards of God's creation from St. Francis. The Earth's ecosystem is facing rapid transformation driven by rising global temperatures, human land use, and shifting weather patterns. Presently the earth is demonstrating warming and melting poles. Rapid loss of glaciers and sea ice is due to the Arctic warming twice as fast as the global average. The devastating flood in Nepal is a prime example of the shift. Heightened heatwaves across the United States and Europe this summer, prolonged droughts in the West and Midwest United States resulting in depleted rivers, and heavy rainfalls and snowfalls fuel an increase in frequent and destructive wildfires globally. This past summer Spain and France experienced wildfires that wreaked havoc. Deforestation, soil erosion, and stored carbon released as methane amplify critical shifts in our climate.

The time is here for us to follow in St. Francis' footsteps to be good stewards of the ecology, animals, and all humanity. Individual actions are important, such as recycling, composting, using mass transportation, reducing the use of plastics and electricity. However, we must also act together. Collectively we are responsible to care for creation and be good stewards of God's creation. Neighborhood, park and river clean ups are ways we can come together in solidarity to care for our common home.

We are facing the crossroads of a critical period in history. Not only are we individually charged with being good stewards of our common home. Corporations and the people we vote into political office are obliged to be collaborators with us in moving towards ecological justice. As we encounter upcoming elections, we must discern the candidates who align with these teachings of Jesus: *"...whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure."*

Let us also remember the way St. Francis taught us to live and become detached from material goods so we may cultivate freedom of heart and live in God's peace.

— Jean Santopatre
Pastoral Associate

This Week at a Glance

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4th

Blessing of the Animals.

1 PM. Outside the Parish House.

Details below.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5th

A Call to Faithful Citizenship.

6:30 PM. Wallace Hall.

Details on page 3.

Introduction to Law in Catholicism and Judaism.

6:30 PM. Temple Emanu-El (1 East 65th Street).

Details on page 3.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6th

**BOOK DISCUSSION: *Inconspicuous Consumption*
by Tatiana Schlossberg.**

1 PM. Parish House. *Details on page 3.*

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7th

SCRIPTURE CLASS | In the Beginning: The Book of Genesis.

7 PM. Parish House & Zoom. *Details at right.*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10th

Fall Homeless Outreach.

9:30 AM. Wallace Hall.

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 4th at 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.

NEW START DATE!

IGNITE Tech Support for Seniors

Beginning Sunday, October 18th at 12:30 PM

Parish House

We're excited to bring back IGNITE Tech Support for Seniors this Fall.

Our high school student volunteers will be available to help with phones, tablets, laptops, email, apps, and other everyday technology questions.

We'll meet from 12:30 PM-1:30 PM

in the Parish House on:

Sunday, October 18th | Sunday, November 1st

Sunday, November 15th

Please feel free to join us for any or all of the sessions, and bring along the device you'd like help with.

Guided Church Tour

Sunday, October 11th and October 25th 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 or visit ignatius.nyc/guidedtours.

Group size is limited. Registration is required.

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.

Scripture Class

In the Beginning: The Book of Genesis

Wednesdays, through October 14th at 7 PM

Parish House and 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.



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

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.

Introduction to Law in Catholicism and Judaism

Monday, October 5th at 6:30 PM

Temple Emanu-El, 1 East 65th Street, the lobby
entrance between Fifth and Madison Avenues

PRESENTERS:

Fr. Michael Hilbert, S.J. & Rabbi Emma Dubin

What really is religious law? In the first session of our *Jewish and Catholic Law in Dialogue* series, we'll explore what law means in each religion—where authority resides within the tradition, how legal thinking has developed over millennia, and how binding religious “law” really is in our faith communities today.

This is an opportunity for intimate interfaith study of legal texts of both traditions, from the Biblical to the contemporary.

St. Ignatius Has an App

It has never been easier to find current information on parish programming, participate in online giving, learn about our ministries, and more.



A Call to Faithful Citizenship

Monday, October 5th, from 6:30 PM to 8 PM

Wallace Hall

How can our faith impact our choices at the ballot box, especially when we are confronted with complex moral questions? The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops urge Catholics to put faith before political affiliation, recognizing that politics is rarely a choice between good and evil.

Join us for a 90-minute, nonpartisan discussion as we explore how Catholic Social Teaching can inform our voting in the upcoming midterm election. Together, we'll practice discernment and reflect on civic participation as part of discipleship.

To RSVP,

email SILCatholicsInCommunion@gmail.com.

Book Discussion: *Inconspicuous Consumption* by Tatiana Schlossberg

Tuesdays, through November 24th at 1 PM

Parish House

What do our meals, clothing, and streaming habits mean for the planet? Join us to discuss Tatiana Schlossberg's *Inconspicuous Consumption*, which explores the hidden environmental costs of everyday life. All are welcome!

**For details and the reading schedule,
email Jean Santopatre, Pastoral Associate,
at santopatrej@nycignatius.org.**

2026 Cardinal's Appeal

The 2026 Cardinal's Appeal will come to a close in the next few months.

To date, donations to the Appeal from parishioners amount to \$220,557 of the parish's Appeal Goal of \$370,000.



If you have not yet contributed to the 2026 Cardinal's Appeal, envelopes are available on the tables at the rear of the church, or you may donate online at cardinalsappeal.org or by scanning the QR code at left.

Thank you for your support of the
2026 Cardinal's Appeal.

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.

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. Hilbert

Sunday:

8:00 AM Fr. Hallinan

9:30 AM Fr. Hallinan

Wallace Hall Family 11:00 AM Fr. Hilbert

Solemn Mass 11:00 AM Fr. Pennacchia

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 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, October 5th

(27th Monday in Ordinary Time)

Galatians 1:6–12 Psalm 111

Luke 10:25–37

8:30 ANN Franco Fendi

12:10 MEM Fr. Joseph P. Parkes

5:30 MEM Donna Conigliaro

Tuesday, October 6th

(27th Tuesday in Ordinary Time)

Galatians 1:13–24 Psalm 139

Luke 10:38–42

8:30 MEM Paul Trieu Doan

12:10 MEM Paul Trieu Doan

5:30 MEM Ryan O'Sullivan

Wednesday, October 7th

(Our Lady of the Rosary)

Galatians 2:1–2, 7–14 Psalm 117

Luke 11:1–4

8:30 ANN Michael Wolf

12:10 ANN Olympia Esposito

5:30 MEM Rosalina Palomar

Thursday, October 8th

(27th Thursday in Ordinary Time)

Galatians 3:1–5 Luke 1

Luke 11:5–13

8:30 MEM Paul Choix

12:10 MEM Aparecida V. Chagas

5:30 MEM Charles Regan

Friday, October 9th

(27th Friday in Ordinary Time)

Galatians 3:7–14 Psalm 111

Luke 11:15–26

8:30 MEM Ann Marie Renois

12:10 MEM Simona Saracino Fendi

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

Saturday, October 10th

(27th Saturday in Ordinary Time)

Galatians 3:22–29 Psalm 105

Luke 11:27–28

8:30 MEM Arthur Murphy

Sunday, October 11th

(28th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Isaiah 25:6–10a Psalm 23

Philippians 4:12–14, 19–20

Matthew 22:1–14