

Church of St. Ignatius Loyola

ESTABLISHED IN 1851 • JESUIT SINCE 1866

March 8, 2020 | Second Sunday of Lent

My Prayer is a Song

Don't all of us have trouble praying sometimes? I often find myself distracted while trying to pray, repeating a phrase over and over in my mind, trying to invest it with some immediate meaning. My mind easily wanders. Often, I'm not even thinking of anything else...just dwelling on the frustration of not being able to concentrate and really communicate with God. I know this is a common challenge when practicing any kind of meditation.

Our parish has excellent resources to help us pray more effectively—ministries devoted to prayer, and instruction in techniques like the *Spiritual Exercises* of St. Ignatius. I'd like to suggest one more option that might help breathe new life into our prayer: music.

Sung prayer isn't new to us. Each time we come to church, we hear prayers combined with music in the hymns, the psalms and the sung Ordinary of the Mass. We often sing together the familiar chant of the Lord's Prayer. But why sing it? What makes singing a prayer different than speaking it aloud, or silently in our heads?



When a composer sets a prayer to music, he or she adds color, atmosphere, emotion to the words, a personal impression of what the prayer means. When listening to songs from the past, we often find an imprint of the era that the composer likely had no idea was being added. Furthermore, setting a prayer to music significantly slows down the pace of the words. The melodies highlight certain words. Sometimes words or phrases are repeated. And we have more time to savor words, not only the meaning, but the sounds and the feel of them.

A musical setting may help us discover new meaning and immediacy in familiar prayers, or discover new context while imagining the words coming from a specific individual of another time and place. But beyond this, combining music and prayer has the potential to transcend either element individually. Even when we don't understand the words of a chanted or sung prayer, we innately feel its power and are moved. Isn't such a mysterious connection, beyond words and intellect, what we're striving for in prayer?

On Wednesday, March 11th at 7:00 PM, pianist Michael Sheetz and I will present a Cocktail Benefit concert in Wallace Hall to raise money and awareness for The Ali Forney Center, dedicated to protecting LGBTQ youths from the harms of homelessness. Supporting and learning about the outstanding work being done there is reason enough to join us. But there will also be an opportunity to explore this fusion of prayer and music.

The concert program is made up of songs that are prayers (or you could say prayers that are songs), and I hope that the listener might experience prayer in new ways. There will be prayer-songs from many time periods—from as early as the twelfth century to a brand new piece written especially for this event. The musical styles will also span a wide range: classical music from the past five centuries, as well as chant, folk, spirituals, jazz and gospel. You will hear settings of traditional prayers used in the church for centuries, and of prayers written by people who may not have considered their words to be prayer at all. Two of the songs don't even have words. But all of these songs contain a message of supplication or adoration or thanksgiving to God, or at least to what is recognized as a greater force or benevolence.

Perhaps in surveying the myriad ways people pray and the variety of interpretations expressed in the musical settings, we will find new inspiration for our own practice of praying. That is my hope. And who's to say musical prayer can't become one of the ways we pray in the future? It's a type of meditation in which we don't have to feel guilty about letting our minds wander a little!

— Bruce Rameker

Cantor, Co-leader of the LGBT Catholics & Friends ministry

For more information about the Wednesday, March 11th Cocktail Benefit, *My Prayer is a Song*, please see page 5.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, MARCH 8th

Blood Drive.

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. McKinnon Hall. Details below.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10th

Moms, Pops & Tots.

10:00 AM. Gonzaga Meeting Room. Details on page 3.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Church. Details at right.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11th

Cocktail Benefit: My Prayer is a Song.

7:00 PM. Wallace Hall. Details on page 5.

Lenten Spirituality Series: Soulful Suffering.

7:00 PM. Parish House. Details at right.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14th

Celebration of the Sacrament of the

Anointing of the Sick. At the 5:30 PM Mass. Church.

Details on page 5.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Blood Drive

TODAY

**9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
McKinnon Hall**

The New York Blood Center requires 2,000 donations daily to meet the transfusion needs of our community.

While all donations are welcome, there is particular need for the following blood types: O Negative, O Positive, A Negative, and B Negative. Your donation may enable a premature baby to live, a burn victim to recover, a cancer patient to be treated, or an accident victim to survive.

To register, visit tinyurl.com/Societysvdpblooddrive3-8-20.

Walk-ins are welcome.

A photo or signature ID is required.

Please drink plenty of fluids and eat a well-balanced meal before giving blood.

Girl Scout Cookie Sale

TODAY

Cookies will be sold in the Narthex following the 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM Masses, and in Wallace Hall after the 11:00 AM Family Mass.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

***Tuesday Evenings
Through April 7th***

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM in the Church

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at 6:00 PM. The church will be open for private adoration until shortly before 8:00 PM when the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed and the church will close.

LENTEN SPIRITUALITY SERIES

Soulful Suffering

***Four Wednesdays Beginning March 11th
7:00 PM
Parish House***



Suffering can awaken within us compassion and deeper experience of God. Suffering also has the potential to cause us to withdraw, deny, and cause pain to others. Our presentations and discussion will explore ways to simply “be” with deep suffering so as to cooperate with God's transforming grace.

Space is limited.

To RSVP, email brianbpinter@gmail.com.

McKinnon Hall Coffee Hour

***Sunday, March 15th
McKinnon Hall***



We hope you will join us following the 11 AM Solemn Mass as we bid farewell to Fr. Philip Judge.

Join Our Email Mailing List!

To sign-up, scan the QR code at left or visit stignatiusloyola.org.



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

MOMS, POPS & TOTS



**Tuesday, March 10th
10:00 AM
Gonzaga Meeting Room**

This weekly gathering provides parents with young children the opportunity to make friends and develop community while strengthening their own spiritual lives. Coffee and treats are available for the parents.

RETREATS



Choose Life

**Friday, April 24th to Sunday, April 26th
Jogues Retreat House
Cornwall, New York**

Our retreat will explore the theme of choice. Through prayer and reflection, we will examine our lives based on these choices. We will look at choice from various perspectives and share our experiences with each other. Our weekend journey will bring us to a rich understanding of our past, present, and most importantly, during this most holy Season of Easter, the Resurrection will inspire us to look at our future choices with hope, optimism and joy!

Sponsored by LGBT Catholics and Friends

Cost: \$150 per person, to be paid by check or cash at the retreat.

To register, email april2020SILretreat@gmail.com.

Conversion of the So-Called "Good" Person

**Saturday, April 25th
8:30 AM to 1:30 PM
Wallace Hall**

We are all called to conversion, yet how does one convert who has kept the commandments, fulfilled responsibilities, and been "good"? Our presentations and conversations will explore how we can discover new life in God through shadow work, letting go our need for control, accepting imperfection, and embracing spiritual poverty.
Presented by Brian Pinter, Pastoral Associate.

Sponsored by
Lay Ministers' Enrichment and Meeting Christ in Prayer

Registration information to follow in an upcoming bulletin.

BOOMERS & BEYOND



Sunday Afternoon of Laughter

**Sunday, March 22nd
2:00 PM
The Paley Center for Media
25 West 52nd Street
(Between Fifth & Sixth Avenues)**

Please join us for an afternoon of comedy featuring Classic Stand-up Comedy on Television and *Seinfeld*.

Price (cash only at the door): \$5 per person
(includes admission, a talk on the history of the facility, and background of the founder).

Please arrive at 1:45 PM to allow for check in.
The viewing will begin at 2:00 PM.

To RSVP, email
boomersandbeyond.st.ignatius@gmail.com.

An RSVP is required.



Sunday Brunch

**Sunday, March 29th
Doc Watson's Outdoor Garden
1490 2nd Avenue**

Price (cash only at door): \$24 per person
(includes tax, tip and 2 complimentary drinks)

To RSVP, email
boomersandbeyond.st.ignatius@gmail.com.

PARISH MEN'S FAITH GROUP



**Tuesday, March 17th
7:00 PM
Parish House**

Sitting in the Ashes of Lent

Lent invites us to fast, thus opening a space within where we might more deeply feel our vulnerability—something many men innately resist! Our prayer and conversation will explore how Lenten practices call us to face the shadow-lands of the heart and there encounter God's mysterious grace.

Brian B. Pinter, Pastoral Associate, will facilitate.

To register, email simensgroup@aol.com.

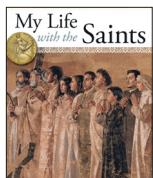
MORE THAN A BOOK CLUB

March Selection Book Discussion

Thursday, March 19th

2:00 PM

Parish Lounge



My Life with the Saints by Fr. James Martin, S.J.

Fr. James Martin has led an entirely modern life: from a lukewarm Catholic childhood, to an education at the Wharton School of Business, to the executive fast track at General Electric, to ministry as a Jesuit priest, to a busy media career in Manhattan. But at every step he has been accompanied by some surprising friends—the saints of the Catholic Church. For many, these holy men and women remain just historical figures. For Fr. Martin, they are intimate companions. “They pray for me, offer me comfort, give me examples of discipleship, and help me along the way,” he writes.

To register, email MoreThanaBookClubSIL@gmail.com.

Registration required.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Seniors of the parish and neighboring community are invited to the

Seniors Luncheon — *Springtime Celebration* —

Saturday, March 28th

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Wallace Hall

To RSVP, call the Parish House at (212) 288-3588 with your full name by Friday, March 20th.

IGNATIAN INTERFAITH MINISTRY



Thursday, April 2nd

7:00 PM

Lady Chapel

Fr. Sergey Trostyanskiy, rector of St. Gregory the Theologian Church, will lead a Lenten reflection and meditation on the traditional Orthodox Jesus Prayer.

To register, email ignatianinterfaithministry@gmail.com.

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, March 9th

(Second Monday of Lent)

Daniel 9:4b–10 Psalm 79 Luke 6:36–38

8:30 MEM Simona Saracino Fendi

12:10 MEM Josiah Jeremiah Robinson

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

Tuesday, March 10th

(Second Tuesday of Lent)

Isaiah 1:10, 16–20 Psalm 50 Matthew 23:1–12

8:30 LVG John Sweeny

12:10 MEM Valentino Mazzia

5:30 MEM Eleanor M. Pfeffer

Wednesday, March 11th

(Second Wednesday of Lent)

Jeremiah 18:18–20 Psalm 31 Matthew 20:17–28

8:30 MEM The Meehan Family

12:10 MEM Laura Fiore

5:30 MEM Solange Falzon

Thursday, March 12th *(Second Thursday of Lent)*

Jeremiah 17:5–10 Psalm 1 Luke 16:19–31

8:30 MEM Laurie Bardi Balmes

12:10 ANN Margaret & Peter Voorhies

5:30 MEM Mary Ogden

Friday, March 13th *(Second Friday of Lent)*

Genesis 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a Psalm 105

Matthew 21:33–43, 45–46

8:30 LVG John Lantry

12:10 MEM Kathleen Giampetruzzi

5:30 MEM Robert L. Davis

Saturday, March 14th *(Second Saturday of Lent)*

Micah 7:14–15, 18–20 Psalm 103 Luke 15:1–3, 11–32

8:30 MEM Jack O'Leary

Sunday, March 15th *(Third Sunday of Lent)*

Exodus 17:3–7 Psalm 95

Romans 5:1–2, 5–8 John 4:5–42

MONTHLY OFFERTORY REPORT

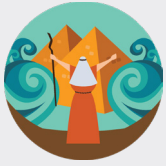


February 2020: \$106,723.50

February 2019: \$89,293.25

Difference: +\$17,430.25

LECTURES



The Exodus Narrative in Christian & Jewish Tradition

Monday, March 16th
7:00 PM (Doors open at 6:30 PM)
Wallace Hall

Explore the Exodus and Passover tradition through a discussion with Rabbi Scott Bolton of Congregation Or Zarua and Fr. Dennis Yesalonia, S.J.

A light reception will follow.



The Laetare Lecture: A Conversation About Democracy

Monday, March 23rd
7:00 PM
Wallace Hall

How shall we tackle the challenges facing America today with intelligence, creativity and optimism? Join us for "A Conversation about Democracy," with Former Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Joseph Califano, Jr., author of *Our Damaged Democracy: We the People Must Act*, and Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel, author of *Hope and History: A Memoir of Tumultuous Times*.

Moderated by broadcast journalist and author Lynn Sherr.

MUSIC

SUNDAY, MARCH 15th

11 AM SOLEMN MASS

Palestrina
Justitiae Domini

Howells
Like as the hart

Cocktail Benefit: My Prayer is a Song

Wednesday, March 11th
7:00 PM
Wallace Hall

FEATURING

Bruce Rameker, vocalist | Michael Sheetz, piano

Prayers are twofold in this evening of sung prayers from every time and place, ranging from chant to spirituals to songs of the living composers here at St. Ignatius, from Schubert's *Ave Maria* to unlikely selections by Marc Blitzstein and Meredith Monk.

100% of your ticket cost goes directly to The Ali Forney Center in Harlem, the largest LGBT community center helping LGBT homeless youth in the United States.

Tickets: \$50

Tickets are available online at ignatius.nyc.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Lenten Food Drive

Throughout Lent, SVdP will be accepting donations of food for the Church of the Ascension.

Week 2
(March 8–14)
 canned vegetables

Week 3
(March 15–21)
 pasta and tomato sauce

Week 4
(March 22–March 28)
 tuna fish and soups

Week 5
(March 29–April 4)
 soups and rice

Week 6
(April 5–7)
 canned stew/hash
 and
 Chef Boyardee meals

Please bring donations to the Parish House.



Celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Saturday, March 14th
At the 5:30 PM Mass

All parishioners are invited to attend the Celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick during the 5:30 PM Mass. This liturgy is designed so that the community can support our brothers and sisters who face the trials of illness or aging.

During the course of the Mass, all those who feel the need of healing and strength because of illness, physical weakness or spiritual distress will be invited to come forward to receive the Sacrament of Anointing.



CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA

980 Park Avenue at 84th Street • New York, New York 10028 • (212) 288-3588

FAX: (212) 734-3671 STIGNATIUSLOYOLA.ORG

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Dennis J. Yesalonia, S.J.

Associate Pastor

Rev. Michael P. Hilbert, S.J.

Assistant Pastor

Rev. Christopher E. Grodecki, S.J.

Senior Priests

Rev. William J. Bergen, S.J.

Rev. Damian A. O'Connell, S.J.

Pastoral Associates

Nicole Bedard

Brian Pinter

Jean Santopatre

Pastoral Assistant

Maureen Haley

Assisting Priests

Rev. Philip G. Judge, S.J. Rev. James Martin, S.J.

Music Ministries

Daniel Beckwith Maureen Haley

Robert Reuter Philip Anderson

Michael Sheetz

Scott Warren, *Director*

Sara Murphy, *Executive Director, Concerts*

Danya Katok, *Administrator*

Assistant to the Pastor

Diane M. Boyle

Administrative Assistant

Patricia Schneider

Communications Coordinator

Elizabeth O'Sullivan

Director of Facilities

Robert Cisternino

Asst. to the Director of Facilities

Caroline Fernandes

Director of Development

Erin Pick

Treasurer

Fernando Castro

Weekday Masses (Monday to Friday)

8:30 AM, 12:10 PM, and 5:30 PM

Saturday: 8:30 AM

Saturday Vigil 5:30 PM Fr. Yesalonia

Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Grodecki

9:30 AM Fr. Bergen

Wallace Hall Family 11:00 AM Fr. Hilbert

Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Judge

7:30 PM Fr. Martin

Religious Education for Children

Ms. Nicole Bedard, M.A.

Director

(212) 861-4764

St. Ignatius Loyola Grammar School

Ms. Mary Larkin

M.S. Ed. (Admin.), M.S. Ed. (Literacy)

Head of School

48 East 84th Street

New York, NY 10028

(212) 861-3820 Fax: (212) 879-8248

St. Ignatius Loyola Preschool

Ms. Mary Larkin

Head of School

240 East 84th Street

New York, NY 10028

(212) 734-6427 Fax: (212) 734-6972

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Sundays at 9:30 AM.

Centering Prayer

Mondays at 6:30 PM.

Confessions

4:30 PM Saturday or by appointment.

Baptisms

Please call Maureen Haley at the Parish House (212-288-3588 x636)

to arrange for a Baptism and the preparation given prior to Baptism.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Contact Maureen Fullam, M.A., Director, at the Parish House.

Marriages

The Bride or Groom should call Maureen Haley at the Parish House (212-288-3588 x636) 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.

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.

Volunteer: The Mary Manning Walsh Home (1339 York Avenue) is in need of day and evening volunteers for resident activities. To learn more about available opportunities, contact Sr. Michael Mary at 212-628-2800 x2247.

Volunteer: The Community of Sant'Egidio is looking for volunteers for their activities in Manhattan, including preparing and distributing food to homeless men and women and visiting a nursing home on the Upper East Side. If you are interested, contact Paola at 646-765-3899 or at santegidiousa@gmail.com.

Lecture: A Poor Church for the Poor: The Community of Sant'Egidio and the Radical Ministry of Pope Francis I An Evening with Marco Impagliazzo, President of Sant'Egidio. Monday, March 23rd. 6:00 PM. Fordham University, McMahon 109. 155 West 60th Street. The Community of Sant'Egidio is one of the most remarkable examples of faith in action in the Catholic Church today. The identity of the Community of Sant'Egidio is guided by what Pope Francis has called the three P's: Prayer, Peace, and the Poor. Sant'Egidio's president, Marco Impagliazzo, will discuss Sant'Egidio's mission in today's world, how they are working to assist the Pope, and how faith can make a difference. To register, visit fordham.edu/forms/form/279/en/a_poor_church_for_the_poor

Music Information: (212) 288-2520 | Email: music@stignatiusloyola.org