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ESTABLISHED IN 1851 • JESUIT SINCE 1866

December 8, 2019 | Second Sunday of Advent

Leading a Family to Christ

[Today at the 11:00 AM Solemn Mass, 18 adults participate in the Rite of Welcome/Entrance into the Catechumenate, marking the end of the inquiry phase of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). The next part of this journey begins in Advent for these adults—preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil.]

Grant Harrell, author of this reflection, was received into the Church in 2018.

My background, as for most of us, defines who I am and is the roadmap for my conversion to Catholicism.

I was born into a devout, non-denominational Christian family in Nashville, Tennessee. Having such a family is a selfevident blessing; being a Christian from the south, however, could be tricky given the cultural bias. It was my parents' ardent belief in the Risen Lord that created the building blocks for my faith. "It is all about the Cross," sums up the belief system that was the core to my upbringing. Christ was real, Christ died and most important, Christ is Risen. This underpinning took me through peaks and valleys . . . college . . . a move to New York City. That's it. That is the end of my "faith story."



But no—something spectacular happened. I got married and, more problematic to my foundation, I had kids! One, if not the greatest, blessing in my life has been falling in love and marrying a woman with whom I have a complete alignment of faith. It was easy. I never had to challenge or bring her to the way of thinking which I had been taught. We went to church and had deep conversations. My father always told me it was the husband who had to lead the family spiritually. Easy! I found the perfect partner and leading became effortless. But I struggled greatly with my children. I was failing at leading a FAMILY to Christ. We would plan to go to church and make efforts for community, but something was missing.

Structure was missing. My wife's family has Catholic roots so I began to read about Catholicism. Particularly, I began to read about the differences between Presbyterianism and Catholicism. I was also guided and inspired by a close Catholic friend. Through reading and discussion, I came to see that Catholicism, above all, is about the Cross and the Risen Lord. Each week as we receive communion, we are nourished by, and transformed into, the Body of Christ.

In terms of receiving spiritual instruction and direction, as a Catholic you are not alone. I may be the head of my family; however, I understand and acknowledge the truth in letting the Church be co-responsible for my kids' education at a fundamental level. Allowing the church to guide us has allowed me to better educate and discuss spiritual and religious issues with my children.

Though maybe I have inadequately described it, that is where I have found the deep richness of Catholicism—the completeness of it. By that I mean the combining of the individual and the corporate. The individual strives to have a relationship with God. The community sustains that relationship along the way. The individual struggles with faith; the community embraces and celebrates the unexplainable mysteries of God together.

[Francesca Michels Harrell, spouse of Grant, also completed her Roman Catholic Initiation at St. Ignatius at the Easter Vigil in 2018.]

— Grant Harrell Parishioner

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8th Second Sunday of Advent

Annual Christmas Tree Lighting. Immediately following the 11:00 AM Mass. Wallace Hall.

Monthly Parish Coffee Hour. Following the 11 AM Solemn Mass. McKinnon Hall. Details below.

> Concert | A Chanticleer Christmas. 4:00 PM. Church. Details on page 5.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9th Feast of the Immaculate Conception. **Regular Daily Mass schedule:** 8:30 AM, 12:10 PM & 5:30 PM.

The Feast is not a holy day of obligation in 2019.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11th Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting. 7:00 PM. Parish Lounge.

Welcoming the Divine Child. 7:00 PM. Gonzaga Meeting Room. Details on page 3.

> SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14th **Snow Ball Dance.** 7:00 PM. Wallace Hall. Details on page 5.

Your Parish, Your Home Giving Challenge **THROUGH TODAY**

Your parish, vour home. Three anonymous donors are challenging those who have

not made a gift to the Your Parish, Your Home Capital Campaign to participate in our giving weeks. They are sponsoring this challenge with a \$275,000 gift.



To contribute, visit donate.stignatiusloyola.org/capital or scan the QR code at left.



McKinnon Hall Coffee Hour

TODAY in McKinnon Hall

We hope you will join us at **12 Noon** as we welcome the RCIA Candidates who will be participating in the Rite of Welcome and Entrance into the Catechumenate at the 11 AM Solemn Mass.

ADVENT CONFESSION SCHEDULE



MONDAY, DECEMBER 16th RECONCILIATION MONDAY

All parishes in the Archdiocese of New York will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Monday, December 16th.

Confessions will be heard from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Tuesday, December 24th



Christmas Eve

• 4:00 PM Family Mass I • 6:00 PM Family Mass II • 8:00 PM Mass of Christmas • Midnight Mass

Wednesday, December 25th

Christmas Day • 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM* * There is a particular need for volunteers at the 11:00 AM Mass

If you are available, please email Rob Manning at **robbiefmanning@gmail.com** to let him know at which Mass you can assist.



Please support the Advent & Christmas Liturgical Music Fund

This fund supports the liturgical music program throughout the year — our musicians, staff, music, robes, and maintenance of instruments.

Gifts of \$100 or more that are received by Sunday, December 15th will be listed in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship aids. Contributions of \$1000 or more and \$2500 or more will be featured in special sections.

To donate, visit https://donate.stignatiusloyola.org/christmasmusic

MONTHLY OFFERTORY REPORT



November 2019: \$101,387

November 2018: \$98,970.50

Difference: +\$2,416.50

LGBT CATHOLICS & FRIENDS

LGBT Catholics & Friends Christmas Party



Thursday, December 12th

Celebrate the festive season with LGBT Catholics & Friends. Great

environment, food, and, of course, company.

RSVP to *join.lgbt.caf@gmail.com* for party details, including location and time.

Note: This party will replace this month's regular LGBT Catholics & Friends ministry meeting.



Bambinelli Sunday

December 15th At the 11 AM Wallace Hall Mass

At the December 15th 11 AM Mass, we will bless Infant Jesus figurines that will be place in crèches. We invite parishioners to bring in their figurines for the blessing.

LME RETREAT

An Overview of Sacred Music: From Beginnings to Today

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2020 ·

Dr. Jennifer Pascual will present an overview of sacred music of the Church, including different styles and forms from the early beginnings of sacred music to the practices of today. The morning presentation will cover the early beginnings of sacred music up until Vatican II, touching on forms such as Gregorian Chant & Polyphony and briefly discussing sacred music through the major musical periods—Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic and Contemporary periods, including the Caecilian movement. Sacred musical works by men and women composers will be discussed and how they can be utilized in modern-day liturgies.

The afternoon presentation will cover sacred music as practiced today, church documents pertaining to sacred music, and styles and forms such as hymnody, contemporary music and ritual music.

Continental breakfast and lunch will be served. The day will conclude with an optional Mass.

Email *layministersenrichment@gmail.com* for more information. Stay tuned for full registration details!



Welcoming the Divine Child

Wednesday, December 11th & 18th 7:00 PM in the Gonzaga Meeting Room

Within each of us is an inner child, a part that remains immature and unconsciously clings to past hurts and wounds. Our presentations and conversations will explore how we can allow the grace of Christ's birth to heal and transform our hearts.

Sessions will include short presentations by Brian B. Pinter, Pastoral Associate, Q & A, prayer, and quiet time for reflection.

WALLACE HALL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



Sunday, December 15th Immediately following the 11:00 AM Family Mass

We hope that your family will join us in this celebration of our Lord's birth. There is a role for everyone!

To participate: Scan the QR Code at left to be directed to the online registration form or visit *stignatiusloyola.org*

<u>Two rehearsals are required</u>: Today at noon in Wallace Hall & Sunday, December 15th at 9:30 AM in Wallace Hall

<u>Questions</u>? Email Mary Jo Ward at mjward@med.cornell.edu.

PARISH MEN'S FAITH GROUP



Tuesday, December 17th 7:00 PM Parish House

The Divine GPS

Our prayer and discussion will explore the opening genealogy of Matthew's Gospel, a text that relates how God works through deeply flawed men (and some extraordinary women!) to bring about salvation, despite their many "wrong turns."

To RSVP, email simensgroup@aol.com.

Moving? Please don't forget to notify us!

ANNUAL APPEAL



Please support this year's Annual Appeal.

A copy of the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2019 is available online at *stignatiusloyola.org* or by scanning the QR Code at right.



Thank you for your generosity!



IGNATIAN VOLUNTEER CORPS Experience Making a Difference

Join the Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) and become a contemplative in action in the spirit of St. Ignatius Loyola and the Jesuits!

IVC volunteers are adults over 50 years of age who offer their life skills and experience one to two days a week to directly serve those in need. Volunteers gather monthly to prayerfully reflect on their service and to deepen their spirituality in the Ignatian tradition. There is also the opportunity for spiritual guidance.

> Interested? Contact Maureen Fullam, Regional Director, at 917-859-0928 or email *mfullam@ivcusa.org* and visit our website at ivcusa.org

FORMED Daily Advent Reflections



Share the joy of the season with those you love by creating a space for Christ in your day and in your heart. Receive daily meditation, formation, and motivation in preparation for Christ's coming.

To sign-up, visit formed.org/advent.



NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome new parishioners and invite you to fill out a Parishioner Registration Card located in the pew racks, at the Parish House, and online at **www.stignatiusloyola.org**

WALLACE HALL AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL

For more information, contact Caroline Fernandes at 212-288-3588 or fernandesc@saintignatiusloyola.org

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, December 9th

(The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary)Genesis 3:9–15, 20Psalm 98Ephesians 1:3–6, 11–12Luke 1:26–38

Tuesday, December 10th

(Second Tuesday of Advent)
Isaiah 40:1–11 Psalm 96 Matthew 18:12–14
8:30 MEM Simona Saracino Fendi
12:10 MEM Valentino Mazzia
5:30 MEM Catherine Scanlon

Wednesday, December 11th

(Second Wednesday of Advent)
Isaiah 40:25–31 Psalm 103 Matthew 11:28–30
8:30 MEM The Meehan Family
12:10 MEM Anne Theresa Tully
5:30 MEM Deceased Members of the Scanlon & McLoughlin Families

Thursday, December 12th

(Our Lady of Guadalupe)
Zechariah 2:14–17 Judith 13 Luke 1:26–38
8:30 MEM John Sloan, Sr.
12:10 MEM Anne Tully
5:30 MEM Jay McNamee

Friday, December 13th

(St. Lucy)
Isaiah 48:17–19 Psalm 1 Matthew 11:16–19
8:30 MEM Ann Walsh
12:10 MEM Gino Scalamandre
5:30 MEM Lawrence J. Klecatsky

Saturday, December 14th

(*St. John of the Cross*) Sirach 48:1–4, 9–11 Psalm 80 Matthew 17:9a, 10–13 **8:30 MEM** John Figge

<u>Sunday, December 15th</u> (*Third Sunday of Advent*) Isaiah 35:1–6a, 10 Psalm 146

James 5:7–10

Psalm 146 Matthew 11:2–11



Calling All Snowbirds!

Are you in Florida during the winter months? Then we invite you to join us for events we will be hosting in Palm Beach & Naples in early March.

For more information, contact Erin Pick at pick@saintignatiusloyola.org or (212) 288-3588 x608.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Christmas Angel Project

Continues This Weekend!

to benefit the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Lower Manhattan & the Church of the Annunciation, West Harlem

<u>Through Sunday, December 15th</u>, participants will be able to select up to <u>three</u> Angel cards from one of the tables that will be placed in the Narthex and Wallace Hall. Cards will also be available at the Parish House while the supply lasts.

Gifts must be returned to the Parish House no later than <u>Sunday</u>, <u>December 15th</u>.



<u>Annual Toy Drive</u>

Continues This Weekend!

to benefit the children from the St. Mary of the Assumption & Our Lady of Mt. Carmel–St. Benedicta on Staten Island

Through Sunday, December 15th



Please bring new, unwrapped toys or games for boys and girls between the ages of 6-12to the Parish House.



Saturday, December 14th 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM Wallace Hall

Come eat, drink and dance to live music with your friends and other fellow adult (21+) parishioners.

Tickets can be purchased at https://snowballdance2019.eventbrite.com.

Tickets: \$50 adults/\$40 seniors (60+)

Please consider bringing an unwrapped toy in support of the toy drive sponsored by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

We look forward to welcoming you!

MUSIC

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

<u>11 AM SOLEMN MASS</u>

Rowley Benedictus

Willan Prelude on Aberystwyth

Anonymous, 16th c. English *Rejoice in the Lord alway*

> **Lassus** Sicut mater consolatur



A Chanticleer Christmas

TODAY at 4:00 PM

The joy of Christmas comes once again to what we hope are fresh eyes and ears, hearts and voices. Gregorian chant and Biebl are never far away, but this year we turn also to carols in half-a-dozen languages, American hymns, Spanish villancicos that ask us to dance, and "I Wonder as I Wander," which calls us to pray. This is a tradition we cherish, and we can't wait to celebrate the holidays with you again.

Tickets: \$30-\$93



Star of Wonder: Annual Christmas Concerts Sunday, December 15th at 3:00 PM ජ

Sunday, December 22nd at 3:00 PM

Christmas is our favorite time of year, when we accompany your holiday season with joy and tranquility in music old, new, and familiar.

In our most popular concert year after year, raise your voice with the Choirs and Orchestra in traditional carols and a thundering "Hallelujah Chorus" singalong. Over 100 musicians deliver the heart-warming melodies of Christmas.

Tickets: \$30-\$78

Tickets are available online at *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 STIGNATIUSLOYOLA.ORG

PARISH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Dennis I. Yesalonia, S.I.

Associate Pastor Rev. Michael P. Hilbert, 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. Ronald Amiot, S.J. Rev. Frank Hannafey, S.J. Rev. James Martin, S.J. Rev. Philip G. Judge, S.J.

Music Ministries Daniel Beckwith Maureen Halev Robert Reuter Philip Anderson Michael Sheetz

Scott Warren, Director Sara Murphy, *Executive Director* | SMSS 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. O'Connell Sunday: Wallace Hall Family 11:00 AM Fr. Yesalonia Solemn

8:00 AM Fr. Hannafey 9:30 AM Fr. Bergen 11:00 AM Fr. Judge 7:30 PM Fr. Judge

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) Principal 48 East 84th Street New York, NY 10028 (212) 861-3820 Fax: (212) 879-8248

St. Ignatius Loyola Preschool

Ms. Mary Larkin, Interim Director 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.

Ignatian Yoga Retreat. Friday, March 20th to Sunday, March 22nd, 2020. Mariandale Retreat Center, Ossining, New York. Join Bobby Karle, S.J. and the Ignatian Yoga Team for the only East Coast retreat this Spring. To register, visit ignatianyoga.com.

ArchCare Care Navigation Center: Resources for Seniors. Need help caring for yourself or someone else but not sure where to turn? ArchCare, the healthcare system of the Archdiocese of New York has a Center staffed by health and social service professionals dedicated to helping people better understand and access the services for which they are eligible. Call 855-951-2273 between 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM seven days a week.

Sunday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Every Sunday from 3:15 PM to 5:30 PM. Saint Joseph's Church, 404 East 87th Street. An opportunity for quiet prayer and silent adoration. All are welcome.

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