

November 28, 2021 | First Sunday of Advent

# **Joyful Anticipation**

aiting can be hard. Or at least it's hard for me. I remember Christmases when I was a kid, standing with my sister and cousins, staring at the tree, or, more truthfully, at the presents underneath the tree. The mystery of what could possibly be in the various packages was almost more than we could stand. We eagerly awaited finishing dinner so we could tear into the gifts and discover what awaited us. More recently, I find other sorts of waiting to be challenging. If I'm running late on my way somewhere, waiting for the light to change at the crosswalk or waiting for a train to arrive at the subway station seems to take an eternity. Unlike waiting to open a Christmas gift, there isn't any mystery to waiting for a light to change or a train to arrive. Even though I know exactly how those periods of waiting will end, it's still hard.



Advent is all about waiting. On some level, we all know the object and destination of our waiting. In just under four weeks, Christmas will be here! Year in and year out, Advent is a season of preparing ourselves for the birth of Christ. This is a season with which we are very familiar, with the predictable and comforting trappings of Advent wreaths, purple and pink candles, Advent calendars, and Advent devotionals. Advent also brings other annual undertakings such as Christmas shopping, Christmas concerts, and gatherings with friends and family. Many of these activities, whether spiritual, more mundane, or somewhere in between, may well be part of our routines as we make our way through these four weeks. Finally, the end of Advent is never a surprise. Much of what we do, expect, and await in Advent is predictable and part of long-established routines. However, this doesn't mean that God doesn't have some surprises in store for us in the midst of our waiting.

During my first year as a Jesuit, my spiritual director recommended some spiritual reading to me, a book titled *Advent of the Heart*, by Fr. Alfred Delp, SJ. I have reread this book every Advent since 2011 and have recommended it to more people than I can count, now including all of you. Delp was a German Jesuit who spoke out against the Nazis and was later inaccurately accused of involvement in an assassination attempt against Hitler. *Advent of the Heart* is a collection of his homilies and other writings on Advent, a season he loved throughout his life. The collection ends with the Advent homilies Delp wrote in 1944, as he was imprisoned and awaiting his execution. Delp describes Advent as a time of being shaken awake to a renewed and deepened relationship with God.

In *Advent of the Heart*, Delp also writes about the figures of Advent, the people with whom we wait during this season of preparation and being shaken awake. He includes John the Baptist, Gabriel, and Mary among the people with whom we travel through Advent toward Christmas. Here at St. Ignatius Loyola, our theme for this Advent is "Waiting with Mary." I say with full confidence, Fr. Delp would heartily approve.

As we wait for Christmas, as we go through the routines and rituals of this Advent, how might God be trying to shake us awake? Even though we already know that Advent ends with the celebration of the birth of Christ, how can we, in our hearts, reclaim some of the mysterious and surprising joy of God-made-flesh?

Waiting can be hard. May this season of expectant waiting find us open and awake, like Mary, to whatever surprises God has in store.



# THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28th

Community Coffee Hour. Noon. Outside the Church.

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29th

Ranger Rosary. 1:30 PM. Gonzaga Meeting Room.

Note: Proof of vaccination is required to attend. Email documentation to **Esposito218@verizon.net** prior to the day of the meeting.

All Hearts Together: A Mass of Remembrance. 7 PM. Church. Details at right.

#### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30th**

Moms, Pops & Tots. 11 AM. Outside the Parish House.

Tuesday Night Book Group: St. Augustine's Confessions. 7 PM. Zoom.

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3rd

Concert: A Chanticleer Christmas. 8 PM. Church.

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4th

Snow Ball Dance.

7 PM.Wallace Hall. Details on page 2.

# SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



# **Christmas Angel Project**

Continues Through December 12th!

Benefiting Immaculate Conception/St.
Mary's Church in Yonkers &
St. Patrick-St. Mary's Parish in Newburgh

Through Sunday, December 12th, participants will be able to select up to <u>five</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 12th</u>.

# **Annual Toy Drive**

Saturday, December 11th to Wednesday, December 15th

Please bring new, unwrapped toys or games for children between the ages of 6–12 to the Parish House.

# **LGBT CATHOLICS & FRIENDS**



# All Hearts Together: A Mass of Remembrance

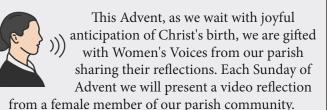
Monday, November 29th at 7 PM Church

The LGBT Catholics & Friends ministry invites all parishioners to a Mass in observance of World AIDS Day.

Reception to follow in Wallace Hall.

All are welcome.

## Women's Voices: An Advent Reflection Series



November 28th (First Sunday of Advent)
Simone Vinocour

December 4th (Second Sunday of Advent)
Andrea Santoriello

December 11th (Third Sunday of Advent)
Nicole Bedard

December 18th (Fourth Sunday of Advent)
Karen Smith

December 25th (Christmas)
Jean Santopatre

You may view these video reflections through our e-newsletter and on our parish website.

# **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 Main Church will be closed.

Please wear a face mask while you are in the Lady Chapel.



## Join Our Email Mailing List!

To sign-up for our e-newsletter, scan the QR code at left or visit *ignatius.nyc*.

# CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA

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# PARISH STAFF

#### **Pastor**

Rev. Dennis J. Yesalonia, S.J.

#### **Associate Pastors**

Rev. Mark C. Hallinan, S.J. Rev. Michael P. Hilbert, S.J.

#### **Senior Priest**

Rev. William J. Bergen, S.J.

### **Pastoral Year Priest**

Rev. Daniel N. Gustafson, S.I.

#### **Pastoral Associates**

Kate Noonan Jean Santopatre **Brian Pinter** 

#### **Pastoral Assistant**

Maureen Haley

## **Assisting Priest**

Rev. James Martin, S.J.

#### **Music Ministries**

Scott Warren, Director

Daniel Beckwith Maureen Haley Philip Anderson Robert Reuter Michael Sheetz

Danya Katok, Director of Concerts

# **Assistant to the Pastor**

Diane M. Boyle

#### **Administrative Assistant**

Patricia Schneider

## **Director of Communications**

Elizabeth O'Sullivan

#### **Director of Facilities**

Robert Cisternino

#### **Director of Development**

Erin Pick

#### Treasurer

Fernando Castro

#### Weekday Masses (Monday - Friday)

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

#### Masses for the Weekend of December 5th:

Saturday Vigil 5:30 PM Fr. Gustafson Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Gustafson 9:30 AM Fr. Bergen Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Yesalonia Wallace Hall Family 11:00 AM Fr. Hilbert

7:30 PM Fr. Yesalonia

# **Religious Education** for Children

Ms. Kate Noonan, Director (212) 288-3588 x609

# 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)734-6427Fax: (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 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.

# **Announced Masses and** Readings for the Week

#### Monday, November 29th

(1st Monday of Advent) Isaiah 2:1–5 Psalm 122 Matthew 8:5-11

8:30 MEM Toni Brown

**12:10 MEM** Maria Noni Mercader

5:30 MEM Charlie Glowacki

#### Tuesday, November 30th

(St. Andrew) Romans 10:9-18

Psalm 19 Matthew 4:18–22

8:30 MEM George Macdonald

12:10 MEM Raymond Carmignani

5:30 MEM William Powers

# Wednesday, December 1st

(Ss. Edmund Campion, Robert Southwell & comps.) Isaiah 25:6-10a Psalm 23 Matthew 15:29-37

8:30 MEM The Choix & Gordon **Families** 

12:10 MEM Angela P. Murphy

5:30 MEM Rose & Armand Galassi

#### Thursday, December 2nd

(1st Thursday of Advent) Isaiah 26:1-6 Psalm 118 Matthew 7:21, 24-27

8:30 MEM Ciro Saracino 12:10 ANN Daniel Kelly

5:30 MEM Alexander Mezo

## Friday, December 3rd

(St. Francis Xavier) 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 Psalm 117 Mark 16:15-20 8:30 MEM Bernard Davies

12:10 MEM Gregorio Dizon 5:30 MEM Dolorita Wallace Moore

#### Saturday, December 4th

(1st Saturday of Advent) Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26 Psalm 147 Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8 8:30 MEM Caroline Choix

#### Sunday, December 5th

(2nd Sunday of Advent)

Baruch 5:1-9 Psalm 126 Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11 Luke 3:1-6