



The Thrill of Hope, The Weary World Rejoices

There is a weariness afoot in our land, in this moment whose cadence at times overtakes our sensibilities and tempts us to follow a path of despair. Some fret over the possibility that Omicron will one day be replaced by a series of Greek letters that will not end with Omega but will lead to even more worrisome scenarios of disease and death. All of us are wearied by a routine of living not within our control and whose end point is unknown.

Somber clouds are gathering in a whirlwind of uncertainty. The world's superpowers are once again involved in a game of one-upmanship. A cycle of violence is erupting on our city streets. Civil discourse and common courtesies have been replaced by tirades of partisanship. Discrimination and injustices are being legitimized. Climate change is playing havoc in once serene places. Misery has become a way of life for many. Bread lines are longer, and those who are homeless are far too great in number for a world awash in resources enjoyed by far too few. Drumbeats can be heard in the distance in a tempo of frenzy that has been unprecedented in our time. The world is weary and losing patience waiting for a way out from the entanglement of today's baffling realities.



The Holy Night. Antonio da Correggio. 1522-1530.

This Sunday we enter the fourth week of Advent, a season of waiting. A reasonable question that may be asked is, what or whom are we waiting for? After all, the good news that anchors our faith is the birth of Jesus Christ which happened more than 2000 years ago, the defining moment of all time when God Himself entered human history and was born of a simple young woman in a non-descript town.

Over the centuries the story of his birth has been told in elegant prose and poetic beauty. Its romance is captured in carols familiar to our ears and in nativity scenes that give delight to the eye. In the re-telling of the story of his birth our hearts beat in a gentle rhythm; we allow ourselves to imagine a world that captures the stillness of the night where even the voices of angels could be heard

giving glory to God, heralding peace on earth. Perhaps it is that promise of peace that we are waiting for, a rekindling of hope that will vanquish our weariness and light a path to a future where we will join the joyful chorus of those who believe that a child's birth in Bethlehem two millennia ago matters for our world today.

Let us recall that at a time and in a place where faith in goodness was a scarce commodity the darkness of a gloomy night was pierced by the brilliance of a solitary star, directing people to a well-spring of promise, to an infant in a stable's manger. Jesus Christ was born into a world fraught with fear and foreboding, doubt and despair, prejudice and injustice. A lifeline of love joining God to humankind was fashioned that night. His birth dispelled the darkness so that eyes could be opened to a new reality. On that night, hope was rekindled, and the burden of weariness lifted.

And so, in answer to my earlier question, I believe it is peace that we once again wait for during this season of Advent – peace of mind and heart, peace among people, the peace that is the precious gift of Jesus Christ, born on Christmas Day. It is that harmony that the chorus of angels announced on that holy night, bringing with it the thrill of hope and making a weary world rejoice. May our voices join with theirs so that we may bring a message of peace to a world whose hope needs to be rekindled and whose reason to rejoice restored. Through the darkness of this night a new and glorious morn is breaking forth, for God is with us, Emmanuel, the Prince of Peace.

— Rev. Dennis J. Yesalonia, S.J.
Pastor

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

8:30 AM Daily Mass

4:00 PM Family Mass

(WITH Omega Dance Company, Children's Choirs,
AND Wallace Hall Choir)

6:00 PM

(WITH Parish Community Choir)

8:00 PM Vigil Mass

(WITH The Choir of St. Ignatius Loyola)

Midnight Mass (also livestreamed)

(WITH The Choir of St. Ignatius Loyola)

Christmas Day

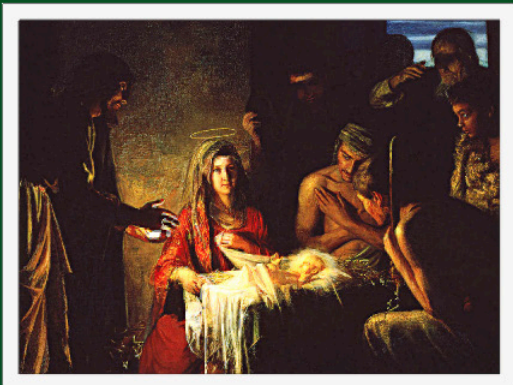
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

10:00 AM (also livestreamed)

12:00 Noon Solemn Mass

(WITH The Choir of St. Ignatius Loyola)

*To view the livestream of our Midnight and Christmas Day Masses,
visit our parish YouTube channel
at ChurchofStIgnatiusLoyolaNYC.*



May you be filled with the
Light of Hope during the
Christmas Season and
throughout the New Year

Merry Christmas

Rev. Dennis J. Yesalonia, S.J.
Pastor

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19th

Bambinelli Sunday.
11 AM Wallace Hall Family Mass.
Details below.

Concert: A New and Glorious Morn.
3 PM. Church.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20th

Reconciliation Monday.
Confessions will be heard in the Church
from 11 AM to 1 PM & 6 PM to 8 PM.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21st

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

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

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24th & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25th

To view our complete Christmas Mass schedule,
see page 2.

Women's Voices: An Advent Reflection Series



This Advent, as we wait with joyful anticipation of Christ's birth, we are gifted with Women's Voices from our parish sharing their reflections. Each Sunday of Advent we will present a video reflection from a female member of our parish community.

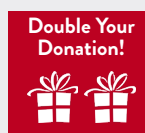
DECEMBER 19TH | Karen Smith

DECEMBER 25TH | Jean Santopatre

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

The Annual Fund Matching Gift Week

Through Sunday, December 19th



An anonymous parish family will match new gifts made to The Annual Fund through Sunday, December 19th.

**YOUR GIFT + THEIR MATCH =
DOUBLE YOUR DONATION**



To contribute,
visit ignatius.nyc/giving or
scan the QR code at left.



Bambinelli Sunday

December 19th
11 AM Wallace Hall Family Mass

We will bless Infant Jesus figurines that will be placed in families' crèches. We invite parishioners to bring in their figurines for the blessing.

Lady Chapel Open for Private Prayer



The Lady Chapel is open daily for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, from 1 PM to 4 PM. During those hours, the Main Church will be closed.

Please wear a face mask while in the Lady Chapel.

Low-Gluten Hosts



For parishioners wishing to receive a low-gluten host at the distribution of Holy Communion, please speak with a Hospitality Minister.

IGNATIAN VOLUNTEER CORPS



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.

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



To stay up-to-date on parish news,
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QR code at left 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.

Senior Priest

Rev. William J. Bergen, S.J.

Pastoral Year Priest

Rev. Daniel N. Gustafson, S.J.

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
Robert Reuter Philip Anderson
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 26th:

Sunday:	8:00 AM	Fr. Gustafson
	9:30 AM	Fr. Hilbert
Solemn	11:00 AM	Fr. Hallinan
Wallace Hall Family	11:00 AM	Fr. Yesalonia
	7:30 PM	Fr. Hallinan

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) 734-6427
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 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, December 20th

(4th Monday of Advent)

Isaiah 7:10-14 Psalm 24

Luke 1:26-38

8:30 MEM Living & Deceased
Members of the Brenninkmeijer
Family

12:10 MEM Barbara A. Springer

5:30 MEM Michael Emile
Wofford

Tuesday, December 21st

(4th Tuesday of Advent)

Song 2:8-14 Psalm 33

Luke 1:39-45

8:30 MEM Edward and Mary
Greason

12:10 LVG Manuel G. Mercoder

5:30 MEM Nathan Davidson

Wednesday, December 22nd

(4th Wednesday of Advent)

1 Samuel 1:24-28 1 Samuel 2

Luke 1:46-56

8:30 MEM Mary Kay Rodenhouse

12:10 MEM Sose & Mark
Prekelezaj

5:30 MEM Harry J. Jimick

Thursday, December 23rd

(4th Thursday of Advent)

Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24 Psalm 25

Luke 1:57-66

8:30 MEM Peter J. Burke

12:10 MEM Margaret Winant

5:30 LVG Maire Kimble

Friday, December 24th

(4th Friday of Advent)

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Psalm 89 Luke 1:67-79

8:30 MEM Charle & Mae Tantillo

Saturday, December 25th

(The Nativity of the Lord)

Isaiah 9:1-6 Psalm 96

Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14

Sunday, December 26th

*(The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary &
Joseph)*

1 Samuel 20-22, 24-28 Psalm 84

1 John 3:1-2, 21-24 Luke 2:41-52