

April 24, 2022 | Second Sunday of Easter

God's Better Beauty

At the end of Mark Helprin's long and troubling book called "A Soldier of the Great War," there is a discussion among the main characters about the meaning of sacrifice in the face of the insanity they had experienced during the First World War. Reacting to feeble attempts to make sense of beauty that appears even in the midst of terrible loss, this is what the protagonist says:

"Really everything they said seemed to be in contradiction to the truth of what I'd seen. And if you ask me what it was, I can't tell you. I can only tell you it overwhelmed me, that all the hard and wonderful things of the world are nothing more than a frame for the spirit, like fire and light, that is the endless roiling of love and grace.

I can tell you only that beauty cannot be expressed or explained in a theory or an idea, that it moves by its own law, that it is God's way of comforting his broken children...."

"Beauty cannot be expressed or explained in a theory or an idea; it moves by its own laws."

These are the laws of hope and courage, which are, finally, the law of the spirit.

The ancients understood this: The Beautiful is one of the three so-called "transcendentals," with her complicated sisters, The Good and The True. Beauty is the imaging forth of the divine, the trace in matter of the God who must share his beauty, who images forth his likeness in us and through us in our creations.

We see it in the beauty of creation, in the splendor and terror of nature, mysterium fascinans et tremendum; we see it most clearly in the dawn of the First Day of the Week.

We saw it in the face of him who sat on the cold stone, waiting for his cross. We saw it in the radiance of Magdalene's smile when she recognizes the Gardener as her risen lord. We see it in the light that poured through the wounded hands of Jesus and healed Thomas's doubts.

"All the hard and wonderful things of the world are nothing more than a frame for the spirit, like fire and light, that is the endless roiling of love and grace."

That, after all, is what St. Ignatius told us to pray for at the end of the Spiritual Exercises: "only your love and your grace." That's what Ignatius saw as he wept beneath the stars, as he gazed at the terrible beauty of the cross, and when he saw grace descend like light from the sun, like water from the spring. He saw hope, hope that God's will can be done, hope that God's love and grace really are enough, hope in God's better beauty, grace. And that too is why he encouraged his brothers and their companions to build beautiful churches, and use the arts and human craft to be tools of persuasion and hope.

The poignant beauty of the dying and rising of Jesus that we contemplate on these Easter days draws us deeper and deeper into the mystery of God's design for us and for our world.

Such beauty encourages us, literally in-courages us to live lives of compassion and mercy. It turned Peter from his timidity to compassion and mercy, turned Ignatius and his friends to lives of service and praise.

"It is God's way of comforting his broken children..."

Let all of us, broken children, poor banished children of Eve, open our hearts to that beauty, ever ancient, ever new.

Rev. Thomas Lucas, S.J.
 Pastor, Saint Ignatius Loyola Parish, Sacramento



Monday, April 25th at 7:00 PM On Zoom



PRESENTER REV. THOMAS LUCAS, S.J.

Pastor of Saint Ignatius Loyola Parish in Sacramento, California, and Emeritus University Professor at the University of San Francisco

To register, visit IGNATIUS.NYC/APRIL-25-WEBINAR or scan the QR code at right.





THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Webinar | Inspiration, Aspiration, and Imagination: Using the Arts in the Jesuit Tradition. 7 PM. Zoom.

Details on page 2.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27th

Society of St. Vincent de Paul. 7 PM. Gonzaga Meeting Room.

Note: Proof of vaccination is required to attend.
Email documentation to **svdpmembership980@gmail.com**prior to the day of the meeting.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28th

Ignatian Social Justice.
7 PM. Parish Lounge & Zoom.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30th

Spring Fling.
7 PM. Wallace Hall.
Details on page 2.

LGBT CATHOLICS & FRIENDS

WEBINAR The German Church: Leaders of Catholic LGBT Equality

Saturday, May 7th at 1 PM On Zoom

In recent years the German Church has surfaced as the leader of the progressive movement within the Catholic Church. Dr. Michael Brinkschröder and Rainer Teuber present a webinar exploring how the church in that nation has moved so far forward on LGBT issues. They will also speak about the #OutInChurch movement, in which 125 LGBT priests and church workers in Germany "came out" earlier this year in a public statement and a documentary film broadcast on national television.

What can Catholics in America learn from the German Church?



To register, please visit ignatius.nyc/event/may7webinar or scan the QR code at left.



Join Our Email Mailing List!

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

Counteracting Unconscious Bias: A Workshop for Parishioners and Staff of St. Ignatius Parish

Saturday, May 7th, from 8 AM to 3 PM Optional Session to Debrief, from 3 PM to 4 PM Mass for Sunday at 4 PM

In the gospels, Jesus challenged his contemporaries to overcome their biases toward those whom they judged to be different from themselves. That challenge of Jesus to his contemporaries is a challenge to which each of us, as his followers, must respond.

Are we open to looking honestly at how our perceptions, judgments, and reactions to others who are different from us reflect unconscious biases that influence the way we speak and act toward them?

Are we willing to acknowledge these unconscious biases at work within us and to learn strategies for overcoming them so that we treat all persons as we ourselves want to be treated?

How are we to follow Jesus' commandment to love one another as He has loved us when our subconscious biases prevent us from doing so?

This day-long workshop requires a commitment from each participant:

- To be open, honest, and respectful in sharing one's thoughts and feelings
- To accept that the workshop will raise issues that can be challenging and unsettling
 - To be prompt and stay for the entire workshop and not leave early.

Registration is required. Please call the Parish House or email your reservation to Fr. Hallinan, S.J., by Tuesday, May 3rd at hallinanm@saintignatiusloyola.org.

Ignatian Discernment for Everyday Life Monday, May 9th at 7:30 PM in Wallace Hall

PRESENTER: Rev. Kevin O'Brien, S.J.

Author of The Ignatian Adventure: Experiencing the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius in Daily Life

Reception to follow.

To RSVP, email IgnatianDiscernmentDiscussion@gmail.com.

Sponsored by Boomers & Beyond and Meeting Christ in Prayer

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 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 May 1st

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

7:30 рм 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, April 25th (St. Mark) 1 Peter 5:5b-14 Psalm 89

Mark 16:15-20

8:30 MEM Jack Thomas O'Drain

12:10 MEM Helen O'Neil

5:30 MEM Thomas Flammer

Tuesday, April 26th

(Second Tuesday of Easter) Acts 4:32-37 Psalm 93 John 3:7b-15

8:30 MEM Nora Blackstock 12:10 MEM Sue McMachan

5:30 MEM Lesley Hauser

Wednesday, April 27th

(St. Peter Canisius) Acts 5:17-26 Psalm 34 John 3:16-21

8:30 MEM Living & Deceased Members of the Regan & Burke Families

12:10 MEM Stephen Signorelli 5:30 MEM Christopher Juliano

Thursday, April 28th

(Second Thursday of Easter) Acts 5:27-33 Psalm 34 John 3:31-36 8:30 MEM Peter J. Burke 12:10 MEM Stephen Signorelli 5:30 MEM Living & Deceased

Members of the Wallace Family

Friday, April 29th

(St. Catherine of Siena) Acts 5:34-42 Psalm 27 John 6:1-15 8:30 MEM Living & Deceased Members of the Villarroel Family 12:10 MEM Judy Miller 5:30 MEM William Powers

Saturday, April 30th

(Second Saturday of Easter) Acts 6:1-7 Psalm 33 John 6:16-21 8:30 MEM Mary Elizabeth Dee

Sunday, May 1st

(Third Sunday of Easter) Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41 Psalm 30 Revelation 5:11-14 John 21:1-19