



December 11, 2022 | Third Sunday of Advent

Join the Throng

The Advent liturgies have been building a theme, strong on Isaiah. The prophet carries the hopes and dreams of the Jewish people, who have been languishing in captivity in Babylon. He single-handedly takes on their despair with idyllic images of infirmities healed and, always, always, throngs of people singing their way to Zion. For Isaiah, these icons prefigure the kingdom that God will establish once the captives are free. They are the SIGNS of the Kingdom.

Fast forward to the time of John the Baptizer. He is a formidable figure, living in the desert, subsisting on wild food, and proclaiming, to anyone who will listen, the message of “repentance.” He invites the people to act out their conversion by being baptized in the River Jordan. Multitudes respond—including Jesus.

But in today’s Gospel, we learn that John has been imprisoned by Herod. Reports of Jesus’ activities have been reaching John, and he sends some of his disciples to question Jesus: “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” Jesus responds, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them.”

We recognize this list. They are the SIGNS of the Kingdom. Here is proof that Jesus is “the One,” not because he says so, but because he is fulfilling Isaiah’s prophecy. In this exchange, I always get the sense of “the baton” being handed over. John, who has been so central to preparing the people for the coming of the Messiah, now steps back to allow Jesus to take center stage.

Jesus’ further commentary cements this image. He praises John, extols him as greater than all the prophets (in today’s lingo, G.O.A.T.), but then announces that the focus must now be on himself and his followers. The Kingdom is not just “on the way;” it is HERE in the person of Jesus.

What to do with this revelation? Us? Today? Looking back to Isaiah’s images, I delight in conjuring up throngs of people singing their way to Zion.

To Isaiah, this vision comes naturally, an obvious expression of joy. And so, it is our time to join the throng and sing praise to our God.

Our Christian traditions are rich in Advent music. When we approach the celebration of the Incarnation, it comes naturally for us to join in song. The people to whom Isaiah prophesied were filled with longing for the coming of the Messiah. That longing is captured in *Comfort, O Comfort My People*.

We recall John’s role as a precursor of the Savior *On Jordan’s Bank*. The traditional hymn, *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, dates back to the monastic life of twelve hundred years ago. Part of our heritage. The full version incorporates the “O Antiphons” that sing the many titles of Jesus. A personal favorite is *O Come, Divine Messiah*. I love the melody and the meter. If it weren’t a sacred hymn, I might describe it as “rollicking.” *The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns* again moves us from the darkness of anticipation to the jubilation of the coming of Christ. The haunting melody of *Lo! How a Rose E’er Blooming* is a meditation.

Anticipation takes hold the closer we get to Christmas. Here at St. Ignatius, we enjoy an embarrassment of riches in seasonal music. Beyond the liturgical Advent hymns, we can preview and pre-experience the glorious music of Christmas in the concerts today and December 18. The concerts feature the Choirs and Orchestra of St. Ignatius Loyola. And you can join our own “throng” singing carols.

As we move through the remaining days of Advent, let’s attend to the thrum of song that is a heartbeat. Let us join our voices in celebration of the coming of our Savior, Jesus the Christ.

— Adele Gallo
Chair, Parish Women’s Faith Group

This Week at a Glance

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11th

Wallace Hall Christmas Pageant.

Immediately following the 11 AM Family Mass.

And On Earth, Peace: Annual Christmas Concert.

3 PM. Church.

Details at right.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13th

Tuesday Night Book Group | *I Believe in Love:*

A Personal Retreat Based On the Teachings of

***St. Therese of Lisieux.* 7 PM. Zoom.**

To receive the Zoom link for this series, email

TuesdayNightBookGroup@gmail.com.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15th

Scripture Course: Christ the Refugee.

7 PM. Zoom.

Details on page 3.

Daily Mass Livestream Update

Beginning *Tuesday, January 3, 2023*, we will begin livestreaming our 12:10 PM Daily Mass. As of that date, the 5:30 PM Mass will no longer be livestreamed.

Concerts at St. Ignatius

And On Earth, Peace: Annual Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 11th & December 18th at 3 PM Church

The St. Ignatius Christmas concerts are our most beloved annual events. Featuring Pinkham's *Christmas Cantata*, Adam's *O Holy Night*, and Handel's *Hallelujah Chorus*.

The Children's Choirs, Parish Community Choir, Choir of St. Ignatius Loyola, and Orchestra of St. Ignatius Loyola can't wait to celebrate the Christmas season with you!

To purchase tickets, visit ignatius.nyc/concerts.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Christmas Angel Project

Through Sunday, December 11th

Benefiting The Parish of St. Charles Borromeo and Our Lady of Lourdes Church

There will be volunteers in the Narthex and Wallace Hall to help parishioners with their Angel registration at all the Masses. It's important to register your Angel card with one of the volunteers prior to leaving. We have nearly 400 gifts to keep track of, and registering them with us helps us to avoid chaos.

Gifts must be returned to the Parish House no later than Sunday, December 11th.

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 11TH | Kelley Girod

DECEMBER 18TH | Moria Cappio

DECEMBER 25TH | Rose DiMartino

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

Annual Toy Drive

Through Thursday, December 15th

Benefiting St. Mary of the Assumption & Our Lady of Mt. Carmel—St. Benedict on Staten Island

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

IREP students: May bring unwrapped gifts into class for collection

Toys must be new. No used toys, please.

Sponsored by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and the Interparish Religious Education Program

Advent Day of Reconciliation

Monday, December 19th

Confessions will be heard in the Church from 3 PM to 5 PM and 6 PM to 8 PM.

Join Our Email Mailing List

We invite you to join our email mailing list to receive updates on parish news and events.



To sign-up, scan the QR code at left or visit ignatius.nyc.

Scripture Course

Christ the Refugee

Thursdays, through December 22nd at 7 PM
Zoom

This Advent, as the world witnesses the largest flow of displaced persons in a century, we focus on the evangelist Matthew's testimony that Jesus began his life as a refugee. Presentations and discussions will reflect on this pivotal story as well as other biblical texts that highlight God's command to care for the "sojourner."

Brian B. Pinter, Pastoral Associate, will present.

To RSVP, email brianbpinter@protonmail.com.

The Gift of Years

Wednesday, January 11th at 7 PM
Zoom

The journey of aging brings challenges as well as blessings, spiritual tasks that require tending, and spiritual gifts that call for giving. Our gathering will explore how we might discover and bring to our loved ones and community the wisdom, healing, and joy particular to the final third of life.

Brian B. Pinter, Pastoral Associate, will present and facilitate the discussion.

To register, email brianbpinter@protonmail.com.

The Heat is On at St. Ignatius

Please help us defray the increasing cost of providing heat and electricity to the parish.



To contribute, visit ignatius.nyc/makeapayment (or scan the QR code at left) and note "Energy Collection" in the *Reason for Donation* box.

Ignatian Volunteer Corps



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, follow us on Instagram and Facebook at [stignatiusnyc](https://www.instagram.com/stignatiusnyc).

Annual Appeal

As you consider your end-of-year giving, please remember to include your contribution to the Annual Appeal on your to-do list.



If you have not yet made a donation, you can do so by visiting ignatius.nyc/annual-appeal or scanning the QR code at left.

Thank you for your support!

Lay Ministers' Enrichment Ministry Day of Reflection - Spring 2023

Saturday, January 28th
Wallace Hall

You are invited to join the St. Ignatius Lay Ministers' Enrichment Ministry for a day of personal and group reflection led by Fr. Walter Modrys, S.J.

Doors open at 8:15 AM for registration and breakfast.

The day's activities will comprise two presentations by Father Modrys, each followed by time for personal reflection and group faith-sharing. There will be a Q&A session following the last group session.



To register, scan the QR code at left or visit ignatius.nyc/lmespring2023.

Home Communion Call



If you or a loved one is confined to home and would like to receive Communion on a periodic or regular basis, someone from the parish's Compassionate Care Ministry will come to your home and bring Communion.

If interested, email Fr. Hilbert at hilbertm@saintignatiusloyola.org or leave your name and phone number at the Parish House for Fr. Hilbert, and someone will be scheduled to visit.

Low-Gluten Hosts



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

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 Church will be closed.

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.

Assisting Priest

Rev. James Martin, S.J.

In Residence

Rev. James A. Casciotti, S.J.

Pastoral Associates

Kate Noonan Brian Pinter Jean Santopatre

Pastoral Assistant

Maureen Haley

Music Ministries

Daniel Beckwith Douglas Purcell
Robert Reuter Elizabeth Van Os
Michael Sheetz

Scott Warren, *Director*

Danya Katok, *Director of Concerts*

Assistant to the Pastor

Rebecca Brucas

Administrative Assistant

Patricia Schneider

Director of Communications

Elizabeth O'Sullivan

Director of Facilities

Robert Cisternino

Facilities Coordinator

Caroline Fernandes

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 18th

Saturday Vigil 5:30 PM Fr. Bergen
Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Bergen
9:30 AM Fr. Yesalonia
Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Hallinan
Wallace Hall Family 11:00 AM Fr. Casciotti
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 contact Maureen Haley at
baptisms@saintignatiusloyola.org
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
contact Maureen Haley at
weddings@saintignatiusloyola.org
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 12th

(Our Lady of Guadalupe)

Zechariah 2:14-17 Judith 13

Luke 1:26-38

8:30 MEM Margaret & Joseph
Phelan

12:10 MEM John & Margaret Reilly

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

Tuesday, December 13th (St. Lucy)

Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13 Psalm 34

Matthew 21:28-32

8:30 MEM Kieran T. Wrynn

12:10 MEM Charles Hoard

5:30 MEM Arjan Mirchandani

Wednesday, December 14th

(St. John of the Cross)

Isaiah 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25 Psalm 85

Luke 7:18b-23

8:30 MEM The Choix & Gordon
Families

12:10 MEM Margaret Lenaghan
Treanor

5:30 MEM Jack Figge

Thursday, December 15th

(3rd Thursday of Advent)

Isaiah 54:1-10 Psalm 30

Luke 7:24-30

8:30 MEM Jack O'Leary

12:10 LVG Mr. & Mrs. Timothy
Brier

5:30 MEM James & Josephine
Naughton

Friday, December 16th

(3rd Friday of Advent)

Isaiah 56:1-3a Psalm 67

John 5:33-36

8:30 MEM Michael Lacovara

12:10 MEM Mary Ann Mulqueen
Burke

5:30 MEM Bill Hassett

Saturday, December 17th

(3rd Saturday of Advent)

Genesis 49:2, 8-10 Psalm 72

Matthew 1:1-17

8:30 MEM William & Ann Reilly

Sunday, December 18th

(4th Sunday of Advent)

Isaiah 7:10-14 Psalm 24

Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-24