



October 1, 2023 | Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Poverty in the United States: Policy Choices Do Matter

Poverty spiked in 2022, according to data recently released by the United States Census Bureau. The Supplemental Poverty Measure was 12.4% in 2022, up from 7.8% in 2021. Most disturbing, child poverty more than doubled, going from 5.2% in 2021 to 12.4% in 2022. If the United States is to be a 'pro-life' nation, then we will have to enact policies to reduce poverty.

Recently, two Washington Post columnists from opposite ends of the political spectrum, Marc Thiessen and Alyssa Rosenberg, came together to argue for a pro-family legislative agenda for our national government. It is interesting to note that many of their policy proposals mirror those our own United States Catholic Bishops put forward in a letter sent to every member of Congress in October of 2022. If we are to reduce poverty in this country, then all of us need to give voice to these sensible policy recommendations and demand that politicians who identify themselves as 'pro-life' prove that by the policy choices they support. These are some of the proposals supported by Thiessen and Rosenberg.



*Make Pregnancy Less Dangerous.* This country's infant and maternal mortality rates remain shamefully high and disproportionately affect Black women. Legislation has been proposed to harness the ability of the federal government to amass data and convene stakeholders in identifying the most effective means to address this twin crisis. Bipartisan legislation has been introduced to review how maternity care is taught to doctors and nurses. It also seeks to expand access to doula care, to telehealth maternal care, and to devices such as glucose monitors for women with gestational diabetes who are on Medicaid. The federal and state governments need to collaborate in helping those who are pregnant access health care before, during and after pregnancy, get and retain safe housing, and assist mothers to continue working or attend school.

*Help Parents Afford Babies.* The federal government needs to eliminate the current marriage penalties embedded in many of its support programs. The Child Tax Credit is key to helping families. The poverty rate for children doubled largely because Congress did not renew the expanded child tax credit payments enacted during the pandemic. Senator Mitt Romney has proposed raising the credit from \$2,000 per child to \$4,200 for children younger than six and \$3,000 for those ages 6 to 17. Our bishops have called for the credit to be fully refundable, that is, available to those who do not owe federal taxes. It should be a national policy to extend Medicaid coverage for mothers and babies until a year after birth. In addition, the eligibility of new mothers to participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children should be expanded from one to two years. States can be encouraged to exempt child-care necessities from sales taxes.

*Support Child-Care Needs.* Thiessen and Rosenberg propose a universal tax-exempt parental leave and family savings account to cover parenting-related expenses, including parental leave and children's sick days off from school. The plan would be portable from job to job, and companies could deduct their matching contributions to employees' family savings accounts from their corporate taxes. As proposed in bipartisan legislation, Congress should also raise the amount parents can save pretax in dependent care flexible spending accounts from \$5,000 to \$10,500.

This cursory summary of what Thiessen and Rosenberg propose reminds us that there are policy choices that we can make that are pro-family and that will act to reduce poverty. Our bishops have pointed this out as well. It is time for us to be educated on these policies and to press for their enactment. In doing so, we will help to reduce poverty in America and make this country truly pro-life, pro-family.

— Rev. Mark C. Hallinan, S.J.  
Associate Pastor

## This Week at a Glance

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1st

**Community Coffee Hour.**  
Following the 11 AM Masses.  
Outside the Parish House.

### **Adult Volunteer Choir Kickoff.**

12 PM. Wallace Hall Stage.

*Details below.*

### **Blessing of the Animals.**

1 PM. Outside the Parish House.

*Details below.*

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 2nd

**The Science of Spirituality in Mental Health and Flourishing: The Foremost Work for Parents and Schools.** 6:30 PM. Wallace Hall.

*Details on page 3.*

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3rd

**The Sage and the Skeptic – Proverbs and Ecclesiastes.**

7 PM. Parish House & Zoom.

*Details at right.*

## Courageous Women of Faith

Thursday, October 12th at 7 PM

Church

Join us as we present our second annual *Courageous Women of Faith*, where we will honor environmental activist **Molly Burhans**, human rights activist **Sr. Jeannine Gramick**, civil rights activist **Diane Nash**, and immigration advocate **Sr. Norma Pimentel**.

We will commemorate their extraordinary work with the conferral of the Mary Magdalene Award to each honoree and the unveiling of large-scale banners of the women, created by artist Julie Lonneman.

But we're not content with just these four stories—your voice matters as well! We're eager to learn about the women who inspire you with their remarkable lives.



Share their stories with us at [ignatius.nyc/courageouswomen](https://ignatius.nyc/courageouswomen) or by scanning the code at left.

## Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 1st at 1 PM  
Outside the Parish House

Pet owners are invited to bring their leashed dog, cat, reptile or caged birds and bunnies for a blessing in celebration of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

## Music

### **Adult Volunteer Choir Kickoff**

Sunday, October 1st, 12 PM to 1:30 PM  
Wallace Hall Stage

Have you decided to join our choirs? Then it's time for the next step: coming to our Choir Kickoff! Join us on the Wallace Hall stage for music, mingling with fellow choir members, food and beverage, and maybe even a little impromptu singing. Get to know your choir a little more, and have some fun while you're at it.

## Blessing of the Sneakers

Saturday, November 4th  
5:30 PM in the Church

Before running the New York City Marathon on Sunday, November 5th, join us the day before at our 5:30 PM Mass for a special blessing for runners and all who are participating in the Marathon.

## Religious Education

### **Registration Open for the 2023-2024 Session of IREP**

Register for the current session of our Interparish Religious Education Program (IREP). IREP is an ongoing formation process for Kindergarten to 8th-grade students.

IREP is intended for children who do not attend Catholic school but would like to be guided in the Catholic faith.



To register, visit [ignatius.nyc/irep-registration](https://ignatius.nyc/irep-registration) or scan the QR code at left.

### **The Sage and the Skeptic – Proverbs and Ecclesiastes**

Tuesdays, through October 24th  
7 PM

Parish House & Zoom

How does one live well while finding peace, meaning, and contentment? Ancient Israel's wisdom handbook,

Proverbs, sought to answer these questions, while the book of Ecclesiastes articulated skepticism about Proverbs' traditional theology. Course presentations and discussions will explore the history, interpretation, and wisdom in these divergent, fascinating texts.

Brian B. Pinter, Pastoral Associate, will present.

To register, email [brianbpinter@protonmail.com](mailto:brianbpinter@protonmail.com).

## Family Ministry

### The Science of Spirituality in Mental Health and Flourishing: The Foremost Work for Parents and Schools

Monday, October 2nd at 6:30 PM  
Wallace Hall

**PRESENTER: Lisa Miller, Ph.D.**

*Professor, Columbia University, Teachers College  
Founder, The Spirituality Mind Body Institute*

#### About the Speaker

**Lisa Miller, Ph.D.**, is *The New York Times* bestselling author of *The Spiritual Child* and her new book *The Awakened Brain*.

## Ignatian Social Justice

### Winter Clothing Drive for Migrant Families

Drop off through October 15th at the Parish House

**Needs:** New or gently used laundered winter clothing—infant to adult sizes.

Any monetary donations will be used to buy necessities, including boots, socks, and undergarments.

Note: Checks made out to St. Ignatius Loyola should have *Migrant Accompaniment* on the memo line.

Thank you for your generosity.

## Snow Ball Dance

Saturday, December 2nd at 7 PM  
Wallace Hall

Please save the date and a few places on your dance card for our 5th annual Snow Ball Dance.

Join us for what promises to be a very merry evening. Come eat, drink, and dance to live music by The Morris Brothers Band with your friends and fellow adult (21+) parishioners.

Tickets are \$75 per person/\$65 for seniors (age 60+). Premium Tables for 10 guests are available for \$1,000.



To purchase, visit [ignatius.nyc/snow-ball-dance](http://ignatius.nyc/snow-ball-dance) or scan the QR code at left.

## End-of-Life Spirituality - Reflections on Healthcare Choices

Wednesday, November 15th at 7 PM  
Wallace Hall & Livestreamed

End-of-life healthcare decisions can be complicated and anxiety-provoking. Our presentation and discussion will explore Catholic teaching on topics including the distinction between extraordinary and ordinary means, medical futility, “Do Not Resuscitate” orders, pain management, palliative and hospice care, and the role of spirituality in end-of-life care.

Brian B. Pinter, Pastoral Associate, will present.

To RSVP, email [brianbpinter@protonmail.com](mailto:brianbpinter@protonmail.com).

## Interested in Becoming Catholic?



Do you have a friend, family member, or a loved one who is considering becoming Catholic? Encourage them to reach out to us to inquire about our parish program designed to initiate adults into the Catholic faith.

A group will meet here during the year to inquire into the Catholic faith, to come to know Jesus through the Gospels, and to pray & to prepare for the Easter Sacraments.

For more information, contact **Maureen Fullam** at 212-288-3588 or email [church@stignatiusloyola.org](mailto:church@stignatiusloyola.org).

## Respect Life Sunday

Today is Respect Life Sunday, which kicks off Respect Life Month. We consider more deeply why every human life is valuable and reflect on how to build a culture that protects life from conception to natural death.

You may find more information at [respectlife.org/celebrate](http://respectlife.org/celebrate).

## 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](mailto:hilbertm@saintignatiusloyola.org) or leave your name and phone number at the Parish House for Fr. Hilbert, and someone will be scheduled to visit.

To stay up-to-date on parish news, follow us on Instagram and Facebook at [stignatiusnyc](https://www.instagram.com/stignatiusnyc).

# 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 Christina Kay

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 October 8th

Saturday Vigil 5:30 PM Fr. Bergen  
Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Casciotti  
9:30 AM Fr. Casciotti  
Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Yesalonia  
Wallace Hall Family 11:00 AM Fr. Hallinan  
7:30 PM Fr. Yesalonia

## Religious Education for Children

Ms. Kate Noonan, Director

(212) 288-3588 x609

noonank@saintignatiusloyola.org

## 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.

## Ignatian Young Adults (IYA)

For more information about our IYA

ministry, email Jean Santopatre at

santopatrej@saintignatiusloyola.org.

## Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

### Monday, October 2nd

(*The Holy Guardian Angels*)

Zechariah 8:1–8 Psalm 102

Matthew 18:1–5, 10

**8:30 MEM** Ciro Saracino

**12:10 MEM** Michele Lindsay

**5:30 MEM** Ambrosio L.  
Valero, II

### Tuesday, October 3rd

(*St. Francis Borgia*)

Zechariah 8:20–23 Psalm 87

Luke 9:51–56

**8:30 MEM** Living & Deceased

Members of the Brenninkmeijer  
Family

**12:10 MEM** Vera de Rham

**5:30 MEM** Danny Calise

### Wednesday, October 4th

(*St. Francis of Assisi*)

Nehemiah 2:1–8 Psalm 137

Luke 9:57–62

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

**12:10 MEM** Luisa & Maria Lisa

Cacanindin

**5:30 MEM** Charles Tantillo

### Thursday, October 5th

(*26th Thursday in Ordinary Time*)

Nehemiah 8:1–4a, 5–6, 7b–12

Psalm 19 Luke 10:1–12

**8:30 MEM** Michele Lindsay

**12:10 MEM** Paul Trieu Doan

**5:30 MEM** Jack Kehoe

### Friday, October 6th

(*26th Friday in Ordinary Time*)

Baruch 1:15–22 Psalm 79

Luke 10:13–16

**8:30 MEM** Luis Samaniego

**12:10 MEM** Charles Regan

**5:30 MEM** John Figge

### Saturday, October 7th

(*Our Lady of the Rosary*)

Baruch 4:5–12, 27–29 Psalm 69

Luke 10:17–24

**8:30 MEM** The Meehan Family

### Sunday, October 8th

(*27th Sunday in Ordinary Time*)

Isaiah 5:1–7 Psalm 80

Philippians 4:6–9

Matthew 21:33–43