

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 December 10th

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

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, December 4th

(First Monday of Advent)

Isaiah 2:1–5 Psalm 122

Matthew 8:5–11

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

12:10 MEM GERALYNN FAYE FRIED

5:30 ANN DORITA WALLACE MOORE

Tuesday, December 5th

(First Tuesday of Advent)

Isaiah 11:1–10 Psalm 72

Luke 10:21–24

8:30 MEM CAROLINE CHOIX

12:10 MEM GREGORIO DIZON

5:30 MEM JACK KEHOE

Wednesday, December 6th

(First Wednesday of Advent)

Isaiah 25:6–10a Psalm 23

Matthew 15:29–37

8:30 MEM THE CHOIX & GORDON
FAMILIES

12:10 MEM MR. & MRS. BENE &
LEE LUPICA

5:30 MEM REGINALD LEWIS

Thursday, December 7th

(St. Ambrose)

Isaiah 26:1–6 Psalm 118

Matthew 7:21, 24–27

8:30 ANN THOMAS FLAMMER

12:10 MEM CHARLIE GLOWACKI

Friday, December 8th

(The Immaculate Conception of
the Blessed Virgin Mary)

Genesis 3:9–15, 20 Psalm 98

Ephesians 1:3–6, 11–12

Luke 1:26–38

Saturday, December 9th

(First Saturday of Advent)

Isaiah 30:19–21, 23–26 Psalm 147

Matthew 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6–8

8:30 MEM SIMONA SARACINO FENDI

Sunday, December 10th

(Second Sunday of Advent)

Isaiah 40:1–5, 9–11 Psalm 85

2 Peter 3:8–14 Mark 1:1–8

December 3, 2023 | First Sunday of Advent

Spiritual Treasure

[This First Sunday of Advent, St. Ignatius Loyola Parish celebrates the RCIA Rite of Welcome, acknowledging a group of adults as they formally begin their journey toward becoming Catholic. This essay is written by Steve and Etra Rancourt, who were received into the Church at last year's Easter Vigil.]

Recently, our family has been captivated by a television show that involves a group of friends searching for various gold treasures around the globe. The adventure on which these friends embark is both rewarding and challenging. It causes them to question many aspects of their lives prior to this adventure. When I think about our journey of becoming Catholic and part of St. Ignatius Loyola Parish, it can also be described as a treasure hunt, but one of the spirit. The parables below from Matthew speak to this spiritual treasure:

“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.” (Matthew 13:44-46).



One such treasure has been the RCIA program. The teachers brought us to the Gospel. Each week was its own adventure, where you travel to a new destination. The vivid imagery contained in the verses made it feel as if we had been there in person a millennium ago. Oftentimes, the classes would result in us debating or helping each other understand the more complex lessons under the night sky on the walk home. The readings, handouts, and textbook were helpful guides to deciphering how the teachings of Jesus apply today. Faith has opened an entirely new dimension in our lives. We still have a lot to learn. We are grateful that St. Ignatius Loyola has so many engaged clergy and parishioners to help continue the exploration.

Another treasure we have discovered at St. Ignatius Loyola is the Interparish Religious Education Program (IREP) and Liturgy of the Word for Children. The teachers present lessons on humbleness, charity, gratitude, & forgiveness told through the Bible in an engaging and understandable manner. It is truly a unique and rare experience that is hard to find elsewhere. It is a privilege for our children to be able to attend these programs that help build character.

The most surprising treasure of all has been the experience of participating in Mass. Not until we experienced it for ourselves could we fully appreciate how transformational spending this time in personal reflection, communal fellowship, receiving the Eucharist, prayer, and rejoicing could be. The choir, homilies, community, and Communion Rite provide the map to guide us toward encountering Jesus in the Eucharist.

Once Mass concludes and we depart from the Church, we are ready to begin our week—inspired again. We know that we will not be perfect disciples in the days ahead, but we feel that each week we return to Mass, we are one step closer to the treasure buried in the field or the fine pearls of the parables.

In the spirit of the season, we thank you all for the love and support the parish community has shown our family. We thank the Lord for guiding us up the steps and through these doors. We pray for the RCIA Catechumens and Candidates experiencing this journey in the Welcome Rite today. Amen.

— Steve & Etra Rancourt
St. Ignatius Loyola Parishioners &
Members of the 2022 RCIA Group

This Week at a Glance

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3rd

Annual Christmas Tree Lighting.
Following the 11 AM Masses. Wallace Hall.

A Chanticleer Christmas.
4 PM. Church. *Details on page 3.*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4th

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5th

Scripture Class | Praying With the Men and Women of Advent.
7 PM. Parish House & Zoom.

To register, email brianbpinter@protonmail.com.

Tuesday Night Book Group:
The Surprising Rebirth of Belief in God.
7 PM. Zoom.

To receive the Zoom link, RSVP with the subject line "Rebirth of Belief" to tuesdaynightbookgroup@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6th

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7th

Back to Basics 2.0: Devotional Practices.
7 PM. Wallace Hall. *Details on page 3.*

Mass in Italian/Messa in Italiano: Vigil Mass of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.
7 PM. Church.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8th

Feast of the Immaculate Conception.
Masses at 8:30 AM, 12:10 PM, 5:30 PM & 7:30 PM.
The Feast is a holy day of obligation.

Bambinelli Sunday

December 17th
Following the 11 AM Masses

We will bless Infant Jesus figurines that will be placed in crèches.

We invite parishioners to bring their figurines in for the blessing.

Lost & Found

If you have lost an item while visiting the church, please stop by the Parish House to check if your misplaced article has been turned in.

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

It was in March 2020, in the very first week of the COVID lockdown, that we began livestreaming daily Mass from the Lady Chapel. It was a simple arrangement, with one digital camera on a tripod, and it was a great support to so many as we faced the traumatic months of the pandemic. The joy of spiritual communion we experienced was a balm of solidarity and friendship in the Lord.

Recognizing the value of the new technology, the parish invested the following year in an extensive audio-visual infrastructure—in the Lady Chapel, the church, and Wallace Hall. The quality of the hardware and the technical assistance has been appreciated by everyone. Many of you have written to me to express your gratitude for the livestreaming of special events from the parish during these last almost four years—Masses, lectures, weddings, funerals, and concerts.

In consultation with the Parish Council and the Parish Finance Committee, I have decided, with some regret, that effective January 1, 2024, the weekday 5:30 PM will no longer be livestreamed. Although donations have been received since we began the livestreaming of Masses, they do not cover the annual expense of livestreaming on a daily basis. This year's cost for the livestreaming of the weekday Masses was \$65,000, and donations in support of livestreaming amounted to no more than \$5,000. That is a big gap to fill in addition to meeting the cost of livestreaming the Sunday Mass. Given the parish's limited resources, the prudent course of action at this time is to continue to direct resources to the livestreaming of the Sunday 11:00 AM Solemn Mass.

I know that this announcement will be a disappointment to those who regularly attend in spiritual communion via YouTube or Facebook the weekday Mass. It was a very difficult decision to make, but I assure you that the motivating factor was to be good stewards of the limited resources of the parish.

During this season of Advent, let us pray in thanksgiving for our faith in Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Word of God, that draws us together as sisters and brothers wherever we may be.

God bless you!

Dennis J. Yesalonia, S.J.
Pastor

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Christmas Angels Gift Project Through Sunday, December 10th

Benefiting Our Lady of Lourdes Church, the Church of the Immaculate Conception, and the migrants accompanied by the Ignatian Social Justice Ministry

Angel Cards listing recipients' Christmas wishes will be on the trees in the Narthex and Wallace Hall.

There will be volunteers to help parishioners with their Angel registration at all Masses. It's very important to register your Angel card(s) with one of the volunteers so we can keep track of the hundreds of gifts.

Please bring your wrapped Angel gift(s) to the Parish House by *Sunday, December 10th*.

We ask each person or family to limit their number of Angel Cards to four.

Annual Toy Drive Through Sunday, December 17th

Benefiting the children of St. Mary of the Assumption-Our Lady of Mt. Carmel-St. Benedict Parish on Staten Island

Please bring new, unwrapped toys or games for children between the ages of 3–12 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

Concerts at St. Ignatius

A Chanticleer Christmas Sunday, December 3rd at 4 PM Church

A Chanticleer Christmas celebrates its 10th anniversary at St. Ignatius Loyola!

The multiple Grammy Award-winning all-male vocal ensemble comprised of 12 singers hailing from across the U.S. offers joy and transcendence through beautifully sung music of all centuries, from classical to carols. The joy of Chanticleer's Christmas season comes from sharing this precious moment in the year with you.

To purchase tickets, visit ignatius.nyc/concerts.

Back to Basics 2.0: What It Means to Be Catholic

Through April 2024, the priests of the parish will offer an opportunity to learn more about what it means to be Catholic.

DEVOTIONAL PRACTICES, *praying the rosary, novenas, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, veneration of the saints, etc.*

Thursday, December 7th at 7 PM | Wallace Hall
Fr. Mark Hallinan, S.J.

THE CHURCH'S GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE AND THE ROLE OF THE LAITY

Thursday, February 22nd at 7 PM | Wallace Hall
Fr. Michael Hilbert, S.J.

RELIGIOUS ORDERS OF THE CHURCH
Monday, March 18th at 7 PM | Wallace Hall
Fr. James Casciotti, S.J.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL ENCYCLICALS
Monday, April 15th at 7 PM | Wallace Hall
Fr. Dennis Yesalonia, S.J.

Hospitality Ministry

Volunteers Needed

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH
Christmas Eve

- 4 PM Family Mass • 6 PM
- 8 PM Mass of Christmas • Midnight Mass

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25TH
Christmas Day

- 10 AM • 12 PM Noon

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
• 10:30 AM

If you can assist, please email liturgicalministers@saintignatiusloyola.org with your availability.

A sign-up table will be in the Narthex after all Masses this weekend and the weekend of December 10th.

Join Our Email Mailing List!

We invite you to sign-up for our e-newsletter to receive regular updates on parish news and events.



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