



February 18, 2024 | First Sunday of Lent

## Reflections Upon Baptism and Service

*[This First Sunday of Lent, our Parish celebrates two Rites for 22 adults: the Rite of Sending (for those preparing for baptism) and the Call to Continuing Conversion (for our already baptized candidates). Then at St. Patrick's Cathedral in the afternoon, Cardinal Timothy Dolan welcomes the catechumens and accepts their desire to be baptized into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. This essay is written by Wayne Weddington, who was received into the Church in 2022.]*

I have always felt that God has been with me, an always-present whisper of encouragement and guidance for as long as I can remember. After joining RCIA, God's presence was confirmed to me through our readings from the Bible, our textbook, and other prayers that we prayed together. I did not always call the Word, God. I am not certain what I called God before this journey, but I knew God was there. Each week's readings spoke to me, and the voice seemed familiar.

At one point during this RCIA journey to Christ, we were asked to reflect on what we desire from God's Church. I said: "To affirm that the Lord Jesus Christ has always been, and forever is, my companion and Savior."

In reading the Gospels, I came to love the tacit emphasis of what I call the "low barrier to entry." God's Kingdom is immanently accessible. ANYONE can enter, no matter where one has been or how lost or damaged one's GPS may be. The principles of love for one another, forgiveness, redemption, humility—and the recognition that we are all imperfect—bring us closer to God. The joy of God's love is available to anyone who seeks it. God's love is still there even if one does not seek it (perhaps that "guiding whisper").



*Credit: Bernard Reilly*

I am particularly grateful and proud to have completed the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults at St. Ignatius Loyola. I felt I had been called. I was deeply grateful to hear about the experiences of others in our group. Finding Christ is such a personal journey; no one person has precisely the same calling or reason for living.

And yet, here we stood together, well-aligned on the path to God. It has been a gift to experience integration through self-examination in and through Christ the Word and the Holy Spirit. At the Easter Vigil, I could not wait to experience the baptismal water on my head. I let it run down my face. I was reluctant to wipe it away. Amen! Hallelujah! I rejoice.

Now today, I am thrilled to be a member of the Ministry of Hospitality and a Lector. It is a responsibility and a joy to 'touch' my fellow parishioners on their way to receiving the Eucharist at Mass. Some are burdened, others happy, some simply curious or sad, but we are all there, convened, to experience Christ and to offer our connection with Him and offer prayers for one another. The Hospitality Ministry deepens my connection to the Body of Christ, and the honor of being a Lector enables me to learn the Scripture in a tangible way. It is also a great responsibility and honor to participate in the worship of my fellow parishioners. The parish response to the Readings, in unison, "Thanks be to God," always moves me.

I think of the Mass as a celebration... that Christ is among us and that the Holy Spirit lives in each and every one of us. I look forward to every Mass, the Scripture Readings, the Gospel, and homily as if they are rays of Light. If you see me smiling at Mass, it is because, well, I am happy. As we begin Lent and walk toward the Cross and Resurrection, I truly treasure this journey.

— Wayne P. Weddington III  
Hospitality Minister and Lector

## This Week at a Glance

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18th

St. Luke's Call Team.  
8:30 PM. Parish House.  
*Details at right.*

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20th

**Caring for Creation: A Weekly Lenten Reflection.**  
1 PM. Parish House.  
*Details on page 3.*

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.**  
6 PM. Church.  
*Details below.*

**Tuesday Night Book Group | *The Discernment of Spirits: An Ignatian Guide for Everyday Living* by Fr. Timothy Gallagher.**  
7 PM. Zoom.

*To register and receive the Zoom link for this series, please email "Discernment of Spirits" to [TuesdayNightBookGroup@gmail.com](mailto:TuesdayNightBookGroup@gmail.com).*

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21st**  
**Bible Study | "Why Have You Forsaken Me?"**  
**Lent with the Psalms.**

7 PM. Parish House & Zoom.  
*Details on page 3.*

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd**  
**Back to Basics 2.0 | The Church's Governance Structure and the Role of the Laity.**  
7 PM. Wallace Hall.  
*Details on page 3.*

**Organ Recital: Olivier Latry.**  
8 PM. Church.  
*Details on page 3.*

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24th**  
**Stations of the Cross.**  
9 AM. Church.  
*Details on page 3.*

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
**Tuesday Evenings, February 20th to March 26th**  
**6 PM to 8 PM**  
**Church**

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at 6 PM. The church will be open for private adoration until shortly before 8 PM when the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed and the church will close.

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook at *stignatiusnyc*.

## St. Luke's Call Team

Sunday, February 18th  
8:30 PM  
Parish House

Are you a doctor, nurse, physical therapist, pharmacist, or other healthcare worker looking for a community? Then, we invite you to join our community of prayer, discussion, and faith sharing.

## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

### Lenten Blood Drive

Sunday, February 25th, from 9 AM to 3 PM  
McKinnon Hall (Grammar School)  
48 East 84th Street



To schedule your donation appointment, scan the QR code at left.

## The Annual Change for Change Drive

Donations this year will be forwarded to the Cheyenne River Reservation.

The collection period runs to the end of Lent. Loose change, bills, and checks (made out to "Church of St. Ignatius Loyola") are welcome.

Please bring donations to the Parish House.

## 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.

## Low-Gluten Hosts

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



## Sign-up for Our Weekly E-Newsletter!

To receive regular updates on parish news and events, scan the QR code or visit [ignatius.nyc](http://ignatius.nyc).

## Lectures at St. Ignatius

### John F. Kennedy, The Houston Speech, and Catholic Citizenship

Monday, March 11th at 7 PM  
Wallace Hall

#### PRESENTER

**Mark Massa, S.J.**

*Director of the Boisi Center for Religion and American Public Life, and Professor of Theology at Boston College*

John F. Kennedy's 'Houston Speech' before 300 Protestant clergymen in 1960 supposedly won him the presidency. Was that good news for the Catholic presidential candidates who came after him?

#### ABOUT THE PRESENTER



**Mark Massa, S.J.**, is director of the Boisi Center for Religion and American Public Life and Professor of Theology at Boston College. From 2010 to 2016, he served as the first dean of the School of Theology and Ministry at BC. He is the author of seven books; Oxford University Press will publish his eighth book this year, entitled *Catholic Fundamentalism in America*.

## Bible Study

### “Why Have You Forsaken Me?” Lent with the Psalms

Four Wednesdays, beginning February 21st  
7 PM

Parish House & Zoom

The Psalms reflect the human condition—hope and despair, victory and failure, death and new life. Our presentations and discussions will focus on the Psalms we encounter in the Lenten lectionary readings. Brian B. Pinter, Pastoral Associate, will present.

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

## Concerts at St. Ignatius

### Organ Recital: Olivier Latry

Thursday, February 22nd at 8 PM  
Church

French organist Olivier Latry is one of the most distinguished concert organists in the world today. One of three titular organists at the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris, he is also Professor of Organ at the Paris Conservatory of Music and Organist Emeritus with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra in Canada.

To purchase tickets, visit [ignatius.nyc/concerts](http://ignatius.nyc/concerts).

## Back to Basics 2.0: What It Means to Be Catholic

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

### 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.*

## Caring for Creation: A Weekly Lenten Reflection Begins Tuesday, February 20th at 1 PM Parish House

Join Jean Santopatre and Fr. Mark Hallinan, S.J., in a journey through Lent in which we reflect on Lenten themes through the lens of the call to care for creation.

We will meet every Tuesday starting on February 20th and conclude on the Tuesday before Holy Week (March 19th).

Scripture readings and reflection material are available for registered participants at the Parish House reception desk. Persons are asked to prepare in advance for each session.

To register, please send an email to Jean Santopatre at [santopatrej@saintignatiusloyola.org](mailto:santopatrej@saintignatiusloyola.org) or call the Parish House at 212-288-3588. We would like your name, telephone number, and email address.

Thank you for joining us as we pray through Lent!

## Stations of the Cross: Saturdays in Lent Through Saturday, March 16th

9 AM  
Church

*Led by Fr. Mark Hallinan, S.J.*

Join us for this traditional devotion as we draw closer to Jesus through a prayerful reflection on his passion and death.

**Note:** We will not meet on Saturday, March 23rd. There will be Stations of the Cross on Wednesday, March 27th, at 7:30 PM in the Church.

# 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*

### 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 February 25th

Saturday Vigil 5:30 PM Fr. Casciotti

Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Hallinan

9:30 AM Fr. Martin

Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Bergen

Wallace Hall Family 11:00 AM Fr. Yesalonia

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, February 19th

(First Monday of Lent)

Leviticus 19:1–2, 11–18 Psalm 19

Matthew 25:31–46

**8:30 MEM** Carla Fendi

### Tuesday, February 20th

(First Tuesday of Lent)

Isaiah 55:10–11 Psalm 34

Matthew 6:7–15

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

**12:10 MEM** Daniel Cronin

**5:30 MEM** Anne Lee Baskin

### Wednesday, February 21st

(First Wednesday of Lent)

Jonah 3:1–10 Psalm 51

Luke 11:29–32

**8:30 MEM** John & Margaret  
Reilly

**12:10 LVG** Nancy Ryan

**5:30 MEM** Nathan Davidson

### Thursday, February 22nd

(The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle)

1 Peter 5:1–4 Psalm 23

Matthew 16:13–19

**8:30 MEM** Ann Kilminster

**12:10 MEM** Charles Regan

**5:30 MEM** Jamie Sierra

### Friday, February 23rd

(First Friday of Lent)

Ezekiel 18:21–28 Psalm 130

Matthew 5:20–26

**8:30 LVG** Geraldine Kaupp

**12:10 MEM** Cristiano Guerra  
Volker

**5:30 MEM** Bill Hassett

### Saturday, February 24th

(First Saturday of Lent)

Deuteronomy 26:16–19 Psalm 119

Matthew 5:43–48

**8:30 ANN** Marian Vinocour

### Sunday, February 25th

(Second Sunday of Lent)

Genesis 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18

Psalm 116 Romans 8:31b–34

Mark 9:2–10