



December 1, 2024 | First Sunday of Advent

## Embrace Advent

Happy New Year! A new liturgical year has begun with the season of Advent. With all things Christmas already crying out for our attention, it is hard to give Advent our full attention.

In Advent, we look back while also looking forward. We look back to the remarkable truth that God entered human history in the person of Jesus. This truth is magnified in its wonder by the corresponding truth that God chose to enter human history through the person of Mary; a young woman of absolutely no significance. Yet, Mary heard the call of God to her, wrestled with that call, and then gave her assent to that call so that the great work of salvation could be accomplished through the Son she would bear. Reflecting back on these twin truths, we have occasion to ponder the depth of God's love for us. God chose to enter fully into our humanity, sharing in all aspects of our humanity save for sin, so that we might one day share in God's own divinity. As we ponder God's great love for us, we also reflect upon Mary's remarkable faith and trust in God. Nothing prevents us from following Mary's example. We simply need to do as she did. We need to enter into a living relationship with God in which we come to experience the immense love of God for us so that it makes sense for us to say "Yes" to whatever God asks of us because we know that God cannot fail us.

Let me offer two prayers to keep us focused on this Advent season.



*Good and gracious God, how remarkable is your love for me! How is it that you would choose to enter our humanity for my sake in the desire that I might one day share in your own divinity? In this Advent season, keep my heart attentive to all the ways you manifest your love for me daily and help me live in a way that others will experience in me your immense love for them.*

*Beloved Mary. Thank you for saying, "Yes," to God and so becoming the mother of our Savior. Help me to give God the attention that you gave to God that I might hear God's voice calling forth the good from me. Help me to grow in faithfulness to your Son this Advent season so that I can commemorate his birth with a joyful heart and anticipate his coming for me with gladness and thanksgiving.*

As our prayer to Mary reminds us, Advent is also a time to prepare ourselves for when Jesus will return at the end of history; the end of our personal histories, our deaths, and the end of this world. Are we striving each day to embody in our lives the values of Jesus Christ? Are we persons of compassion whose compassion embraces all and excludes none? Do we strive to offer mercy and forgiveness to all? Where such forgiveness is difficult for us, do we seek the grace of Jesus to heal our wounds and so free us to forgive? Do we desire the well-being of all persons without exception which is the love Jesus commands us to have for all persons? Are we making every day a little Christmas as Jesus becomes incarnate in the world through us? If so, then we have nothing to fear as we anticipate the end of our history, as we will simply be swept up into the everlasting love of Jesus.

A third Advent prayer could be this:

*Jesus, help me to remember the blessing it is to be your incarnation each day in all that I say and do. May others encounter in me what I have encountered in you; a love that is merciful and compassionate. May my death be my Bethlehem; my being born into your everlasting love.*

Blessed Advent!

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

## Parish Mission Statement

The love of Christ impels us to welcome all,  
to worship joyfully and pray fervently,  
to walk together with those in need,  
and to reverence God in the wonder of Creation.

## This Week at a Glance

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 2nd

**All Hearts Together:**

**A Mass for the LGBTQ+ Community.**

**7 PM. Church. Details at right.**

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3rd

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.**

**6 PM. Church. Details below.**

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4th

**SCRIPTURE CLASS | The Ox and Lamb Kept Time:**

**A Spirituality of Animal Companions.**

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

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul.**

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

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6th

**CONCERT | A Chanticleer Christmas.**

**8 PM. Church. Details on page 3.**

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7th

**Snow Ball Dance.**

**7 PM. Wallace Hall. Details on page 3.**

## Bambinelli Sunday

**December 15th**

**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.

## Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

**Tuesdays, December 3rd to December 17th**

**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.

## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

### Christmas Angels Gift Project Through Sunday, December 15th

*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 15th*.

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

### Annual Toy Drive Through Sunday, December 22nd

*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*

### All Hearts Together: A Mass for the LGBTQ+ Community

**Monday, December 2nd**

**7 PM**

**Church**

*PRESIDER*

*Fr. Bryan Massingale*

Join us for a special Mass in observance of  
World AIDS Day. Let's join together in  
faith and solidarity, lifting up the LGBTQ+  
community and all affected by HIV/AIDS.

Reception to follow  
in Wallace Hall.

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook at *stignatiusnyc*.

## Snow Ball Dance

Saturday, December 7th at 7 PM  
Wallace Hall

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+)

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/snowballdance](http://ignatius.nyc/snowballdance)  
or scan the QR code at left.

## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul welcomes all St.  
Ignatius parishioners to volunteer with us—and join us  
at our meetings for prayer, reflection, spiritual growth,  
fellowship, and community service year-round. All  
levels of involvement are appreciated.

Our regular meetings take place every other Wednesday at  
7 PM in the Parish House. Our next meeting is scheduled  
for Wednesday, December 4th—and all are welcome!

For more information,  
please contact us at [svdpmembership980@gmail.com](mailto:svdpmembership980@gmail.com).

## Annual Christmas Caroling

Sunday, December 8th  
2 PM to 2:45 PM

Vista Assisted Living Residence  
1261 Fifth Avenue (between 107th and 108th Streets)

We've got the music and the songs. All we need is you!

Come join our annual Christmas Caroling  
event and start the holiday season with a  
song. And while you're having a great time,  
you will bring Christmas joy to others.

## NYC Jesuit Alumni Mass and Social

Sunday, December 8th at 7:30 PM  
Church

Young Alumni (20s and 30s) of Jesuit schools and  
their friends are invited to our 7:30 PM Mass  
on Sunday, December 8th.

Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Patrick Nolan, S.J., who  
serves as the vocation director of the USA East Jesuits  
and was a former parishioner. He will be joined by Fr.  
Brendan Gottschall, S.J. Join for a social following Mass  
at Carlow East.

Questions? Email [pnolan@jesuits.org](mailto:pnolan@jesuits.org).

## Concerts at St. Ignatius

### A Chanticleer Christmas

Friday, December 6th at 8 PM &  
Sunday, December 8th at 4 PM in the Church

"A Chanticleer Christmas" brings with it warmth,  
light, familiar carols, and joy. This year's program  
is full of new arrangements of well-known tunes,  
presented with impeccable style and virtuosity  
by San Francisco's "Orchestra of Voices."

Equally at home in the worlds of Classical, Jazz, or  
Pop, Chanticleer weaves back and forth between  
styles to present an evening of wonder and  
merriment. The group begins with their traditional  
candlelight processional, and concludes with a  
litany of crowd-pleasers, coming to a raucous  
close with Joseph Jennings's classic Spirituals. We  
can't wait to celebrate the season with you!

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

## Scripture Class

### The Ox and Lamb Kept Time: A Spirituality of Animal Companions

Wednesdays, December 4th to December 18th  
7 PM in the Parish House & on Zoom

Animals have long been associated with the  
Christmas creche. Moreover, non-human creatures  
play significant roles in key stories of salvation  
history. Our presentations and discussions  
will explore biblical, theological and spiritual  
perspectives on our animal companions. Brian  
B. Pinter, Pastoral Associate, will present.

To register, email [pinterb@saintignatiusloyola.org](mailto:pinterb@saintignatiusloyola.org).

## Meeting Christ in Prayer

### Holy Listening: Advent and Beyond

Mondays, December 9th to January 13th  
7 PM  
Zoom

Are you looking for an opportunity to share your  
response to Scripture with others? Join us for six  
weeks of faith-sharing in a structured and welcoming  
listening environment. We will share our responses to  
an upcoming Sunday reading and then our responses  
to each other's shares. This is ideal for past participants  
of Meeting Christ in Prayer, but all are welcome. The  
program will take place on Zoom.

To register, visit [tinyurl.com/SILHolyListening](http://tinyurl.com/SILHolyListening).

# 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.

### 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

Jen Arvay Kefalas Robert Reuter  
Daniel Beckwith Michael Sheetz  
Christina Kay Elizabeth Van Os  
Douglas Purcell  
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

Pattie Hughes

### 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 8th

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

## 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 2nd

(1st Monday of Advent)

Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122

Matthew 8:5-11

**8:30 MEM** Ciro Saracino

**12:10 ANN** Daniel F. Kelly

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

### Tuesday, December 3rd

(St. Francis Xavier)

1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

Psalm 117 Matthew 16:15-20

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

**12:10 MEM** Gregorio Dizon

**5:30 MEM** For All Priests

### Wednesday, December 4th

(1st Wednesday of Advent)

Isaiah 25:6-10a Psalm 23

Matthew 15:29-37

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

**12:10 MEM** Richard Lai

**5:30 MEM** Jack Kehoe

### Thursday, December 5th

(1st Thursday of Advent)

Isaiah 26:1-6 Psalm 118

Matthew 7:21, 24-27

**8:30 MEM** Caroline Choix

**12:10 MEM** Mario Sumberac

**5:30 MEM** Margaret & Joseph  
Phelan

### Friday, December 6th

(1st Friday of Advent)

Isaiah 29:17-24 Psalm 27

Matthew 9:27-31

**8:30 MEM** The Meehan Family

**12:10 MEM** Marlene Minch

**5:30 MEM** Reginald Lewis

### Saturday, December 7th

(St. Ambrose)

Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26 Psalm 147

Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

**8:30 ANN** Thomas Flammer

### Sunday, December 8th

(2nd Sunday of Advent)

Baruch 5:1-9 Psalm 126

Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11 Luke 3:1-6