



March 9, 2025 | First Sunday of Lent

A Lent Like No Other

To my mind, Lent comes at the perfect time of year: the middle-to-end of winter. In the Northeast, it is still chilly. The sunlight is a pale gold, reminding us that the full bloom of spring flowers is still out of reach. The trees, in their bare elegance, symbolize the need for hibernation, the need to turn inward. Along with these natural reminders, the Liturgical Calendar invites us to take a break from the routine and the everyday. We enter the Paschal Mystery with Jesus Christ, renewing our commitment to live unselfishly and love openly.

The season of Lent is an invitation to take stock of our lives: Where am I going? Where can I improve in my relationships—with God, others, and myself? Lent is a formal time of preparation for Easter and our chance to reflect. We are called to pray more, sacrifice deeply, focus on service, and renew our trust in God, letting go of the pride that mistakenly tells us we can “do” life on our own terms.

Lent is also a special time for 26 men and women at St Ignatius Loyola. These adults are part of the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)—the way adults are welcomed into the Catholic Church. While their formal preparation began in September of 2024, their journey with God began much earlier. Some have known God their whole lives, while others have only recently been made aware of God’s personal and abiding presence. They all have one thing in common: a sense that God is calling them—each of them—by name.

Today at the 11 AM Solemn Mass, Fr. Yesalonia, our Pastor, will lead us in the Rite of Sending and the Rite of Call to Continuing Conversion. The first rite officially affirms the readiness of our catechumens (those adults preparing for Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist). The second rite recognizes our candidates seeking to complete their Christian Initiation or to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church.

Then in the afternoon, our catechumens will join hundreds of other adults from parishes across the Archdiocese at the Rite of Election, where Cardinal Dolan will officially accept the catechumens’ desire to become Catholic as they enter the final phase of preparation for the Easter Sacraments. They will each write their names in the Book of the Elect, signifying that God has chosen them.

During this time, I am reminded of my own experience of becoming Catholic in April of 2004 (21 years ago). I was clearly called by Christ but was unprepared for my loved ones’ reactions. My friends, most of whom were raised Catholic, had mixed emotions ranging from thinking I had “gone off the deep end” to their wide-eyed curiosity of my being able to choose this religion for myself. My family struggled to understand while I struggled to find words to help them understand. It was challenging at times, but saying yes to God and joining the Catholic Church remains one of the most important decisions of my life.

I also recall that particular Lent seemed so long. My hunger for the Eucharist grew in leaps and bounds daily as we approached the Easter Vigil. Looking back, it was a blessing to have time to pray, come close to Jesus, and trust God—with everything. It was the most graced time in my formation. It was truly a Lent like no other.

During Lent, let’s include these men and women in our prayers—that their ‘yes’ to God’s call will reverberate in their hearts for the rest of their lives. Let us also pray for our Parish community, that we may be a shining example of Christ’s light in the world to all people, each of whom God calls by name.

— Skye Christina Angioletti
OCIA Team Member

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 9th

Lenten Blood Drive.

9 AM to 3 PM. McKinnon Hall.

Details at right.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11th

**From Famine to Fifth Avenue:
An Irish Journey of Resilience.**

1 PM. Wallace Hall.

Details on page 3.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12th

Lenten Service & Lecture.

**6 PM. Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Cathedral of the
Holy Trinity, 337 East 74th Street.**

Details on page 3.

Sustaining Hope Through Forgiveness.

7 PM. Parish House & Zoom.

Details at right.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13th

**Lenten Book Discussion: Come, Have Breakfast
by Sr. Elizabeth Johnson.**

1 PM. Zoom.

Details below.

Ignatian Social Justice Meeting.

7 PM. Parish House.

Laudato Si' Ministry

**Lenten Book Discussion:
Come, Have Breakfast
by Sr. Elizabeth Johnson**

*Facilitated by Jean Santopatre,
Pastoral Associate & Mark Hallinan, S.J.*

Please buy the book *Come, Have Breakfast: Meditations on God and the Earth* by Elizabeth A. Johnson. You will receive the weekly reading schedule when you register for this program.

We will begin on Thursday, March 13th from 1-2 PM via Zoom. Please email santopatrej@saintignatiusloyola.org to register for this discussion and get the Zoom link

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook at [stignatiusnyc](#).

Lectures at St. Ignatius

The Long Pilgrimage of Dorothy Day

Monday, March 31st at 7 PM

Wallace Hall

Robert Ellsberg will reflect on Day's long life "on pilgrimage," and the way her faith was tested by daily life and the challenges of history.

ABOUT THE PRESENTER



Robert Ellsberg is the long-time publisher and editor-in-chief of Orbis Books. In his youth he worked with Dorothy Day for the last years of her life, including two years as managing editor of "The Catholic Worker." He has gone on to edit six volumes of her writings, including her diaries, "The Duty of Delight," and letters "All the Way to Heaven," and his most recent: "Dorothy Day: Spiritual Writings." He was a founding member of the Dorothy Day Guild and was appointed by the archdiocese to serve on the Historical Commission charged with preparing her cause for canonization.

In addition, he is known for his many books about saints and holiness, including "All Saints: Daily Reflections on Saints, Prophets, and Witnesses for Our Time," "A Living Gospel," and "Blessed Among Us," drawn from the daily reflections he has written for "Give Us This Day" over the past fifteen years.

Lenten Blood Drive

Sunday, March 9th

9 AM to 3 PM

McKinnon Hall, 48 East 84th Street

Donations save lives!

To schedule your appointment
to donate, scan the QR code.



Sustaining Hope Through Forgiveness

Wednesdays, March 12th to April 9th

7 PM

Parish House & Zoom

The virtue of hope affirms that, despite the darkness, the powers of truth and light will prevail. Forgiveness is a life-orientation that breaks cycles of retribution and allows one to reorient in hope toward the present and future.

Our gatherings will explore biblical, theological, and spiritual perspectives on how forgiveness nurtures hope, and practical wisdom for living into these ideals.

Brian B. Pinter, Pastoral Associate, will present.

RSVP to pinterb@saintignatiusloyola.org.

Ignatian Interfaith Ministry

Lenten Service & Lecture

Wednesday, March 12th at 6 PM

Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity

PRESENTER: Fr. Timothy Hojnicky



Are you looking for another Christian perspective on observing Lent? Join the Ignatian Interfaith Ministry as we attend a Lenten Service and lecture as guests of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity.

There will be a presanctified Liturgy at 6 PM at the Cathedral at 337 East 74th Street (between 1st and 2nd Avenues). This will be followed by a light Lenten dinner in the Cathedral's hall at 7:30 PM with the presentation to follow shortly after that by Fr. Timothy Hojnicky on the topic "Lazarus, Come Forth: A Reflection on Death and Resurrection in the Orthodox Tradition".

To RSVP by Monday, March 10th, email ignatianinterfaithministry@gmail.com.

From Famine to Fifth Avenue: An Irish Journey of Resilience

Tuesday, March 11th at 1 PM
Wallace Hall

Put on your green and join Circle of Friends for *From Famine to Fifth Avenue: An Irish Journey of Resilience*.

Dr. Elizabeth Stack, the Executive Director of the American Irish Historical Society (991 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY), will discuss the broad history of the Irish in New York, from their part in the early labor struggle to their role in city politics, their service in the military, their contributions to culture and literature and the evolution of the 1st St. Patrick's Day Parade here in New York City.

You don't have to be Irish to appreciate this talk about the Irish contributions to America!

**Advance registration required.
Please RSVP to silcircleoffriends@gmail.com.**

Parish Digital Publications

To access our Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Report, visit ignatius.nyc/annual-reports.

The Vision Statement Implementation Plan and the Laudato Si' Action Platform can be found at ignatius.nyc/mission-and-values.

Back to Basics 3.0

Naming Saints in the Catholic Tradition

Wednesday, March 19th at 7 PM

Wallace Hall

PRESENTER: Fr. Mark Hallinan, S.J.

Join us for this presentation on naming Saints in the Catholic tradition as part of our annual series on what it means to be Catholic.

"Pilgrims of Hope": Parish Pilgrimage to Rome

Dear Parishioners,

Over the holidays lots of people were asking me about the pilgrimage to Rome and they mentioned how excited they were about such a unique itinerary and so many places that our group will be accessing only because of our Jesuit connections.

Now that the holidays are over, it's time to encourage you to plan and join the pilgrimage before it's too late! The registration deadline is April 30, but a number of people are in the process of signing up, and we are over half subscribed.

In case you haven't seen it yet, here is the trip brochure and the registration form:
ignatius.nyc/hilbert-2025-italy-brochure/

Our program in Rome is being organized by the Catholic Travel Centre, a trusted team who are familiar with Jesuit organizations!

Highlights of the pilgrimage will be, for example, daily Mass in a Jesuit church: the first Jesuit novitiate church, designed by Bernini; the church where St. Ignatius celebrated his first Mass; and the chapel where St. Ignatius died. And of course the four Roman Basilicas with their Holy Doors that we will visit to gain the special graces of the Jubilee of Hope.

The hotel where we will be lodged, the Radisson "Roma Antica," is a brand new 5-star hotel in the center of Rome, and I have arranged dinners at some of my favorite restaurants. Our group will be 30-35 persons, and most transfers will be on private motor coaches.

The pilgrimage will begin on the evening of Thursday, November 13, 2025, and end on Sunday, November 23, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. When the registrations are closed, I will be in touch with the "Pilgrims of Hope" with further information and a schedule of two preparatory meetings in September and October.

Father Yesalonia and I are feeling the anticipation and praying that the graces of the Holy Year continue to be poured down on the parish family, graces of unity and blessed hope. — **Fr. Hilbert**

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

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 March 16th

Saturday Vigil 5:30 PM Fr. Casciotti
Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Casciotti
9:30 AM Fr. Yesalonia
Wallace Hall 11:00 AM Fr. Yesalonia
Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Hallinan
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, March 10th

(First Monday of Lent)

Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18 Psalm 19
Matthew 25:31-46

8:30 MEM Irene von Jelen
Salerno

12:10 MEM Margaret & Peter
Voorhies

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

Tuesday, March 11th

(First Tuesday of Lent)

Isaiah 55:10-11 Psalm 34
Matthew 6:7-15

8:30 MEM The Meehan Family

12:10 MEM Elsa Schenkel

5:30 MEM Patricia Larkin

Wednesday, March 12th

(First Wednesday of Lent)

Jonah 3:1-10 Psalm 51
Luke 11:29-32

8:30 MEM The Choix & Gordon
Families

12:10 MEM Melody Nobo Vincent

5:30 MEM Charles O'Donnell

Thursday, March 13th

(First Thursday of Lent)

Esther C 12, 14-16, 23-25
Psalm 138 Matthew 7:7-12

8:30 MEM John & Nora Reilly

12:10 MEM Virginia Zaccagnino

5:30 MEM Living & Deceased
Members of the Wallace Family

Friday, March 14th

(First Friday of Lent)

Ezekiel 18:21-28 Psalm 130
Matthew 5:20-26

8:30 MEM William & Ann Reilly

12:10 MEM Sodeli Medrano

5:30 MEM Mario Daiuto, David
Deporis & Suhair Koura

Saturday, March 15th

(First Saturday of Lent)

Deuteronomy 26:16-19 Psalm 119
Matthew 5:43-48

8:30 MEM Jack O'Leary

Sunday, March 16th

(Second Sunday of Lent)

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18 Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17-4:1 Luke 9:28b-36