



March 16, 2025 | Second Sunday of Lent

Cutting Spending and Sacrificing Lives

The Trump administration's decision to effectively terminate the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is already having profound consequences throughout the world and could contribute to the destabilization of entire regions.

USAID was initially established through an executive order signed by then-President John F. Kennedy in 1961 in response to the Foreign Assistance Act of the same year. The Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act in 1998 established USAID as its own agency separate from the State Department. This raises questions as to the legality of the administration's actions in folding USAID into the State Department while substantially curtailing its work.

In 2024, USAID spent \$40 billion of the \$68 billion that the United States allocated for foreign aid programs with USAID providing critical assistance in the areas of health care, food, clean water, and crisis response. Although the United States was the world's largest foreign aid donor, our foreign aid programs represented only 1% of the federal budget. Elon Musk, charged with eliminating fraud, waste, and abuse from the federal government, has a particularly strong animus toward USAID, calling it a "viper's nest of radical-left Marxists who hate America."

Caritas Internationalis, the Catholic umbrella organization for 162 relief and development agencies working in more than 200 countries and territories around the world, was strong in its response to the dismantling of USAID programs. Alistair Dutton, Secretary General of Caritas, stated: "Stopping USAID abruptly will kill millions of people and condemn hundreds of millions more to lives of dehumanizing poverty. This is an inhumane affront to people's God-given human dignity, that will cause immense suffering..." In an NPR interview, Bill Gates also argued that the shuttering of USAID would put millions of lives on the line. Rob Nabor, North America Director of the Gates Foundation has stated: "There is no foundation – or group of foundations – that can provide the funding, work force capacity, expertise or leadership that the United States has historically provided to combat and control deadly diseases and address hunger and poverty around the world."

What types of programs are now being eliminated?

In war-ravaged Sudan, half the population of 50 million needs food aid while famine is spreading. The USAID suspension has halted national food programs serving millions and shuttered hundreds of community kitchens that operate in areas too dangerous for major aid organizations to enter.

Suspension of USAID programs have halted efforts to contain a deadly hemorrhagic Marburg outbreak in Tanzania, the spread of an mpox variant killing children in West Africa, as well as the monitoring of a deadly bird flu that has been identified in 49 countries.

In extremely volatile regions, USAID provided programs aimed at fostering greater stability. USAID sponsored a project that helped communities manage water stations in Niger to avert conflicts in a region already under threat from Islamic extremists. In Basra, Iraq, USAID helped repair water treatment plants after contaminated water caused violent social unrest. USAID created the Famine Early Warning Systems Network to enable aid workers to identify potential threats to food security and to take action to prevent them. In Kenya, USAID created a program to train young people to repair motorcycles offering them an alternative to recruitment by terrorist organizations. USAID helped farmer cooperatives in Kenya get fast-growing seeds that could grow with little water. USAID has sponsored research in United States universities to develop more nutritious, higher-yielding seeds that could better withstand heat and unpredictable rains – a critical need in light of climate change. All of these programs will now be lost.

It is true that there were problems with USAID, but those problems could have been addressed without effectively eliminating the agency. Dr. Catherine Kyobutungi, executive director of the African Population and Health Research Center, recently stated: "People will die but we will never know, because even the programs to count the dead are cut."

— Rev. Mark 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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19th

Back to Basics 3.0: Naming Saints in the Catholic Tradition.

7 PM. Wallace Hall.

Details on page 3.

Sustaining Hope Through Forgiveness.

7 PM. Parish House & Zoom.

Details at right.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

7 PM. Parish House.

Details on page 3.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20th

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

1 PM. Zoom.

Details below.

FRIDAY, MARCH 21st

Saint Thérèse: The Musical.

7 PM. Wallace Hall.

Cost: Free Will Offering.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22nd

Stations of the Cross.

9 AM. Church.

Details on page 3.

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 meet from 1-2 PM via Zoom.
Please email santopatrej@saintignatiusloyola.org
to register for this discussion
and get the Zoom link

Lectures at St. Ignatius

The Long Pilgrimage of Dorothy Day

Monday, March 31st

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.

The Annual Change for Change Drive

Donations this year will be forwarded to the Society of Jesus in Southern Africa.

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.

Sustaining Hope Through Forgiveness

Wednesdays, through 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.

Stations of the Cross: Saturdays in Lent
Through April 12th at 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: There will be Stations of the Cross on Wednesday, April 16th, at 7:30 PM in the Church.

Lenten Food Drive
Through Sunday, April 13th

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul and the Interparish Religious Education Program will accept food donations for the Church of the Ascension. Please bring non-perishable foods to the Parish House.

Requested Donation Items:

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|----------|-----------------|-----------------|
| - Spices | Canned fish | - Peanut butter |
| - Pasta | - Canned fruit/ | - Olive oil |
| - Cereal | vegetables | - Granola |
| - Rice | - Soup | bars |
| - Beans | | |

Archdiocesan Day of Reconciliation
Monday, April 14th

CONFESSIONS
3 PM to 5 PM, 6 PM to 8 PM in the Church.

Let's have a Sock Hop!

It's time to have some fun and dance. So, ladies, get the bobby socks and poodle skirts out of the mothballs. Gents, get those white socks washed and the penny loafers polished. In the meantime, practice your jitterbug routines.

If you are interested in participating on a committee to plan a Sock Hop for Saturday night, May 17th, please contact Marguerite Lucarelli at sockhop@saintignatiusloyola.org.

Parish Digital Publications

To access our Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Report, visit [ignatius.nyc/annual-reports](https://www.ignatius.nyc/annual-reports).

The Vision Statement Implementation Plan and the Laudato Si' Action Platform can be found at [ignatius.nyc/mission-and-values](https://www.ignatius.nyc/mission-and-values).

Back to Basics 3.0

Naming Saints in the Catholic Tradition
Wednesday, March 19th
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.

Concert

Westminster Cathedral Choir, London
Sunday, April 6th
4 PM
Church

Westminster Cathedral Choir is widely considered to be one of the finest choirs in the world. Since its foundation in 1901, it has occupied a unique and enviable position at the forefront of English church music, not least because of the ground-breaking work of its first Master of Music, Sir Richard Terry, who revived the great works of the English and continental Renaissance composers.

The choir's fame grew under Terry as it presented this forgotten music, transforming attitudes to the repertoire.

Innovation continued under George Malcolm who pioneered the development of the choir's sound along continental lines, resulting in a choir that was truly revolutionary in both what and how it sang. The choir continues these traditions today, and it remains the only Catholic Cathedral choir in the world to sing daily Mass and Vespers. More recent holders of the post have included Colin Mawby, Stephen Cleobury, David Hill, James O'Donnell, and Martin Baker. Since September 2021, the choir has been directed by Simon Johnson.

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

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.

Our regular meetings take place every other Wednesday at 7 PM in the Parish House. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 19th—and all are welcome!

For more information, please contact us at svdpmembership980@gmail.com.

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 March 23rd

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

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 17th

(Second Monday of Lent)

Daniel 9:4b–10 Psalm 79

Luke 6:36–38

8:30 MEM Charles Denihan

12:10 MEM Michael Rena

5:30 MEM Charles Rena

Tuesday, March 18th

*(St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed
Virgin Mary)*

Isaiah 1:10, 16–20 Psalm 50

Matthew 23:1–12

8:30 LVG Marie Ayala

12:10 MEM Margaret Schroeder

5:30 MEM Theresa Troilo

Wednesday, March 19th

(St. Joseph)

2 Samuel 7:4–5a, 12–14a, 16

Psalm 89 Romans 4:13, 16–18, 22

Matthew 1:16, 18–21, 24a

8:30 MEM Carla Fendi

12:10 MEM Laurence Fell

5:30 MEM Bill Hassett

Thursday, March 20th

(Second Thursday of Lent)

Jeremiah 17:5–10 Psalm 1

Luke 16:19–31

8:30 MEM Patricia Romano

12:10 MEM Helen Regan

5:30 MEM Marie Louise Alby

Friday, March 21st

(Second Friday of Lent)

Genesis 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a

Psalm 105

Matthew 21:33–43, 45–46

8:30 MEM Rosemarie Astegher

12:10 ANN Jay Moyer

5:30 MEM Nathan Davidson

Saturday, March 22nd

(Second Saturday of Lent)

Micah 7:14–15, 18–20 Psalm 103

Luke 15:1–3, 11–32

8:30 MEM Maureen Hallifey

Sunday, March 23rd

(Third Sunday of Lent)

Exodus 3:1–8a, 13–15 Psalm 103

1 Corinthians 10:1–6, 10–12

Luke 13:1–9