



April 27, 2025 | Second Sunday of Easter

Doctor, Will You Pray for Me?: Medicine, Chaplains and Healing the Whole Person

As a medical intern, I once treated a young woman with metastatic breast cancer. Every morning, her sparkling blue eyes looked up at me with hope. I did as much as possible for her medically, but unfortunately, her cancer spread further. She developed ongoing fevers and nausea, and soon rarely glanced at me when I entered her room. Most days, she lay on her side, fatigued, her face turned to the wall.

She was Catholic, and one day, I noticed that a priest had started visiting her. A week later, when I entered the room, she looked up at me again and smiled. I sensed that she felt a renewed connection to something beyond her.

Sadly, she died a month later but had seemed far less despondent. Her priest had offered her something that I could not.

Patients with serious disease and their families commonly feel fear and despair and come to value spiritual and religious beliefs. Seventy-two percent of Americans believe in the power of prayer. Attendance at religious services has also been associated with lower risk of death, suicide and substance abuse, and less depression.



Yet hospitalized patients and their families often are unable to attend their houses of worship or don't have one. Chaplains thus fill crucial gaps. As the religious makeup of the U.S. has changed in recent years, their profession has begun to do so, too. Board-certified chaplains are now increasingly trained to help patients of diverse beliefs. To learn what they do, I recently conducted an in-depth study, speaking with 50 chaplains from across the country and from different faiths, and wrote a book, *Doctor, Will You Pray for Me?: Medicine, Chaplains and Healing the Whole Person*, presenting the extraordinary inspiration and insights I found.

One chaplain, for instance, told me about a despondent patient who was dying and felt that his life was not worth living and that he was a burden to others. The chaplain picked up a piece of bread from the patient's meal tray and said, "Bread is really amazing, isn't it? Just to enjoy the taste of a piece of bread! Maybe life is not meant to be lived according to external accomplishments. What if it's okay just to enjoy the days you have?" The patient brightened and felt a renewed sense of meaning.

Often, chaplains are the only staff with time to talk to patients, whom they can therefore get to know well. Every night at 2 AM, one patient phoned the on-call nurse, complaining of pain. The staff tried altering his medicine without success. Finally, a chaplain spoke to the patient, who turned out to be carrying significant guilt from his mother's suicide when he was 18. When the chaplain arranged for the man's elder siblings to talk about it, they were "aghast," the chaplain told me. "They reminded him that their mother had mental health issues: 'Don't you remember?'" It was like a 50-pound weight had been lifted. After that, he never again called the nurses at night."

Chaplains also serve as critical mediators in conflicts among patients, families and physicians. At another hospital, a teenager who was dying wanted to donate his organs. Soon he was brain dead and on life support, which surgeons planned to remove in the operating room. The boy's family wanted to be present when he died, but the surgeons refused for fear that they'd disrupt the procedure.

Presented with an impasse, a chaplain negotiated a solution: The family would dress in sterile gowns and stay in the theater for three minutes. The family and physicians sang "Amazing Grace," the boy's favorite song. When he died, the mother said to the chaplain: "Thank you for that gift.... We got to sing my son into heaven."

To countless families and patients, chaplains, I saw, offer invaluable gifts.

— Dr. Robert Klitzman, MD

Join us on Monday, April 28th at 7 PM in Wallace Hall, as Dr. Klitzman presents the program *Doctor, Will You Pray for Me?*, which will explore how patients and their families seek and find sources of hope, meaning, purpose and connection, and how hospital chaplains often help. For more information, see page 3.

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, APRIL 28th

To Walk Humbly and Act Justly.

6 PM. Parish House.

Details on page 3.

LECTURE | Doctor, Will You Pray for Me?

7 PM. Wallace Hall.

Details on page 3.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30th

To Dare the Audacity of Darkness:

Selected Writings of Hope from

Pope Francis and Fethullah Gülen.

7 PM. Parish House.

Details on page 3.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting.

7 PM. Parish House.

Clothing Michelangelo's David: Sculpture as Political Power

Tuesday, May 13th

1 PM

Wallace Hall

PRESENTER

**John Paoletti, Emeritus Professor of Art History,
Wesleyan University**

Michelangelo Buonarroti (1475-1564) was in his early twenties when he was commissioned to create a statue representing the Biblical hero, David. However, Michelangelo's David is unlike other depictions of this Biblical hero. What is different about Michelangelo's depiction of David? What does this statue really mean? To whom was it addressed? Is this David really who we think he is?

Come join Circle of Friends and learn about the backstory of this brilliant and controversial masterpiece.

**Registration is required. Please register at
silcircleoffriends@gmail.com.**

To receive our weekly email newsletter,
scan the QR code or visit ignatius.nyc.



Electronic Methods to Donate to the Parish

A Donation Kiosk has been installed at the back of the church. Using it is quite simple—just select a fixed amount or an amount of your choosing and tap with your mobile device.

To learn more about the parish or to donate while sitting in a pew, signs have been affixed to the backs of the pews. Simply point your mobile device on the QR code under the heading, *Monetary Contribution*. The other QR codes may be used to access information about the parish.

The Harlem Family Institute and Its Coming Family & Child Development Center

**Monday, May 5th at 7 PM
Wallace Hall**

Join us as three of the Institute's leaders will offer a panel discussion about this institute unique among New York's many psychoanalytic training institutes, unique because of its focus on taking affordable training and treatment out to underserved communities.

Panelists are Michael Connolly, parishioner, Dr. Paula Klinger, principal strategic consultant to the Institute, and Rev. Sheila Johnson, who leads the Institute's clinical subsidiary as it establishes the new clinic. All three are psychoanalysts who are taking a lead in what is coming to be called community psychoanalysis.

The Spring Appeal is Underway!

The Spring Appeal is an important source of funds for the many ministries and ordinary operations of the parish.

Please support your parish and contribute to the 2025 Spring Appeal.



To give online, visit ignatius.nyc/annual-appeal or scan the QR code at left.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Lady Chapel Open for Private Prayer

The Lady Chapel is open daily for private prayer from 1 PM to 4 PM.

During those hours, the Church will be closed.

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook at [stignatiusnyc](https://www.instagram.com/stignatiusnyc).

Sock Hop

Saturday, May 17th at 7 PM
Wallace Hall

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.



Tickets: \$25

To purchase tickets, visit ignatius.nyc/sock-hop or scan the QR code at left.

Third Annual Parish Art Show

Thursday, May 8th to
Saturday, May 10th
Wallace Hall

Are you ready to unleash your inner Picasso or Ansel Adams and dazzle the parish community with your artistic flair? Then, grab your pencils, your paintbrushes, or your finest lens, for it's your time to shine. Be they masterpieces or happy accidents, we invite you to submit your work to our annual Parish Art Show.

Any non-digital media can be submitted: photographs, paintings, drawings, pastels, watercolors, etchings, linocuts, lithographs, collages, mixed media, sculpture.

All artists aged 18 and over are invited to submit.

You can submit up to two pieces (more if we have the space). All submissions (except sculptures) must be framed and ready to hang. Maximum size is limited to 3 feet by 3 feet; sculptures are limited to 25 pounds.

Pre-registration is required. **Sign up online at ignatius.nyc/artshowreg.** *The last day to register is Wednesday, April 30th. Don't miss out!*

Submissions are to be dropped off at the Parish House on Thursday, May 1st (6 PM to 9 PM), Friday, May 2nd (6 PM to 9 PM), and Saturday, May 3rd (10 AM to 2 PM).

You can offer the work for sale or display it. If your work is sold, all sale proceeds will go to the parish. All art must be family-friendly.

The Art Show will open in Wallace Hall on Thursday, May 8th, at 6:30 PM. The art will remain on display until Saturday, May 10th, at 2 PM.

For more information, email silartshow@gmail.com.

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Lectures at St. Ignatius

Doctor, Will You Pray for Me?

Monday, April 28th at 7 PM
Wallace Hall

PRESENTER

Prof. Robert Klitzman, M.D.,
Director of the Masters of Bioethics Program,
Columbia University

Patients and families often struggle with religious, spiritual and existential quandaries, especially when confronting the end of life. This lecture will explore how these individuals seek and find sources of hope, meaning, purpose and connection, and how hospital chaplains often help.

To Walk Humbly and Act Justly

Monday, April 28th, from 6 PM to 7:30 PM
Parish House

Please join us for a wine and cheese social with members of the Temple Shaaray Tefila congregation as we explore ways in which we can join forces to address issues of social justice in New York City and beyond.

Back to Basics 3.0

Sacraments of Healing: Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick

Wednesday, May 7th at 7 PM
Grammar School's McKinnon Hall

PRESENTER

Fr. Dennis Yesalonia, S.J.

Join us for this presentation on sacraments of healing as part of our series on what it means to be Catholic.

To Dare the Audacity of Darkness:

Selected Writings of Hope from Pope Francis and Fethullah Gülen

Wednesday, April 30th at 7 PM
Wallace Hall

Mr. Hakan Yesilova, Editor of *The Fountain Magazine*, and Father Dennis Yesalonia, S.J., Pastor of the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, will discuss the nexus between faith and hope from a Muslim and a Christian perspective. The abiding relevance and the need for hope will be explored through the writings and teachings of both Islamic scholar, Fethullah Gülen, and Pope Francis.

Co-sponsored by Peace Islands Institute New York and the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola

CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA

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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 to Friday)

8:30 AM, 12:10 PM, and 5:30 PM

Saturday: 8:30 AM

Masses for Next Weekend:

Saturday Vigil 5:30 PM Fr. Hilbert
Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Hallinan
9:30 AM Fr. Hallinan
Wallace Hall Family 11:00 AM Fr. Yesalonia
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, April 28th

(Second Monday of Easter)

Acts 4:23-31 Psalm 2 John 3:1-8

8:30 MEM Richard Braddock

12:10 MEM Patrick Clare

5:30 MEM Patricia Rittereiser

Tuesday, April 29th

(St. Catherine of Siena)

Acts 4:32-37 Psalm 93

John 3:7b-15

8:30 LVG For All Priests

12:10 MEM Michael Pellegrino

5:30 LVG For All Priests

Wednesday, April 30th

(Second Wednesday of Easter)

Acts 5:17-26 Psalm 34

John 3:16-21

8:30 LVG For All Priests

12:10 MEM Emily McPadden

5:30 MEM William Powers

Thursday, May 1st

(Second Thursday of Easter)

Acts 5:27-33 Psalm 34

John 3:31-36

8:30 MEM Ciro Saracino

12:10 LVG Marc LeDrappier

5:30 MEM Angelo Magliocco

Friday, May 2nd

(St. Athanasius)

Acts 5:34-42 Psalm 27 John 6:1-15

8:30 LVG For All Priests

12:10 LVG For All Priests

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

Saturday, May 3rd

(Ss. Philip & James)

1 Corinthians 15:1-8 Psalm 19

John 14:6-14

8:30 MEM Elizabeth Higgins

Sciutto & Ernest Sciutto

Sunday, May 4th

(Third Sunday of Easter)

Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41

Revelation 5:11-14

Psalm 30 John 21:1-19