



# CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA

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January 28, 2007

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## *CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK*

I always look forward to writing a few words each year at this time as Parishes around the nation focus on celebrating Catholic Schools in America. Saint Ignatius Loyola Parish has been steadfast in its stewardship for two educational programs, the Day Nursery and the Grammar School, both of which have long celebrated histories of serving the children of Yorkville and other neighborhoods in the Metropolitan area. Jointly, we welcome over six hundred children through our doors on a daily basis. This is a testament to our families who arrived at the conscious decision to make their children's faith development an integral part of their educational journey.

In the beginning of the school year, I asked my faculty to reflect on why they are here at Saint Ignatius Loyola Grammar School. How did they come to be Catholic educators and why do they embrace it as their vocational calling? In honor of Catholic Schools Week, which begins today, Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, I thought I would share with you some of our teachers' reflections about Catholic Education. I also would like to extend an invitation to each of you to walk through our doors on 84<sup>th</sup> Street today after the 11:30AM Mass and take a tour of our fine school, which so many children have called home for one hundred and fifty-two years.

*“Catholic education is the teaching of life lessons, not solely the teaching of various subjects matter. Teachers and students strive toward a common goal~ to lead a more Christ-like life. Teaching here is an opportunity and a vocation.”*

*Kindergarten Teacher*

*“I believe it is our responsibility to provide a well grounded education, instilling in our students the teachings and values of Jesus Christ so that they may emulate His ways in their daily lives.”*

*Sixth Grade Teacher*

*“I believe that in Catholic education the faculty must work closely with the parents, who are the children's primary educators. We can assist them in raising their children to develop and use their spiritual, physical, moral and intellectual gifts in an harmonious way in a manner that is consistent with Scripture.”*

*Fifth Grade Teacher*



***“It is my role as a Catholic school educator to create a learning environment for young people that will enable them to grow in mind, body and spirit so that they can be open-minded and life long learners actively engaged in the teachings of Jesus Christ.” Seventh/Eight Grade Teacher***

***“Catholic education offers children a nurturing place to learn about God, self and others.”  
Technology Teacher***

***“I believe strongly that a Catholic education seeks to provide students with a spiritual and intellectual foundation grounded in the teachings of the Catholic Church.”***

***Third Grade  
Teacher***

It gave me so much joy to read all of the comments from the faculty regarding their commitment to Catholic education. Time and time again, one statement after another, all forty reflections shared a common thread: coming together each day at Saint Ignatius Loyola Grammar School with a strong unified commitment and voice to provide an exemplary education rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ. How comforting it is for our parents and guardians to know that in this ever-changing and sometimes unsettling world, their children are receiving a clear and loving message. During the most formative years of development, our students are being provided with a firm and lasting foundation upon which to build. As a Catholic school educator for over thirty-four years, I have witnessed firsthand the fruits of a Catholic school education: students develop lifelong habits of mind, heart and soul that serve them and others so very well. Please join me in celebrating the spirit of Catholic education, and in thanking God for our Parish, our school, our teachers, our parents, and, most of all, our children.



**Grace M. Cavallo**

**Saint Ignatius Loyola Grammar School  
Principal**

## **JOB NOTICE**

The Church of St. Ignatius Loyola is seeking to hire a part-time director of high school youth ministry to expand its existing community service program into a comprehensive program to meet the pastoral needs (i.e., faith and spiritual formation; leadership/discipleship development; commitment to service; social growth) of parish and local teens. Candidates must be Roman Catholic, possess an understanding of adolescents and their spiritual development, and hold a master's degree in theology, pastoral theology or religious education, or currently be enrolled in a master's program in one of these areas. Previous experience in Catholic youth ministry or secondary education, and work with young people of diverse cultural backgrounds preferred. Compensation (which does not include health benefits) will be competitive and commensurate with experience and educational background. By Feb. 28, 2007, please send cover letter, resume and references to Rev. Gerald Blaszcak, SJ, Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, 980 Park Avenue, NY, NY. Direct all email inquiries to Ms. Diane Boyle at: [boyled@saintignatiusloyola.org](mailto:boyled@saintignatiusloyola.org).

## **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK**

In celebration of Catholic Schools Week, the children and parents of Saint Ignatius Loyola Grammar School extend a cordial invitation to you to join them, after the 11:30 a.m. Mass, for light refreshments and a tour of our school. Tours will take place from 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.  
Please join us!

In addition, don't miss a Tour of the Church led by Joanne Cunneen, immediately following the 11:30AM Mass.