As someone who worked at Ground Zero in the days and weeks following 9/11 I rejoiced to hear that Osama bin Laden’s long reign of terror, which had dealt death, destruction, and untold misery to millions across the world, had finally come to an end. As a Christian, though, I cannot rejoice at the death of a human being, no matter how monstrous he was.

Christians are in the midst of the Easter Season, when Jesus, the innocent one, not only triumphantly rose from the dead but, in his earthly life, forgave his executioners from the cross, in the midst of excruciating pain. Forgiveness is the hardest of all Christian acts. (Love, by comparison, is easier.) It is also, according to Jesus, something that is meant to have no limit. No boundaries. Peter once asked him how often he was supposed to forgive. Seven times? “Not seven times,” answered Jesus, “but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.” In other words, times without number. “Forgive your brother or sister from your heart,” he said. This is not to negate the place of judgment and justice in God’s eyes, for denying these things would mean that we believe in a God who cares not for human affairs. But judgment and punishment, says Jesus, are up to God.

So the question is whether the Christian can forgive a murderer, a mass murderer, even – as in the case of Osama bin Laden – a coordinator of mass murder across the globe. I’m not sure I would be able to do this, particularly if I had lost a loved one. But as with other “life” issues, we cannot overlook what Jesus asks of us, hard as it is to comprehend. Or to do.

For this is a “life” issue as surely as any other. The Christian is not simply in favor of life for the unborn, for the innocent, for those we care for, for our families and friends, for our fellow citizens, for our fellow church members or even for those whom we consider good, but for all. All life is sacred because God created all life. This is what lies behind Jesus’s most difficult command: “I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.”

It is also what lies behind the Vatican’s official statement, which balances the desire for an end to terror with the sanctity of life, no matter how odious the person: “Osama bin Laden, as we all know, bore the most serious responsibility for spreading divisions and hatred among populations, causing the deaths of innumerable people, and manipulating religions for this purpose. In the face of a man’s death, a Christian never rejoices, but reflects on the serious responsibilities of each person before God and before men, and hopes and works so that every event may be the occasion for the further growth of peace and not of hatred.”

And it is what was behind the most Christian of acts by Pope John Paul II, beatified on the same day that Osama bin Laden was killed. Perhaps the confluence of events is providential. As someone who lived under Nazism and Communism, John Paul was no stranger to terror or murder. But he also was a Christian who knew the centrality of forgiveness, even for the most grievous of crimes. In 1980, he was the victim of an assassination attempt by Mehmet Ali Agca, a Turkish ultra-nationalist. One of Blessed John Paul’s first acts after his recovery was to journey to Agca’s jail cell and offer him the costly grace of forgiveness.

Osama bin Laden was responsible for the murder of thousands of men and women in the United States, for the deaths and misery of millions across the world, and for the death of many servicemen and women, who made the supreme sacrifice of their lives. I am glad he has left the world. And I pray that his departure may lead to peace.

But as a Christian, I am asked to pray for him and, at some point, forgive him. And that command comes to us from Jesus, a man who was beaten, tortured, and killed. That command comes from a man who knows a great deal about suffering. It also comes from God.

– Rev. James Martin, S.J., is an assisting priest at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola. This essay first appeared on America magazine’s blog “In All Things.”
**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

**MONDAY, MAY 9th**
Ranger Rosary Ministry. 7:00 PM. Meeting Room. Since August 2009, over 1500 rosaries have been completed. Supplies and instructions are provided and new members are always welcome!

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 11th**
Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting. 7:00 PM. Conference Room. All are welcome.

**THURSDAY, MAY 12th**
Scripture Reflections Group. 7:00 PM. Conference Room. Led by Fr. Robert O’Brien, S.J., of the St. Ignatius Jesuit Community. All are welcome.

Training Session for New Eucharistic Ministers. 7:00 PM. Church. Details on page 5.

**SATURDAY, MAY 14th**
9:30 AM & 11:30 AM. Church. First Holy Communion. IREP Students.

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**COMING SOON!**

The Annual Spring Appeal makes it possible for the work of St. Ignatius Parish to continue throughout the spring and summer months.

As you make your summer plans, please consider also making a gift to the Annual Spring Appeal. Our goal is $200,000 and we will keep you posted on our progress. Appeal letters should be received in the mail this week.

If you do not receive a letter, or would like more information about the Appeal, please contact our Director of Development, Mary Reed, at reedm@stignatiusloyola.org or 212-288-3588 x632.

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**United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Launches First Fridays for Food Security Event on Facebook**

On the first Friday of each month from May 6th, 2011 to April 6th, 2012, Catholic families and individuals can participate in First Fridays for Food Security, as a way to raise awareness about food insecurity in the United States and help Catholics pray and act for those in need.

Catholics can take part by limiting meal spending on the first Friday of each month to the amount allotted for a family of their size in the USDA Modified Thrifty Food Plan. This food plan is used as the basis for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly called food stamps). In 2009, 17.4 million United States households experienced food insecurity.

The event’s page on Facebook provides a forum for Catholics to leave comments about their experiences and access learning and prayer resources.

For additional information, visit www.usccb.org

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**On behalf of Pastor George Witt, S.J., and the Staff of Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, best wishes for a blessed Mother’s Day.**
**Visit to the Islamic Cultural Center**

1711 Third Avenue

Thursday, May 12th
6:15 PM

Join BOOMERS & BEYOND for an evening of education, enrichment, and enlightenment on the basic beliefs of Islam both as a religion and as a way of life.

IMAM SHAMSI ALI will meet us to discuss Islam and the history and architectural significance of the Mosque. Following Imam Ali’s talk, there will be a question and answer period and an opportunity to observe an evening prayer service.

(It is suggested that women wear a head covering while in the Mosque.)

Meet at the 96th Street entrance of the ISLAMIC CULTURAL CENTER (which is located at 1711 Third Ave.).

This invitation is open to ALL Boomers, married or single. Please take the opportunity to participate in this unique experience!

For more information, or to RSVP (by Monday, May 9th), email: boomersandbeyond.eastside@gmail.com (preferred) or call: 646-241-1332

You can also register online at www.boomersandbeyondnyc.com

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**Tri-CRI**

Tri-CRI is an organization of 40 Roman Catholic religious orders and dioceses with a 30+ year history of socially responsible investing.

In making decisions about managing resources and investments, Tri-CRI views local and global economies not only in terms of production and distribution, but also by their effects on the environment and the dignity of the human person.

To learn more about Tri-CRI and its mission, please visit www.tricri.org

To learn more about socially responsible investing and other topics, please email ignatiansocialjustice@gmail.com

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**SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY READING GROUP**

Monthly Meeting:

Tuesday, May 17th at 7:15 PM
in the Conference Room

In preparation for this meeting, please read


For additional information, contact Chris Carney at ccarney123@gmail.com or 914-316-3068 or Meg Gottemoeller at megcorp@aol.com

New members are always welcome!

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**First Communion**

Sunday: May 22nd
11:00 AM
Wallace Hall Family Mass

All of the boys and girls who made their First Holy Communion this spring are encouraged to wear their Communion suits and dresses to this Mass.

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**BOOMERS & BEYOND**

Visit to the
Islamic Cultural Center
1711 Third Avenue
Thursday, May 12th
6:15 PM

Have You Registered?

If St. Ignatius Loyola is where you regularly worship, we invite you to fill out a Parishioner Registration Card located in the pew racks, at the Parish House, and online at: www.stignatiusloyola.org

Having your name in our records is the only way we can certify that you are a practicing Catholic.

If you move or if your email address changes, please be sure to notify us so that we can update our records.
Announced Masses and Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday, May 9th
(Third Monday of Easter)
8:30 ANN Julia Anne O'Donnell
12:10 ANN Peter B. Voorhies
5:30 MEM Catherine Scanlon

Tuesday, May 10th
(St. Damien Joseph de Veuster of Moloka'i)
Acts 7:51 – 8:1a   Psalm 31   John 6:30-35
8:30 MEM Giro Zullo
12:10 MEM Valentino Mazzia
5:30 MEM Maria Mannarino

Wednesday, May 11th
(Third Wednesday of Easter)
Acts 8:1b-8   Psalm 66   John 6:35-40
8:30 MEM James Johnson
12:10 MEM Mimi F. Meehan
5:30 MEM Kathleen Ann Bartone

Thursday, May 12th
(St. Nereus and St. Achilleus)
8:30 MEM The Bernabei Family
12:10 MEM Kathleen Ann Bartone
5:30 MEM Kathleen Ann Bartone

Friday, May 13th
(Our Lady of Fatima)
8:30 MEM Kathleen Ann Bartone
12:10 MEM Jack O'Leary
5:30 MEM Mary Mottino

Saturday, May 14th
(St. Matthias)
Acts 1:15-17, 20-26   Psalm 113   John 15:9-17
8:30 MEM Terence Walsh

Sunday, May 15th
(Fourth Sunday of Easter)
Acts 2:14a, 36-41   Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:20b-25   John 10:1-10

Prayer Booklets for the Easter Season are available at the Parish House for one dollar. Authored by the late Bishop Kenneth Untener of Saginaw, Michigan, the booklet offers brief prayers and reflections for each of the fifty days of the Easter Season.

Pastoral Visits Available for Homebound and Ill Parishioners
Parishioners have been trained for the ministry of pastoral visiting to the homebound and chronically ill in our Parish.

If you are interested in having a visit arranged for yourself or for another person, please contact Sr. Kathryn King at:
212-288-3588 or kingk@stignatiusloyola.org

You’ve notified your friends, you’ve notified your credit cards, you’ve notified your magazines. Please don’t forget to notify your church.

This information helps us to keep our database current, and cuts down on the cost of additional postage. Thanks!

WEDDINGS
Stephen Blake Murillo and Melissa Jo Kline
Matthew Kenneth Del Percio and Caroline Renyi
Patrick Joseph Power and Caryn M. St. Clair

BAPTISMS
Benjamin Michael Cardillo
Felipe Caseiras
Claire Schmitt Dellicarpini
Sabrina Sienna Echavarria
Calister Caris Fenton
Michele Gracelyn Furano
Graham MacLean Hessle
Evelyn Marie Hester
Reed Daniel Lambert
Michael Vincent Longyear
Olivia Leigh Morici
Miles Langan Perkins
Grace Lynn Roche
Leonardo Luca Salerno
Vivienne Angelica Salerno
Elizabeth Kathryn Stanford
Olivia Mary Stenson

FIRST EUCHARIST
Evelyn Cooney
Liam Cooney

Prayer Booklets for the Easter Season

First Easter Booklet

Announced Masses and Scripture Readings for the Week

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8:30 MEM Terence Walsh

Sunday, May 15th
(Fourth Sunday of Easter)
Acts 2:14a, 36-41   Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:20b-25   John 10:1-10
We pray for the faithful departed
Bobbie Lee Boulware
Louise Campisi
May they rest in the peace of the Risen Lord

Proclaim the Word!
Lectors proclaim the Word of God during Mass and embody the Good News in their lives.
If you feel called to serve in this ministry at St. Ignatius Loyola, please contact Fr. Bergen at the Parish House: 212-288-3588.

Training Session for New Eucharistic Ministers
Those who are interested in serving as EMs at St. Ignatius Loyola are invited to attend a training session:
Thursday, May 12th from 7:00 – 9:00 PM or Sunday, May 22nd from 1:30 – 3:30 PM
For additional information, or to RSVP, contact Fr. Anthony SooHoo, S.J., by Monday, May 9th: 212-288-3588 (Parish House) or soohooa@stignatiusloyola.org

Take Note!
Children’s Choir Auditions
Auditions for the St. Ignatius Loyola children’s choir program will be held in the Parish House on the following dates and times:
Monday, May 16th from 3:15 – 4:30 PM for children rising into the 1st grade and current choir siblings.
Tuesday, May 17th from 3:15 – 4:30 PM for children rising into the 2nd – 8th grades.
No appointment or preparation is necessary.
Parents or caregivers should attend with their children to complete registration forms.
Call 212-288-3588 x 633 or email music@stignatiusloyola.org with any questions.

PRAYER SUGGESTION...
Sacred Space
We invite you to make a “Sacred Space” in your day and spend ten minutes in prayer, as you sit at your computer, with the help of on-screen guidance and scripture chosen specially every day.
Visit www.sacredspace.ie
Parenting in the 21st Century, Part II: Practical Steps to Raising Children of Character
Monday, May 16th at 7:00 PM
The Rochester Room, Church of St. Thomas More, 65 East 89th Street
Barbara Falk, M.Ed., is a nationally known speaker who encourages parents to take an active leadership role in the home and teach children the importance of virtuous living within the natural setting of the family. Visit with the speaker and share light refreshments following the presentation.
Free-will offering accepted.

Second Annual Healing Mass and Devotion to St. Dymphna, patroness of those suffering from emotional and psychological difficulties, autism, and Alzheimer’s disease.
Monday, May 16th at 7:00 PM
Cathedral of St. Patrick
For those afflicted, and for families, friends, and members of the medical community.
This healing Mass will include the communal rite of the anointing of the sick.

Coping with Chronic Pain: The Role of Spirituality and Religion
Wednesday, May 18th from 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Richard L. Menschel Education Center, Hospital for Special Surgery, 2nd Floor
535 East 70th Street
Speaker: Harold G. Koenig, MD, Director, Center for Spirituality, Theology, and Health, Duke University.
To register, visit www.hss.edu/pped

Weekday Masses Monday-Friday
8:30AM, 12:10PM and 5:30PM
Saturday: 8:30 AM
Masses for Next Weekend:
Saturday Vigil: 5:30 PM Fr. Witt
Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Witt
9:30 AM Fr. Dugan
Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Dugan
Wallace Hall 11:00 AM Fr. Witt
7:30 PM Fr. SooHoo

Music Information: (212) 288-2520 Email: music@stignatiusloyola.org

PARISH STAFF
Pastor
Rev. George M. Witt, S.J.
Pastoral Associates
Joanne Cunneen
Kathryn King, F.S.P.
Associate Pastors
Rev. William J. Bergen, S.J.
Rev. James L. Dugan, S.J.
Rev. Ugo R. Nacciarone, S.J.
Rev. Anthony P. SooHoo, S.J.
Assisting Priests (Sunday)
Rev. Philip G. Judge, S.J.
Rev. Stephen Katsouros, S.J.
Rev. James Martin, S.J.
Music Ministries
Kent Tritle, Director
Renée Anne Louprette
Nancianne Parrella
Robert Reuter
Mary Huff
Michael Sheetz
Philip Anderson
Erin Acheson, Administrator
Staff information: on the website at music/music staff
Director of Development
Mary Reed
Assistant to the Pastor
Diane M. Boyle
Administrative Assistant
Patricia Schneider
Director of Facilities/Events Coordinator
Czeslaw “Chester” Ciupinski
Treasurer
Fernando Castro

Religious Education for Children
Joanne Cunneen, M.A., M.S. Director
(212) 861-4764

St. Ignatius Loyola Grammar School
Ms. Mary Larkin, M.S. Ed.
Principal
48 East 84th Street
New York, NY 10028
(212) 861-3820 Fax: (212) 879-8248

St. Ignatius Loyola Day Nursery
Ms. Theodora Crist, M.S.
Executive Director
240 East 84th Street
New York, NY 10028
(212) 734-6427 Fax: (212) 734-6972

Children’s Liturgy of the Word:
Sundays at the 9:30 AM Mass and the 11:00 AM Mass in Wallace Hall.

Eucharistic Adoration: First Saturdays at 9:00 AM in the Lady Chapel.

Centering Prayer:
Mondays and Thursdays at 6:30 PM

Confessions:
5:00 PM Saturday or by appointment. Communal Penance Services are celebrated during Advent and Lent.

Baptisms: Please call Joanne Cunneen at the Parish House 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 call Joanne Cunneen at the Parish House to begin preparation for Marriage, normally one year in advance.

YOU’RE INVITED!
12th Annual Benefit Reception and Silent Auction for the Xavier Society for the Blind
Tuesday Evening, May 17th. 5:30 – 8:30 PM
New York Athletic Club
180 Central Park South at 7th Avenue
There will be drinks and hors d’oeuvres, the music of jazz guitarist Bill Wurtzel, and a silent auction.
Door Prizes – Raffle Prizes – and more!
Tickets: $125 per person
($75 of which is tax-deductible)
RSVP by Friday, May 13th
212-473-7800, x132 or visit www.xaversocietyfortheblind.org

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