May They Be One:
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

S
ince 1908, the Catholic church has been observing a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity extending from January 18th through January 25th, the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul.

The impetus for such a week originated with the co-founder of the Graymoor Franciscan Friars and was approved by the Pope at the time, Pope Saint Pius X. In the mid-twenties, many Protestant churches also began a formal octave of prayer for Christian unity. By 1948, with the founding of the World Council of Churches, the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity became officially recognized by Protestant and Orthodox churches throughout the world.

The desire for unity among Christians comes straight from the heart of Christ. This is so very clear in his prayer to the Father at the Last Supper. “Holy Father . . . I pray not only for these [the eleven apostles with him at table] but for those also who through their words will believe in me. May they all be one. Father, may they be one in us, as you are in me and I am in you . . . I have given them the glory you gave to me, that they may be one as we are one. With me in them and you in me, may they be so completely one, that the world will realize that it was you who sent me and that I have loved them as much as you loved me” (John 17:20-23). The current disunity among Christian churches must bring great sorrow to the heart of God.

Yet, from the beginning, there have been tensions and divisions in the Christian church. In the first century there was a struggle over whether a person had to become a Jew first in order to become a Christian. Some early Christians insisted on observing dietary regulations and other Old Testament laws in order to be part of the community. Fortunately, Paul’s emphasis on welcoming all people into the church prevailed.

The split between the Eastern and Western churches at the end of the 11th century divided Christians into the Catholic and Orthodox traditions. And in the 16th century, the Protestant Reformation divided Christians once again. Through the centuries there has been a bewildering proliferation of churches to the point that today there are reportedly some 38,000 Christian denominations throughout the world. This has to be a scandal for anyone hearing the fervent prayer of Jesus in John 17!

The Second Vatican Council was a turning point in fostering dialogue among Christian churches. In convoking the Council, Pope John XXIII said that he intended the Council “for the whole Church” and desired “to invite the separated Communities to seek again that unity for which so many souls are longing in these days throughout the world.” As a result of the Council, and the ecumenical movement that grew out of it, certain modest gains have been made. In particular, I think of the agreement reached in 1997 by the Catholic and Lutheran churches on the understanding of justification or how we become right with God. In more recent years, however, the ecumenical movement has been losing some of the robust momentum it had in the years following Vatican II.

We have to wonder. Was Jesus unrealistic to pray that we would live together in loving harmony? As with most things in this life, we have to take the long range view on this. The ecumenical movement is the great work of the Holy Spirit who began it. And the Christian churches must continue to work tirelessly to bring about the unity Christ prayed for. It would be a sign of little faith if we did not trust the Spirit to conduct this work to its fulfillment in God’s own time.

Rev. William J. Bergen, S.J.
Associate Pastor
THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15th
40s & Fabulous Inaugural Meet & Greet.
6:00 PM. Meeting Room.
Details below.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18th
Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting.
7:00 PM. Conference Room.
All are welcome!

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19th
God’s Club. 3:00 – 5:00 PM. Parish House.
A place for children 3–5 years of age and their parents or caregivers to enrich their faith through art, stories, and songs.

Scripture Reflections Group.
7:00 PM. Conference Room.
Led by Fr. Robert O’Brien, S.J., of the Murray-Weigel Jesuit Community in the Bronx. All are welcome.

THE 2011 ANNUAL COLLECTION
Thank you to those who have contributed to this appeal.
At present, the total stands at $401,080. The Annual Collection is very important to the financial well-being of our Parish.

If you have not yet made a donation, there are several ways to do so:
• by check
• through ParishPay (accessible via www.stignatiusloyola.org)
• by credit card
   (please contact Mary Reed, Director of Development, at 646-981-2632)
   Thank you!

Emmaus Bereavement Support Group
Tuesdays, January 31st to March 27th
7:00 – 8:30 PM in the Parish Lounge
A six session bereavement support group for men and women who have suffered the loss of a loved one three months or more prior to the beginning of the group. Led by trained facilitators, the group will explore the experience of loss, as well as some of the issues related to grief.

To register, contact Sr. Kathryn King at the Parish House
(212-288-3588) or kingk@stignatiusloyola.org

Meeting Christ in Prayer
Wednesdays, February 29th to April 25th
Morning Session: 9:30 – 11:00 AM
Evening Session: 7:00 – 8:30 PM
Parish Lounge
“Meeting Christ in Prayer” is an eight-week program of spiritual renewal based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. It is a fresh opportunity to encounter Jesus Christ, to grow in knowledge and understanding of Him, to imitate His love, and to renew one’s participation in His risen life. Each weekly gathering includes a guided meditation, faith-sharing, and orientation for the prayer of the following week. Open to both beginners in the spiritual journey and those committed to a prayer life for years, the commitment of participants is daily personal prayer of 30 minutes and an “examen,” or review of the day, in the evening.

Suggested scale for offering: $30 – $50 to cover materials.
To register, contact Sr. Kathryn King at the Parish House (212-288-3588) or kingk@stignatiusloyola.org

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40s & FABULOUS
Sunday, January 15th at 6:00 PM
in the Meeting Room
Inaugural Meet & Greet
Interested in meeting other parishioners in their 40s for fellowship, charity work, and social gatherings?
A new group is being formed here at St. Ignatius to bridge the gap between the Ignatian Young Adults and Boomers & Beyond. An inaugural “meet and greet” is planned for Sunday, January 15th in the Parish House Meeting Room. Please join us at 6:00 PM to discuss ways in which to grow this new ministry.

For more information, please join the 40s & Fabulous @ St. Ignatius Loyola group on Facebook at http://tinyurl.com/40sandfabulous or send an email to 40sandfabulous@gmail.com

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Now Available: Roman Missal CDs
Recorded by the Choir of St. Ignatius Loyola, this CD is designed to assist in learning the new sung responses in conjunction with the Revised Roman Missal.
Available at the Parish House at no cost.
1 per family, please.

February 2nd–5th: Men’s Retreat
at St. Ignatius Retreat House, Manhasset, NY
directed by Rev. Ugo Nacciarone, S.J.
A 3-day retreat for men focusing on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius.
Cost: $390 (incl. private room and all meals)
For information and reservations call Terri at 516-621-8300 x15 or visit www.inisfada.net

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   Thank you!
Mander Organ Recital Series:
International Concert Artist
CHRISTOPHER HOULIHAN
Sunday, January 22nd at 4:00 PM
featuring works by Bach, Ravel, Liszt, Saint-Saëns, and Vierne
Tickets are $20, or $15 for students and seniors, and are available in the Parish House, online at www.smssconcerts.org or by calling 212-288-2520.

Calling All Singers!
The volunteer choirs – Parish Community Choir, Canticum Sacrum and Wallace Hall Music Group – are looking for new members. Details and schedule information can be found in the Volunteer Choirs brochure in the Narthex, Wallace Hall literature rack, Parish House reception area, and online at www.stignatiusloyola.org
Be a part of the wonderful music you hear each Sunday!
For more information, or to schedule an audition, contact the Music Office at 212-288-3588 x612
WORLD MARRIAGE DAY
February 12, 2012
Longest Married Couple Search
The search begins for the longest married couple in the Archdiocese of New York!
To enter, couples must be sacramentally married for a minimum of 65 years and reside in the Archdiocese of New York.
The longest married couple(s) will be honored on Sunday, February 12th at St. Patrick’s Cathedral at the 10:15 AM Mass celebrated by Archbishop Dolan.
Reception to follow.
For further information or reservations, please contact Isabella Nagle at 646-794-3190 or izabella.nagle@archny.org

MORE Hot Topics presents: The Clash of Orthodoxies – Revisited. Monday, January 16th at 7:00 PM. The Rochester Room, Church of St. Thomas More, 65 East 89th Street. Speaker: Robert P. George, professor of Jurisprudence at Princeton University. His presentation will focus on marriage and life issues. Visit with the speaker and share light refreshments following the presentation. A free-will offering will be accepted. For details, call 212-876-7719.

Paul Wilkes Speaks on Thomas Merton. The first in the Living the Way Lay Spirits Speaker Series. Wednesday, January 25th at 7:00 PM. Mary Chapel, Church of St. Francis Xavier, 55 West 15 Street. Paul Wilkes is the producer of the film Merton, which examines the monk’s life and work through interviews with those who knew him. This is the first in a series of three talks being sponsored by the Lay Spirituality Program of the Church of St. Francis Xavier. Subsequent talks will focus on Dorothy Day and Anthony de Mello, S.J. For those who pre-register for all three events the suggested donation is $30. Please email layspirits@gmail.com or call 212-876-7719.

What Rules America: Money, Morals, or Myth? A Three-Way Debate. Wednesday, February 1st, 6:00 – 8:00 PM. Panelists include Robert Kuttner, longtime columnist for The New York Post, and author Susan Jacoby. Presented by the Fordham Center on Religion and Culture. Price Auditorium, Fordham University, 113 West 60th Street. Free and open to the public. RSVP: 212-636-7347 or CRCevent@fordham.edu For more information, visit www.fordham.edu/ReligCulture

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.
Assisting Priests (Sunday)
Rev. Philip G. Judge, S.J.
Rev. James Martin, S.J.
Rev. Anthony P. SooHoo, S.J.

Music Ministries
Scott Warren, Interim Director
Nancianne Parrella
Robert Reuter
Mary Huff
Michael Sheetz
Philip Anderson
Sara Murphy, 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

Weekday Masses Monday–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. Witt
Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Bergen
9:30 AM Fr. Witt
Wallace Hall 11:00 AM Fr. SooHoo
Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Ugo
7:30 PM Fr. SooHoo

St. Ignatius Loyola
Day Nursery
Ms. Theodore 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.

Visits to the Sick: Please contact the Parish House between 9:00 AM-9:00 PM.