The Transcendence and Immanence of God

“Music and song are more than an embellishment of worship; they are themselves a part of the liturgical action. Solemn sacred music…is not therefore a kind of addition that frames the liturgy and makes it more pleasing, but an important means of active participation in worship.”

–Pope Benedict XVI

A part of the liturgical action. A means of active participation. Notice how the Holy Father draws our attention to the idea of action in the context of liturgical celebration. This is consistent with the classic definition of liturgy: the work of the people. When we come to Mass, we bring an intent of action, rather than an unfocused passivity. One of the ways in which we do this is through song. The role of music ministers is to embrace and inspire participation in our communal prayer to a greater depth of awareness and understanding.

Inevitably the question arises: what form or style of music is most appropriate to facilitate the prayers of the congregation? Is this a theological question, or simply a matter of personal taste?

On the surface, it is a wholly legitimate question of taste. Some are drawn to the classical tradition, as embodied in the Solemn Mass, and some are moved by the folk, pop, and rock styles exemplified in the Wallace Hall Family Mass. Many of us are avid devotees of both, and appreciate the ‘blended’ worship of the 7:30 PM Mass. We go to the Mass that appeals to our sensibilities.

But let’s look a bit deeper for a moment. Could different styles of music carry an unspoken theological message? Often when we hear Gregorian chant, one of the great organ masterworks, or a favorite hymn of yesteryear, our minds are drawn to the lofty ‘otherness’ of God, or the transcendence of God. Folk- and pop-inspired hymns tend to impress upon us the nearness, or immanence of God. God with us. Consider these two hymns:

I will come to you in the silence, I will lift you from all your fear. You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice, be still and know I am here.
Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name. Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine.

–You Are Mine, Gather Hymnal, 627

Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face; Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

–Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven, Gather Hymnal, 531

Clearly, the first example emphasizes the nearness of the God who has come to live within us, and the second speaks of a God who lives and works in an existential realm far beyond our human comprehension.

Now before I’m accused of generalizing, let me point out that transcendence is not the exclusive domain of classical music, any more than immanence is the domain of pop music. In both styles of hymnody, one finds texts that illustrate both the transcendence and the immanence of God. For example, the third stanza of Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven begins:

Father-like he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows:
In his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.

The logical question now is: Where is God: “in here,” or “out there?” Our liturgy tells us that both are correct. Superficially this sounds simple and reasonable. But our Western, dualistic minds have a hard time with this. I have come to believe that when people get into an argument about the appropriateness (or lack thereof) of musical language in worship, they might actually be engaging in dialogue about the nature of God.

As finite humans, it is difficult for us to embrace this total nature of the divine. There are times in our lives when the sheer ‘otherness’ of God inspires us and calls us to a more fulfilling existence. In times of grief, we have drawn comfort from the God who dwells inside us. At St. Ignatius Church, we strive diligently with our music to speak to both expressions of divinity, and even move beyond them, to the realization that all is one. Our music staff is committed to the idea that all styles are needed, and all must be done well.

As we continue our Lenten journey together, my prayer is that our experience of God deepens beyond the dualities of our perception, and becomes for us an unending source of inspiration and comfort.

K. Scott Warren
Interim Director of Music Ministries

The annual Holy Week and Easter Music Fund is critical to our ongoing service to the Parish. This fund drive must raise $30,000 in order to ensure the continuation of the exemplary liturgical music that serves our community, in all the Masses, particularly during Holy Week. If you haven’t yet donated, the deadline is Friday, March 30. Thank you for your generous support.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21st (continued)

IYA Knitting/Crocheting Group.
7:00 PM. Conference Room.
Details on page 3.

Socially Responsible Investing.
Sponsored by Ignatian Social Justice.
7:00 PM. Meeting Room.
Details on page 3.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22nd

Meetings of the Thursday Evening Scripture Reflection Group are cancelled until further notice.

A seminar led by Rev. Francis T. Hannafey, S.J.
7:30 PM. Parish House. Details on page 5.

Ignatian Young Adults: Finding God in Lent.
7:00 PM. Loyola Chapel (enter through the Parish House).
Details on page 3.

FRIDAY – SUNDAY, MARCH 23rd-25th

Shelter Weekend.
Shelter Volunteers Urgently Needed!
We are in great need of volunteers to stay overnight with our shelter guests.
The shelter runs every other weekend (Friday-Saturday-Sunday) from November through April.
We serve 12 women each evening.
For more details, and to volunteer, please contact Chris Halem at chrishalem@yahoo.com or 917-494-7301.

CHANGE FOR CHANGE:
We are collecting donations throughout Lent for the Catholic Medical Mission Board.
The Collection period runs from Ash Wednesday to the end of April.
Loose change, bills, and checks (made out to “Church of St. Ignatius Loyola”) are welcome!
Please bring donations to the Parish House in care of Joanne Cunneen.
SUNDAY SOCIALS SCHEDULE
The IYA hosts socials for young adults (ages 21-39) in Wallace Hall from September through June following the Sunday evening 7:30 PM Mass.

To receive updates on IYA events and other opportunities, please sign up for our email list at http://tinyurl.com/IgnatianYoungAdults and follow us on Facebook at “Ignatian Young Adults (NYC)”

Finding God Series

Finding God in Lent
with Fr. Anthony SooHoo, S.J.
Thursday, March 22nd, 7:00 PM
Loyola Chapel (enter through the Parish House)

A workshop for those young adults who would like to learn more about the season of Lent – its history and practice throughout the ages and what it means for us in today’s world, especially its connection to the Eucharist. Mass will be celebrated after the workshop. To register, email Fr. SooHoo at soohooa@stignatiusloyola.org or call the Parish House at 212-288-3588.

IYA Knitting & Crocheting Group
Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 21st
7:00 – 9:00 PM in the Conference Room

All IYAs are welcome to join us as we craft for charity. Meetings are held on Wednesdays once or twice each month. All skill levels are welcome. If you have questions or would like to be placed on the mailing list, contact Molly at molly.nora@gmail.com

“Rejoice, O Jerusalem…”

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is called Lætare (“Rejoice”) Sunday, from the first words of the liturgy [Introit] quoted above. Since it is the middle of Lent, like Gaudete Sunday midway through Advent, Lætare reminds us of the Event to which we look forward at the end of the Penitential Season. As on Gaudete Sunday, rose-colored vestments may replace violet, symbolizing the Church’s joy in anticipation of the Resurrection.

– Lent/Easter Sourcebook for Families, ©1991
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 8TH

Please note the change in Mass times on Easter Sunday:

7:30 AM - Organ/Cantor
9:00 AM - Organ/Cantor
10:30 AM - Organ/Cantor/Choirs/Brass
11:00 AM (Wallace Hall Family Mass)
Piano/Choirs
NOON (Solemn) - Organ/Cantor/Choirs/Brass
7:30 PM - Organ/Cantor

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, March 19th
(St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary)
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 John Figge
12:10 MEM Anthony Potts, Jr.
5:30 MEM In Thanksgiving to St. Joseph

Tuesday, March 20th
(4th Tuesday of Lent)
Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12 Psalm 46 John 5:1-16
8:30 MEM Rose Bernabei
12:10 MEM Nicholas Napolitano
5:30 MEM Thomas Berger

Wednesday, March 21st
(4th Wednesday of Lent)
Isaiah 49:8-15 Psalm 145 John 5:17-30
8:30 MEM Anne Moore
12:10 MEM Mihaly Vestergom
5:30 MEM Nathan Davidson

Thursday, March 22nd
(4th Thursday of Lent)
Exodus 32:7-14 Psalm 106 John 5:31-47
8:30 MEM Helen Regan
12:10 MEM Klaus Peter Honig
5:30 MEM Thomas Leonard

Friday, March 23rd
(St. Toribio de Mogrovejo)
Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22 Psalm 34 John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
8:30 MEM Marjorie Cooney
12:10 MEM The Gilhooley Family
5:30 MEM Joyce Clifford

Saturday, March 24th
(4th Saturday of Lent)
Jeremiah 11:18-20 Psalm 7 John 7:40-53
8:30 MEM John B., John A., & Elizabeth A. Rooney

Sunday, March 25th
(5th Sunday of Lent)
Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 51
Hebrews 5:7-9 John 12:20-33

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a program of religious formation for young children, ages 3 and 4. It meets in the Parish House on Mondays from 3:00 – 4:30 PM and on Wednesdays from 2:00 – 3:30 PM. For more information contact Adele Gallo at amdgallo@me.com or 516-528-4660.

Lenten Resources:

New! The homepage of the New York Province of the Society of Jesus features a collection of resources, including video reflections by Jesuits of the New York Province, on Lent and the weekly readings. Visit www.nysj.org and click on “Lenten Resources.”

Pray as You Go
http://www.pray-as-you-go.org
Pray-as-you-go is a daily prayer session designed for use on your iPod or other portable MP3 player.

3-Minute Retreats
http://www.loyolapress.com/
Take a short prayer break right at your computer.

A complete list of Lenten activities, including Holy Week Mass times, can be found in our Lenten brochure. Copies are available in the Narthex, at the Parish House, and online at www.stignatiusloyola.org

What is different at Mass during Lent?
During the season of Lent, the word “Alleluia” is omitted at all Masses. The word is a Hebrew verb, halelu-yah, loosely translated as “Praise the Lord.” The last syllable, Yah, is an abbreviation of the sacred name of God. In the Hebrew Scriptures it occurs only in a few groups of psalms, which are songs of praise and joy. In the New Testament it occurs only at the end of the Book of Revelation to celebrate the victory of the Lamb of God. These are sentiments that are reserved for the full victory of Jesus at the resurrection, and so are omitted during Lent.

At the Easter vigil, “Alleluia” will be sung with great enthusiasm, for His victory is ours also.

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Dr. Beverly Musgrave discusses
The Sacred Relationship of Caregiving:
An Intergenerational Exploration
Monday, March 26th at 7:00 PM
Wallace Hall
Topics include:
- How to recognize some of the psychological and spiritual dimensions of transition.
- How to develop a new space in your heart for compassionate caregiving.
A wine and cheese reception will follow the talk.
RSVP: Sr. Kathryn King at kingk@stignatiusloyola.org or 212-288-3588.

Dr. Beverly Musgrave has a Ph.D. in psychology and is trained as a psychoanalytic psychotherapist and spiritual director. She is a licensed mental health counselor in New York State and has a private practice in New York City. Dr. Musgrave recently retired from Fordham University as a professor in pastoral care and counseling.
**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**

**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

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

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**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. Bergen

- **Sunday:**
  - 8:00 AM  
  Fr. Dugan  
  - 9:30 AM  
  Fr. Dugan

- **Wallace Hall**
  - 11:00 AM  
  Fr. Bergen  
  - 11:00 AM  
  Fr. Witt

- **Solemn**
  - 7:30 PM  
  Fr. Bergen

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**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

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**Easter Triduum Retreat (Silent):**

“No Greater Love.” Thursday, April 5th – Sunday, April 8th. St. Ignatius Jesuit Retreat House, 251 Searingtown Road, Manhasset, NY (Accessible by LIRR, Port Washington Line.)

Price: $390/pp private room; $345/pp semi-private; $320/pp commuters. Call 516-621-8300 x15 for registration and additional information, or visit www.inisfada.net

**Institute for Spirituality in the Workplace 2012 Pilgrimages:**

- **Along the Pathways of Sts. Thomas and Francis Xavier: A Pilgrimage to India.**  
  October 1st -15th, with Fr. Joe Costantino, S.J.  
  Total cost, including airfare and taxes, all breakfasts and 7 dinners: $3,995. Early Bird Special: $3,950.

- **In the Footsteps of Our Lord: A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.**  
  November 7th – 16th with Fr. Ugo Nacciarone, S.J.  
  Total Price: $2,995. Early Bird special: $2,895.

**For more information, contact Angie Cruz, Ph.D. at cruzangie@yahoo.com or angiecruzphd@gmail.com or call 212-807-0484.**