Giving Thanks

Eleven days from today the nation will once again be celebrating Thanksgiving Day. This is a wonderful civic holiday, a very American holiday, with roots that go back almost 400 years to colonial times. After surviving their first winter at Plymouth, Massachusetts, the first settlers celebrated a day of thanksgiving to God for the bountiful blessings God had given them. Following in their path, American Presidents from George Washington to Barack Obama traditionally compose a formal proclamation announcing this national day of thanksgiving.

The Catholic Church has never declared Thanksgiving Day a Church feast day, although I often wish it would. Thanksgiving is so rich with religious meaning, and has always been central to Christian prayer. It both amuses and annoys me that the secular world so artfully avoids any reference to God on this holiday! It amuses and annoys me because it seems so obvious that if we are giving thanks it should be to someone.

I visited a large card store last week to look over their greeting card selection for Thanksgiving Day. Most cards were an expression of thanks for the beauty of autumn! References to God were simply not there. Here is a fairly typical example:

The wonders of the season are all around us.
Let us give praise for nature’s precious gifts.

It sounds as if that praise were going off into thin air somewhere! There isn’t a hint of to whom the praise is directed. Who is being thanked? Who is being praised? To have a Thanksgiving Day without someone to thank seems empty and meaningless.

There are countless reasons to thank God. Three thousand years ago the ancient Hebrews formulated blessings for every circumstance of their lives. They had a blessing for the good times and for the bad. As far as they were concerned, the human race had a duty to pronounce a blessing on the joys and on the sorrows of life because the whole of life comes from God.

The Israelites understood that the giving of thanks is not an activity to be taken up at certain times and set aside at other times. Rather, thanksgiving was to be a way of life for them and the foundation of their relationship to the God who was always steadfast in His love and fidelity for them.

Nowhere is this more conspicuous than in the Hebrew Psalms. For example, we read in Psalm 34: “I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise shall be on my lips continually.” The thought of blessing God at all times should not be an uncomfortable notion for Catholic Christians for whom the Eucharist (from the Greek word for “giving thanks”) is the central act of worship.

What we give thanks for every time we celebrate the Eucharist is for the life and for the passion and death of Jesus. We don’t bless the good parts of his life and curse the rest. We believe it is all one piece, one single tapestry.

The coming of Thanksgiving Day is an opportunity for all of us to thank God for the mixed blessings of our life – for the things we welcome as well as for the things we would wish to avoid. This is because we believe that God is somewhere to be found in everything that happens to us. And that, in the words of St. Paul, “All things work together for good for those who love God.”

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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13th
Christmas Angel Project Begins This Weekend!
See details on page 5.

Sunday Social. 8:30 PM. Wallace Hall.
Hosted by the Ignatian Young Adults (follows the 7:30 PM Mass).
All young adults (ages 21-39) are welcome.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15th
Getting Through the Holidays:
A presentation by Sabina Fila, LCSW
7:00 PM. Parish Lounge.
Details on page 5.

Spiritual Community Reading Group Monthly Meeting. 7:15 PM.
Conference Room. Details on page 3.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16th
Organ Recital:
Paul Jacobs. 7:30 PM. Church.
Details on page 4.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17th
Ignatian Volunteer Corps Information Session.
Details on page 5.

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.

Concrete, Steel & Paint:
Film and Discussion.
Hosted by Ignatian Social Justice.
7:00 PM. Wallace Hall. Details on page 5.

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.

FRIDAY – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18th – 20th
Shelter Weekend. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Chris Halem at the Parish House.

Special Collection Next Weekend: Campaign for Human Development

Too many Americans find themselves one paycheck away from financial instability. The Catholic Campaign for Human Development is working to fight poverty at its core by funding community-led organizations that help people help themselves.

CCHD’s work comes from the heart of Christ's love for the poor. Your support will help change communities for the better. Thank you for your generosity in next weekend’s CCHD Collection.

Office of the Archbishop
1011 First Avenue
New York, NY 10022

November 13, 2011
Year for Mass

Dear Friends in the Lord,

As you may recall, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has set aside Thanksgiving Day – when our nation gives thanks to the Lord for his many blessings – as the holiday affording us an opportunity to “give a little something back” to those less fortunate than ourselves.

Thus it is that I ask you to be as generous as possible in our Thanksgiving Day special collection so that the archdiocese is able to continue to provide for so many of the needs of those who are hungry, homeless, and physically and mentally afflicted throughout the year. Your contribution, distributed by Catholic Charities, will be used for affordable housing, new jobs, food pantries, and numerous other programs aimed at providing some assistance to make the lives of our needy brothers and sisters in the Lord somewhat easier. It is for this reason that I urge you to be as generous as possible in your donation.

In addition to your financial support, I ask you to keep the less fortunate in your prayers. Be assured that you and your family will have a very special remembrance at my Mass and in my prayers on Thanksgiving Day.

With prayerful best wishes, I am,

Faithfully in Christ,
Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of New York

PLEASE OPEN FOR PAGES 3 AND 4
THE BOOK OF THE DEAD
During the month of November, we remember our loved ones who have died. A Book of the Dead has been placed on the altar of the Jesuit Boy Saints (at the back of the church, on the 84th Street side).
Individuals are invited to write the names of deceased loved ones in this book, which will be kept on the altar during Masses until the Feast of Christ the King on Sunday, November 20th.
Departed loved ones will be remembered in prayer at all Masses during the month.

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR GENEROSITY NOW
PLEASE REMEMBER US LATER!
Remember St. Ignatius in Your Estate Plan.
Leave a legacy to the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola by including a bequest in your will.
Please contact Mary Reed, Director of Development at 212-288-3588 x632 or reedm@stignatiusloyola.org

IGNATIAN YOUNG ADULTS

Sunday Socials Fall 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.

Sunday Social Dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nov. 13</th>
<th>Nov. 27</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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)”

Now on sale in the Parish House:

**EATS & SWEETS**

**EATS & SWEETS** is a collection of over 25 recipes for appetizers and desserts served at the 2010-2011 IYA Sunday Socials. Professionally bound with full-color photos throughout, **EATS & SWEETS** is not your average church cookbook!

Cookbooks are on sale for **$20 in the Parish House.**
All proceeds benefit the Young Adult Ministry at St. Ignatius Parish.

Prayer Shawl Ministry is an outreach program to the sick by St. Ignatius Loyola Parish. The care and love of knitting and crocheting are combined into a prayerful ministry that reaches those in need of blessing and comfort. Prayer is knitted/crocheted into every shawl. Completed shawls will be donated to Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.
Interested participants simply sign up, knit or crochet away, and bring the completed shawl to the Parish House.
To sign on as a participant, contact Sr. Kathryn King at the Parish House (212-288-3588).
Further instructions can be obtained at www.shawlministry.com

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.

Spiral-bound Parish bulletin containing information about Church events and activities.
Mander Organ Recital Series:

PAUL JACOBS
2011 Grammy Winner:
Best Instrumental Soloist Performance
(Without Orchestra)
Organ Department Chair,
The Juilliard School

Wednesday, November 16th
at 7:30 PM
Edward Elgar: Sonata in G Major, Op. 28
Wayne Oquin: Reverie (2008)
Florence Beatrice Price: Suite for Organ (1940)
Nadia Boulanger: Trois Pieces (1911)

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.

The Annual Christmas Concerts: Joyeux Noël!

Sundays, December 11th and 18th at 4:00 PM

K. Scott Warren, Robert Reuter, Mary Huff and Michael Sheetz Directors

Celebrate Christmas with a French twist! The St. Ignatius Choirs are featured in this delightful holiday presentation of French masterpieces for the season, including Poulenc’s Quatre motets pour le temps de Noël and the Saint-Saëns Christmas Oratorio.

Tickets are going quickly. They are available in the Parish House, online at www.smssconcerts.org or by calling 212-288-2520.
IGNATIAN VOLUME CORPS

Information Session: Thursday, November 17th
11:15 AM – Noon in the Parish Lounge

IVC is an organization of men and women who are retired from full-time work and want to use their talents to help others. Volunteers commit two days per week to working directly with those who are economically poor and marginalized or with organizations that address issues that affect the poor.

For more information, or to confirm your attendance, please contact IVC Regional Director Liz McMahon at 201-618-6924 or emcmahon@ivcusa.org

IGNATIAN SOCIAL JUSTICE

CONCRETE, STEEL, & PAINT

A film by Cindy Burstein and Tony Heriza
Thursday, November 17th at 7:00 PM
Wallace Hall

When men in a Pennsylvania state prison join with victims of crime to create a mural about healing, their views on punishment, remorse, and forgiveness collide.

This complex story raises important questions about crime, justice, and reconciliation – and dramatically illustrates how art can facilitate dialogue about difficult issues.

The 55-minute film will be followed by a discussion panel with Tony Heriza (the film’s producer) and Madaline Keros of the Community of Sant’Egidio.

RSVP to ignatiansocialjustice@gmail.com
For more information about Concrete, Steel, & Paint visit www.concretefilm.org

WEBSITES FOR THE NEW ROMAN MISSAL:

www.USCCB.org/romanmissal
The official website for the New Roman Missal

www.archnyliturgy.org
Website of the Resource Committee for the New Roman Missal in the Archdiocese of New York

www.fdlc.org
Website of the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions containing a variety of publications on the New Roman Missal

Getting Through the Holidays

A presentation by Sabina Fila, LCSW
Tuesday, November 15th
7:00 PM in the Parish Lounge

Before the holiday season descends, we offer an evening of education and reflection for those who have experienced various losses through death, employment, home loss, relocation, or other circumstances, past or present.

Set in a prayerful context, participants will have the opportunity to learn and share strategies for coping during the holidays.

For additional information, or to register, please contact Sr. Kathryn King at 212-288-3588 or kingk@stignatiusloyola.org

IGNATIAN SOCIAL JUSTICE

CHRISTMAS ANGEL PROJECT:
Begins This Weekend!

It has become a tradition at St. Ignatius for our parishioners to purchase Christmas gifts for parishioners in low-income parishes. Beginning this weekend, participants will be able to select Angel cards from one of the tables that will be placed in the Narthex and Wallace Hall. Cards will also be available at the Parish House while the supply lasts.

Gifts must be returned to the Parish House no later than Sunday, December 4th.

ALSO....

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul invites you to participate in its Annual Turkey Drive.

A donation of $30 will help the Yorkville Common Pantry purchase a 12-pound turkey, side dishes, and dessert for one of the many families in the pantry program.

Please make your check payable to:
The Society of St. Vincent de Paul
and bring it to the Parish House. Thank you!

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

CHRISTMAS ANGEL PROJECT:
Begins This Weekend!

It has become a tradition at St. Ignatius for our parishioners to purchase Christmas gifts for parishioners in low-income parishes. Beginning this weekend, participants will be able to select Angel cards from one of the tables that will be placed in the Narthex and Wallace Hall. Cards will also be available at the Parish House while the supply lasts.

Gifts must be returned to the Parish House no later than Sunday, December 4th.

ALSO....

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul invites you to participate in its Annual Turkey Drive.

A donation of $30 will help the Yorkville Common Pantry purchase a 12-pound turkey, side dishes, and dessert for one of the many families in the pantry program.

Please make your check payable to:
The Society of St. Vincent de Paul
and bring it to the Parish House. Thank you!

Upcoming Talk at St. Ignatius Loyola about the Revised Roman Missal

Mystery of Faith/Agnus Dei
Monday, November 21st
Rev. Anthony SooHoo, S.J.
Assisting Priest
7:00 PM - Wallace Hall
Volunteers Needed:
Cabrini Immigrant Services, located at 139 Henry Street, is looking for steady volunteers for the food pantry. If interested, contact Sr. Kelly at 212-791-4590 x102.

Pilgrimage to Ireland, June 4-13, 2012:
To be led by Archbishop Dolan. Features the opening of the 50th International Eucharistic Congress. For details, call 516-605-1551 or visit www.petersway.com/50thiec

BigAppleRX: Sponsored by The City of New York, this new prescription card is free and available to everyone, regardless of age, income, citizenship, or health insurance status. It is accepted at most pharmacies in the 5 boroughs. If you have drug coverage, it will cover drugs not covered by your plan.

For additional information, or to locate a participating pharmacy, visit BigAppleRX.com

Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration
Tuesday evening, November 22nd at 7:00 PM
The Yorkville Christian-Jewish Council will hold its annual interfaith Thanksgiving gathering at Temple Shaaray Tefila, located at 250 East 79th Street at 2nd Avenue.

The program will include musical performances by Kol Kinnah, the Temple Shaaray Tefila Chorale, the Shaaray Tefila School of Rock, the children’s choir, Cantor Todd Kipnis, and the Young People’s Chorus of New York City.

Rabbi Jonathan Stein and Monsignor Thomas Modugno will offer holiday messages. A social hour will follow. All are cordially invited to this free event.

Music Information: (212) 288-2520 E-mail: 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. Ugo
9:30 AM Fr. Bergen
Wallace Hall 11:00 AM Fr. Witt
Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Judge
7:30 PM Fr. Judge

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.

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