I have a deep love for the Eucharist. It is the Eucharist that anchors my prayer, my discipleship, and my sense of community. The historical Jesus left us with his Word and the Eucharist. In fact, the Eucharist is the only ritual he actually gave us and it is around these two gifts that the Christian community is built.

The phrase good liturgy reminds me of the parable of the Rich Young Man. The young man addresses Jesus as “Good Teacher.” Jesus immediately responds, “Only God is good.” God, the fountain of goodness, fills us with overflowing, extravagant love through the powerful ritual process of the Eucharist. In the Eucharist, Presence is the first gift of our Good God. God is Present in the Word that is, the Sacred Scripture; in the physical presence of Christ, the elements of bread and wine, and in those of us who have gathered to receive, give thanks, break bread, and share in our continual becoming the body and blood of Christ. In the Eucharist, God embraces us, changes us, does for us what we cannot do for ourselves, namely, become one body in communion with one another. We live in a divided world, a divided Church, perhaps even a divided family. The Eucharist transforms these divisions that are impossible for us. Presence is not only God’s gift to us, but our gift to God and to one another. We must show up for the manna that will keep us alive.

We show up with Poise. Not the sophisticated demeanor of one schooled in good manners. Our poised presence is like the stance of the ballerina on her toes, her senses alert, alive with anticipation and expectation that will impel her whole body into graceful movement with the measures of music soon to arrive. Our poised presence in the Eucharist anticipates and expects God’s embrace. This may be experienced in a felt sense of belonging to the community, the beauty of the music, stirring words of scripture or the homily, the joy of liturgical ministry, or in an interior touch of God, who is longing for us to receive His embrace.

One who is poised to expect and anticipate is moved to Participate. The Eucharist makes Christ’s death and God’s response in the Resurrection a real presence here and now. We find this concept difficult to grasp. We have no categories in physics or the philosophy of time and space that apply. Biblically speaking, however, God can make the past event present through memorial. Memorial is a gift of God’s presence that eclipses time and space in order that we may participate now in the paschal mystery. When we recount the story of Jesus’ sacrifice in the Eucharistic prayer we are really present and participating in that great event. Like the bread and wine, we are also being changed into the living body and blood of Christ in the present, not only as individuals but as a community. Our full participation in the ritual signifies our willingness to engage, to open ourselves to the creative mystery of God’s perfecting hand.

And finally, Presence, Poise, and Participation lead to Praxis. The Gospel of John, proclaimed on Holy Thursday, describes Jesus’ washing the disciples’ feet. John describes the Praxis expected of the Christian disciple: humble service of others. Furthermore, John describes in detail how Jesus washed feet. He says that Jesus “took off his outer garments.” What did John mean? According to theologian Ronald Rolheiser, OMI, this gesture symbolized taking off all the outer masks, identities, ideologies, theologies, ethnicities, sexual and gender differences that separate us, one group from the other. Jesus stripped himself of all the sources of superiority and moral judgment that we humans carry. He washed the feet of all, including the one he knew would betray him. According to Rolheiser, Jesus was leaving another message: it is more important to be in relationship than to be right! If we, like Jesus, are destined to both die to self and become resurrected by God, the Eucharist empowers us to take off our outer garments and wash the feet of those whose differences bring division into our lives. For me, this is what good liturgy is about.

Kathryn King, FSP
Pastoral Associate
THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27th
First Sunday of Advent

SVdP Annual Toy Drive and Advent Food Drive. 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.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30th
Daily Masses at 8:30 AM, 12:10 PM, and 5:30 PM: Time for Reflection. The Daily Masses on the Wednesdays of Advent will offer a few moments to reflect quietly upon the readings of the day (in lieu of a homily). Enjoy a few moments of quiet time during the busy Advent season.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1st
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.

Reflections on the Sunday Advent Scriptures. 7:00 PM. Conference Room. As a help to entering into the Advent Season, and as a preparation for the Feast of Christmas, Rev. Robert O’Brien, S.J., of the Murray-Weigel Jesuit Community in the Bronx, will be offering reflections on the Scripture Readings for the Sundays of Advent.

FRIDAY – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2nd-4th
Shelter Weekend. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Chris Halem at the Parish House.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3rd
SVdP Senior Christmas Luncheon. 1:00 PM. Wallace Hall. Details on page 5.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4th
Grammar School Christmas Fair and Brunch with Santa. Details at right.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
For the Ministry of Hospitality at our Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year’s Eve Masses:

Saturday, December 24th
Christmas Eve – 5:00 PM Family Mass
8:00 PM Mass of Christmas Midnight Mass

Sunday, December 25th
Christmas Day – 9:00 AM (please note the early start time) and 11:00 AM

Saturday, December 31st
New Year’s Eve – 5:30 PM
A spirit of welcome and celebration is all that is required.
For more information, contact Adele Gallo, head of the Hospitality Ministry, amdgallo@me.com or 516-528-4660.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL
Saint Ignatius Loyola School extends a warm welcome to the Parish Community to join us for the

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR AND BRUNCH WITH SANTA

Sunday, December 4th in McKinnon Hall

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Children can do their own Christmas shopping at our Secret Santa Shop, located on the McKinnon Hall stage.

There is also plenty of wonderful shopping for our adult guests, including seasonable decorations, religious items, housewares, a Children’s Craft Corner, and gifts for everyone on your list! Enjoy a snack at our Christmas Café.

There is no admission charge.

BRUNCH WITH SANTA
1:00 PM
After working up an appetite at the Christmas Fair, stay and enjoy brunch with your family. You’ll love seeing the children’s smiles when they have their picture taken with Santa. During brunch the children will create a Christmas craft to take home.

Reservations are required by calling the Grammar School Development Office at 212-861-3820, x135. All reservations must be paid in advance. You can also stop by the school office for a reservation form.

PLEASE OPEN FOR PAGES 3 AND 4
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 646-981-2632
or reedm@stignatiusloyola.org

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.

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: Nov. 27 Dec. 11
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 Christ in Christmas
• Sunday, December 4th 6:00 PM, Parish Lounge
  Talk featuring Sr. Kathryn King, FSP
• Sunday, December 18th 6:00 PM, Parish Lounge
  Reflection and faith-sharing
For additional information, or to register, contact Fr. SooHoo, SJ, at soohooa@stignatiusloyola.org or 212-288-3588.

Christmas Cookie Exchange at the IYA Sunday Social
Sunday, December 11th 8:30 PM, Wallace Hall
Bring a sampling of your homemade cookies to swap with others!
All parishioners are welcome

Give a gift this Christmas that supports our Parish!
Not your average church cookbook, EATS & SWEETS is a professionally-bound collection of over 25 appetizer and dessert recipes with full-color photographs throughout. It’s a great resource for holiday party planning, and makes a perfect stocking stuffer, too!
Cookbooks are on sale for $20 in the Parish House every day, and in the Narthex after select Masses.
All proceeds benefit the Ignatian Young Adult ministry.
The Annual Christmas Concerts: 
*Joyeux Noël!*

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

Directed by K. Scott Warren, Robert Reuter, Mary Huff and Michael Sheetz with

Nancianne Parrella, organ  Victoria Drake, harp

Arthur Fiacco, cello

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.

Newly Released!

**CDs by the Choirs of St. Ignatius Loyola**

**Cool of the Day**

Mixing Gregorian chant with spirituals, Renaissance motets with Romantic motets – from the sound of a single voice calling out, to the astonishing radiance of a full choir – this breathtaking recording celebrates the glory and transcendence of the human voice.

The pillar of this collection is Richard Strauss’s rarely performed *Deutsche Motette.* This new recording features the Choir of St. Ignatius Loyola, the conducting of Associate Musician Robert Reuter, and the compositions of Interim Director of Music K. Scott Warren.

**Angel**

The debut recording of the St. Ignatius Loyola Children’s Choir, under the direction of Mary Huff and accompanied by Associate Organist Nancianne Parrella and Associate Musician Michael Sheetz, offers fresh interpretations of classics like *Panis Angelicus,* *How Can I Keep from Singing,* *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross,* and many more. The children’s choir program at St. Ignatius Loyola includes over 120 children from grades one through twelve.

*These (and all St. Ignatius CDs) are available for purchase at the Parish House.*

**New for 2012:**

**Caregivers Support Group**

If you are a caregiver for a friend or relative with a chronic or acute illness, we need your thoughts in shaping a new program for caregivers. If you are interested and willing to have a brief phone conversation about this ministry, please call Sr. Kathryn King at 212-288-3588.

*Your input is critical and will be much appreciated.*

**Announced Masses and Readings for the Week**

**Monday, November 28th**
*(First Monday in Advent)*

Isaiah 2:1-5      Psalm 122      Matthew 8:5-11

8:30   ANN  Patrick G. McKenna
12:10   MEM  Mary E. Driscoll
5:30   MEM  Antonina Wenpachawska

**Tuesday, November 29th**
*(First Tuesday of Advent)*


8:30   MEM  Donna Wilberding
12:10   MEM  The Bernabei Family
5:30   MEM  Susan Erph de Bovencamp

**Wednesday, November 30th**
*(St. Andrew)*

Romans 10:9-18     Psalm 19     Matthew 4:18-22

8:30  MEM  Donna Murphy
12:10  MEM  Helen Marie Rubino
5:30  MEM  William Powers

**Thursday, December 1st**
*(SS. Edmund Campion, Robert Southwell & comps.)*

Isaiah 26:1-6    Psalm 118    Matthew 7:21, 24-27

8:30  MEM  Margaret Kelly
12:10  MEM  Living and deceased persons with HIV/AIDS
5:30  MEM  Susan Erph de Bovencamp

**Friday, December 2nd**
*(First Friday of Advent)*


8:30  MEM  Gregorio V. Dizon
12:10  MEM  Margaret Gallacher
5:30  MEM  Dolorita Wallace Moore

**Saturday, December 3rd**
*(St. Francis Xavier)*

Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26   Psalm 147
Matthew 9:35 – 10:1, 5a, 6-8

8:30  MEM  Margaret Casey Reilly

**Sunday, December 4th**
*(Second Sunday of Advent)*

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11   Psalm 85
2 Peter 3:8-14      Mark 1:1-8
FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend marks the beginning of Advent. It is also when we begin to implement the changes in the Roman Missal, which contains the prayers and instructions for the celebration of the Mass. I invite you to refer to the insert attached to the back inside cover of the Gather hymnal.

As we observe the Thanksgiving holiday this weekend, I would be remiss if I did not extend my personal thanks for your generous response to the Annual Collection. I am grateful for the donations that have come in and that continue to arrive daily.

Thank you and Blessed Advent!

Rev. George M. Witt, S.J.

THE 2011 ANNUAL COLLECTION

Thank you to those who have contributed to this appeal. At present, the total stands at $135,250.

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!

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Thank you!

ADVENT 2011

In Giving, We Receive

Copies of our Advent Brochure are available in the Narthex, at the Parish House, and online at www.stignatiusloyola.org

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

ANNUAL TOY DRIVE

SVDp is sponsoring a toy drive to benefit needy children (grades K-12) at St. Aloysius Jesuit School in Harlem.

Please bring new, unwrapped toys, games, or books to our Parish House at 980 Park Avenue by Thursday, December 8th.

ADVENT FOOD DRIVE

Many New Yorkers depend upon food pantries to ensure that their families will not go hungry.

Throughout Advent, SVDp will be accepting donations of food for the Community Pantry at the Church of St. Gregory the Great. The items requested each week are listed below:

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<td>pasta, rice, tomato/pasta sauce</td>
<td>canned vegetables, canned chicken/tuna</td>
<td>crackers/individual servings of cereal</td>
<td>Dole/DelMonte individual fruit cups</td>
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Donations can be brought to the Narthex on Sundays or to the Parish House during the week.

Thank you for remembering those in need.

also...

SENIOR CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Saturday, December 3rd
1:00 PM in Wallace Hall

SVdp is also sponsoring a free luncheon for Seniors (60 and older) to celebrate the Christmas Season.

Free tickets, which are required for admission, are available in the Parish House.

Advent/Christmas Prayer Booklet

Based on the writings of the late Bishop Kenneth Untener, this booklet offers daily reflections throughout the Advent/Christmas season. Available at the Parish House while supply lasts. Cost: $1
Lay Spirituality Program:
For over 25 years, Lay Spirits has offered a program of prayer, presentations, group sharing, and retreats. Consider joining the next LSP group, scheduled to begin in January 2012. Church of St. Francis Xavier, 55 West 15th Street. Call Mary Anne Sullivan at 212-580-1668 or Grace Gorman at 212-535-1326. www.layspirits.org

MORE Hot Topics presents an open forum: After Confirmation, the Exodus! When and Why are Church and Faith No Longer Relevant? Monday, December 12th at 7:00 PM. The Rochester Room, Church of St. Thomas More, 65 East 89th Street. Why do so many young people disassociate themselves from the Church after receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation? Visit with the panelists and share light refreshments following the presentation. A free-will offering will be accepted. For details, call 212-876-7719.

Xavier Society for the Blind
Commemorating the Feast of St. Lucy, Patron Saint for the Blind
Concert: Saturday, December 10th at 4:00 PM. Scandinavia House, 59 Park Avenue. Sponsored by the Xavier Society for the Blind. Tickets: $40 pp or $75 for patrons, who will receive preferred seating and a signed program. For tickets or details, call 212-473-7800 or visit www.xaversocietyfortheblind.org

Mass at St. Patrick’s Cathedral: Tuesday, December 13th at 6:00 PM. The Xavier Society for the Blind will supply materials for the sighted to follow the Mass, as well as large print and Braille versions for those who are visually impaired.

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. Ugo
Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Dugan
9:30 AM Fr. Judge
Wallace Hall 11:00 AM Fr. Ugo
Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Bergen
7:30 PM Fr. Bergen

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.