I was an adult before I’d heard of Advent. Growing up in the evangelical church in Texas, the concept of a period of preparation before Christmas was foreign to me. Christmas arrived the day after Thanksgiving. On December 26, the tree came down, and the holiday music was shut off. My purpose in pointing this out is not to condemn the practice, but to suggest that by being more in tune with the dictates of the marketplace than with the mandate of the spirit, we were depriving ourselves of one of the riches of human experience: our ability, as creatures made in the image of God, to stand in the intersection between time and eternity.

With the unfolding of Advent, I find myself reveling in the “stoppage of time” that I perceive during the Mass. As the Choir of St. Ignatius begins to intone the Introit, we stand on the brink, where time ends and eternity begins. The thousand year old Gregorian melody, Veni Emmanuel (O Come, O Come, Emmanuel) carries our prayer aloft, on the wings of hundreds of voices, as we transition from the pursuits of chronological time to the infinite freedom of God’s time. It is here that we are nourished by Word and Sacrament, through our prayers, sung and spoken, and by homilies that bring this period of divine waiting into sharp relief with the busyness of the season.

It is a remarkable trait of the human mind and spirit that we are able to hold seemingly opposing ideas in tension, accepting the validity of both, without rejecting either. Advent presents us with a quandary. Are we to pause and take a breath, consider the boundary-shattering ramifications of God’s incarnation into our everyday lives, moving deeper into the mystery of God-with-us, or do we simply continue with the madness of the holiday season, paying homage to the relentless demands it places on us, with regard to family, friends, and work? Perhaps the answer is both! However, it may be that a re-balancing of the scales is just what we need.

I admit to being a bit of an adrenaline junkie during the month of December, and I suspect I’m not the only one on the music staff who feels this way. Part of our raison d’etre is putting in the long hours and late nights of preparation, rehearsal, and meetings that are necessary to bring the music and prayers of the community into a cohesive whole. The music of the season, the songs, hymns, and anthems that we sing call our souls into a more profound communion with Christ, and with one another, as the Body of Christ.

But it doesn’t end there. The music staff is probably tired of hearing me say that our music is not the end, it is a means to the end. Similarly, the peace of Christ as we experience it in the Mass is stagnant if we do not bring it out of the church with us, allowing it to inform our everyday relationships. In this sense, our worship becomes our service. God calls us to adjust our sense of time, from the temporal to the eternal. When we do this, our priorities shift. We begin to see the bigger picture, and we act out of a sense of vocation, rather than compulsion. As our priorities shift, so do our attitudes. We begin to see the divine spark, even in people who drive us crazy! Where we could only see “the other,” we now behold the image of God, manifested in human form. This, after all, is exactly what we’re waiting for.

During the remaining Sundays of Advent, we invite you to attend the Mass that best suits your sensibilities and schedule, whether that be Saturday evening, one of the early Sunday Masses, Wallace Hall, Solemn, or Sunday evening. Take a moment to breathe in, breathe out. Let the music wash over your spirit. Join your prayers with those of the congregation as we encounter God Incarnate in the Eucharist. And in the words of the hymn Go Make a Difference (a favorite in the Wallace Hall Family Mass):

So let your love shine on, let it shine for all to see;
And the Spirit of Christ will be with us as we go:
Go make a difference in the world!

Peace,

K. Scott Warren
Interim Director of Music Ministries
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11th
Third Sunday of Advent: Gaudete Sunday

Special Collection This Weekend
The annual collection for the retired men and women religious of the New York Archdiocese will be taken at all Masses this weekend. Proceeds will help to defray the cost of providing care for those who have given their lives in the service of the Church, administering and staffing Archdiocesan schools and hospitals.

Please pray for all religious and be as generous as your means allow.

SVdP Advent Food Drive continues. Details on page 5.

Wallace Hall Family Christmas Pageant Rehearsal. 12:00 Noon.
Details on page 3.

Joyeux Noël!
Annual Christmas Concert.
4:00 PM. Details on page 5.

Christmas Cookie Exchange and Sunday Social. 8:30 PM, Wallace Hall.
(Follows the 7:30 PM Mass) Hosted by the Ignatian Young Adults All parishioners are welcome. Details on page 3.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14th
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.

Possible Dreams International:
A Response to AIDS in Africa. 7:00 PM. Parish Lounge. Sponsored by Ignatian Social Justice. Details on page 3.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15th

Ignatian Volunteer Corps Information Session.
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

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 16th – 18th
Shelter Weekend.
There is an immediate need for volunteers. Please see the message from Chris Halem below:

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. These women rely on us, and we are relying on you. Please consider whether this is a ministry in which you feel called to participate. It is very rewarding and serves a great need.
For more details, and to volunteer, please contact Chris Halem at chrishalem@yahoo.com or 917-494-7301

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

PLEASE OPEN FOR PAGES 3 AND 4
IGNATIAN YOUNG ADULTS

CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXCHANGE
at the IYA Sunday Social
Sunday, December 11th
8:30 PM in Wallace Hall

Bring a sampling of your homemade cookies to swap with others!

To participate:
BAKE your favorite Christmas cookies. (If you’re not a baker, you may bring high quality holiday-themed cookies from a bakery.)
While it doesn’t matter how many cookies you bring, we recommend bringing at least 2 dozen cookies (24). However many you bake, be sure to count them, because that’s how many cookies you get to take home.
BRING your treats to Wallace Hall on Sunday, December 11th, after the 7:30 PM Mass. We’ll provide a platter on which you can arrange your cookies.
Be sure to bring your treats in a container you can also use for carrying your new cookies home.
Optional: Bring printouts of your recipe(s) to share with others.
EXCHANGE your cookies. After you’ve arranged your own cookies, gather the same amount of cookies from the table to take home. Then enjoy our Christmas Social, also in Wallace Hall.

Give a gift this Christmas that supports our Parish!
Not your average church cookbook, EATS & SWEETS is a professionally-bound collection of appetizer and dessert recipes. 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.

THE 2011 ANNUAL COLLECTION
Thank you to those who have contributed to this appeal. At present, the total stands at $178,000. 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!

IGNATIAN SOCIAL JUSTICE

Possible Dreams International: A Response to AIDS in Africa
Wednesday, December 14th
7:00 PM in the Parish Lounge

Join us for a video and slide presentation focusing on the AIDS crisis in Southern Africa. Kathleen and Al Hartmann, representatives from Possible Dreams International, will speak about the work that they are doing in Swaziland with AIDS patients. Possible Dreams International is a non-profit organization which partners with rural and remote communities in Swaziland, to empower families and individuals living with extreme poverty, malnutrition, and endemic disease.

WALLACE HALL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
Sunday, December 18th
immediately following the 11:00 AM Family Mass
We hope that your family will join us. There is a role for every child who would like to participate in telling the story of our Lord’s birth!

Rehearsal:
Sunday, December 11th at 12:00 noon. Wallace Hall.

Dress Rehearsal:
Sunday, December 18th at 9:30 AM. Wallace Hall.
Please contact Joanne Cunneen at the Parish House (212-288-3588) with any questions.

BOOMERS & BEYOND

Christmas Caroling
Come and spread some holiday cheer with Boomers & Beyond.
Sunday, December 18th
12:45 PM at the Cardinal Cooke Center
1249 Fifth Avenue (between 106th and 107th Streets)
Join Boomers & Beyond for their annual Christmas Caroling event at the Cardinal Cooke Center and the Lott Assisted Living Facility. We will celebrate the holiday afterwards with an informal get-together at a nearby restaurant.

is an inter-parish social and community service organization for Catholics who are over 50.
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.

Volunteers Needed

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

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.

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, December 12th
(Our Lady of Guadalupe)
8:30  MEM  Jerry Johnson
12:10  MEM  Mimi F. Meehan
5:30  MEM  The Clancy Family

Tuesday, December 13th
(St. Lucy)
8:30  MEM  The Gunning Family
12:10  MEM  Landelina Nardelli
5:30  MEM  Helen & Hubert Gormley

Wednesday, December 14th
(St. John of the Cross)
Isaiah 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25  Psalm 85  Luke 7:18b-23
8:30  MEM  Giro Zullo
12:10  MEM  Marie Ruggiero
5:30  MEM  John Figge

Thursday, December 15th
(Third Thursday of Advent)
8:30  MEM  Marie Ruggiero
12:10  MEM  Jack O’Leary
5:30  MEM  Lawrence Healy

Friday, December 16th
(Third Friday of Advent)
Isaiah 56:1-3a, 6-8  Psalm 67  John 5:33-36
8:30  MEM  Mae Rooney
12:10  MEM  Eileen Murphy
5:30  MEM  Susan Erph de Bovencamp

Saturday, December 17th
(Third Saturday of Advent)
Genesis 49:2, 8-10  Psalm 72  Matthew 1:1-17
8:30  MEM  Aine Glarey

Sunday, December 18th
(Fourth Sunday of Advent)
2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16  Psalm 89
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.

**Cool of the Day**
Mixing Gregorian chant with spirituals, Renaissance motets with Romantic motets, this 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. The children’s choir program at St. Ignatius Loyola includes over 120 children from grades one through twelve.

**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.

---

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

**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 for the remaining two weeks are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3 (Dec. 11th – 17th)</th>
<th>Week 4 (Dec. 18th – 23rd)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>crackers/indiv.</td>
<td>Dole/DelMonte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>servings of cereal</td>
<td>individual fruit cups</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Donations can be brought to the Parish House.

**Please support the Advent and Christmas Liturgical Music Fund**
This fund supports the liturgical music program throughout the year – our musicians, staff, music, robes and maintenance of instruments. Contributions of $100 or more that are received on or before Friday, December 16th, will be listed in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship aids. Contributions of $500 or more will be featured in a separate section. Contribution forms are available in the Narthex and Parish House.

*Thank you for your generous support of our music ministry!*
Catholicism 101: The Book of Revelation.
An 8-week course beginning Wednesday, January 18th. Join us as we seek to understand the message of the prophet John in his own time and the enduring message of the book for Christians today. Course fee: $25. Sponsored by the Adult Education Center at the Church of St. Francis of Assisi, 135 West 31st Street. For more information, or to register, call 212-736-8500 or visit www.stfrancisnyc.org/courses

HandCrafting Justice, a project of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, provides access to Fair Trade markets that empower enterprising women in the developing world to lift themselves out of poverty through the creation of unique handmade goods. As you think of buying gifts for your loved ones this Christmas, please consider a high quality fair trade gift which will help support women around the world. Visit www.handcraftingjustice.org

PARISH STAFF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>Rev. George M. Witt, S.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastoral Associates</td>
<td>Joanne Cunneen, F.S.P.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Pastors</td>
<td>Rev. William J. Bergen, S.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rev. James L. Dugan, S.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rev. Ugo R. Nacciarone, S.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assisting Priests (Sunday)</td>
<td>Rev. Philip G. Judge, S.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rev. James Martin, S.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rev. Anthony P. SooHoo, S.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Ministries</td>
<td>Scott Warren, Interim Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nancianne Parrella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Reuter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Huff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Michael Sheetz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Philip Anderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sara Murphy, Administrator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staff information: on the website at music/music staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Development</td>
<td>Mary Reed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant to the Pastor</td>
<td>Diane M. Boyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Patricia Schneider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Facilities/</td>
<td>Czeslaw “Chester” Ciupinski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events Coordinator</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fernando Castro</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

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

Xavier Society for the Blind
Commemorating the Feast of St. Lucy, Patron Saint for the Blind Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral:
Tuesday, December 13th at 6:00 PM.
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.

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

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