Warning! Warning!!

A yearly virus, with the potential to poison our systems has returned. Radio and television stations, as well as websites, are filled with commercials telling us how many shopping days remain before Christmas. This message sets off a feverish rush to manage the expectations we have set for ourselves. The many tasks of baking, wrapping gifts, cleaning, inviting, greeting and meeting family and friends who also want a piece of our presence at their holiday gatherings, create anxiety and exhaustion. Hurricane Sandy’s recent visit to our shores heightened our vulnerability, whether we suffered her ravages directly, or not. And if all of this were not enough, we are also standing at the edge of a fiscal cliff where, it seems, we are about to be hurled into a black hole of debt. Questions such as “Do we buy or do we save?” run amuck in our brains, creating a virulent, desolating case of anxiety, frustration, impatience, and possibly depression. These invaders of the joy of the season self-replicate and become toxic.

But fear not! There appears anew each year a gentle, mysterious vaccine for this virus. It is called the Advent Antidote. If you avail yourself of its curative powers, it is guaranteed to neutralize the poisonous effects of the virulent desolation attacking your body, your heart, and your spirit.

How can we know that the Advent Antidote is taking hold? Watch for spontaneous, inner bursts of Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy! The graces that comprise the DNA of the Advent Antidote have the potential to neutralize the frustration, sadness, fear, or anger that preparing for Christmas can unleash for each of us.

Notice if you are unexpectedly doing any of the following:

- Making time and space to allow God to cherish you lovingly in the hectic days of Advent.
- Awakening to the realization that the Creator of the Universe prefers smallness, weakness, and hiddenness over loud or impressive events.
- Practicing patience on long checkout lines or letting the other car proceed first in heavy traffic.
- Allowing joyful thoughts and actions to cast fears aside.
- Delighting in children.
- Seeing, hearing, enjoying the beauty, music, and laughter of the present moment.
- Expanding your attitude of gratitude.
- Forgiving and reconciling with a family member, friend, or colleague.
- Smiling.
- Expecting the best rather than the worst.
- Praying for each person while wrapping his or her gift (two gifts in one package).
- Forgetting to ruminate over painful past Christmases.
- Receiving the ‘other’ regardless of differences.
- Creating new Christmas traditions to cope with grief and loss.
- Seeking alternative gifts that respect the earth, promote justice, and support the poor.
- Letting go of fears of disappointment.
- Walking or sitting quietly in the Presence of Emmanuel, God-with-us.
- Remembering the ways Christ was present during the past year.
- Wondering at the Wisdom of our God in becoming human like us.
- Affirming the Incarnation in all life forms, including the earth and ourselves.
- Opening ourselves to God’s continuing and amazing love for others through us.
- Thinking peacefully (focusing energy on replacing angry, judgmental thoughts with an affective affirmation of the good).

The restoration of JOY announces complete healing from this virus. The Advent Antidote is a grace freely given when we may feel most undeserving of it. It flows from the intimate communion between Jesus, the One who sent Him, and ourselves. It is a joy that unites, heals, and restores.

Joy moves us away from fears and anxieties into the realm of love. Divine Love continues to unite with the human in each of us.

Such Wonder! Such Joy! Such Celebration!

Kathryn King, FSP
Pastoral Associate
## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9th**  
Second Sunday of Advent

### Special Collection This Weekend

The annual collection for the retired women and men 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.

**Deadline for the SVdP Christmas Angel Gifts.**  
Please bring all donations to the Parish House. Thank you.

**SVdP Advent Food Drive:**  
Week 2. Details at page bottom.

**Wallace Hall Family Christmas Pageant Rehearsal.**  
12:00 Noon. Details on page 4.

**Christmas Caroling: Boomers & Beyond and 40s & Fabulous.**  
1:45 PM. Offsite. Details on page 3.

**Gloria! Annual Christmas Concert.**  
3:00 PM. Church. Details on page 5.

**Parish Christmas Cookie Exchange at the IYA 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 4.

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**MONDAY, DECEMBER 10th**  
Ranger Rosary Ministry. 7:00 PM. Meeting Room. Supplies and instructions are provided. New members are welcome!

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11th**  
Adapting Buddhist Meditation Practices to Christian Spirituality. Speaker: Dr. Susan Stabile. 7:00 PM. Wallace Hall. Details on page 5.

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12th**  
Daily Masses at 8:30 AM, 12:10 PM, and 5:30 PM: Time for Reflection. The Daily Mass 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.

**Ignatian Young Adult Knitters/Crocheters.**  
7:00 PM. Conference Room. Email molly.nora@gmail.com with questions. All skill levels are welcome.

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13th**  
Thursday Morning Prayer Group. 9:30 – 11:00 AM. Parish House. Open to those who have made the Meeting Christ in Prayer Retreat. For information and registration, contact Sabina Fila at sabinaft@verizon.net

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**FRIDAY – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14th – 16th**  
Shelter Weekend. Wallace Hall. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Chris Halem at the Parish House.

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**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

| Week 2  |  
| (Dec. 9th – 15th):  
| spaghetti, tomato sauce, or soup |
|  
| SVdP Advent Food Drive  
| Many New Yorkers depend upon food pantries to ensure that their families will not go hungry. |

| Week 3  |  
| (Dec. 16th – 20th):  
| cereal or canned vegetables |

Throughout the first three weeks of Advent SVdP will be accepting donations of food for the Community Pantry at the Church of St. Gregory the Great. Donations can be brought to the Narthex on Sundays or to the Parish House during the week.
Dear Parishioners,
Wednesday, December 12th, is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

At the 5:30 Mass that day there will be a blessing of the new image of Our Lady of Guadalupe that will hang in the Lady Chapel.

I am deeply grateful to The Order of Malta, American Association, New York Area for donating this authenticated copy of the original.

Fr. George M. Witt, S.J.

Note: To learn more about the Guadalupe apparition, visit our website or the Narthex literature rack.

FROM THE PASTOR

**Double the voices….double the fun!**

Join us as Boomers & Beyond and 40s & Fabulous get together for our annual Christmas Caroling event at the Lott Assisted Living Facility and the Cardinal Cooke Center. We will celebrate the holiday afterwards with an informal get together at a nearby restaurant.

**Date: Sunday, Dec. 9th**  **Time: 1:45 PM**  **(revised time!)**

**Place:** Lott Assisted Living Residence – 5th Avenue (between 107th and 108th Sts.)

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**FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE**

**A Reflection for December 17th, Reconciliation Monday**

As we enter into the final period of preparation for Christmas, there is an opportunity on December 17th to examine our hearts and minds and cleanse our souls in the Sacrament of Penance. That Monday it will be possible to stop by almost any church in the Archdiocese and reconcile oneself to God and to the Church.

When we sin we can do so by committing or omitting certain actions. Did we do something wrong that injured our relationship with God or others? Was there an opportunity in witness or charity that we failed to fulfill? To make a good confession we must admit to all mortal sins and be conscious of venial ones. We must make a good faith effort to recall those offenses which are more serious. This is where a good examination of conscience is necessary.

Before entering the confessional time needs to be spent reflecting on our sins.

Let us begin by considering the first three commandments. We are not to have any strange gods before the Lord our God. Does the dollar in our pocket motivate us more than the Divine Spark which gives us life? Do we take the name of the Lord in vain? Do we acknowledge that attending Mass on Sunday is just one part of maintaining the Lord’s Day? Do we on that day and every day praise God for His care? Do we pray frequently using the Scripture as our touchstone? These are just a few thoughts to prepare us for Reconciliation Monday.

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**Volunteers Needed**

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

**Monday, December 24th**

**Christmas Eve**
- 4:00 PM  Family Mass I  - 6:00 PM  Family Mass II
- 8:00 PM  Mass of Christmas  - Midnight Mass

**Tuesday, December 25th**

**Christmas Day** – 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM

**Monday, December 31st**

**New Year’s Eve** – 5:30 PM

**Tuesday, January 1st**

**New Year’s Day** – 10:30 AM

_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.

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**A Thank You from Sr. Maureen McGowan, RGS, Director of HandCrafting Justice:**

Dear Father Witt,

HandCrafting Justice and the Sisters of the Good Shepherd are very happy to have been invited back to your parish and thank you for your support of our mission.

We appreciate the great generosity shown to us by the parishioners of St. Ignatius Loyola Church as evidenced by sales of $10,701 and donations of $458. The support we received will make a great difference in the lives of many women and their families around the world.

On behalf of the women we serve in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, we wish to express our deep appreciation for this response to our mission of hope, empowerment, and justice.

[www.handcraftingjustice.org](http://www.handcraftingjustice.org)
3rd ANNUAL
PARISH CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXCHANGE
hosted by the Ignatian Young Adults
at the IYA Sunday Social
December 9th
8:30 PM in Wallace Hall
All parishioners are welcome.
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, make sure to count them, because that’s how many cookies you get to take home.
BRING your treats to Wallace Hall on Sunday, December 9th, after the 7:30 PM Mass. We’ll provide a platter on which you can arrange your cookies.
Make 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.

Please note that if you bring cookies, you must take cookies home. If you are interested in donating baked goods for the Christmas Social, please contact Consuelo at consuelo.a.martinez@gmail.com

Calling All IYA Knitters & Crocheters!
Come join other Young Adults for socializing and making knitwear for charity. Join us Wednesday, December 12th from 7:00 – 8:30 PM in the Parish House Conference Room.

Email molly.nora@gmail.com with questions or to join the email list.
All skill levels are welcome.

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, December 10th
(Second Monday of Advent)
Isaiah 35:1-10    Psalm 85    Luke 5:17-26
8:30 MEM Bernard Evans
12:10 MEM Valentino Mazzia
5:30 MEM The Clancy Family

Tuesday, December 11th
(St. Damasus I)
Isaiah 40:1-11    Psalm 96    Matthew 18:12-14
8:30 MEM Jerry Johnson
12:10 MEM The Meehan Family
5:30 MEM Rachel Faliba

Wednesday, December 12th
(Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe)
8:30 MEM The Choix & Gordon Families
12:10 MEM Irene Bernatzky
5:30 MEM Marie-Laure Béraud

Thursday, December 13th
(St. Lucy)
Isaiah 41:13-20     Psalm 145    Matthew 11:11-15
8:30 MEM The Gunning Family
12:10 MEM Landelina Nardelli
5:30 MEM Anthony Ruggiero

Friday, December 14th
(St. John of the Cross)
Isaiah 48:17-19    Psalm 1    Matthew 11:16-19
8:30 MEM Gerard Eich
12:10 MEM Jack O’Leary
5:30 MEM Lawrence Healy

Saturday, December 15th
(Second Saturday of Advent)
Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11    Psalm 80    Matthew 17:9a, 10-13
8:30 MEM Marie Ruggiero

Sunday, December 16th
(3rd Sunday of Advent)
Zephaniah 3:14-18a    Isaiah 12
Philippians 4:4-7    Luke 3:10-18

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
Advent 2012: Watching for Christ
Along the Ignatian Way

Since September we have been exploring what it means to be an Ignatian parish. The focus of our Ignatian Way celebration has been directed to prayer, service, and community. As we reflect upon the past three months we see numerous examples of each, including:
- The Celebration of Our Parish Ministries
- Fr. Witt’s reflections on his visit to Ignatian sites in Spain
- Great Themes of the Bible classes
- The Hour Children Collection
- The inaugural 2012-13 Sacred Music in a Sacred Space concert
- Meeting Christ in Prayer
- SVDP Walk for the Poor
- Compassionate Care for the Sick
- Liturgy of Anointing
- Hurricane Sandy clothing drive
- The Spirituality of St. Ignatius (First Lecture of Three)

Today is the Second Sunday of Advent. Although two weeks remain until we celebrate the Feast of Christmas, there are still many opportunities for prayer, service, and community here at St. Ignatius Loyola, including:
- Spirituality lecture (details below)
- The SVDP Christmas toy collection and food drive
- Parish Cookie Exchange (sponsored by the Ignatian Young Adults)
- Archdiocesan Day of Reconciliation
- The Christmas Concerts
- Grammar School and Wallace Hall Christmas Pageants

This December we invite you to experience Advent through the lens of The Ignatian Way as we watch for Christ through prayer, service, and community.

Additional details can be found in our Advent brochure available in the Narthex, Parish House, and on our website.

Adapting Buddhist Meditation Practices to Christian Spirituality

A Presentation and Book Signing by Susan Stabile

Tuesday, December 11th at 7:00 PM
Wallace Hall

Book signing will follow the lecture.
Copies of Dr. Stabile’s book will be available for sale that evening.

Drawing from her recently published book, Growing in Love and Wisdom: Tibetan Buddhist Sources for Christian Meditation, Dr. Susan Stabile will explore some of the common values and understandings that underlie Christianity and Buddhism and talk about how interreligious engagement can offer mutual enrichment for people of both traditions.

Raised as a Catholic, Susan Stabile devoted 20 years of her life to practicing Buddhism and was ordained as a Tibetan Buddhist nun before returning to Catholicism in 2001. Dr. Stabile is a spiritual director and retreat leader and spent several years as a member of the adjunct ministerial staff at St. Ignatius Loyola Retreat House in Manhasset.

She is also the Robert and Marion Short Distinguished Chair in Law at the University of St. Thomas (Minneapolis) School of Law.
Sisters Shaped the Church Since Vatican II. Call and Response: How American Catholic Sisters Shaped the Church Since Vatican II. Presented by the Fordham Center on Religion and Culture. Thursday, December 11th, 6:00 PM. Fordham University, Pope Auditorium, 113 West 66th Street. Free and open to the public. Catholic sisters have exercised a dramatic influence for generations, building a vast parochial school system, pioneering higher education for women, and founding hospitals and social services. In the 1960s they expanded beyond these ministries, embracing social activism and missionary work, exploring fresh currents in spirituality and theology, and championing human dignity and rights. How has the sisters’ ministry changed the face of the Church in recent decades? Where are they called today? RSVP: CRCevent@fordham.edu or 212-636-7347. Visit www.fordham.edu/ReligCulture

Gregorian University for a Day: Now you can get a feel of what happens in the classrooms in Rome here in Manhattan. Saturday, February 2nd, 2013. Fordham University, Lincoln Center. Instructors: Rev. Lloyd Baugh, S.J., Professor at the Gregorian University; Rev. Drew Christiansen, S.J., former Rev. James Martin, S.J. Instructors: here in Manhattan. Saturday, February 2nd, 2013. Fordham University, Pope Auditorium, 113 West 66th Street. Free and open to the public. Catholic sisters have exercised a dramatic influence for generations, building a vast parochial school system, pioneering higher education for women, and founding hospitals and social services. In the 1960s they expanded beyond these ministries, embracing social activism and missionary work, exploring fresh currents in spirituality and theology, and championing human dignity and rights. How has the sisters’ ministry changed the face of the Church in recent decades? Where are they called today?

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. Marina
11:00 AM Fr. Witt
Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Bergen
7:30 PM Fr. Ugo

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: 9:30 AM Mass (all ages)
11:00 AM Wallace Hall Family Mass
(ages 3-5 only)

Centering Prayer:
Mondays at 6:30 PM

Confessions: 5:00 PM Saturday
or by appointment.

In lieu of a communal penance service during Advent, confessions will be heard at St. Ignatius Loyola Church during the Archdiocesan Day of Reconciliation: Monday, December 17th, 4:00 – 8:00 PM.

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 the hours of 9:00 AM and 9:00 PM.

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