At the Crossroads, Wisdom Speaks

In October 2009, I wrote an essay about the Apostolic Visitation of Women Religious titled, “From Impasse to Wisdom.” The report given at a Vatican press conference on December 16, 2014 seems to validate Wisdom’s mysterious activity. Thirty years ago, Sr. Constance Fitzgerald, O.C.D. explored the concept and symbolism of the “dark night” of St. John of the Cross to enlighten the contemporary religious experience of women. She gives the name impasse to crises and transitions that barre into life and relationships in a way that defies the usual strategic solutions and conventional thinking and cries out for meaning. I wondered if the impasse that descended on religious women in the United States marked a call to a deeper phase of the renewal called for by the Second Vatican Council; a phase less internal to individual congregations and more oriented to the service of the collective communion of the wider church. I think that there are four directional signals emerging from this impasse that Wisdom is revealing to the church.

1. Contemplative Practice as the Path Through Impasse

In genuine impasse, the usual spiritual supports are ground to a halt. God seems absent leaving us to our own devices, which don’t work. The loss of self-worth brings a radical sense of failure. The accusations of unfaithfulness by church authority toward the sisters brought unavoidable suffering similar to physical imprisonment where no understandable defense seems possible. We were driven to contemplation. The right side of the brain was forced into gear seeking a unitive presence with Christ Crucified, as well as symbolic, creative answers. Entering the dark mystery of an unknowing faith, we prayed and waited in full consciousness of our suffering, daring to believe that new possibilities would be given.

2. Relationship is the Core of Consecrated Life

From a deep relationship with Christ in the darkness, we were able to validate our faithful love for the Church in all its messiness. We are the women who stayed! We stayed because we were able to validate our faithful love for the Church in all its messiness. We were held intelligently, lovingly, reverently, and courageously; a truly healing experience. The final press conference, where three women and three men seated at one table engaging in a conversation shifted the experience for me. No longer were we the helpless objects of a unitary exercise of hierarchical power. This visual of belonging, together, with the public acknowledgement of the desire to work collaboratively, collegially, in friendship and with cooperation; for a new paradigm of an evangelizing mission, is surely an icon of the revelation of wisdom.

3. Conversation as a Model for the Post-Vatican II Church

From the beginning the leaders of congregations used conversation not only for information-gathering but also as a way to build relationships that were clarifying, respectful, and inclusive. Conversations bridged difference, engaging the members within each institute and developing a sense of solidarity among the institutes and the wider church. These skills, honed from 50 years of living into the spirit and directives of the Council were not lost on ecclesiastical leaders. Thomas Roscia, OSB, who had been a part of the visitation team, noted at the press conference how much he had learned about how women religious approach issues with competency, intelligence, and professional skill. He praised particularly the theological rootedness of the sisters in dialog; which he found “so refreshingly different” from much conversation in ecclesiastical circles.

4. Risking the Truth

The entire renewal of religious institutes for the past 50 years risked reclaiming the identity, charism, and mission of every institute. Much has been written about the suffering, loss, and refounding experiences of these women. The conflicts between classic and contemporary religious life play no small part in the impasse partly because it involves differing interpretations of the role and position of women in the church and in the world as well as the exercise of power. However, these differing theological and ecclesial positions are challenged to risk a deeper truth echoed by Pope Francis. Both are called to “Wake up the world!” Both are to move from their particular comfort zones to witness to new ways and actions. Motives of security or recognition, fears of making mistakes or of living an uncomfortable Gospel message to the poor and marginalized, criteria for measuring success by numbers of members or ministries or assets are to be laid aside. A newer, riskier truth awaits religious!

At a time when both the Church and the world are overwhelmed by impasse experiences, Wisdom demonstrates that she is sitting at the crossroads, in the darkness, continuing to give direction. The Apostolic Visitation may have blessed the Church with gifts for discernment within impasse.

—Sr. Kathryn King, FSP
Pastoral Associate
Have you made your donation to the Annual Appeal?

Thank you to those who have already responded to the Annual Appeal, which is underway.

In order to fund the current level of service and programming, we rely heavily on this annual collection.

If you have not yet made a donation, you can do so by visiting the Annual Appeal page on the St. Ignatius website by scanning the QR code at left.

To electronically access the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2014 and a letter from Father Witt about the Annual Appeal, visit our website at www.saintignatiusloyola.org

Copies are also available at the Parish House.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Job Transition Support Group
Wednesday, January 14th
10:00 AM in the Parish Lounge

Bringing together a group of experienced professionals looking to secure employment, we hope to help one another in the job search process. Please bring your resume.

For more information, contact John Holewa at jfholewa@gmail.com or Christian Nolan at ctnolan59@gmail.com

BOOMERS & BEYOND

Bridge with Boomers
Monday, January 26th
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Meeting Room

Join us for a friendly game of bridge in the afternoon.

No need to bring your own partner or cards, and all levels of expertise are welcome.

“Bridge is too important to take seriously.” – Oscar Wilde

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

New Parishioners: We welcome new parishioners and invite you to fill out a Parishioner Registration Card located in the pew racks, at the Parish House, and online at www.stignatiusloyola.org

Registration is our only means of certifying membership in the Parish.

Catholic Schools Week
January 25th – January 31st

Catholic Schools Week is an annual national celebration of Catholic elementary and secondary schools and the important role they play in providing a values-added education for America’s young people.

For your convenience...
To reach the Giving page on the parish website, scan the QR Code at left with your smartphone's camera.
**IGNATIAN YOUNG ADULTS**

**Sunday Socials Fall/Winter Schedule**
The Sunday Socials are held in Wallace Hall at 8:30 PM, following the 7:30 PM Mass. They are hosted by the Ignatian Young Adults. All young adults (ages 21–39) are welcome.

**Sunday Social Dates:**
- Jan. 11
- Feb. 8
- Feb. 22
- March 8

**To receive updates on IYA events and other opportunities, you can follow us on Facebook at “Ignatian Young Adults (NYC).”**

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**EMMAUS BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

A six-session support group for those who have experienced the death of a loved one will begin on **Tuesday evening, January 27th**, in the Parish Lounge, from 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM.

The sessions, both educational and supportive, are run by experienced facilitators.

Registration is required. See box below.

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**MEETING CHRIST IN PRAYER**

Meeting Christ in Prayer is an interactive 8-week guided prayer experience for small groups. Based on the *Spiritual Exercises* of St. Ignatius Loyola, it introduces participants to various ways of praying and provides an opportunity to support one another through faith sharing.

**Morning Sessions:** Tuesdays, February 3rd – March 25th*
- 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

**Evening Sessions:** Wednesdays, February 4th – March 25th*
- 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

*Note: Both sessions will conclude at the evening meeting on Wednesday, March 25th

**What does it offer?**
Weekly meetings are 90 minutes long and include group prayer, guided meditation, small group faith sharing, and an orientation for the following week’s prayer or prayer techniques. The cost of the program is a sliding scale of $30-$50 and covers all materials. Scholarships are available.

For information and/or to register for either the Emmaus Bereavement Support Group or Meeting Christ in Prayer, please contact Sr. Kathryn King at the Parish House or email kingk@saintignatiusloyola.org

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**LAY MINISTERS’ ENRICHMENT**

Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness: Music and Worship at St. Ignatius Loyola

with K. Scott Warren & the St. Ignatius Loyola Music Staff

Come explore how music inspires and deepens our worship and our spiritual lives.

**Saturday, January 31st**
- 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM
  - in Wallace Hall

All Lay Ministers at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola are invited to attend.

Continental breakfast will be available beginning at 9:15 AM.
Lunch will also be provided.

*Space is limited.*

Register online at 
http://tinyurl.com/January2015Enrichment

Contact layministersenrichment@gmail.com with questions.

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**Interests in becoming Catholic? Call 212-288-3588 or email church@stignatiusloyola.org**
Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, January 12th
(First Monday in Ordinary Time)
Hebrews 1:1–6    Psalm 97    Mark 1:14–20
8:30    MEM    Craig Prediger
12:10   MEM    The Meehan Family
5:30    MEM    Virginia Murphy

Tuesday, January 13th
(First Tuesday in Ordinary Time)
Hebrews 2:5–12    Psalm 8    Mark 1:21–28
8:30    MEM    Pat O’Leary
12:10   MEM    Sose & Mark Prekelezaj
5:30    MEM    John Nolen Durkin

Wednesday, January 14th
(First Wednesday in Ordinary Time)
Hebrews 2:14–18    Psalm 105    Mark 1:29–39
8:30    MEM    William F. Bednar
12:10   MEM    Pasquale Laurelli
5:30    MEM    Janet Olsen

Thursday, January 15th
(First Thursday in Ordinary Time)
Hebrews 3:7–14    Psalm 95    Mark 1:40–45
8:30    MEM    Dolores Gomez Fox
12:10   MEM    Jack O’Leary
5:30    MEM    Virginia MacLellan

Friday, January 16th
(First Friday in Ordinary Time)
Hebrews 4:1–5, 11    Psalm 78    Mark 2:1–12
8:30    MEM    Peg O’Brien
12:10   MEM    Melvin Casiero
5:30    MEM    Philip Seymour Hoffman

Saturday, January 17th
(St. Anthony)
Hebrews 4:12–16    Psalm 19    Mark 2:13–17
8:30    MEM    Mary & Henry Stenglein

Sunday, January 18th
(Second Sunday in Ordinary Time)
1 Samuel 3:3b–10, 19    Psalm 40
1 Corinthians 6:13c–15a, 17–20    John 1:35–42

DECEMBER SACRAMENTS

Weddings
Richard A. D’Amico & Kelli Christine Connors
Christofer Malloy & Alexandra DeMarco
Michael T. Tenaglia & Christine S. Vianna

Baptisms
Mariella Rose Carrington
Lillian Marie Dempsey
Mairead Burke Doherty
Jared Griffin Edwards
Enrico Ramos Estefano
Peter Michael Gagliano
Sacha Home
Tristan Home
Jack Alasdair Kelsey
Myles James Livingston

The Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) makes a difference in the lives of people in need through service and prayerful reflection. Relying on their experience, IVC volunteers are older adults who serve in community agencies and schools as tutors, counselors, legal advisors, business consultants, nurses and teachers. They are men and women for others who seek to develop and enrich their own spiritual lives through individual and communal reflection in the tradition of St. Ignatius Loyola.

For more information about IVC, visit IVCUSA.org or contact Mary Ellen O’Driscoll, Metro New York Area Director, at 917-609-8163.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
January 18th – 25th
This year’s theme is “Jesus said to her, ‘Give me a drink.’” (John 4:7)

The Week of Christian Prayer invites Christians throughout the world to pray in communion with the prayer of Jesus: “that they all may be one...so the world may believe.” (John 17:21).

For more information, visit www.geii.org

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

The Archdiocese of New York takes the stewardship of your donations and its resources seriously. If you have knowledge of financial misconduct or suspect that it might be occurring, please report your concerns via a toll-free hotline, 877-820-0541, or on the internet at www.reportlineweb.com/ADNY. Both are available 24 hours per day.

PRAYER 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/3-minute-retreats-daily-online-prayer.htm

Take a short prayer break right at your computer. Spend some time reflecting on a Scripture passage.

The Jesuit Collaborative invites you to share the gift of Ignatian spirituality and the opportunity to meet interesting people who are ready to further develop their spiritual lives.

Please visit us at www.jesuitcollaborative.org
Feeding Our Neighbors: Archdiocesan-Wide Food Campaign

The Church of St. Ignatius Loyola will be participating in the food drive scheduled from Sunday, January 25th through Sunday, February 1st.

Donations will go to the Community Pantry at the Church of St. Gregory the Great. Please bring non-perishable foods to the Parish House.

While all donations are greatly appreciated, these items are especially welcome:

- 100% fruit juices
- beans (canned or dry)
- canned fish (salmon, sardines, or tuna)
- canned fruits
- canned meat (chicken, beef, or ham)
- canned stews (chicken or beef)
- canned vegetables
- coffee/tea
- couscous
- dried fruits
- dry cereal and hot cereal (farina, grits, or oatmeal)
- dry milk packets
- flour/cornmeal/baking mixes
- nutritional beverages (Boost, Ensure, Carnation Instant Breakfast)
- nuts
- pasta/noodles
- peanut butter
- personal care items
- rice
- shelf-stable milk
- soy/almond/rice milk
- spices
- tomato sauce
- vegetable soups
- whole wheat crackers

Every item counts! Thank you for your generosity.

SAVE THE DATE!

Join Fr. Witt, Members of the Parish Staff, and Members of our Parish Ministries for

The Ignatian Way Dinner

Saturday, February 21st in Wallace Hall immediately following the 5:30 PM Mass.

Details to follow.

MUSIC

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18TH

11:00 AM SOLEMN MASS

Widor Symphony No. 2 in D Major: Prélude
Mendelssohn 1 waited for the Lord
Bairstow I sat down under His shadow
Widor Symphony No. 2 in D Major: Scherzo

CARITAS CONCERT
Sara Murphy & Michael Sheetz
Thursday, February 12th at 6:30 PM
Wallace Hall

Caritas Concerts have the appeal of the less formal 19th-century salon concerts. The evenings begin and end with light refreshments and a chance to mingle with the performers, and intimate seating places the audience in close proximity to the music. This concert will present an evening of song, featuring Mahler’s Rückert Lieder as well as works by Brahms, Elgar, and Lili Boulanger.

All proceeds benefit charities that address social justice concerns.

Tickets: $50
Call 212-288-2520 for 24/7 ticket ordering.
Tickets can also be purchased at www.smssconcerts.org

The N.P. Mander Organ Recital Series presents

ADAM J. BRAKEL
Director of Music
St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Parish
Spring Hill, Florida

Sunday, February 22nd at 3:00 PM
Featuring the complete Six Études of Jeanne Demessieux, as well as music of J.S. Bach, Bossi, Rameau, Reger and others.

Tickets: $20
Call 212-288-2520 for 24/7 ticket ordering.
Tickets can also be purchased at www.smssconcerts.org

Slave Labor & Consumerism

A forum featuring
David B. Couturier, OFM. Cap
Thursday, February 5th at 7:00 PM, Wallace Hall
Co-Sponsored by the parishes of St. Ignatius Loyola & St. Francis Xavier

RSVP by Sunday, February 1st to AntiSlaveryRSVP@gmail.com (preferred) or call 212-288-3588.
CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA
980 Park Avenue at 84th Street • New York, New York 10028 • (212) 288-3588
Fax: (212) 734-3671  www.stignatiusloyola.org

PARISH STAFF
Pastor
Rev. George M. Witt, S.J.
Associate Pastors
Rev. William J. Bergen, S.J.
Rev. Thomas H. Feely, S.J.
Rev. Michael P. Hilbert, S.J.
Pastoral Associates
Joanne Cunneen
Carly-Anne Gannon
Kathryn King, F.S.P.
Assisting Priests (Sunday)
Rev. Philip G. Judge, S.J.
Rev. James Martin, S.J.
Rev. Anthony P. SooHoo, S.J.
Music Ministries
Scott Warren, Director
Nancianne Parrella
Robert Reuter
Michael Sheetz
Maureen Haley
Philip Anderson
Sara Murphy, Administrator
Staff information: on the website at music/music staff
Assistant to the Pastor
Diane M. Boyle
Administrative Assistant
Patricia Schneider
Communications Coordinator
Elizabeth O’Sullivan
Director of Facilities
Czeslaw “Chester” Ciupinski
Asst. to the Director of Facilities
Caroline Fernandes
Treasurer
Fernando Castro

Religious Education for Children
Ms. Caroly-Anne Gannon, M.Phil., M.Ed.
Director
(212) 861-4764

St. Ignatius Loyola Grammar School
Ms. Mary Larkin, Principal
M.S. Ed. (Admin.), M.S. Ed. (Literacy)
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

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

March for Life in Washington, D.C. Thursday, January 22nd. A Manhattan bus (sponsored by the Archdiocesan Family Life/Respect Life Office) will leave from Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 457 West 51st Street. Mass at 6:15 AM/Depart 7:00 AM. Total cost for the trip: $50. If you are not able to make the trip, please consider making a donation so that others can attend. For further information and to register, call Sr. Shirley at 212-371-1011 x3195 or email srs.shirleyann@archny.org

Corpus Christi Chapter of the International Thomas Merton Society presents Between Music and Silence: Merton and the Future of Faith. Saturday, January 31st, 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Keynote Speaker: Christopher Pramuk, Associate Professor of Theology, Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH. Corpus Christi Church, 529 West 121st Street. A Mass will be celebrated at 5:00 PM, followed by a gala reception. For more information, call 212-666-9350 or visit corpus-christi-nyc.org/corpus-christi-chapter

World Marriage Day, February 8th, 2015: Longest Married Couple Search. The search begins for the longest married couple in the Archdiocese of New York. To enter, couples must be sacramentally married for a minimum of 65 years and reside in the Archdiocese of New York. The longest married couple(s) will be honored on Sunday, February 8th at the 12:00 PM Mass at the Church of St. Patrick, 26 Hunter Street, Highland Mills, NY. A reception will follow. Cost: $15 per couple. A limited number of tickets are available. For further information or reservations, contact Izabella Nagle at 646-794-3190 or izabella.nagle@archny.org Mail entries to: Family Life/Respect Life Office, 1011 First Avenue, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10022; Attn: Izabella Nagle. Deadline for entries is Friday, January 30th.

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

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We pray for the faithful departed
Mario Cuomo
Mary Ann Restivo
May they rest in the peace of the Risen Lord.

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. Feely
Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Feely
9:30 AM Fr. Feely
Wallace Hall 11:00 AM Fr. Martin
Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Bergen
7:30 PM Fr. Bergen

Children's Liturgy of the Word:
Sundays at the 9:30 AM Mass and the 11:00 AM Mass in Wallace Hall.

Centering Prayer:
Mondays at 6:30 PM

Confessions:
4:30 PM Saturday or by appointment. Communal Penance Services are celebrated during Advent and Lent.

Baptisms: Please call Joanne Cunneen at the Parish House (212-288-3588 x632) 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 (212-288-3588 x632) 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.

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