A Heart for Those in Need

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. Mercy in Latin is *misericordia*. *Miser* means poor, desolate, or in need. *Cor* means heart. *Misericordia* means to have a heart for the poor, the desolate and those in need. So to celebrate divine mercy is to celebrate God who has a heart for us in our poverty, desolation, and need.

The first step in welcoming divine mercy is to admit we are in need. That is why St. Ignatius Loyola asks retreatants to begin the Spiritual Exercises with meditations on sin. If we do not appreciate the depth of our need — our sinfulness, our weakness and our limitations — we cannot experience the tenderness and strength of God’s heart for us in our need.

Once we experience that tenderness and strength, we discover something extraordinary. God gives us a heart for our own need. God’s mercy frees us from the demands of perfectionism. We are no longer condemned to trying to do for ourselves what only God can do for us or make ourselves what only God’s grace can make us. God’s mercy allows us to forgive ourselves.

There are two ways to forgive ourselves, but only one of them is from God. We can forgive ourselves as an expression of self-satisfaction and self-indulgence. The prefix “self” reveals the problem. Self-satisfaction and self-indulgence do not flow from a relationship, so they do not open us to relationship. That is not from God. But forgiving ourselves because God forgives us flows from a relationship and opens us to relationship. That is from God.

This helps us see why the second part of the great command is not “love your neighbor,” but “love your neighbor as yourself.” Unless God gives us a heart for our need, we cannot really have a heart for others. We are more likely to impose perfectionist demands which they will inevitably fail to meet, leading us to disappointment and disaffection. Once God’s mercy gives us a heart for ourselves, however, we become capable of having a heart for others, a heart that rises above disappointment and disaffection.

It is at this point that the gift of divine mercy becomes the challenge of divine mercy, the challenge of Jesus’ call to be “merciful just as your Father is merciful.” God’s mercy toward us asks us to open our hearts to the poor, the desolate and those in need, no matter what form their need may take: comfort, support, justice, peace.

Mercy like the Father’s calls us to respond to those needs, but mercy like the Father’s also calls us to respond to those needs without falling back into perfectionist fantasies. God asks us to respond to the extent of our limitations, but not beyond our limitations. God asks us to respond without forgetting God has a heart for us in our limitations. To do otherwise would be to deny divine mercy even as we try to emulate it.

It was Pope St. John Paul II who decreed that the Second Sunday of Easter should be celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday, and now Pope Francis has proclaimed a jubilee to be called a Holy Year of Mercy. The link is clear. Pope Francis, perceived to be so different in style from Pope St. John Paul II, is one with him in calling the Church to a new evangelization. Both wish to see a Church more on fire with the gospel — on fire with the desire to live the gospel and on fire with the desire to spread the gospel. And both are convinced that mercy is the core of the gospel. The gospel of Jesus is the gospel of divine mercy. As Pope Francis puts it, “Mercy is the name of our God.”

The gift of the gospel is the gift of mercy: God has a heart for us in our need. The challenge of the gospel is the challenge of mercy: God gives us a heart for ourselves in our need so that we can have a heart for others in theirs. A new evangelization, a new dedication to the gospel, calls us to deepen our sense of both the gift and the challenge of divine mercy.

— Rev. Thomas H. Feely, S.J. Associate Pastor
**MONDAY, APRIL 13th**
The Misunderstood Messiah: An Introduction to the Gospel of Mark.
7:00 PM. Parish Lounge.
Presented by Brian Pinter. Details on page 5.

Ranger Rosary Ministry. 7:00 PM. Meeting Room. Over 10,000 rosaries and counting! Join us in making rosaries to send to our military. New members are welcome!

Ignatian Young Adults Knitting Group. 7:00 PM. Conference Room.
Crafting for charity. All IYAs are welcome. Details on page 3.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 14th**
Easter Memorial Liturgy
7:00 PM. Church.
Our annual liturgy to remember deceased parishioners and deceased family members of parishioners who died during 2014.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15th**
Job Transition Support Group.
10:00 AM. Parish Lounge.
Bringing together experienced professionals looking to secure employment. Details on page 3.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18th**
NEW! IGNITE! Teen Ministry.
6:30 PM. Lady Chapel. Details on page 3.

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**THE ANNUAL CHANGE FOR CHANGE DRIVE**
Donations this year will be forwarded to the Jesuit Refugee Service: Education of Syrian Refugees

Syria is the largest humanitarian crisis of our time. More than one million refugees from Syria are now living in Lebanon, swelling the population of the small country. In communities around the country, from the Bekaa Valley to the Mediterranean coast, Jesuit Refugee Service is creating schools for Syrian children in areas where educational opportunities were not previously available.

Collection period runs to the end of April.
Loose change, bills, and checks (made out to “Church of St. Ignatius Loyola”) are welcome!

Bring donations to the Parish House in care of Carly-Anne Gannon, Director of Religious Education.

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**Prayer Booklets for the Easter Season:**
Authored by the late Bishop Kenneth Untener, the booklet offers brief prayers and reflections for each of the fifty days of the Easter Season. Available in the Parish House while supplies last. Cost: $1

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Dear Father Witt,
As we prepare to begin our faith's holiest season, we are truly humbled by your parish's generosity and concern for the poor of the Upper West Side. Your donations of food for our pantry has meant a great deal to our neighbors during this particularly cold and seemingly never-ending winter season.

Thanks to the tremendous amount of food donated, we have been able to increase the food we distribute in each bag during these difficult winter months. Especially for our handicapped patrons, our pantry has saved them from having to go through snow to grocery stores for their food needs.

You and your parishioners are invaluable partners for us in our outreach programs to our neighbors and we are truly grateful for their assistance.

Please let your parishioners know how very grateful we and our neighbors are for your kindness and that you and your parishioners will always be in our prayers.

Sincerely,
Msgr. Michael Crimmins
Pastor

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Fr. Witt recently received the following letter from Msgr. Michael Crimmins, Pastor of St. Gregory the Great parish. We partnered with their Community Food Pantry for our Advent, Lent, and Archdiocesan Food Drives.
IGNITE! TEEN MINISTRY

IGNITE! offers a forum through which high school students and their families may find a deeper relationship with God and each other. Guided by God, we hope to facilitate a ministry through which the young church will engage socially, spiritually, and in service to others.

Registration for each session is encouraged but not required.

For more information and/or to register, contact Carly-Anne Gannon, Director of Religious Education, at gannonc@saintignatiusloyola.org

IGNATIAN YOUNG ADULTS

Sunday Social Spring 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.

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

Sunday Social Dates
April 19    May 3    May 17
June 7     June 21

IYA Knitting Group

All IYAs are welcome to join us as we craft for charity. If you have questions or would like to be placed on the mailing list, contact Amy at IYAKnitting@gmail.com

Monday, April 13th
7:00 PM
Conference Room

Job Transition Support Group

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

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

SVdP Women’s Shelter
Wallace Hall

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is in great need of volunteers for the Women’s Shelter, which is located in Wallace Hall every other weekend, through April.

There is a particular need for stay-over volunteers.

If you would like to volunteer in the Shelter, please leave a message for Louise Decatrel at the Parish House or email svdp.shelter980@gmail.com

Ignatian 40s Speaker Series:

Ignatian Spirituality

Ignatian 40s invites all parishioners to its Third Annual Speaker Series led by the pastoral staff of St. Ignatius and external speakers.

Sunday, April 19th – Paul VI’s Letter on the Development of Peoples

Presenter: Fr. Ugo Nacciarone, S.J.
Former Associate Pastor, Church of St. Ignatius Loyola

The presentation will focus on the principles of Catholic social teaching, specifically on the background and content of Pope Paul VI’s Letter on the Development of Peoples (Populorum Progressio).


Presenter: George Horton
NY Director of the Department of Social and Community Development, Catholic Charities

All sessions will be in held in the Parish Lounge from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM.

Email ignatian40s@gmail.com to register.

IGNATIAN 40s Weekend Retreat at Jogues Retreat House

Cornwall-on-Hudson, NY
Hosted by Ignatian 40s

Friday, May 1st – Sunday, May 3rd
What does God want of me? What does God want for me? This retreat will focus on how Ignatian discernment can apply to our personal lives and our lives in society.

For more information, email Ignatian40s@gmail.com
MARCH SACRAMENTS

Baptisms
Francesco Andrea Aquila            Ava Carolina Savasta
James Hartley Claypool             Judson Patrick Tuohy
Katherine Theresa Ferris           Inés Vargas Stok
Luke Thomas Gillin                 Shaughnessy Grace Hessler
Aoiife Grace Friday Leahy          Fiona Jude Mangan
Tennyson Gevaert Rose              Kainoa McKenzie Ross

MUSIC

SUNDAY, APRIL 19th

11:00 AM SOLEMN MASS
Dandrieu O Filii et Filiae*
Bairstow Sing ye to the Lord
Harris The Holy Eucharist
Locklair St. John’s Suite: O Filii et Filiae*

11:00 AM FAMILY MASS
Family Sing Sunday with the Children’s Choirs
Copland Zion’s Walls
Hurd Revelations 19

7:30 PM MASS
Reuter, arr. We Walk by Faith

*Bandrieu and Locklair also played at 7:30 PM Mass

Bach’s B Minor Mass

Wednesday, May 6th at 7:00 PM
Choir and Orchestra of St. Ignatius Loyola
Monumental, intricate, and full of insight into the widest spectrum of human experience, Bach’s B Minor Mass is widely considered the greatest composition in the Western classical canon. Although completed in 1749, the work was never performed in its entirety during the composer’s lifetime, and did not receive its first full performance until over 100 years later in 1859.

Tickets: $25–$80
Tickets are available online at smssconcerts.org

Rejoice in the Lord!
A Music Ministry Celebration
Sunday, May 17th at 3:00 PM
The Choir of St. Ignatius Loyola, Parish Community Choir, Wallace Hall Choir, Canticum Sacrum, and Children's Choirs join forces in gratitude and joy.

FREE WILL OFFERING.
NO TICKETS NECESSARY.

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, April 13th (Second Monday of Easter)
8:30 MEM Mary Clarke
12:10 LVG Patricia Manzo
5:30 MEM Lois Clark

Tuesday, April 14th (Second Tuesday of Easter)
8:30 MEM Mary Clarke
12:10 MEM Sose & Mark Prekelezaj
5:30 MEM Anne Reynolds Galligan

Wednesday, April 15th (Second Wednesday of Easter)
Acts 5:17–26 Psalm 34 John 3:16–21
8:30 MEM Giro & Elina Zullo
12:10 MEM Jack O’Leary
5:30 MEM Josephine Engelbrith

Thursday, April 16th (Second Thursday of Easter)
8:30 MEM Wolfgang Herz
12:10 LVG Julia Wallace
5:30 MEM Hannelore Banks

Friday, April 17th (Second Friday of Easter)
8:30 MEM Mary Clarke
12:10 LVG Julia Wallace
5:30 MEM Virginia Clark Callahan

Saturday, April 18th (Second Saturday of Easter)
Acts 6:1–7 Psalm 33 John 6:16–21
8:30 MEM John Charles Thalmann

Sunday, April 19th (Third Sunday of Easter)
Psalm 4 Luke 24:35–48

The Staff of the St. Ignatius Loyola Day Nursery cordially invites the members of the Parish Community to

The Annual Spring Benefit
Friday, May 15th
7:00 PM to Midnight
Guastavino’s
Cocktails, Dinner, Dancing, Raffle, Live and Silent Auctions

For ticket information, please call 212-734-6427 x24.
Persons over 21 years of age are welcome.
The Misunderstood Messiah: 
An Introduction to the Gospel of Mark
Presented by Mr. Brian Pinter

Six Sessions Beginning April 13th
Mondays at 7:00 PM in the Parish Lounge

Mark presents us with a riveting, captivating, fast-paced portrait of Jesus — the Messiah, the “Son of Man” who heals the sick, calms the storms, speaks in perplexing parables, and casts out demons. Yet this Messiah is misunderstood — by his opponents as well as his disciples.

Our presentations will explore the challenging themes and scenes of Mark, from Jesus’ tension with his family, to his struggles against demonic powers, to the intriguing, but abrupt and shocking end to this jewel of the New Testament.

Brian Pinter is the former Chaplain and Teacher of Theology at Regis High School. He is currently the Education Associate and Bible scholar-in-residence at Christ Church United Methodist. Mr. Pinter holds degrees in theology and religion from St. Joseph’s and Fordham Universities.

To register, email bergenw@saintignatiusloyola.org

Blood Drive
Sponsored by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Sunday, May 3rd
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
McKinnon Hall

The New York Blood Center requires 2,000 donations daily to meet the transfusion needs of our community.

Your donation may enable a premature baby to live, a burn victim to recover, a cancer patient to be treated, or an accident victim to survive.

To register:
Online – www.nybloodcenter.org/blood
Telephone – (800) 933-2566
Please reference Group Code 06239 when registering.

Walk-ins are also welcome.
A photo or signature ID is required.

Please eat a well-balanced meal before giving blood.

The Hope and the Heartbreak: 
The Challenges of Modern Christians in the Land Where Jesus Preached
Tuesday, May 5th
7:00 PM
Wallace Hall

Presented by Dr. Bishara Ebeid

The Holy Land is a rich mosaic of Christian traditions with dozens of Eastern Christian churches alongside Reformed Christians and Roman Catholics.

How do these church communities support each other and build peace during times of persecution? How do they live their faith in the face of conflict — often at threat to their lives? Dr. Bishara Ebeid will speak from his own experience and the research for his doctoral dissertation presented at the Pontifical Oriental Institute.

A wine and cheese reception and brief presentation on the work of the Gregorian University Foundation by Fr. Alan Fogarty, S.J., President, will follow.

Sponsored by the Gregorian University Foundation & the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola

See What Love the Father Has Bestowed On Us:
A Mini Retreat Experience of the First Exercises

Presented by Sr. Kathryn King, FSP & Rev. Thomas Feely, S.J.

Saturday, April 25th
9:30 AM – 3:30 PM
Wallace Hall

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

The First Exercises are a highly adaptable combination of guided prayer based on the themes of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, personal reflection on prayer, and spiritual conversation as we share with each other the gifts and challenges our prayer has revealed to us.

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

Space is limited. Registration closes Monday, April 20th.

To register online, visit tinyurl.com/April2015LME or call 212-288-3588 and leave a message for Fr. Feely.

Contact layministersenrichment@gmail.com with questions.


**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

We pray for the faithful departed  
Jared Latigona  
Rose Podrasky  
May they rest in the peace of the Risen Lord.

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**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. SookHoo, 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

**Asst. to the Director of Facilities**  
Caroline Fernandes

**Treasurer**  
Fernando Castro

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**Religious Education for Children**

Ms. Carly-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

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**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

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**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. Hilbert  
Sunday:  8:00 AM  Fr. Hilbert  
9:30 AM  Fr. Hilbert  
Wallace Hall 11:00 AM  Fr. Witt  
Solemn 11:00 AM  Fr. Bergen  
7:30 PM  Fr. Bergen

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**For your convenience...**

To reach the Giving page on the parish website, scan the QR Code at left with your smartphone's camera.

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

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**Poverty: The Curse and the Blessing. The Annual Spring McGinley Lecture.** Tuesday, April 14th, 6:00 P.M. Fordham University, Lincoln Center Campus, 113 West 60th Street. Encore presentation: Wednesday, April 15th at 6:00 P.M. Flom Auditorium, Rose Hill Campus, Bronx. Presenter: Rev. Patrick J. Ryan, S.J., Laurence McGinley Professor of Religion and Society. Respondents: Professor Claudia Setzer, Manhattan College and Professor Hussein Rashad, Ph.D., Hofstra University. Free and open to the public. For more information, call (718) 817-4745, visit fordham.edu/mcginleychair or email mcgchair@fordham.edu

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**Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Sundays at 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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**Nine-Day Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Knock with the Archdiocese of New York.** Saturday, August 8th – Sunday, August 16th. Includes a special Mass with Cardinal Dolan at the Chapel of the Apparition. Itinerary features visits to Connemara, Cliffs of Moher, Killarney, and the Ring of Kerry. Seven-night package prices start at $3,395 per person, sharing a twin room. Deposit deadline is April 30th. For additional details and rate information, visit petersway.com