Something happened to me interiorly on Good Friday. I was driving home after services, listening to a report that Pope Francis, during the Way of the Cross in Rome, decried the persecution of Christians. The Pope condemned the “complicit silence” in the escalating violence against Christians across the globe. “Our brothers and sisters are persecuted, exiled, slain, beheaded, solely for being Christian.” The previous day, approximately 150 students, selected in part for their “non-Muslim” (read: Christian) identity, had been killed at Garissa University College in Kenya. Similarly, Father Raniero Cantalamessa, the Preacher of the Papal Household, wondered why so many people in the world and its institutions remain silent at such widespread killing of Christians.

His words shattered my own denial, my own reluctance to name and claim my silence over the tragedy of the systematic extinction of Christianity in the places where it first took root: the Middle East, Asia, and North Africa. His challenge to think about social evil in terms of the suffering of real persons with names and families touched me.

When I got home, I read about Asia Bibi, a Christian woman sentenced to death in Pakistan for blasphemy. Her husband, Ashiq, visited her on Holy Thursday to pray with her before Easter. She asked him to bring a message to all. “At Easter,” she said, “Jesus Christ gives us an example of peace and forgiveness. All of us must learn from the teaching and sacrifice of Christ who was crucified for us and who forgave all those who harmed him. On this special day I ask Christians in Pakistan to live and pray for peace.” Asking Pope Francis to pray for her and for peace, Asia clings to the Word of God and to hope for a resurrection, that is, her freedom. Her case has become a challenge to Pakistan’s controversial blasphemy law against religious minorities.

Sara Kaplan’s column “Morning Mix” in the April 7th edition of the Washington Post quoted the annual report of “World Watch,” identifying 2014 as having the highest level of global persecution of Christians in the modern era. Researchers for “Open Doors” found that between December 1, 2013 and November 30, 2014, 344 Christians (victims who could be identified by name and an exact cause attributed to their deaths) were killed for faith-related reasons.

Iraqi churches stand empty. Nearly every Christian in Mosul, one of the oldest Christian communities in the world, has fled the city after Islamic State militants ordered them to leave or die. Numerous Assyrian Christians have been abducted in Syria, including a Franciscan friar and a Jesuit priest. Cameron Hudson, director of the Simon-Skjodt Center for the Prevention of Genocide at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, claims that the situation fits the definition of ethnic cleansing. Many of these places have been multicultural for thousands of years and are suddenly being divided along religious lines. So, why the silence? Crux, writes confusion. He appeal more and not

The social, educational and professional vacuum left by the dispersion of Christians is tragic for the entire region. Are we Christians in the West and particularly in the US losing our moral outrage? Most Christians of the world are not in the ‘left-right’ divide as defined by the western media. What can we do? Educate ourselves. Like Asia Bibi, communicate a more accurate understanding of the Christian commitment to right relationship, non-violence, and respect for the human person. Commit to regular intentional prayer for Christians and others targeted for their faith. Donate time and resources to humanitarian and religious efforts to assist Christians who remain in their homeland or are in the diaspora.

— Sr. Kathryn King, FSP
Pastoral Associate
THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

**MONDAY, APRIL 27th**
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!

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29th**
Job Transition Support Group. 10:00 AM. Parish Lounge. Bringing together experienced professionals looking to secure employment. Details on page 3.

**SATURDAY, MAY 2nd**
First Holy Communion. Grammar School Students. 10:00 AM. Church.

IGNITE! Teen Ministry. 6:30 PM. Hoefner Lounge. Details on page 3.

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

The Cardinal’s Appeal offers vital support to Catholic programs and ministries throughout the Archdiocese as well as in our own parish. Please support the Appeal by making your pledge today.

Our goal this year is 400 participants. As of Friday, April 17th, the total is 282.

Gifts can be made online at www.cardinalsoappeal.org

Thank you for prayerfully considering an Appeal commitment!

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

**LAST CALL!**

**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.

**Coming in June**

**Thursday, June 4th**
Ministers’ Night Annual Supper Social In Wallace Hall at 7:00 PM

**Sunday, June 14th**
Farewell Reception for Fr. Witt In McKinnon Hall following the 11:00 AM Masses

Details to follow in an upcoming bulletin.

Congratulations to our Grammar School and Interparish Religious Education Students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday, April 23rd.

Please pray for the newly confirmed.

Prayer Booklets for the Easter Season:
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**PLEASE OPEN FOR PAGES 3 AND 4**
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 | May 3 | May 17 | June 7 | June 21 |

A Discussion with Fr. Matt Malone, S.J., President and Editor-in-Chief of America Media

Sunday, May 3rd at 8:30 PM Wallace Hall

Following the 7:30 PM Mass, the IYAs are hosting a presentation by Fr. Matt Malone, S.J., President and Editor-in-Chief of America Media, publisher of America Magazine.

Fr. Malone will discuss his work at and vision for America Media, and its role within and outside the Ignatian community.

All are welcome.

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, May 11th | 7:00 PM | Conference Room |

Job Transition Support Group

Wednesday, April 29th

10:00 AM

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

IGNITE! TEEN MINISTRY

Saturday, May 2nd

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Hoefner Lounge

Every 1st & 3rd Saturday Teens 13–19 years old are welcome!

IGNITE! offers a forum through which high school students and their families may find a deeper relationship with God and each other.

Registration for each session is encouraged but not required.

For more information and/or to register, contact Teresa Cariño, Youth Minister, at carinot@saintignatiusloyola.org

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

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.


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.

New York Catholics: Faith, Attitude & the Works!

The historical and spiritual legacy of New York City’s largest religious community comes alive in these biographies of 76 women and men who have helped make New York and American great, and whose character and qualities are uniquely New York and Catholic. Cost: $20
**MUSIC**

**SUNDAY, MAY 3rd**

**11:00 AM SOLEMN MASS**

Reger  Benedictus (Op. 59, No. 3)

Hassler  Cantate Domino

King  Let us love in deed and truth

Vaughan Williams  Prelude on Hyfrydol

**11:00 AM FAMILY MASS**

Schwartz  God save the people

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**Annual Golden Wedding Mass Celebration**

Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary anytime during 2015 are invited to attend one of the Annual Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass Celebrations with Cardinal Dolan at the Cathedral of St. Patrick on Saturday, June 20th and Sunday, June 21st at 2:00 PM.

Pre-registration is required.

To register, contact Diane Boyle at the Parish House (212-288-3588 x618 or boyled@stignatiusloyola.org) by Tuesday, May 19th.

Sponsored by the Archdiocesan Family Life/Respect Life Office

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**Prepared by the Jesuit Collaborative**

Ready to try a 500-year-old workout regimen with proven results?

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.

Just like exercise for the physical body, St. Ignatius believed that we need spiritual exercise as well. We invite you to find God in all things through our rewarding and unique programs.

Please visit us at www.jesuitcollaborative.org or email pmcdonough@jesuitcollaborative.org

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**WALLACE HALL AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL**

The space is available for a variety of events including fundraisers, lectures, receptions, and formal banquet-style dinners.

For more information, contact Caroline Fernandes at 212-288-3588 or fernandesc@saintignatiusloyola.org

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**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.

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**Announced Masses and Readings for the Week**

**Monday, April 27th (St. Peter Canisius)**

Acts 11:1–18  Psalm 42  John 10:1–10

8:30 MEM  Raul Castels Valle

12:10 MEM  Philip Dwyer

5:30 MEM  Living & Deceased Members of the Reagan Family

**Tuesday, April 28th**

(Fourth Tuesday of Easter)


8:30 MEM  William Griffo

12:10 MEM  Mary Alice Rooney

5:30 MEM  Yau Yung SooHoo

**Wednesday, April 29th**

(St. Catherine of Siena)


8:30 MEM  Patricia Gilhooley

12:10 MEM  Maureen Hennessey

5:30 MEM  Maria Silva Doyle

**Thursday, April 30th**

(Fourth Thursday of Easter)


8:30 MEM  Arturo Roberto Meleda Perez

12:10 MEM  Mary Alice Rooney

5:30 MEM  William Powers

**Friday, May 1st**

(Fourth Friday of Easter)

Acts 13:26–33  Psalm 2  John 14:1–6

8:30 MEM  William Fissinger

12:10 MEM  Anthony Falcone

5:30 MEM  Lauren Megias

**Saturday, May 2nd**

(St. Athanasius)


8:30 MEM  John F. Donahue, Jr.

**Sunday, May 3rd**

(Fifth Sunday of Easter)


Psalm 22  John 15:1–8
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.

Elisa Singer, soprano
Kate Maroney, mezzo-soprano
Heather Petrie, contralto
John Tiranno, tenor
Timothy Krol, baritone
Enrico Lagasca, bass

Tickets: $25–$80
Tickets are available online at smssconcerts.org
Call 212-288-2520 for 24/7 ticket ordering and customer service.

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
Special Needs Mass: For families with loved ones on the Autism spectrum and with other challenging behaviors. Sunday, May 3rd at 4:00 PM. Church of the Blessed Sacrament, 152 West 71st Street. All family members are invited to attend. For more information, contact jackie@snacknyc.com

Lecture: The Imperative of Hope: Recovering the Prophetic in Christian Life Today. A Conversation with Gustavo Gutiérrez. Wednesday, May 6th, 6:00 PM. Fordham University, Pope Auditorium, Lincoln Center Campus, 113 West 60th Street. Gustavo Gutiérrez, the founder of liberation theology, and theologian Michael Lee explore the challenges of living a Christian life in the contemporary world, and reflect on the ongoing renewal of the Church in the era of Pope Francis. The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information, email crcprogram@fordham.edu or visit fordham.edu/CRC

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

The 2015 New York Catholic Bible Summit: Hear the Word of God With Reverence. Proclaim It With Faith. Saturday, June 20th. New York Catholic Center, 350 East 56th Street. For those interested in learning more about the Holy Scriptures and ways of promoting its use with the Catholic community. Co-sponsored by the Archdiocesan Catechetical Office and American Bible Society. For more information, visit nyfaithformation.org or call (646) 794-2692.

After School Tutors Needed: The Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service is in great need of after-school tutors to assist low-academic performing East Harlem children (ages 7 – 12). The one-on-one tutoring sessions are held at the Center, 333 East 115th Street (between First Avenue and Second Avenue), once a week for 70 minutes. A variety of days and times are available. For more information, contact tgough@lsafhs.org or visit littlesistersfamily.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

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

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

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 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.