The Cross: Innocence and Violence

Today's celebration of the Exaltation of the Cross asks us to turn our attention to the symbol at the center of our faith. The cross invites our minds and hearts into the paschal mystery of the Lord's passion and resurrection. Because that mystery is inexhaustible, we see many things when we look at the cross. One stands out in the context of news reports of recent days: when we look at the cross, we see innocence suffering violence.

There has never been a time when the innocent have not suffered violence. We see it clearly in our day in the abuse of children as victims and pawns in the power struggles of adults. The media attention given to the recent kidnapping of schoolgirls in Africa offers just one example. It follows a number of similar reports about group kidnappings in recent decades, especially the kidnapping of young boys by guerrilla groups who train them to be child soldiers.

At first we might think the waves of children arriving on our southern border tell a different story, a story about the poor in search of a better life, not a story about victims of violence. That does not seem to be the case. Very few of these children come from Guatemala, the poorest Central American country and the one which immediately borders Mexico. Instead, the majority come from the violence-plagued countries to Guatemala’s south and east, Honduras and El Salvador.

According to a United States Border Patrol report, most unaccompanied young refugees from within Honduras and El Salvador “come from extremely violent regions where they probably perceive the risk of travelling alone to the United States preferable to remaining at home.” The families of these young people do not send them off on a journey to face hunger and exploitation, rape and even death so that they can have a better life. It is a question of giving their children a chance to live at all. Parents decide that facing death on a treacherous journey offers their children marginally more hope than facing death as victims of para-military raids or as forcibly recruited fodder in gang warfare. To us, that is an unimaginable decision to have to make.

What can anyone do when the innocent suffer violence? What can anyone do at the foot of the cross of Christ? What can anyone do in the face of the cross these young people bear? The first and sometimes only thing we can do is pray. Critics of Christianity see prayer in the face of such suffering as nothing but pure escapism and utter rejection of responsibility. In fact, the example of the great saints who have spent hours contemplating Christ crucified proves it can be just the opposite.

To stand at the foot of the cross in prayer is to accept our responsibility both for the Lord's passion and for the world's passion. To stand at the foot of the cross in prayer is to accept the impossibility of ever making amends. To stand at the foot of the cross in prayer is to let one's heart be broken by what love has done and what love cannot do. And that is where hope begins. It is broken hearts that have room for the inspirations of the Spirit pointing in the direction of the Lord's call. It is broken hearts that are open to the energy of the Spirit to strengthen them to answer the call.

That is why St. Ignatius Loyola ends the first exercise of the First Week of his Spiritual Exercises asking the retreatant to stand at the foot of the cross and ask four questions. Ask the Lord, “How is it that you have passed from eternal life to death here in time, and to die in this way for my sins?” Ask yourself, “What have I done for Christ? What am I doing for Christ? What ought I to do for Christ?” The answer will not allow us to escape. The Lord will make clear the task he has given each of us for the sake of his suffering world. The Lord will make clear our share in the paschal mystery whose symbol we celebrate today.

– Rev. Thomas H. Feely, S.J.
Associate Pastor
**TODAY**

11:00 AM Wallace Hall Family Mass. 
Included will be prayers and blessings for students and teachers as the school year begins.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th**

Interparish Religious Education Classes begin. 
For registration information, see page 4.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th**

Caritas Concert: Polydora Ensemble. 
6:30 PM. Wallace Hall. 
Details on page 5.

Parishioner Admissions Information Meeting. 7:00 PM. McKinnon Hall. 
Details on page 5.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th**

NEW! Job Transition Support Group. 
10:00 AM. Parish Lounge. 
Details at right.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th**

Parish Community Choir Season Kickoff. 4:00 PM. 
Wallace Hall. Details on page 5.

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**MEETING CHRIST IN PRAYER**

An interactive 8-week guided prayer experience for small groups based on the *Spiritual Exercises* of St. Ignatius. 
Tuesday Mornings, September 30th – November 19th*, 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM 
Wednesday Evenings, October 1st – November 19th*, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM 
*Note: Both sessions will conclude at the evening meeting on Wednesday, November 19th

**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, October 7th, 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.

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

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**Parishioner Admissions Information Meeting**

Hosted by Ms. Mary Larkin, Principal 
Tuesday, September 16th at 7:00 PM 
McKinnon Hall 
Parishioners are welcome to attend for a general overview of the school’s admission process. 
RSVP: 212-861-3820 x130

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**New! Job Transition Support Group**

Meeting Weekly 
10:00 AM in the Parish Lounge 
Bringing together a group of experienced professionals looking to secure employment, we hope to help each other in the job search process. Participants will be invited to contribute their expertise and knowledge.

Please bring your resume. All are welcome. 
For more information, contact John Holewa at johnfholewa@yahoo.com or Christian Nolan at ctnolan59@gmail.com

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**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:** 
Beginning this month, a group will meet here during the year to inquire into the Catholic faith. 
This process is also open to those Catholic adults who have not received the Sacraments of First Communion or Confirmation.

For more information about this process, contact Maureen Fullam at 212-288-3588 or email church@stignatiusloyola.org

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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.

**PLEASE OPEN FOR PAGES 3 AND 4**
Ignatian Spirituality for New Parents
For couples with a first child under 2 years old
Saturday, September 27th, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Parish Lounge
Call – Led by Molly Cesarz & Deirdre Spiropoulos

Sponsored by Contemplative Leaders in Action, a program of The Jesuit Collaborative, participants will come together as a community of men and women who are adjusting to the transition of being new parents.

For more information, email lauren.s.decker@gmail.com

The 5th Annual Friends of the Jesuits Golf Outing
Monday, September 29th
Meadow Brook Club, Jericho, NY
Individual golfer: $1250
Contact Debra Ryan at the NY Jesuit Office: 212-774-5544.
For raffle tickets, registration, and information on sponsorships and journal ads, visit www.nysj.org

The Ignatian Way: Prayer, Community, and Service
Sunday, September 28th in McKinnon Hall immediately following the 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM Masses.
• Learn more about parish activities and events that are planned for this year
  • Refreshments
  • Music
We look forward to welcoming you!

Annual Friends of the Poor Walk
Saturday, September 20th
Join us as we walk 2.6 miles from the steps of St. Patrick’s Cathedral to The Church of St. Gregory the Great on West 90th Street. After arriving at St. Gregory’s, Mass will be celebrated and a light reception will follow.

To register as a walker or pledge financial support for a walker, please visit svdpfriendsofthepoorwalk.org and select “St. Lawrence O’Toole Conference.” This fundraising event helps support our special projects serving those in need. One-hundred percent of all funds raised remain within our conference.

For more information, please contact Louise Decatrel at svdpmembership980@gmail.com

BOOMERS & BEYOND
Join other 50+ Catholics for BOOMERS AT THE MET
Saturday, September 27th
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Metropolitan Museum of Art
Come join us for a private tour of the New American Wing Galleries at the Metropolitan Museum, one of the finest and most comprehensive collections in the world.

After the tour, enjoy a cocktail and the spectacular view at sunset at the Roof Garden Café (cash bar).

Meet at 4:30 PM by the “Groups Desk” inside the main lobby.

Cost: $25 (includes museum admission and tour)
Send check to: Boomers & Beyond, c/o St. Ignatius Loyola, 980 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10028
Please RSVP by Friday, September 19th. Space is limited.

Are you a young adult in your 20s or 30s?
CharisNYC invites you to attend one of our upcoming retreats.
Seekers Retreat – January 30, 2015 to February 1, 2015
Transitions Retreat – March 20, 2015 to March 22, 2015
For more information, email CharisRetreatNYC@gmail.com or call 347-619-2692.
Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, September 15th  
(Our Lady of Sorrows)  
1 Corinthians 11:17–26, 33    Psalm 40    John 19:25–27  
8:30 MEM  Paul Choix  
5:30 MEM  Frances Franck

Tuesday, September 16th  
(SS. Cornelius & Cyprian)  
1 Corinthians 12:12–14, 27–31a    Psalm 100    Luke 7:11–17  
8:30 MEM  Steve Della Pietra  
5:30 MEM  Sose & Mark Prekelezaj

Wednesday, September 17th  
(St. Robert Bellarmine)  
8:30 MEM  Kelly Gillebaard  
5:30 MEM  Yuri Moskovkin

Thursday, September 18th  
(Twenty-fourth Thursday in Ordinary Time)  
8:30 MEM  Alfred Ziccardi  
5:30 MEM  Najib Chartoumi

Friday, September 19th  
(Twenty-fourth Friday in Ordinary Time)  
1 Corinthians 15:12–20    Psalm 17    Luke 8:1–3  
8:30 MEM  John Chiappetta  
5:30 MEM  Josephine Engelbrith

Saturday, September 20th  
(SS. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn & Paul Chŏng Ha-sang)  
1 Corinthians 15:35–37, 42–49    Psalm 56    Luke 8:4–15  
8:30 MEM  Ian Rod Domo

Sunday, September 21st  
(Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time)  
Isaiah 55:6–9                                  Psalm 145  
Philippians 1:20c–24, 27a            Matthew 20:1–16a

ATTENTION PARENTS  
OF 8th GRADERS!  
The TACHS (Test for Admission into Catholic High Schools) will be administered in the Archdiocese of New York on Friday, November 7th. Catholic school students will receive applications in their own schools. Public school students may obtain applications from Catholic high schools participating in the program, Catholic elementary schools, or Parish religious education programs. Online registration is available 7 days a week by going to the website www.tachsinfo.com or by calling 1-866-618-2247. 

Paper applications must be received by the TACHS office no later than Wednesday, October 8th. The deadline for internet/telephone registration is Monday, October 20th. 
For additional details, visit tachsinfo.com or call the TACHS Admission Office at 1-866-618-2247.
FROM THE PASTOR

Making All Things New Update

Dear Parishioners,

It was almost one year ago that Making All Things New, the Archdiocesan Pastoral Planning initiative, began. Since that time an ambitious timeline has been maintained, and it was anticipated that by the end of September decisions would be announced.

We received word this week, however, that Cardinal Dolan is still in the process of reviewing the recommendations that emerged from the process. His final decisions about the closings and mergings of parishes will be postponed until the beginning of November.

To read more about Making All Things New, visit www.archny.org.

Rev. George M. Witt, S.J.
Pastor

MUSIC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST

11:00 AM SOLEMN MASS
Rowley  Contemplation
Morales  Simile est regnum
Oldham  My Lord, Thou art in every breath I take
Vaughan Williams  Prelude in C minor

7:30 PM MASS
Brahms  Chorale Prelude on: O Gott, du frommer Gott
Buxtehude  Chorale Prelude on: Komm, heiliger Geist, BuxWV 199

CARITAS CONCERT
Polydora Ensemble
Tuesday, September 16th at 6:30 PM
Wallace Hall

Caritas Concerts have the appeal of the less formal salon concerts of the 19th century. 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.

New York’s Polydora Ensemble specializes in chamber music for vocal quartet and piano, spanning 19th-century German repertoire to the present day.

All proceeds benefit the Jesuit Volunteer Corps.

Tickets: $50
Call 212-288-2520 for 24/7 ticket ordering and customer service.

Tickets can also be purchased at www.smssconcerts.org

Scan the QR code at left to view a video discussing this Caritas Concert and the work of the Jesuit Volunteer Corps.

PARISH COMMUNITY CHOIR
Season Kickoff
Saturday, September 20th
4:00 PM – 8:00 PM in Wallace Hall

We are a volunteer choir that enhances the ministry of our church through music. We sing at various liturgies at St. Ignatius, including the Solemn Mass, Wallace Hall Mass, 7:30 PM Mass, Saturday 5:30 PM Mass, Good Friday Three Hour Devotion, the Parish Easter Memorial Mass, as well as the Christmas and Spring Concerts. Rehearsals are Tuesday nights from 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM.
Lecture: A Crisis of Conscience: What Do We Owe Immigrant Youth and Families? Tuesday, September 16th, 6:00 PM. Pope Auditorium, 113 West 60th Street, Fordham University. How do we balance the best interests of children and parents against U.S. economic aspirations and a sharply divided electorate? Speakers include: Ken Salazar, former U.S. Senator from Colorado; Sarah Burr, former Assistant Chief Immigration Judge, U.S. Department of Justice; Gabriel Salguero, President, National Latino Evangelical Coalition; David Ushery, journalist and host of NBC’s The Debrief with David Ushery. This event is free and open to the public. To register, email crcevent@fordham.edu or call 212-636-7347.

Corpus Christi Chapter of the International Thomas Merton Society presents “Bearing Witness: Thomas Merton, Contemplation, & Action.” Wednesday, September 17th, 7:00 PM-9:00 PM. Columbia University, Lerner Hall, West 115th Street & Broadway. Speaker: Rev. James Martin, S.J. Free for members/$10 for non-members. Pre-registration and pre-payment required. For more information, call 212-666-9350 or visit corpus-christi-nyc.org/corpus-christi-chapter

Lecture Series: More, Erasmus & Fisher. Presented by The Wethersfield Institute Courses in Catholic Studies. Thursday evenings, September 18th & 25th and October 2nd, 16th, 23rd, & 30th. 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM. St. Agnes Church, 143 East 43rd Street. Speaker: Rev. Joseph Koterski, S.J., Associate Professor of Philosophy, Fordham University. The series will explore the lives of philosophers Thomas More, Desiderius Erasmus, and John Fisher. Cost: $15 per lecture or $60 for the series. Seating is limited. Coffee and cookies will be available. For more information or to reserve the series, visit the website or call Joanne Cunneen at the Parish House (212-288-3588 x632).

Mary Manning Walsh Home Volunteer Association 27th Annual Walk-A-Thon. Saturday, September 20th. Walkers leave Mary Manning Walsh Home at 9:30 AM for Central Park. Pets are also welcome without charge. Fees: $15 for adults, $12 for children (waived if $60 or more is collected from sponsors). For further information, contact Sr. Michael Mary at 212-628-2800.

PARISH STAFF
Pastor
Rev. George M. Witt, S.J.
Associate Pastors
Rev. William J. Bergen, S.J.
Rev. Thomas H. Feely, 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

Weekday Masses
Monday-Friday
8:30 AM and 5:30 PM
Saturday: 8:30 AM

Masses for Next Weekend:
Saturday Vigil: 5:30 PM Fr. Witt
Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Bergen
9:30 AM Fr. Bergen
Wallace Hall 11:00 AM Fr. Feely
Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Witt
7:30 PM Fr. Witt

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 9:30 AM Mass and the 11:00 AM Mass in Wallace Hall.

Centering Prayer:
Mondays 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 (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.

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