A

s the year comes to a close, we are used to year-end roundups and Top 10 lists. December is a time of remembering, gathering up and sorting out, discriminating between the abiding and the evanescent. Pope Francis has given us some beautiful and abiding messages on marriage and the family during the past year, beginning with his Angelus message on the Feast of the Holy Family, December 29, 2013:

“Today our gaze on the Holy Family lets us be drawn into the simplicity of the life they led in Nazareth. It is an example that does our families great good, helping them increasingly to become communities of love and reconciliation, in which tenderness, mutual help, and mutual forgiveness is experienced.

Let us remember the three key words for living in peace and joy in the family: “may I”, “thank you” and “sorry”. In our family, when we are not intrusive and ask “may I”, in our family when we are not selfish and learn to say “thank you”, and when in a family one realizes he has done something wrong and knows how to say “sorry”, in that family there is peace and joy. Let us remember these three words. Can we repeat them all together: may I, thank you, sorry.”

Pope Francis spoke often in October during the Extraordinary Synod on Marriage and the Family, but his attention to marriage and family was a Leitmotif running through the entire year. On September 14, Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, a Mass that included the celebration of the Sacrament of Matrimony, he told the crowd in Saint Peter’s Square:

“This makes us think of families, our families, walking along the paths of life with all their day to day experiences. It is impossible to quantify the strength and depth of humanity contained in a family: mutual help, educational support, relationships developing as family members mature, the sharing of joys and difficulties. Families are the first place in which we are formed as persons and, at the same time, the ‘bricks’ for the building up of society.”

Shortly before the beginning of the synod, on the Pope’s name day—October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi—at a meeting on the family Pope Francis addressed the participants with these words:

“It is significant how — even in the individualistic culture which distorts bonds and renders them ephemeral — in each person born of woman, there remains alive an essential need for stability, for an open door, for someone with whom to weave and to share the story of life, a history to belong to.

The communion of life embraced by spouses, their openness to the gift of life, the mutual protection, the encounter and the memory of generations, educational support, the transmission of the Christian faith to their children.... With all this, the family continues to be a school unparalleled in humanity, an indispensable contribution to a just and supportive society.”

The Pontiff returned to the theme of family in his Address to the European Parliament on November 25:

“To give...hope means more than simply acknowledging the centrality of the human person; it also implies nurturing the gifts of each man and woman. It means investing in individuals and in those settings in which their talents are shaped and flourish.

The first area surely is that of education, beginning with the family, the fundamental cell and most precious element of any society. The family, united, fruitful and indissoluble, possesses the elements fundamental for fostering hope in the future. Without this solid basis, the future ends up being built on sand, with dire social consequences. Then too, stressing the importance of the family not only helps to give direction and hope to new generations, but also to many of our elderly, who are often forced to live alone and are effectively abandoned because there is no longer the warmth of a family hearth able to accompany and support them.”

On this Feast of the Holy Family, we are comforted and challenged by these authoritative and insightful thoughts of Pope Francis, and we pray the Prayer to the Holy Family composed by him for the synod, a synod that will conclude in the coming year:

| Jesus, Mary and Joseph,        | experience violence, rejection |
| in you we contemplate          | and division: may all who have |
| the splendor of true love,     | been hurt or scandalized       |
| to you we turn with trust.     | find ready comfort and healing.

| Holy Family of Nazareth,       | Holy Family of Nazareth,        |
| grant that our families too    | may the approaching Synod       |
| may be places of communion and | of Bishops make us once more     |
| prayer, authentic schools of   | more mindful of the sacredness  |
| the Gospel and small           | and inviolability of the family,|
| domestic Churches.            | and its beauty in God’s plan.   |
| Holy Family of Nazareth,       | Jesus, Mary and Joseph,         |
| may families never again       | graciously hear our prayer.     |

— Rev. Michael P. Hilbert, S.J.
Associate Pastor
THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31st**
Daily Masses at 8:30 AM and 12:10 PM
5:30 PM Vigil Mass in the Church

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 1st**
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
The Solemnity is a holy day of obligation.
One Mass will be celebrated
at 10:30 AM in the Church.
(The Parish House will be closed.)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31st**
Job Transition Support Group.
10:00 AM. Parish Lounge.
Details on page 3.

**FRIDAY – SUNDAY**
**JANUARY 2nd – JANUARY 4th**
Shelter Weekend. Wallace Hall.
For information on volunteering in the Shelter, see details below.

NEXT WEEKEND: SPECIAL COLLECTION

Next weekend, January 3rd & 4th,
our Parish will take up a special collection at all Masses for the
Catholic Communication Campaign
and
The Catholic University of America.
Thank you in advance for your generosity.

SOCIETY OF
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Shelter Volunteers Needed!
Friday, January 2nd–Sunday, January 4th
Wallace Hall
The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Women’s Shelter
needs set-up and stay-over volunteers
every other weekend through April.
There is a particular need for stay-over volunteers, especially on
Sunday nights. Both men and women are invited to volunteer.
To volunteer, please leave a message for Erin Hazard at the
Parish House or e-mail svdp.shelter980@gmail.com

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

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

**Monday, December 29th**
(Fifth Day in the Christmas Octave)
8:30 MEM Sose & Mark Prekelezaj
12:10 MEM Linda Lorber & Irene Skwarko
5:30 MEM Michael Santangelo

**Tuesday, December 30th**
(Sixth Day in the Christmas Octave)
1 John 2:12–17 Psalm 96 Luke 2:36–40
8:30 MEM Margaret Sullivan
12:10 MEM Paul Hendricks
5:30 MEM William Powers

**Wednesday, December 31st**
(Seventh Day in the Christmas Octave)
1 John 2:18–21 Psalm 96 John 1:1–18
8:30 MEM Peter Burke
12:10 MEM William Wallace

**Thursday, January 1st**
(The Octave Day of Christmas)
Numbers 6:22–27 Psalm 67

**Friday, January 2nd**
(St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory Nazianzen)
1 John 2:22–28 Psalm 98 John 1:19–28
8:30 MEM Estelle O’Sullivan
12:10 MEM Mary Catoggio
5:30 MEM Dolorita Wallace

**Saturday, January 3rd**
(The Most Holy Name of Jesus)
Sirach 51:8–12 Psalm 8
8:30 MEM Patrick Murphy

**Sunday, January 4th**
(The Epiphany of the Lord)
Isaiah 60:1–6 Psalm 72
Ephesians 3:2–3a, 5–6 Matthew 2:1–12
**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. To receive updates on IYA events and other opportunities, you can follow us on Facebook at “Ignatian Young Adults (NYC).”

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<tr>
<th>Sunday Social Dates:</th>
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<td>Jan. 11</td>
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<td>Feb. 8</td>
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<td>Feb. 22</td>
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<td>March 8</td>
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**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 IYAnitting@gmail.com

**Monday, January 12th**
7:00 PM in the Conference Room

**SEEKERS’ RETREAT**
FOR YOUNG ADULTS
January 30th – February 1st
Friday Evening – Sunday Afternoon
Mariandale Retreat Center, Ossining, NY
For young adults in their 20s and 30s
Join other young adults as they learn how their Catholic faith impacts their lives through Ignatian spirituality. Take time to reflect on your journey and God’s hopes and dreams for you.
Cost: $250/person; financial assistance available.
Registration ends Thursday, January 15th.
For more information, visit charis.nyc, email CharisRetreatNYC@gmail.com, or call 347-619-2692.

**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.

**MOVING?**
You’ve notified your friends, you’ve notified your credit cards, you’ve notified your magazines. Please don’t forget to notify your church.

**Have you made your donation to the Annual Appeal?**
Thank you to those who have already responded to the Annual Appeal, which is now 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!

**MUSIC**
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 4TH**
The Epiphany of the Lord
11:00 AM SOLEMN MASS
Buxtehude  Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern (BuxWV 223)
Mendelssohn  There shall a star
Scriven  Christ the Appletree
Arr. Chapman  Bring a torch, Jeanette, Isabella

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

**Interested in becoming Catholic?** Call 212-288-3588 or email church@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

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

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

**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:**
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.

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, at 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 tguhch@lsafhs.org or visit the website littlesistersfamily.org

Special Needs Mass: For families with loved ones on the Autism spectrum and with other challenging behaviors. Sunday, January 4th 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

New York Encounter: Identity: In Search of the Human Face. Friday, January 16th – Sunday, January 18th, 2015. Metropolitan Pavilion, 125 West 18th Street. A three-day cultural festival centered around presentations, artistic performances, conferences, exhibits, and information booths introducing a variety of charitable, cultural, and work-related initiatives. Featuring opening remarks by Cardinal Dolan. All events are free and open to the public. For more information, visit newyorkencounter.org or call (347) 713-5146.

Men’s Weekend Retreat, Thursday, January 22nd – Sunday, January 25th, 2015. Loyola House of Retreats, Morristown, NJ. Directed by Fr. Bill Rakowicz S.J. The retreat will begin Thursday night following 7:00 PM dinner. Cost: $400 free will offering. To RSVP, call 973-539-0740 and reference the group name “St. Ignatius New York – Men’s.” For additional information, contact Peter Riordan at 212-877-5134, Carlos Cuartas at 917-509-5329, or visit loyola.org

We pray for the faithful departed
Louis Fusco, Jr.
John A. LaGrua, Jr.
Patrick O’Connor
May they rest in the peace of the Risen Lord.