The Holy Spirit is Alive and Well Here: Notes from Our New Catholics

Twenty-one adults were received into the Church at the Easter Vigil. Here are some of their stories.

Many seasons of my life turned before I was ready to enter the Catholic Church. For years I sat in the pews of parishes I loved while moving around the country, and in them I always experienced great peace. However, I wasn’t prepared to move forward in faith. I did not anticipate that St. Ignatius would inspire such movement in my soul! In unknowing preparation for the RCIA process, I was befriended and loved by the Ignatian Young Adults. They inspired me to question the key items hindering me from pursuing Catholicism more fully. Through these months I have learned much; the more I’ve learned, the more I’ve come to accept that many questions must be satisfied by faith alone. This is my greatest joy—to have found a community where my simple faith can be strengthened! I’ve cried many tears at Mass at St. Ignatius; the Holy Spirit is alive and well here. — Trysha Daskam

When I married my husband at St. Ignatius some years ago, I knew that this church had played a big role in my new family’s life. My husband was a widower; his wife’s funeral was here. His children were students at St. Ignatius Loyola School. I wanted the church to continue to have a big role in our life to honor his family’s history, as well as for continuity and stability. I was also on my own spiritual quest, having been raised by agnostic parents from different religious backgrounds. My stepchildren have accepted my presence with equanimity and grace, thanks to their father and to the unwavering support they have had from the St. Ignatius community. Along the way, I deal with my own feelings of being an outsider—something that’s natural when you are the newest member of a group—whether that group is a family or a church. The Catholic Church and this parish in particular have wrapped their arms around me, making me feel fully included. I’m deeply grateful. — Odile Gordon

For me, joining the Catholic Church was a process of exploration and study that began during my time at a Jesuit university. I was drawn not only to the Church’s rich history and theology, but also to its emphasis on Faith, Tradition, and the Sacraments. To me, the Church represents the fullness of Jesus Christ—the continuation of the church he himself commissioned two thousand years ago. We are fortunate to have a beautiful church at St. Ignatius Loyola to celebrate the Eucharist and hear Christ’s message of love and mercy. It is inspiring to see how many people find fullness here at all stages of life, and I look forward to growing in faith here.

— Name Withheld

I was baptized Presbyterian and taught Sunday school for years. While I have an incredible model of faith in my mom, I unfortunately strayed from faith during college. In 2013 I was fortunate to be introduced to someone who is a parishioner. We dated and, as our relationship grew, we attended Mass together. It was inspiring to see the role faith played in his life and that of his family. Sadly, as I was beginning the RCIA, he chose to end our relationship. While I was devastated, RCIA became a faith formation process and also became a source of strength as I recovered from this loss. Being reminded of Jesus’ love and his desire for a relationship with me brought great comfort and strength. I am confident that the suffering I experienced was different given my commitment to faith formation during this time. This has been a challenging but extremely rewarding journey. I feel very blessed to have reaffirmed and deepened my relationship with Jesus Christ.

— Name Withheld

Watching the Funeral Mass for Mario Cuomo on TV, I was struck by the beauty of the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola. Becoming a Catholic had been in the back of my mind since I had been taught by nuns. I was already attending Mass often. Then a family friend suggested I approach St. Ignatius. As the conversion process moved forward, St. Ignatius became more than a beautiful and peaceful church, but a warm and supportive place to worship God. With the unwavering and tireless guidance of the RCIA team and the experiences shared by fellow members, I became stronger each week in my faith and belief in Christ. At the Easter Vigil, the scene of the entire congregation with lighted candles supporting and welcoming us will be a picture I will always remember. As I received my First Communion I was glad I had taken the next step to be closer to God. In noisy, busy New York City, I have found a place to pray, reflect, and be with Christ. — Pearl Chua

To read additional reflections from Mitra Amestoy, Nolan Cella and Phil Clemente, visit our website at stignatiusloyola.org
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27th
Job Transition Support Group.
10:00 AM. Parish Lounge.
Bringing together experienced professionals looking to secure employment.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28th
Ignatian Social Justice.
7:00 PM. Conference Room.
All are welcome.

LAST CALL! THE ANNUAL CHANGE FOR CHANGE DRIVE

Donations this year will be forwarded to the Jesuit Refugee Service: Mercy in Motion Campaign.

Mercy in Motion supports the JRS Global Education Initiative, a worldwide effort by the Jesuit Refugee Service to expand educational programs to refugees and those who have been forcibly displaced.

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.

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

If you feel attracted to the Catholic faith, we want you to know about a program at the Parish.

A group will meet here during the year to inquire into the Catholic faith, to come to know Jesus through the Gospels, and to pray and to prepare for the Easter Sacraments.

This process, which is called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, is also open to those Catholic adults who have not received the Sacraments of First Communion or Confirmation.

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

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

For your convenience
To reach the Giving page on the parish website, scan the QR Code at left.

The Cardinal’s Annual Appeal
Sharing God’s Gifts

The Cardinal’s Appeal offers vital support to offices, ministries, and programs throughout the Archdiocese as well as in our own parish.

Please support the Appeal by making your pledge today.

Gifts can be made online at cardinalsappeal.org

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, April 25th (St. Peter)
1 Peter 5:5b–14   Psalm 89   Mark 16:15–20
8:30 MEM Laura Regalado
12:10 MEM Consuelo Dancel Sison
5:30 MEM George Adams

Tuesday, April 26th (Fifth Tuesday of Easter)
8:30 MEM Emil Wittek
12:10 MEM Mary Bremmerman
5:30 MEM Antoine Pullicino

Wednesday, April 27th (St. Peter Canisius)
Acts 15:1–6   Psalm 122   John 15:1–8
8:30 MEM Andrew Forte
12:10 LVG Angela Ryan
5:30 MEM Living & Deceased Members of the Regan & Burke Families

Thursday, April 28th (Fifth Thursday of Easter)
Acts 15:7–21   Psalm 96   John 15:9–11
8:30 MEM Thomas Jakelich
12:10 MEM Cheyenne Perez
5:30 MEM Patricia Panzer

Friday, April 29th (St. Catherine of Siena)
8:30 MEM Patricia Gilhooley
12:10 MEM Veronica Delaney
5:30 MEM Dave McCarthy

Saturday, April 30th (Fifth Saturday of Easter)
Acts 6:1–10   Psalm 100   John 15:18–21
8:30 LVG Mr. & Mrs. Victor Donald Russo

Sunday, May 1st (Sixth Sunday of Easter)
Acts 15:1–2, 22–29   Psalm 67

Special Collection
Next weekend our Parish will take up the annual collection for Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe.
Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Special Collection
“The prophet Ezekiel said, ‘I will take out of your flesh the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.’ This is the experience the apostle Paul had after his encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus. It radically changed his outlook on life, and he received baptism. God transformed his heart!”

— Pope Francis, *The Church of Mercy*

**MUSIC**

**SUNDAY, MAY 1ST**

**11:00 AM SOLEMN MASS**

Moore  
Variations on *Now the green blade riseth*

Fauré  
*Cantique de Jean Racine*

Locklair  
*Verses of peace*

Bullard  
*Easter Carol*

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**SACRED MUSIC in a SACRED SPACE**

**Psalms, Hymns & Spiritual Songs**

Wednesday, May 11th  
7:00 PM

The season concludes with a rousing celebration of music for unaccompanied choir:

Aaron Copland's 1947 choral concerto *In the Beginning*, Philadelphia composer Jennifer Higdon's *Sanctus*, and *Carmina mei, cordis* by award-winning Minnesota native Abbie Betinis.

**Tickets:** $25–$80

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**Rejoice in the Lord! A Music Ministry Celebration**

Sunday, May 22nd  
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.**

Tickets for all concerts are available online at www.smssconcerts.org or by calling 212-288-2520.

**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

**BLOOD DRIVE**

Sunday, May 1st, 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 – http://tinyurl.com/StIgnatiusLoyolaBloodDrive

Telephone – (800) 933-2566

Please reference Group Code 06239 when registering by phone.

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

Please drink plenty of fluids and eat a well-balanced meal before giving blood.

Please help us exceed our goal of 38 donations!

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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 20th, 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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**Ecuadorean Earthquake Relief**

On April 16th, a 7.8-magnitude earthquake hit Ecuador, killing more than 500 people—a number that continues to rise. This is the strongest earthquake Ecuador has experienced since 1979. Hundreds more have been injured, and there are reports of widespread damage to buildings, roads, and other infrastructure. Communications are down or intermittent, further complicating damage assessment and need.

Given the widespread impact, Catholic Relief Services is coordinating with other humanitarian organizations and its partners to determine priorities. Water, food, and emergency shelter will be the biggest needs in the coming days.

The people of Ecuador urgently need your help. Your donation will help CRS respond immediately. Please donate by visiting www.crs.org
PARISH STAFF

Parish Administrator
Rev. Thomas H. Feely, S.J.

Associate Pastors
Rev. William J. Bergen, S.J.
Rev. Michael P. Hilbert, S.J.
Rev. Dennis J. Yesalonia, S.J.

Pastoral Associates
Teresa Marie Cariño
Carly-Anne Gannon

Assisting Priests (Sunday)
Rev. Philip G. Judge, S.J.
Rev. James Martin, S.J.
Rev. Samuel J. Sawyer, S.J.
Rev. Anthony P. SooHoo, S.J.

Music Ministries
Scott Warren, Director
Daniel Beckwith
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
Michael Gardiner

Asst. to the Director of Facilities
Caroline Fernandes

Treasurer
Fernando Castro

Religious Education for Children
Ms. Carly-Anne Gannon, Director
M.Phil., M.Ed.
(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) 734-6427 Fax: (212) 734-6972

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.

Confessions
4:30 PM Saturday or by appointment.

Baptisms
Please call Teresa Cariño 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 Teresa Cariño 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.