Some of the best advice I have ever received was from a priest during Confession. He said: “[y]ou have a duty to create a beautiful life.” His words affirmed an instinct that I could not yet articulate for myself. In a sentence, he illuminated a guiding vision for my life that appealed to my deepest desires. He reinvigorated my pursuit of the good, the true, and the beautiful in a way that stirred my heart with excitement beyond mere obedience. In a sense, it was an “epiphany.”

The priest’s words immediately drew upon the connections that were beginning to form after reading Saint Pope John Paul II’s “Letter to Artists” (1999) a few weeks prior. St. John Paul II addresses his letter “[t]o all who are passionately dedicated to the search for new ‘epiphanies’ of beauty so that through their creative work as artists they may offer these as gifts to the world.”

He begins by calling our attention to God the Creator, who called man into existence, ex nihlo, out of nothing, committing to him the “craftsman’s task.” St. John Paul II states that it is “through his ‘artistic creativity’ man appears more than ever, ‘in the image of God’ and he accomplishes this task above all in shaping the wondrous ‘material’ of his own humanity and then exercising creative dominion over the universe which surrounds him.”

Clearly, not all are called to be artists in the specific sense of the term. “Yet, as Genesis has it, all men and women are entrusted with the task of crafting their own life: in a certain sense, they are to make of it a work of art, a masterpiece.”

Just as society needs artists, it needs “scientists, technicians, workers, professional people, witnesses of the faith, teachers, fathers and mothers, who ensure the growth of the person and the development of the community by means of that supreme art form which is ‘the art of education.’”

As a Religious Educator, I am actively involved in the “art of education.” In viewing my life and my teaching vocation as an aesthetic process, I open up the possibility for the creative action of the Holy Spirit to inspire my thoughts, desires, words, and work to become something beautiful for God.

Beauty is a “key to the mystery (of God) and a call to transcendence. It is an invitation to savor life and to dream of the future.” An encounter with something truly beautiful stirs us to wonder and enthusiasm. It is precisely this to which Cyprian Norwid, a noted Polish poet, seems to allude in declaring that “beauty is to enthuse us for work, and work is to raise us up.”

As St. John Paul II stated on the threshold of the Third Millennium: “People of today and tomorrow need this enthusiasm if they are to meet and master the crucial challenges which stand before us. Thanks to this enthusiasm, humanity, every time it loses its way, will be able to lift itself up and set out again on the right path. In this sense it has been said with profound insight that ‘beauty will save the world.’”

His words, more than ever, speak prophetically to us now.

In the midst of much anxiety and fear, as a result of our current political landscape, I propose the Transcendentals of truth, beauty and goodness as the lens through which we view our search for the common good and justice. It is beauty, as we know, that most attracts those who are encountered by it, drawing them to the truth and the good.

Jesus, “the image of the invisible God,” (Colossians 1:5) surpasses any worldly beauty. He alone, knowing our sufferings and limitations, can elevate our striving for a beautiful life for our brothers and sisters. My hope is that our collective striving will result in elevated language, dialogue, and actions that create a more beautiful life for all around us. I return to this vision when I am tempted to settle for less.

What constitutes a beautiful life for you? How are you co-creating this vision? We all have a duty to create a beautiful life. In the words of Mother Teresa, together “let us do something beautiful for God.”

— Carly-Anne Gannon
Director of Religious Education
THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12th
Girl Scout Bake Sale.
Immediately following the 11 AM Mass.
Wallace Hall. Details below.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16th
Lecture: What Are We Doing on Earth for Christ’s Sake?
Presented by Fr. Richard Leonard, S.J.
7:00 PM. Wallace Hall.
Details at right.

GIRL SCOUT BAKE SALE
TODAY in Wallace Hall
Immediately following the 11 AM Mass
The St. Ignatius Loyola School
Girl Scouts will be selling cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, and cupcakes.
Nut-free and gluten-free desserts will also be available.
All proceeds will benefit the Scarlett Fund, which raises money for pediatric cancer research.

CALL TO MINISTRY
We need to expand the number of our parishioners serving as
Eucharistic Ministers
Hospitality Ministers
Lectors
Response forms and brief descriptions of each ministry are available in the Narthex (Church lobby) and in the Parish House.
Instruction for new ministers will be offered soon.
For more information, contact Fr. Feely at feelyt@saintignatiusloyola.org

CALLING ALL SINGERS!
The volunteer choirs — Parish Community Choir, Canticum Sacrum, and Wallace Hall Music Choir — are looking for new members. Details and schedule information can be found online at stignatiusloyola.org
Be a part of the wonderful music you hear each Sunday!
For more information or to schedule an audition, email the Music Office at music@stignatiusloyola.org

LEcTURE
What Are We Doing on Earth for Christ’s Sake?
Presented by Fr. Richard Leonard, S.J.
Thursday, February 16th at 7:00 PM in Wallace Hall
Bestselling author Fr. Richard Leonard, S.J., will discuss his book What Are We Doing On Earth for Christ’s Sake?, which invites Christians to revisit their faith in the midst of the contemporary world and its challenges.
Fr. Leonard encourages the need for honest dialogue, stresses the importance of religious experience but, most importantly, urges the practice of genuine actions for Christ’s sake.
Copies of Fr. Leonard’s book will be available for purchase.

RANGER ROSARY MINISTRY
Monday, February 27th
7:00 PM in the Conference Room
16,000 rosaries and counting!
The Ranger Rosary ministry meets twice a month to make rosaries for Catholics who are serving in the armed services. These rosaries are constructed from materials with no metal parts that might reflect light or make a rattling noise.
New members are always welcome!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY NOW PLEASE REMEMBER US LATER!
Remember St. Ignatius in Your Estate Plan
Over the years, it has been the gifts left to the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola in wills, bequests, and memorials that have helped us to continue to operate: as a place of worship, as a place to protect and teach our children, and as a caring and generous parish where area residents may come for spiritual guidance.
If you would like information about planned giving, contact Fernando Castro, Treasurer, or visit our website at www.stignatiusloyola.org
SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

IGNATIAN YOUNG ADULTS

IGNITE! TEEN MINISTRY

PRAYER RESOURCES

WALLACE HALL AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL

ST. IGNATIUS IS NOW ON FACEBOOK!
The Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) makes a difference in the lives of people in need through service and prayerful reflection. Relying on their experience, IVC volunteers are older adults who serve in community agencies and schools as tutors, counselors, legal advisors, business consultants, nurses and teachers. They are men and women who seek to develop and enrich their own spiritual lives through individual and communal reflection in the tradition of St. Ignatius Loyola.

For more information about IVC, visit IVCUSA.org or contact Mary Ellen O’Driscoll, Metro New York Area Director, at 917-609-8163.

Strengthened by the Eucharist, we respond to God’s generosity in our lives with gratitude by using and sharing our gifts in the service of others.

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

Gifts can be made online at www.cardinalsappeal.org

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

**Monday, February 13th**
*(Sixth Monday in Ordinary Time)*
Genesis 4:1–15, 25  Psalm 50  Mark 8:11–13
8:30 MEM  John & Margaret Reilly
12:10 MEM  Jane Fredericks
5:30 MEM  Margaret Fechtmann

**Tuesday, February 14th**
*(Ss. Cyril & Methodius)*
Genesis 6:5–8; 7:1–5, 10  Psalm 29  Mark 8:14–21
8:30 MEM  Florence Szilagyi
12:10 MEM  Raymond Feerick
5:30 MEM  Joseph & Margaret Phelan

**Wednesday, February 15th**
*(St. Claude La Colombière)*
Genesis 8:6–13, 20–22  Psalm 116  Mark 8:22–26
8:30 MEM  Giro & Elina Zullo
12:10 MEM  Jack O’Leary
5:30 MEM  Patricia Webb

**Thursday, February 16th**
*(Sixth Thursday in Ordinary Time)*
Genesis 9:1–13  Psalm 102  Mark 8:27–33
8:30 MEM  Mae Rooney
12:10 MEM  Virgilio Cannatella
5:30 MEM  Guido Schmidt-Chiari

**Friday, February 17th**
*(Sixth Friday in Ordinary Time)*
Genesis 11:1–9  Psalm 33  Mark 8:34–9:1
8:30 MEM  Marianne T. Bogunovich
12:10 MEM  Richard Sleezer
5:30 MEM  Susan Meyer

**Saturday, February 18th**
*(Sixth Saturday in Ordinary Time)*
Hebrews 11:1–7  Psalm 145  Mark 9:2–13
8:30 MEM  Marianne T. Bogunovich

**Sunday, February 19th**
*(Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time)*
Leviticus 19:1–2, 17–18  Psalm 103
1 Corinthians 3:16–23  Matthew 5:38–48
MUSIC

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19th

11 AM SOLEMN MASS

Stanford
Jesu dulcis memoriae

Davies
Jesu dulcis memoriae

Harris
Behold, the tabernacle of God

Schütz
Lobe den Herren, meine Seele, SWV 39

Stanford
Allegro in D minor, Set 2, Op. 105

WORLD PREMIERE OPERA

Upon this handful of Earth

Friday, February 24th, 7:00 PM

SMSS and The New York Opera Society have commissioned a new chamber opera from renowned Norwegian composer Gisle Kverndokk and librettist Aksel-Otto Bull based on the writings of Fr. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin.

Tickets: $25–$80

COMING IN MARCH

Eric Whitacre Singers: Music for Sacred Spaces

Sunday, March 5th, 4:00 PM

Eric Whitacre brings his Grammy award-winning choir to his homeland for only the second time. Featuring Eric’s new work Music for Sacred Spaces, written especially for the occasion, the program includes some of his most loved pieces such as Sleep and Lux Aurumque alongside great works from the choral œuvre.

Tickets: $35–$85

Tickets for all concerts are available at smssconcerts.org

SCRIPTURE CLASSES

Women in the Bible

Five Sessions Beginning March 13th

Mondays at 11:00 AM in the Meeting Room

Both the Hebrew and Christian scriptures testify that women have been indispensable to the narrative of our faith, often fulfilling unexpected and vital roles. Join us as we meet these women and listen to their stories of victory and sorrow, blessing and bravery, birth and death.

From Eve to Esther, Rebecca to Ruth, Mary the mother of Jesus to Mary Magdalene, there is much wisdom to be learned, and faithful witness by which we can be graced.

To register, email WomenintheBibleClass@gmail.com

Jesus, The Jewish Messiah: Gospel of Matthew

Five Sessions Beginning March 13th

Mondays at 7:00 PM in the New Classroom (Wallace Hall)

Matthew’s Gospel has long been a deeply treasured account of Jesus’ life and ministry. This carefully organized, theologicially rich text contains many of Jesus’ most memorable teachings and sayings, including the Sermon on the Mount, the Beatitudes, the Golden Rule, and the Lord’s Prayer.

Our class meetings will explore these and other fascinating sections of this gospel that has always been given pride of place in the New Testament canon.

To register, email GospelofMatthewClass@gmail.com

All sessions led by Brian Pinter, Education Associate and Bible scholar-in-residence at Christ Church United Methodist.

Space is limited. Early registration is recommended.

MONEY MADE SIMPLE: Free personal finance course

Thursdays from February 23rd to March 23rd
7:00 PM–9:00 PM in the Parish Lounge

Are you ready to take charge of your personal finances? Join Money Made Simple for free financial literacy seminars. Topics include: financial goal setting and budgeting; credit and debt management; financial planning for education, careers, and housing; investing basics; and financial planning for later years.

Taught by Kim Bourne, CFP®, on behalf of the Pro Bono Committee of the Financial Planning Association of New York.

To register, please visit www.moneymadesimple.info | Questions? Email moneymadesimplecourse@gmail.com

Sponsored by Boomers & Beyond and Ignatian Young Adults
Liturgy: Into the Heart of Mercy and Peace: Young Adult Holy Hour. Sunday, February 26, 5:00 PM. Church of St. Monica, St. Stephen of Hungary & St. Elizabeth of Hungary, 413 East 79th Street. Young adults between the ages of 18 and 40 are invited to spend time with the Lord and with each other. A reception with light refreshments will follow.


Travel: U.S. National Rosary Pilgrimage to Lourdes, France. Thursday, June 22–Saturday, July 1. Includes all meals, a guided tour of Lourdes, a guided visit to Gavarnie, and scheduled liturgical services. The group will be accompanied by medical staff, clergy, and volunteers to assist with the needs of the pilgrims. Prices start at $2,745. Reservation deadline is Wednesday, March 15. For additional details and rate information, visit lourdes-pilgrimage.com, call 877-276-7279, or email lourdespilgrimageoffice@comcast.net.

Travel: A Journey to Spain, Plus Lourdes. Sunday, October 1–Wednesday, October 11. Trip includes visits to Loyola, San Sebastian, Montserrat, and Barcelona. Trip leaders: Fr. George Witt, S.J., Provincial Assistant for Spiritual Ministries, Maryland & USA Northeast Provinces of the Society of Jesus, and Mr. Joe Naylor, Provincial Assistant for Advancement and Communications, Maryland & USA Northeast Provinces of the Society of Jesus. Prices start at $3,899 (if paid by check)/$4,098 (if paid by credit card). Accommodations, sightseeing, and meals are included. To download a brochure, visit GoCatholicTravel.com/NaylorWitt. For more information, contact Joe Naylor at jnaylor@jesuits.org or call 212-774-5529.

PARISH STAFF

- **Pastor**: Rev. Dennis J. Yesalonia, S.J.
- **Associate Pastors**: Rev. Thomas H. Feely, S.J., Rev. Michael P. Hilbert, S.J.
- **Senior Priest**: Rev. William J. Bergen, S.J.
- **Pastoral Associates**: Teresa Marie Cariño, Carly-Anne Gannon, M.Phil., M.Ed.
- **Assisting Priests (Sunday)**: Rev. Philip G. Judge, S.J., Rev. James Martin, S.J.
- **Music Ministers**: Scott Warren, Director; Daniel Beckwith, Robert Reuter, Michael Sheetz, Maureen Haley, Philip Anderson, Sara Murphy, Executive Director of SMSS Concerts; Danya Katok, 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

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. Bergen, 9:30 AM Fr. Bergen
- Wallace Hall: 11:00 AM Fr. Yesalonia

Solemn:

- 11:00 AM Fr. Martin
- 7:30 PM Fr. Martin

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

We pray for the faithful departed
Roger P. McTiernan
May he rest in the peace of the Risen Lord.

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) 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

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Asst. to the Director of Facilities
Caroline Fernandes
Treasurer
Fernando Castro

Children’s Liturgy of the Word

Sundays at the 9:30 AM Mass.

Centering Prayer

Mondays at 6:30 PM.

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.