Next Wednesday we will observe Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. For Christians the forty days of Lent are a time of prayer, self-examination and renewal, as well as some form of personal sacrifice—all in preparation for the celebration of the Paschal Mystery of Jesus Christ during the Easter Triduum.

This year, twenty-four men and women are participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults at our Parish. RCIA, the ordinary way the Church reaches out to adults who inquire into the Catholic faith, is a process of faith formation and sacramental preparation. For these committed adults, Lent is a very important step in their conversion journey. It is the time when these men and women (called “catechumens” if they have not been baptized, and “candidates” if they have already been baptized) are in the final stages of their preparation process to become Catholics at Easter and to receive the Easter Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist.

As we join the universal Church in supporting these sisters and brothers during this part of their journey, we at St. Ignatius Loyola are continuing a tradition that began in the early Church. Then, the Lenten season marked the final forty-day preparation period for adult converts who would be received into the Church at the Easter Vigil Liturgy. The living faith community who would receive these new members was called to pray and prepare along with them. Likewise, today at St. Ignatius, the parish community prays with and for the catechumens and candidates at ceremonies or “rites” that give visible signs to their progress on the journey.

For these adults, who hail from ten states and eight countries with an age range of fifty years, the RCIA process, these individuals publicly expressed their intent to respond to God’s call and asked for the support of God’s Church, the people of God represented by the parish community. Since that time they have been getting to know Jesus Christ better and deepening their relationship with Him.

Next Sunday at the 11:00 AM Solemn Mass, the entire parish community, led by our Pastor Father Yesalonia, will celebrate two rites: The Rite of Sending, formally ratifying our catechumens’ readiness and sending them forth to St. Patrick’s Cathedral and The Rite of Call to Continuing Conversion for our baptized candidates who are coming into full communion or completing their Catholic initiation.

That same afternoon at The Rite of Election, Cardinal Dolan will welcome our parish catechumens—along with catechumens from parishes across the Archdiocese of New York—on behalf of the universal Church. He will officially accept the catechumens’ desire to be baptized and choose or “elect” them to be received into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. The catechumens will sign their names in the Archdiocese’s “Book of the Elect” as a sign that each of them has been chosen by God, who calls them by name, loves them unconditionally, and claims them as His own.

These twenty-four men and women who aspire to a new way of life in Christ have received the gift of God’s love. They are joyfully responding to God’s call to conversion and are trying to live their lives as Christ’s disciples. Let us pray that they use the forty days of Lent to become even more aware of God’s love for them and His action in their lives as they prepare to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist at Easter.

In the same way, may we who have already received the gift of faith recognize the forty days of Lent as an opportunity to become closer to Christ as we prepare to celebrate the Paschal Mystery at Easter by praying for and supporting our catechumens and candidates.

— Mary Ann Fitzgibbon
RCIA Team Member and Parishioner
THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27th
Ranger Rosary Ministry.
7:00 PM. Conference Room. Details on page 3.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1st
ASH WEDNESDAY

Masses
- 8:30 AM
- 12:10 PM
- 5:30 PM (organ/cantor)
- 7:30 PM (organ/cantor)

Ashes will be distributed at all Masses

4:00 PM in Wallace Hall
Ash Wednesday Service for children and families,
led by Carly-Anne Gannon,
Director of Religious Education.
(Adults must remain with their children
at this service. Ashes will be distributed.)

SATURDAY, MARCH 4th
IGNITE Teen Reflection Series.
6:30 PM. Parish Lounge. Details on page 3.

Sesquicentennial Dinner 150
Saturday, March 18th at 7:00 PM in Wallace Hall
Join us for an evening of celebration as we conclude
our year-long commemoration of a parish community
150 years in the making.

Seating is limited.
Please RSVP at donate.stignatiusloyola.org/dinner150
The RSVP deadline is Friday, March 10th.

To stay up-to-date on parish events and programs,
follow us at facebook.com/churchofstignatiusloyolanyc

LENTEN SERIES WITH IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Wednesday, March 15th
7:00 PM
Immanuel Lutheran Church

Wednesday, March 22nd
7:00 PM
Church of St. Ignatius Loyola

In honor of the Joint Declaration on Justification by Faith, the 1999 ecumenical agreement between
the Roman Catholic and Lutheran churches, we will be presenting joint Lenten services in cooperation
with Immanuel Lutheran Church (122 East 88th Street).

Immanuel Lutheran will celebrate a Vespers service on Wednesday, March 15th at 7:00 PM.
On Wednesday, March 22nd at 7:00 PM, we will host our Lenten service, with a reception to follow in the Meeting Room.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

During the Season of Lent, the Church urges the faithful to reflect a spirit of penance in their daily lives
through Fast and Abstinence.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fast and Abstinence.
Fridays in Lent are days of Abstinence.

Fasting requires that only one full meal be taken per day. Two other smaller meals may be taken during the
day to maintain physical strength, but these two meals
ought should not equal a full meal in quantity.
Fasting obliges all those who have reached the age of
18 and continues to oblige through age 59. Those not
specifically obliged to fast are encouraged to join in
the discipline of fasting to the extent that they are able.

Abstinence prohibits individuals from eating meat
on a particular day. Abstinence obliges all those who
have reached the age of 14 and continues to oblige
throughout their lives. Those not specifically obliged to
abstain from eating meat are encouraged to join in this
discipline of abstaining to the extent that they are able.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday Evenings, March 7th – April 11th
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM in the Church
(except Tuesday, March 7th when Exposition
will take place in the Lady Chapel)

The church will be open for
exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
and private adoration.

Scheduling Note
The church will remain open after the 5:30 PM Mass
until 8:00 PM. At 7:00 PM, the Blessed Sacrament will
be exposed and will remain exposed for one hour.

Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place
shortly before 8:00 PM when the church closes.
IGNATIAN YOUNG ADULTS

**Sunday Social 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday Social Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IYA LENTEN REFLECTION GROUP**

**Sundays, March 5th–April 9th**

6:00 PM in the Faber Lounge

For young adults in their 20s & 30s

A reflection group for young adults to share experiences about their relationship with God and gratefully and openly listen to one another.

To register, visit https://goo.gl/forms/36MTWyecwROZax9A3

**Adult Confirmation Class**

Tuesday evenings, March 14th–April 25th

Adult parishioners of St. Ignatius who have received First Eucharist but who have not yet received the sacrament of Confirmation may register for a course in preparation for the sacrament to be conferred here on Thursday, May 4th, at 5:30 PM.

The course will begin on **Tuesday, March 14th**, at 7:15 PM and will continue for seven consecutive Tuesday evenings, concluding on **Tuesday, April 25th**.

Attendance at all the sessions is required. Enrollment is limited.

Interested adults should contact Fr. Bergen at 212-288-3588.

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IGNITE! TEEN MINISTRY

**IGNITE TEEN REFLECTION SERIES**

**Saturdays, March 4th–April 8th**

6:30 PM in the Parish Lounge

All high school students are welcome!

To register, visit https://goo.gl/forms/i51MR13PlBVkbD0p1

Lent is a journey of hope in the midst of our lives. You’re invited to an opportunity to reflect on your personal journey, pray as a community, and put your hope into action.

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SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY**

**MARCH 11th & MARCH 12th**

SVdP Women’s Shelter
Wallace Hall

**Overnight Volunteers Urgently Needed**

Help us provide a safe, welcoming haven for our most vulnerable neighbors.

Both men and women are invited to volunteer.

If you would like to volunteer in the Shelter, please leave a message for Teresa Abruzzo at the Parish House or email svdp.shelter980@gmail.com

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THE ANNUAL

**CHANGE FOR CHANGE DRIVE**

Donations this year will be forwarded to Xavier High School, Chuuk, Micronesia.

The collection period runs to the end of April. Loose change, bills, and checks (made out to “Church of St. Ignatius Loyola”) are welcome!

Please bring donations to the Parish House in care of Carly-Anne Gannon.

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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

Registration is our only means of certifying membership in the Parish.
For your convenience
To reach the Giving page on the parish website, scan the QR Code at left.

Interested in becoming Catholic? Call 212-288-3588 or email church@stignatiusloyola.org
**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

**LENTEN FOOD DRIVE**

Throughout Lent, SVdP will be accepting donations of food for the Community Pantry at the Church of St. Gregory the Great.

The items requested each week are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Week 4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(March 5–11)</td>
<td>(March 26–April 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pasta and tomato sauce</td>
<td>tuna fish and canned vegetables</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Week 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(March 12–18)</td>
<td>(April 2–5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rice and canned beans</td>
<td>soups and rice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(March 19–25)</td>
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<tr>
<td>cereals and canned fruits</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please bring donations to the Parish House.

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**MUSIC**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 5th**

**11 AM SOLEMN MASS**

Lassus  
*Missa octavi toni: Kyrie, Sanctus*

Brahms  
*Schaffe in mir, Gott (Part 1)*

Lassus  
*Miserere mei*

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**COMING NEXT MONTH**

**Eric Whitacre Singers:**

**Music for Sacred Spaces**  
*Sunday, March 5th at 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 oeuvre.

**Tickets:** $35–$85

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**LECTURE**

**Growing in Age and Wisdom:**

**Aging and the Call to Holiness**

Presented by Fr. Myles Sheehan, S.J., M.D.

*Monday, March 6th at 7:00 PM*  
Wallace Hall

There are many different ways we look at and prepare for aging. But, given that we are living longer than ever before, have we ever thought and dreamed about what God is offering us with our longer lives?

Taking a cue from St. Ignatius, Fr. Sheehan will discuss how God might be calling us to grow in love, wisdom, and holiness, as we face both the opportunities and real challenges that aging brings.

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**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.

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

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**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 is a theologically rich text contains many of Jesus’ most memorable teachings and sayings.

Our class meetings will explore Matthew’s Gospel, a text that has always been given pride of place in the New Testament canon.

To register, email GospelofMatthewClass@gmail.com
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

Assisting Priests (Sunday)
Rev. Philip G. Judge, S.J.
Rev. James Martin, S.J.

Music Ministries
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

Play: Calderon’s Two Dreams. Through Sunday, February 26th. Ellen Stewart Theatre, 66 East 4th Street, 2nd Floor. Calderon's Two Dreams is a presentation of both versions of playwright Pedro Calderon de la Barca's play Life is a Dream—the initial 1635 work and the 1677 revision following his ordination as a priest. Directed by Fr. George Drance, S.J., Artistic Director of the Magis Theatre Company and Artist-in-residence at Fordham University Lincoln Center. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit lamama.org

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: 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 Wirtt, 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.

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. Feely
9:30 AM Fr. Bergen
Wallace Hall 11:00 AM Fr. Hilbert
Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Yesalonia
7:30 PM Fr. Yesalonia

We pray for the faithful departed
Frank McGoldrick
May he rest in the peace of the Risen Lord.

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