What Does It Mean to Pray for Vocations?

According to St. Ignatius Loyola, while some married persons, singles, ordained ministers and religious are so by vocation, others are not. A state of life is different from a vocation. The reason a state of life was chosen is what makes it a vocation. To quote St. Ignatius:

*It may happen... that some choose firstly to marry, which is a means to an end, and secondly to serve God our Lord in marriage, although the service of God is the end. Similarly, there others who first seek the benefits that come with priesthood and afterwards to serve God as a priest. Such persons do not go directly to God, but want God to conform to their desires. As a result, they turn the end into a means and the means into an end, and what they should fasten on in the first place, they take up in the last.* (Spiritual Exercises 169)

The root meaning of ‘vocation’ is ‘call’. A vocation is a call from God, and a state of life is only a vocation if it is chosen out of a desire to respond to God. How can we know what God is calling us to? The correspondence between my gifts and talents and the needs of the world and the church can arouse aspirations in my heart which are evidence of a call. The intuition that a state of life, with all its possible trials and difficulties, will make me joyful and peaceful, faithful and hopeful and loving is further evidence.

In our own time, as in the time of St. Ignatius, many young people take everything but God into account when making life choices. Desire for economic security and social status, fear of loneliness and commitment, self-doubt, or pressure to make the same choices others have made: these often dictate people's life choices, and the results are frequently unfortunate.

These pressures enmesh young people in a web of what St. Ignatius calls disordered attachments: attractions which cannot offer the purpose and fulfillment we long for and which moreover distract us from what will truly make us whole. Longing for prestige, desiring affluence, needing excitement, yearning for acceptance, and the lure of the easiest way are all disordered attachments. These attractions trap us in an I-want-it-so-badly syndrome, with ‘I’ underscored, and they rob us of the liberty to ask what God wants for us, what will make us free.

Each year the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops asks us to join in a World Day of Prayer for Vocations as a way to fulfill Jesus’ instruction in Luke 10:2 to “pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest.” What does it mean to pray for vocations to ordained ministry and religious life? Against the Ignatian backdrop I have outlined, it means to pray that all young people will open their hearts to the Holy Spirit, freeing them from disordered attachments and attuning them to discern God’s call, whatever God’s call may be.

And promoting vocations? From an Ignatian perspective promoting vocations means getting out of God’s way. It means not seeing our sons and daughters and young friends as means to our own fulfillment, and not imposing on them our preconceptions about what will bring well-being and happiness. It means offering advice that is wise because it is disinterested, and it means listening without prejudgment but with openness and love. When we do this for our young people, we make it possible for God to lead them to their true vocation, whatever that vocation might be. That is the greatest gift we can offer the young people we know and love.

— Rev. Thomas H. Feely, S.J.
Associate Pastor
THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, MAY 7th
Rejoice in the Lord!
A Music Ministry Celebration.
3:00 PM. Church.
Details on page 5.

MONDAY, MAY 8th
Ranger Rosary Ministry.
7:00 PM. Meeting Room.
Details on page 3.

THURSDAY, MAY 11th
Daniel Berrigan, SJ:
7:00 PM. Wallace Hall.
Details on page 5.

SATURDAY, MAY 13th
First Holy Communion.
IREP Students.
9:30 AM & 11:30 AM. Church.
IGNITE! Teen Ministry.
6:30 PM. Parish Lounge.
Details on page 3.

Congratulations to the St. Ignatius Loyola Children’s Choir on earning the highest rating of “Superior” at their choir competition last weekend, the only choir competing to earn that distinction.

Join choristers from local schools and sing with our St. Ignatius Children’s Choirs next season!
Do you have a child who loves to sing? Have them become a member of the St. Ignatius Loyola Children’s Choir!
Rising 1st through 8th graders may ‘audition’ on Tuesday, June 6th, 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM, and Wednesday, June 7th, 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM, in the Parish House Meeting Room.
Please contact Maureen Haley, Director of Children’s Choirs, at haleym@saintignatiusloyola.org for an audition time.
All parish children are welcome and no prior experience is necessary. A parent or guardian must be present to fill out the registration materials. Please see the brochure in the Narthex or on our website, stignatiusloyola.org, under “Music” then “Join Our Choirs” for additional information.

SPECIAL COLLECTION
Next weekend our Parish will take up the collection for The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

THE SPRING APPEAL

THE SPRING APPEAL IS UNDERWAY!
The Spring Appeal is an important source of funds for the many ministries and ordinary operations of the parish.

Please support your parish and contribute to the 2017 Spring Appeal.

To give online, visit https://donate.stignatiusloyola.org/church/spring or scan the QR code at left.

Thank you in advance for your continued generosity.

Taking Hold:
Creative Planning for Retirement and Beyond
An interfaith adult education program sponsored by the Episcopal Church Foundation and organized by Rabbi Leonard Schoolman

Three Tuesday evenings beginning May 16th
7:00 PM in Wallace Hall

May 16th: Social Security, Medicare & You
May 23rd: Living Fully in Retirement and Estate Planning
May 30th: Ensuring Your Wishes are Fulfilled and Planning for the End of Life

Every day, ten thousand Americans turn sixty-five. Different challenges and opportunities will confront them every day, yet nothing has prepared them for these massive changes in their lives.

This program will join individuals and experts from various faith traditions, ages, and backgrounds as an interfaith collaboration of congregations that seeks to answer common questions and provide guidance on the next steps in this exciting new stage of life.

Registration is required.
To register for any or all of the evenings, visit http://bit.ly/2LkJtal or scan the code at left.
**RANGER ROSARY MINISTRY**

Monday, May 8th  
7:00 PM in the Meeting Room  
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!*

**IGNITE! TEEN MINISTRY**

Saturday, May 13th  
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM in the Parish Lounge  
*All high school students are welcome!*

Ignite is a Catholic community of high school students rooted in the Ignatian way of prayer, service, and community. We meet twice a month on Saturdays from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM.

To register, scan the QR code at left or visit https://goo.gl/forms/fUpawgmEXNRGJjc53

**IGNATIAN YOUNG ADULTS**

**Sunday Social Spring 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.*

**Sunday Social Dates**  
May 14  May 28  June 18

**Dancing God's Grace**

*A free sacred dance workshop for children ages 4–9*  
Presented by Omega Dance Company  
*Sunday, May 21st  
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM  
Wallace Hall*  
Space is limited. Advance registration required.  
To register, visit https://goo.gl/i7UUe8 or email omega@omegadancecompany.org

**Family Ministry**

**Community Meeting**  
*Monday, May 15th at 7:00 PM  
Wallace Hall*

Have you ever wondered how cookies appear after Mass in Wallace Hall? Do you have ideas about what activities you would like to see at the next potluck dinner? If the answer is yes, please join the Family Ministry for a Community Meeting on Monday, May 15th.

The meeting is open to parishioners who want to share ideas for future events. We would love to hear your thoughts and dreams for the Family Ministry.  
*Adults only please.*

To RSVP,  
email parentcommittee.familyministry@gmail.com

**Interested in Becoming Catholic?**

If you feel attracted to the Catholic faith, we want you to know about a program at the Parish that will begin in the fall.

A group will meet 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*

**Pope Francis’ May Prayer Intention**

**Christians in Africa**  
That Christians in Africa, in imitation of the Merciful Jesus, may give prophetic witness to reconciliation, justice, and peace.

**Available at the Parish House**

**The Church of St. Ignatius Loyola: A Walking Tour**  
*Updated in commemoration of our Sesquicentennial Celebration, the redesigned Walking Tour—with all-new photographs—provides a detailed overview of the rich architectural history of the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola.**  
*Cost: $8*
Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

**Monday, May 8th (Fourth Monday of Easter)**
Acts 11:1–18    Psalm 42    John 10:11–18
8:30 ANN    Arthur Levine
12:10 MEM    Joyce Lynch
5:30 MEM    Ronald J. Donacik

**Tuesday, May 9th (Fourth Tuesday of Easter)**
8:30 MEM    Simona Saracino Fendi
12:10 ANN    Peter & Margaret Voorhies
5:30 MEM    Deceased Members of the Scanlon & McLoughlin Families

**Wednesday, May 10th (Fourth Wednesday of Easter)**
8:30 MEM    James Johnson
12:10 MEM    Valentino Mazzia
5:30 MEM    Mary-Ann P. Haran Quinn

**Thursday, May 11th (Fourth Thursday of Easter)**
8:30 MEM    Anne Mitchell
12:10 MEM    The Meehan Family
5:30 MEM    Living & Deceased Members of the Wallace Family

**Friday, May 12th (Fourth Friday of Easter)**
Acts 13:26–33    Psalm 2    John 14:1–6
8:30 MEM    Nick Accurso
12:10 MEM    Thomas Ryan
5:30 MEM    Barbara Jean Halligan

**Saturday, May 13th (Fourth Saturday of Easter)**
8:30 MEM    Ellen McMahon

**Sunday, May 14th (Fifth Sunday of Easter)**
Acts 6:1–7    1 Peter 2:4–9
Psalm 33    John 14:1–12

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**Cardinal's Appeal**

The Staff of the St. Ignatius Loyola Day Nursery cordially invites the members of the Parish Community to the **2017 Annual Spring Benefit**

**Friday, May 19th**
7:00 PM to Midnight

New York Athletic Club
180 Central Park South
Cocktails, Dinner, Dancing, Raffle, Live and Silent Auctions

For ticket information, please call (212) 734-6427 x24.

Persons 21 years of age and over are welcome.

Black tie optional.

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**Annual Golden Wedding Mass Celebration**

Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary anytime during 2017 are invited to attend the **Annual Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass Celebration** with Cardinal Dolan at the Cathedral of St. Patrick on Sunday, June 18th at 2:00 PM.

Pre-registration is required.

To register, contact Teresa Marie Cariño at the Parish House (212-288-3588 x632 or carinot@stignatiusloyola.org) by **Tuesday, May 19th**.

Sponsored by the Archdiocesan Family Life/Respect Life Office

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**FORMED: The Catholic Faith On Demand**

TO REGISTER

- Visit formed.org
- Then, click on the button marked Register: Sign up free using your parish code, which is located in the lower right-hand corner, and then enter our code **JM4KZX** (all uppercase letters).
DANIEL BERRIGAN, S.J.:
The Man.
The Resister.
The Prophet.

Thursday, May 11th
7:00 PM
Wallace Hall

PANELISTS

Frida Berrigan
• Columnist, WagingNonviolence.org
• Author, “It Runs in the Family: On Being Raised by Radicals and Growing into Rebellious Motherhood”
• Daughter of Philip Berrigan and Elizabeth McAlister & niece of Daniel Berrigan, SJ

Dr. Anna Brown
• Associate Professor & Chair, Political Science, St. Peter’s University

Rev. Mark Hallinan
• Pastor, Our Lady of Mount Carmel + St. Benedicta + St. Mary of the Assumption, Staten Island

MODERATOR

Rev. James J. Miracky, SJ
Provincial Assistant for Higher Education, Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces of the Society of Jesus

INFORMATION TABLES

Benincasa Community Catholic Worker Community of Sant’Egidio Harmony Farm Pax Christi

MUSIC

SUNDAY, MAY 14th
11 AM SOLEMN MASS

Cochereau
Berceuse à la mémoire de Louis Vierne

Lassus
Exsultate justi

Hassler
Cantate Domino

Vierne
Toccata, Op. 53, No. 6

Rejoice in the Lord!
A Music Ministry Celebration
Sunday, May 7th
3:00 PM

The Parish Community Choir, Wallace Hall Choir, Canticum Sacrum, and Children's Choirs join forces for an eclectic concert of celebration and song.

FREE WILL OFFERING.
NO TICKETS NECESSARY.

Haydn’s
The Creation
Wednesday, May 24th
7:00 PM

Performed in English, Franz Joseph Haydn's beloved oratorio depicts the creation of the world as told in the Book of Genesis and John Milton's Paradise Lost.

Tickets: $25 – $80

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

Become a member of the Dominican Sisters’ Harmony Farm CSA!

You can purchase organic, biodynamic vegetables directly from the Sisters from June to November 2017. The cost of a share is $600 for 22 weeks. Each share feeds a family of 4 and the vegetables are delivered to St. Ignatius each week.

For more information, visit harmonyfarmny.com or email harmonyfarmcsa@gmail.com
Sunday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Every Sunday from 3:15 PM to 5:30 PM. Saint Joseph’s Church, 404 East 87th Street. An opportunity for quiet prayer and silent adoration. All are welcome.

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