Recovery

I grew up in a Catholic world, shaped by the confines of my Brooklyn parish. In that simpler age, all hard-working Catholic families dutifully sent their offspring (of which there were many) to parochial school. My family was no exception.

Memories of a Catholic childhood come back in Technicolor—the smell of incense at the Holy Thursday processions; the sound of sister’s clicker that announced time to kneel at Mass; the sight of my classmates lined up perfectly, according to size, for graduation. Fear shaped much of my early life. Somehow my Guardian Angel was not there to protect me, but rather to list my transgressions with the accuracy of an accountant. The only spirituality that comforted me was devotion to the Blessed Mother, who, I felt, was in my corner.

In hindsight, I realize that much of the fear and anxiety that shaped the inner life of my childhood was already there, ready to be honed by a school system that accentuated obedience. And obedient we were—three good little girls—my sisters and I. Obediently, we listened to my Irish mother, who told us, “Don’t tell anybody” that our father was in a mental hospital, that our mother was going out to work to support us, that the electricity was turned off this month. Obediently, all three of us did our homework faithfully, brought home the best report cards and graduated at the top of our class. Ironically, two of those very obedient little girls who worked so painstakingly to be their very best, became what we least intended to be—alcoholics. Recovery from this disease, a disease whose very name seems shameful, was a journey in spirituality, one that has helped me to reclaim myself and to find God through other people.

The Journey to Addiction

Shy by nature, becoming increasingly anxious by the events of life, I, like many who came of age in the 50s and 60s, found alcohol a quick way to personality transformation. Alcohol allayed my fears, improved my conversation, made me witty and charming. Dorothy Parker, who wrote, “Candy is dandy, but liquor is quicker,” definitely was speaking to me.

Moderation has always been part of my temperament, and the change from a young girl cautiously sipping her first highball to an alcoholic woman desperately hiding her addiction from others took more than a decade. The reasons for my drinking gradually increased. Instead of using alcohol as a social crutch, I now used it as medication—to get to sleep, to hide hurt, to find balm to oblivion, to soothe the pain of disappointment and rejection. Outwardly, I appeared successful in my work, but inwardly, I was a cripple, unable to control the craving for alcohol that haunted me. I found myself on a collision course for self-destruction.

The Journey to Finding Self and God

At thirty-two, I found myself, weeping in the basement of a Protestant church, as I attended my first Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. Guilt, shame, remorse enveloped me. Unlike my childhood memories, that meeting seems blurry. I do remember the Twelve Steps being posted in the front of the room and can still hear the comforting laughter as the speaker told his story. As the meeting came to its end and someone read the Twelve Promises, one stood out: “We will suddenly realize that God is doing for us what we could not do for ourselves.” How I longed for that to happen!

Like the descent into alcoholism, the recovery was gradual, not sudden. With a supportive sponsor, I began to take a hard look into myself. I saw that relentless perfectionism, masking hurt but still nurturing it, and hiding vulnerability were not strengths but pathways to a stunted spiritual life. I had always prayed with a specific goal in mind (“If only God could follow MY game plan!”), but now I just prayed for strength from my Higher Power to guide me and get me through life, just one day at a time. Recovery for me then is a return to God, who, because life had not turned out my way, had somehow earned first place on my resentment list.

My Higher Power today is far different from the God of my childhood. After all, more than four decades in the AA Program should have taught me something. My guardian angel also is freed from that wretched record-keeping. Sprouting a different type of wings, the loving people in the AA Program whose help and understanding keep me sober one day at a time—these are my true guardian angels. For me, recovery and finding the way to God is through knowing and loving his marvelous creatures.

— Anonymous Parishioner
HISTORICAL FACT OF THE WEEK

As we approach our Sesquicentennial Celebration in October, we will be featuring snippets of the rich and varied history of the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola.

The original church first faced 84th Street before it was re-built to face Park Avenue.

Jesuit Friends & Alumni Mass
Sunday, October 23rd at the 7:30 PM Mass

Presider: Rev. Dennis Yesalonia, S.J.
Preacher: Rev. Leo O’Donovan, S.J.

Join us for Jesuit Friends and Alumni Sunday, an opportunity for alumni and friends of Jesuit schools to share their common bonds through the celebration of liturgy.

The Mass will be followed by a reception in Wallace Hall that will highlight opportunities for continuing spiritual growth and service to the local and global community.

To RSVP, visit www.JesuitsEast.org/AlumniSunday2016

Water, Wind and Fire:
The Holy Spirit in the New Testament
Presented by Mr. Brian Pinter
Six Sessions Beginning October 19th
Wednesdays at 7:00 PM
Meeting Room

Our ancestors in faith have long been aware of God’s immediate presence and impact on the human experience. Through their sacred writings they sought to express their sense of God’s creative, redeeming, inspiring power. Their metaphors and names for this mysterious but palpable presence evolved over the centuries until they came to call this energy the Holy Spirit.

Our study and discussion will explore the work of the Spirit as recorded in the New Testament, especially the writing of Luke, John, and Paul. We will seek to examine also how the biblical record impacted later theology of the Holy Spirit in the developing Christian Tradition.

Space is limited. Early registration is recommended.
To register, email waterwindandfireclass@gmail.com

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Interested in Becoming Catholic?

We have the privilege at St. Ignatius of welcoming those who may be thinking of 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 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

PLEASE OPEN FOR PAGES 3 AND 4
IGNATIAN YOUNG ADULTS

Sunday Social Fall 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
Oct. 16  Nov. 13  Dec. 11

Are you a young adult in your 20s or 30s?
CharisNYC invites you to attend the Still + Silent Retreat
Friday evening, November 11th – Sunday, November 13th
Mariandale Retreat Center, Ossining, NY
Cost: $260 per person
To register, visit www.charis.nyc/stillsilent
Questions? Email CharisRetreatNYC@gmail.com or call 347-619-2692

Celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick
Saturday, October 15th at the 5:30 PM Mass

All parishioners are invited to attend the Celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick during the 5:30 PM Vigil Mass on Saturday, October 15th. This liturgy is designed so that the community can support our brothers and sisters who face the trials of illness or aging.

During the course of the Mass, all those who feel the need of healing and strength because of illness, physical weakness or spiritual distress will be invited to come forward to receive the Sacrament of Anointing.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Calling All Volunteers
Shelter Information Session
Monday, October 17th
7:00 PM in Wallace Hall

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will once again be sponsoring a women’s shelter every other weekend in Wallace Hall from November through April. The shelter season begins the weekend of November 4th.

New and experienced volunteers are invited to join us for the information session and learn more about this ministry to the homeless.

Refreshments will be served.
We look forward to welcoming you.

For more information,
email svdp.shelter980@gmail.com

IGNITE! TEEN MINISTRY

Saturday, October 22nd
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
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.
All are welcome to come and check us out.

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

RANGER ROSARY MINISTRY

Monday, October 17th
7:00 PM in the Meeting Room

The Ranger Rosary ministry, which started at St. Ignatius in August 2009, meets twice a month to make rosaries for Catholics who are serving in the armed services. These combat rosaries are constructed from materials with no metal parts that might reflect light or make a rattling noise.

New members are always welcome!

WALLACE HALL

AVAILBLE FOR RENTAL

The space is available for a variety of events including fundraisers, lectures, receptions, cocktail parties, and formal banquet-style dinners.

For more information,
contact Caroline Fernandes at 212-288-3588
or fernandesc@saintignatiusloyola.org

PRAYER SUGGESTION — Sacred Space

Spend 10 minutes in prayer, as you sit at your computer, with the help of on-screen guidance and scripture chosen specially every day.

Visit www.sacredspace.ie
ATTENTION PARENTS OF 8th GRADERS!

The TACHS (Test for Admission into Catholic High Schools) will be administered in the Archdiocese of New York on Friday, November 4th.

Online registration is available 7 days a week by going to the website www.tachsinfo.com or by calling 1-866-618-2247.

The deadline for internet/telephone registration is Monday, October 17th.

For additional details, visit tachsinfo.com or call the TACHS Admission Office at 1-866-618-2247.

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

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, October 10th
(Twenty-eighth Monday in Ordinary Time)
Galatians 4:22–24, 26–27, 31–5:1    Psalm 113
Luke 11:29–32
8:30 MEM Mary Johnson

Tuesday, October 11th
(Twenty-eighth Tuesday in Ordinary Time)
8:30 MEM Valentino Mazzia
12:10 MEM Lucy Kunst
5:30 MEM Deceased Members of the Scanlon & McLoughlin Families

Wednesday, October 12th
(Twenty-eighth Wednesday in Ordinary Time)
8:30 MEM John & Margaret Reilly
12:10 MEM John Sullivan
5:30 MEM Joanne Mettert

Thursday, October 13th
(Twenty-eighth Thursday in Ordinary Time)
8:30 MEM Veronica E. Raible
12:10 MEM Andrew Lee Walker
5:30 MEM Elizabeth Troilo

Friday, October 14th
(Twenty-eighth Friday in Ordinary Time)
8:30 MEM Joseph Signorelli
12:10 MEM Margaret Canfield
5:30 MEM Jack O’Leary

Saturday, October 15th
(St. Teresa of Jesus)
Ephesians 1:15–23    Psalm 8    Luke 12:8–12
8:30 MEM Alice O’Brien

Sunday, October 16th
(Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time)
Exodus 17:8–13    Psalm 121

For your convenience...

To reach the Giving page on the parish website, scan the QR Code at left with your smartphone’s camera.
SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
Thursday, October 27th to Sunday, October 30th

Join us for a four-day celebration
150 years in the making.

Thursday, October 27th
Lecture
The Long Road from Rome to Park Avenue:
City, Church and Jesuit Urban Mission.
7:00 PM. Wallace Hall.
Reception to follow in Wallace Hall.

St. Ignatius understood and applied what modern sociologists call the “multiplier effect;” he chose to focus Jesuit educational, pastoral, and social works where the greatest number of people of all classes and walks of life could be reached.

In a fast-paced and visually engaging presentation, Fr. Tom Lucas, S.J., University Professor and Rector of the Jesuit Community at Seattle University, will pave the long and circuitous route from Rome to Park Avenue.

Friday, October 28th
Concert
Jesuits in the Americas: Zipoli and His World.
7:00 PM. Church.
Reception to follow in Wallace Hall.

Celebrating St. Ignatius Loyola’s 150th anniversary as a Jesuit parish, this concert centers on the music of 18th-century Jesuit composer Domenico Zipoli and his contemporaries in the missions of Bolivia and Paraguay.

Saturday, October 29th
Sesquicentennial Street Fair.
11:00 AM to 3:00 PM on East 84th Street
(Between Park and Madison Avenues).

Join us on East 84th Street for a Saturday filled with fun for the whole family! Featuring inflatable games and obstacle courses, food, face painting, balloon art, and more. Tickets can be purchased the day of the fair.

Sunday, October 30th
Sesquicentennial Mass.
11:00 AM Solemn Mass. Church.
Reception to follow in Wallace Hall.

Our four-day Sesquicentennial Celebration culminates with our 11:00 AM Solemn Mass.

MUSIC

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16th
11:00 AM SOLEMN MASS
Gawthrop Prelude, Scherzo, Chorale
Howells Requiem: I will lift up mine eyes
Rutter I will lift up mine eyes
Ginastera Toccata

7:30 PM MASS
with Parish Community Choir
Freed Psalm 121: I will lift up mine eyes
Powell Jesu, thy boundless love to me

CANCELLED

Philippine Madrigal Singers
Thursday, October 13th, 7:00 PM

Due to unavoidable circumstances, the Philippine Madrigal Singers concert scheduled for Thursday, October 13th has been cancelled.

All ticket purchases will be refunded.

150
Jesuits in the Americas:
Zipoli and His World
Friday, October 28th, 7:00pm

Celebrating St. Ignatius Loyola’s 150th anniversary as a Jesuit parish, this concert centers on the music of 18th-century Jesuit composer Domenico Zipoli and his contemporaries in the missions of Bolivia and Paraguay.

Tickets: $35–$80

COMING IN NOVEMBER

Caritas Concert:
Ávila & Fiacco - Violin and Cello
Monday, November 21st, 6:30pm
Wallace Hall

Jorge Ávila and Arthur Fiacco are beloved concertmaster and principal cellist of the Orchestra of St. Ignatius Loyola. For this evening, they offer a program of chamber music with celebrated pianist Adrienne Kim.

All proceeds will benefit the organization, Hour Children.

Tickets: $50

Tickets for all concerts are available online at www.smssconcerts.org or by calling 212-288-2520.
Lecture: Keep Fracturing the Good Order: Daniel Berrigan, the Long Haul, and the Big Heart—The Tenth Annual Julio Burunat Memorial Lecture. Sunday, October 23, 5:15 PM. Fordham University, Lincoln Center Campus, E. Gerald Corrigan Conference Center, 113 West 60th Street. Presenter: Dr. Anna Brown, St. Peter's University. Dinner will follow the lecture. To RSVP by Friday, October 14, email theology@fordham.edu or call (718) 817-3240. Vegetarian meal available upon request.

Sunday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Every Sunday, 3:15 PM–5:30 PM. Saint Joseph’s Church, 404 East 87th Street. An opportunity for quiet prayer and silent adoration. All are welcome.

After School Tutors Needed. The Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service is in great need of after-school tutors and homework helpers to assist low-academic performing East Harlem children (Kindergarten to 3rd grade). Sessions are held at the Center, 333 East 115th Street (between First Avenue and Second Avenue) on Mondays and Wednesdays (for tutoring) or Tuesdays and Thursdays (for homework helpers). A semester-long commitment is required. Tutoring will begin the second week of October. For more information, contact tgough@lsafhs.org or visit little sistersfamily.org

40 Days for Life
A peaceful nondenominational initiative that focuses on forty days of prayer, fasting, and educational outreach with the goal of protecting mothers and their children from abortion. This fall’s campaign will be held September 23–November 1. To learn more, visit www.40daysforlife.com

We pray for the faithful departed
Josephine Mayer
Antonia Sordillo
May they rest in the peace of the Risen Lord.

Weekly 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. Feely
Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Feely
9:30 AM Fr. Judge
Wallace Hall 11:00 AM Fr. Yesalonia
 Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Hilbert
7:30 PM Fr. Hilbert

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