“A Family of Families”

In his apostolic exhortation on the family, The Joy of Love, Pope Francis calls the Church “a family of families.” Indeed, it is our experience of Christian family that teaches us how to be Church. Our families are our first instructors in the faith, our families are where we first learn to pray, and it is in our families that we receive our first lessons in living in community. This last is one of the reasons why the Loyola Medal for Community was awarded to our Family Ministry at the Solemn Mass for our sesquicentennial celebration. Our families teach us community.

Like community, family is not something that just happens. Family is something we have to learn. We have to learn communication to be a family. Every family member has to become skilled at really listening to the opinions and needs of other family members and skilled at expressing their own. We have to learn responsibility to be family. Every family member has to discover how to support the others, when to subordinate their desires to others’ needs, and when to stand up for their own needs.

To be a family we not only have to learn responsibility, we have to appreciate division of responsibilities. We have to understand the demands and the limits of our respective roles. Spouse, parent, child, brother, sister, grandparent, aunt, uncle, cousin, in-law—each of these roles asks that we offer a particular kind of support to the other family members, and each of these roles imposes limits we are wise not to trespass if we wish to strengthen family unity.

Most of all, learning to be a family demands that we discover how to do all this—communicate, assume our responsibilities, respect others’ roles—with warm affection. Without warmth and without affection, a house may be a place where relatives dwell together, but it will not be a home where family members share their lives.

How do we learn to be family? We only learn by example. We only learn by observing and following the pattern of life we see in the men and women in our family and beyond who have fulfilled the various roles family life has asked them to assume with dedicated effort and steadfast commitment.

Everything said so far about family is just as true of community. Community is built on communication, responsibility and respect for roles, and community is created by warmth and affection expressed in dedicated effort and steadfast commitment. This is why the health of family life is so important to Pope Francis. Unless our parishes are built on strong families, our parishes will not be strong communities, and if our parishes are not strong communities, the Church will fail in its mission to be for the world a visible reflection of the Most Blessed Trinity, a visible reflection of the joy of community.

Here at Saint Ignatius Loyola, we have a wonderful Family Ministry directed and organized by the heads of young families. Its goal is to help our families become stronger in faith and prayer, stronger in community and service. And since welcoming a child is one of the most significant events in the life of a family, we are asking God’s blessing on parents awaiting the birth or adoption of a child at all our Masses this weekend.

It is not by chance that we ask God’s blessing on these families at our Sunday celebration of Eucharist. In this way we remind ourselves that God, the author of family life, nourishes family life by the grace that comes to us only through Jesus. Nor is it by chance that we confer this blessing at all our Masses, not just our Family Mass. The health of our families should be a concern for all of us, and welcoming families into our parish life should be a joy for all of us. It is by welcoming families and supporting them that the Church and our parish community become the family of families we are called to be.

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18th
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Blessing for Expectant Families.
At all Masses this weekend. Details on page 4.
Sacred Music in a Sacred Space presents
Heaven and Nature Sing —
Annual Christmas Concert. 3:00 PM. Church.
Details on page 5.
Wallace Hall Christmas Pageant.
Following the 11:00 AM Family Mass.
Details on page 4.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19th
Reconciliation Monday.
4:00 PM–7:30 PM. Church. Details at right.

ADVENT CONFESSION SCHEDULE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19th
RECONCILIATION MONDAY

All parishes in the Archdiocese of New York will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Monday, December 19th.
Confessions will be heard beginning at 4:00 PM and ending at 7:30 PM.
Many priests will be available for Confession.

ADDITIONAL CONFESSION TIMES

Thursday, December 22nd & Friday, December 23rd
6:00 PM–8:00 PM in the Parish House

2016 CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR’S MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24TH
4:00 PM FAMILY MASS I
Children's Choirs and Wallace Hall Choir & Orchestra
Fr. Feely, Presider
Doors open at 3:15 PM  Prelude begins at 3:45 PM

6:00 PM FAMILY MASS II
Parish Community Choir
Fr. Judge, Presider
Doors open at 5:15 PM  Prelude begins at 5:45 PM

8:00 PM VIGIL MASS
Choir & Orchestra of St. Ignatius Loyola
Fr. Hilbert, Presider
Doors open at 7:30 PM  Prelude begins at 7:45 PM

MIDNIGHT MASS
Choir & Orchestra of St. Ignatius Loyola
Fr. Yesalonia, Presider
Doors open at 10:45 PM  Prelude begins at 11:15 PM

Christmas Day
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25TH
9:30 AM MASS
Fr. Bergen, Presider
11:00 AM SOLEMN MASS
Fr. Yesalonia, Presider

A Gentle Reminder
The Christmas Masses here in the Parish are unusually crowded, especially the 4:00 PM Family Mass and the Midnight Mass.
People will be seated as they arrive. In fairness to all, please do not attempt to save or hold seats for those who are expected later.
The ushers have been instructed not to honor such arrangements.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26TH
One Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 AM
(The Parish House will be closed)

New Year’s Eve
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31ST
Masses at 8:30 AM and 5:30 PM

New Year’s Day
SUNDAY, JANUARY 1ST
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Masses at 8 AM, 9:30 AM, 11 AM (Solemn & Wallace Hall), and 7:30 PM

MONDAY, JANUARY 2ND
One Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 AM
(The Parish House will be closed)
IGNITE! TEEN MINISTRY
Saturday, January 14th, 2017
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.

To register, scan the QR code at left or visit https://goo.gl/forms/jUpawgmEXNRGji53

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

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.

Sunday Social Dates
Jan. 8  Feb. 19  March 5

To receive updates on IYA events and other opportunities, you can follow us on Facebook at “Ignatian Young Adults (NYC).”

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Saturday, December 24th
Christmas Eve
• 4:00 PM Family Mass I  • 6:00 PM Family Mass II
• 8:00 PM Mass of Christmas  • Midnight Mass

Sunday, December 25th
Christmas Day • 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM

If you are available, please email Rob Manning at robbiepmanning@gmail.com to let him know at which Mass you can assist.
A sign-up table will also be in the Narthex after all Masses today.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
FRIDAY – SUNDAY
DECEMBER 30th – JANUARY 1st
SVdP Women’s Shelter
Wallace Hall
The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is in need of volunteers for the Women's Shelter, which is located in Wallace Hall, every other weekend through April.

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

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 in January.
For more information, contact Fr. Feely at feelyt@saintignatiusloyola.org

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

Copies of the Christmas and Holiday Mass Schedule, which includes the listing of music being sung at the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses, are available in the Narthex, the Parish House, and at stignatiusloyola.org

Thank you for your generosity! Much has been accomplished with your help.

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Copies of the Christmas and Holiday Mass Schedule, which includes the listing of music being sung at the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses, are available in the Narthex, the Parish House, and at stignatiusloyola.org
Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, December 19th (Fourth Monday of Advent)
8:30 MEM Paris Ionescu
12:10 MEM Frank Costa
5:30 MEM Deceased Members of the Brenninkmeijer Family

Tuesday, December 20th (Fourth Tuesday of Advent)
8:30 MEM Mike Celuch
12:10 MEM Connie A. Raffa
5:30 LVG Anne Klein

Wednesday, December 21st (Fourth Wednesday of Advent)
Song of Solomon 2:8–14 Psalm 33 Luke 1:39–45
8:30 MEM John Stack & Muriel Larsen
12:10 MEM Thomas & Florence McCarthy
5:30 MEM Jose Maya

Thursday, December 22nd (Fourth Thursday of Advent)
1 Samuel 1:24–28 1 Samuel Luke 1:46–56
8:30 MEM Eileen Sullivan
12:10 MEM Bill Campell
5:30 MEM Carmen Fernandez

Friday, December 23rd (Fourth Friday of Advent)
8:30 MEM Paul Hendricks
12:10 MEM Lon Sulkowski
5:30 MEM Joseph Ceva

Saturday, December 24th (Fourth Saturday of Advent)

Sunday, December 25th (The Nativity of the Lord)
Isaiah 9:1–6 Psalm 96

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 provides a detailed overview of the rich architectural history of the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola.

Cost: $8
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25th**

**11 AM SOLEMN MASS**

*arr. Cherwien*

Sussex Carol

Near

Variations on *Es ist ein Ros entsprungen*

Poston

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Darke

In the bleak mid-winter

Thiman

Voluntary on Adeste Fideles

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**December at Sacred Music in a Sacred Space**

**Heaven and Nature Sing: Annual Christmas Concerts**

**TODAY at 3:00 PM**

The New York Times calls these concerts “part of the essence of Christmas in New York,” and our sellout audiences year after year agree!

The Vivaldi *Gloria* is the centerpiece of this year’s concerts, accompanied by well-known seasonal favorites and festive carols for everyone to join in singing.

**Featuring**

Choir & Orchestra of St. Ignatius Loyola, Parish Community Choir, and Children’s Choirs

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

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**THE ANNUAL APPEAL**

As you plan your Christmas gift-giving, please remember to include your contribution to the Annual Appeal on your to-do list.

In order to fund the current level of service and programming, we rely on the Annual Appeal, which is now underway.

If you have not yet made a donation, you can do so by visiting the Annual Appeal page on the St. Ignatius website by scanning the QR code at left.

To electronically access the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2016 and a letter from Father Yesalonia about the Annual Appeal, visit our website at stignatiusloyola.org. Copies are also available at the Parish House.

Thank you for your continued generosity!
Travel: U.S. National Rosary Pilgrimage to Lourdes, France. Thursday, June 22, 2017–Saturday, July 1, 2017. 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 (for a JFK/New York departure). Reservation deadline is Wednesday, March 15, 2017. For additional details and rate information, visit lourdes-pilgrimage.com, call 877-276-7279, or email lourdespilgrimageoffice@comcast.net.

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.

Services: ArchCare Care Navigation Center: Resources for Seniors. Need help caring for yourself or someone else but not sure where to turn? ArchCare, the healthcare system of the Archdiocese of New York has a Care Navigation Center staffed by health and social service professionals dedicated to helping people understand and access the services for which they are eligible. Call 855-951-2273 between 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM seven days a week.

Catholic Extension is a national fundraising organization committed to building and strengthening Catholic faith communities in the poorest regions of the United States. Visit catholicextension.org to learn more.

For your convenience

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

PARISH STAFF
Pastor
Rev. Dennis J. Yesalonia, S.J.
Associate Pastors
Rev. William J. Bergen, S.J.
Rev. Thomas H. Feely, S.J.
Rev. Michael P. Hilbert, S.J.
Pastoral Associates
Teresa Marie Carino
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

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

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.
Confessions will be heard at St. Ignatius Loyola Church during the Archdiocesan Day of Reconciliation on Monday, December 19th, beginning at 4:00 PM.

Baptisms
Please call Teresa Carino 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 Carino 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.

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