The calendar year is winding down. In case you are curious, forty-two days remain in the year 2017. The end of the Church’s liturgical year is even more imminent. Two weeks from today we will be celebrating the First Sunday of Advent and the beginning of a new Church year. At this darkening time of year, the Scripture readings at Mass turn dark as well and tend to be about endings. The two endings we will be hearing about are the ending of the world itself and the ending of individual life in death.

Scripture is strangely agnostic about what is waiting for us after death. St. Paul simply says that it is beyond what we can imagine. It is completely hidden from us now, much the way life outside the womb is hidden from the fetus who is quite comfortable with the life it knows in the womb, but whose whole world is going to change vastly once it is born.

There is a deep desire in all of us that life beyond death will involve the body. Our sense of identity is too closely linked to our bodies to conceive of any other kind of survival. Jesus has promised life after death, not merely in some ghostly sense, not life in the sense that the Greek philosophers wrote about, the survival of the soul after death. Rather, the Christian belief is the survival after death of the complete person, soul and body—a newly created and glorified body. St. Paul calls this a “spiritualized” body because words failed him. He could invent no other term, and no theologian after him has tried. All we can say is that at death we are made again, created again. We will have a new way of being ourselves, the same persons we always were, but now fully developed. St. Thomas Aquinas liked to speculate that we will have fully realized bodies even if we die young, and fully supple bodies even if we die old and frail.

In this connection, it is always thrilling to experience what Wordsworth once called “intimations of immortality.” Not proofs of immortality, simply signs and hints. I believe the best sign is always a great and powerful love. If you love someone very much, that person never dies. He or she lives on always, at least in your thoughts and in your heart.

A great love is not the only intimation of immortality. In recent times, biologists have identified and grown the primordial human cells known as embryonic stem cells, from which a complete human person is formed. These cells are being referred to as immortal. They are immortal because, unlike ordinary cells, they can be expected to divide indefinitely when grown outside the body, and they don’t show the signs of age that afflict other cells. They continue to grow strong and retain their youthful vigor. The conclusion that biologists have come to is that the body’s cells are not inherently mortal. They become mortal only when they develop into one of the body’s many mature cell types.

Are embryonic stem cells signaling a time when the human body will never die? No one would want to claim that. Do they give off signals of what might be another sphere of reality—an immortal sphere? It seems to me they do. And that is very exciting. It is always good to discover, in the realm of the human, a support for what we know by faith. It is our faith that bodies do not end. They continue in a new way. Although that truth is beyond demonstration and beyond reason, it is not unreasonable. Not while love and stem cells are around.

— Rev. William J. Bergen, S.J.
Senior Priest
THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

SVdP Christmas Angel Project begins this weekend, continues through Sunday, December 10th. Details on page 3.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20th
Men’s Faith Group
7:00 PM. Meeting Room.
Details below.

Moms, Pops & Tots.
10:30 AM. Meeting Room. Details on page 4.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd
Thanksgiving Day Mass.
9:00 AM. Church.
This will be the only Mass celebrated on Thanksgiving Day. The Parish House will be closed.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24th
One Daily Mass will be celebrated in the Lady Chapel at 8:30 AM. The Parish House will be closed.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
Fr. Dennis Yesalonia, S.J., and the Staff of St. Ignatius Loyola, extend best wishes for a blessed Thanksgiving.

The Parish House will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 23rd and 24th in observance of Thanksgiving.

One Mass will be celebrated on Thanksgiving Day at 9:00 AM in the Church.

One Daily Mass will be celebrated on Friday at 8:30 AM.

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY

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

Monday, December 25th
Christmas Day
• 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM* There is a particular need for volunteers at the 11:00 AM Mass

If you are available, please email Rob Manning at robbiefmanning@gmail.com to let him know at which Mass you can assist.

Men’s Faith Group
Monday, November 20th
7:00 PM
Meeting Room

Please join us on Monday, November 20th, at 7:00 PM in the Parish House Meeting Room if you are interested in forming a Parish Men’s Faith Group, a forum for men of the parish to reflect together on their faith life and experience fellowship as men committed to learning from each other about how to navigate successfully the cross currents of faith, family, and daily life.

Meetings will include some form of prayer and reflections on passages of Sacred Scripture.

Christmas Cards for Jacob
Jacob Thompson is a young boy who is dying of a rare form of cancer. All he wants for his last Christmas is cards.

Cards may be sent to:
Jacob Thompson
Maine Medical Center
22 Bramhall Street
Portland, ME 04102

ADVENT LECTIO DIVINA
Sunday, December 3rd, 10th & 17th
6:30 PM – 7:15 PM in the Parish Lounge Facilitated by Brian Pinter

Lectio Divina is an ancient approach to praying with scripture that invites us to hear God’s word with the ear of the heart.

All are welcome to join us for this prayerful reading and short discussion of the Sunday gospel.

FAMILY MINISTRY

Annual Christmas Tree Lighting
Sunday, December 3rd in Wallace Hall
Immediately following the 11:00 AM Mass.
SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Christmas Angel Project

Begins This Weekend!

to benefit
The Church of Our Lady of Lourdes in Harlem and St. Mary’s Church on Grand Street

Beginning this weekend at all Masses, participants will be able to select up to three Angel cards from one of the tables that will be placed in the Narthex and Wallace Hall. Cards will also be available at the Parish House while the supply lasts.

Gifts must be returned to the Parish House no later than Sunday, December 10th.

Annual Toy Drive

Begins This Weekend!

to benefit the children from the Church of St. Mary of the Assumption + Our Lady of Mt. Carmel – St. Benedicta

Through Monday, December 11th

Please bring new, unwrapped toys or games for boys and girls between the ages of 6–12 to the Parish House.

ADVENT FOOD DRIVE

Begins Next Weekend!

Benefiting the Church of the Ascension on the Upper West Side.

Through Sunday, December 17th, SVdP will be accepting donations of food for the Church of the Ascension.

Please bring donations to the Parish House between Sunday, November 26th and Sunday, December 17th.

Week 1
(Nov. 26th – Dec. 2nd):
pasta and tomato sauce

Week 2
(Dec. 3rd – 9th):
canned fruits & vegetables, tuna fish, soups, and canned meals, such as Chef Boyardee, stews, or hash

Week 3
(Dec. 10th – 17th):
rice, beans, and cereals

Follow us on Facebook at churchofstignatiusloyolanyc

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

Thursday, November 30th
7:00 PM in Wallace Hall

Parents are invited to an evening of scripture study, conversation and prayer, facilitated by Brian Pinter. Our focus will be the prophet Isaiah and the message of hope and transformation he proclaims to us in Advent.

Light refreshments will be served.

To RSVP, email brianbpinter@gmail.com

BOOMERS & BEYOND

Calling one and all for our annual Christmas Caroling event

You don't have to be a super soprano or terrific tenor … just someone who wants to join with us in sharing some Christmas joy through song.

Date: Sunday, December 3rd
Time: 12:45 PM
Place: Lott Assisted Living Residence – 5th Avenue (between 107th and 108th Streets)

MORE THAN A BOOK CLUB

DECEMBER SELECTION BOOK DISCUSSION

Thursday, December 14th
2:00 PM
Parish House Meeting Room

DECEMBER BOOK SELECTION

The Ninth Hour by Alice McDermott

Tracing three generations of an Irish immigrant family, The Ninth Hour centers on a widow and her daughter and the nuns who serve their Irish-American community in Brooklyn.

The Ninth Hour is available for purchase from most book retailers, including Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble.

To register for the December 14th book discussion, email MoreThanABookClubSIL@gmail.com

Registration required.
NEW! Mreads and Readings for the Week

Monday, November 20th
(Thirty-third Monday in Ordinary Time)
Luke 18:35–43
8:30 MEM Veronica Raible
12:10 MEM Thomas L. Napierala
5:30 MEM Charles Murphy

Tuesday, November 21st
(The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary)
8:30 MEM Doris Civale
12:10 MEM Samuel A. Chierchio
5:30 MEM Nathan Davidson

Wednesday, November 22nd (St. Cecilia)
8:30 MEM Doreen Logan
12:10 MEM John Thomas Logan
5:30 MEM Sose & Mark Prekelezaj

Thursday, November 23rd
(Thirty-third Thursday in Ordinary Time)

Friday, November 24th
(St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc)
1 Maccabees 4:36–37, 52–59 1 Chronicles 29
Luke 19:45–48
8:30 MEM Craig Jacko

Saturday, November 25th
(Thirty-third Saturday in Ordinary Time)
8:30 MEM Thomas Ford

Sunday, November 26th
(Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe)
Ezekiel 34:11–12, 15–17 Psalm 23
1 Corinthians 15:20–26, 28 Matthew 25:31–46

THE BOOK OF THE NAMES OF THE DEAD
During the month of November, we remember our loved ones who have died.

The Book of Remembrance has been placed near the altar of the Jesuit Boy Saints (at the back of the church, on the 84th Street side). Individuals are invited to write the names of deceased loved ones in this book, which will be kept on the altar during Masses until the Feast of Christ the King, Sunday, November 26th.

Departed loved ones will be remembered in prayer at all Masses during the month.

Available at the Parish House
The Church of St. Ignatius Loyola:
A Walking Tour
Cost: $8

Special Collection This Weekend:
Campaign for Charity and Justice
The funds raised through this collection will support parish and community-based projects through grants that meet local needs, particularly those of our poor and vulnerable neighbors.

Thank you for your generosity.

New!

MOMS, POPS & TOTS
Monday, November 20th
10:30 AM
Meeting Room

Meets every Monday!
This gathering will provide parents with young children the opportunity to make friends and develop community while strengthening their own spiritual lives. Coffee and treats will be available for the parents.

No RSVP is required.
For more information, email Nicole O’Reilly at n_fusaro@yahoo.com

Available at the Parish House
The Church of St. Ignatius Loyola:
A Walking Tour
Cost: $8

Please don't forget to notify us! This information helps us to keep our database current.

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Thank you for your generosity.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service
Hosted by Temple Shaaray Tefila
250 East 79th Street
TONIGHT AT 7:00 PM

Connect with your neighbors of all faiths and share a message of peace. Featuring music by The Young People’s Children’s Chorus of NYC and the Temple Shaaray Tefila volunteer choirs.

There will be a reception with pie and cider following the service.
Snow Ball Dance
Join us for this adults-only event, featuring an evening of dancing and hors d'oeuvres.

Saturday, December 9th
7:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Wallace Hall

Featuring music by the Morris Brothers

Tickets: $25/person
To RSVP, visit donate.stignatiusloyola.org/snowball

MUSIC
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26th
11 AM SOLEMN MASS
with Parish Community Choir & St. Ignatius Strings

Vierne
Première Symphonie pour l’orgue, Op. 14:
V. Andante

Haydn
Missa brevis in F: Kyrie, Sanctus, Agnus Dei

Bain, arr. Bullard
Brother James’ Air (Psalm 23)

Corl
Trumpet Tune on “Diademata”

A Chanticleer Christmas
Friday, December 1st at 8:00 PM &
Sunday, December 3rd at 4:00 PM

Christmas is our favorite time of year,
when we accompany your holiday season with joy and tranquility in music old, new, and familiar.

Nanino, Byrd, Praetorius, Gabrieli, and Poulenc are among the composers who wrote of what happened at the manger; Joseph Jennings, Alice Parker and Robert de Cormier are among those who have made beloved arrangements of popular carols and songs. Seasonal anthems and carols by Americans from Billings to Ives to Steven Sametz will make for a classically rich and resplendent Chanticleer Christmas.

Tickets: $35 – $90
Tickets are available online at www.smssconcerts.org or by calling 212-288-2520.

LECTURE
The Jesuits & The Arts
Gerard Manley Hopkins, S.J.

Monday, December 11th
7:00 PM
Wallace Hall

Fr. Thomas Lucas S.J., University Professor of Art and Rector of the Jesuit Community at Seattle University, will present an illustrated lecture on Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins.

In the presentation, Fr. Lucas will sketch out the complicated biography of this enigmatic genius, opening up both the poet’s faith and his profound psychological difficulties with readings of selected poems.

Fr. Thomas Lucas S.J., is University Professor and rector of the Jesuit Community at Seattle University. Fr. Lucas is an internationally recognized expert in Jesuit art history and is well known as a liturgical designer and artist with an international portfolio.

Snow Ball Dance

Our Stories: Being LGBT and Catholic
Thursday, December 7th
7:00 PM in Wallace Hall

FEATURED PRESENTER
Frank DeBernardo, Executive Director
New Ways Ministry

About New Ways Ministry
Since 1977, New Ways has been dedicated to...
• Fostering dialogue
• Combating homophobia
• Working for change in attitudes
• Promoting acceptance of LGBT persons as full and equal member of church and society

PLUS 6 members of the LGBT Catholics & Friends ministry will share their personal stories.
PARISH STAFF

Pastor
Rev. Dennis J. Yesalonia, S.J.

Associate Pastors
Rev. Thomas H. Feely, S.J.
Rev. Michael P. Hilbert, S.J.

Assistant Pastor
Rev. Brett B. McLaughlin, S.J.

Senior Priest
Rev. William J. Bergen, S.J.

Pastoral Associates
Teresa Marie Cariño   Carly-Anne Gannon

Assisting Priests (Sunday)

Music Ministries
Scott Warren, Director
Daniel Beckwith   Maureen Haley
Robert Reuter   Philip Anderson
Michael Sheetz
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
Robert Cisternino

Asst. to the Director of Facilities
Caroline Fernandes

Director of Development
James P. MacGuire

Treasurer
Fernando Castro

Weekday Masses (Monday to 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. Hilbert
Wallace Hall Family 11:00 AM Fr. McLaughlin
Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Feely
7:30 PM Fr. Feely

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 begin the preparation necessary for 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.

Volunteer Eucharistic Ministers Needed. Lenox Hill is in need of Eucharistic Ministers to bring communion to their Catholic patients. Prospective volunteers will need to complete an application, come in for an interview, be medically cleared and attend an orientation session. A weekly commitment is required. If you are interested in this or any other volunteer opportunities at Lenox Hill Hospital, please contact Carlos Cuartas at ccuartas@northwell.edu

Conference: The Crisis for Christians in the Middle East: Coming Home From Genocide: Protection, Reconstruction & Inclusion for Middle East Christians in the Post ISIS Era. Presented by The Anglosphere Society. Tuesday, December 5th, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. 3 West Club, 3 West 51st Street. An interfaith forum with religious, civic, and academic leaders. Speakers include His Eminence Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan. Cost: $75 ($60 for The Anglosphere Society members; no charge for clergy). For registration information, visit theanglospheresociety.org/crisis-for-christians-in-the-me.html RSVP deadline is Tuesday, November 21st.

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