As I was thinking of the best way to describe the Community of Sant’Egidio and its activities, I found myself thinking back to Christmas last year. The large hall is beautifully decorated, Pietro and a few others are busy in the kitchen, heating up the wonderful lasagnas that one of our friends—a caterer—always provides for us, and putting hams and sweet potatoes in the oven. Others are gracefully plating crackers and cheese that will be put on the tables for our guests who are starting to arrive. Everything needs to be timed perfectly! Upstairs near the entrance, children are blowing up balloons and someone is carefully spelling each invitee’s name, making a place tag for each.

Some of our guests are regulars—Robert, Richard, Lynn—have come to cherish the two big meals of Thanksgiving and Christmas with the whole Community. Others may have only met the Community in recent months, when every Tuesday some members faithfully roam the atriums around Grand Central, or walk inside the station with a hot soup, a sandwich, and, most of all, a smile and a word of friendship.

On Christmas Day, as Jocelyn and Sandy walk towards the banquet hall, they see John sitting on a street corner. They don’t know him but tentatively they ask, “Would you like to come eat with us? There is a big feast just a couple of blocks from here”. John has some curiosity on his face. He thinks for a moment and then accepts, and they joyfully walk towards the hall together. He will be among the newest friends from Sant’Egidio this Christmas. And, like others, he will be moved as he is called by name, served some delicious food, sits at a table with others, and receives a gift most likely given to him by one of the children.

The hall is filling up. In addition to our homeless friends, there are some older men and women that Eva and Susan know from their Monday visits to the nursing homes. There are also friends from all corners of the world—Australia, Rwanda, Burkina Faso, Armenia.

This year we are particularly thrilled as it is the first time that some of our friends from Penn Station join us. We weren’t sure whether they would come. We had expanded our weekly service to Penn Station the previous year, moved by the extent of poverty and hunger. And, thanks to having a few more volunteers, we were able to bump our “production” to 150 meals per week. The fact that they join us for a holiday is very meaningful to the Community, it means that we are becoming family, we are building trust, and they feel that the Community is their Community. So we eat, we chat, we sing, we exchange gifts. To a visitor peeking in the beautiful hall, it looks like a large family; you cannot identify ‘those who serve and those who are served’. In a sentence, that summarizes well how Sant’Egidio serves our poorer brothers and sisters.

At the end of the afternoon we clean up. We are tired, it’s a lot of work, but what a beautiful way to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Jesus being born among us, not in a palace or a castle, but among the reality of his time, among the shepherds, in a stable. Paola is already planning and thinking of the next distribution as we will soon be busy making another round.

There are many ways to contribute your friendship, time, resources. Whether we are preparing, praying together, meeting our friends in the streets, it is a joyful response to God’s call of love and friendship, being together, all are welcome!

The Community of Sant’Egidio has been present in New York since 1993 and gladly welcomes all those who want to pray with us or help in serving the poor of our city.

Prayer is every Friday at 6:30 PM at Old St. Patrick Cathedral. The preparation and distribution of food to NYC’s homeless takes place on Tuesdays and also Sunday mornings, with visits and service to nursing homes and homebound elderly on Mondays and during the week.

For more information and questions, please contact Paola at santegidiousa@gmail.com or 646-765-3899.

— Sabina Fila

Member of the Community of Sant'Egidio and St. Ignatius parishioner
THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, MARCH 17th
Monthly Parish Coffee Hour.
Following the 11 AM Solemn Mass.
McKinnon Hall. Details on page 4.

Spark Middle School Ministry.
12:00 PM. Parish Lounge. Details on page 3.

Sunday Social.
8:30 PM. Wallace Hall.
Hosted by the Ignatian Young Adults.
Following the 7:30 PM Mass.

MONDAY, MARCH 18th
Moms, Pops & Tots.
10:00 AM. Gonzaga Meeting Room.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19th
The Prophetic Imagination.
11:00 AM. Gonzaga Meeting Room. Details on page 3.

Parish Men's Faith Group.
7:00 PM. Parish House. Details at right.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Church. Details on page 4.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20th
Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting.
7:00 PM. Conference Room.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21st
More Than a Book Club:
March Selection Book Discussion.
2:00 PM. Parish Lounge. Details on page 3.

Caritas Concert | My Songs Without Words.
7:00 PM. Wallace Hall. Details on page 5.

Ignatian Social Justice.
7:00 PM. Conference Room.

LGBT Catholics & Friends.
7:00 PM. Parish Lounge.

Parish Women's Faith Group.
7:00 PM. Parish House. Details at right.

FRIDAY – SUNDAY
MARCH 22nd – MARCH 24th
Shelter Weekend. Wallace Hall.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23rd
Stations of the Cross for Teens.
12:00 PM. Church.

BOOMERS & BEYOND

Sunday Brunch
Sunday, March 24th at 1:00 PM
Doc Watson’s Outdoor Garden
(1490 2nd Avenue)

Price: $24 per person
(includes tax, tip and 2 complimentary drinks)

Space is limited.

To RSVP, email
boomersandbeyond.st.ignatius@gmail.com

PARISH MEN'S FAITH GROUP

Tuesday, March 19th
7:00 PM
Parish House

MEN AND GRIEF

Tending our grief is a crucial part of the process of receiving God’s transforming grace. If we don't learn how to grieve, our pain and woundedness will be transmitted to others. Our meeting will explore naming what we need to grieve and how we go about this sacred work.

Brian Pinter, Pastoral Associate, will present and facilitate the discussion.

To register, email simensgroup@aol.com

PARISH WOMEN'S FAITH GROUP

Thursday, March 21st
7:00 PM
Parish House

This week we will dip into the Sunday Lenten Gospels. From the Temptations in the desert to the mountain high of Transfiguration, and the narrative of the Prodigal Son, where are the liturgies drawing us?

Meetings will be facilitated by Adele Gallo.

For more information, email amdgallo@me.com

For your convenience

To reach the Giving page on the parish website, scan the QR Code at left.
LME invites all parishioners to a day of individual reflection, faith sharing, and guided prayer.

Saturday, April 6th
9:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Wallace Hall

The Rev. Kaji Dousa, Senior Pastor of Park Avenue Christian Church, will lead a reflection on compassionate connections.

Relationships are beautiful and complex, but they function best when we can find ways to connect with compassion. This workshop will explore how we can deepen in our capacities to love compassionately, following the example of Christ himself.

The day will include continental breakfast and catered lunch, and will conclude with a prayer service.

Continental breakfast will be served at 9:00 AM, with the program beginning at 9:30 AM.

To register, visit tinyurl.com/lme-april-2019.

Registration is required.

SPARK MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY

Middle Schoolers meet weekly* on Sundays from Noon to 1 PM to perform a one-hour service project under the direction of Teresa Cariño, Youth Minister.

Gather in the Parish Lounge after the Wallace Hall Mass. Pizza will be served.

All Middle Schoolers are welcome.

*Except the first Sunday of the month when there is a Saturday Night Liturgy at 7:00 PM in the Lady Chapel for Middle and High School students.

THE ANNUAL APPEAL

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

Thank you for your continued generosity!
Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

**Monday, March 18th** (Second Monday of Lent)
8:30   MEM    Jack O’Leary
12:10   MEM    Maria Delores
5:30   MEM    Mario Daiuto, David Deporis & Suhair Kowra

**Tuesday, March 19th** (St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary)
2 Samuel 7:4–5a, 12–14a, 16     Psalm 89
Romans 4:13, 16–18, 22              Matthew 1:16, 18–21, 24a
8:30   MEM    Carla Fendi
12:10   MEM    Sara Osorio
5:30   MEM    Benjamin Smith, Jr.

**Wednesday, March 20th** (Second Wednesday of Lent)
8:30   MEM    Irene Mosca
12:10   MEM    Mary Ihillen
5:30   MEM    Timmy Higgins

**Thursday, March 21st** (Second Thursday of Lent)
8:30   MEM    Marion Texier
12:10   MEM    Helen Regan
5:30   MEM    Nathan Davidson

**Friday, March 22nd** (Second Friday of Lent)
Genesis 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a    Psalm 105
Matthew 21:33–43, 45–46
8:30   MEM    Marilyn Franklin
12:10   MEM    Margaret Scanlon
5:30   MEM    Ramiro Austria

**Saturday, March 23rd** (Second Saturday of Lent)
8:30   MEM    Rosemary & Faustin Francis Jehle

**Sunday, March 24th** (Third Sunday of Lent)
Exodus 3:1–8a, 13–15    Psalm 103

Monthly Parish Coffee Hour
**TODAY**
Following the 11 AM Solemn Mass
McKinnon Hall
Join your fellow parishioners for food, fellowship and fun!

**Upcoming Coffee Hour Dates**
May 19 & June 16

**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**
**LENTEN FOOD DRIVE**
Throughout Lent, SVdP will be accepting donations of food for the Church of the Ascension.
The items requested each week are listed below:

- **Week 2**
  - (March 17–23)
  - rice and canned beans

- **Week 3**
  - (March 24–30)
  - cereals and canned fruits

- **Week 4**
  - (March 31–April 6)
  - tuna fish and canned vegetables

- **Week 5**
  - (April 7–13)
  - soups and rice

- **Week 6**
  - (April 14–17)
  - tuna fish and pasta

Please bring donations to the Parish House.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**
**Tuesday Evenings**
**Through April 16th**
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM in the Church
The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at 6:00 PM. The church will be open for private adoration until shortly before 8:00 PM when the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed and the church will close.

**LENT 2019 BROCHURE**
A complete list of Lenten activities, including Holy Week Mass times, can be found in the Lenten brochure.
Copies are available in the Narthex, at the Parish House, and online at stignatiusloyola.org

**NEW PARISHIONERS**
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 stignatiusloyola.org
**RETREAT**

_Catholics in Action:_

**Lord, What Would You Have Us Do?**

*Friday, March 22nd to Sunday, March 24th*

_Jogues Retreat House, Cornwall, NY*

Our very own personal commitment to a cause or social action activity can be a source of deep spiritual reward and fulfillment.

Through personal prayer and reflection, along with guided group sharing, we will discover what brought us to our work, what sustains us throughout and what our future efforts can achieve. Our goal is to leave spiritually renewed in our commitments and equipped with insights and tools to energize our efforts for the future.

**Cost:** $150

To register, scan the QR code at left or visit [http://retreat.social/catholicsinaction](http://retreat.social/catholicsinaction).

*For more information, email catholicsinactionretreat@gmail.com*

_Sponsored by Ignatian Social Justice and LGBT Catholics & Friends_

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**MUSIC**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 24th**

**11 AM SOLEMN MASS**

Morley

_Agnus Dei_

Alegri

_Miserere mei_

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**CARITAS CONCERT**

**My Songs Without Words**

*Thursday, March 21st*

**7:00 PM in Wallace Hall**

Pianist Mark Markham is considered one of the finest artists of his generation and the breadth of his repertoire is unrivaled. He is known around the world for his twenty-year collaboration with soprano Jessye Norman, as well as his solo performances in recital and with orchestra. His program for this evening features solo works of Schumann, Poulenc and others that reflect the diversity of his experience as a pianist.

Held in Wallace Hall, Caritas Concerts are warm, enjoyable evenings of food, wine, friendship and great music.

*All proceeds benefit the Community of Sant'Egidio.*

*Tickets: $50–$250*

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**LAETARE LECTURE**

*Prophecy, Lamentation and Hope*

*Monday, April 1st*

**7:00 PM**

_Wallace Hall_

**PRESENTED BY**

Dr. Cathleen Kaveny

_Professor of Law & Theology at Boston College_

The biblical tradition includes an important strain of righteous anger. The prophets Jeremiah and Hosea issued burning indictments of violations of their people’s covenant with God, including mistreatment of the poor and idolatry. But how do we move beyond anger to find the necessary energy and hope for reform and even redemption, without forgetting, ignoring, or condoning injustice? This talk will draw upon the prophetic books of the Bible to ponder this question, which is so important to the Church today.

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**FEATURING**

_Lorelei Ensemble_

Beth Willer, founder and artistic director

Take flight on a transcendent journey from the soaring perspective of birds, and trace humanity’s parallel journey through the cycle of life with the Lorelei Ensemble.

Boston’s Lorelei Ensemble is recognized nationally for its bold and inventive programs that champion the extraordinary flexibility and virtuosic capability of the human voice.

*Tickets: $20–$80*

*Tickets are available online at smssconcerts.org or by calling 212-288-2520.*
PARISH STAFF

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

Associate Pastors
Rev. Michael P. Hilbert, S.J.
Rev. Vincent B. Sullivan, S.J.

Assistant Pastor
Rev. Brian G. Konzman, S.J.

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

Pastoral Associates
Teresa Marie Cariño   Carly-Anne Gannon

Pastoral Assistant
Maureen Haley

Assisting Priests

Music Ministries
Daniel Beckwith   Maureen Haley
Robert Reuter   Philip Anderson
Michael Sheetz

Scott Warren, Director
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
Erin Pick

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. Joy L. Blom, Executive Director
M.A., M.Ed.
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.

Baptisms
Please call Maureen Haley at the Parish House (212-288-3588 x636) 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 Maureen Haley at the Parish House (212-288-3588 x636) 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.

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. Bergen
Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Sokolowski
9:30 AM Fr. Yesalonia
Wallace Hall Family 11:00 AM Fr. Sullivan
Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Konzman
7:30 PM Fr. Konzman

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

Lecture: The Tragedy & Triumph of Lyndon Johnson: An Evening with Joseph A. Califano, Jr. Wednesday, March 20th, 6:00 PM. America Media, 1212 Avenue of the Americas, 11th Floor. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the end of the Johnson administration. Joseph A. Califano, Jr., President Lyndon Johnson’s chief domestic policy assistant, and Matt Malone, S.J., will discuss the legacy of President Johnson. This event is free and open to the public. To RSVP, email events@americamagazine.org.

Travel: A Spiritual Journey to Portugal. Monday, October 21st to Thursday, October 31st. Hosted by the Maryland & USA Northeast Provinces of the Society of Jesus. Spiritual Director: Fr. Rodolfo Casals, S.J. Cost: $3,679 from New York (Air/land tour price is $3,279 plus $400 government taxes/airline surcharges). Price includes roundtrip airfare, most meals, first class/select hotels, comprehensive sightseeing with local guides, entrance fees, porterage, and hotel service taxes. For more information, contact James Skurka, Tour Coordinator, at 212-774-5548 or jskurka@jesuits.org

Available in the Parish House
Six-Minute Reflections for Lent
The goal of these booklets is to find six minutes each day for quiet reflection during Lent.

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 Center staffed by health and social service professionals dedicated to helping people better 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.