When most people think about the teaching of the Catholic Church, they imagine a solid wall of doctrine. That image isn’t wrong, exactly—the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* includes nearly 3000 doctrinal propositions, and runs to over 800 pages in the paperback edition. But the image is incomplete, as today’s Gospel about the Prodigal Son shows. Jesus himself was often inclined to share his teaching in the form of parables rather than propositions. The Synoptic Gospels are full of Jesus’s parables—biblical scholar Matthew S. Rindge finds 49 different parables which are attributed to him.

But what exactly is a parable? The Hebrew word for parable is *mashal*, which refers to a short religious allegory. The Hebrew word includes not only parables, but also similar literary forms, such as fables. Parables generally draw on examples from everyday life to make a deeper moral or religious point. They are filled with images drawn from agrarian life, family relationships, and basic commercial transactions.

Some people think parables are meant to make complex points of doctrine easier to understand. But Jesus himself explicitly warns us not to view his own parables in this way. When the disciples asked him why he spoke in parables, he answered: “Because knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted . . . . This is why I speak to them in parables, because ‘they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand’” (Matt. 13:10-17). Jesus uses ordinary images to convey something extraordinary: the patterns of life and relationship in the kingdom of God.

Are we the devout disciples who understand the mysteries of Jesus’s parables, or are we the unbelievers from whom the meaning remains hidden? I think we are always both. We are disciples in need of conversion and unbelievers seeking to believe. And I think one key to become better disciples is to allow the parables of Jesus to challenge us in all their strangeness. It’s easy enough for regular churchgoers to think to themselves, “Well, I’ve heard this one before—I’ve got it.” But what happens if we try to listen to a parable as if it’s brand-new to us? What happens if we lay the unfolding course of our lives before Jesus’s enigmatic presentation of God’s kingdom?

When I try to do that myself, I don’t discover answers, but rather more questions. And the questions are often about different perspectives on relationships. Take the parable of the Prodigal Son. When I was very young, I identified with the younger brother. What was so wrong, after all, with his decision to make his own way in the world? He made a lot of bad decisions, of course, but so do lots of young people. As I grew older, with more responsibilities, my perspective on the story shifted—I saw myself in the older brother, who always tried to do the right thing. Maybe he grew increasingly bitter because he was doing all the work. Now, I think about the father, who wants to keep the family together. Will his approach work? We don’t know. We don’t know if the older son will come to the feast. We don’t know if the younger son will reform. I sympathize with his desire and with his uncertainty.

We know that God desires to keep the Body of Christ together, and calls the whole human family to live in harmony with one another. Doctrine and law are important. But they are not everything. Jesus’s parables point not only to abstract truth, but also toward truth as incarnated in transformed and redeemed relationships. If we read them with fresh eyes, the parables may give insight into what redemption might look like in our own relationships as we move with God’s grace toward the heavenly kingdom.

— M. Cathleen Kaveny, J.D., Ph.D.
Darald and Juliet Libby Professor
Boston College
Dear Parishioners,

Last weekend a representative from Food for the Poor spoke at all the Masses and solicited donations in support of its work. Since that time reports of irregularities in the administration of Food for the Poor have been brought to my attention by concerned parishioners.

Having considered these reports and after having discussed the allegations of the reports with the representative who visited us, I have decided to withhold the money contributed in the collection boxes last weekend. $2,000 was donated. If you would like your contribution returned, please notify me no later than April 15th. After that a donation of the remaining money will be sent in the name of the parish to New York Common Pantry whose mission is to feed those who would otherwise go hungry in our own city.

If you mailed a contribution to Food for the Poor and would like your gift returned, I suggest you write to Food for the Poor, 6401 Lyons Road, Coconut Creek, FL 33097-9970.

I regret taking this action, but I believe it is the judicious thing to do given the ambiguity generated by the published reports concerning this organization and the concern of many at the parish.

Sincerely in the Lord,

Fr. Yesalonia
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.

SCRIPITURE CLASS

**The Prophetic Imagination**
**Through Tuesday, April 9th**
**11:00 AM**
**Gonzaga Meeting Room**

The prophets of ancient Israel were missioned to speak uncomfortable truth to power. Their role was to criticize but also energize, to invite their people to imagine an alternative future, the future as God dreams it can be. Our presentations will explore the creative ways and words the prophets chastised, inspired, and inspirited. Our discussions will seek to translate prophetic teaching for our own troubled, pivotal times.

To register, email Lent2019BibleStudy@gmail.com

All sessions led by Brian Pinter, Pastoral Associate.

Space is limited.

IGNATIAN INTERFAITH MINISTRY

**Wednesday, April 10th**
**6:30 PM**
**Wallace Hall Stage**

Fr. Sergey Trostyanskiy, rector of St. Gregory the Theologian Church, will lead a Lenten reflection and meditation on the traditional Orthodox Jesus Prayer.

To register, email ignatianinterfaithministry@gmail.com.

SPARK MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY

Sunday, March 31st
**12:00 PM**
**Parish Lounge**

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.

LAY MINISTERS' ENRICHMENT

**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.

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

Stations of the Cross for Families

**Sunday, April 7th at 12:30 PM**

Stations of the Cross for the Parish Community

**Wednesday, April 17th at 7:30 PM**
Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, April 1st (Fourth Monday of Lent)
Isaiah 65:17–21    Psalm 30    John 4:43–54
8:30 MEM Ciro Saracino
12:10 MEM Cono Pasqua
5:30 MEM Mike Murray

Tuesday, April 2nd
( Fourth Tuesday of Lent)
Ezekiel 47:1–9, 12    Psalm 46    John 5:1–16
8:30 MEM Tony Oroszlany
12:10 MEM Bea Scott-Hansen
5:30 MEM Joseph E. Rowan

Wednesday, April 3rd
( Fourth Wednesday of Lent)
Isaiah 49:8–15    Psalm 145    John 5:17–30
8:30 MEM The Choix & Gordon Families
12:10 MEM Linda Marino
5:30 MEM Antoine A. Tartamella

Thursday, April 4th
( Fourth Thursday of Lent)
Exodus 32:7–14    Psalm 106    John 5:31–47
8:30 MEM Bridget Burke
12:10 MEM Katherine B. "Kate" McEvoy Zeitler
5:30 MEM Sose & Mark Prekelezaj

Friday, April 5th
( Fourth Friday of Lent)
Wisdom 2:1a, 12–22    Psalm 34    John 7:1-2, 10, 25–30
8:30 MEM The Meehan Family
12:10 MEM William Tobin
5:30 MEM Jack Kehoe

Saturday, April 6th
( Fourth Saturday of Lent)
Jeremiah 11:18–20    Psalm 7    John 7:40–53
8:30 MEM Joanne Davidoff

Sunday, April 7th
( Fifth Sunday of Lent)
Isaiah 43:16–21    Psalm 126
Philippians 3:8–14    John 8:1–11

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

Join Our Email Mailing List!
To sign-up, scan the QR code at left or visit stignatiusloyola.org/index.php/about_us/parish-email-list

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

MORE THAN A BOOK CLUB
APRIL BOOK DISCUSSION
Thursday, April 11th
2:00 PM
Gonzaga Meeting Room

APRIL BOOK SELECTION
The Secret Life of Bees
by Sue Monk Kidd

Set in South Carolina during 1964, The Secret Life of Bees tells the story of a fourteen year old white girl, Lily Owens, whose life has been shaped around the blurred memory of the afternoon her mother was killed. When Lily’s fierce-hearted “stand-in mother,” Rosaleen, insults three racists in town, they escape to Tiburon, South Carolina—a town that holds the secret to her mother's past.

Taken in by an eccentric trio of black beekeeping sisters, Lily finds refuge in their mesmerizing world of bees, honey, and the Black Madonna.

DOCENT TOUR OF ST. PATRICK’S CATHEDRAL
Thursday, May 9th | 1:45 PM

Suggestion Contribution: $5/person
Registrants will meet inside the entrance.
The tour is limited to 20 attendees
To RSVP for the book discussion and/or the docent tour, email MoreThanaBookClubSIL@gmail.com

Day Nursery Spring Tour
Tuesday, April 16th
10 AM to Noon
St. Ignatius Loyola Day Nursery
240 East 84th Street
To RSVP, email Valentinm@ignatiusdn.org

NEW PARISHIONERS
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Join Our Email Mailing List!
To sign-up, scan the QR code at left or visit stignatiusloyola.org/index.php/about_us/parish-email-list
**SUNDAY, APRIL 7th**

**11 AM SOLEMN MASS**

- Wesley
  - Wash me throughly
- Lassus
  - Domine convertere

**MUSIC**

**So We Must Make the Journey**

- **Sunday, April 14th**
  - **4:00 PM**
  - **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

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**LAETARE LECTURE**

**Prophecy, Lamentation and Hope**

- **Monday, April 1st**
  - **7:00 PM in 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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**GIRL SCOUT BAKE SALE**

- **Sunday, April 7th**

Cookies will be sold in the Narthex following the 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM Masses, and on the Wallace Hall Stage after the 11:00 AM Family Mass.

The St. Ignatius Loyola School Girl Scouts will be selling cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, and cupcakes.

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**Handel Dixit Dominus & Haydn Harmoniemesse**

- **Wednesday, May 22nd**
  - **8:00 PM**

**FEATURING**

- Choir and Orchestra of St. Ignatius Loyola Parish Community Choir
- K. Scott Warren, conductor

-Wendy Baker, soprano
-Kate Maroney, mezzo soprano
-John Tiranno, tenor
-Neil Netherly, bass

**Tickets:** $20 – $80

**Moving? Please don’t forget to notify us!**

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**SMSS Concerts Online**

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

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. Judge
Sunday:  8:00 AM Fr. Sullivan
         9:30 AM Fr. Martin
Wallace Hall Family  11:00 AM Fr. Hilbert
Solemn  11:00 AM Fr. Bergen
         7:30 PM Fr. Bergen

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.

Volunteer: The Community of Sant'Egidio is looking for volunteers for their activities in Manhattan, including preparing and distributing food to homeless men and women and visiting a nursing home on the Upper East Side. If you are interested, contact Paola at 646-765-3899 or at santegidiousa@gmail.com.

Lecture: The Hopes & Challenges Facing Christians in the Middle East. Wednesday, April 10th. 6:00 PM. America Media, 1212 Avenue of the Americas, 11th Floor. Fr. Drew Christiansen, S.J., Distinguished Professor of Ethics and Human Development in Georgetown's School of Foreign Service, will deliver a lecture on the challenges and hopes for the Christian communities struggling to survive in the Middle East. The lecture is free & open to the public. To RSVP, email events@americamagazine.org.

Travel: Two Pilgrimages in the Footsteps of Ignatius of Loyola:
Ignatius in Rome (June 14th‒20th) & The Loyola Experience (July 4th‒14th). Following Ignatius Loyola’s footsteps in Rome and Spain, you will experience the Spiritual Exercises with a renewed and revitalized appreciation for their place in the history of Christian spirituality through daily talks at critical sites in the life of one of the Catholic Church’s great spiritual guides. For more information about the Ignatius in Rome trip, visit paulist.org/pilgrimages/rome. To learn about The Loyola Experience pilgrimage, visit paulist.org/pilgrimages/loyola.

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