Stop and See

Autumn came to New York a little late this year and I missed it. Only a few blocks away from Central Park and I never really got to see and enjoy the autumn leaves in all their splendor. Oh, I caught glimpses—usually from the 86th street crosstown bus. But I never stopped to look, really look, at the whole amazing scene.

Something similar can happen at Christmas. Christmas can come and go too quickly. We may never make the time to pause and relish the real meaning and wonder of Christmas. After all, the very first Christmas came and went unnoticed, except by a few shepherds. Just another Hebrew child.

This is why we have Advent. These next several weeks are a time to prepare our hearts and minds to receive the full gift of the Christ child. But this will not happen without a conflict. The secular world we live in has its own very different approach to Christmas. The tempo of city life escalates from fast to frantic. It can easily become a season of too much and not enough. Too much work, too much shopping, too much food and alcohol, too many relatives, too many social engagements. Not enough time, not enough love or energy, not enough prayer and peace. For some, not enough time to process what we are feeling and how we are responding. The real meaning of Advent can get lost in a pile of Christmas cards and wrapping paper.

Looking at how our modern, secular Christmas has evolved, I am reminded of the passage in the Book of Exodus where Moses comes to the Hebrew slaves in Egypt to tell them the good news that God was about to set them free. Pharaoh’s reaction was to increase their work. “Make them work harder,” he said, “so they have no time to listen.”

These next weeks are an opportunity to learn the difference between what seems urgent and what is truly important. Our tendency is to get caught up in what is urgent. This can easily lead to the neglect of what is important. Some urgent matters are truly important, but many deeply important matters don’t seem to be urgent. Frequently enough, the urgent is a noisy storm and the important a gentle rain. The boss at work who is demanding more and more time may be more important. A small child who needs one’s time may be more important.

Advent is here to challenge us. In our attention to what seems urgent, are we neglecting what is important? Christmas is twenty-three days away. It is still early enough to make some conscious choices about how I want to live these next few weeks.

Will I give attention to what is really important about this Advent season? Will I lift my mind and heart to God more frequently during the day and know that He is near? Christ continues to be with us in the present. This was his pledge to the first Christians before his death. “I will not leave you orphans. I will be with you always.” That happens in the most privileged way here when we listen to God’s word to us in the scriptures and receive the consecrated bread and wine—the real presence of the glorified and risen Christ, our trusted friend and guide for the road ahead. When I celebrate Christmas Day, will Christ be more real and important to me than before the Advent waiting began?

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

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2nd**  
**First Sunday of Advent**  
Annual Christmas Tree Lighting. Immediately following the 11:00 AM Mass. Wallace Hall.

Sacred Music in a Sacred Space presents  
A Chanticleer Christmas.  
4:00 PM. Church.  
Details on page 5.

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 3rd**  
Moms, Pops & Tots.  
10:00 AM. Gonzaga Meeting Room.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7th**  
Mass of Welcome.  
Sponsored by LGBT Catholics & Friends.  
7:30 PM. Church.  
Details on page 5.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8th**  
Feast of the Immaculate Conception.  
9:00 AM.  
*Mass of Anticipation*  
Friday, December 7th at 5:30 PM.  
Both Masses will be celebrated in the Church.  
*The Feast is a holy day of obligation.*

Snow Ball Dance.  
7:00 PM. Wallace Hall.  
Details at right.

**HOSPITALITY MINISTRY**

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

**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.

**NOW AVAILABLE**

**Advent Daily Reflection Booklets**

Booklets featuring daily reflections from the clergy, staff, and lay leadership of our parish are available in the Narthex and at the Parish House.

Their thoughts and meditations are rooted in the words of the mystics—men and women who grew into deep compassion for the world and love of God.

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**Snow Ball Dance**

Put on your dancing shoes for the  
Second Annual St. Ignatius Loyola Snow Ball Dance.  

**Saturday, December 8th**  
7:00 PM to 10:00 PM  
Wallace Hall

Come eat, drink and dance to live music with your friends and other fellow adult (21+) parishioners.

Tickets can be purchased at donate.stignatiusloyola.org/snowball.

Tickets: $40/person

For more information, contact ram.akella@phillp.com

**BOOMERS & BEYOND**

**Christmas Caroling**  
Sunday, December 9th  
1:00 PM  
Lott Assisted Living Residence–5th Avenue (between 107th and 108th Streets)

Come join us in bringing the magic of merriment to these wonderful residents.

**Bambinelli Sunday**  
December 16th  
Following the 11 AM Wallace Hall Mass

Following the December 16th 11 AM Mass, we will bless Infant Jesus figurines that will be place in crèches.

We invite parishioners to bring their figurines in for the blessing.
MORE THAN A BOOK CLUB

DECEMBER SELECTION
BOOK DISCUSSION
Thursday, December 13th at 2:00 PM
Gonzaga Meeting Room

DECEMBER BOOK SELECTION
Daughters of the Samurai
by Janice P. Nimura

In 1871, five young girls were sent by the Japanese government to the United States. Their mission: learn Western ways and return to help nurture a new generation of enlightened men to lead Japan. Ten years later, they returned to Japan—a land grown foreign to them—determined to revolutionize women’s education. The passionate relationships they formed reveal an intimate world of cross-cultural fascination and connection.

To register for the December 13th book discussion, email MoreThanABookClubSIL@gmail.com
Registration required.

IGNATIAN INTERFAITH MINISTRY

THE MET
Guided Tour of the Armenia Exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art
Saturday, December 15th at 10:00 AM

Please join the Ignatian Interfaith Ministry for a guided tour of the Armenia exhibit as we explore the rich traditions of the Armenian church.

Cost of the Tour: $31/person
($24/person, if you are age 65 or older)
(Pre-paid reservations only)

Send a check (payable to "Church of St. Ignatius Loyola”, with the memo line note "Metropolitan Museum Armenia Tour”) to: Ignatian Interfaith Ministry, c/o St. Ignatius Loyola, 980 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10028

Checks must be received by Wednesday, December 5th.

To RSVP, email ignatianinterfaithministry@gmail.com

REGISTRANTS will meet by 9:45 AM at the main entrance of the museum—by the Groups check-in.

ANNUAL PARISH CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXCHANGE

Hosted by the Ignatian Young Adults at the IYA Sunday Social
December 9th at 8:30 PM in Wallace Hall, following the 7:30 PM Mass

All parishioners are welcome.
Bring your homemade cookies to swap with others!

To participate:
BAKE your favorite Christmas cookies.
(If you’re not a baker but would still like to participate in the exchange, treats from a bakery are fine, too!)

We recommend bringing 2 dozen cookies (24), but any amount is fine as long as you bring that many home!

BRING your treats to Wallace Hall on Sunday, December 9th, before or after the 7:30 PM Mass.
Please bring your treats in a container you can reuse for carrying your new cookies home.

EXCHANGE your cookies.
All are welcome to stay for our Christmas Social, also in Wallace Hall!
If you are interested in donating baked goods for the Christmas Social or have any questions about the event, please email ignatianyoungadults@gmail.com

WALLACE HALL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Sunday, December 16th
Immediately following the 11:00 AM Family Mass

We hope that your family will join us in this celebration of our Lord's birth. There is a role for everyone!

To participate: Scan the QR Code at left to be directed to the online registration form or visit stignatiusloyola.org

Two rehearsals are required:
Sunday, December 9th at noon in Wallace Hall & Sunday, December 16th at 9:30 AM in Wallace Hall

Questions?
Email Mary Jo Ward at mjward@med.cornell.edu

Please don't forget to notify us! This information helps us to keep our database current.
Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, December 3rd (St. Francis Xavier)
1 Corinthians 9:16–19, 22–23    Psalm 117
Matthew 16:15–20
8:30 MEM    Peter Johnson
12:10 MEM    Margaret Gallacher
5:30 MEM    Gregorio Dizon

Tuesday, December 4th
(First Tuesday of Advent)
8:30 MEM    Philip Lobkowicz
12:10 MEM    Mario D’Aiuto
5:30 ANN    Dolorita Wallace Moore

Wednesday, December 5th
(First Wednesday of Advent)
8:30 MEM    Caroline Choix
12:10 MEM    Mario D’Aiuto
5:30 MEM    Margaret & Joseph Phelan

Thursday, December 6th
(First Thursday of Advent)
Isaiah 26:1–6    Psalm 118    Matthew 7:21, 24–27
8:30 MEM    Ciro Saracino
12:10 MEM    Timothy Francis Moran
5:30 ANN    Thomas Flammer

Friday, December 7th (St. Ambrose)
8:30 MEM    Jerry Johnson
12:10 MEM    Margaret Hill

Saturday, December 8th
(The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary)
Genesis 3:9–15, 20    Psalm 98
Ephesians 1:3–6, 11–12    Luke 1:26–38

Sunday, December 9th
(Second Sunday of Advent)
Baruch 5:1–9    Psalm 126
Philippians 1:4–6, 8–11    Luke 3:1–6
**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

**Christmas Angel Project**

*Continues This Weekend!*

to benefit
Church of the Immaculate Conception
and the Church of the Annunciatio

*Through Sunday, December 9th, 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 9th.*

**Annual Toy Drive**

*Continues This Weekend!*
to benefit
St. Mary of the Assumption & Our Lady of Mt. Carmel–St. Benedict on Staten Island

*Through Sunday, December 16th*

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

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**MUSIC**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9th**

**11 AM SOLEMN MASS**

Thorne, Stearns
*Two settings of Merton*

Palestrina
*Fuit homo missus a Deo*

Byrd
*Mass for Four Voices: Agnus Dei*

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**A Chanticleer Christmas**

**TODAY at 4:00 PM**

Called “the world's reigning male chorus” by The New Yorker magazine, the San Francisco based GRAMMY® award-winning ensemble Chanticleer celebrated its 40th season in 2017-18. Praised by the San Francisco Chronicle for their “tonal luxuriance and crisply etched clarity,” Chanticleer is known around the world as “an orchestra of voices” for the seamless blend of its twelve male voices ranging from soprano to bass and its original interpretations of vocal literature, from Renaissance to jazz and popular genres, as well as contemporary composition.

**Tickets: $25–$93**

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**Glad Tidings!: Annual Christmas Concerts**

**Sunday, December 9th at 3:00 PM**

&

**Sunday, December 16th at 3:00 PM**

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

Warmth and joy abound in our beloved annual Christmas concerts, where audience and choirs together join in singing popular carols.

Featuring Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* and Gustav Holst’s *Christmas Day*, this heart-warming yearly favorite includes traditional carols for the whole family to sing together.

**Tickets: $25–$88**

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**LGBT CATHOLICS & FRIENDS**

**MASS OF WELCOME**

*For the LGBTQ+ Community & Friends*

Friday, December 7th at 7:30 PM

Join the LGBT Catholics & Friends ministry for a Mass to welcome the LGBTQ+ community.

A reception will follow in Wallace Hall.

*All are welcome!*

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**Special Collection**

Next weekend, our Parish will take the annual collection for the retired women and men religious of the New York Archdiocese.

We thank you for your generosity.
CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA
980 Park Avenue at 84th Street • New York, New York 10028 • (212) 288-3588
Fax: (212) 734-3671  www.stignatiusloyola.org

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

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.

Longest Married Couple Search.
The search begins for the longest married couple in the Archdiocese of New York. To enter, couples must be sacramentally married for a minimum of 65 years and reside in the Archdiocese of New York. The longest married couples will receive commemorative certificates signed by His Eminence, Timothy Cardinal Dolan. The winning couple will be interviewed and featured in an article in Catholic New York. Winners are determined by how long couples have been married as of World Marriage Day, February 10, 2019. For further information, contact Joan Brison at 646-794-3190. Email entries to joan.brison@archny.org. The deadline for entries is Thursday, January 24, 2019.

Travel: Retreat Pilgrimage on the Camino Ignaciano with Fr. George Drance, S.J. Wednesday, March 13, 2019 to Sunday, March 24, 2019. Follow the footsteps of St. Ignatius Loyola, from his castle in Loyola to Barcelona. Option to walk or take the bus. Cost: $3,295 (rate guaranteed until Saturday, December 15th). Space is limited to 20 pilgrims. For more information, contact Angie Cruz at angiecruzphd@gmail.com or 917-607-0937.

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

We pray for the faithful departed
John Shaw
May he rest in the peace of the Risen Lord.

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