

Old St. Joseph's Church

Est. 1733 | Philadelphia's Jesuit Parish

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www.oldstjoseph.org

October 15, 2017 | The Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

What is Ignatian Spirituality?

If you have spent any time at a Jesuit parish or in the company of Jesuits, you've probably repeatedly heard the phrase "Ignatian spirituality" bantered about. You may have wondered, what is it all about? Good question!

First of all, the phrase, "Ignatian," refers to Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Jesuit order, who died in 1556. Ignatius had an interesting life. But part of his basic story is that while in his early 30's he experienced a life-changing religious conversion. One of his gifts was his surprising level of introspection and his ability to reflect even critically upon his own religious experience. He spent a good part of his life writing and rewriting a basic guide book based on those experiences, called the Spiritual Exercises. Unfortunately, it's not a good "read" because it's more like a manual for a spiritual director than an inspiring text for personal devotion.

But the book of the Spiritual Exercises - and much more the process that underlies it - is the prime source for what today is called Ignatian spirituality. So what's in the book, or what's the process? What's the big deal?

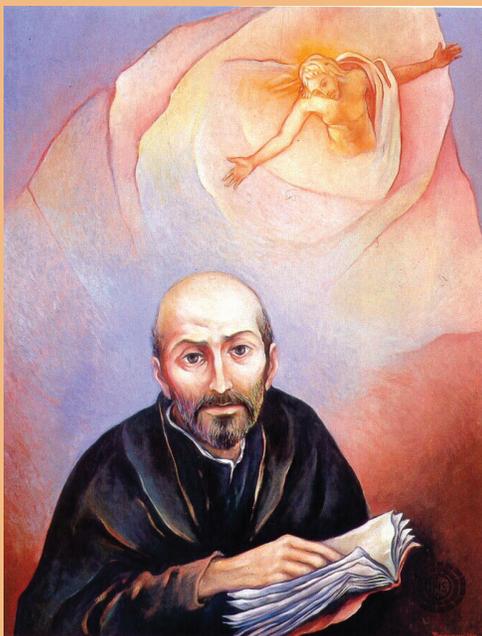
Ignatius did not start a new religion or change our Catholic faith. Your first reaction to Ignatian spirituality should be, "It all sounds very familiar - about Jesus and prayer and following the gospel."

And that's correct. Nor is Ignatian spirituality a rigid system that you have to buy into if you want to be one of the cognoscenti. It doesn't compete against other ways of praying or living out the gospel. It's not a cult - though sometimes over-enthusiasts can make it sound like that. Ignatius knew there are many ways of praying and he basically endorsed all of them - whatever works for you. He was very open and respectful of all the paths that God opens to us.

You should keep one distinction in mind. Ignatius founded the Jesuits - that's a long story - and he had very definite ideas how he wanted the Society of Jesus to function. But his "spirituality" was intended for a much wider audience. Ignatian spirituality is not just for Jesuits. That is why some of the best proponents of Ignatian spirituality are not themselves Jesuits. In particular, his spirituality can be a great resource for lay people. In fact, Ignatius wrote down the Spiritual Exercises long before he ever thought about the Jesuits or even himself becoming a priest.

So what is "Ignatian spirituality"? I can't exhaustively answer that question in a brief bulletin essay, but let me touch on a few points that I really like about it. First, Ignatius had a great appreciation for the role of imagination in prayer. He read the gospels almost as if they were screen plays for a movie - or better, the script for a play in which you are going to be a lead actor. That's what he meant by contemplation: To enter into the scene. It's a powerful way of making the gospels and the person of Jesus come alive in one's life.

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Second, Ignatius was very sensitive to “what’s going on inside of me.” It amazes me how a man in the 16th century – long before the invention of modern psychology – was so sensitive to interior movements. Ignatius believed that at least some of these interior movements can be caused by spiritual forces – both good and bad – and so some of them are actually the influence of divine grace. The process of distinguishing the good from the bad and the true from the false he called the “discernment of spirits.” Ignatian spirituality stresses self-reflection in the presence of God and how we can make decisions that are consistent with God’s will for us, that is, by following the good spirit.

Third, I have always liked the emphasis Ignatius gives to life as a synthesis of action and attention to God. He called it “contemplation in action.” I don’t know how busy life was in the 16th century, but Ignatius would be very much at home with the hectic pace of our own lives. He wouldn’t let any of us get away with the excuse that “I’m too busy to spend much time on religion.” Ignatius knew how to be focused on God even when all hell was breaking loose around him.

Anyway, as you know, Old St Joe’s is a Jesuit parish. So appropriately there’s a lot of talk here about Ignatian spirituality. We even have a parish committee that promotes it. You might want to consider joining us on Saturday, October 21, for a “Half Day Retreat” led by Father Dan Ruff. The retreat will focus on a way of praying that Ignatius especially recommended called the Examen. There’s more information inside this bulletin. And hopefully, we Jesuits will keep preaching out of our Ignatian tradition. It’s a great resource and we’ll try to make it more and more available to everyone who comes to our parish.

Walter F. Modrys, S.J.
Pastor

THIS WEEK AT OSJ

Monday, October 16	6:00 PM: PREP (St. Mary’s)
Tuesday, October 17	12 Noon: Food, Faith and Friends (Barbelin) Al-Anon (Drexel) 7:30 PM: Sr. Maura Clarke Talk (Barbelin)
Wed., October 18	6:30 PM: Centering Prayer (Drexel) Women’s Faith & Fellowship (Loyola)
Thursday, October 19	12 Noon: Food, Faith and Friends (Barbelin) 1:00 PM: Scripture Study (Drexel) 4:30 PM: PREP Confirmation Class (Barbelin) 7:00 PM: Schola Rehearsal (Barbelin)
Saturday, October 21	10:00 AM Half-Day Spirituality Retreat (Barbelin/Church) 12 Noon: Food, Faith and Friends (Barbelin)
Sunday, October 22	9:30 AM CLOW (Barbelin) 10:30 AM Social Justice Meeting (Drexel) 5:30 PM Loyola Choir Rehearsal (Church) YAC Pre-Mass Reflection (Drexel)

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Romans 1; Psalm 98; Luke 11
Tuesday: Romans 1; Psalm 19; Luke 11
Wed: 2 Timothy 4; Psalm 145; Luke 10
Thursday: Romans 3; Psalm 130; Luke 11
Friday: Romans 4; Psalm 32; Luke 12
Saturday: Romans 4; Psalm 105; Luke 12
Sunday: Isaiah 45; Psalm 96; 1 Thessalonians 1; Matthew 22
Complete text of the daily readings can be found at www.usccb.org/bible/readings.

Old St. Joseph’s provides Online Giving – a convenient, flexible and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation to the fund of your choice (e.g., Sunday Offertory, FF&F, HPC).

To sign up for Online Giving go to our website: www.oldstjoseph.org and click on the **Online Giving** tab underneath the Important Links column.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Please see next week’s bulletin for the **Offertory Collection for the week ending October 8, 2017**

Please remember our sick and homebound sisters and brothers:

Bernardo Goldrosson, MaryLou Jennings, April DeMatto, Lydia Staley, Jennifer Moore, D. Minter, Joseph Burke, Louis Balestrucci, Deborah Brooks, Allen May, Anna Krachman, Richard Polosky, Ed Tomezsko, Ava Iezzi, Sharon Sylvester, Jack Lees, Roberto Pupo, Colleen Raymond, Sean Pearson, Lynda Blum-Kahn, Michael Sheston, Garry Moros, Patricia Yusko, Brice Verdier, Mary Jacobs, Jerry McAndrews SJ, Sara Orkline, Adeline Acerno, James McBride, Jerry McBride, Joanna Pearl, Lucy Pearl, Marjorie Heald, Marie Jacobs. Pray also for our ministry at Pennsylvania Hospital.

Names will be removed after 4 weeks unless a request is renewed.

Parish Home Ministry

Eldership Community volunteers who are Eucharistic Ministers are available to visit homebound parishioners. These volunteers bring communion to the homebound. To request a home visit, please call the rectory office.

Second Collection

Next week, October 21/22, we take up a second collection for **World Mission Sunday**. Each year, the entire Church is invited to support the young mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, and the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe, where priests, religious and lay leaders serve the poor.

Half Day Retreat

Saturday, October 21 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Old St. Joseph's Church, meets in Barbelin Hall: Fr. Dan Ruff, S.J. will lead exploring the Examen, a technique of prayerful reflection on the events of the day and how God is leading us. We will also spend time reflecting on the One Book One Parish selection, *Busy Lives & Restless Souls*, in small group settings. NOTE: Participants are encouraged to read the book before-hand if possible. **Please RSVP to osjspirituality@oldstjoseph.org by Tuesday,**



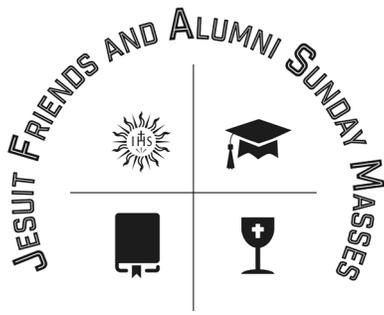
Fr. Martin to Speak at OSJ

Fr. James Martin, S.J., has accepted an invitation to speak at OSJ on Monday, October 30 at 7:30 PM. Fr. Martin will be speaking about his recent book, *Building a Bridge*, which concerns the respectful and sensitive relationship he wants to foster between the Catholic Church and the LGBT community. Many of our parishioners have greatly benefited from the writings of Fr. Martin so we are very grateful that he will be with us.



Centering Prayer

The centering prayer group will meet on Wednesday, October 18, from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM in the Drexel Parlor. The meeting will include a discussion on centering prayer, followed by evening prayer with a period of centering. Anyone interested in this contemplative prayer is welcome to join us. For further information, contact Christine Szczepanowski at 267-250-3049 or christinesz52@gmail.com.



Friends of Jesuits and Alumni of Jesuit Schools will be gathering together on Sunday, October 22, in many locations throughout the East Coast. What better place for such a group to gather than at Philadelphia's own Jesuit parish, Old St. Joseph!

We will be welcoming all friends of Jesuits and alumni to celebrate their common bond through the celebration of liturgy at **6:30 PM**, followed by a reception in Barbelin Hall. This is an opportunity for special guests and all parishioners to learn more about opportunities for continuing spiritual growth and service to the local and global community through ministries sponsored by the parish or by the Society of Jesus.

A Memorial Mass for parishioner Irene Stone will be celebrated on Saturday, November 4, at 10:00 AM. Father Neil Ver'Schneider, SJ, will celebrate the mass at the Chapel of the Gesu School, 1700 W. Thompson Street, Philadelphia. Light refreshments will be served after Mass. All are invited to join in praying for Irene and entrusting her to the Lord's warm embrace. **RSVP to Cynthia Locke: cynthia.locke49@gmail.com.**



A Radical Faith

Tuesday, October 17, 7:00 PM in Barbelin Hall
 Sr. Maura Clarke was a Maryknoll Sister who was murdered in El Salvador in 1980 because of her missionary work among the poor. On Tuesday, October 17, in Barbelin Hall, Eileen Markey will present a talk on her book, *A Radical Faith*, which recounts the life and witness of Sr. Maura, from her Catholic upbringing in Brooklyn to her communion with the poor and vulnerable in Latin America. The book (signed copies will be available for sale) offers an intimate portrait of one woman's spiritual and political transformation and her courageous devotion to justice.
 This event is coordinated by the American Catholic Historical Society in partnership with the Old St. Joseph's Social Justice Committee.

YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY

YAC Spirituality Night

For our next spirituality night, YAC will be joining the OSJ Social Justice Committee and the American Catholic Historical Society on **Tuesday, October 17 in Barbelin Hall from 7-9 PM** as they welcome author Eileen Markey who will present on her recent book, *A Radical Faith: The Assassination of Sister Maura*. Email osjyac@gmail.com with any questions.

YAC Welcoming Happy Hour for New Parishioners and Members!

Come to O'Neals Pub (611 S. 3rd St) on **Thursday, October 19** for a special YAC Happy Hour where we would like to welcome any new young adult parishioners at Old St. Joseph's Church and new members of YAC. Current members and other friends are all welcome too. We'll arrive at 5:30 PM and plan to stay till at least 8 PM, so come early or late -- we would love to see you. Contact Jenn at jennlydic@gmail.com with any questions.

An Ecumenical Note

Martin Luther famously nailed his 95 theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. A recent document jointly issued from the Vatican and the Lutheran Church states:



Catholic and Lutheran Christians will most fittingly look back on events that occurred 500 years earlier by putting the gospel of Jesus Christ at the center. The gospel should be celebrated and communicated to the people of our time so that the world may believe that God gives Godself to human beings and calls us into communion with Godself and God's church. Herein lies the basis for our joy in our common faith.

To mark this anniversary, the following events are being held in the Philadelphia area. Everyone is invited to attend and participate:

An Ecumenical Commemoration Reformation Service, Saturday, October 28, 3:00 PM, Lutheran Church of the Holy Communion | 2110 Samson Street, Philadelphia PA, 19103: This service will commemorate the last 500 years of history of the Reformation through worship and song. The guest preacher will be the Rev. Dr. Jennifer Ollikainen from Trinity Lutheran Church in Perkasie.

“Celebrating One Baptism in Christ” | Sunday, October 29 3:00 PM | Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral, 19 South 38th Street, Philadelphia PA, 19104: Homilists will be The Rev Dr Gordon Lathrop, Pastor Evangelical Lutheran Church of America; and Fr. G Dennis Gill, Rector and Pastor, Cathedral Basilica of Sts Peter and Paul.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday October 16

12:05pm **Geraldine Marren & Family (D)**
Presider: Fr. Walter Modrys, S.J.

Tuesday October 17

12:05pm **Edward & Mary Britt Family (D)**
Presider: Fr. Ed O'Donnell, S.J.

Wed. October 18

12:05pm **Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society**
Presider: Fr. Ed Dougherty, S.J.

Thursday October 19

12:05pm **Edward & Mary Filarsky (D)**
Presider: Fr. Ed O'Donnell, S.J.

Friday October 20

12:05pm **Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society**
Presider: Fr. Ed Dougherty, S.J.

Saturday October 21

12:05pm **Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society**
Presider: Fr. Dan Ruff, S.J.

5:30pm Presider: Fr. Walter Modrys, S.J.

Sunday October 22

7:30am Presider: Fr. Ed Dougherty, S.J.

9:30am Presider: Fr. Walter Modrys, S.J.

11:30am Presider: Fr. Ed O'Donnell, S.J.

6:30pm *Jesuit Alumni Mass*

Presider: Fr. Walter Modrys, S.J.



Singing in a choir is an excellent way to enter more fully into the spiritual and liturgical life of the Church. As an added benefit, joining a choir also provides wonderful camaraderie with fellow musicians. Fortunately, at Old St. Joseph's, there are numerous opportunities to “find your niche” as a singer. We have two choirs you can choose to join.

The Schola Cantorum sings at the 11:30 AM Sunday Mass each week and at special holy days throughout the year. We also sing at special concerts in our Church. Our 14 singers support a varied repertoire of outstanding classical sacred music. Rehearsals are held each Thursday night.

The Loyola Choir offers contemporary music combining with instrumentalists at our 6:30 Sunday evening Mass. Rehearsals are each Sunday afternoon at 5:30 PM.

Want to learn more? Join us for an upcoming rehearsal! No Obligation. Or, you are welcome to speak with me following Mass some Sunday. You can also contact me at the church music office: music@oldstjoseph.org.

-Mark Bani

Holy Name of Camden Ministries is hosting a celebration featuring Dr. Ali R. Houshmand, President of Rowan University, on Thursday, November 9, at Tavistock Country Club, Haddonfield, NJ. Awards will be presented to Robert Juliano, Vice President, at Beneficial Bank and to OSJ Parishioner John Trumbore, Volunteer, Holy Name of Camden Ministries. Proceeds support the ministries of Holy Name School, Holy Name Scholars, Camden Center for Law and Social Justice, and Guadalupe Family Services Tickets are \$100 per person. For information and reservations, visit www.holynameofcamdenministries.org or call 856-365-1001.



Welcome new parishioners! Thank you for joining our parish community:
Margaret Snyder

OSJ Staff

Pastor: Fr. Walter Modrys, S.J.

(pastor@oldstjoseph.org)

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Edward O'Donnell, S.J.

(eodonnell@oldstjoseph.org)

Fr. Edward Dougherty S.J.

(dougherty@oldstjoseph.org)

In Residence: Br Robert Carson, S.J.

Business Manager: Eric German

(germane@oldstjoseph.org)

Interim Director of Music: Mark Bani

(music@oldstjoseph.org)

Liturgy Coordinator: Sr. Asunta Thanh, acj

(liturgy@oldstjoseph.org)

Administrative Assistant: Eleanor Margaret

(office@oldstjoseph.org)

Faith, Food & Friends Director: Mary Freedman

(faithandfriends@oldstjoseph.org)

PREP Coordinator: Christine Szczepanowski

(prep@oldstjoseph.org)

INFORMATION

Rectory Office Hours

Monday through Friday: 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Mass Times

Monday through Saturday: 12:05 PM

Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday: 5:30 PM

Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM and 6:30 PM

Holy Days: 12:05 and 7:30 PM

Medical Emergency

In the event of a medical emergency when the need for a priest is urgent, please call the rectory.

Hearing Enhancements

Old St. Joseph's is equipped with an audio hearing loop. Switch on the T-coil function of your device to use the loop. Booklets with the Sunday readings are in the rear of the church.

Registration

Persons who want to register as parishioners should complete a parish registration form and return it to the rectory office by mail or in person. Registration forms are available in the rectory office during normal office hours, in the pamphlet racks in the church vestibules and online at www.oldstjoseph.org.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday through Saturday: 11:30 AM to noon and by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Persons wanting to arrange for a baptism should call Fr. Dougherty at the parish office at least two months before the desired date to arrange catechesis and the baptism celebration.

Sacrament of Anointing

The Sacrament of Anointing (the sacrament of the sick) is administered during the 12:05 PM Mass on the first Saturday of each month. Homebound or hospitalized persons wanting to receive the Sacrament of Anointing should call the parish office.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Persons wanting to be married in the parish should call Fr. O'Donnell at the parish office at least nine months before the desired date.

Rite of Christian Initiation

Unbaptized adults who are considering baptism into the Catholic Church, baptized Catholics who have received no other sacraments and who want to be confirmed and to receive First Eucharist, and baptized non-Catholics who are considering full communion in the Catholic Church should call Fr. O'Donnell at the parish office.

To arrange Mass of Christian Burial, the funeral director should call the parish office.