

SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA PARISH
PARROQUIA SAN IGNACIO DE LOYOLA

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT GAUDETE SUNDAY
TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO DOMINGO GAUDETE
DECEMBER 14, 2025



THE DESERT AND THE PARCHED LAND WILL EXULT,
THE STEPPE WILL REJOICE AND BLOOM.

EL DESIERTO Y LA TIERRA BALDÍA SE REGOCIJARÁN,
LA ESTEPA SE ALEGRARÁ Y FLORECERÁ.

Gaudete Sunday
Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025

Isaiah 35:1–6, 10 • James 5:7–10 • Matthew 11:2–11

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4pm

Sunday:

9am Children's Mass | 10:30am | 12:30pm Español | 5pm

Weekday (followed by the Rosary):

5:30pm Monday–Friday (Lannon Chapel)

8am Monday-Sunday (St. Mary's Chapel, BC)

Confession

Saturday: before Mass, 3–3:45pm

Please keep in your prayers:

Saturday, December 13

4pm Helen Vega Perini

Sunday, December 14

5pm Tommy Minter

Monday, December 15

5:30pm Maria Elizabeth Gianino

Tuesday, December 16

5:30pm Barbara Ann Roche

If you have an intention at a weekend Mass and would like to process with the gifts, please speak with a Greeter when you arrive.

Third Sunday of Advent Blessing

Merciful God of light, it is in your love that we find lasting joy. Through prayer and kind service may we prepare ourselves for the gift of peace and joy you want to give us. Help us to have generous, unselfish and forgiving hearts so that with joy we may herald your coming to all those we meet. Amen.

(Light two purple candles and the rose candle)

*Gaudete, gaudete—
Christus es natus!*

*Rejoice, rejoice—
Christ is born!*

Reflection on the Reading

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist is imprisoned in the desert fortress of Machaerus (in today's Jordan) for criticizing Herod, while Jesus continues his ministry in Galilee. They communicate through each other's disciples. It seems that Jesus may not have fit John's image of Messiah, as he asked: "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus did not answer John directly but pointed to his works of healing people in various ways, including the raising from the dead.

And Jesus tested John when he spoke to the crowds about him: "What did you go out to the desert to see? And... why did you go out? To see a prophet?" Jesus both paid the highest compliment to John the Baptist and demoted him by saying, "Among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he." John could not "finish his race" as he was senselessly executed by Herod. The Gospel of Matthew 14:13 tells us that "(Jesus) went to a far off, deserted, lonely place" in God's Creation to grieve for John.

Sometimes it is hard for us to remember the good parts of ourselves when we have just received some harsh criticism. Similarly, John the Baptist may have been smaller than the least in God's Kingdom, yet he remains a Prophet of the Most High.

— by Dr. Georgia Gojmerac-Leiner, member of the Green Team

Our Lady of Guadalupe

O most gentle
Virgin of Guadalupe,
Mother of God
and our mother,
We turn to you with hearts
full of love and trust.
Cover us with your
mantle of protection,
Guide us in
times of trouble,
And bring us closer
to your son Jesus.
Intercede for us
dear Mother.

**Our Lady of Guadalupe,
pray for us.**



Carta del Párroco

Queridos amigos en el Señor,

Cuando no presido la misa, suelo quedarme cerca de la gran imagen de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. Allí saludo a los feligreses, escucho la homilía y rezo junto con todos los presentes. Siempre soy consciente de la presencia amable y atenta de Nuestra Señora en ese lugar. Me consuela y reconforta pensar que Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe vela por nuestra parroquia. La santa mujer que se apareció en 1531 en el cerro del Tepeyac a Juan Diego cuando se dirigía a misa, nos acompaña aquí en Chestnut Hill. Ella nos ve reunarnos para la misa cada domingo. Nos anima a ser amigos de su hijo, que nació en un establo y fue colocado en un pesebre, como alimento para un mundo hambriento. Al igual que su hijo, Nuestra Señora tiene un cuidado especial de los más vulnerables entre nosotros: los pobres, los enfermos, los migrantes, los no nacidos, los ancianos y todas las víctimas de la discriminación sexual y racial. Ella nos cuida, nos enseña a no tener miedo y nos ayuda a iluminar nuestro camino mientras seguimos el camino de su hijo.

Durante las últimas semanas, Nuestra Señora ha estado contemplando el Árbol de Navidad de la entrada de la Iglesia. Seguro que observa con gran alegría cómo los feligreses van tomando los adornos del pino para comprar un regalo a alguien que lo necesita. Junto con Nuestra Señora, me siento profundamente agradecido por la generosidad de todos los que participan en los numerosos ministerios de ayuda social de nuestra parroquia. Estoy especialmente agradecido por todo el trabajo de la hermana Diane Vallerio y los miembros de la comisión de pastoral social. Todos ellos hacen posible estos programas. Hace una década, cuando trabajaba en Nativity Prep, disfrutaba mucho viendo las sonrisas de los niños al abrir los regalos que recibían de los generosos feligreses de la parroquia de San Ignacio. Me alegra ver que esa tradición continúa hoy para todos los que se benefician de nuestra pastoral social: *Nativity Prep*, *Hearth for Homeless Elders*, *Julie's Family Learning Program*, *Boston Health Care for the Homeless*, *Family Aid*, *The Family Van* y *Pine Street Inn Shattuck Shelter Stabilization Unit*. ¡Gracias!

Bendiciones,
P. John

Letter from the Pastor

Dear Friends in the Lord,

When I'm not presiding at Sunday Mass, I usually stand near the entrance doors under the large portrait of Our Lady of Guadalupe where I greet parishioners, listen to the homily, and pray with the congregation. I'm always aware of Our Lady's gentle, attentive presence there in the gathering space. I'm consoled and comforted by the thought that our parish is being watched over by Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. The same holy lady who appeared in 1531 on Tepeyac Hill to Juan Diego on his way to Mass is with us now, here in Chestnut Hill, watching us assemble for Mass each Sunday. She urges us to grow in friendship with her son, who was born in a stable and placed in a manger to be food for a hungry world. Like her son, Our Lady has a special commitment to protecting the most vulnerable among us: the poor, the sick, the migrant, the unborn, the elderly, and all victims of sexual and racial discrimination. She watches over us, teaches us to be fearless, and helps to light our path as we follow the way of her son.

Over the past several weeks, Our Lady has been gazing down upon the Giving Tree in the gathering space. She has been watching with great joy as parishioners have taken ornaments off the tree with the generous intention of purchasing a gift for a person in need. Along with Our Lady, I am deeply grateful for the generosity of all who participate in the many outreach ministries of our parish. I'm especially thankful for all the work of Sr. Diane Vallerio and the Outreach Commission who make these programs possible. When I worked at Nativity Prep a decade ago, I always enjoyed seeing the smiles of the boys as they unwrapped the gifts they received from the generous parishioners of St. Ignatius Parish. I'm happy to see that tradition continuing for all the guests and clients of our ministry partners: Nativity Prep, *Hearth for Homeless Elders*, *Julie's Family Learning Program*, *Boston Health Care for the Homeless*, *Family Aid*, *The Family Van*, and the *Pine Street Inn Shattuck Shelter Stabilization Unit*. Thank you!

Blessings,
Fr. John

Flower Fund

Remember your loved ones this Christmas!

Help us decorate our church in the Christmas season by making a memorial flower donation! Fill out the form, place it in an envelope, and return it with your donation to the Parish Office or in the collection basket. You may also donate online using our eGive platform: <https://bit.ly/IgnatiusGiveNow>

An acknowledgment of gratitude for your donation with your name and the name of your loved one will appear in the bulletin after Christmas.

Name of the person(s) to be remembered

Donor: _____

Email: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

Before You Leave Mass!

The Christmas season is one of the busiest times of the year at St. Ignatius, and we need your help to keep our parish clean.

Before you leave Mass, please be sure to:

1. check your surroundings for all your belongings (hats, gloves, coats, water bottles, etc)
2. return your worship aids to the tables at each door
3. dispose of any trash in the bins at the main entrance

Thank you for your help!

Christmas Mass Schedule

Cut out this schedule for later!



Children's Christmas Pageant:

Sunday, December 21 @ 9am

Christmas Eve Masses, Wed., December 24:

4pm Children's Mass

6pm Vigil Mass

w/ the Boston Liturgical Dance Ensemble

9:30pm Choral Performance

Come early so you don't miss the choir!

10pm Mass at Night w/choir & orchestra

Christmas Day Masses, Thur., December 25:

10:30am English Mass

12:30pm Spanish Mass



We are still in need of Greeters and Eucharistic Ministers and more at our Christmas liturgies—please contact the Parish Office if interested! If you are not currently a Greeter, this is a good opportunity to sign up.

End-of-Year Giving

During this holy season, we hope you remember St. Ignatius Parish in your Christmas giving. We rely on parishioner generosity to continue our mission, maintain our building, and offer programs for our community. Please consider donating to St. Ignatius this holiday season or setting up a recurring donation!

eGive Portal:

<https://bit.ly/IgnatiusGiveNow>



**Thank you for your support
of St. Ignatius Parish!**

Immigration Lawyers Needed

The Immigration Committee is seeking to facilitate the availability of immigration lawyers to immigrants with limited resources.

If you are interested or know someone who might be, contact Rita Rodriguez through the Parish Office.

Las Posadas: *Potluck & Bilingual Carols*

Friday, December 19 | 6:30–8:30pm
in the Friary Room and Lannon Chapel

Join the Peace, Justice, and Reconciliation Commission and the Comunidad Hispana Ignaciana for bilingual Christmas carols, a potluck dinner, and a Posadas Piñata.

Please bring a dish to share!



Viernes, 19 de Diciembre | 6:30–8:30pm
en el Salón del Café y Capilla

Celebraremos con una Cena Potluck, Villancicos en Inglés y Español y una PIÑATA.

¡Por favor, traer un platillo para compartir!

*La Comisión de Paz, Justicia, y Reconciliación
Y la Comunidad Hispana Ignaciana*

No Shattuck Fourth Tuesday

We will pick up again with our Fourth Tuesday desserts in January. Thanks for a year's worth of great, much appreciated desserts!

Can We Talk?

Next Racial Justice Committee Meeting:
Thursday, January 8 @ 7pm via Zoom

Sign Up here:

<https://forms.gle/SqezPYiujsLBdig69>

Shared stories, experiences, and perspectives connect people. This was the central theme at the Racial Justice Committee's December meeting, where we tackled challenging yet necessary conversations about race. The traumatic events surrounding us often demand a thoughtful response.

When confronted with differences, we should strive to keep the dialogue going. Rather than walking away, we must acknowledge our differing viewpoints and listen to understand others.

Participants found the discussion rich, meaningful, and valuable during these times. As expressed by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, "Staying in dialogue can be a way for us to grow together, finding connections and common ground where there seemed to be none."

It is not enough that I serve God by myself: I must help the hearts of all to love Him and the tongues of all to praise Him. — St. Ignatius of Loyola

Gift Drive Returns

Gifts must be returned **THIS WEEKEND** (our turn-around time is very short), before or after any Mass. Please bring them directly to the Lower Level of the Parish Office. Look for the gift bag on the door!



Coffee after Mass

Join us for coffee, conversation, and community after the 10:30am Mass on Sunday, December 21!

Please bring a baked good to share. We will meet again on January 4 in the New Year.

Welcome!

Saint Ignatius of Loyola Parish

28 Commonwealth Avenue Chestnut Hill, MA 02467
Phone: 617.552.6100 • Contact us on our website: stignatiuschestnuthill.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS Monday - Friday: 10am - 1pm, 2pm - 4pm; Closed Saturdays and Sundays

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Saturdays at 3-3:45pm in the Upper Church/Lower Church or by appointment.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA):
For adults seeking Baptism, and/or Confirmation, contact the Parish Office.

Baptism: For infant and young child Baptisms, contact Sr. Diane Vallerio.

First Communion: Preparation begins in grade 1 and includes classes, retreats, and home instruction. Children receive First Communion in grade 2. For further information, contact Liz Turnwald.

Confirmation: Preparation begins in 7th grade; students are confirmed after their second year of Confirmation prep. For further information, contact Liz Turnwald.

Matrimony/Wedding: Parishioners, BC Alumni, and non-parishioners are welcome to be married at St. Ignatius. Contact our Office Manager, Carol Russo, for available dates and details.

Anointing of the Sick: Contact the parish office.

Sacramental Forms/Letters

Please note that you must be registered for at least six months before we can issue any verification of your status as a parishioner for godparent/sponsor letters, or permission for marriage, baptism, or confirmation in another parish.

Creating a Safe Environment at St. Ignatius

stignatiuschestnuthill.org/creating-a-safe-environment

Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Team

Liz Turnwald | Kathy Maher
Helena Alfonzo | Trudy Good

St. Ignatius Parish Team

Rev. John Wronski, SJ, Pastor

Rev. Matthew Cassidy, SJ, Parochial Vicar

Victor Yanez, SJ, Deacon

Carol Russo, Office Manager

Janet Kaduboski, Business Manager

Delio Barrientos, Facilities Manager

Liz Turnwald, Director of Faith Formation

Natalia Dilan, Youth Ministry Coordinator

Sr. Diane Vallerio, MFIC

Director of Outreach Ministries

Allyn McCourt, Director of Music Ministries

Kathy Maher

Spiritual Life and Ignatian Programs Coordinator

Chase Hockema, Print and Digital Media Coordinator

Following Archdiocesan online security guidelines, we have removed email addresses from our parish bulletin to avoid the danger of potential phishing scams. If you need a staff member's email address or contact information for a parish group or ministry, please contact the Parish Office and we will be happy to share the appropriate information!

**Contact the Parish Office for more information
about anything in today's bulletin.**

Get Involved!

The many St. Ignatius commissions, committees, and volunteer roles always welcome new members!

Peace, Justice & Reconciliation

Green Team

Racial Justice Committee

Immigration Committee

LGBTQ+ Committee

Liturgy Commission

Music Ministries

Lectors, Greeters,

Eucharistic Ministers

Outreach Commission

Contact the Parish Office for more information!