

SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA PARISH
PARROQUIA SAN IGNACIO DE LOYOLA

Fourth Sunday of Lent Laetare Sunday
Cuarto Domingo de Cuaresma Domingo de Laetare

March 15, 2026



I do know that I was blind, but now I see.

Antes estaba ciego, pero ahora puedo ver.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Laetare Sunday

March 15, 2026

1 Sam 16:1b, 6–7, 10–13a • Eph 5:8–14 •

John 9:1–41

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

Adoration

Thursday: before Mass, 4:15–5:15pm

Please keep in your prayers:

Saturday, March 14

4pm Ellen Cogavin

Sunday, March 15

10:30am Healing of James P. Manning

5pm Sr. Marie Carmel, SND, Murray &
May White, and the Power Family

Monday, March 16

5:30pm John Bernard Clark

Wednesday, March 18

5:30pm Linda DeLuties

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.

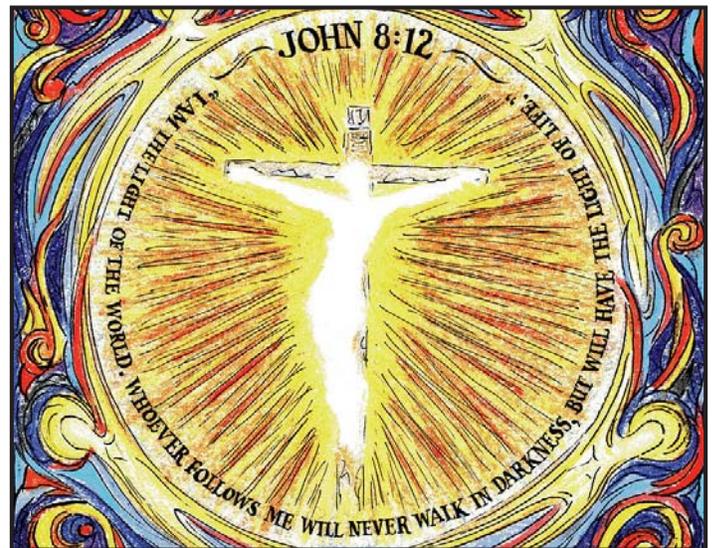
Reflection on the Reading

The Second Scrutiny

The readings for this Sunday are also the readings that accompany the Scrutiny Rites during Lent (and we witness the Second Scrutiny of the Elect preparing for the Easter Sacraments this Sunday at the 5pm Mass!).

In this week's readings, the key idea is turning from darkness to light, as symbolized in the healing of the man born blind. This miracle is a reminder of the transformative effect of an encounter with Jesus, which enables us to respond to the words of St. Paul: "Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness." Both the Elect and we as fully initiated Catholics can use Lent as a time to examine our lives for where we might be blind to our faults or failings, turning instead to walk in the light of Christ.

After all, Jesus tells us, "I am the Light of the World." Let's keep the Elect in our prayers that they may continue to be enlightened as they approach Easter, and that we may joyfully greet the Light of Christ at the Easter Vigil!



"I am the Light of the World," Brent Kastler (2019).

Catholic Appeal

Thank you to all who have already supported the 2026 Catholic Appeal! **As of March 1, our parish has already reached 19% of our goal of \$110,000.** Together, we are on our way to greater success. Make sure to give online using the QR code, and select St. Ignatius as your parish—we receive a percentage of the funds raised over the goals set by the Archdiocese!

Carta del Párroco

Queridos amigos en el Señor:

A continuación les comparto lo que dije en todas las misas del 8 de marzo: Hoy me gustaría hablarles sobre la Campaña Católica Arquidiocesana y algunas otras cosas más. En primer lugar, es importante que sepan que considero que la Campaña Católica es una causa muy buena. Hoy ya he hecho mi propia contribución y espero que ustedes también sean generosos. Muchos de nuestros feligreses ya han hecho sus contribuciones. Les estoy profundamente agradecido. Los fondos recaudados por la Campaña Católica proporcionan una variedad de servicios a parroquias como la nuestra, así como apoyo a comunidades necesitadas y vulnerables en toda la Arquidiócesis de Boston. La Campaña Católica nos ayuda a recordar que formamos parte de algo más grande: la Iglesia universal. Nuestra parroquia recibirá el 50% de los fondos recaudados por encima de nuestro objetivo. Así que asegúrense de hacer su donación en línea (mediante el código QR) o de devolver su sobre aquí en la iglesia. No olviden indicar claramente que son fieles de la parroquia de San Ignacio, así su donación se contabilizará en nuestra parroquia.

En segundo lugar, creo que en nuestra parroquia hay un gran interés por la formación de la fe de los adultos, por lo que espero poner en marcha un programa durante el tiempo de Pascua. Ya saben lo mucho que me gusta la aliteración, así que creo que lo llamaremos *Theology Thursdays* (“Jueves de teología”). Espero ofrecer algunas sesiones sobre teología litúrgica dos jueves por la tarde en abril y dos jueves por la tarde en mayo. Será una oportunidad para que los adultos exploremos cuestiones teológicas y construyamos comunidad en nuestra parroquia. Encontrarán más información en *Flocknotes* y en el boletín en las próximas semanas.

Por último, sé que están al tanto de nuestra campaña de recaudación de fondos para apoyar la reparación de la mampostería y las ventanas de nuestro edificio de la iglesia, que se encuentran en mal estado. Hasta ahora, hemos recaudado 425 mil dólares para el proyecto de reparación, lo que cubre el coste de la mayor parte del trabajo que hemos realizado en los últimos seis meses. Sin embargo, necesitamos recaudar más dinero, entre uno y dos millones de dólares, para completar las reparaciones más urgentes. Estoy profundamente agradecido por las contribuciones que ya han hecho muchos de ustedes. Algunos han hecho donaciones de cinco y seis cifras, ¡y sin duda nos vendrían muy bien más! Las donaciones de siete cifras también son bienvenidas, pero cualquier contribución que puedan hacer tendrá un gran impacto. Espero que todos los feligreses contribuyan con algo para apoyar las reparaciones del edificio. Por supuesto, también tendremos que seguir recaudando fondos para los gastos diarios de funcionamiento de la parroquia mediante la colecta semanal. Espero que tengan todo esto en cuenta al elaborar su presupuesto para el próximo año y planificar sus donaciones. Nuestro Comité de Promoción está trabajando en estrategias para recaudar estos fondos durante este año del centenario parroquial, por lo que tendrán más noticias en los próximos meses... a medida que continúen las obras.

Es realmente estupendo estar aquí con ustedes en San Ignacio, ¡y estoy encantado con todas las formas en que nuestra parroquia está creciendo! Me encanta ser párroco de una comunidad tan dinámica. Nuestro mundo devastado por la guerra está sediento del amor y la unidad, que solo se hacen posibles cuando las personas se reúnen para rezar y luego salen en paz a amar y servir al Señor. Sigamos siendo ese signo de esperanza para nuestro mundo cansado.

Bendiciones,
P. John

Letter from the Pastor

Dear Friends in the Lord,

Below are the words I shared at all the Masses on March 8:

Today I'd like to speak about the Archdiocesan Catholic Appeal and a few other things. First, it's important for you to know that I think the Catholic Appeal is a worthy cause. I made my own personal contribution today, and I hope you'll be generous too. A number of parishioners have already made contributions. For this I am deeply grateful. The funds raised by the Catholic Appeal provide a variety of services to parishes like ours, as well as support for needy and vulnerable communities throughout the Archdiocese. The Catholic Appeal helps us to remember that we are part of something larger—the universal Church. Our parish will get 50% of any funds raised over our goals. So, make sure you either give online using the QR code, or return your envelope here at the church. Don't forget to indicate that you are from St. Ignatius so your gift will be counted toward our parish goal.

Second, I think there is a thirst in our parish for more adult faith formation, so I'm hoping to start a program during the Easter season that will meet some of these needs. You know how much I love alliteration, so I think we'll call it “Theology Thursdays.” I hope to offer some sessions on liturgical theology on two Thursday evenings in April and two Thursday evenings in May. This will be an opportunity for adults to explore theological questions and to build community in our parish. Look for more information in the *Flocknotes* and bulletin in the weeks ahead.

Finally, I know that you're aware of our fundraising effort to support the repair of the crumbling masonry and windows of our church building. Thus far, we have raised \$425,000 toward the repair project, which covers the cost of most of the work we have done over the past six months. However, we need to raise more money, one to two million dollars, to complete the most urgent structural repairs. I'm deeply grateful for the contributions already made by many parishioners. A few have given five-figure and six-figure gifts—and we could certainly use more of those! Seven-figure gifts are also welcome, but any contribution that you can manage will make an impact. I hope that every parishioner will contribute something to support the building repairs. Of course, we will also have to continue raising funds for the daily operating expenses of the parish through the weekly collection. I hope you'll keep all this in mind as you budget for the year ahead and plan your charitable giving. Our Advancement Committee is working on strategies to raise these funds during this 100th Anniversary year, so you'll be hearing more in the months ahead as the construction continues.

It's really great to be with you here at St. Ignatius, and I'm thrilled about all the ways our parish is growing and flourishing! I love being pastor of such a vibrant parish community. Our war-torn world is thirsting for the love and unity made possible when people come together to worship and then go forth in peace to love and serve the Lord. Let's continue being that sign of hope for our weary world.

Blessings,
Fr. John

CRS Rice Bowls

A Story of Hope from Timor-Leste

Most teenagers don't start their day by walking down a hill to collect water, feeding pigs or tending vegetable gardens. But for 14-year-old Adriana, who lives in the remote village of Ermera in Timor-Leste, these are daily responsibilities. In a region where malnutrition is common among adolescent girls, Adriana's demanding routine shows how important adequate nutrition is for healthy growth.



Adriana faces long treks to school, and limited access to nutritious food. The family's income from coffee harvesting lasts only a few months each year, so balanced meals are rare outside of harvest season. "If it's not coffee season," says Adriana, "then [we might have nutritious meals] once every two weeks or once a month."

The distance to the market and the high cost of fresh food are additional barriers, as are unemployment and a lack of knowledge about healthy eating in Adriana's community. That's why Adriana attends monthly sessions put on by CRS and local organizations to learn about how to improve her nutrition and self-care. In these sessions, Adriana learns about how conditions like anemia, often caused by low iron levels, lead to fatigue and weakness. "When I attend the nutrition session, it helps me to understand more about the importance and benefit of food for my development," Adriana says. "When I eat good nutritious food, it will help me to grow healthy to support my brain [functioning], so I can learn more and achieve my dream. I want to be a doctor, to be healthy and help others because in our villages there is no doctor."

Learn more about this program in Timor-Lest and support the work of Catholic Relief Services:



Check out this week's Flocknote for a Timorese recipe for *Batar Da'An*, a stew of squash, beans, and corn!

4 4th Sunday of Lent | Laetare Sunday

Sock Drive

Boston Health Care for the Homeless

March 14–15 & 21–22

Join us in collecting new white socks (including diabetic socks) for women and men living in shelters and on the streets. White socks can reduce the risk of skin infections, prevent frostbite, and foster good hygiene.



Collection boxes location:

Upper Church Gathering Space

Or order online and have the socks shipped directly to the Parish Office (28 Commonwealth Ave, Chestnut Hill).

Bilingual Via Crucis *Stations of the Cross for Justice*

Friday, March 27 @ 7pm

Simple supper at 6pm in the Friary Room

BILINGUAL VIA CRUCIS

Friday, March 27 | 7:00pm

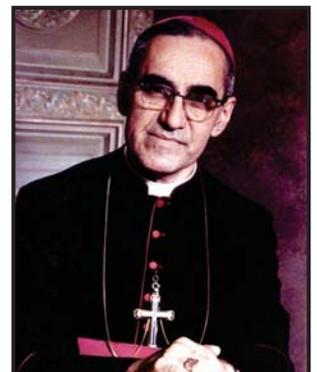
Join for a simple supper before at 6:00!

Feast of Óscar Romero

Tuesday, March 24

7pm in the Upper Church

Join us on March 24 for a service in honor of St. Óscar Romero on his feastday. We will learn about his life and legacy in El Salvador, and then together we will pray for unity and solidarity with our migrant sisters and brothers.



Shall We Dance?

Thursday, March 19 at 7pm

(w/Fr. Bob and the Boston Liturgical Dance Ensemble)

As part of the St Ignatius Centennial Celebration series, Fr. Bob VerEecke, SJ and members of the Boston Liturgical Dance Ensemble will offer a presentation on movement and dance as an expression of prayer and worship. Over the past decades, dance has been an integral part of worship for special feasts and celebrations at St Ignatius. **This evening's presentation for all ages will deepen your understanding of an answer to the question, "Shall We Dance?"** In addition to some of the dances that have been part of liturgies and prayer services, you will see and hear "Seasons Suite," with poetry and choreography by Fr. Bob.



Movie Night

Chiara Lubich: Love Conquers All

Friday, March 20 @ 6pm in the Friary Room

This Women's History Month, join us for a simple dinner (soup, bread, salad) and a MOVIE about the life of Chiara Lubich, founder of the Focolare Movement.

Set amidst the destruction of World War II, the film follows a young teacher from Trent, Italy, whose courageous faith sparks a Catholic movement for unity, hope, and peace—a powerful story of love transforming even the darkest moments. (1 hr 45 minutes; Italian with English subtitles). **Please RSVP here (<https://bit.ly/4aZeGtZ>) so that we can prepare the dinner.**



←
PLEASE
RSVP

→
WATCH THE
TRAILER



Hidden in Plain Sight

Racial Justice Committee Film Screening

The Racial Justice Committee's showing of the film *Hidden in Plain Sight: The History of Black Catholics in the Archdiocese of Boston* **has been scheduled for May 3.** Registration for the event will be available soon.

Green Team Corner

The Power of 1/2:

Big Differences with Small Changes

With spring coming, it's timely to think of the ways we use water outdoors. While the EPA estimates that about 50% of outdoor water use (irrigation, car washing) is wasted, **we can be more efficient by apply the rule of 1/2.**

- How often do we need to water? Less than you think. Once a week, if no rain, is enough with a good soaking.
- How often to mow grass? Depends, but in general, longer grass needs less frequent mowing and gives a healthier lawn.
- How often to fertilize? I get by with very little. The lawn is still green and I don't have to mow as often.

Not only do lawn conservation practices save water, they reduce urban wastewater treatment, fertilizer runoff and electricity/fossil fuel use. As Pope Francis said frequently, everything is connected.

Happy Spring!

Greener  Lent

Laetare Sunday

This Fourth Sunday of Lent, marking the midpoint of the season, is known as Laetare Sunday. Like Gaudete Sunday in Advent, Laetare Sunday is characterized by a distinctly more joyful tone than the rest of the Lenten season, and you may notice priests wearing rose-colored vestments instead of purple. Laetare Sunday is sometimes considered a day of relaxation from Lenten austerity, a day of hope with Easter at last within sight. **In the words of the prophet Isaiah, may we rejoice and be glad, exult and sing with joy!**

5 4th Sunday of Lent | Laetare Sunday

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!

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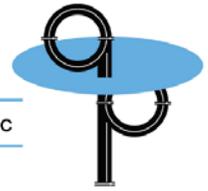
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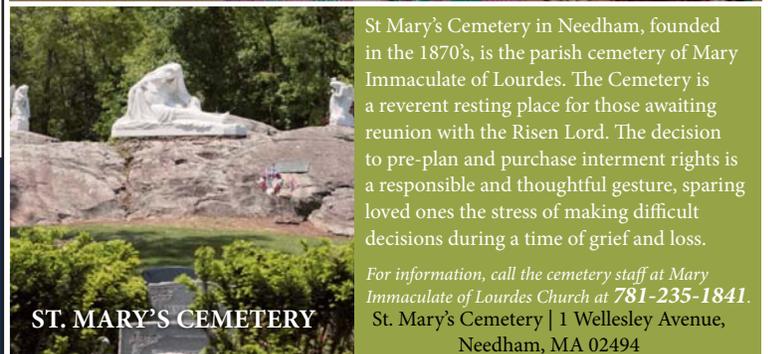
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Catholic Appeal **BOSTON** Together we are **one**
ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON | CATHOLIC APPEAL

Your support of the 2026 Catholic Appeal will have a meaningful impact on our parishes, schools, and ministries that serve so many throughout our Archdiocese of Boston.

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St. Mary's Cemetery in Needham, founded in the 1870's, is the parish cemetery of Mary Immaculate of Lourdes. The Cemetery is a reverent resting place for those awaiting reunion with the Risen Lord. The decision to pre-plan and purchase interment rights is a responsible and thoughtful gesture, sparing loved ones the stress of making difficult decisions during a time of grief and loss.

For information, call the cemetery staff at Mary Immaculate of Lourdes Church at 781-235-1841. St. Mary's Cemetery | 1 Wellesley Avenue, Needham, MA 02494

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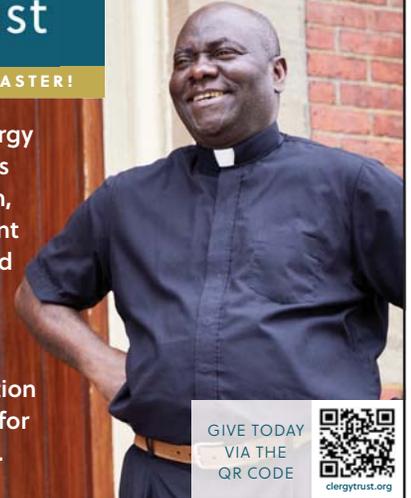
*Per person based on double occupancy & includes tax service/gov't fees. Ask your Travel Consultant for terms & conditions. Add-on airfare with transfers available for most major gateways.



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Your support for the Clergy Trust parish collections provides for the health, wellness, and retirement needs of our active and senior priests.

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