

Religious Education



CCD Family Newsletter
July 24 - August 7, 2024



[2024-2025 CCD Registration Form](#)

Already Planning for the Fall? Consider the St. Cecilia Singers!



Our Lady of Sorrows

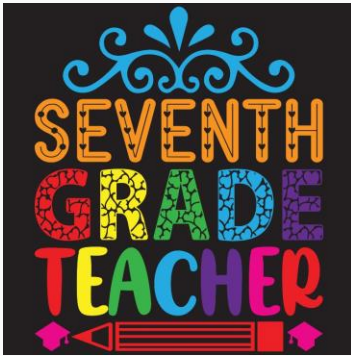
ST. CECILIA SINGERS

GRADES 3-8

Rehearsals are Wednesday afternoons
from 3:45pm-4:30pm

The choir will sing twice per month
at our 10am Family Mass

*For more information and to sign up, please contact
Preston Dibble, Director of Music at olsmusician@gmail.com*



7th Grade Tuesday Catechist Needed

Have you ever thought about becoming a catechist? If so, this is your lucky year because we have an opening just for you! Our Tuesday grade 7 class (small but important) is currently in need of a catechist for the coming year. Please let us know if you can help.

Solo catechists pay only \$35 for their family for the entire year. **Team-teaching catechists** splitting classroom duties with another teacher **pay only \$55** for the entire family. Training, teaching materials and mentorship provided.



Homeschooling Connection

If your child is in the OLS homeschooling program and you have not yet attended an exit interview with Mrs. Noll for the 2023-2024 school year, please schedule one as soon as possible. She will be unavailable for interviews from August 5-9 and August 24-September 4.



The Bible in 10 Minutes

We all live busy lives, but it's the summer and things tend to be a little bit slower. Consider using a few of those extra minutes we gain during the summer to watch Fr. Mike Schmitz' latest viral video: The Bible in Ten Minutes. At the very least, we can all acknowledge that the Bible can be a very overwhelming and often confusing book to read.

Fr. Mike's Bible in Ten Minutes video gives an overview of the story of salvation that is very accessible and easy to follow.

In just under 10 minutes, Fr. Schmitz takes viewers through the biblical narratives of Creation, Adam and Eve, Abraham's depth of faith, Moses and the flight from Egypt, David and his line of kings, and finally the sacrifice and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Maybe you could use a refresher? Maybe you've been confused about the "big idea" from the start? Maybe you are very familiar with the story of salvation, but need a better way to articulate it to others? Then take 10 minutes and [watch The Bible in 10 Minutes](#). It just might be the best ten minutes you spend all week!



Faith at Home: The Prayer You Already Know that Can Reorient Your Life!

Want to hear a secret? You likely know a prayer that can reorient you to everything in your life. And it goes like this:

“Bless us, O Lord, and these, Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty, through Christ our Lord. Amen.” Why is this prayer so effective in refocusing your family's priorities? Click [HERE](#) for a quick and easy article explaining how to increase the level of gratitude in your family by starting mealtimes with a 7-second prayer.



10 Reasons to Attend Mass

In the summer months while your family is traveling and our weekly routines are upended, it can be easy for some to fall into the habit of skipping Mass. Need to be reminded why your presence at Mass is so important - to God, yourself, your family and your community? Click [HERE](#) for an article from Our Sunday Visitor with 10 reminders on why you should go to Mass.



Local Pilgrimage Daytrips

If you're planning a Catholic summer daytrip or seeking to visit a nearby place of worship, the tri-state area of New York, New Jersey, and Eastern Pennsylvania offers a wealth of diverse pilgrimage sites. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about some great and close options!

Jen Noll's top suggestion: stream the *Cabrini* movie with your kids one evening and then head up to Washington Heights to visit her shrine the following day! Have a little extra time? Include a trip to the nearby cloisters museum for a full day of worship, beauty and culture.

Feeling more ambitious and have a lot more time (and money) on your hands? Add the popular Spanish pilgrimages associated with our two saints of the week to your bucket list!



SAINT / FEAST OF WEEK ONE

St. James, Apostle

Feast Day: July 25th

Patron of: Spain, Pilgrims

James is the brother of John the Evangelist. The two were called by Jesus as they worked with their father in a fishing boat on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus had already called another pair of brothers from a similar occupation: Peter and Andrew. “He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him” (Mark 1:19-20).

James was one of the favored three who had the privilege of witnessing the Transfiguration, the raising to life of the daughter of Jairus, and the agony in Gethsemani.

Two incidents in the Gospels describe the temperament of this man and his brother. Saint Matthew tells that their mother came—Mark says it was the brothers themselves—to ask that they have the seats of honor in the kingdom. “Jesus said in reply, ‘You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup that I am going to drink?’ They said to him, ‘We can’” (Matthew 20:22). Jesus then told them they would indeed drink the cup and share his baptism of pain and death, but that sitting at his right hand or left was not his to give—it “is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father” (Matthew 20:23b). It remained to be seen how long it would take to realize the implications of their confident “We can!”

The other disciples became indignant at the ambition of James and John. Then Jesus taught them all the lesson of humble service: The purpose of authority is to serve. They are not to impose their will on others, or lord it over them. This is the position of Jesus himself. He was the servant of all; the service imposed on him was the supreme sacrifice of his own life.

On another occasion, James and John gave evidence that the nickname Jesus gave them—"sons of thunder"—was an apt one. The Samaritans would not welcome Jesus because he was on his way to hated Jerusalem. "When the disciples James and John saw this they asked, 'Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to consume them?' Jesus turned and rebuked them..." (Luke 9:54-55).

James was apparently the first of the apostles to be martyred. "About that time King Herod laid hands upon some members of the church to harm them. He had James, the brother of John, killed by the sword, and when he saw that this was pleasing to the Jews he proceeded to arrest Peter also" (Acts 12:1-3a).

This James, sometimes called James the Greater, is not to be confused with James the Lesser or with the author of the *Letter of James* and the leader of the Jerusalem community.

ST JAMES

THE APOSTLE

25 JULY



James is the brother of John the Evangelist.

This James, sometimes called **James the Greater** (*Son of Zebedee*), is not to be confused with James the Lesser (*Son of Alphaeus*)



Jesus gives James and his brother, John the nickname "**Sons of Thunder**". This could refer to their speech or tempers

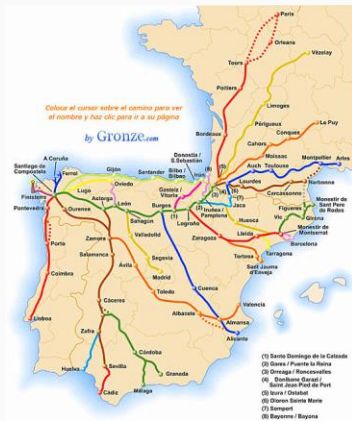
James was one of the favored three who had the privilege of witnessing the **Transfiguration**, the raising to life of the daughter of Jairus and the agony in Gethsemani. Peter and John are the others



Like several of Jesus' disciples, James was a fisherman before he was called by Jesus

James was apparently the first of the apostles to be martyred





The Camino de Santiago (The Way of St. James)

The St James Way, also known as the 'Way of Saint James', is one of the most ancient and popular pilgrimage routes in the world. Often referred to as the Camino de Santiago or 'the Camino', the St James Way takes pilgrims through many different routes across Spain, France and Portugal and culminates in Santiago de Compostela in Galicia, in the north of Spain, where the remains of St. James are located.

(Side note- Mrs. Noll will be in Alicante, Spain at the end of August. According to Google Maps, it is a mere 224 hour walk from the town of Alicante to Santiago de Compostela. What are the chances she can get anyone in her family to walk with her? Probably not very high as the beaches there look pretty fantastic, but you never know...)



SAINT / FEAST OF WEEK TWO

St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

Feast Day: July 31st

Patron of: Education, Retreats, Soldiers and the Society of Jesus (The Jesuits)

The founder of the Jesuits was on his way to military fame and fortune when a cannon ball shattered his leg. Because there were no books of romance on hand during his convalescence, Ignatius whiled away the time reading a life of Christ and lives of the saints. His conscience was deeply touched, and a long, painful turning to Christ began. Having seen the Mother of God in a vision, he made a pilgrimage to her shrine at Montserrat near Barcelona. He remained for almost a year at nearby Manresa, sometimes with the Dominicans, sometimes in a pauper's hospice, often in a cave in the hills praying. After a period of great peace of mind, he went through a harrowing trial of scruples. There was no comfort in anything—prayer, fasting, sacraments, penance. At length, his peace of mind returned.

It was during this year of conversion that Ignatius began to write down material that later became his greatest work, the *Spiritual Exercises*.

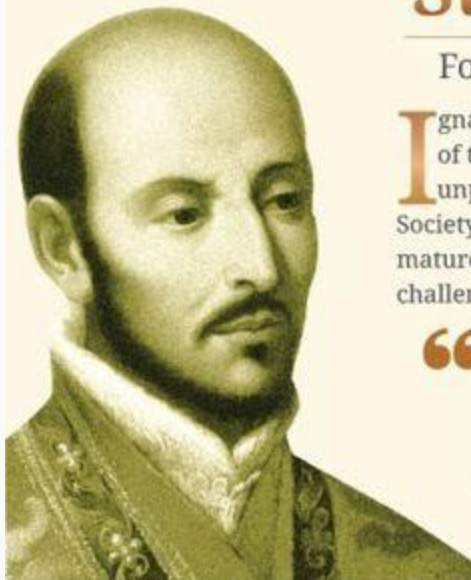
He finally achieved his purpose of going to the Holy Land, but could not remain, as he planned, because of the hostility of the Turks. Ignatius spent the next 11 years in various European universities, studying with great difficulty, beginning almost as a child. Like many others, his orthodoxy was questioned; Ignatius was twice jailed for brief periods.

In 1534, at the age of 43, he and six others—one of whom was Saint Francis Xavier—vowed to live in poverty and chastity and to go to the Holy Land. If this became impossible, they vowed to offer themselves to the apostolic service of the pope. The latter became the only choice. Four years later Ignatius made the association permanent. The new Society of Jesus was approved by Pope Paul III, and Ignatius was elected to serve as the first general.

When companions were sent on various missions by the pope, Ignatius remained in Rome, consolidating the new venture, but still finding time to found homes for orphans, catechumens, and penitents. He founded the Roman College, intended to be the model of all other colleges of the Society.

Ignatius was a true mystic. He centered his spiritual life on the essential foundations of Christianity—the Trinity, Christ, the Eucharist. His spirituality is expressed in the Jesuit motto, *Ad maiorem Dei gloriam*—“for the greater glory of God.” In his concept, obedience was to be the prominent virtue, to assure the effectiveness and mobility of his men. All activity was to be guided by a true love of the Church and unconditional obedience to the Holy Father, for which reason all professed members took a fourth vow to go wherever the pope should send them for the salvation of souls.

To learn more about St. Ignatius of Loyola and the Jesuits, click [HERE](#).



St. Ignatius Loyola

Founder of the Jesuits (Society of Jesus)

Ignatius of Loyola, with his new and dynamic conception of the religious life, has left an impress on the Church unparalleled in modern times. The founder of the Society of Jesus was a pragmatic idealist who devoted his mature years to revitalizing Catholicism and meeting the challenge of the Protestant Reformation.

“If God sends you many sufferings, it is a sign that He has great plans for you and certainly wants to make you a saint.”

Date of birth: Dec 24, 1491
Birthplace: Basque province, Spain
Died: July 31, 1556 **Age:** 64
Feast day July 31
Patronage:
Society of Jesus, soldiers,
Educators and Education.

1491

Ignatius of Loyola was born Inigo de Oñaz y Loyola in the Basque province of Spain. One of 13 children of a family of minor nobility.



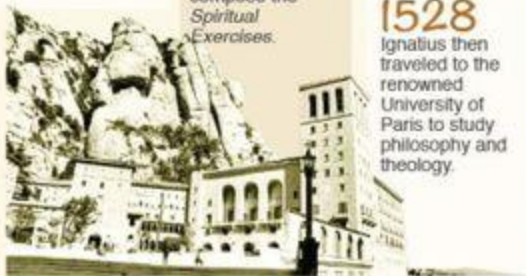
He was hit by a cannon ball that broke his right shin.

1521

He was wounded at the Battle of Pamplona while fighting against France. While recuperating, he requests books of chivalry. Instead, receives the *Life of Christ* by Ludolph and *Lives of Saints* by Jacobus de Voragine.

1522

Before the statue of the Black Madonna at the shrine of Montserrat, he renounced his former ways with all its vanities and dedicated himself to his new Master. From this time on he lived a simple lifestyle, embracing poverty. He begins to compose the *Spiritual Exercises*.



Shrine of Our Lady of Montserrat, Spain.

1523

Travelled to the Holy Land.

1524

Once back in Spain, he decided to begin studies for the priesthood. He spent two years in Barcelona, studied Latin. Ignatius subsequently attended universities in Alcala and Salamanca.

1527

At Alcala and Salamanca he was imprisoned under the suspicion of the Inquisition.

1528

Ignatius then traveled to the renowned University of Paris to study philosophy and theology.



He met other students like him — Francis Xavier and Peter Faber — who were captivated by Ignatius' experience of God, his vision of the world, and his adventurous spirit.

1534

Ignatius and his six followers professed vows of poverty, chastity and obedience as well as a fourth vow of going wherever the Holy Father would send them for the salvation of souls.

Society of Jesus movement was founded.



“For the Greater Glory of God” was the motto by which Ignatius and the early Jesuits patterned their lives.

1537

They were ordained at Venice.

1540

Society of Jesus was approved by Pope Paul III. Ignatius sends Francis Xavier to India.

1548

The *Spiritual Exercises* were finally published in Rome, with Pope approval.



He collected his insights, prayers, and suggestions in his book the *Spiritual Exercises*, one of the most influential books on the spiritual life ever written.

1556

Ignatius dies in Rome of a type of malaria called Roman Fever.

At his death, the Society numbered nearly 1,000 men, with houses and colleges stretching from Brazil, across Europe, and to Japan.

1622

Ignatius was canonized, together with Francis Xavier by Pope Gregory XV on March 12.



The Camino Ignaciano! (The Ignatian Way)

Want to walk in the footsteps of St. Ignatius? Consider walking the Camino Ignaciano, or the Ignatian Way / Road. This pilgrimage route begins at the birthplace of Ignatius Loyola in Spain's Basque country, in a village near the small town of Azpeitia. From there, the route proceeds for hundreds of kilometers, through picturesque mountains, deserts, and verdant plains, before ending in the town of Manresa (near Barcelona). Ignatius rested in this town for some months after his journey through Spain, and Manresa was a place of profound spiritual enlightenment for him. Ignatius was in Manresa for many months and composed the essence of his spiritual masterpiece, the Spiritual Exercises, while there.

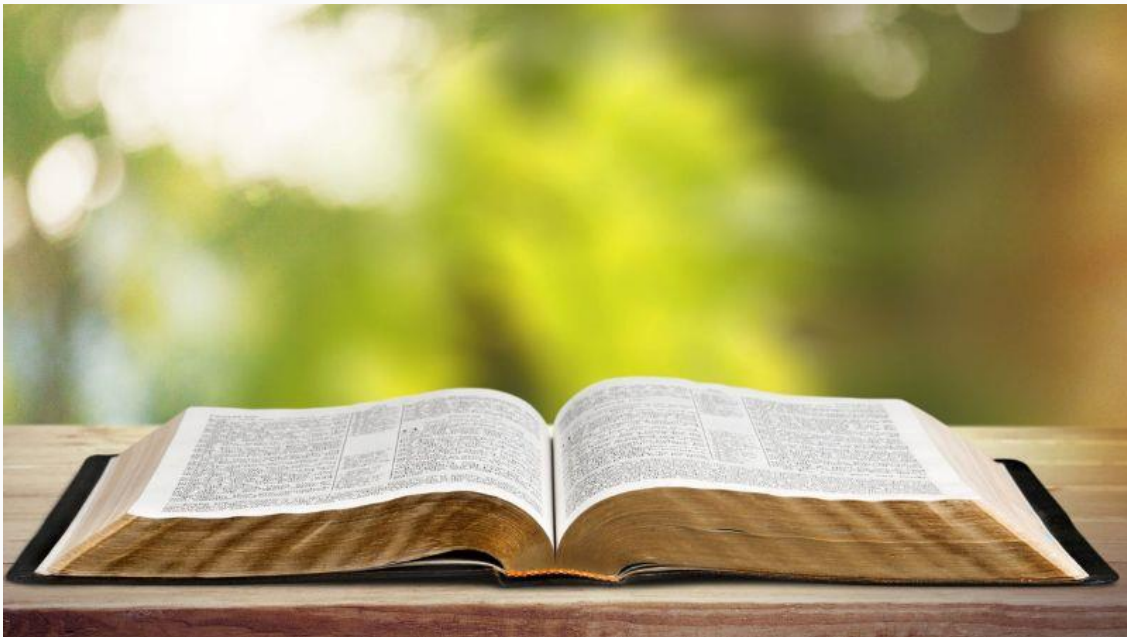
Pilgrims along the Camino Ignaciano will walk virtually the same route that Ignatius did, pass through many towns that he did, pray at churches where he worshipped, and marvel at the same natural wonders that he saw. And hopefully, receive spiritual enlightenment as well.

To learn more about the Camino Ignaciano, click [HERE](#).



A Sweet Ignatian Celebration

St. Ignatius's great conversion came after his life as a courtier and soldier was ended by a cannonball in Pamplona, Spain. Teach your kids about the amazing life story of St. Ignatius while sharing some chocolate candy balls. High end chocolate, like those bags of Lindt chocolates Mr. Noll gets in his stockings at Christmas, work well, but you can also use a humble box of Whopper milk duds to connect your child's taste buds to the biography of St. Ignatius. Take a few for yourself as you also share a story with your child about a time in your life you were forced to make a change for the better.



In the Liturgy of the Word, the Church feeds the people of God from the table of his Word. Previewing the readings before Mass then is then a bit like looking over the menu before you get to a restaurant: you have a better idea of what you can expect so that you can enter into the experience more fully prepared. And like a good discussion during a meal,

discussing the readings and how they can be applied to your family's daily life helps your family to truly go out and proclaim the gospel after leaving the church.

Here are a few resources to help your family delve deeper into the Liturgy of the Word:

[Readings for the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time](#)

[Readings for the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time](#)

[Loyola Press: Sunday Connection](#)

[Sadlier: This Week's Liturgy](#)



Crafts and Activities for the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Be sure to attend Mass this coming Sunday so that your family can hear about one of Jesus' most amazing miracles: the feeding of the 5,000 with just two fish and five loaves of bread. There's no Coffee and Donuts craft this weekend, but you can work with your child to make this Sunday's Gospel more meaningful by checking out this adorable list of craft and snack ideas by clicking [HERE](#).

KIDSCALENDAR

JULY 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	SAINT JUNIPERO SERRA, PRIEST		SAINT THOMAS, APOSTLE	INDEPENDENCE DAY	SAINT ANTHONY ZACCARIA, PRIEST SAINT ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL	SAINT MARIA GORETTI, VIRGIN AND MARTYR
	1	2	3	4	5	6
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Q Where did Jesus begin to teach? (SEE JULY 10) ● Mark 6:1-6		SAINT AUGUSTINE ZHAO RONG, PRIEST, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS	A In the synagogue	SAINT BENEDICT, ABBOT		SAINT HENRY
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Q How did Jesus send out the Twelve? (SEE JULY 19) ● Mark 6:7-13	SAINT BONAVENTURE, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH	OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL		SAINT CAMILLUS DE LELLIS, PRIEST	A Two by two.	SAINT APOLLINARIUS, BISHOP AND MARTYR
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Q Why did Jesus and the apostles leave by boat? (SEE JULY 27) ● Mark 6:30-34	SAINT MARY MAGDALENE	SAINT BRIDGET, RELIGIOUS	SAINT SHARBEL MAKHLÖF, PRIEST	SAINT JAMES, APOSTLE	SAINTS JOACHIM AND ANNE, PARENTS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	A To rest.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Q What did Jesus do with the loaves? (SEE JULY 31) ● John 6:1-15	SAINTS MARTHA, MARY AND LAZARUS	SAINT PETER CHRYSOLOGUS, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH	SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, PRIEST	Word of the month: PASTOR A pastor is a priest who leads a parish.		
28	29	30	31			

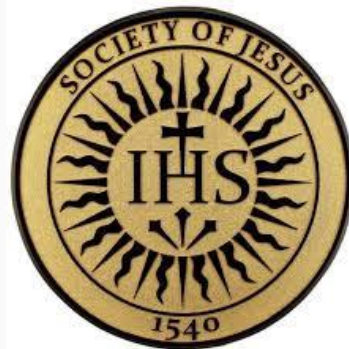
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[Download the July Catechist Magazine Calendar HERE](#)

Catholic Trivia

Question: July 31st is the feast day of St. Ignatius of Loyola: the founder of the Society of Jesus, commonly known as the Jesuits. The symbol of the Jesuits is that of a sun surrounding the letters IHS. These letters can be found in the architecture of many Christian churches, but what do they mean?

- A) In His Suffering
- B) Jesus
- C) I Hate Sin



D) In Humanum Suscipe

Answer: B The IHS monogram is a shortened form of the Greek word for Jesus: IHΣΟΥΣ. (Σ or "sigma" = "S") It is sometimes called the Christogram as the first three letters of Jesus' name. This symbol grew in popularity during the Middle Ages when devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus was on the rise. St. Ignatius of Loyola even adopted it to use in artwork representing the Society of Jesus.

Joke of the Week

Question: *"Which book of the major prophets is the most easy to understand?"*

Answer: "Easy-kiel".

Jen Noll

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[Our Lady of Sorrows Website](#)