



MASSES

Saturday [anticipated] 4:30 pm

Sunday 8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am

Mass in the chapel Monday-Friday at 9 am

Saturday at 10 am

CONFESSIONS

Tuesday 7-7:30 pm

Saturday 9-9:45 am & 3-4 pm

in the chapel

**& ST IGNATIUS
& ST LUKE'S**

1 August 2021

AGERE CONTRA

Bishop Robert Barron:

It was a particular joy for me to visit the sites associated with St. Ignatius of Loyola on a recent film trip. But the most moving locale was a little church in Manresa built around the cave where the young Ignatius spent about nine months preparing himself spiritually for his life's work. It is said that Ignatius really struggled in that place. What was he doing? Well, he was battling his own demons and limitations and attachments. For example, he'd been obsessed with his own appearance...he wanted as a young man to be one of the real glitterati. So his appearance was very important to him. Which is why, in that cave in Manresa, he let his hair grow long and unkempt, because he'd been fussing with it. He let his fingernails and his toenails just grow long; he didn't pare them. He was often consumed in his previous life with lust, seeking after women. And so in that cave he lived in austere celibacy. He had sought high honors in his previous life. And so in and around that cave, he permitted himself to be seen as kind of a vagabond; the people that saw him going to town from the cave... thought he was...this dangerous crazy man. What he was learning at Manresa was that our attachments to various created goods—money and power and honor and pleasure—when we become attached to them, when they become central to our identity, then they do indeed stand in the way of our responding to God's will for us.

Let's say God wants us to do something that means we're not going to be famous, we're not going to be powerful, we're not going to be honored or rich. And so what Ignatius did in Manresa is practice detachment from these finite goods that beguiled him. The method... he developed...is called *agere contra*, which is Latin for *to act against*...The idea is very simple. If you find yourself attached to some created good in an unhealthy way, you have to run in the opposite direction if you want to be free from it....

Long ago, the great philosopher Aristotle said if there is stick that is bent in one direction and you want to straighten it out....you have to bend it back in the other direction. So, if something in your life is off kilter in one way, it's not enough just to say "well I'm just gonna straight myself out." No, in a way you got to bend yourself back in the opposite direction. And then you end up straight.

So Ignatius teaches if sensual pleasure is your attachment, you should actively seek to deny yourself a pleasurable thing. Let's say you're too preoccupied with the pleasures of food and drink—many people in our culture are. Well, then you should fast. You should

agere contra, act against them. Let's say you're too caught up in nice things—that happens a lot, especially in our pretty affluent culture, that we like to be surrounded by nice and pleasant and comfortable things. You've gotten too attached to all that? Well, then you should, *agere contra*, live in radical simplicity and poverty to try to free yourself of the attachment. Suppose you become attached to money. Well, *agere contra*, you should actively give away your money. Perhaps you become obsessed with power—again, this could be from the presidency all the way down to the simplest of relationships—we can be obsessed with power so that I have got to be in charge all the time. Well, *agere contra*, actively empty yourself of power, purposely moving out of that world, committing yourself—I use religious terms here—to obedience, that "my will is the will of my superior", "I'm going to do what someone else wants me to do".

Finally, suppose you are, as Ignatius surely was, deeply attached to honor. Oh, he wanted to be a dashing courtier; he wanted to be honored. Well, if that's your hang-up, then you should actively move away from honor; *agere contra*, purposely take the lowest place, actively seek not to be honored, readily admit to your faults and imperfections that people won't be tempted to honor you. That's the appropriate move in regard to an attachment to honor.

... One doesn't have to stay in the attitude of *agere contra* forever. *Agere contra* is a drastic move which I do to break an attachment. So Ignatius himself didn't stay in the style of Manresa for the whole of his life; he went back to cutting his hair and cutting his fingernails and not acting like a vagabond. Why? Because he had found detachment from this excessive concern for his appearance. You'll find too, everybody. When you live the *agere contra* for a while, your life will become remarkably easier and remarkably freer. Because attachments are like monkeys on the back, it's something I carry around with me all the time and am always worried about: Am I powerful enough? Am I famous enough? Do they love me enough? Do an *agere contra*: "Okay, every single monkey off my back right now!" And then you actually start paying attention to the simple and beautiful things that are all around you, and you find yourself later freer and happier. You find that what truly matters and what truly makes you happy is right in front of you—in the simplest things all the time. So, maybe take the lowest place instead of fussing with the highest place. I think you'll find yourself a lot happier.

Excerpted from his homily Ignatian Detachment

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All who are suffering or sick and all caregivers who minister to the sick: Peter Queen, Fredrick Taggart, Gary Schenk, Joanne Newsom, Jackie Chancio, Anne Marie Whittaker, Greg and Felicia Yohe, Joe Coleman, John Hogan, Deirdre McQuade, Danny Hart, Amy Howard, Mary Morehead and family, Curtis Bailey, Leondre Massey, Sister Constance Ward, George Cochran, Mark Anthony Turner, Rachel Fisher, Patricia Ransom, Beverly A. Woods, Kerianna Prather, Domingo G., Adrian and Barbara.; D.K.C., M.M., R.M., K.M., C.M., C.A., E.D., E.G., W.B., J.M., H.G., and J.G.

Please call or email the office to add a name to the prayer list.

Before calling, please be sure you have spoken to the person [or a member of his family] about adding the name—we do not want to inadvertently disregard someone's desire for privacy.

Names of those who are sick or suffering will be kept on the list for one month; to keep a name on the list for longer, you must email the parish office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PHOTO DIRECTORY

We are signing up parishioners for our photo directory for St. Ignatius and St. Luke's. Photos will be taken September 9-11. Every family photographed will receive a complimentary directory and a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait. Your families have the option of purchasing additional portraits.

1. Go to <https://ucdir.com/> and click on the box Photography Appointment Scheduling Login on the right side of the screen.
2. You will be prompted to give the Church Code, which is MD181, and the Church Password, which is photos.

Pick your day and time and you're done! So sign up today--it's easy.

PARISH FAMILY LOOKING FOR A PART-TIME NANNY to look after their 20 month old baby girl during the day. Roughly 25 hours a week (typically, Mon-Thurs, 10-5/6). September through the end of November (~3 months). Ideal for a student or stay-at-home mom who wouldn't mind another little one. Schedule can be flexible around class times, etc. If interested, please email chansen100@gmail.com.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 31 July

Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

4:30 pm pro populo

Sunday, 1 August

FEAST OF IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, *transferred*

8 am Florence Gregory + [Jane and Steve Lawrence]

9:30 am Jennie Lind Ussery +

11 am Rev. Arthur Woolley + [Jane and Steve Lawrence]

Monday, 2 August

Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop

Peter Julian Eymard, Priest

9 am Lucy Guinivan

Tuesday, 3 August

Feria

9 am Leslie Lee+ [Lester Lee]

Wednesday, 4 August

John Mary Vianney, Priest

9 am Emily Roszak + [anniversary commemoration]

Thursday, 5 August

Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major

9 am descendants of Rafael F. & Lilian C. Madan

Friday, 6 August

Transfiguration of the Lord

9 am Marie Charlot [Edwin Smith]

Saturday, 7 August

Sixtus II, Pope and Martyr, and Companions, Martyrs
Cajetan, Priest

10 am Madeline's intentions [George F. Hickey Jr]

Anticipated Mass for the Tenth Sunday after Trinity

4:30 pm Henry Haynes +

Sunday, 8 August

The Tenth Sunday after Trinity [OT 19]

8 am Pro populo

9:30 am Susan Mercado +

11 am Sister Katherine Zigadio, Sister Colleen Wilson, & Samuel Burrige

St. Ignatius Finance Council

Florian Hocke - *Co-Chair*

Jackie Chancio

Deacon Clark Glenn

Joseph Somerville

Clifford Woods

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historic
ST IGNATIUS
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. John Vidal, *pastor*
Rev. Jason Catania, *parochial vicar*

Joint Pastoral Council

Michael Taylor

Joseph Chancio ♦ Rosemary Coller

Fran Doyle ♦ James Guinivan

Ada Okafor ♦ Elizabeth Shivone

Connie Somerville

Patrick Delaney - *ex officio*

Susan White - *ex officio*

St. Luke's Finance Council

Patrick Delaney - *Co-chair*

Nicole Crawford ♦ Dave Hoppe

David Lewis ♦ Franco Madan

Susan White - *ex officio*

Karen King - *ex officio*

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Saint Luke's at
IGNATIUS CHURCH