

West Side Deanery Parishes
Integral Ecology Initiatives Peace & Justice & Faith Formation

February 2018

Pope Francis prayer for February 2018:

Say "No" to Corruption

That those who have material, political or spiritual power may resist any lure of corruption.

“What is at the root of slavery, unemployment, and disregard for nature and goods held in common? Corruption, a process of death that feeds the culture of death. Because the thirst for power and possessions knows no limits. Corruption is not countered with silence. We must speak about it, denounce its evils, and try to understand it so as to show our resolve to make mercy reign over meanness, beauty over nothingness. Let us pray that those who have material, political or spiritual power may resist any lure of corruption.”

This is a tentative summary of events for West Side Deanery Parishes (list of parishes at the end).

The list of events is organized according to Laudato Si’s Integral Ecology categories (details end of doc)

*LS 137 “Since everything is closely interrelated, and today’s problems call for a vision capable of taking into account every aspect of the global crisis, I suggest that we now consider some elements of an **integral ecology**, one which clearly respects its human and social dimensions.”*

- **Environmental, Economic and Social Ecology:** Environment, Immigration, Work, Economy
- **Cultural Ecology:** Interfaith dialogue, Racism
- **Ecology of daily life:** Homeless, Affordable Housing, LGBT, Women, Transhumanism
- **The principle of Common Good:** Solidarity, Prison, Violence, Gun, Criminal Justice
- **Justice between generations:** Dignity of life, the Elders,
- **Ecology education and spirituality:** Contemplation, Art, and other Faith Formation

As Lent is kicking in on Feb 14th, we have included as well the Lent series organized in our Deanery. You have a large choice of topics, actions, studies to pick!!!

Also, do not hesitate to send me missing P&J / Adult Faith Formation events or let me know if there are some themes not covered yet, you would like to read about (westsidedeanery@gmail.com)

Lent Series

Social Justice, Bible Studies, Prayer & Contemplation

Social Justice

- **Vespers Series: “St. Francis Calling! What does he say to us today?” - St Gregory / Holy Name**
Tues 6:30pm, Feb 20, Feb 27, Mar 6, Mar 13, Mar 20 - St Mary of the Angels Chapel
Vespers / Simple Supper / Reflection
Poverty and its connection with humility (Feb 20), The spirituality of St Clare and other Franciscan women (Feb 27), Franciscan collaboration: sharing the works, the worries and the wonders (Mar 6), The Third order of the Franciscans: spirituality for the laity (Mar 13), Why did Pope Francis take the name of Francis (Mar 20)
- **Vespers Series: “Let Justice Roll On Like a River”: Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Thomas Merton in Their Anniversary Year - Corpus Christi**
Sun 4:00 pm, Feb 18, Feb 25, Mar 4, Mar 11, Mar 18
This series will present speakers who will address the civic problems of discrimination, racism, peace activism, and the threats of war that so occupied the 1960s and that continue to plague society today. Martin Luther King, Jr and Thomas Merton, both of whom died in 1968, lived out their Christ-centered lives in resistance to the inequities that are a blot on the conscience of the Catholic Church and on the principles that our country stands for. "Seek peace, and follow after it."
Preachers will be
 - Rev Raymond Rafferty, pastor emeritus of Corpus Christi (Feb 18);
 - Rev Gregory Chisholm SJ, pastor of St Charles Borromeo & Dean of the Central Harlem churches (Feb 25);
 - Rev Dr. Gary Dorrien, Reinhold Niebuhr Professor of Social Ethics, UTS, an expert on the life and writings of W.E.B. DuBois and M.L.King, whose book *Breaking White Supremacy* was just published (March 4);
 - Br. Tyrone Davis, CFC, JD, Director, Office of Black Ministry, Archdiocese of New York (March 11);
 - and Rev Dr. Amy Butler, Senior Minister, The Riverside Church (March 18).
- **Lent with the Migrant Center: Monthly Immigration Detention Visits – St Francis of Assisi**
Sat, Feb 24 at 2:30 PM, in San Damiano Hall
The Migrant Center at the Church of St. Francis of Assisi is hosting an orientation meeting for its monthly Immigration Detention Visits
Information and registration, call 212-736-8500, Ext. 238, or email: migrantcenter@stfrancisnyc.org.

Bible Studies

- **Light from Light, Rethinking the Catholic Creed – St Francis of Assisi**
Sun, Feb 18 – Mar 18, from 3:45 to 4:45 PM, as well as Wed, Feb 21 – Mar 21, from 6:00 to 7:00 PM.
On Easter Sunday, Catholics throughout the world reaffirm their Christian faith by renewing their baptismal promises. Lent is a preparation for that renewal, a time to reflect more deeply on our beliefs and to become more committed to living them out. Drawing on the insights of Boston College theologian, Fr. Michael Himes, this five-week course will focus on the creed and cover fresh perspectives on our ancient faith.
Required text: Fr. Himes’s *The Mystery of Faith, An Introduction to Catholicism* (available on Amazon).
Fr. William Beaudin, O.F.M. will teach this course. Registration: click [here](#)

- **Tea with Jesus: Lenten Scripture Sharing – St Francis of Assisi**
Every Sun, 4-5pm from Feb 18 to March 18
 Your unconditionally loving LGBT+Ministry warmly invites you to high tea, scripture share and deep discussion, about Lenten Gospels beginning Sunday, February 18 @ 4 p.m. and continuing throughout the Lenten Season. We welcome all members of the Young Adult Ministry to join us. After our tea, we'll then attend the 5 p.m. mass together.
- **The Ministry of Jesus as the Expansion of Consciousness – St FX**
Wed 6:30pm, from Feb 21 to May 16. (Except Holy Week)
 The question that will guide our curiosity through the Gospel of Mark: *In what ways was Jesus seeking to expand the consciousness of all those he encountered?* The only prerequisite for this 12-week course is an open mind. Teacher: Lizzie Berne DeGear has been teaching Bible Studies at Xavier since 2002. She has her Masters in Religion and Religious Education from Fordham University, and her PhD in theology, psychoanalytic theory and Hebrew Bible from Union Theological Seminary. Lizzie is certified with the National Association of Catholic Chaplains.
 Registration: XavierBibleStudy@gmail.com, Suggested fee: \$60
- **Women's Power in the Bible – St FX**
Wed after the 12:05 mass, from Feb 21 to March 21, Free
 We'll explore scriptural passages that introduce us to spiritual power beyond patriarchy and help deepen our Catholic faith. Teacher: Lizzie Berne DeGear.
 Registration: XavierBibleStudy@gmail.com
- **Eschatology: "The Last Things", with Fr. Michael Holleran – Notre Dame**
Sat 10:45am, Feb 24, Mar 3, Mar 10, Mar 24 (skipping St Patrick's Day), Lower Church
 What awaits us is a great mystery, and the Church has accordingly said surprisingly little about it. Come and hear what has been said, also by theologians and mystics, and even by other traditions.
 Feb. 24th: Death; Mar. 3rd: Judgment and Purgatory; Mar. 10th: Hell; Mar. 24th: Heaven.
- **Deciphering and Understanding The Book of Revelation – St Gregory / Holy Name**
Mon in March and April, 7 – 8:30pm – Free (30 participants max)
RSVP: Jackie Espinal at 212-749-0276 ext. 112 or email jespinal@hnj.nyc.
 Join with other parishioners and with Fr. Larry Hayes, OFM in a study of the book of Revelation. This last book of the Bible can be difficult to understand, given its unusual symbolism and wild imagery. What is its true message for us? What is its relationship to human history, to present world events and to the end of the world? Should it make us afraid or fill us with hope? To answer these and many more questions, we will read and study the commentary on Revelation by Peter S. Williamson (from the Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture series). The author writes in his introduction: "My aim is to offer an interpretation of Revelation that is faithful to the text, enlightened by both contemporary scholarship and traditional interpretation, in harmony with the whole of Scripture and Christian doctrine, and relevant for the Church today."
 Each participant should purchase a copy of Revelation by Peter S. Williamson

Prayer & Contemplation

- **Lent and Easter: 18th Annotation of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola - St FX**
Wed meetings will be at 6:30pm Feb 7, 15 (Thursday), 21, 28, Mar 7, 14, 21
Sat meetings will be Feb 10, 17, 24, Mar 3, 10, 17, 24.
Prayer and reflection questions will be offered for 7 weeks in Lent. Sharing groups meet on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 and Saturday mornings at 10:00am. If you wish to join please let us know. The prayer sheets for the first meetings will be sent out a week early.
Info & Registration: Marie Bannister (mariebannister1@gmail.com / 917 301 2426). - Free Will Donation
Deadline for registration is Sun, Feb 4 - Sponsored by ISEL (Ignatian Spirituality in Everyday Life)
- **Lent Public Art Project “Stations of the Cross”– focus on Immigrants and Refugees– St Paul**
Wed Feb 14 – Sun April 1
“Stations of the Cross” is a public art project that breaks open the journey of Jesus, inviting people of all faiths to consider injustice and pain across the human experience. The focus for 2018 is the experience of immigrants and refugees. The exhibition presents a pilgrimage comprised of 14 “art stations” located across Manhattan including the Cloisters museum, the 9/11 Memorial, the Harlem School of the Arts, and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. Stations 2018 will run from February 14-April 1. The art commissioned and selected explores feelings of despair, hopelessness, abandonment and injustice, all too familiar to refugees and immigrants, and which we can see articulated in the experience of the Passion. Stations of the Cross has travelled across the world raising awareness for those in need of refuge. It began in London in 2016. In 2017, it was held in Washington, D.C. St. Paul’s will be displaying Station Seven, “Jesus Falls for the Second Time” which will revolve around a work by London based artist Nicola Green in the St. Theresa Chapel. Visitors will enjoy the exhibition using the custom app, Alight. Along with a map to guide the visitor through the city the app will have a podcast for each location and work of art. For more information visit www.artstations.org
- **Lent with Taize prayer – the group from St John the Baptist is now at the Church of Good Shepherd**
Every other Thurs through Lent at 7pm: Feb 15, Mar 1, Mar 15, San Damiano Retreat Center, [630 Isham Street](#)
- **Essentials to a good Lenten journey: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving – St Francis of Assisi**
Sat, Feb 24, 1:30pm to 4:00pm, Lower Church
A Lenten Recollection by Fr. Brian Smail, OFM, Sponsored by the UGNAYAN FILIPINO MINISTRY
Contact: Carla (718) 503-4637, Imelda (646) 623-3498, Jean (646) 525-0704, or filipinoministry@stfrancisnyc.org
- **Lenten weekend retreat: “The Spirituality of Pope Francis: Reflecting on God’s Mercy and Grace.” – Fordham (for alumni and friends of Fordham University) – St FX**
March 9-11, 2018; Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, Huntington, L. I.
Directed by Fr. Brendan Horan, SJ. Info: Fr. Dan Gatti, S.J.: dgatti@fordham.edu (St FX)

Environmental, Economic and Social Ecology

Environment, Immigration, Work, Economy

- **Peace, Justice and Integrity of Creation committee: do you want to become a member? – St Gregory / Holy Name**

This committee provides educational programs and service opportunities for the members of the parish. The committee works closely with our neighboring churches and the Franciscan Province of the Holy Name in exploring the wide range of issues of peace, social justice and the environment.

To become involved or to receive more information: contact the parish office at 212-7490276 ext. 112.

Environment

- **Clean Power Plan: send an email to the EPA – Blessed Sacrament & Catholic Climate Covenant**

Click [here](#) to send an email the the Catholic Climate Covenant website

- **Faith leaders against fracked gas power plant, Letter to sign – Blessed Sacrament - Food & Water Watch**
The deadline for signing is Monday, February 12.

Oppose a dangerous power plant in Albany. The letter is to Governor Cuomo, asking him to stop a proposed “micro-grid” project that would burn fracked gas in a low-income neighborhood. The project would threaten the community with pollution while maintaining our reliance on dirty fossil fuels that contribute to climate change.

The letter is linked here. The letter is open to ordained and non-ordained leaders of any faith, denomination, or spiritual practice. We encourage you to share the letter widely and invite others to sign on: click [here](#)

- **Join the Laudato Si Animator Program – Global Catholic Climate Movement – NY Chapter**
Program starts in February. To apply click [here](#)

This program will provide you with the tools you need to not only integrate Laudato Si into your own life, but bring the message to your parish or community. For more information click [here](#).

- **From Galileo to Laudato Si’: Why Science Needs Faith – Fordham (Lincoln Center Campus)**
Mon, Feb 26, 6:30 p.m., 12th-Floor Lounge, Corrigan Conference Center

[RSVP](#) online by Mon, Feb 19

Panelists: Guy Consolmagno, S.J., Director of the Vatican Observatory delivering The John C. and Jeanette D. Walton Lecture in Science, Philosophy, and Religion at Fordham University.

Logic and reason must always start with assumptions, and the assumptions behind science are, at their root, religious assumptions. Our core beliefs not only determine how we expect the universe to work; they also and just as importantly supply the motivation for the science we do, and indeed they determine why we as individuals choose to be scientists. The nature of how we understand this relationship, however, has changed radically from the time of Galileo, when science was still being invented; and that change continues to this day, as can be seen in the way Pope Francis has blended science and faith in his recent encyclical Laudato Si’. A reception immediately follows the lecture.

- **Week of Faith and Climate Action, St Gregory / Holy Name - NM Interfaith Power and Light (IPL) April 13-23 – Sign up now**

Be one of thousands of faith communities across the United States participating in this annual national IPL call to prayer and action to address climate justice. Sign up at www.faithclimateactionweek.org. For more information: Dorothy Calvani at dorothycalvani@gmail.com

Film series on Food to come in May / June– GCCM Metro New York

The GCCM Metro New York team, is currently preparing for us a Food Film Series. If you want to get in touch please contact one of our Parish leaders involved at Blessed Sacrament, St Gregory/Holy Name, St Paul, St Columba / Guardian Angel, St FX. Thanks to all of you!!!

Immigration

- **The Xavier Immigration Initiative: The New Sanctuary Coalition – St FX Every Thur., 5:30 - 8:30 pm - Hurtado Hall**

Every Thursday evening, Xavier is hosting meetings of the [New Sanctuary Coalition \(NSC\)](#), an interfaith initiative based here in New York City that stands in solidarity with our immigrant sisters and brothers. The meetings—which bring together immigrant friends and NSC volunteers—are an opportunity for both fellowship and organizing. This safe space is tremendously important for our friends to be able to tell their stories and our presence is both empowering and comforting.

In addition to our role as witnesses, there are opportunities for more hands on work--organizing activities include advocacy efforts on behalf of friends who are detained, recording and documenting their experiences, and supporting loved ones of those facing deportation.

The New Sanctuary Coalition of NYC continues to meet at St. Francis Xavier in Hurtado Hall every Thursday evening. If you have a spare Thursday evening over the next few months, please consider signing up for a volunteer shift using the link below. Thank you as always for your actions and for your prayers. Xavier parishioners are needed to help set up Hurtado Hall, welcome our NSC friends, help to participate in organizing, and to assist in clean up at the evening's end. **The work is easy, even when bearing witness to what is unfolding in our own land is hard.** Come join us!

Please sign up by using this form: <http://bit.ly/2mCQ04a>

- **A conversation on Immigration, Domestic Violence and Sex Trafficking - St Francis of Assisi Tues, Feb 6, 6pm - San Damiano Hall**

The current status of immigration in the U.S. has a profound effect on women and families.

Organized by The St. Francis Migrant Center this and the National Council of Jewish Women New York Informative conversation with immigration attorneys working with those who are victims of domestic violence and sex trafficking.

- **Book: “Channel of Peace: Stranded in Gander on 9/11” with author K. Tuerff - St Francis of Assisi Sun Feb 11, 3pm – San Damiano Hall**

The Migrant Center, LGBT+ Ministry & Young Adult Ministry of the Church of St. Francis of Assisi Hear Kevin Tuerff talk about his book and the true story of being stranded in Gander, Newfoundland on 9/11, which inspired the Broadway hit, “Come from Away!” Also, Kevin will speak about his Pay It Forward project as well as his present work for immigrants and refugees.

[RSVP](#) and attend to receive a special Broadway ticket deal to see “Come from Away!” in March.

- **Public Art Project “Stations of the Cross”— focus on Immigrants and Refugees– St Paul Wed Feb 14 – Sun April 1 (see Lenten series)**

- **The Migrant Center: Monthly Immigration Detention Visits – St Francis of Assisi**
Sat, Feb 24 at 2:30 PM, in San Damiano Hall (see Lenten series)
- **40 Hour Immigration Advocates Training Course - St Francis**
14 Tues beginning April 10 until July 31, 2018 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. – San Damiano Hall
Registration deadline: Monday, March 26, 2018
 - Based on the Immigrant Legal Resource Center curriculum using the 20th edition of A Guide for Immigration Advocates
 - For those who work or volunteer for nonprofit organizations & for lawyers desiring to practice immigration law
 - Non-lawyer participants who successfully complete the course will receive ILRC certificates
 - 42 CLE credits (including 4 ethics credits) for New York Attorneys approved by the New York Continuing Legal Education Board
 - Scholarships & tuition discounts available for staff & volunteers of nonprofit organizations
 - Tuition assistance based on financial hardship available for licensed attorneys
 - **Tuition: \$700.00** (includes the 2-volume 20th edition of the Guide for Immigration Advocates, which is normally sold for \$350)
 - **SPACE IS LIMITED!** –For more information & to register, contact The Migrant Center (212) 736-8500 ext. 305 or email: Rhodora Raterta at rraterta@stfrancisnyc.org

Cultural Ecology:

Interfaith dialogue, Racism

- **Black History Month in February**
- **Emerging Voices in Jewish Studies: Legal Theory and Revelation: Jewish Law in an Islamic Milieu – Fordham (Lincoln Campus)**
Thur, Feb 15, 6:30 pm, Bateman Room (2-01B), Fordham Law School (62nd St)
A Lecture by Marc Herman, with responses by Kathryn Kueny, Professor of Theology, and Jed Shugerman, Professor of Law
Medieval Jews in the Islamic world were the first to pen systematic accounts of revelation and the rabbinic tradition. This lecture explores two competing accounts of Sinaitic revelation authored by two of the outstanding jurists and philosophers of the Jewish Middle Ages, Sa'adya ben Joseph Gaon and Moses Maimonides. While both thinkers implicitly asserted the timelessness of their ideas, this lecture situates these two narratives of revelation and presentations of the role of the Talmudic rabbis within contemporaneous developments and trends in the Islamic legal tradition. Though cloaked in rabbinic garb, these dueling attempts to theorize revelation were both innovative and profoundly contemporary. *This is a joint event of Fordham's Program for Jewish Studies, the Institute on Religion, Law and Lawyer's Work.*
- **Spirit of Justice: a conversation between Michelle Alexander and Naomi Klein – UTS**
Thurs, Feb 15, 7pm – 9 pm - Riverside Church, 490 Riverside Dr, New York, NY 10027, Free [RSVP](#)

Join us for a riveting dialogue with award-winning journalist and best-selling author Naomi Klein and Union visiting professor Michelle Alexander about the current crises of our time and why we must connect the dots between the intersecting issues of white supremacy, rape culture, climate chaos and wealth hoarding. How do we move from strategic alliances and coalition building to a true political synthesis that not only connects these oppressions and injustices but maps a positive and healing future for all people and the planet?

- **“Let Justice Roll On Like a River”:** Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Thomas Merton in Their Anniversary Year - Corpus Christi (see Lenten Series)
Sun 4:00 pm, Feb 18, Feb 25, Mar 4, Mar 11, Mar 18

- **Book launch & Panel discussion: “Rituals of Humiliation: Understanding Race and Caste” – UTS**
Wed Feb 21, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm – Social Hall - [RSVP](#)

Comparing Indian and U.S. contexts of caste and race, and guided by a liberative theological imagination, in *Memory, Grief and Agency* Sunder John Boopalan argues that an active memory of and grief over structural wrongs yields positive agency. Such agency, Boopalan suggests, generates rites of moral responsibility that serve as antidotes to violent identities and catalyze hospitable social practices.

- **Eagle and Condor Consciousness: an evening with three thinkers in the Native way – UTS**
Wed Feb 21, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm – James Chapel, 3041 Broadway [RSVP here](#)

For thousands of years Indigenous people throughout the world have lived in ways that maintained a balance between human life and the life of all other beings. Over time, the dominant mode of human consciousness became an anthropocentric or human centered consciousness that disrupted the delicate balance and left behind the other mode of consciousness that was equally humanity's endowment. Please join us and experience a dialogue among three people whose lives are deeply rooted in traditional Native nonverbal thinking but who are able to beautifully translate into anthropocentric language the experience of the Native holistic consciousness. The dialogue will explore such subjects as ceremony; the “I” as “the we” way of thinking; the awareness of balance and blessing; and the consciousness of all beings including those beings that anthropocentric thinkers have defined as lacking consciousness. Their perspectives reach deep into the heart of an emerging consciousness that is both ancient and new.

- **Panel:** Tiokasin Ghosthorse, (Cheyenne River Lakota). Founder, host, and executive producer of “First Voices Radio”, a weekly program syndicated to 70 radio stations in the US and Canada.
 - Mindahi Bastida Muñoz (Otomi) Director of the “Original Caretakers Program.” Center for Earth Ethics at Union Theological Seminary.
 - Geraldine Patrick Encina (Mapuche descent), Scholar in Residence at the Center for Earth Ethics.
 - With Reflections by: Aliou Cissé Niang, New Testament Associate Professor at Union Theological Seminary and native Diola of Senegal West, Africa
- **“They Do Not Know It and Do Not Want to Know It”:** **Racial Ignorance, James Baldwin, and the Authenticity of Christian Ethics. – Fordham (The Bronx)**
Tues, Feb 27, 6pm, Keating First Auditorium, The Bronx - [RSVP](#) online by Tues, Feb 13.
Rev. Bryan N. Massingale, S.T.D. James and Nancy Buckman Chair in Applied Christian Ethics
Writing in the 1960s, James Baldwin declared that a central obstacle to achieving racial justice was the racial majority's willful and cultivated ignorance of the situation facing people of color. Yet this kind of “ignorance” has not been critically examined in Catholic moral theology. This lecture explains the

conceptual and race-based obstacles that hindered this engagement and the social consequences of this omission. It will also detail how key concepts in Christian ethical reflection will have to be reconfigured by the faith community and its scholars if they are to answer Baldwin's challenge and become an effective force for racial justice in the United States.

- **Confronting White Supremacy: an examination of America's unrepentant sin – UTS**

Wed Feb 28, 6pm – 8 pm – James Chapel, 3014 Bdway - Free [RSVP](#)

From bigots marching in Charlottesville, to a President who regularly encourages them, the past year cast a harsh light on the extent and prevalence of white supremacy. While the recent headlines may seem shocking, the issue has deep national roots. Join Rev. Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas as she moderates a panel to discuss this spiritual crisis.

- Shaun King is a fearless journalist, writer-in-residence at the Harvard-based Fair Punishment Project, and a leader in the Black Lives Matter movement.
- Rev. Robert Wright Lee IV is an author, activist, commentator, writer, and preacher. Recently, Rob, a descendant of General Robert E. Lee has been engaged as an activist in the field of racial reconciliation.
- Dr. Sarah Azaransky is Union's assistant professor of social ethics. Her research and teaching examine historical and contemporary experiences of race and sexualities and their intersections in the United States.
- Rev. Dr. Samuel Cruz is Union's Associate Professor of Church and Society. Dr. Cruz's publications include two books, *Masked Africanisms: Puerto Rican Pentecostalism* (Kendall Hunt Publishing, 2005) as well as *Christianity and Culture in the City: A Post-Colonial Approach* (Lexington Books, 2013), he is currently working on a book project "Latinas and the LGBT community: Implications for the Church and Beyond."
- Kristine Chong is a second year Master of Divinity student at Union Theological Seminary, with a concentration in Ethics. She is co-chair of the Asian & Pacific Islander (API) Caucus. Daughter to Korean immigrant parents, Kristine grew up in Cerritos, CA, a predominantly Asian American community. Prior to Union, Kristine worked in immigrant rights advocacy, an anti-violence collaborative, and refugee resettlement services.

- **The future of Interreligious dialogue – UTS**

Wed Mar 7, 7pm – 9pm – Social Hall - Free / [RSVP](#)

50 years have passed since the release of the momentous Vatican II document, *Nostra Aetate*, "Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions" which transformed exclusivist Christian attitudes toward other world religions. This panel (and book) looks back on that document, its meaning, legacy and ongoing promise, and it does so interreligiously. What does *Nostra Aetate* mean for us today? Does *Nostra Aetate* have a future? Contributors to the volume, Paul Knitter, Roger Haight, Jerusha Lamptey, and John Thatamanil of Union Theological Seminary as well as Jeannine Hill Fletcher of Fordham University will discuss these questions and their contributions to the volume. Dean Mary Boys will moderate.

Ecology of daily life

Homeless, Affordable Housing, LGBT, Women, Transhumanism

- **LGBTQ Catholic Today/Shadows and Light - St FX**
Sun, Feb 11, 1pm – 2:30pm, Keenan Commons in Xavier High School
A look at the new developments that have and are taking place regarding discussions of LGBTQ issues in the Church since the openings provided by Pope Francis, while candidly acknowledging the challenges that remain in order to achieve full incorporation and acceptance in and by the Church.
With Rev. Bryan Massingale, professor of Theological and Social Ethics at Fordham University
- **Feed our Neighbors Food Campaign – Blessed Sacrament**
Jan 27 – Feb 4, Kennedy Center (W 134th st)
Four simple ways to participate are: (1) Bring non-perishable foods to Saturday and Sunday Masses between January 27th and February 4th (2) Support by donating money during a Mass collection (3) Volunteer at a Food Pantry near you and 4) Tell your legislators we must feed children at risk of hunger by using Bread for the World at bread.org/write-congress.
- **Volunteering : Support the Homeless Shelter – Ascension**
The Holy Trinity-Ascension Shelter has opened for the season and will run each weekend until late Spring at Ascension School. Each Saturday and Sunday evening a team of volunteers provides meals, a safe place to sleep and friendship to up to 20 homeless men.
To sign up to serve at the shelter click [here](#)
Donations to the shelter contact Kelley Lassman at kalassman@yahoo.com
Questions about the shelter contact Chris O'Donnell at shelter107@gmail.com
- **Volunteering : Franciscan Community Center – Food Pantry – St Gregory / Holy Name**
Food Pantry Our Food Pantry provides nutritious shelf stable and fresh groceries to those in need each Monday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. We serve an average of 100 households per week! Volunteers are an important part of our pantry! We are always looking for individuals to staff the pantry when open, stocking shelves and cleaning & removing trash. If you are interested in volunteering at the Food Pantry please contact us at 212-932-8040. email fcc@fccnyc.org

The principle of Common Good

Solidarity, Prison, Violence, Gun, Criminal Justice

- **Civil Religion: Road to Redemption or American Heresy? – Fordham (Lincoln Center)**
Tues Feb 13, 6pm, 12th-Floor Lounge, Corrigan Conference Center
Civil religion has been described as a powerful, shared, but nondenominational belief in the United States as an exceptional nation, a city upon a hill that was great because it was good. But today civil religion is coming under scrutiny as some see the angry populism of the Trump era turning the cohesive force of patriotism into blood-and-soil nationalism. Can a country in which the national anthem has become a dividing line still rally around civic sacraments and symbols?
Speakers
 - Kathleen Flake, Richard Lyman Bushman Professor of Mormon Studies at University of Virginia

- John Carlson, Associate Professor of Religious Studies at Arizona State University and Interim Director of the Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict
 - Susan Wise Bauer, Essayist and Author of the *History of the World* Series for W. W. Norton
 - Mark Silk, Director of the Leonard Greenberg Center for the Study of Religion in Public Life at Trinity College
 - Moderated by David Gibson, Director of the Fordham Center on Religion and Culture
- **Repairing our broken politics: how we can transcend political polarization - UTS**
Wed Feb 21, 12 pm – 2pm, Social Hall, Free
 Vitriol and venomous rhetoric dominate political discourse. Vulgar language and personal attacks have become de rigueur. Racism and dehumanizing propaganda are commonplace. In this important conversation, Derrick Harkins will moderate a discussion between R. Marie Griffith, Samuel Cruz, and Andrea White about how our government reached this deplorable state, and what we can do to fix it.
 - **Dance Night for Venezuela – St FX**
Sat, Feb 10, 7pm – Keenan Commons Xavier High School, 31 W 15th St, 3rd Floor
 Xavier P&J Committee invites you to an evening of Dance to benefit the people of Venezuela. Please join us as Kathleen Cagnina, Faith Pilger, Robert Vereecke, Luz Marina Diaz, Janeen Stevens, Stefano Nappi & dancers from the Lindy Hop Community perform mixtures of several dance styles in an informal setting.
 Due to the continuous crisis in Venezuela, people are in desperate need of food and basic supplies. Please be generous so we can touch as many lives as possible.
 Suggested donation: \$20 – All proceeds will be used to purchase food for the Venezuelan people.
 - **Volunteering - 2018 Mission to the Dominican Republic (6th edition) – Ascension**
Sun July 1st to Sun July 8th
 The purpose of the mission is two-fold: both spiritual and medical.
 VOLUNTEERS WITH THE FOLLOWING BACKGROUND ARE WELCOME: Our top needs are in the areas of family medicine, cardiology, pediatrics, internal medicine, dermatology, dentistry, and optometry. If you have a background in those areas and can take part in our mission—or know someone—please contact Father Kearney and/or Jonathan Casilla at jcasilla52@hotmail.com. Phone: 646-425-3007. For more information please visit: [http:// www.ascensionchurchnyc.org/mission-to-dr](http://www.ascensionchurchnyc.org/mission-to-dr)

Justice between generations

- **Saint Francis Bereavement Ministry - St Francis**
Tues Feb 13 to April 10 from 6 – 7:30pm
 While grief is a very private experience, people who have lost loved ones can benefit from the witness and support of others who have lost someone special in their lives.
 The St. Francis Bereavement Ministry offers an opportunity for the bereaved to connect with others who grieve, and to seek a path of healing as they come to terms with their loss.
 Please call Fr. Brian Smail, O.F.M. at 212-736-8500, Ext. 204 to inquire or email him at bsmail@stfrancisnyc.org
 Interested persons should be at least three months into the grieving process. Pre-registration necessary.

Ecology education and spirituality

- **Book: “The Great Work” Thomas Berry, prophet for our challenging time – Franciscan Sisters Convent**
Monthly meeting, starting Mon Feb 19, 6:30pm, 204W 97th St
RSVP to Sr. Odile: odilefmm@gmail.com
- **Taizé Prayer**
 - **St Francis Xavier** - every 2nd Friday of the month, Fri Feb 9, 6-7pm
 - The Taize prayer of **St John the Baptist moved to the Church of Good Shepherd** (see Lent series)
Every other Thurs through Lent at 7pm: Feb 15, Mar 1, Mar 15, San Damiano Retreat Center, 630 Isham Street
- **18th Annotation of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola - St FX (see Lenten series)**
Wed meetings will be at 6:30pm Feb 7, 15 (Thursday), 21, 28, Mar 7, 14, 21
Sat meetings will be Feb 10, 17, 24, Mar 3, 10, 17, 24.
- **Centering Prayer – Notre Dame**
Every Fridays, 7:30pm, in the Grotto, With Fr. Michael Holleran
- **Zen Meditation: Dragon’s Eye Zendo – St Francis of Assisi**
Thurs. Ongoing 6pm– 7:45pm, San Damiano Hall
- **The Simple Sanity of Contemplation in a complex, crazy world – St Francis of Assisi**
Sat Feb 17 to Mar 17, 12:30pm to 3:00pm, Cost \$45.00
Contemplative prayer is the opening of the mind, the heart, and our whole being to God. It is a process of interior transformation initiated by God, a process that leads, if we consent, to friendship, trust, love, and deeper union with God, and to ongoing conversion from our false self into our true self, the self which is made in God’s image and likeness. This course, recommended for new and long-time practitioners, will include periods of instruction as well as the actual experience of traditional forms of contemplative prayer such as centering and lectio divina.
Instructor: Tessie Pia, M.A.
- **Life of the mystics – St Francis of Assisi (registration [online](#))**
 - **St Bonaventure’s tree of Life in Spirituality and art**
Mar 01- Mar 15, \$30.00
 - **A morning with St Thérèse of Lisieux**
Mar 09 - Mar 09, \$25.00
 - **An afternoon with St Teresa of Avila**
Mar 09 - Mar 09, \$25.00
 - **A Lenten day with St John of the Cross**
Mar 16 - Mar 16, \$45.00
 - **A Lenten afternoon of prayer**
Mar 24- Mar 24, \$20.00

Integral Ecology

LS 137 "Since everything is closely interrelated, and today's problems call for a vision capable of taking into account every aspect of the global crisis, I suggest that we now consider some elements of an integral ecology, one which clearly respects its human and social dimensions."

- **Environmental, Economic and Social Ecology:** Environment, Immigration, Work, Economy
LS 139: "When we speak of the "environment", what we really mean is a relationship existing between nature and the society which lives in it. Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or as a mere setting in which we live"
- **Cultural Ecology:** Interfaith dialogue, Racism
LS 144 "There is a need to respect the rights of peoples and cultures, and to appreciate that the development of a social group presupposes an historical process which takes place within a cultural context and demands the constant and active involvement of local people from within their proper culture. Nor can the notion of the quality of life be imposed from without, for quality of life must be understood within the world of symbols and customs proper to each human group."
- **Ecology of daily life:** Homeless, Affordable Housing, LGBT, Women, Transhumanism
LS 139: "When we speak of the "environment", what we really mean is a relationship existing between nature and the society which lives in it."
- **The principle of Common Good:** Solidarity, Prison, Violence, Gun, Criminal Justice
LS 156: "The common good is "the sum of those conditions of social life which allow social groups and their individual members' relatively thorough and ready access to their own fulfilment".
- **Justice between generations:** Dignity of life, the Elders,
LS 159: "The environment is part of a logic of receptivity. It is on loan to each generation, which must then hand it on to the next".
- **Ecology education and spirituality:** Contemplation, Art, and other Faith Formation
LS 202. "Many things have to change course, but it is we human beings above all who need to change. We lack an awareness of our common origin, of our mutual belonging, and of a future to be shared with everyone. This basic awareness would enable the development of new convictions, attitudes and forms of life. A great cultural, spiritual and educational challenge stands before us, and it will demand that we set out on the long path of renewal."

West Side Deanery Parishes (btw 125th & 14th street)

Corpus Christi (121th St)	corpus-christi-nyc.org
Notre Dame (114th St)	ndparish.org
Ascension (107th St)	ascensionchurchnyc.org
Holy Name of Jesus / St Gregory the Great (96th St & 90th St)	holynamenyc.org
Holy Trinity (82nd St)	htcny.org
Blessed Sacrament (71st St)	blessedsacramentnyc.org
St Paul the Apostle (59th St)	stpaultheapostle.org
Sacred Heart of Jesus (51st St)	http://shjnycparish.org
St Malachy - Actor's Chapel (49th St)	actorschapel.org
Holy Cross / St John the Baptist (42nd St & 30th St)	christinthecity.nyc
Holy Innocents (37th St)	innocents.com
St Michael (34th St)	stmichaelnyc.com
St Francis of Assisi (31st St)	stfrancisnyc.org
St Columba / Guardian Angel (25rd St)	guardianangelstcolumba.org
St Francis Xavier (15th St)	sfxavier.org

Also listed are events from Theological Universities on the West Side: Fordham University, Union Theological Seminary, Jewish Theological Seminary and the Cordoba House. And organization where many on the WSD are involved: Faith in NY, Metro NY-CCM (part of GCCM), Migrant Center (St Francis of Assisi), St Francis Breadline, Franciscan Action Network (FAN), Habitat for Humanity