



I write these lines with love, hoping that you and everyone in your family are well.

It is a difficult time—pandemic, confusion, insecurity, chomage, unemployment, uncertainty. But in the midst of all of this I write this note to remind us that God is here

During this time of pandemic, our mighty God is inviting us to put our trust in Him and to be courageous. He knows what we are going through. He is watching us and walking with us amidst all these difficult and strangest of times.

"The Lord says 'do not be afraid' some 365 times in Sacred Scripture. God is telling us each day 'Do not be afraid.' Let us not give up our hope in the Lord. Our God is a faithful God who will never abandon us.

Thank You for taking COVID-19 seriously. The sacrifices you are making during this time—some of you are unable to attend Mass, cancelling gatherings and social distancing from those you love are not in vain. These are very important as we are trying to slow down and flatten the curve and rid the world of this pandemic.

We are all in this together, let us continue to have Faith in God and pray for healing. Be safe. If you are ill, please stay at home. No parishioners or visitors, are to enter our church, if feeling sick, or have any symptoms.

As announced at recent weekend Masses, from Saturday 3rd October, we are reverting back to our pre-covid19 Mass Schedule.

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 18:30

Sunday Morning: 08h30, 10h00 & 11h30

Sunday Evening 19h00 (Notre Dame)

**Weekday Masses will continue as present:
Wed, Thu & Fri at 12h15.**



Congratulations

Anna, our Director of Religious Education, gave birth to a beautiful daughter last month, Maria Elise, we congratulate her & Matthew (her husband) and Finnian, the proud big brother.

[FORMED.Org](https://formed.org)

[Formed.org](https://formed.org) is "Catholic Faith On Demand". Similar to NetFlix, Formed.org gives you access to Catholic films, audio books, radio talks, podcasts, studies and much more! It's all at your fingertips

FORMED is designed to help adults grow in their faith at all levels - how we think, how we pray, and how we live. Better yet, access is FREE to all parishioners and their families or friends anywhere, anytime on computers, tablets, or phones.

FORMED is a game-changer, a real immersion of Faith!
We have a Parish Subscription, please feel free to sign up.

To Sign up for FORMED:

1. Go to <https://signup.formed.org/>
2. enter the parish name **St John XXIII Parish** or best to use just the postal code **1202** and click on our parish
3. enter your name and email

First Holy Communion

Dates have been released to enable our children who have been patiently waiting to receive Holy Eucharist for the first time, if you haven't already done so, please [sign up](#) now.



Supporting the parish during COVID-19 restrictions

We are very grateful to all who have provided continuing financial support during this unusual time, to those who drop off cash into the basket leaving Mass and those who pay directly through the bank. For information of how to donate through the bank, please click [here](#).

Here are new exciting ways to support our parish while observing social distancing



inside the church, download the app [La Quete](#) and follow the simple



instructions or use the 'Twint' QR codes [here](#) or inside the Church.

Our collections and donations are down over 50% since the start of the pandemic, we would really appreciate your support and help. A million thanks for your generosity and kindness from the bottom of my heart.

Catechism

For our latest news on Catechism please click [here](#).

Ignatian Spirituality Centre Genève
(Petra & Stephen)



GETTING TO KNOW ST. IGNATIUS

Who is St. Ignatius and is he still relevant?



SATURDAY, 3 OCTOBER 2020

TIME: 2.30—4.00 P.M.

Online virtual programme

To register click [here](#)
For more information go to the Ignatian Spirituality Centre Geneva website [here](#)

	<p>Presented By: Dr Catriona Fletcher & Frances McGeoch</p>	
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This Saturday reflection will look briefly at St Ignatius' life and how some of his key experiences can touch and inform our own life experiences. There will be input, time for personal prayer and a chance to share with others. Everyone is very welcome!

Do you want to grow your prayer life or thinking of doing a retreat at home: for more ISC Geneva offerings visit our site [here](#).
The Growth in Prayer and Reflective Living Course starts in January 2021 - register early as places are limited. Registration and details can be found [here](#).

Do you have a question? Contact us at info@isc-geneva.ch

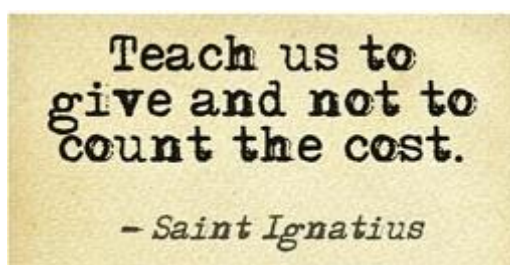


THE MODERN WOMAN'S GUIDE TO THE BIBLE

Have you ever considered that your day-to-day struggles are, at their core, timeless and universal? Though your challenges are deeply personal, they are also deeply human, and God has provided workable solutions for you through the teachings of Christ and the Roman Catholic Church.

Walking with Purpose would like to help you enjoy a deeper personal relationship with Jesus Christ, nurtured through personal Bible study and small group discussions created just for women.

This dynamic programme will be returning to St John XXIII this autumn. A morning, lunchtime and an evening and class will be offered. All ladies from the parish would be made most welcome, please contact wwpj23@gmail.com



The Ignatian Way *"seeking and finding God in my daily life"*

A pause for personal silence, rest, and discernment based on the **Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola**

These one-day **exercises** are for all persons seeking to deepen their awareness of the presence of God, and prayerful living.

An **Ignatian Way Day** offers a chance to 'catch one's spiritual breath' in today's hectic world. Together we *open to silence* through the Word of God, using the Ignatian method of prayer and selected passages of Holy Scripture.

An **Ignatian Way Day** takes place on a Saturday, from 9.30 am to about 5 pm, and includes lunch. Full-day participation is asked of all attendees. While each Day is in itself whole, each Day also builds upon the previous one to foster in each participant a growing capacity for daily prayer and the opening of new pathways for their spiritual life and person

Where? Near Geneva at **The Ecumenical Institute** - Chateau de Bossey, 1298 Céligny.

Dates (Saturdays, 9.30-17.00): **November 21, 2020, March 6 and May 15, 2021**

Cost per day: CHF 45 (includes lunch).

COVID-19 restrictions and requirements apply.

Registration: Contact Patricia Laurie on vervel10@gmail.com or Tel. +33 (0)954-410-

339.

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry & Personal Development Training

As a consequence of Covid-19, the next round of Stephen Ministry training will take place online using Zoom. Starting Thursday, 24th September 2020 and running until early March 2021. Training commences at 7.00pm sharp until 8.30pm. A contribution of CHF 150 is requested per person (which covers materials, freight, taxes, online license, etc.). If needed the contribution can be spread to avoid any hardship. To aid our logistics please book early. Visit stephenministry.ch for details and enrolment.



A Prayer to St Joseph, the Great Protector

St Joseph,
 You were receptive to God working in your life.
 Help us by your prayers at this time of trial.
 You kept Jesus and Mary under your watchful care:
 may your prayers assist our local Church to respond to those in need.
 You taught the Christ Child your trade and prayers:
 help us to follow his example of love.
 You were part of God's plan for all humanity:
 assist us to be vigilant and responsible this day.
 You spent your life in service:
 may we be mindful of others, particularly the elderly and vulnerable, caring for them
 in these difficult days.
 You trusted in the clear primacy of God over all history and every situation: help us to
 grow in faith and pray to the Father, *Thy will be done.*
 Amen



As the COVID-19 Coronavirus outbreak continues to spread, normal life is increasingly disrupted. Restrictions on mass gatherings and travel are now a global phenomenon with many libraries, museums, restaurants and sports facilities are operating differently. We've been told to wash our hands much more and see people much less.

At this time of uncertainty and possible social isolation, we the people of God in Geneva and beyond are invited to lead the way in loving and caring for each other and for those vulnerable people in our communities (while social distancing).

It's a time when each of the baptised should intentionally commit to this affirmative action during the coronavirus pandemic. This simply means: take care of yourself and your loved ones, and one other potentially vulnerable person. Everyone--young, old and in-between has this calling and capacity.

Fortunately, our digital age provides a raft of ways to reach out and love our

neighbour during the threat of Coronavirus. Here are some suggestions:

Make a call

'Every hand we don't shake must become a phone call we make'. Be generous with phone calls, text messages, emails with photos, Facetime, WhatsApp. Kids, call your parents and grandparents; parents and grandparents, call your children and grandchildren. It's especially important to take the time to call people in your life who you might not speak to very often.

Send a letter

Tried and true ways are also necessary. Rediscover the lost art of letter writing with friends and family in addition to phone calls and FaceTime. Send get well cards, letters and if you feel particularly artistic, try sending a drawing.

Do the shopping

Get in touch with elderly or vulnerable people in your community and offer help with their shopping. Ensuring they have adequate provisions in this time is one of the most valuable acts of service you can offer.

Shop local

Local business owners are our neighbours too, and while national corporations will be able to weather these rough times, smaller businesses may struggle over the next few months. Where you can, shop local.

Fight the hoarding impulse

Over-stockpiling leads to a shortage of essential provisions for more vulnerable communities that don't have the means or opportunity. Buy in moderation, so others are also able to meet their needs.

Ask how you can help

Check in with neighbours and people who may be socially isolated and ask how you can help. Particularly if you're in a lower-risk group, reach out to people in our community and see what you can do. It might be picking up groceries or prescriptions or offer a chat, or a photo to make them smile.

A PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE

Almighty and all-merciful God,
lover of the human race, healer of all our wounds,
in whom there is no shadow of death,
save us in this time of crisis;
grant wisdom and courage to our leaders;
watch over all medical people
as they tend the sick and work for a cure;
stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation;
if our doors are closed, let our hearts be open.
By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear,
that hope may never die
and the light of Easter, the triumph of life,
may shine upon us and the whole world.
Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the dead,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.
Holy Mary, health of the sick, pray for us.
St Joseph, guardian of us all, pray for us.

NUNC DIMITTIS (Night)

R. Protect us, Lord, as we stay awake;
watch over us as we sleep,
that awake we may keep watch with Christ,
and, asleep, rest in his peace.

1. Lord, now you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled. (R).

2. My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people. (R).

3. A light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel. (R).

4. Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be fore ever.
Amen. (R).

With every good wish & blessing,

Keep healthy and well!

Paul



Fr Paul C Friel

Curé

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