

---

# REJOICE

---

*in God's Light*

**The Ignatian Schola**

4 January 2023

**Church of St. Francis Xavier  
New York City**

## *Director's Note*

Dear Friends,

Tonight, the Ignatian Schola is grateful to present this year's REJOICE live from the Church of St. Francis Xavier in NYC as well as via livestream for our family and friends who cannot make it in person. As I reflect on the last three years, I find myself drawn to the hardships and seemingly insurmountable challenges as seen in the COVID-19 pandemic, struggles of migrants and refugees, loss of life from viruses, war and gun violence, deep political divisions, widening of the gap between the rich and the poor, and the devastation to our environment and resulting natural disasters. Darkness would seem to be all around us, if not for God. God, whose love for us is infinite and unfathomable. God, who in utter humility, comes to be with us in Jesus Christ. Jesus is the flame that shines in the darkness of our world.

In his Christmas address, Fr. Arturo Sosa, SJ, Superior General of the Society of Jesus said:

"We have entered a special time for humanity, a time of recollection, a time of introspection, a time of conversion... To those who say that the darkness has won, God responds by sending a small child, helpless, needy. By accepting him into our hearts and into our life, God proved them wrong. Our actions become hope by listening to the good spirit, by praying and knowing Jesus, by listening to voices of encouragement, to calls to action, to appeals for humanity and compassion. By simple acts of kindnesses to the poor, the sick, the immigrant, the refugee, we hold up the light, we hold up hope to others, we refuse to surrender to the future to doom... Now is the time. Christ comes to us with all our faults, all our burdens, worries about the world around us and in the grace of that child comes the light in the darkness."  
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h7tANHelqNs>)

Music has been a saving grace for me, shining through the darkness of the past three years. Tonight, the Ignatian Schola invites you to enter a musical meditation and journey from darkness into light. On behalf of the Ignatian Schola, I wish you and your loved ones a happy and healthy new year filled with abundant love and light!

Peace,  
Jackie Perez  
Jan. 4, 2023  
Church of St. Francis Xavier, NYC

*To help foster a prayerful atmosphere, we ask that you kindly hold your applause until the breaks (🎭) indicated in the program.*

# *Rejoice in God's Light*

---

## *Call to Stillness*

### *1. Holy Darkness*

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.  
You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing.  
—Isaiah 9:1-2a*

Despite the darkness in our lives, God is with us.  
**What darkness have you experienced?**

#### *Holy Darkness*

Words: Inspired by St. John of the Cross; Dan Schutte  
Music: Dan Schutte; arr. by Bob Harrold

#### *Each Winter as the Year Grows Older*

Words: William Gay  
Music: CAROL OF HOPE, Annabeth Gay; arr. by Marty Haugen

#### *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

Words: Edmund H. Sears  
Music: Traditional English Melody; arr. by Valerie Capers  
Soloist: Thomas Rzeznik; Conductor: Jim Coughlin, SJ

*Song of God Among Us*

Words: Huub Oosterhuis; tr. by Tony Barr & Tom Conry  
Music: Marty Haugen

*Lead Us to Your Light*

Words & Music: Carol E. Browning



## *II. This Night a Wondrous Revelation*

*Christ comes to us with all our faults,  
all our burdens, worries about the world around us and  
in the grace of that child comes the light in the darkness.*

—Arturo Sosa, SJ

Despite the darkness in our world, God is with us.  
**Where have you experienced flickers of light?**

*This Night a Wondrous Revelation*

Words: C. F. Nachtenhoefer  
Music: Donald Rotermund; arr. by Jim Coughlin, SJ

This night a wondrous revelation  
Makes known to me God's love and grace;  
The Child that merits adoration  
Brings light to our benighted race;  
And though a thousand suns did shine,  
Still brighter were that Light divine.

This Light, which all thy gloom can banish,  
The bliss of heaven glorifies;  
When sun and moon and stars shall vanish,  
Its rays shall still illumine the skies.  
This Light through all eternity  
Thy heav'n and all to Thee, Thee shall be.

O Jesus, precious Sun of gladness,  
Fill Thou my soul with light, I pray.  
Dispel the gloomy night of sadness  
And teach Thou me, oh, this I pray  
How I a child of light may be,  
Aglow with light that comes, come from Thee.

### ***Bashana Haba'ah***

Words by Ehud Manor

Music by Nurit Hirsch; arr. by John Leavitt

*Bashana haba'ah*  
*Neshev al hamirpeset*  
*V'nispor tsiporim nod'dot*

Next year  
We'll sit on the porch  
And count migrating birds.

*Y'ladim b'chufsha*  
*Y'sachakuto feset*  
*Ben habayit l'ven hasadot*

Children on vacation  
Will play tag  
Between the house and the fields.

*Od tire, Od tire*  
*Kama tov yiye*  
*Bashana bashana haba'ah*

You will yet see, you will yet see  
How good it will be  
Next year.

### ***Still, Still, Still***

Austrian melody; words and arr. by Rory Cooney

## *Stille Nacht*

Words: Joseph Mohr; Music: Franz X. Gruber; arr. by Jim Coughlin, SJ

Conductor: Jim Coughlin, SJ

### *For the Refugees of the World*

*German:* Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht! Alles schläft einsam wacht.  
Nur das traute hoch heilige Paar. Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar.  
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh! Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

*Silent Night! Holy Night! All are asleep.  
Only the couple, faithful and most holy, keeps vigil. O sweet child with curly hair,  
Sleep in heavenly peace! Sleep in heavenly peace!*

*French:* Douce nuit, Sainte nuit, Dans les cieux, L'astre nuit.  
Le mystere annonce s'accomplit. Cet enfant sur la paille endormit,  
C'est l'amour infini. C'est l'amour infini.

*Silent Night, Holy Night, in the heavens, the moon glows.  
The mystery is accomplished. This child asleep on the straw,  
He is infinite love. He is infinite love.*

*Arabic:* Christmas night, that gleaming night. Festival sounds adorn the night.  
Stars twinkle like bunches of grapes. It is time for treats.  
Jesus visited this night. Jesus colors this night!

*English:* Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light,  
Radiant beams from thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.



### *III. Jesus, the Light of the World*

*From death, from dark, from deafness, from despairs,  
This life, this light, this Word, this joy repairs.  
—St. Robert Southwell, SJ*

God is with us in his Son, Jesus, the Light of the World  
**What light shines brightly in your life?**

*Jesus, the Light of the World*

Words: George D. Elderkin & Charles Wesley  
Music: George D. Elderkin; arr. by Lloyd Larson

*Do You Hear What I Hear?*

Words & Music: Noel Regney & Gloria Shayne; arr. by Harry Simeone

*Peace*

Words & Music: Patricia Mock; arr. by Richard A. Nichols



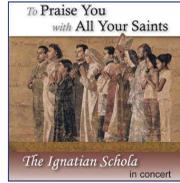
### *Call to Service*

*How will you bring your light into the world?*

*The Work of Christmas*

Words: Howard Thurman; Music: Dan Forrest





*The Ignatian Schola's CDs*

**Love's Pure Light & To Praise You with All Your Saints**  
*are available on iTunes or at [www.CDBaby.com](http://www.CDBaby.com).*

**The Ignatian Schola** is a New York-based vocal ensemble composed of Jesuits and lay colleagues. Rooted in Ignatian spirituality, the Schola is dedicated to the exploration of musical prayer in the service of faith and the promotion of justice.

Alan Ahles	Ann Harris-Jacobs	Patricia Newkirk
Sidney Boquiren	Glen E. Heiss	Jacqueline C. Perez
Jim Coughlin, SJ	Kevin Karnisky	Anna Ryan-Bender
Ricardo da Silva, SJ	Dee Kittany	Thomas Rzeznik
Christopher Derby, SJ	Kate Kostelc	Tina Silvestro
James Ferus, SJ	Wendell J. Laurent	Joanna Tellis
Barry Gilman	James Miracky, SJ	Caitlin Wright
	Margaret Monahan	

For more information about The Ignatian Schola, visit  
[www.IgnatianSchola.org](http://www.IgnatianSchola.org) and [www.facebook.com/IgnatianSchola](https://www.facebook.com/IgnatianSchola).

***Musical Director:*** Jacqueline C. Perez

***Piano:*** Sidney Boquiren, Jim Coughlin, SJ

***Organ:*** Jim Coughlin, SJ

***Guitar:*** Tina Silvestro

***Woodwinds:*** Kevin Karnisky

***Violin:*** James Ferus, SJ

***Special thanks to:***

**USA East Province of the Society of Jesus**, Joseph M. O'Keefe, SJ, Provincial

**Church of St. Francis Xavier**, Kenneth J. Boller, SJ, Pastor;  
John Uehlein, Music Director; and Stephanie Fuentes, Assistant to the Pastor

**Xavier High School**, Jack Raslowsky, President  
Susan Cardosa, Special Assistant to the President

**Videography:** Mark Moss, [www.HarisSchStudios.com](http://www.HarisSchStudios.com)

**Poster & Program Design:** Wendell J. Laurent, [www.MagisMedia.com](http://www.MagisMedia.com)

**Cover Art:** *Epiphany* by Darko Topalski

~ooOoo~

All music reprinted under One License.net #A-700530