

GOSPEL FOR JUNE, 2021

John 21:18-19

OTHER READINGS

Heb 9:11-15, Ez 17:22-24, 2 Cor 5:14-17



Ignacio House's residents at The Bronx Museum.

REFLECTION

On the third time that Jesus appeared to His disciples, Jesus enters into a threefold discourse with Peter. Jesus tells Peter that when he grows old, "someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." This was Jesus' way of saying to Peter that he would ultimately express his love of Jesus by suffering for Him. As we consider this conversation between Jesus and Peter, it is clear that Jesus' understanding of love is very different from the way many others understand it today. Suffering in and of itself is of no value. But when suffering is embraced sacrificially out of love for another, it is able to take on tremendous power.

Reflect, today, upon your attitude toward suffering. Do you understand that even suffering has the potential to become a source of holiness and a source of grace? Strive to see suffering as Jesus sees it. Look at the sacrificial love that is made possible when uniting suffering to the Cross of Christ.

MONTHLY EXAMEN

We invite you to prayerfully reflect:

Presence

Become aware that God's presence is active at each moment of your life, looking at you with love, desirous of speaking directly to your heart. How do you feel at this moment?

Ask

Ask God for the grace to see the ways God is working in your life.

Gratitude

Be grateful. Thank God for the gifts, both big and small of the day. What are you most grateful for today?

Review

Trust that God is with you at each moment of day, during the good and challenging moments. God never abandons you. What were the good moments of today? What were the greatest challenges of today?

Respond

You are not stuck. Tomorrow is a new day. Ask God to give you the grace to be the loving and generous person you were created to be. What can you do tomorrow to be more generous and loving?

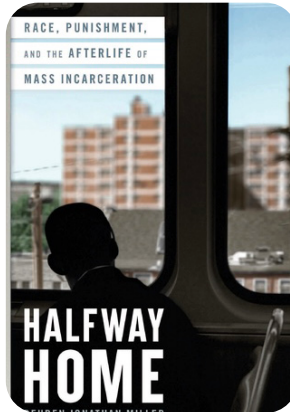
Conclude with the Sign of the Cross.



WALKING WITH THE EXCLUDED

Conversations for Impact with Author Reuben Miller.

On May 18th, we spoke with author Reuben about his work and book Halfway Home: Race, Punishment, and the Afterlife of Mass Incarceration.



Reuben writes about his own family, as well as others, in his book. Miller grew up poor on Chicago's South Side and spent four of the first five years of his life in foster care after his mother abandoned him and his brothers. Two of his brothers and his father have been in prison. Miller hopes that his work will help break down some of the barriers that affect so many people in America.

“I decided to write about my family in this book because it touches so many and because judges and prosecutors don't think about the fact that when they incarcerate a man or woman, that they're locking a family up with them — that they're a son or a brother or a father or an uncle or someone's child.

Why did we make a world in which 49% of Black men will be arrested before they're 23, and 38% of white men will be arrested before they turn 23? I want us to think about all these traps that we've created,

we've produced, and I want us to unmake them. That's my hope.” - Reuben Miller

ZACHARIAH F. PRESUTTI, SJ'S ORDINATION

Saturday, June 12th, Thrive for Life founder, Rev. Mr. Zachariah F. Presutti, SJ, will be ordained as a priest. We are proud of this major accomplishment, and he - and we- are excited to return to you all for our monthly retreats in person when prisons re-open.

IGNACIO HOUSE OF STUDIES RESIDENT SCHOLAR:

“When I hear Ignacio House, I think about pursuit of knowledge, my dedication to developing a dream career as a creative person. I think about how I successfully transitioned out of prison amid a pandemic. I think about all the things I struggle with and all the support that's helping me find my way to a healthier life.” - M

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

This spring, Ignacio House is offering various enrichment activities, such as workshops on:

- † Open Mic Night
- † Trip to Bronx Museum
- † Personal Narrative Writing
- † Resume Writing
- † Effective Written and Online
- † Communication and Presentation
- † Technology 101

BECOME A RESIDENT SCHOLAR AT IGNACIO HOUSE OF STUDIES!

If you are passionate about your education and wish to continue your academic journey post-release, we urge you to consider becoming a Resident Scholar at Thrive for Life's Ignacio House of Studies.

At Ignacio House, we offer formerly incarcerated students transitional supportive housing along with a holistic suite of services to help them find a sense of purpose and overcome barriers to employment, permanent housing, and education. If you are interested in joining us, please send us the following:

- † Full Name
- † DIN number
- † Current college you are enrolled in and/or where you will study post-release
- † Contact information for college/university where you will study.

To reach us, please see our contact information at the top of this page.