



PASTOR'S MESSAGE **AUGUST 29, 2021** **TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

The Heart of Religion

Dear Parishioners:

When anthropologist Margaret Mead was asked what she considered the first sign of civilization, she cited the discovery of a 15,000-year-old broken femur bone that had healed. It meant that humans were no longer completely subject to the instinctual laws of nature because someone had stopped to care for an injured person. Food, water and rest must have been provided for the time needed for the person to mend. A new mind and a new heart dawned. Instead of leaving that person behind, people showed compassion and care, enabling the human community to thrive.

On this last weekend of August, the Scripture asks this question: does holiness consist in keeping the rules, or in responding to the promptings of God's Spirit to a neighbor's need? Religious law, practice, and tradition help shape our common identity as Christians, but the gold standard is how we show love in all of life's circumstances, sometimes placing human need above the law.

Today we return to the Gospel of Mark at its crucial midpoint. Mark narrates a conflict between Jesus and the Pharisees, but what really is at stake is the question at the heart of religion -- what customs or traditions help people get closer to God.



When the Pharisees spoke of compulsory hand-washings, they were referring to the traditions that grew up around the Mosaic law. These customs were not the law itself, but "a fence around the Torah," behaviors that would promote full obedience to the law. Have you ever noticed that often in human groups, practices that were once beneficial can become rigid customs that take on the authority of law?

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND MASS

Saturday Vigil at 5:00 PM
Sunday at 8:00 AM
Sunday at 10:30 AM
Sunday at 7:30 PM



WEEKDAY MASS

Noon on Tuesday & Thursday

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays -3:30 PM to 4:30 PM
OR by appointment 503-777-1491

CONTACT US:

St Ignatius Parish
3400 SE 43rd Avenue
Portland, OR 97206
Phone: 503-777-1491
office@sipdx.org * www.sipdx.org

Continued on next page

PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE:

Jesus didn't disapprove of the Pharisees simply for their hygienic practices, but because they required ritual behaviors ("the fence around the law") to supersede the underlying intent of the law itself.

Remember that "ritual purity" originated as an expression of respect for the Temple. Gradually ritual purity devolved into an elite exceptionalism that marginalized others. Men and women came to be labeled as sinners or unclean on account of their professions, or because of women's menstruation. Jesus criticized the Pharisees for sanctifying legalisms that ordinary Jews who could not observe.

Pope Francis writes about how the age-old heresy of Pelagianism (that justification comes from our own efforts) shows up today. "Some Christians insist on taking another path, that of justification by their own efforts. The result is a self-centered and elitist complacency, bereft of true love. This finds expression . . . in an obsession with law, an absorption with social and political advantages, a punctilious concern for the Church's liturgy, doctrine, and prestige; and a vanity about the ability to manage practical matters." (*The Joy of the Gospel*, #57.)

And in #58: "Not infrequently, contrary to the promptings of the Spirit, the life of the Church can become a museum piece or the possession of a select few. This can occur when some groups of Christians give excessive importance to certain rules, customs or ways of acting." Likewise, the worship of the Pharisees was empty because they made doctrines of their preferences while ignoring the intent of God's commandments.

The second reading from James states one of his most famous themes: put faith into practice as the only way to live with integrity. James provides the final test: Religion that is pure is this – care for the most vulnerable, and freedom from the false values of narcissism and vanity.

Remember, our ordinary human life was once divinely lived. Jesus breathed the same air, saw the same sky, walked the same earth – and look how uniquely he lived it. Jesus dreamed our dreams, suffered our losses, loved our loves, and lived our life with limitless care. The "heart of religion" is to live as Jesus did his passion for care of others.

Labor Day Weekend comes next -- the conclusion of summer vacation and the beginning of another school year. Even though the days are still sunny and warm, the cool nights put that little chill in the air to say that fall is right around the corner. The ongoing pandemic adds a note of wonder and anxiety as the children prepare with face coverings to greet old school chums and meet newcomers in the classroom. Let's continue to pray for everyone to do their part to end this health crisis.

Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.
Pastor



MASS READINGS

Mass Readings for Aug 29, 2021

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8
James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Mass Readings for Sep 5, 2021

Isaiah 35:4-7a
James 2:1-5
Mark 7:31-37

"THE FEASTE OF THE NATIVITY!"

The Feaste of the Nativity Saturday, December 11 from 10am to 4pm
 Pageants in the Church at 1pm and 3pm

Personnel needs:

Town Criers

- Char-men, and Char-women
- Poets and Music-Makers.
- Jugglers, unicyclists, sword swallowers, jesters.
- Lords and Ladies

On the nuts and bolts side, we'll also need:

- Greeters and Ushers
- Set-up and Clean-up crew
- Security (
- Prop masters



Costumers Questions? Call Joseph Byrd, jbyrd@sipdx.org, 503-777-1491, ext. 238

MORE DETAILS AND INFORMATION FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE, sipdx.org

CLICK ON THE JESTER PICTURED BELOW (ON THE WEBSITE)

The Feaste of the Nativity
 (Saturday, December 11 from 10am to 4pm) [Enter Here >](#)



Looking for Ways to Serve Our Community?

Jesuit Volunteer EnCorps, a program of JVC Northwest, facilitates fulfilling opportunities for service, community, and spiritual formation for **adults 50+ who are committed to social and ecological justice**. In addition to part-time volunteer service, members meet monthly online or in-person, creating spiritual community through shared reflection. Our values are rooted in the Catholic Ignatian tradition, and JV EnCorps is an inclusive and welcoming community of folks from all faith perspectives.

Already engaged in service through your parish ministry or a local nonprofit organization? JV EnCorps could be the perfect way for you to add additional support, reflection, and personal growth to your current volunteer service. Learn more about what JV EnCorps service is like: [JV EnCorps Spotlight: Patty Christopher \(Bend, OR\)](#) [JV EnCorps Letter: Jay Lyman \(Portland, OR\)](#) **Program begins in September. Applications accepted throughout the year.** For more info and to apply, visit www.jvencorps.org.

REPORT SCAMS AND FRAUD

Report Scams and Fraud If you get a suspicious call, text or email (for example, requesting your bank account number, instructing you to buy a gift card or promising an expensive prize), or if you, a relative or a friend has given money or financial information to someone you now suspect was a scammer, **call 877-908-3360**.

DAILY PRAYER INTENTIONS



Please keep in your prayers

Monday	Aug 30	†	Ernie Casciato
Tuesday	Aug 31	†	Bridget Hunt
Wednesday	Sep 01	†	Lil Frangipani
Thursday	Sep 02	†	Marguerite Hurley
Friday	Sep 03	†	Fr. Steve Kuder, SJ

FEASTE OF THE NATIVITY, CONTINUED

Sponsor a Candle or a King! --

Supporting the Feaste of the Nativity 2021

This is your Feaste, St. Ignatius! We can't do this without you. Would you be willing to sponsor a candle? A king? Or more? Can you help us as we start from scratch, and try to make this a yearly tradition?

Part of our celebration will include:

Saying thank you and farewell to Fr. Craig Boly, SJ, as he leaves for his sabbatical, and

Saying welcome to Fr. Mike Moynahan, SJ, as he begins his work here as Pastor

Here are ways you can give:

Write a check, payable to St. Ignatius Church, with "Feaste of the Nativity" in the memo line.

Donate online through Realm. <https://onrealm.org/sipdx/-/give/now> is the link you can use. Just press the "down arrow" to the right of *Sunday tithing* and you will see "*Feaste of the Nativity*" fund.

Sponsor Categories

Sponsor one (or more!) of the following, and we'll print your name in our pageant program, as well as posting your name on our "WANTED: for EXCESSIVE GENEROSITY!" posters for all to see as they roam the grounds during the Feaste.

Candle	\$20
Angel	\$100
Donkey	\$150
Jester	\$200
Shepherdess	\$250
Wise Man	\$300
Wise Woman	\$500
King	\$1000
The Holy Family	\$5000
The Star of Bethlehem	\$7500

PARISH STAFF

Office Hours:
Mon –Thurs 9am-3pm

503-777-1491
OR
office@sipdx.org

STAFF DIRECT EMAIL &
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Faith Formation
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Ext 245

Pastoral Admin & Music
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Ext 238

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Ext 236

Facilities
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Ext 227

Office Manager
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OR
office@sipdx.org
Ext 221

JOHN SCOTT MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2021 * MOUNTAIN VIEW GOLF CLUB 1:00 PM

Hosted by: St. Ignatius School Foundation 3400 SE 43rd Avenue,
Portland, OR 97206 Tax ID:93-0853414 For Additional Infor-

mation and Sponsor details:

Email: Stignatiusfoundation@outlook.com

Website: Stignatiuschoolfoundation.org



PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pastoral Council Members:

Chair: Emily Gumper
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Amy Smithstanz
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Our parish has an email based prayer chain you can submit prayers or sign up to pray for other's intentions, just email to prayerchain@sipdx.org

In the subject line please include either:

Asking for prayers
OR

Add me to the Email list to pray

FAITH FORMATION



Registration is open for 2021-2022 First Reconciliation & Communion

Next year's Sacramental Preparation program is now open for registration. The program begins in September and is open to **2nd graders** and older. Information packets are available in the vestibule of the Church. Please register online at: sipdx.org/first-reconciliation-and-eucharist

Assistant(s) needed for Sacramental Prep next year

Marriage: Are you engaged? Congratulations! Preparing for a marriage in the Catholic Church is a six month process which hopefully offers some tools to help you navigate this wonderful transition in your life. If you're ready to get that process started, contact Grace Byrd for more information.



RCIA: If you are in the process of discerning whether the Catholic Church is your spiritual home, consider registering for the '21-'22 **RCIA** class. This class meets weekly and is a place to explore your faith, examine your beliefs, and recognize God's presence in your life. Contact Grace Byrd for more information, or simply register for the class on our website, and Grace will get in touch with you!

A group of parents have volunteered to help plan some activities for our **Junior High** age parishioners beginning next fall. Would you like to join in on the fun? Email Grace Byrd and she will put you in touch with the other volunteers!

Some of our **young adult** parishioners have expressed an interest in beginning to gather once again for fun and fellowship. Are you someone between the age of 20-40 who likes to plan activities? It can be anything from discussions at the pub, to a hike, to a service project. Talk to Grace if you are interested!

Grace Byrd, gbyrd@sipdx.org

Faith Formation Coordinator * 503-777-1491, ext. 245

TIBBETTS HOUSE

In May, **Tibbetts House** welcomed the first refugees from Syria, the first refugees to arrive in Oregon since 2016, and we're delighted to share that they have now settled into permanent housing in the St. Ignatius neighborhood area. Soon, we will be hosting a family of six from the Congo. We are looking for new volunteers, so please contact Kerri Babin at kerribabin@hotmail.com if you are interested in supporting this wonderful ministry.

MOM'S GROUP AT ST. IGNATIUS

Mom's Group

This group meets via Zoom on 2nd and 4th Sundays from 9:15-10:15 a.m. Join us once or on a regular basis to share the joys and challenges of parenting in a context of faith. Contact Beth at bschaller@sipdx.org for the Zoom link or to be added to the mailing list.





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Christina Roberts

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christina.robertspdx@gmail.com



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For new online membership applications submitted until December 31st, 2021. *for 1-year, regular dues are \$30/year thereafter. Visit kofc.org/joinus Enter code MCGIVNEY2020



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