

Little Like Children

Dear Parishioners:

Today's first reading from the Book of Wisdom addresses the suffering of the "just one," especially the suffering that results from the cruelty of others. This cruelty is driven by self-absorbed people who want only their way in life, and who will not tolerate any challenge to be more than they want to be. The letter of James calls this "jealousy and selfish ambition." It's a refusal to acknowledge the need for ongoing conversion.

With hindsight, this passage can be seen to apply especially to Jesus. But when Jesus was a boy first reading the Hebrew scripture, he would have understood this passage as applying to any virtuous Jew. The passage depicts how insulting the virtuous life is to unbelievers – and the inevitable retaliation this engenders. Anyone who tries to live sensitive to God's preferences will experience similar persecution.

The second reading is an apt description of the human condition; the warring within the human heart. The letter of James was written to an early community of Jewish Christians. The passage is not so much a chastisement of their evil and bad behavior, but rather a pastoral letter of encouragement. It is a reminder that conversion is an ongoing process, not a onetime event.

This all-too-human manner of thinking and acting breeds "disorder and every foul practice." No small thing, this worrying about who is the greatest! James' diagnosis of human discord points to a malaise that afflicts all human hearts, but one that has a particular effect on those closest to Jesus.

James gives the community an antidote to jealousy and selfish ambition. He says that the kingdom of God is present among them when their behavior brings about peace, gentleness, compliance, mercy, sincerity and "good fruits." They are continually transformed in Christ to the extent that they seek the benefit of others.

Continued on next page

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

Tuesday & Thursday
At 12:00 PM



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays -
3:30 PM to 4:30 PM

OR by appointment
503-777-1491

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PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE:

Today's gospel from Mark includes Jesus' second prediction of his approaching passion, which the first reading from Wisdom anticipates. "He will be tortured and put to the test, condemned to a shameful death." This leaves the disciples speechless -- confused and fearful. But imagine how misunderstood and alone Jesus must have felt.

When they arrive in Capernaum Jesus changes the subject: "What were you arguing about on the way?" The disciples were speechless, embarrassed because they had been discussing among themselves who was the greatest... the self-absorbed ego at work. Then Jesus called them together for this important teaching moment. What he tells them next must have been quite a shock. If you want to be great, you must become like a little child – no power or capacity to live without deference to others.

If Jesus had delivered this teaching in the 21st century, you might interpret this instruction as welcoming innocence and trust, vulnerability and dependence. But in Jesus' day, children had no status, they were not even considered to be legal persons. The child's place was with the mother and other siblings away from adults. Does this shocking example of becoming a kind of dispossessed child change your understanding of Jesus' teaching?

An exaggerated focus on self remains in direct opposition to focus on God. No one can move toward God who remains focused solely on oneself. The spiritual tradition of eastern Christianity names *philautia* (the love of self) as the "queen of all vices." This remains true for everybody, especially for those closest to Jesus.

In a passage of his apostolic exhortation on evangelization, Pope Francis speaks to all those who work "in and for the Church," cautioning them about the temptation to "spiritual worldliness." That is, he warns about attitudes and behaviors that seek "not the Lord's glory but human glory and personal well-being." This, he goes on to say, can take on many forms, depending on the kinds of persons and groups into which it seeps. How can we avoid this? Pope Francis: ". . . by making the Church constantly go out from herself, keeping her mission focused on Jesus Christ, and her commitment to the poor."

For all, but especially those who work "in and for the Church," the gospel asks what is the focus of your love: Love of self? Or love of Jesus and those whom he loves?

Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.

Pastor

WEEKLY JUSTICE RECOMMENDATION



Send a message to U.S. leaders: A Catholic appeal to work together to boldly protect our common home and our future

We invite you to join your voice with thousands of individuals signing this **climate action petition** across the U.S. Catholic community as a faith-filled appeal to President Biden and the U.S. Congress, to work beyond partisanship and create climate solutions to care for present and future generations and our common home. **This Catholic petition is in solidarity with**

Catholic institutions that are signing a <https://godsplanet.us/catholic-climate-petition-individuals> . We will deliver these united messages during Season of Creation, seeking and praying that they will move the needle of the nation's moral compass toward the bold and ambitious solutions the nation and world need to address the climate crisis.



MASS READINGS

Mass Readings for Sep 19, 2021

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

James 3:16—4:3

Mark 9:30-37

Mass Readings for Sep 26, 2021

Numbers 11:25-29

James 5:1-6

Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

ST IGNATIUS SCHOOL

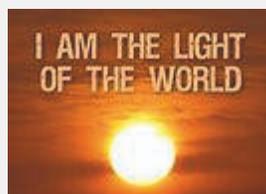
We are so happy to have our students here in school for in person learning this year. As we carefully navigate each day, we are grateful for the cooperation and support of the students and families as we learn new classroom routines and review COVID protocols. I have visited all of the classrooms this week and spent time with many students at their recesses and lunches as I work to get to know all of their names and personalities. I am so impressed with their eagerness to listen and learn. Together we strive to love through kind deeds this year.

Our virtual Back-to-School Night event was a great success! Our parents spent time hearing directly from the teachers about curriculum, expectations and goals for the year. I appreciated meeting many of the parents in my own meeting session as well. I look forward to learning more about the St. Ignatius School community in the coming months.

During our second week of school, we completed **STAR testing** across all grade levels kindergarten through 8th grade. Teachers use the STAR testing results to plan instruction for your students. In the upcoming week, our local Catholic schools will come visit our 8th grade class in preparation for the Open House season in October.

As we traverse the challenges the year ahead may bring, may we remember John 8:12, *“Jesus spoke to them again saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”*

Peace be with you,
Carol Pausz
Principal



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MOM'S GROUP

Mom's Group: Are you looking for a place to share the joys and struggles of parenting in a context of faith? Our topics range widely, including such themes as celebrating the liturgical seasons at home, parenting, spirituality, scripture, food...even laundry. If you need a smile and a listening ear, you've found your group. We meet twice monthly on Sundays from 9:15-10:15 a.m. Presently we are meeting outdoors on the parish lawn, with masks. Come once or come often; all moms are welcome. Contact Beth Schaller at bschaller@sipdx.org for more info. or to join the email list.

NEIGHBORING PARISH

Calling all Vendors!!! St. Joseph the Worker is having a Fall Holiday Bazaar on **November 6/7**. We would love to have you join us. The table cost is \$30. No commercial items. Please contact Susan Johnson @ randsjohnson76@aol.com. or call me at 503-706-4762.

DAILY PRAYER INTENTIONS



Please keep in your prayers

Monday	Sep 20	† Hoang Tran
Tuesday	Sep 21	† Juan Sanchez
Wednesday	Sep 22	† Sam Scopacasa
Thursday	Sep 23	† Jorge Hernandez
Friday	Sep 24	† Mario Monti

FEASTE OF THE NATIVITY

The Feaste of the Nativity

Sponsor a Candle or a King! -- Supporting the Feaste of the Nativity 2021 Saturday, December 11 from 10am to 4pm

Pageants in the Church at 1pm and 3pm

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



This week, we'll be finalizing the "what" and the "where." We will be turning the grounds around the church and the parish office into a Medieval Village. Nancy Ocks, our formidable Events coordinator at the parish, and my right-hand helper in this, is helping me plot out our stations and activities

After that, I will be contacting each of you to say "Here's what you'll do --- and where you'll do it!" Quite a few of us will have multiple roles; helping here and there, while being dedicated to a particular spot or activity. I'll be working with you to make sure it's a good fit -- because we're going to have a lot of fun

We're taking applications for Exhibitors and Food Vendors, too, and those can be found on our website at <https://www.sipdx.org/feasteofthenativity> or picked up at the office. We're coordinating what kind of food we'll have available, so that we don't repeat ourselves and have pizza and pizza and then more pizza (which honestly would be fine by me, but probably not the best for the Feaste!)



So -- tell your friends and your neighbors! Recruit whoever you can to come help us (and send them my way). Signs will go in the ground and up on the doors and walls of campus this afternoon, and here is a poster/flier for you to share. Send it to all your friends! information, contact Joseph Byrd at jbyrd@sipdx.org or 503-777-1491, ext 238

More info very soon, with more specifics. But for now, pray for us as we all work to get the Feaste on its feet. I will announce some in-person and some Zoom meetings very soon to talk through what the Feaste will be, and to have some fun making it all come to life.

PARISH STAFF

Office Hours:
Mon –Thurs 9am-3pm

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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

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: Registration for this year's RCIA class is **due by September 22nd**. Who should register?

- Anyone who want to explore their own faith journey, and discern whether joining the Catholic Church might be part of that faith journey.



- Anyone who has a spouse or family member who is Catholic and has a desire to learn more about the faith of a loved one.

- Anyone who has a child in a Catholic school and would like to have more insight into the spiritual teachings of that school

Classes will begin on Sunday September 26th. If you are still uncertain, if you have questions, or if you would just like to have a conversation before registering, contact Grace. gbyrd@sipdx.org or 503-777-1491, ext. 245

Grace Byrd, gbyrd@sipdx.org

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

IGNITE

Get ready to IGNITE!



St. Ignatius' Adult Ed and RCIA faith formation series, IGNITE, will begin Sunday, September 26th, from 6pm to 7:15pm.

We'll be journeying with the saints and the mystics this year, framed by the Beatitudes, engaging in Contemplative Conversations, as well as Evenings of Action throughout the coming months. In other words, prepare to be surprised by the Spirit, as we learn and live our way through the coming months together in contemplation, study, and action.

See Grace Byrd, Faith Formation coordinator, for more information. gbyrd@sipdx.org



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