



St. Therese of the Child Jesus Catholic Church and School

1260 N.E. 132nd Ave., Portland, OR 97230
503-256-5850
www.stthereseor.org

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Trinitytide, September 26, 2021



“DO NOT PREVENT HIM.”

SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Mass 10:00 a.m.

RECONCILIATION

By Appointment

SCHOOL OFFICE INFORMATION

Phone (503) 253-9400

www.stthereseschool.org

PARISH OFFICE INFORMATION

Office Hours Monday to Thursday
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Address 1260 N.E. 132nd Ave.
Portland, OR 97230

Phone (503) 256-5850

Website www.stthereseor.org

STAFF MEMBERS

Pastor Rev. Stephen Michael Geer
Business Manager Mrs. Penny Montani
School Principal Mrs. Rosemarie El Youssef
Liturgy Mrs. Stella Armstrong
Facilities Manager Mr. Matthew Shelton
Receptionist Mrs. Colleen Royle



The SVdP Barrel IS back!

Its new location is at the Handicap entrance of the church. Swing by the Handicap entrance of the church to drop off your dry goods donations to St. Vincent de Paul.



Leroy and Gabriella (below), two of St. Vincent De Paul volunteers, invite you to join their ministry!

Help Wanted by St Vincent de Paul

We need people to help count the collection. This is done once a week, usually on Monday; the volunteer counts the money with our Treasurer.

We need reliable volunteers to read the faxed food requests, call families, and confirm each family's needs. This is currently done on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in the afternoon.

Packers are needed to fill the boxes. This is currently done on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in the afternoon. Shifts are usually ½ hour to 1 hour. This is currently done on a rotating basis with most volunteers coming in once every three weeks.

Delivery drivers are needed. This is currently done on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. The driver is also responsible for packing the refrigerated and frozen items in the box before taking the order to the family. We need more drivers to have this done on a rotational basis; currently only Saturday deliveries are done on a rotating basis.

We need Saturday morning dispatchers. This volunteer gives the Saturday morning drivers their orders. Currently this is being done on a rotational basis. This is a great job to do with your spouse or teenage child.

Someone has to get the boxes. This job involves going to stores we have a relationship with, mostly liquor stores, and picking up empty boxes.

We need more volunteers to pick up our food bank order. Currently we have enough volunteers so that each volunteer is going to the drop site every other week. We would like to add more volunteers, and need substitutes for times when our regular food bank volunteers are on vacation. Volunteers need a pick-up truck or van.

We need volunteers to unload the truck when it returns from the food bank. This job is done on Wednesday mornings at around 7:30ish.



To Volunteer: Call Shasta Hatter 503-253-7566 or email shastahatter@gmail.com



Fr. Steve's Homily

To Welcome a Child; September 19, 2021



As we heard last week, when pressed, Peter witnessed to Jesus as *the Messiah, the Son of the living God*. In response to this act of faith, our Lord indicates to the Twelve that it is upon them that he will build his Church. Catholics believe that this exchange clearly supports our traditional belief in a worshipping community whose leadership structure is both Apostolic and hierarchical. No sooner has this honor and burden been laid upon them, then they start a debate about who among them is the greatest. Remarkably right after Jesus predicts his passion, death and resurrection, what concerns the disciples is which of them is the most exalted. When they arrive in Capernaum, Jesus asks them what consumed their conversation as they walked along. At this query, the heretofore gossipy and verbose crew have nothing to say. Concerned, Jesus then takes the Twelve off by themselves in the house. He sits to teach and says to them: *If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be last of all and the servant of all*.

Who is he describing here? A slave perhaps, someone powerless and without influence. A child, slave or no, who is similarly unnoticed, ignored or without power or control over his life. Most deeply though, he is describing himself; he *though in the nature of God took the form of a slave*. Jesus teaches his Apostles what is popularly now known as servant-leadership. This type of model for Christian leadership has been around for centuries. Indeed, beginning with St. Gregory the Great, Popes have often referred to themselves as “servants of the servants of God”.

To make his point visually, Jesus stands, retrieves a little boy and places him in their midst. They probably have no idea who he is for no doubt he simply materialized upon their return home in the hopes of begging for favors from the Rabbi and his disciples. He is likely dirty and disheveled and is certainly uneducated, poor and generally considered an annoyance by all. No self-respecting Rabbi would have anything to do with him. It is certain that many of the Twelve were not only surprised, but irritated that Jesus would interrupt his teaching in order to bring one such as this into their company. Jesus now kneels in the dust and places his arms around the boy in a gesture of tenderness and compassion. In no way is the child a prop; rather he is a beneficiary of divine care. It would not be uncommon for such a wayward child, seven or eight, to have not been shown this kind of love and respect for years. The boy himself was probably deeply moved, the Apostles were likely stunned into silence.

Yet in truth Jesus has not stopped teaching. He is in fact showing his hand-picked cabinet just what Christian discipleship is all about. He is taking one of the least of humans and is demonstrating, without a word being spoken, that this boy, this untouchable, despite all of his supposed unworthiness, is loved. He is safe in the arms of the Lord and is both protected and surrounded by this love; the same love that will lead Jesus to the cross. Those of us who call ourselves Christian must do no less. We must love and protect the poorest of our members, the most powerless, the least influential, those who can give us nothing in return. The Church has no need to abandon anyone on the altar of reputation or public relations, much less its precious children. On the contrary, the Church, her leaders and you and I have need of only one thing: to love as Jesus loved that child: fully and unconditionally, all the way to the cross.





Are You Being Called to Religious Life?



The *Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist* invite *you* to begin a process of Discernment, a day of prayerful reflection on your own Call in your life with Christ.

Saturday, September 18, 2021
9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

You ... Too are called To life, to love, to serve.

At the Franciscan Center
48100 E. Historic Columbia River HWY
Bridal Veil, Oregon 97010

To register: Call 503 675 2375
Email: bridalveil@fsecommunity.org



Fall Holiday Bazaar Call For Vendors!

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. Thank you!

Exhibit on Eucharist Miracles The Grotto Conference Center October 1 to 17, 2021



Exhibit on the Eucharistic Miracles through the centuries –
The Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist
at The Grotto Conference Center
October 1 through 17th
Monday to Friday – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
with an hour break at 12-1 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
with an hour break at 12-1 p.m.



BEING CATHOLIC REVIEW REBOOT?

I don't know what to say when someone asks me what is the difference between being Catholic and being a Christian.
I don't know what "transubstantiation" mean. I really need help understanding what "real presence" mean.
I don't see any difference in what happens in a Christian service and what happens in a Catholic Mass.
I won't be able to explain when someone asks me what "sacrament" means.
I am bored or distracted when I go to Mass - to me we just repeat the same thing every week.
I am embarrassed to admit that I am Catholic because people think I am being superstitious or that I belong to a cult.
If all we need is to have a personal relationship with Jesus why do we need to go to Mass?
I think our Catholic ways are outdated and old - we need to adapt to modern times.
Catholics are becoming lukewarm and going to other churches because our Mass is not lively and entertaining enough.
I wish I could better explain why I am Catholic.
I wish I could better explain how I love being Catholic to those who would like to know more about my faith.

Call 503-256-5850 or email info@stthereseor.org

In Her Own Words: Sister Katherine Smith, on Her 60th Jubilee as a Sister of Providence



There must have been a Sister of Providence attending either my mother or me when I was born at St. Vincent Hospital, Portland, OR, in July, 1941, where three of my four siblings were also born. It would be many more years before another “Providential” encounter: that occurred during my senior year when I volunteered at the Providence Child Center in Portland.

In the intervening years, I was educated in grade school by the Sisters of the Holy Names and in high school by the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose, and had good friends in both congregations. With this rich heritage and with a Benedictine aunt, what followed was as much of a surprise to me as to others. After mulling over religious life off and on for a period of time, and while talking about it one day with our parish priest at Holy Redeemer Parish in North Portland, he asked, “Which community?” I was astonished as others when my immediate response was, “Sisters of Providence.” I knew so little about them, but I (who knew not one word of French) was willing to go to Montreal where the congregation was

founded. I soon learned that the Sisters of Providence had come West in 1856, and that the nearest novitiate was in Seattle. God calls us—and also sends us the right address!

Following several years of religious and professional formation, including nursing, I was assigned to Providence Child Center in 1967 to assist in the Children’s Nursing Center for non-ambulatory children with severe disabilities. Five years later, in 1972, I replaced Sister Dolores Schulte in the licensed nursing home administrator role, and in 1983, was asked to serve as overall administrator of the Child Center’s four programs. I filled both roles until leaving in 1989 for graduate school, where over the next 10 years I earned dual masters degrees and a Ph.D that could provide credibility when negotiating with federal agencies on behalf of the children and their families. Throughout graduate school and beyond, I scoured the U.S. and Canada for pediatric long-term care facilities and established a North American network, Building Bridges, with these facilities, for the purpose of exchanging mutual support.

In 1976 and since, I have also been instrumental in developing and promoting Providence Associate membership for lay women and men who hold Gospel values as the compelling force in their lives and recognize themselves as drawn by the same spirit and charism as the Sisters of Providence. These are individuals who desire to share the mission and spirituality of Providence, but do not seek vowed membership. They are women and men with different means of achieving a common goal, without canonical membership or monetary or legal obligations. Providence Associates are called by the same spirit and charism as the Sisters of Providence: to be the human face of Providence to the society of our time.

Not everything through these years has been easy; however, my decision was one I have never regretted, even after unquestionably following God’s call to Seattle to a congregation I did not then know but have come to love dearly.

For information regarding religious vocations with the Sisters of Providence, please contact Sister Margarita Hernandez, SP, at 206-979-0577, or Margarita.HernandezA@providence.org

For information regarding Providence Lay Associate membership, please contact Executive Director, Kathe Boucha, PA, at 907-250-6844, or kathe.boucha@gmail.com

In addition, I would also be happy to talk with anyone interested in exploring a religious vocation. You could leave a voice mail message at 503-235-8215.



One bright and sunny afternoon after the Saturday Vigil Mass: Two of our Mass Ministers, Mother and Daughter Angela and Rhonda were delighted to know that Sister Rose, (third from left in the picture above) who spent 25 years in Jerusalem, is fluent in Arabic, their first language. Sisters Rose and Dorothy went to attend Mass with Sister Anne Clare (not in picture) who was our cantor in the Saturday Vigil Mass.



Please Mark Your Calendar!



You are invited to attend any part or all of the Feast Day Celebration as your schedule allows. A reliquary containing a relic of our Patron Saint will be present for veneration as well. We pray that you will be able to take part in this great blessing through the intercession of Saint Theresse, in her little way.

- September 26 Mass in honor of San Lorenzo Ruiz at 5:00 p.m., St. Cecilia Church, Beaverton
- September 1st to 30th REGISTRATION for First Communion, Confirmation and RCIA classes.
- September 29, Wednesday, Mass with school at 9:00 a.m.
- October 1 at 10:00 a.m. LECTIO DIVINA at the PSC.
- Every Friday
- October 1, and every Friday at the PSC, RCIA Inquirers' Session. Please call Office 503-256-5850 or email stella@stthereseor.org
- October 1, Friday. Holy Mass with Veneration and Litany to St. Theresse of the Child Jesus. See program below.
- October 1 to 17. Exhibit on Eucharistic Miracles, at The Grotto Conference Center
- October 2, Saturday. Rosary Bowl, St. Edward Catholic Church, Keizer, OR
- October 5, Tuesday. Start of Confirmation Class and First Communion Class at the PSC, 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.
- October 14, Thursday, East Portland Vicariate Meeting at St. Peter Church.



*Saint Theresse of the Child Jesus
Celebrating Her Feast Day*

4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Veneration
5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.	Litany
5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.	Holy Mass
6:15 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Light Supper



15th Annual Rosary Bowl NW

Sat., Oct. 2, 2021

St. Edward Catholic Church

Keizer, Oregon

9am-3pm

FREE Admission
FREE Parking

*A Marian
and
Eucharistic
Celebration*



Fr. Theodore Lange



*Archbishop
Alexander Sample*

EVENT SCHEDULE:

- **9am Doors open**
- **10am Holy Mass and Rosary with Archbishop Alexander Sample**
- **1pm Knights of Columbus Exemplification Ceremony followed by a presentation by Fr. Theodore Lange**
- **Confessions**
- **All Day: Enjoy visiting our community resource tables & Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibit**

Details at www.rosarybowlnw.org

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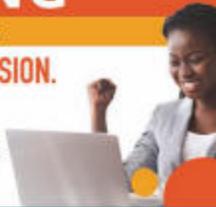
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