



# *St. Therese of the Child Jesus Catholic Church and School*

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

October 3, 2021 - 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time



“And the Two Shall Become One.”

## SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday Vigil Mass . . . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday Mass . . . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Wednesdays . . . . . 9:00 a.m.

## RECONCILIATION

Please feel free to call for an appointment with Fr. Steve

## 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 NE 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 . . . . . Colleen Royle

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Email: [bridalveil@fsecommunity.org](mailto:bridalveil@fsecommunity.org)



## Exhibit on the Eucharistic Miracles Through the Centuries – The Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist

at The Grotto Conference Center

October 1 through 17<sup>th</sup>

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.



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



### 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](mailto:randsjohnson76@aol.com). or call me at 503-706-4762. Thank you!

Susan Johnson at St. Joseph the Worker

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### 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.

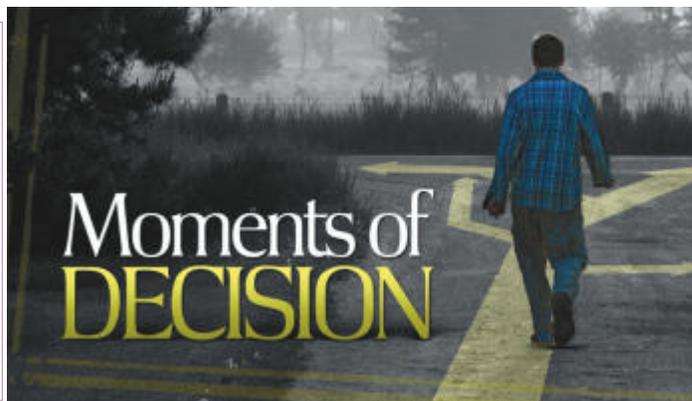
If you answered "yes" to most of the questions please do consider attending a come-and-see. Please call 503-256-5850 or email at [stella@sttheresor.org](mailto:stella@sttheresor.org) It is a journeying with one step at a time, one meeting at a time - and we are blessed because everyone who went to come-and-see last week is coming back. Please join - there is always room in the Lord's call for us to know him!



Fr. Jon Buffington with Bree visited with Fr. Steve on September 16th to entrust to the Parish precious relics of saints, most especially those of our Patron Saint, Saint Therese of the Child Jesus. Since relics are forbidden to be sold and are often in the care of faith communities, our Patron Saint Therese truly interceded so that through Fr. Jon, she may come and find a home in her own parish. Thank you, Fr. Jon, and thank you, Saint Therese. May we honor you always!

Is believing in God unscientific and irrational?  
Is believing in God superstitious and a foolish thing to do?  
Why should I believe there is life after death and complicate my life?  
Is it possible that learning more about God will help me be less bored in Mass?  
I want to learn more about my faith but where do I start?  
Is faith really that important?

email at [info@stthereseor.org](mailto:info@stthereseor.org)  
call 503-256-5850 (Stella)



## Fr. Steve's Homily

To be Whole in Gehenna; September 26, 2021



In today's Gospel reading from St. Mark, Jesus warns us of our need to avoid occasions of sin. In effect, he is saying that it would be better for us to give up certain things, people or activities that tend to lead us to sin, than it would be to hold onto them, fall into sin, and end up outside of the Kingdom of God.

One of the most commonly confessed sins today is the abuse of internet based pornography. This form of pornography is a multi-billion-dollar industry which, like the abortion industry, defends its product under the guise of 'freedom of choice' - believing that the individual should have the freedom to choose or not to choose what he or she wants to do or not to do. This is simplistic, for in fact there is always an accelerating diminishment of freedom as regards most habitual sinful behavior. And since viewing internet pornography is an intensely pleasure based activity, one's freedom as regards its use rapidly decreases and even can become addictive. Unfortunately, many boys and men, as well as increasing numbers of girls and women, who start out in idle curiosity can end up years later with shattered lives and ruined marriages. Remember my friends, that we are never as morally strong in the face of temptation as we think we are.

Indeed, for most of us our sins are habitual in nature and as a result difficult to break. Sins of this type become almost impossible to avoid since in order to live out our daily lives, we are typically required to immerse ourselves back into behaviors, relationships or proximities that originally contributed to the formation of the sinful habit in the first place (for example, owning a cell phone with internet access). But Jesus' command is clear: if your cell phone leads you to sin, get rid of it! It would be better to live without these increasingly important toys, with all the inconvenience which that would entail, than it would be to enter hell with toys in hand.

The successful undoing of habitual sin is often impeded by us for the same all too human reason - pride. It is the prideful person who asserts that he is strong enough to live within occasions of sin without sinning; even when his life clearly reveals the opposite. To acknowledge our dependence upon God for the successful deepening of our spiritual life is what it means to be a *little one*, to be humble and receptive to the presence of God's healing Spirit. For sure, the Sacrament of Reconciliation restores us to spiritual integrity should we have mortally sinned. But sanctifying grace neither removes bad habits nor cures addiction. It is the Sacrament of the Eucharist which sustains us in the lifelong battle that overcoming sin and addiction involves. To courageously fight this battle, we need to first wake up and acknowledge that we are in one.





## Sweetly and Gently

Our Liturgy is continually being blessed, most recently with the addition of Mother Mary Margaret, Superior of the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist as accompanist in our Saturday Vigil Masses. Mother Mary Margaret is shown above right, with Sisters Dorothy and Rose and Kelley, cantor. We also are blessed with Mother Mary of the Angels, Mother Superior of the Sisters of Reparation who is our accompanist for the Sunday Mass. Their humble and gracious demeanor truly helps us remember that we come to Mass to worship, not to be entertained.



The item of the month is **canned vegetables**. The food barrel can now be found in the handicapped entrance. All donations of non-perishable food are welcome. Thank you!



**Help Wanted by St Vincent de Paul!**



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

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



- 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.

Please Mark Your Calendar!



**ROSARY COAST TO COAST** will take place this year on Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. Catholics across the United States will simultaneously pray the Rosary as an Act of Reparation. We will call upon God through the powerful intercession of Our Lady, Queen of the Rosary, to heal our country and assist it in this time of great difficulties. Please join the St. Henry and St. Joseph the Worker Fatima prayer cells in praying the Rosary and a Litany to the Blessed Mother. We will meet at **St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, 2310 SE 148<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland**, in the parking lot near the statue of St. Joseph at 12:15 pm. We will process with a statue of Our Lady of Fatima from St. Joseph to the **Planned Parenthood facility at 14601 SE Division St.** (about 2 blocks from St. Joseph the Worker Church). The Rosary will be recited at 1:00 pm on the sidewalk in front of the Planned Parenthood facility. (Please do not post to Facebook.) Questions: Jerry McAfee @ 503-260-8995 or Mary Nordlund @ 503-914-8411.

Until October 15, **REGISTRATION** for First Communion and Confirmation classes  
**October 5**, start of First Communion and Confirmation Classes. 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
**October 6**, Wednesday, Mass with school at 9:00 a.m.  
**October 8** at 10:00 a.m. **LECTIO DIVINA** at the PSC.  
Every Friday  
**October 8**, and every Friday at the PSC, RCIA Inquirers' Session. Please call Office 503-256-5850 or email [stella@stthereseor.org](mailto:stella@stthereseor.org)  
**October 9**, Marian Retreat Day. See ad.  
**October 1 to 17**. Exhibit on Eucharistic Miracles, at The Grotto Conference Center  
**October 10**, Rosary Coast to Coast. See ad.  
**October 14**, Thursday, East Portland Vicariate Meeting at St. Peter Church.

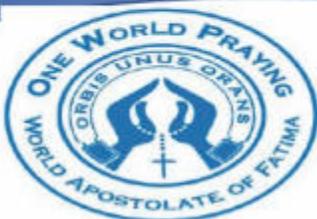


# MARIAN RETREAT DAY

October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – SATURDAY



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Parishioner

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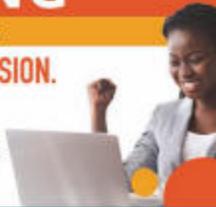
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