



ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

3400 SE 43rd Avenue * Portland, OR 97206 * 503-777-1491 * www.sipdx.org

January 27, 2019

Catholic Schools Week

Dear Parishioners:

This weekend begins the celebration of Catholic Schools Week. It's a moment to thank God for the Holy Names Sisters, and for all the parents, teachers, and benefactors who sacrifice to keep our wonderful St. Ignatius School vibrant and effective. Our Principal Kelli Clark and the entire staff invite you to an Open House this afternoon beginning at 12:30-2:00 p.m. Please get the word out to families interested in solid Catholic education "to come and see."

I'd like you to think of one teacher in your life who stands out for you. Perhaps it is more than one. But the idea is to pick one teacher. Perhaps one teacher was exceptionally knowledgeable, another particularly inspiring, or another especially caring. Who is the teacher who comes to mind?

My guess is that some of us are thinking of teachers who taught at St. Ignatius School. We are particularly blessed to have such a competent and dedicated faculty and staff. As you consider this year's school theme, "Kids for Others," isn't it true that our teachers really deserve credit for the wonderful job they do for our children? They are the best of teachers -- because they model "being for others" by what they teach, and even more by the example of their lives.

As you think of that one teacher who stands out for you, consider this. Jesus in today's gospel from Luke starts out his ministry in the power of the Spirit. He reads from the prophet Isaiah, and then gives the world's shortest homily. "Today in your hearing this prophecy is fulfilled."

The mission of Jesus was to do what God's Spirit prompted him to do -- to encourage, to heal, to liberate. As Joseph Campbell says, the Spirit prompted Jesus "to follow his bliss." That same Spirit urges each of us "to follow our bliss," to live with kindness and compassion and service for others. That is the Spirit that has drawn our teachers into their vocation as educators. As you think of your favorite teacher, I'd like to reflect on the question: *why is Catholic education central to the mission of the Church?*

Our church and our American culture have both had a difficult past year. The clerical sexual abuse scandal is certainly the gravest crisis the Catholic Church has faced in this country. To the degree that it is a self-inflicted wound, it raises a serious challenge to the church's credibility and authority -- not the least among Catholics. The crisis in credibility extends to our church's treatment of women, of the LGBTQ community, and of the divorced. There is further erosion of credibility when certain topics such as ordination of women or married priests are closed to further discussion.

Our country is in an analogous position. America too faces a grave crisis. We are the most powerful nation in history, but some seem almost obsessed with border security and care for our own national priorities. Our political discourse has become coarse and divisive, and citizens seem hypersensitive to criticism from opposing points of view.

Today's Readings:

Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10
1 Corinthians 12:12-30
Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Next Sunday's Readings:

Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19
1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13
Luke 4:21-30

Preaching Next Sunday:
Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00PM
Sunday: 8:00AM & 10:30AM
Sunday Contemplative: 7:30PM
Daily: Monday 8:00AM in church
Tuesday - Friday 8:00AM La Storta Chapel
Centering Prayer: Friday 7:00AM
Anointing Mass: First Friday 8:00AM
First Saturday Mass: 8:00AM
Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30-4:30PM
or by appointment with a priest

Continued next page >>>

These two crises of church and nation may seem markedly different, but they are alike in this. They both suffer from self-inflicted wounds that rise from hubris among some of our religious and political leaders. The wounds stem from the unfortunate belief for some that they are above the law and above moral scrutiny.

In the Catholic community, this injury comes in the midst of two great transitions. One transition is generational. The pre-Vatican church of our grandparents -- with its clear Catholic customs and strong sense of community -- is passing away. In its place, some in the post-Vatican II generation seem reluctant to absorb and re-fashion the Catholic tradition. There is a sharp divide between those who want to withdraw from the world as a valley of tears, and those who want to engage the world as a field hospital to care for broken-hearted sinners.

The second transition is demographic. There is a shift in the status of those who run Catholic institutions. Instead of religious and clerics, the personnel of most church institutions are now the Christian faithful -- women and men, new kinds of Catholics, who have varying degrees of familiarity and commitment to the Catholic tradition.

We Catholics need to make this transition in a way that preserves the integrity of the Catholic tradition while answering to new and growing challenges of American culture. There must be a critical mass of Catholics in this generation and the next, able and willing to do "the work of the Church." What is "the work of the church"? It is to witness to the reign of God on earth, and to transform the culture. It is the role of Catholic education to teach "the work of the church."

Catholic education has a key role to play in the future. More than literate, productive and skilled citizens, Catholic education needs to shape citizens prepared for critical engagement with American culture. After all, the Catholic church is not a sect that stands outside the culture and criticizes from outside the culture as the term "counter-cultural" implies. The Catholic church stands *within* American culture, in many respects *embodies* this culture, but must critically engage this culture. This is the role of Catholic education: to witness to the reign of God on earth, and to transform the culture.

Finally, to return to that question about your favorite teacher. When you think of the teachers who have touched you, I invite you to pray in thanksgiving for them today. Perhaps your prayer moves you to an action step. See if your gratitude invites you to write a brief note of thanks to one special teacher who comes to mind. On this day of focused celebration of our educators, see if you are drawn to a special moment of thanks for the ones who labor every day to give a special blessing to our children.

Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.
Pastor

Synthesizer on the Way

Thanks to our matching Angels, the synthesizer is on order and should arrive within the week. It may take me a bit to learn how to navigate its many gifts, but I'm looking forward to the chance of using it to enhance worship, and I covet your prayers as all the pieces come together.

- Joseph Byrd

**A warm
welcome
to all our guests.**

**We are so happy you are here
to celebrate with us!**

New to St. Ignatius Parish?
Register by dropping a
"Welcome" card in the offering
basket with your information, or
visit us online at
<http://www.sipdx.org/registration>

Mass Intentions

Monday	January 28	† Keith Frangipani
Tuesday	January 29	† Jane Campbell
Wednesday	January 30	† Antonino Salonia
Thursday	January 31	† Salvatore Nipitella
Friday	February 1	† Jim Emig



ST. IGNATIUS SCHOOL

Today we heard the wonderful reading on the members of the body. What a wonderful scripture to kick off **Catholic Schools Week!** This is the ultimate affirmation that everyone has a gift and a part in the human family and this is the spirit we work to manifest at our parish school. We are excited to warmly welcome you to visit this vital and dynamic mission of St. Ignatius parish!

We are so grateful to the many ways the parish community supports educating our children in the faith. Because of your care and commitment, the next generation experiences:

- that they are children of God: they are loved and we see their gifts
- that there is a community of care that supports their physical and emotional safety
- encouragement to be their brightest selves to lead, learn and serve
- challenge that stretches them and ignites their curiosity

Excellence reflects who we are in God: thank you for being excellent partners in caring for our youth.

Open House: Please come and see your good work: join us from 12-2:30

on Sunday or Thursday morning, January 30, 9-10:30. If you have a young friend who would like to attend, we have openings at most grade level, including room in next year's pre-school and kindergarten. Last year we added 10% in overall enrollment and we hope you will help us in adding 20 students to our school community for the next year. Need based financial aid is available. Please contact the school office if you have questions.

School Mass: We hope everyone will join us for the school mass for St. Ignatius on Wednesday, 30, at 8:30.

Blessings on your week!

Kelli Clark
Principal

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Pastoral Council

Co-Chair- James Nguyen

james@dragonberryproduce.com

Co-Chair - Janice Harwood

jcharwoodster@gmail.com

A full list of staff & council

Members are located on

Our webpage at

www.sipdx.org



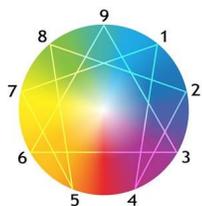
Catholic Schools
Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

Enneagram & Marriage—Sunday, February 10, 2019

Presenters, Joseph & Grace Byrd, certified through Loyola University in Chicago will guide attendees in learning more about yourself, your partner, your relationship, and your faith through this powerful tool. Will take place at Loyola Jesuit Center from 4:45PM—7PM.

Space is limited to 24 couples. \$10/couple. Register on our website!

Questions? Contact Beth Schaller at bschaller@sipdx.org.



Come Roll Meatballs!

Thousands of meatballs in need of rolling for our annual Italian dinner! Please join us for a rolling party followed by a potluck on Friday, February 15th from 9AM to noon.

RSVP to Mary White,
marymichaelwhite@gmail.com.

Attention! Leaks in the Church

There is holy water, and there is unholy water. Rest assured, the Parish Staff is dealing with the latter, and we are grateful for the many of you who have helped, and who continue to help, as we walk through the process of keeping the church heated without fostering a leaking floor. We'll keep you apprised as to what we're learning, and to what our next steps will be.

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