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UNDER THE CARE OF THE JESUITS

Fruitful Vine

Dear Parishioners:

I am the vine, you are the branches. Live on in me. (John 18:1-8)

One of my favorite times of the year is late September when the concord grapes are ripe, and they fill the air with the sweet scent of ripe fruit. In my family home where I grew up, there was a sunken garden with a concord grape vine. The image of Christ as the vine and me as a fruitful branch always made sense to me from an early age. I experienced each fall how the growth of the vine issued an abundant crop of delicious grapes.

The other part of the scriptural image is that there is a vine dresser who wants the vine to flourish, and works hard to prune the vine. Jesus says that his Father is the vine dresser, and cuts away the unproductive branches – and trims the healthy branches so they will produce more fruit. Now I appreciate that it is out of love that the Father spends so much time and special care on each of the branches. But even though the Father is pruning with love, even though I know that pruning is what keeps the vine healthy and productive, I don't like it when it's my turn to be pruned. What about you?

Have you noticed that there is a lot of pruning going on these days? The civil wars in Yemen and Syria and Afghanistan, the conflicts in Venezuela and North Korea and Sudan and other troubled spots call out for rescue. The pandemic that continues to rage in places like India and Brazil where less than 5% of the population has received vaccinations urges wealthy nations to share their vaccines. The earth itself suffers from climate change, and on Earth Day, nations have pledged reduction of carbon emissions – which still may be too little too late. In a world where one billion people go to bed hungry at night, where women and children still suffer from domestic violence, and where species of animals are going extinct at an alarming rate, the Divine Spirit prunes our complacency and cuts our conscience.

Continued on next page

MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY 10:30 AM Mass: *Mid-Morning Service* – Sign up online at sipdx.org (button on opening page,) or call leaving Name, Number in group, phone, & date. You will get a confirmation before attending Mass. (Thank you!)

TUESDAY & THURSDAY: 12:00 PM weekday Mass in the church, ***no sign up needed***

SATURDAY: Recorded Mass available online, the link is on our website: **sipdx.org**

RECONCILIATION, 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

Pastor's Message continued

Continued from front page:

The loving care of the Divine Gardener is also at work here in the parish. With the announcement last weekend about Fr. Dan returning to Phoenix, and Fr. Billy and me receiving new assignments, some parishioners feel unsettled by the news. Even if there are future blessings in welcoming a new pastor in Fr. Mike Moynahan, the coming departure of familiar faces is hard. As Katie Hennessy told me, "with change comes loss, and with loss comes sadness." Change has unknown and unpredictable possibilities, but it also has loss of routine, of what is comfortable and customary and easy. I count on the good Lord to accompany us in this transition. Still, sadness is sadness, and I don't want to discount our feelings of grief or transitory misery.

And after all the pruning, there is a joyful awareness that remains. It is the awareness that you and I are part of divine stock. Christ is the vine, you and I are the branches. It means that the same divine life that flows through the veins of Christ likewise courses through our bodies. It means that already now in this life, our meaning is to produce sweet grapes of compassion and courage. And it means that we have a joyful destiny beyond explaining – the intoxicating joy of becoming wine to drink at heaven's banquet of life.

Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.
Pastor

Spring 2021 Vacation Bible Study Survey .....

Looking towards the future, what does your family need/want?
47% - Summer Vacation Bible School
42% - service and justice projects with the St. Ignatius community
42% - more mass availability
42% - in person programs for kids and families
33% - ideas and support to develop more home-based faith practices
28% - more opportunities to connect with other families for faith formation (live or virtually)
23% - parent/adult faith formation
19% - virtual programming for our family this summer and fall
14% sacramental preparation

What kind of VBS would best meet your family's needs?
40% - evening family VBS – (outdoors, in person, participating within the family)
36% - virtual VBS with some synchronous gatherings so it feels more live
22% - not interested in VBS this year
4% - a hybrid of any of the above

Please share your thoughts about offering a 3-day Vacation Bible School at St. Ignatius this summer:
55% - we are interested in VBS -either virtual or in person
22% - we are not interested in VBS this summer
18% - we are interested in VBS – only if it is in person
4% - we are interested in VBS = only if it is virtual

Which describes your comfort level with in-person gatherings this SUMMER?
36% - cautiously optimistic under right safety conditions
27% - caution. Prefer virtual but might engage in distanced outdoor activities
27% - with vaccinations occurring we are eager to see others
9% - we are high risk and very cautious

Building a Team of Parents for Middle School Kids

We are building a team of parents and volunteers who would be interested in helping plan and support activities for our St. Ignatius parish middle school students! We would love for you to be a part of this group. Your level of involvement is up to you. You can help plan, help organize an activity, or maybe even host an activity. Many hands make light work, so the more the merrier! If you would like to stay in the loop as we begin this adventure, send an email to Maria at maria.l.fuhrmann@gmail.com.

Mass Readings

Mass Readings for May 2, 2021	Mass Readings for May 9, 2021
Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31	Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48
1 John 3:18-24	1 John 4:7-10
John 15:1-8	John 15:9-17

In Thanksgiving for the life of Joann Miller, ***mother of Don Miller***

St. Ignatius Parish School

We have just over 200 students on campus each day now. It is getting easier to recognize kids in different classes, even in their masks. I checked in with students from each grade and asked them what the best part of school is right now. Here is what I heard:

Preschool: "PE, gym, and recess!" "I love when the teacher reads us books!"
Kindergarten: "I love seeing my friends each day."
First grade: "Having music and PE classes outside"
Second grade: "Art and quiet reading time."
Third grade: "Art and STEM"
Fourth grade: "My teacher is making lessons so fun."
Fifth grade: "I like the mix of work online and offline."
Sixth grade: "I am really enjoying the group projects."
Seventh grade: "I like seeing all of my teachers each day."
Eighth grade: "I love seeing everyone face to face. It's easier to ask questions and get help."

Applications continue to come in steadily each week. We are hearing from prospective families that the word of mouth is strong amongst our families and in their neighborhoods.. Thank you to everyone who continues to spread the word about the school we are so proud of. Some classes that were nowhere near full a couple of months ago are looking like they could easily be at capacity. If you know anyone who has been on the fence about applying, encourage them to not delay any longer.

Kathleen Downing
Principal/2nd Grade Teacher
kdowning@sipdx.org

The First Spiritual Exercises—an Online retreat

SEEL Portland invites you to a retreat based on the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius of Loyola.
Using the innovative book written by Australian Jesuit retreat director Michael Hansen, SJ entitled The First Spiritual Exercises, SEEL Portland offers Inner Peace in Friendship with Jesus. This retreat combines spiritual conversation and spiritual exercises, similar to the form of the Spiritual Exercises given by Saint Ignatius and the early Jesuits.

The retreat in daily life involves a commitment to 40-50 minutes a day of structured prayer from Monday to Thursday and a weekend exercise. Retreatants meet via Zoom weekly during the retreat to receive guidance from the retreat givers and to share the fruits of prayer in small group spiritual conversation with facilitators.
This retreat is an opportunity to experience one long conversation with Jesus and to accept the invitation of God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit to abide in their love.

Come deepen your relationship with God!

Each retreat is 6 weeks long (includes orientation meeting and a closing meeting). **6 Sundays in 2021: May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20, and 27 * 4:00-6:00 pm (PST) * Online via Zoom * Marty Studivant and Jeanette Grimaldi, Retreat Givers**
The retreat is free; but space is limited so register as soon as possible. To register, or for more information please visit:
https://seelportland.org/ * https://seelportland.org/additional-offerings/the-first-spiritual-exercises/
or call Jeanette Grimaldi at 503-730-8870
Retreatants need to purchase the book to participate.
https://www.avemariapress.com/products/the-first-spiritual-exercises-pdf Please have your book no later than May 23, 2021.

Daily Prayer Intentions

Prayer Requests

Please keep in your prayers

Monday	May 3	† Mildred Dover
Tuesday	May 4	Karen & Sebastian
Wednesday	May 5	Those hospitalized with Covid
Thursday	May 6	† Joann Miller
Friday	May 7	† Jim Emig

Women's RETREAT

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." (Galatians 5:22-23a)

Women's Pentecost Retreat

Saturday, May 22nd at 10 AM – Noon (via Zoom)

Join us for prayer, reflection, sharing and friendship as we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit in our lives. **Presenters**: Tara Ludwig (Faber Institute) & Ana Guizado

Register now: sipdx.org

Donations gratefully accepted. Please send them to: St. Ignatius Catholic Church, c/o Beth Schaller, 3400 SE 43rd Ave, Portland, OR 97206 or pay via the St. Ignatius "Realm" app with "Women's Retreat" in the memo line.

Questions? Contact bschaller@sipdx.org

Weekly Justice Recommendation

MAY 5, 12, 19 | 7PM ET/4PM PT

A Balm in Gilead: Deepening Our Understanding and Conversation About Race Through the Eyes of Faith

This interactive three-part virtual session will be an opportunity to deep dive into the topic of Race, Racism, and Faith through the lens of Ignatian spirituality. Register: igsol.net/balm

Catholic Charities collection May 2, envelopes in church

Catholic Charities, since 1933, Catholic Charities of Oregon has been a trusted ally of the most poor and marginalized and a leader in finding innovative solutions to poverty and injustice. The agency is proud to serve all God's children as the official Domestic Relief Agency of the Catholic Church in Oregon.

Our programs include financial empowerment and coaching, affordable and transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, resident services, immigration legal services, refugee services, family support and counseling, case management, and more.

Catholic Charities of Oregon is a member of Catholic Charities USA and of Caritas International, the global network of agencies that make up the charitable arm of the world-wide Catholic Church. The agency is headquartered in Portland at 2740 SE Powell Blvd. For more information call (503) 231-4866, or go to www.catholiccharitiesoregon.org.

Faber Institute ~ A Mother's RETREAT

A Mother's Retreat (Faber Institute) - May 8 @ 9:30 am - 2:30 pm free

Join the Faber Institute for a retreat for mothers of all ages, from new mothers with babies to empty nesters and grandmothers. Retreat leader Tara Ludwig, Spiritual Director at Faber Institute and mother of three little ones, will guide us in exploring the power of "Mother": how our spiritual capacities as mothers create depth and meaning within our own homes and families, as well as empower us as agents of tenderness in a broken world. Through deep reflection and prayer, inspiring dialogue, and shared laughter and tears, we will be at common cause in affirming the dignity of motherhood, and its role in fostering a more united human family, this free retreat will be hosted online via Zoom. Please follow this link to the registration page in order to receive reminders, as well as online login information closer to the retreat day: A Mother's Retreat (faberinstitute.com)

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Co-Chair: James Nguyen
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Norman Williams
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Abby Morales
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Mike Moore Jr.
Mike.moorejr@gmail.com

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

Family Life

Children's Liturgy – through Pentecost (end of May)
Our Children's Liturgy program has creatively persevered this year and we are so grateful to our leaders, Nathan Williams, Michele Becker, and Angela & Nick Kockler. The program will continue through May , you will find the link on our website Family life page.

"Job Board" for St. Ignatius Families
There have been several requests for a "job board" where parishioners could share their talents and needs. This would be a way to network within the parish and help people find the resources they need while utilizing the gifts of our community. It could range from childcare to plumbing to pet care. If there is someone interested in being the point person for this project and to maintain our job board, please let me know. I think it would be a valuable service and way to connect with others. It would be a minimal time commitment to manage the job board and all from the comfort of your home. J

Mom's Group Zoom Schedule – Sundays 9:00-10:00 a.m. during April & May
The Mom's group meets on Sundays via Zoom. Please note that our meeting time is adjusted to 9:00 a.m. the next two months. We welcome anyone for a one time visit or a regular presence. If you want to receive our regular Zoom links and updates, email Beth at bschaller@sipdx.org.
Our focus for the next series of meetings will be how parents can support faith formation at various ages and stages of life. Join us on the 2nd and 4th Sundays for friendly conversation and practical tips for your own family's faith development.

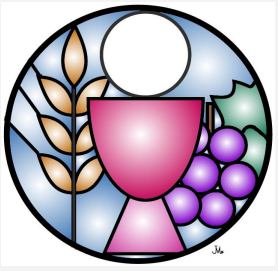
May 9 – Preschool years, May 25 – Primary School,
June – Middle and High School years

There will be some short material provided each session to prompt discussion, but we can all contribute from our experience as parents and/or from our own childhood experiences, too.

Sacramental Preparation for First Communion – LAST YEAR & THIS YEAR
It's time to celebrate!! *Please pray for the 50 children celebrating their First Communion during the Easter season. Each week a group of children will celebrate this Sacrament at the 10:30 mass.*

First Communion celebrations – May 2, 2021

Ann Bailey, Ava Bruns, Emmeline Nguyen
Charlotte Tapfer, Marley Tapfer, Ruby Becker,
William Chan, Grace Jamieson, James Pedroza,
Sukey Schaller and Vance Streb



Kudos & Did YOU Know?

- Kudos: To the school community for a wildly successful Move-a-thon fundraiser; to the School Foundation for updating its mission statement; to Fr. Billy for installing such an attractive shoe tree in his room at the Jesuit residence.
- Did you know you can see the First Communion Masses thanks to Beth recording them! They are posted on our Family Life page of the website.

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