



ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

February 3, 2019

Super Bowl Sunday

Dear Parishioners:

Next Sunday we will celebrate National Scout Weekend. There is also a somewhat exciting football game this afternoon in Atlanta. Whether you prefer celebrating all the joy that goes into forming our young people into outstanding adults, or looking forward to all those Super Bowl ads, this first part of February is a blast.

One of my dad's favorite words was "perfunctory." He didn't like us kids doing anything in a *perfunctory* way – that is, in a way that does not require much energy or attention. It's what the culture gurus today call "mindfulness." Dad used to tell us boys that when we were waiting table at the Boy Scout banquets, "serve the food with a smile." Smile or no smile – a small difference perhaps. Yet St. Paul says in the reading from Corinthians that in small actions as in great ones, love makes all the difference.

In the first reading and Gospel, Jeremiah and Jesus illustrate that love is not only for the good times. Love answers God's call, even when difficulties arise.

What did love mean for Jeremiah? He realized the failure of his mission. For twenty years he had spoken God's word to no avail. He thought that he was too young to speak and too unimportant to warrant the serious attention of his hearers. But what sustained him was that he had been proclaiming not his own insight, but God's inspiration. Jeremiah trusted that the exiled tribes of Judah would eventually take responsibility for their infidelities, and come home once again to their beloved Jerusalem.

In the Gospel, Jesus experienced the fickleness of his own relatives and friends. Unlike other leaders who experience a honeymoon after putting on the mantle of authority, Jesus learned what it means to be true to God's preferences. Love sometimes meant enduring rejection.

What would happen if a famous miracle worker showed up at St. Ignatius Parish next weekend? The church would be packed. Families of the sick would stake out the aisle seats so they could reach out to touch the preacher as he passed by. Perhaps CNN would be on hand along with some skeptical reporters. Wouldn't it feel good that healing was going to take place here in our parish?

This is the scene in Nazareth from today's Gospel. Add to the excitement that Jesus is one of the hometown lads. He is a miracle man who has already worked the crowds in the bigger town nearby -- Capernaum. His family is here, sharing the anticipation and the pride of place in the synagogue. One of theirs is in the news, already famous, a celebrity.

How quickly the mood changed. Jesus began with the electrifying proclamation that Isaiah's messianic promise is coming true in himself. No sooner had he amazed his listeners with the good news of healing and liberation – than his doubters began to attack him. They criticized him for his all-too-familiar origins – and for his willingness to offer his healings to the heavily non-Jewish population of Capernaum before he worked his wonders for his hometown neighbors.

To add insult to injury, Jesus spoke favorably about *gentiles*. No doubt the situation was made even more gripping when he cited two stories from the Hebrew Scriptures to explain his priorities. Elijah and Elisha had exercised their power in God's name on behalf of *non-Jews*. Jesus was simply following in the footsteps of his honored forebears in the faith. But his hearers would have none of it. Why prefer others when your own tribe and kin need rescuing?

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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

When Jesus attended synagogue that fateful Saturday in Nazareth, he affirmed his fidelity to the Sabbath, to the sacred texts, and to the assembly of his fellow Jews gathered for prayer. Yet within that familiar place and among those familiar people, he tried to reveal what was yet unfamiliar and unwelcome to them – that all peoples are dear to God. Not yet willing to hear this, they rejected him and tried to take his life. His inaugural day ends in his expulsion from his own hometown.

This was a disastrous beginning for one sent “to bring good news.” Yet a necessary clarification had just taken place. Jesus was God’s servant, answerable to no other influence or house or tribe, not even to his own family. The same Spirit who touched him at his baptism, drove him into the wilderness to face down temptations, guided him back to Galilee, and eventually missioned him to Jerusalem – is the One who freed him from any human coercion or control.

Today’s story tempers the vision of what it means to follow Jesus. The events at Nazareth must have shaken his own disciples -- that his townsfolk attempted to murder him at the very start of his mission. Yet they still decided to follow him, to see what mysterious thing came next. In hindsight, you and I know that the journey took them first to the cross, and then to what changed everything – the resurrection. As another year begins in our journey as disciples, re-enlist for the long haul and the whole mystery. There will be plenty of misunderstanding and rejection for us as well.

Saturday, we celebrated the Presentation of the Lord. We remember that Mary and Joseph, faithful Jews, took their firstborn son to the Temple to consecrate him to the Lord. When they arrived, the aged prophets Anna and Simeon recognized the little baby as the light of the world. The church blesses candles for use during the whole year -- to remind us that Christ is our light.

On February 3rd, we honor the bishop and martyr, Blaise, who saved a little boy from choking. With the blessed candles of the Presentation arranged in the shape of the cross, we touch each other’s throats with this invocation: *Through the intercession of Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, may you be freed from all afflictions of the throat, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.
Pastor

Italian Dinner Needs your Help

Calling all Volunteers! Your help is greatly appreciated for the 84th Annual Italian Dinner on Sunday February 17th. We need help before the dinner – Thursday night, Friday morning and Saturday and then also Sunday 1st shift from 11:25 am – 3 pm and 2nd shift 2:35 pm – 6 pm. Please contact Jo Ann Grubb at joanngrb@outlook.com or (503) 422-0426 to sign up.

For parties of 8 or more, please contact Diane Welters for a reservation: (503) 774-0744

ITALIAN DINNER

Sunday, February 17th, Noon to 6 p.m.



Adults	\$13.00
Seniors	\$10.00
Children	\$6.00
Under 5	FREE

Spaghetti • Ravioli • Meatballs
Take out available, too!

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	February 4	† Keith Frangipani
Tuesday	February 5	† Jane Campbell
Wednesday	February 6	† Antonino Salonia
Thursday	February 7	† Salvatore Nipitella
Friday	February 8	† Jim Emig



ST. IGNATIUS SCHOOL

Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope....1st Peter, 3:15

Reason for our hope: If you only ever watch the news, it is easy to be discouraged and if you only ever watch our students, it is **IMPOSSIBLE** to be discouraged. The reason for our hope? Every day faculty, parents and community members have the privilege of working with our future, the children. They are smart, thoughtful, creative, faithful and dynamic young people who know how to be in community and how to be kids for others. Our parish is blessed.

Thank you for your kind and enthusiastic participation in Catholic Schools Week! We welcomed new families to our two Open Houses and it was wonderful to see the joy with which students shared their school experience and led tours. Thank you to all the families that helped make these events a success.

Pre-School and Kindergarten: The interest in these programs is especially strong this year. If your family is interested in a spot for next fall, please contact the office as soon as possible to ensure there is space. Need based financial aid is available for kindergarten. Please contact the school office if you have questions.

Registration Packets will go out February 15 and need to be returned by March 1st.

Blessings!
Kelli Clark
Principal

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Pastoral Council
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Co-Chair - Janice Harwood
jcharwoodster@gmail.com

A full list of staff & council Members are located on Our webpage at www.sipdx.org

Senior Day Out—ONE WEEK EARLIER This Tuesday, February 5th

Join us for Mass at 12:15 & a Chinese New Year luncheon. ALSO BRING a Valentine to exchange and wear some red for the occasion. **Please RSVP to Judi, 503-234-1147** [helps with food planning]. Beth will join us to receive small items and/or gift cards for the "love Boxes" on March 12th. Thank you & all are welcome, just RSVP please.

Novena of Grace 2019

Our Novena of Grace in honor of St. Francis Xavier invites you to gather either morning or evening from **Monday, March 4th through Tuesday, March 12th**. The 2019 Presenters are Fr. Joseph Carver, S.J. and Ann Edlen who will convene our journey together with the theme: *Lead Us In Your Way Everlasting*. As we near this Lenten event, more details will be forthcoming. Look for posters to be displayed soon!

Marriage Retreat with Faber Institute

The Faber Institute invites you to A Marriage Retreat on Saturday, February 9th from 8:30PM - 4:00PM at The Grotto. This Retreat, both spiritually deep but also practical, welcomes couples of any years of experience in married life – a rich mix of experience. For more details and to register, visit www.faberinstitute.com/events

Women's Club Get Together

Women's Club meeting, Friday, Feb. 8th, 7PM, in the parish office dining room. BYO drinks, potluck snacks. WC is open to any ladies that just want to come and have some fun! Questions: call Nancy at 503-659-9473, or Sharon at 971-340-7525.

Project Aurora hosts Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

“My spiritual journey has been deepened and enriched through the retreat. My shield and barrier that I wasn't aware even existed is falling away.” Attend a life-restoring Rachel's Vineyard Retreat **February 15-17 in Portland** or **March 15-17 near Medford**. Contact Project Aurora for information 541-942-2861 or projectaurora@aol.com.
www.Project-Aurora.org

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