



# ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

January 6, 2019—The Epiphany of the Lord

## The Light Beyond the Gate

Dear Parishioners:

The ancient Roman deity Janus was the god of gates and doors. It is from his name that comes the first month of the year, January. Janus had two faces – the one looking back, the other looking ahead. On this first weekend of 2019, we stand at the gate of another year. It is a good moment to look back and reflect on the journeys we have made, and to look ahead at what might await us beyond the gate.

As well, the start of another year is traditionally a time for making resolutions. All of this comes together in our celebration of the Epiphany, the day on which Christ is revealed as the Savior not just of a tiny Jewish sect on the edge of the Roman Empire, but Savior of the whole world. So let us make a brief inventory of our recent past, and then see how the promise of Epiphany makes a claim on our tomorrows.

An inventory of anyone’s past will include memories both bright and dark. We have bright memories of Pope Francis calling the whole world to ecological conversion in our care for our home the earth. We have bright memories of the 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of our wonderful St. Ignatius School. We celebrated the passing of our heroes in the faith: parishioners like John Scott, Marie Robben, Tomi Tomlin and Rose Angela D’Ambrosia.

And we all see something else when we inventory the stretch of road behind us. We find areas of darkness there. We have all made sad choices and done regrettable deeds. There is the on-going sadness of clerical abuse and cover-ups; the continuing clericalism in our local church; and the erosion of respect in our political discourse. We have all hurt other people by what we have spoken or left unsaid.

And now for the future. At the gate of the New Year, what do you see as you look toward the future within the context of today’s celebration: the Epiphany. The Epiphany can easily be seen as a fairytale conclusion to the Christmas season: magi from the exotic orient; a star; and special gifts for the newborn king. These spectacular events may prevent a deeper look at the day-to-day reality of the Holy Family.

The magi traveled as they willed. They didn’t need any visas or passports. But once they arrived in a new territory, they were completely subject to the jurisdiction of the local authorities. King Herod was the local ruler in Jerusalem. When the magi appeared on his radar, it wasn’t their language, dress, or entourage that got Herod’s attention – it was their quest. They had arrived at Jerusalem looking for a prophesied “king of the Jews.” From that point on, Herod dominates the story. His power and control were at stake. A rival king was a threat to Herod – even if that king was a newborn baby.

Herod was determined to find this newborn king and do away with him, and he was willing to lie to do it – telling the magi to report to him what they found so he could also do the new king homage. The magi discovered the promised child. Imagine how astonished Mary and Joseph must have been to welcome these visitors from faraway lands who shared

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### Today’s Readings:

Isaiah 60:1-6  
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6  
Matthew 2:1-12

### Next Sunday’s Readings:

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11  
Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7  
Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

*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

precious gifts with their child.

The magi were warned in a dream not to return to Herod. And a dream informed Joseph and Mary that their child was no longer safe in Bethlehem. They must leave their homeland and strike out for distant places. Thus Jesus, Mary, and Joseph became refugees in Egypt.

In recent years, the church has assigned this week between Epiphany and the baptism of the Lord as a time to focus on the plight of migrants and refugees. The magi were migrants as they sought the messiah. The Holy Family became refugees in the land of Egypt.

From the dawn of humanity, people around the world have migrated from one place to another for numberless reasons: to find food, to escape threats and violence and war; to flee repressive governments; to seek employment, shelter, health care and education for their children. The case is the same today. In fact, at this moment in history, the United Nations estimates that migrants and refugees number around 68 million people displaced by armed conflicts, famine, political and economic instability. How many times do you see on the news families fleeing for their very lives because they can no longer bear the devastating conditions of their homelands.

Let us reflect on our ancestors who came to this country as migrants and refugees. Let us resolve to find ways to ease the pain and burden of migrants and refugees – those in our midst and those on distant shores.

As we contemplate the Epiphany and our future, recall the significance of the star. The magi were foreigners and unlikely participants in the story of Christ’s birth. They were inspired by a compelling possibility and guided by a star. Their bold venture was without guarantees. It was an uncertain journey filled with risks. But as long as they saw the star, it was a pilgrimage toward the light.

Perhaps a New Year’s resolution as we look to the future: in the name of Christ, what mercy can we show to migrants and refugees? How can they find the light of welcome shining in our faces of mercy? Let us make our own once again the words of Emma Lazarus etched on the Statue of Liberty:

*Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand  
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame  
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name  
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand  
Glows world-wide welcome; . . . cries she  
With silent lips: “give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses yearning to be free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.  
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me,  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!*



Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.  
Pastor

**Mass Intentions**

Monday	January 7	† Bettee Frank
Tuesday	January 8	† Jim Emig
Wednesday	January 9	† Jim Emig
Thursday	January 10	† Jim Emig
Friday	January 11	† Jim Emig

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## What Happened in December at St. Ignatius?

- ◇ *We held our annual Advent Festival and enjoyed lots of holiday food and activities. We were blessed by volunteers who put in time and effort to make it such a great event.*
- ◇ *The school put on another successful and entertaining Christmas Program with guidance from music teacher, Mr. Joe MacKenzie!*
- ◇ *The Parish Choir sang at the Grotto's Festival of Lights on Thursday, December 27 to a full chapel, and had to take two bows to accommodate the amount of applause they received!*
- ◇ *Yuletide Aurora, Vol. 1 in the Songs of St. Ignatius series has more than covered its production costs thanks to your generous support, and to the good guidance of producer, James Nguyen.*
- ◇ *Young Adult Community gathered for a lovely Christmas potluck—Thanks Allie Reiling and Miguel Alvarez for hosting!*

**Much gratitude for a wonderful end to 2018**

**Parish Office**  
503-777-1491  
office@sipdx.org

**Pastor Fr Craig Boly, SJ**  
cboly@sipdx.org ext. 231

**Fr. Dan Sullivan, SJ**  
dsullivan@sipdx.org

## 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

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## Prayer Ministry Happening TODAY—8 & 10:30AM Masses

Visit the vestibule for prayers by and with fellow parishioners.

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## Senior Day Out—Tuesday, January 9th

Join the senior ministry for their monthly mass & luncheon. Mass will be at 12:15 at the Loyola Jesuit Center with a meal & sharing to follow. Everyone is welcome. Please RSVP to Judi Van Cleave at 503-234-1147 prior to day of event.

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## Opportunities for Engaged Couples

If you are an engaged couple and would like to connect with others in our parish who share in this journey toward marriage, contact Grace Byrd to receive information about upcoming plans and events. [gbyrd@sipdx.org](mailto:gbyrd@sipdx.org) or 503-777-1491, ext. 238

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## Young Adult Pub Theology

### Thursday, January 24th at Mt Tabor Brewing Taproom

Join other young adults for fellowship and learning on various topics in relation to religion and faith. These gatherings are hosted at Mt Tabor Brewing Taproom on the fourth Thursday of every month. St. Ignatius Church welcomes you. *See you there!*

Beverages available for purchase. Outside food allowed in. Call Gretchen for info. 503-777-1491 x227 or [gschissel@sipdx.org](mailto:gschissel@sipdx.org)

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## Join Save First Financial Wellness at Catholic Charities as a Volunteer Financial Coach!

The Financial Coaching Program of Save First Financial at Catholic Charities is working to address the struggle with financial instability among adults by teaching our clients about financial literacy as well as how the basics of finance can be applied to their lives in a positive manner. We welcome volunteers of all faiths and ethnic backgrounds and do not require that volunteers have prior financial knowledge. A volunteer in our program will receive training and can expect to work with clients to identify and make plans to reach financial goals. Please consider joining our volunteer team, and experience the rewarding opportunity of helping someone improve their financial life.

Contact Katie Earley: 503-688-2575 or [kearley@ccoregon.org](mailto:kearley@ccoregon.org)

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## Mater Dei Radio Event

Mater Dei Radio celebrates 30 years of broadcasting with two exciting nights featuring EWTN's Dr. David Anders. Equip yourself for 2019! Don't miss Dr. Anders' "*How the Catholic Church Saved My Marriage*" on **Friday, January 18 at St. Anthony Church in Tigard, and Saturday, January 19 at Queen of Peace Church in Salem. Tickets are free, but very limited.** Get yours now at [MaterDeiRadio.com](http://MaterDeiRadio.com).

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