

St. Ignatius Catholic Church OREGON'S JESUIT PARISH

A Message from the Pastor

September 10, 2023

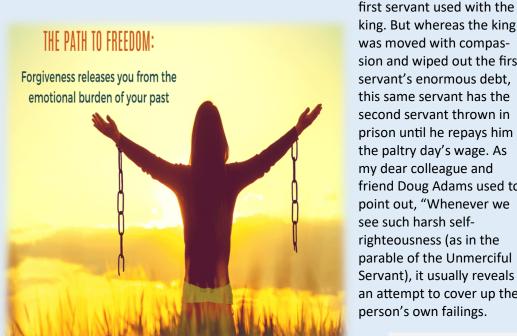
3400 SE 43rd Ave. Portland, OR 97206 503-777-1491

Professor James A. Sanders believed that the biblical stories, like today's parable from Matthew's gospel, are mirrors for identity and not models for morality. We find ourselves in the biblical story.

St. Ignatius of Loyola, in his Spiritual Exercises, encouraged people to place themselves into the biblical story. We call this an Ignatian form biblical contemplation. As St. Ignatius puts it, "I watch, and notice and contemplate what they (the biblical characters) are saying, and then reflect within myself to derive some profit." (No. 115) "I watch and consider what they (the biblical characters) are doing. . .then I reflect within myself to derive some spiritual profit." (No. 116)

Jesus uses exaggeration for dramatic emphasis. The "huge amount" that the first servant owed the king is likened to the sum total of our National Debt which is in the trillions. How many zeros in a trillion? When the first servant pleads for time to pay it back (an utterly impossible task), the king is moved with compassion and doesn't simply give him time to pay back what he owes. No, the king wipes out the debt. How many zeros? Would that type of experience change you? Wouldn't it transform how you dealt with those who were in your debt?

This forgiven servant suffers from dramatic "short term memory loss" because as he leaves the king, he meets a fellow servant who owes him about \$250.00. The first servant demands payment. The second servant uses the exact same words that the



king. But whereas the king was moved with compassion and wiped out the first servant's enormous debt, this same servant has the second servant thrown in prison until he repays him the paltry day's wage. As my dear colleague and friend Doug Adams used to point out, "Whenever we see such harsh selfrighteousness (as in the parable of the Unmerciful Servant), it usually reveals an attempt to cover up the person's own failings.

Continued on next page

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil at 5:00 PM Sunday at 8:00 AM Sunday at 10:30 AM Sunday at 7:30 PM

Weekdays (M-F) at 8:00 AM At LJC—La Storta Chapel

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays -3:30 PM to 4:30 PM

OR by appointment 503-777-1491

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Pastor's Message continued from page one:

This weekend's gospel story invites us to reflect on the experience and place of forgiveness in our faith life. What are the experiences of forgiveness that have most influenced you? Did you experience forgiveness with no strings attached (the way God forgives) or did you find your experiences of forgiveness "conditional" and involving all sorts of "small print" clauses with strings attached?

Do you find it easy or hard to forgive your friends, your spouse, your parents or grandparents, your children or grandchildren, your fellow workers, your elected representatives, your parish priests, your church and your God? How can you



become a more compassionate and forgiving person? As St. Ignatius would counsel, "Reflect within yourself and draw some spiritual profit."



Let these words of country singer Leann Rimes' song "What I Cannot Change" help shape that reflection.

I will learn to let go what I cannot change. I will learn to forgive what I cannot change. I will learn to love what I cannot change. But I will change, I will change whatever I, whenever I can.

Fr Mike

Heading to College? Do you know someone headed to college? Help get your college student connected with their Catholic community. Newman Ministry connects students with a Catholic community on campus, so their faith thrives in college and beyond! Get connected at:https://www.newmanministry.com/





Ministry Morning! -

Save the Date! Sunday, September 10, after the 8am and 10:30am Masses. Join us out on the plaza as we celebrate the beginning of a new program year. Contact Joseph Byrd (jbyrd@sipdx.org) to reserve your easel, and get ready to share information, make new friends, sign up new volunteers, and enjoy coffee and donuts together.

Mass Readings

Mass Readings for Sep 10, 2023

Ezekiel 33:7-9 Romans 13:8-10 Matthew 18:15-20 Mass Readings for Sep 17, 2023

Sirach 27:30—28:7 Romans 14:7-9 Matthew 18:21-35



We are so excited to enter another year of amazing learning opportunities! This school year's theme is: "Rejoice! This is the day the Lord has made," from Psalm 118:24. We have so many blessings to Rejoice!

Our first blessing is our tremendously supportive community. We kicked off this year with a parent-staff work party which included installing bamboo in long steel

containers as a window screening for both shade and any stray balls from students playing on the turf. A group of parents worked on planting fresh grass perennials behind the playground's concrete bench. Other parents

worked to put the classrooms back together moving furniture and desks into place. And another group set up our uniform exchange in the cafeteria. Our staff members moved leftover dirt and rock and painted new parking space lines. Our

campus looks beautiful and welcoming. Teamwork makes the dream work!





Our next blessing is welcoming two new middle school teachers to our school. Jane Casey joins us as our English Language Arts teacher, and Greg Gonzalez has joined us as our middle school math teacher. We are grateful for their years of experience and passion for teaching middle school students in these two core content areas.

Another wonderful blessing is our St. Ignatius School Foundation's golf tournament

this Sunday, September 11 at Stone Creek Golf Club in Oregon City. For the first time,

the proceeds from the golf tournament will be split 50/50 between the endowment fund and school. What a blessing!

As we begin in earnest to learn together, may we always know God is always with

us. "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom," 2 Corinthians 3:17.



Carol Pausz Pincipal





Seeking items—

gift baskets, gift cards, gift certificates, services provided—for the **St. Ignatius Renaissance Festival's Silent Auction**. Your support will make this free, community event a time of joy for the parish, and for the whole community. Contact Joseph Byrd

(jbyrd@sipdx.org) if you have something you'd like to donate.

Interested in just making a cash donation to support the Festival? That's great, too! Donations of any size are welcome. Come join us on Sunday, October 15, in Dillon Hall, for an unforgettable day of family fun!



Family Day Registration closes on **September 10th!**

Are you looking for a way to get connected to other St. Ignatius families? Join us for this day of community, faith, and fun. Our day will

conclude with a family mass (celebrated by Fr. Steve Dillard, S.J.), and dinner. Reg-

istration is available online at <u>Family Day at Camp Yamhill</u> (<u>sipdx.org</u>). Registration closes Sun, Sept. 10th. We are also looking for 2 more teen helpers to assist throughout the day. Interested teens or those with questions about the day should contact Beth at <u>bschaller@sipdx.org</u>.



It's time to register for St. Ignatius' '23-'24 Confirmation Class For students in grades 7-12

This year's class will be a hybrid model of at-home modules and six in-person sessions including a Saturday retreat.

Schedule

October 1st 12-3

Prayer: Talking and

Listening to God

Session for Parents and Students

December 2nd. 9-6
Retreat at Fr. Bernard
Youth Center

March 3rd, 12-2
Stations of Mercy:
Increasing Awareness
Through Christ's
Passion

April 7th, 12-2
This is My Church Too

October 29th, 12-2

What is Mine to Do?

Discerning your walk in

Christ

January 21st, 12-2

Doing What I Believe:

What Does Love Look

Like?

Students will attend all sessions and the retreat. Also, ten at-home modules and service requirements will be completed during the year.

A \$100 registration fee can be paid online through Realm or mailed in to our Parish Office.

Register for Confirmation on our website (sipdx.org) by September 24th. Contact Grace (gbyrd@sipdx.org) with any questions.

First Reconciliation & Communion sign up

Registration available NOW online, visit our website at https://www.sipdx.org/first-reconciliation-and-eucharist



Classes begin in Sept:

September 17 – 9:15-10:15 – **Students and Parents** - Dillon Hall

Oct. 1 – 9:15-10:15 – School

Oct. 8 - 9:15-10:15 - school

Oct. 15 - 9:15-10:15 - school

Oct. 29 - 9:15-10:15 – **Students and parents** – Dillon Hall Saturday, November 18 at **10AM**– **church** reconciliation service



R.C.I.A. ~ Are you discerning your call to the Catholic Faith? Every September we begin a new class for those who are interested in possibly join-

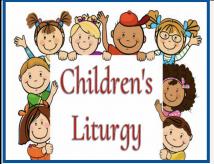
ing the Catholic Church. The class meets weekly, and if you feel drawn to join the church, you will receive the Sacraments of initiation (baptism, confirmation, and communion) at the Easter Vigil. If you would like to learn more about the class, contact Grace Byrd (gbyrd@sipdx.org). If you know you are interested, register on our website for RCIA. Get your paperwork done early!

Baptism for infant -7yr. Parents prepare by registering in parish and attending Mass for at least six months, after that time parents participate in Infant Baptism Preparation Sessions. If your child is seven or older, there will be an additional session for you

and your child. We seek to provide a hospitable, small group setting for our sessions, so class size is limited. *Vist our Baptism information page at*:

https://www.sipdx.org/baptism





Children's Liturgy of the Word is back!When:

Every Sunday at the 10:30am Mass during the Gospel and Homily Who: **All children ages 3-8** What: A kidfriendly activity during the Gospel and Homily to parallel the teachings, **materials provided**

Where: Children will be walked over to the Parish Office in the Bradley room (I will send a video next week of how to enter the Parish office, get to the Bradley room, and access the materials)

Details: The children will be accompanied by two CASE

trained adults and after their activity they will be walked back over to the church Ask: Sign up to co-lead a Sunday if you can! Each session will need two adults, and if you're a St. Ignatius Parish School parent, each session you co-lead would count for 1 hour of service (30 minutes of actual kiddo-time, and 30 minutes of prep). Let me know if you have any questions! SignUp Genius Link:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4ba4ad2da2f5cf8-childrens#/
Thank you all for your time, Sarah Cunningham 608-320-5186

Are you engaged? Congratulations! Preparing for a marriage in the Catholic Church is a **six month process** which hopefully offers some tools to help you navigate this wonderful transition in your life. If you're ready to get that process started, contact Grace Byrd for more information. gbyrd@sipdx.org

St Vincent de Paul Do you know someone who might be food insecure or needs help paying rent or utility bills?

The St. Vincent de Paul Portland Council accepts requests for assistance at 503-235-8431. Requests from our neighborhood are then forwarded to our SVdP pantry that delivers food to those in need on Saturday mornings. You can help by bringing non-perishable food donations to the 8am and 10:30am Masses or making a cash donation through Realm Connect. Your support is much appreciated. Contact us at svdp@sipdx.org if you have any questions.

Planned Giving For several decades, St. Ignatius has been here in SE Portland serving



people in faith, educating the young with hope, and engaging the world with the love of the Christ and the Good News of the Gospel in the Jesuit tradition. Please prayerfully consider including the parish in your estate plans to help us sustain this mission for future generations. If you are interested in learning more about planned giving options at St. Ignatius Parish, please see the "Ways to Give" page on our website or contact Fr. Mike.

Church tithing Financial report (July 1, 2023—June 30, 2024) 2023-2024 Budget \$560,000.00 Sunday Tithe received through 8-20-2023 \$63,926.14

Thank you, for also supporting other funds like our Campus renewal/Bldg., St. Vincent de Paul, School, Novena and more!

8:00AM Weekday Mass Intentions

Please keep in your prayers

Monday Sep 11 † Tomas Pham
Tuesday Sep 12 † Roger William Doyon
Wednesday Sep 13 † Souls in Purgatory
Thursday Sep 14 † Jim Emig
Friday Sep 15 † Phil Henry



Parish Staff

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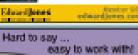
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