



**ST. IGNATIUS PARISH**  
**CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
**UNDER THE CARE OF THE JESUITS**

**PASTOR'S MESSAGE**

**AUGUST 9, 2020**

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## **Why Doubt?**

Dear Parishioners:

It was a dark and stormy night. Jesus was alone on a mountain while he sent his disciples into a tempestuous sea. The waves were crashing against the hull, the wind roiled the boat, then suddenly in front of them on the water a man appeared. "It is a ghost," they cried. But Jesus said, "No, it's just me."

Biblical literature had an image of creation. For our ancestors, the image was of a powerful deity imposing order on the chaos made by the sea's wild activity. A recurrent image of creation was God walking on the sea, thus manifesting his power and control. When Jesus walks on water, he is doing what God does.

Hebrew scripture also interprets water as symbolic of demonic forces that are hostile to God. One message that today's passage conveys is that Jesus has a command over evil. Standing firm in turbulent waters, Jesus verifies his Lordship over the created world, too.

Another interpretation sees the story as a metaphor. The boat with the disciples represents the church in the world. The storms stand for the beating the world gives the church until Christ comes, bringing first judgment and fear, then assurance.

Yet another interpretation shows the disciples alone and adrift on the chaotic sea. Because of their fear, they cannot recognize Jesus. They cry out, and Jesus appears to them in a kind of epiphany. Like his later resurrection appearance, he tells them "have no fear."

Matthew reveals here how fear blinds people to the presence of God. To be faithful disciples, our learning is to approach even situations full of chaos and turbulence with the confidence inspired by God rather than with fear.

It is sometimes difficult to accept Jesus' words "Take heart, it is I. Do not fear." Perhaps incoherent with fear, Peter challenges Jesus to prove it. Up to the challenge, Jesus invites Peter to approach him on the water. Strangely, it is not walking through the waves that frightens Peter – but seeing the strong winds continue to batter the boat undoes him.



## **ST IGNATIUS RECORDED MASS**

**FOR AUGUST 9, 2020**

**WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OUR  
WEBSITE: SATURDAY AT 4:00PM  
WWW.SIPDX.ORG**

**(MASS AID WITH MUSIC LYRICS ARE  
POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE)**

Continued on next page

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

### Continued from front page:

A renewed spasm of fear pulls Peter down. This time he does not challenge but pleads with Jesus, "Lord, save me." Through all the doubt, Jesus is present with the willingness to give comforting assurance.

When our practice of faith becomes uncomfortable and then dangerous with the possibility of our sacrificing everything, even our lives, Christ will find us. This week, the church remembers the sacrifice of St. Maximilian Kolbe. A Catholic priest in his mid-40s, Kolbe had been arrested by the Gestapo in Poland after he spoke out against Nazi atrocities. He was imprisoned in Auschwitz. In 1941, he volunteered to take the place of a father who was to be executed as part of a reprisal for another who had escaped. St. Maximilian became a martyr on August 14 his feast day.

Sometimes silence is more than the absence of sound. It is a presence where God dwells. To hear the voice of God, one needs to enter the silence. Allow the chatter of mind and tongue to cease.

In today's first reading nature's greatest displays of power are not the bearers of God's presence. Rather, it is the "still small voice" that arises out of the depths of God's silence. If you want to hear the voice of the Lord, you need enter this silence. It was out of this necessity that Jesus often withdrew from the crowds – and even from his nearest disciples. You cannot hear the voice apart from the silence that forms it.

The solemnity of the Assumption of Mary is Saturday. Belief in Mary's bodily assumption into heaven is meant to reinforce our hope of our own glorious resurrection. Especially when people are in pain or struggle with an addiction, in the times when the body can seem to be the enemy, Christ's resurrection and Mary's assumption confirm that we have God's promise of a new life to come.

Jesus does not condemn those who have little faith. He does not refuse his presence to those who fear. But his question, "Why did you doubt?" challenges us. Remember, he has already proved with his life his desire to save us.

**Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.**

Pastor

Assumption August 15th, since it falls on Saturday, is not a Holy day of obligation

*In Thanksgiving for the life of Fr. Thomas McCarthy, SJ*

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL

In the Gospel today Jesus stretched out his hand and caught Peter when he began to sink into the sea. You can extend a helping as well by contributing to the St. Ignatius St. Vincent de Paul Conference. Your contributions provide food boxes as well as rent and utility assistance to neighbors in need. Use your REALM app and select "St. Vincent de Paul" in the fund dropdown. Many thanks!

## MASS READINGS

### Mass Readings for Aug 9, 2020

1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a

Romans 9:1-5

Matthew 14:22-33

### Mass Readings for Aug 16, 2020

Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

Matthew 15:21-28

## INTERFAITH MOVEMENT FOR IMMIGRANT JUSTICE

IMIrJ (Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice, part of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon) invites you to join a Sacred Circle from now through the election in November.

**Background info:** *Sacred Circles will include learning and sustained action to advance immigrant and racial justice, in coordination with immigrant and Black-led partner organizations as well as other Sacred Circles throughout the state.*

The Sacred Circles will meet at least once a month (1.5 hours over Zoom). These gatherings will create space for us to reflect on our values, build relationships with each other, learn and take action together for racial justice. IMIrJ will offer action suggestions that respond to the requests of people of color led partner organizations. Here in Oregon, IMIrJ is in coalitions with and either has or is currently building relationships with Unite Oregon, PAALF (The Portland African American Leadership Forum), and the Coalition of Communities of Color - all of which have Black leadership and/or members/base. Nationally we are looking to the Movement for Black Lives for political analysis and direction. IMIrJ is an active member of the One Oregon and Oregon Ready coalitions, and the Portland Police Reform Network. IMIrJ also has close working relationships with many local people of color-led groups, such as Adelante Mujeres in Washington County, Yamhill County's Unidos Bridging Community, the Latino Association Community in Bend, etc. Internally, they are forming a new IMIrJ Clergy of Color Caucus that will work closely with IMIrJ staff.

A Sacred Circle is forming in our neighborhood initiated by Moreland Presbyterian Church. To find out more, you are invited to attend a meeting on Zoom, next Thursday, August 13th from 8-9:30 PM. For the Zoom link, contact Susan Hoover at [susan.diane@icloud.com](mailto:susan.diane@icloud.com).



You are welcome to join the conversation, without feeling you are committing to anything.

Warmly,

Beth Schaller  
Family Life Coordinator  
[bschaller@sipdx.org](mailto:bschaller@sipdx.org)

## DEADLINE IS THIS SATURDAY! S.E.E.L.

**Portland SEEL** will be offering the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius in a virtual format beginning in September.

SEEL is a 9-month retreat that invites retreatants to deepen their prayer life and grow in relationship with God. Through one-on-one spiritual direction and a monthly two and a half hour online retreat, participants explore their deepest desires to be reflective, to discern God's call and presence in their lives, to develop a personal relationship with Jesus, and to seek God in all things.

Please visit our webpage at [seelportland.org](http://seelportland.org) or call Janet Buck at 503-951-8682 for more information.

The deadline for applications is **August 15.**

## PARISH STAFF

Phones Mon-Thursday  
10am—2pm  
503-777-1491

Email anytime at  
[office@sipdx.org](mailto:office@sipdx.org)

**Pastor**  
Craig Boly, SJ  
[cboly@sipdx.org](mailto:cboly@sipdx.org)  
Ext 231

Parochial Vicar  
Billy Biegler, SJ  
[bbiegler@sipdx.org](mailto:bbiegler@sipdx.org)  
Ext 226

Senior Priest  
Dan Sullivan, SJ  
[dsullivan@sipdx.org](mailto:dsullivan@sipdx.org)  
Ext 224

Pastoral Admin & Music  
Joseph Byrd  
[jbyrd@sipdx.org](mailto:jbyrd@sipdx.org)  
Ext 238

Business Manager  
Matt Wangler  
[mwangler@sipdx.org](mailto:mwangler@sipdx.org)  
Ext 237

Faith Formation/RCIA  
Grace Byrd  
[gbyrd@sipdx.org](mailto:gbyrd@sipdx.org)  
Ext 245

Family Life  
Beth Schaller  
[bschaller@sipdx.org](mailto:bschaller@sipdx.org)  
Ext 236

Bookkeeper-Church & School  
Judy Simmons  
[jsimmons@sipdx.org](mailto:jsimmons@sipdx.org)  
Ext 222

Facilities Manager  
Steve Scopelleti  
[sscopelleti@sipdx.org](mailto:sscopelleti@sipdx.org)  
Ext 227

Office Manager  
Patty Frangipani  
[pfrangipani@sipdx.org](mailto:pfrangipani@sipdx.org)  
OR  
[office@sipdx.org](mailto:office@sipdx.org)  
Ext 221

## PASTORAL COUNCIL

Co-Chair: Joyce Keane  
Joyce.sipdx@gmail.com

Co-Chair: James Nguyen  
james@dragonberryproduce.com

### Pastoral Council Members:

Matthew Pearl  
mjmpearl@aol.com

Genie Filipowcz  
genieflip@gmail.com

Jeremy McKay  
Michele.mckay@me.com

Emily Gumper  
emilygumper@gmail.com

Norman Williams  
jimtam7@gmail.com

Abby Morales  
ahefer75@gmail.com

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](mailto:prayerchain@sipdx.org)

In the subject line please include either:  
*Asking for prayers*  
OR  
*Add me to the Email list to pray*

## R. C. I. A. & HS CONFIRMATION



### RCIA

- Do you feel drawn to learn more about the Catholic faith?
- Have you considered whether you might like to become Catholic yourself?

RCIA is a class that allows you to explore your own faith journey and discern if the Catholic faith is one that you would like to be a part of. Please join our 20/21 class by registering on our website. If you have any questions, please contact Grace Byrd ([gbyrd@sipdx.org](mailto:gbyrd@sipdx.org))

### High School Confirmation

Are you in high school, or will you be entering high school in the fall? If so, then you are invited to register for St. Ignatius High School Confirmation. The program will start this September and will be a hybrid model of digital learning combined with 6 in-person group gatherings including sessions, activities and a retreat. Registration is open now! Just follow this link:

<https://www.sipdx.org/high-school-confirmation>

Contact Grace Byrd with any questions. ([gbyrd@sipdx.org](mailto:gbyrd@sipdx.org))



***If you have a heart for working with youth and accompanying people on their unique faith journeys, please contact Grace about joining our High School Confirmation leadership team.***

## FIRST RECONCILIATION & COMMUNION FOR 2ND GRADERS

Families of 2nd Graders and older can register now for Sacramental Prep in the fall. We will provide materials for home preparation (with parish support) or you can defer for a year and prepare in a traditional group setting. Visit our website to register: <https://www.sipdx.org/first-reconciliation-and-eucharist>

## KUDOS



⇒ Thank you to Theresa Stankovik for helping the parish with computer support! You are awesome!!

## DAILY INTENTIONS FOR PRAYER



Please keep in your prayers

Monday	Aug 10
Tuesday	Aug 11
Wednesday	Aug 12
Thursday	Aug 13
Friday	Aug 14

† Fr. Thomas McCarthy, SJ
† Henry Mancini
† Faye Wolf
† Patty Piscetelli
† Jim Emig



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