



St. Ignatius Catholic Church

OREGON'S JESUIT PARISH

3400 SE 43rd Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97206
503 777 1491 - office@sipdx.org - www.sipdx.org

September 27, 2026 - **TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



Ezekiel 18:25-28
Philippians 2:1-11
Matthew 21:28-32

Remember when you didn't get the seat you wanted on the bus while on your way to school? Or when you waited in line at the amusement park to get on the ride you'd been ogling and just when it was your turn to enter, the ride got shut down for "maintenance" or some other reason? Or maybe when you're waiting in line for an oil change, and lo: each car that got there after you did seems to get serviced before you do?

Unfair!

Ezekiel could be speaking to each of those moments, and many others, in today's reading. And I can only imagine the plethora of other complaints of unfair things in the lives of those who are assembled for Mass today.

Why did my best friend, Hux, suddenly die in 2023? Why is the world the way it is right now? Why do the nations so furiously rage together, as the psalmist cries out.

The responsorial psalm that follows the first reading is like ointment for the impending and radical reality of today's second reading hailing from Philippians: **"Remember your mercies, O Lord."** It's a complaint, really, toward God, and one that's a little bit like a kid tugging at his mom's leg, saying "Hey. I'm here. Things aren't fair. Remember your mercies!" And just like a bandage, which can protect something that hurts from getting even worse, providing a safe space for healing, today's responsorial

psalm offers just that.

Because, really, some might not think today's second reading is fair at all. ***"Regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others."***

Really? Is that "fair" —?

Of course, Jesus delivers the goods in today's gospel reading, to those very folks who were hyperbolically concerned about right/wrong, fair/unfair; the chief priests and elders of the people. ***"Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes [sub in your own list, or culture's current list, of "undesirables"] are entering the kingdom of God before you."***

Can you hear the gasp, still echoing throughout the ages, of those who heard this completely unfair statement coming out of Jesus' mouth? It reframes our whole "system," our typically "top down" order of how things "should" be when it comes to whom ends up getting what. And it reminds me of one of the final scenes in C.S. Lewis' *Till We Have Faces*, where the main character, Orual, watches her list of things that are unfair literally dribble off the page as she encounters what it means to be in the presence of the divine.

Maybe that's a good practice for us today, too, as we walk up to receive the Eucharist, allowing our complaints, and our lists of what should be different or what should be improved, to dissolve in the transforming presence of the very body of the one whose love doesn't make sense in a world obsessed with what's fair, and what isn't. It's amazing

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM
10:30 AM
7:00 PM

Weekday (M-F) 8:00 AM
at LJC - La Storta Chapel

Reconciliation

Saturdays: 3:30–4:30 PM,
or by appointment
503-777-1491

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday,
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Mass Intentions

Mon, September 28

† Anne McNeela

Tue, September 29

† All Souls

Wed, September 30

† Peter

Thur, October 1

Theresa Pieretti

Fri, October 2

† Vincent Obradovich

what God's presence does in the middle of unfair things.

Joseph Byrd can be found behind the piano at the 8 and 10:30am Masses and has been a parishioner since 2018.



AI and Our Faith

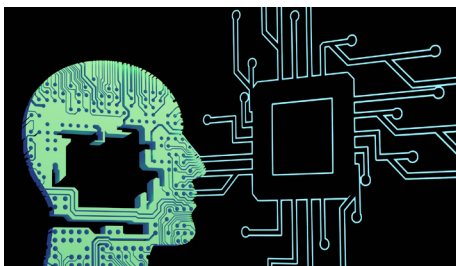
As we continue our exploration of how Catholic Social Teaching engages with emerging technologies like generative AI, it is vital to consider how their use affects the dignity of workers.

The Industrial Revolution brought about substantial changes in labor — activities like weaving, sewing, metalworking, and harvesting, which used to take vast numbers of people working arduously, could now be done faster and even more effectively by machines, enabling new and better ways of life.

We also know, however, that these changes were not all positive. Fossil fuel pollution warped our climate and sullied our natural world. Many lost jobs to mechanization and could not find more work without difficult and expensive retraining. The machines themselves were frequently unsafe, causing both chronic and acute injuries as labor became just another input to mechanized processes. Workers took home an increasingly smaller fraction of profits derived from their work.

By the 19th century, we saw the rise of socialist movements in answer to these changes, and Pope Leo XIII issued the Church's response in his encyclical *Rerum Novarum*. Here the Church emphasized the dignity of labor, the need for capitalists to care for those they employ, and the mutual rights and responsibilities of both.

We're now seeing a similar change happen with knowledge workers,



previously considered exempt from mechanization. Writers, artists, analysts, programmers, and managers are all being told that their work is no longer needed, as a computer can produce it instead. At the same time, it's harder than ever for young people to break into such work because the simpler work which used to serve as fodder for training them is also being given over to AI. When we give AI low-level or trivial tasks, we take learning opportunities from someone who could use them to grow.

At the heart of these developments there are multiple crises in our understanding of human work and human dignity. If we lose a generation of junior workers, will there be anyone capable of evaluating what the AI is actually producing? If vast swaths of effort could be so easily replaced with little regard for quality, is that work that is even worth doing?

When we use AI to generate a flyer, a menu, or a presentation, of course we run the risk of it producing something untrue or bad, but we have also lost the chance to work with another human, to encounter their perspective, to enjoy their expertise, and to give them the chance to use their God-given talents to create. Consider, too, how much more you treasure a handmade gift over a more "perfect" store-bought one. We value the human touch because it is evidence of human care... or we draw inward, encountering only ourselves and forgetting the communal connections that are our destiny in this world.

As Catholics we always consider dignity of humans (including ourselves) in all our actions; our choices to engage with AI are no different. We don't have to turn away from new things, but we *do* have to remember who we are and who we want to be.

Fr. Shane Liesegang, SJ

Catholic Social Teaching Series

Education Ministry at St. Ignatius is about telling your stories. Your story helps us read the signs of the times in the light of the Gospel and discern how God is at work in our lives and in the world today.

As Dr. Marshall Ganz reminds us, your story is not a script. It is personal. It is emotional. It comes forth from your own experiences. By sharing our stories and listening with open hearts, we grow together in faith and practice a synodal way of proceeding: listening, discerning, and responding to the Holy Spirit.

A foundational focus of our gatherings is Catholic Social Teaching <https://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/seven-themes-of-catholic-social-teaching> and Pope Leo XIV's encyclical *Magnifica Humanitas* <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/encyclicals/documents/20260515-magnifica-humanitas.html>.

This Fall's sessions include:

- October 4 - Catholic Social Teaching and Self: A Way of Being in the World
- October 18 - Catholic Social Teaching and Us: Technology in Relationship with Humanity
- November 1 - Catholic Social Teaching and Now: The Dignity of Work and the Civilization of Love.

All sessions meet from 11:45 AM to 2:00 PM at Dillon Hall. A light lunch will be provided.

Register to join the sessions [HERE: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4CAFAA2DA1F58-65693128-catholic#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4CAFAA2DA1F58-65693128-catholic#/)



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for infant up to age 7

Parents who are registered in the parish and attend Mass are asked to prepare by participating in one of the Infant Baptism Preparation Sessions. If your child is seven years of age or older, an additional session will be required for both you and your child.

To foster a hospitable and supportive environment, sessions are conducted in small group settings; therefore, class sizes are limited.

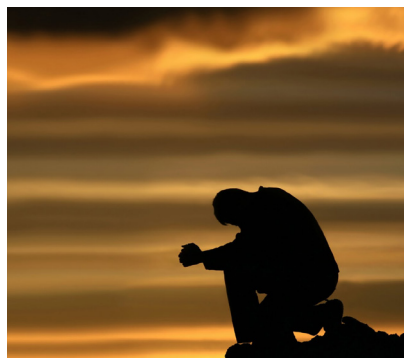
Register at: sipdx.org/baptism

Next dates: November 14, 2026
January 23, 2027

Contemplative Prayer

All early risers are welcome to join a small contemplative prayer group that meets on Friday mornings from 7-8am via Zoom. The group observes silence for 30 minutes followed by 30 minutes of faith sharing and fellowship.

Contact Ed Kaiel at ekaiel@pcc.edu for additional information and the Zoom link.



A ministry for Adults in their 20s/30s

FirePit-PDX strives to nurture and encourage intimate encounters with Jesus Christ through meaningful programs and events, and invite others for the first time, again, or more deeply into Christ's mission of Love, Mercy, and Justice.

Fall Schedule

- October 4, 2026 at 5 PM
- November 1, 2026 at 5 PM
- December 6, 2026 at 5 PM

For more information or to join our mailing list, please contact Deacon Mac at firepitpdx@gmail.com

Pray for Vocations

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support for the men in formation!

Meet David Romero, SJ



- ORDAINED July 7th, 2020
- Currently a JESUIT TERTIAN
- Born and raised in NORTHIDGE, CA
- Graduate of LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIV., FORDHAM UNIV. & BOSTON COLLEGE
- Studied Ignatian spirituality at the UNIVERSIDAD PONTIFICIA COMILLAS in Spain



Pray for David and Jesuit Vocations

Know someone who would make a great Jesuit like David?

BeAJesuit.org

or reach out to your Jesuit Pastor or Associate Pastor



COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS



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 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. San](#).

From July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

Church tithing	Actual	Budget	% of Goal
Sep. 7-13, 2026	9,520	11,158	85%
Month of September	21,962	48,474	45%
Full Year	124,171	637,000	19%

Make a Year-end Donation to St. Ignatius!

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA, payable directly to a qualified charity such as St. Ignatius Parish. By making a charitable IRA rollover, you can support our parish, help sustain our mission, and continue caring for our beautiful church.

You may transfer up to \$100,000 directly from your IRA to St. Ignatius Parish without paying income tax on the distribution, provided the transfer qualifies as a QCD.

To qualify:

- You must be age 73 or older.
- The transfer must be made directly from your IRA to St. Ignatius Parish.

Please consult your tax or financial advisor to determine whether a Qualified Charitable Distribution is right for you. If you have questions or need assistance with making a transfer, please contact the parish office. Thank you!



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Looking for Assistance?

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 or svdp@sipsx.org. Requests from our neighborhood are then forwarded to our SVdP pantry that delivers food to those in need on Saturday mornings. We are feeding God's people who have less than us!

Support our Pantry

Please consider bringing non-perishable food donations to the Masses on the weekends and placing them in baskets in the vestibule or making a cash donation through [Realm Connect](#). Your support is much appreciated.





Our 8th grade leaders led our first Family Groups! The students enjoyed getting to know one another during this community building time together talking about our school year theme and what it means to be a “Choose love. Choose to serve.” In preparation for Family Groups, our 7th graders spent time getting to know our preschoolers this week.



We are excited to share that we are again partnering with the University of Portland’s School of Nursing. During this fall trimester, we will have two nursing students on our campus one day a week. During their time with us, they will conduct a vision screening for our students, teach students lessons on handwashing, nutrition, and other health topics, and teach our staff more in-depth lessons on health related content.

It's not too late to contribute to this year's Jog-a-thon. Please consider making a donation to our Jog-a-thon through Realm with a notation for the Jog-a-thon or via a check to St. Ignatius School with Jog-a-thon on the memo line. Checks may be mailed or dropped off in our school's office daily from 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Thank you for supporting a rich Catholic education supporting our mission to develop students committed to building a just and compassionate world for all.



Thank you for your support of our **Gator Groove Our Way to \$50K!**

We are blessed to have received a generous disbursement from our St. Ignatius School Foundation. This year our Foundation supported our school's general funding needs with some funds directed toward tuition assistance with a check for \$171,451.!!! Way to go!

Join us for our first pancake breakfast this weekend on Sunday after the 10:30 AM Mass!

Principal

Carol Pausz
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School Secretary

Julie Frangipani
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Ext 233

Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon, exist to give witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As an apostolate of the Church, Catholic Schools minister the salvation of Jesus Christ, exercising His mission to teach (Mt. 28:19-20) by providing Mission Passionate Catholic Education.

May we revel in the many blessings we have experienced this week, “**Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having all you need, you may have an abundance for every good work,**” 2 Corinthians 8.

Carol Pausz
Principal

We, the community of St. Ignatius School, in the tradition of Mother Marie Rose and St. Ignatius of Loyola, provide a faith-centered Catholic education guiding God's children toward building a just and compassionate world.

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