



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

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

JANUARY 24, 2021

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

A Fresh Imagination

Dear Parishioners:

Imagine Galileo and his neighbors around 1563 standing together watching the dawn. Both of them saw the same physical reality: the sun emerging on the horizon and gradually growing larger. But they interpreted what they saw in different ways. The neighbors imagined the sun rising. Galileo imagined the earth declining. And that difference in imagination is why Galileo went on to become the father of astronomy, and his neighbors remained in a medieval worldview.

The German philosophy Immanuel Kant once wrote, "Imagination is the ground of all knowledge." People misunderstand the power of imagination if they scoff at an unusual explanation of something by saying: "That's just your imagination." "To imagine" is not to make something up out of nowhere; to imagine is to illuminate in a new way something that is already there. **To imagine** is to observe the familiar and ordinary but from a novel perspective, from a point of view that accounts for the data of experience in a creative way.

This is what Jesus was doing in his first words in Mark's gospel: *This is the time of fulfillment. The Kingdom God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the good news.* Here Jesus speaks with prophetic imagination. To see what this means it is first necessary to explain the background of his appearance along the Sea of Galilee.

When Jesus was growing up as a young man, the Jewish religion suffered from a crisis of imagination. Judaism's ancient images no longer spoke to their present situation. The old traditions no longer animated their freshly felt longings for dignity and freedom from oppression.

Jews imagined that God made his dwelling in *their* Temple, but then how explain the magnificent temples of Zeus or Apollo? The children of Abraham imagined they were a nation special to God – but what about all those other nations, especially the warrior peoples whom God seemed to favor in conflicts with the Jews. The Hebrews imagined that God accepted *their* sacrifices, but then mocked their neighbors for believing that God literally ate the votive offerings. Jews still believed in God, but their stagnant imagination reduced their ineffable, exciting God into an idol they could control.

Then along came Jesus. He saw the same problems, the same God, but he imagined the challenge of religious identity from a new perspective. He called his vision "Good News." In his imagination, Jesus realized that God was a God of all people, that all nations were equally distant and equally close to God. In his imagination, he envisioned God as a Father who blessed instead of cursed, loved instead of condemned, and restored instead of destroyed. He imagined earth as the antechamber of heaven. He imagined the kingdom of Caesar transformed into the kingdom of God.

But Jesus realized that no one else shared his vision, not even his cousin, John the Baptist. Jesus resolved to gather disciples whom he would teach in a new way. As Albert Einstein said about the cosmos: "If you cannot imagine it, you cannot understand it." That is why Jesus spoke in parables.

Jesus imagined the kingdom as leavened bread, as a wandering sheep or lost coin or prodigal son. He imagined the kingdom to grow from a tiny seed into a huge

Continued on next page

Recorded Masses online is Available Saturdays at
4:15PM, all Videos are available on our
Youtube channel at: [St Ignatius Parish-Portland](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL6GMqY13YZIDr39JjRVi8w/videos)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL6GMqY13YZIDr39JjRVi8w/videos>

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PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Continued from front page:

shrub, even while people were asleep. He imagined the kingdom to include everyone, especially those unwelcome anywhere else. Out of the genius of the imagination of Jesus, a new religious practice was born.

What is Christian religion's challenge today? What is the biggest obstacle for faith to make an impact on today's world? It is the failure of nerve that comes from the failure of bold imagination. Theologian Amos Wilder predicted that "when imagination fails, then doctrine ossifies, preaching is wooden, litanies are empty, consolation is hollow and ethics become legalism." The church needs to steel its nerve, step into the deeper water, and if it panics and begins to sink, like Peter, look for Jesus on the waves.

On October 30, 1939, Orson Welles produced the radio program "War of the Worlds." It was about Martians making a fictitious invasion of earth. It caused such a panic that the police had to broadcast from their squad cars that it was just a story, no need for alarm. Now the people who panicked at the story of the invasion were not unintelligent, gullible, or crazy – they were simply misinformed. Once they received the correct information, they calmed down.

A similar dynamic has taken place these past several years in the United States. People have heard stories of conspiracies that have influenced large numbers of citizens to mistrust news media, political rivals, and even the fairness of recent elections. Unlike a scary radio show, however, a pattern of misinformation over recent years has resulted in divisions among friends and co-workers and even family members. Americans who love their country end up in opposing camps suspicious of one another's patriotism. It almost feels as if anger at the other side stokes the fires of lasting enmity. Fear and anguished sadness cast a spell over the land.

What does the Lord's prophetic imagination say to us today? Jesus' vision of *Good News* is that God's intervention is at hand -- God's pervasive influence is working through the imperative: Repent! When you and I step back from parsing the flaws in others, when we look instead to what needs maturing in our own hearts, then the Kingdom of God is at hand. Then true dialogue can begin, then people can listen with tenderness and respect, then what we have in common will outweigh our differences.

Jesus imagines a world in which his followers measure their lives not according to this world's priorities, but according to the ways of God. **Now** is the time to change, Jesus says, the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent!

Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.
Pastor

WEEKLY JUSTICE RECOMMENDATION

8th Annual Creation Justice Summit (formally the Earth Care Summit):

Our Kinship with Oregon's Sacred Waters. Commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Columbia River Watershed Pastoral Letter, this virtual conference will include a keynote panel (including Fr. Chuck Lienert and Wilbur Slockish, Jr.), workshops, and a closing address from U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley.

Saturday, January 30 from 1:00-4:15 p.m. The registration link is now live at:

<https://emoregon.org/event/cj-summit/>

MASS READINGS

Mass Readings for Jan 24, 2021

Jonah 3:1-5, 10
1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20

Mass Readings for Jan 31, 2021

Deuteronomy 18:15-20
1 Corinthians 7:32-35
Mark 1:21-28

CONFIRMATION SUPPLY DRIVE



THE ST. MICHAEL'S HOMELESS PROJECT PROVIDES LUNCHES, DINNERS, AND SUPPLIES TO PORTLAND'S HOMELESS COMMUNITY. THIS YEAR OUR YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS IS GATHERING DONATIONS TO HELP THEM!

WHERE?

COME TO ST IGNATIUS
CHURCH

WHEN?

FEBRUARY 6TH
10AM-12PM

WHAT TO BRING:

INDIVIDUALLY PREPACKAGED
DRY SNACKS, SOCKS, HAND
WARMERS, GLOVES

PEOPLE FROM THE YOUTH
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BE THERE TO RECEIVE YOUR
GENEROUS DONATION.
THANK YOU!

IGNITE

Go Forth and Set the World on Fire ~ Jan 24th

This year in IGNITE we will explore prayer in the Catholic Tradition through music and the lives of Saints and Mystics. The invitation is simple:

COME -with an open heart to see what it is all about

CONTEMPLATE -the presence of the Holy Spirit in your own life and experience.

CONNECT - to the Mass, the saints, the people of St. Ignatius, and your heart.

DATES: Jan 24, Feb 14, Mar 14, Mar 28, Apr 11, Apr 25

Come to one class, come to all - as you desire All classes will take place from 6 - 7:15PM on Zoom.

Meeting ID: 882 2844 4763 Passcode: 1491

To Join our mailing list, contact Grace at gbyrd@sipdx.org

Visit www.sipdx.org/IGNITE

SUNG FRIDAY VESPERS

Learn to sing vespers in the comfort of your own home. Every Friday evening on Zoom. First Session starts Friday, January 22nd, at 6:30PM, meet and greet, 6:45PM brief overview of vespers 7-7:30PM: sung vespers. Email: Sarah at sjarvinen2000@yahoo.com for Zoom link and program.

INFANT BAPTISM ~ NEXT DATE

Baptism - We will be celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism on **Saturday, February 6th**. Register your child now to participate in our next baptism class on **ZOOM-Thursday, January 28th**.

SIGN UP ONLINE NOW AT: www.sipdx.org/baptism (Spots are limited.)

2020 GIVING STATEMENTS

Sign in to your REALM account, you will find your 2020 Giving Statement is on your account opening page, beginning Feb 1st! Go to: onrealm.org/sipdx

In thanksgiving for the life of Patrick McDonagh

SCHOOL



Last week we handed out postcards for our current families to send out to possible prospective families. We are hoping to add many new faces to our school next year. While our junior high is close to capacity, there are many spots available in the younger grades. Please help spread the word! We know that having our community promote our amazing school is the most effective marketing strategy.

Remember to let people know that financial aid is available! We will be holding a Virtual Information Night on

February 4 at 6:00. Interested families can RSVP at the school website, www.sispdx.org.

The first graders had a great first week back at school in-person for half days. They spent a lot of time learning the new safety procedures. Next, we will welcome back our second graders to the school building. These are exciting days for all of us here on campus. We are so grateful to the families for sticking with us during these last ten months.



Kathleen Downing
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PARISH STAFF

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(WORKING REMOTE AT THIS TIME)

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Ext 221

The school has a new fundraiser for Valentine's Day. **Valentine's Day Raffle tickets** went home to families last week. Each family received four tickets to sell per child. Proceeds from this fundraiser will go to the school's general fund. The prize is a HUGE stuffed bear and a gift basket worth \$500. Thank you to our amazing Parent's Association Chair, Amanda Evenhus, for spearheading this effort! If you would like to purchase tickets, they are \$5 each and can be picked up at the school office.
Call 503-774-5533.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

WOMEN'S VALENTINE RETREAT

Arise, my friend, my beautiful one, and come! (Song of Songs 2:13b)



Join us for a retreat about God's love for us and our love for God.

Saturday, February 13, 2021
via Zoom, 10am – noon

Presenters: Tara Ludwig of the Faber Institute
& Ana Guizado

To register visit the St. Ignatius website at www.sipdx.org

Questions? Contact Beth at bschaller@sipdx.org.

Presented by: *Women, Arise! Ministry*

Donations gratefully accepted. Donate via the St. Ignatius website under "misc." and include a memo to direct your donation or send a check to St. Ignatius Catholic Church.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Co-Chair: Joyce Keane
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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

In the subject line please include either:

Asking for prayers

OR

Add me to the Email list to pray

FAMILY LIFE

Children's Liturgy continues to meet via Zoom on Sunday mornings from 10:30-11:00 a.m. The link is on the Family Life page of our website.

<https://www.sipdx.org/family-life>

Thank you to Nathan Williams, Michele Becker, and Angela & Nick Kockler for generously offering this ministry during the pandemic.

Do you want to receive regular family life updates and monthly faith formation ideas? To join the family life weekly email list, please email bschaller@sipdx.org.

Mom's Group meets 2nd and 4th Sundays via Zoom. To join this wonderful group for friendship and faith, email Beth Schaller at bschaller@sipdx.org.

Glorious Patriarch Saint Joseph, whose power makes the impossible possible, come to our aid in these times of anguish and difficulty.

Take under your protection the serious and troubling situations that we commend to you, that they may have a happy outcome.

Our beloved father, all our trust is in you. Let it not be said that we invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show us that your goodness is as great as your power. Amen.

KUDOS & DID YOU KNOW?

- ⇒ Breese Watson and Joseph Byrd for diagnosing the boiler and fan challenges in Dillon Hall.
- ⇒ Amanda Evenhus and Parents Club for operating the school's Valentine Raffle (get your ticket at the school office for only \$5 call 503-774-5533.
- ⇒ Fr. Billy for creative proposal for parking lot distribution of ashes on Ash Wednesday from noon-1:00 PM.
- ⇒ Patty for updating and organizing the archived bulletins.



⇒ The next full moon in the northern hemisphere is January 28.

⇒ **Fr. Dan turns 79 on this Thursday, Jan. 21.**

⇒ the draft of Fr. Gary Smith's new book, "Moments in the Breach" (taken from Isaiah 58:10-12 You will rebuild the ancient ruins, You will be called a Breach-mender, Restorer of ruined houses) is at the copy editor.

DAILY PRAYER INTENTIONS



Please keep in your prayers

Monday	Jan 25	† Bob Stark
Tuesday	Jan 26	† Theresa Obradovich Stankovik Family
Wednesday	Jan 27	† Keith Frangipani
Thursday	Jan 28	† Patrick McDonagh
Friday	Jan 29	† Jim Emig



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