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**CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
**UNDER THE CARE OF THE JESUITS**

**PASTOR'S MESSAGE**

**MAY 24, 2020**

**ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

## Where is Heaven?

Dear Parishioners:

This weekend is the celebration of the Lord's Ascension to heaven, so heaven is a good topic to ponder. A story comes to mind.

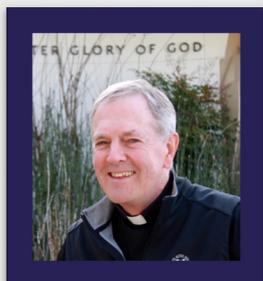
A man was walking down the road when he spied a farmer. The man approached him and said, "Sir, I have traveled a long way and am thinking of settling in the next town. Tell me, what kind of people are there?" The farmer asked, "What kind of people were in the town you left?" The man replied, "Oh, it wasn't so good. The people there were selfish, detached, just out for themselves. Couldn't care less about you or about what happened." The farmer said, "You'll find the same kind of folks in the next town." The man thanked him and went in another direction.

Later that day, another traveler passed by and said to the farmer, "Sir, I have traveled a long way and am thinking of settling in the next town. Tell me, what kind of people are there?" The farmer asked, "What kind of people were in the town you left?" The man replied, "It was hard to leave. The people sang with you in the good times and helped you in the bad times. It wasn't perfect, but the people were basically good and friendly." The farmer said, "You'll find the same kind of folks in the next town."

What do you expect heaven is going to be like? If heaven is the place where love dwells, and love is Jesus putting on a towel and washing your feet, do you want to live in that heaven? It's great when Jesus washes your feet – but what about when it's your turn to wash another's feet?

It's fun to ask little kids what they think about heaven. With typical imagination and inventiveness, some said heaven was in the sky. Others thought it was a big city where people had mansions and God sat on a throne with Jesus at his right hand. One boy said heaven had angels, too, but that boy angels don't wear dresses.

One thoughtful little girl said heaven was where your mom is always baking your favorite cookies, and the fresh sheets on your bed were dried in the sun. On this weekend when the church celebrates that Jesus "was taken up to heaven," what does heaven mean for you?



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**MUSIC:**  
**OPENING SONG – SING OUT, EARTH AND**  
**SKIES—BB 554**  
**INTERLUDE SONG—IN CHRIST ALONE—BB**  
**405**  
**CLOSING SONG—CITY OF GOD—385**  
**(A LINK TO THE LYRICS ARE POSTED ON OUR**  
**WEBSITE.)**

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

**Continued from front page:** Not long ago, Pope Francis wrote that heaven is not a place as much as a new dimension of relating to God. When Jesus was taken from the sight of his first followers, his ascension did not end his presence in the world. On the contrary, it meant that the Risen Jesus was no longer limited to one place and time as the usual human person is. Because Jesus dwells in the "God-zone" called heaven, he is present to everyone all the time.

The first meaning of the Ascension, then, is that the Risen Jesus (and every one of our ancestors who dwells in the life of God called heaven) is completely present to every square inch and to every moment of time on the earth. The "Communion of Saints" is not a mere metaphor. Our departed family members and guardian spirits have real access to us all the time – and we to them.

The second meaning of the Ascension is that heaven awaits us, too. When you and I remember the Ascension, we anticipate what the promise of our life in God has in store for us. Celebration of the Ascension is our human way of renewing our hope in order to face the difficult times in our present.

Where is heaven? Where is the Risen Jesus? He is hiding in the most needy among us – waiting for us to show them the same kind of compassion as Jesus will show us when it is our turn to die and awaken in his arms. Where the human family comes together in mutual respect and care, there is the vestibule of heaven.

Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.  
Pastor

## PRIVATE PRAYER TIME IN CHURCH



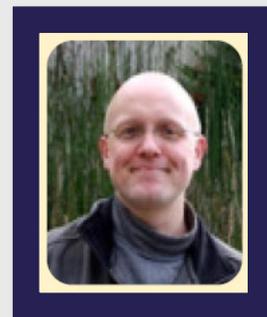
**"Open Church" time for private prayer** starts Tuesday, May 26, and will be open from 11am to 1pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week.

**Face masks** will be required, and will be provided for those who need them, along with hand sanitizer, and appropriate social distancing measures, following the state-mandated guidelines of a maximum of 25 people.

**Signing in**, and providing your contact information, will also be required, and volunteers will be present to guide you through entering at the southwest parking lot door, with quiet music will be playing in the church throughout.

Peace and all good,

Joseph Byrd Pastoral Administrator and Music Director [jbyrd@sipdx.org](mailto:jbyrd@sipdx.org)



- to Mike Moore for his artful work with our weekly, pre-recorded Mass
- To Matthew Pearl and Rosanna Fleming for their quiet, constant work of leading our St. Vincent de Paul ministry
- to Emily Gumper and Matthew Pearl for leading the way with "Open Church" prayer time
- to our School's teachers who are outdoing themselves in providing online learning
- to Grace for launching Virtual Coffee and Donuts, with 170 views by 11:45am on Sunday, 5/17
- to Steve Scopelleti for walking our campus to keep an eye on things, and clearing litter

## MASS READINGS

### Mass Readings for May 24, 2020

Acts 1:1-11

Ephesians 1:17-23

Gospel—Matthew 28:16-20

### Mass Readings for May 31, 2020

Acts 2:1-11

1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

Gospel—John 20:19-23

## FAMILY LIFE ~ VBS

### Vacation Bible School

As we look towards summer I am exploring options for supporting families. Traditionally we have partnered with Holy Family and Moreland Presbyterian Churches to offer Vacation Bible School. Due to social distancing we cannot offer a large program this summer but we can still offer something fun for families the week of July 6-10. Please help us plan by providing your feedback on a very short survey here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DJZQMDG>

I'm working on developing a "care package" model for our program that will provide families off-line activities around our theme, as well as a few virtual activities, too. We will still have music and an opportunity to connect online with the other participating families. If you think you would like to participate in an "at-home VBS" with other St. Ignatius families this summer, please email me at [bschaller@sipdx.org](mailto:bschaller@sipdx.org) with your family's information (name, ages of children, contact information including address, phone and email).

Middle School & High School Youth – if you want to play a part in our summer program I have many fun jobs available from creating crossword puzzles, demonstrating a science experiment or craft on a video, or making care packages for the participating families. If that sounds like fun to you, please contact [bschaller@sipdx.org](mailto:bschaller@sipdx.org) for more information.



### PENTECOST AT HOME

This weekend we celebrate the Ascension and next weekend (May 30-31) will be the feast of Pentecost, the birthday of the Church. If you're anything like me right now, you could use a big dose of the Holy Spirit. This is a feast that deserves a celebration! Make the

most of this day and use it to pray for and acknowledge the Holy Spirit in our lives. Which gift of the Spirit do you most need at this time? I invite you to join our parish family and put a symbol of Pentecost in your window or on your door – a red flame, a dove, etc. Here is a beautiful example:

Directions are here: <https://www.catholicteacher.com/activity-printable-stained-glass-pentecost-symbol/>



#### Pentecost:

1. the Christian festival celebrating the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Jesus after his Ascension, held on the seventh Sunday after Easter. (Acts 2:1-31)
2. the Jewish festival of Shavuot.

Some other ideas for Pentecost at home:

Visit our Family Life page at <https://www.sipdx.org/family-life>

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

**Children's Liturgy with Michele Becker – Sunday 10:30-11:00 a.m.**

Michele Becker is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

**Topic: St Ignatius Children's Liturgy of the Word May 24 Ascension**

**Time: May 24, 2020 10:30 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77196669792?pwd=T1FvdDB5QnR1WHdHSUo2ZUFsTWp5Z209>

**Meeting ID: 771 9666 9792**

**Password: 3Y5nY6**

### PARISH STAFF

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

Email anytime at  
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## PASTORAL COUNCIL

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Jouce.sipdx@gmail.com

Co-Chair: James Nguyen  
james@dragonberryproduce.com

### Pastoral Council Members:

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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)

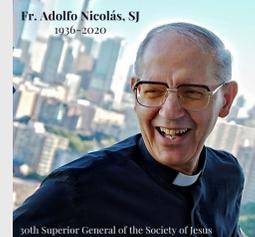
In the subject line please include either:

*Asking for prayers*  
OR

*Add me to the Email list to pray*

## IN THANKSGIVING

*In Thanksgiving for the lives of  
Charlie Mantia, brother of Mike Mantia,  
Ed Watkins, brother of Sr. Marian Watkins  
And Fr Adolfo Nicolás, SJ  
former Superior General of the Society of Jesus.*



## MOM'S GROUP & WOMEN'S PENTECOST REFLECTION

### Mom's Group – meets Sundays from 9:15-10:15 a.m.

May 26 - We will be discussing the role of reading in our spiritual lives and in our family lives. Contact [bschaller@sipdx.org](mailto:bschaller@sipdx.org) for the Zoom link.

Women's Pentecost Gospel Reflection – Sat, May 30 Tara Ludwig and Ana Guizado will offer reflections based on the Pentecost readings. More details will be coming soon!

## FOOD • FAMILY • FAITH

*"For I was hungry and you gave me food."*

### A Work of Mercy: Food boxes to those in need Who may receive a free USDA Food Box?

*There is no requirement to prove need.* This USDA Food Box program ensures that lack of transportation, isolation and grocery store scarcity do not create a barrier to fresh food. **How do I arrange to pick up a Food Box for my family?** Simply find the closest Public Distribution location listed. No appointment necessary. Please arrive between the distribution times listed for each location. Quantities are limited, so arrive early.

For more information and locations: <https://evangelization.archdpdx.org/usda-food-box>

## S.E.E.L.

### The Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life

Do you desire to deepen your prayer life and grow in your relationship with God? Do you desire to better discern your deepest desires so as understand God's call and presence in your lives? Do you desire to be reflective, seek God in all things, and draw nearer to Jesus becoming a Contemplative in Action? Consider making the retreat called The Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life (SEEL). Applications are now being accepted for 2020-21.

Please visit our website: <http://seelportland.org> for more information or call Janet Buck at 503-951-8682.



## FLIPGRID FUN....IT'S EASY....



Hello all of you coffee and donuts lovers!

This week on Flipgrid you have an opportunity to ask your own question! What do you want to know about your fellow parishioners? After you ask your question, the fun has just begun! Then you get the chance to check out everyone else's questions and leave them a video of your answer! I asked a great question to start it off...I can't wait to hear what you have to say! Remember the code: <https://flipgrid.com/byrd8616>

## DID YOU KNOW??

- Billy Biegler, SJ is coming to St. Ignatius this summer, look for his video on our website! [www.sipdx.org](http://www.sipdx.org)
- St. Ignatius Parish may host the ordination of Billy Biegler and San Mai some time this summer.

## SCHOOL NEWS



*We need to see with the eyes of faith the beauty of God's saving plan, the link between the natural environment and the dignity of the human person.*

Pope Francis, Laudato Si, 2015

Perhaps one of the most gratifying impacts of the extended quarantine is a noticeable shift in our environment. Everywhere are reports of wild animals appearing in spaces where they are typically not seen, nitrogen dioxide is down 22% globally compared to the same period in 2019 and giant leatherback sea turtles are benefitting from empty beaches during nesting season to come back in historic numbers. This has happened in the span of a few months in response to a major shift in human activity and behavior. What might we do if we were really trying?

This week marks the fifth anniversary of Pope Francis's historic environmental encyclical, Laudato Si, On the Care of Our Common Home. And this week, St. Ignatius sixth graders engaged in Virtual Outdoor School, in a quarantine version of a long-honored tradition of spending a week outside, mastering science skills, celebrating community connection and deepening each child's appreciation of our diverse, northwest environment.

Like regular outdoor school, lessons were to proceed rain or shine. Students were directed to turn off their devices for the entire week and use journals. This week, some students will be camped in their backyards. They are building mini-watershed models to track the movement of water in our eco-system. They are crafting animal ears and creating sound maps to learn how animals rely on sound to track what is happening in the environment. They are studying soil settlement and identifying birds and plants.

Our hope is that they begin to get to know our native ecology. That they will understand how closely our economy is connected to the precious natural resources here, and give us strong motivation to be good stewards. Most importantly, we hope they will love being focused on God's gifts in nature: gifts that sustain and inspire us. We hope they will become strong advocates of Care for Our Common Home.



Blessings and Stay Safe –  
Kelli Clark, Principal

## COMING TO ST IGNATIUS THIS SUMMER!



Please visit our website to listen to an introduction video sent to us from **Billy Biegler, SJ**. He will begin serving in our parish this summer.

Found on our opening page directly under the Mass recording for May 24th.  
[www.sipdx.org](http://www.sipdx.org)

## DAILY INTENTIONS FOR PRAYER

*Please keep in your prayers*

Monday	May 25	†	Kirk Huffstetler
Tuesday	May 26	†	Mike Merriman
Wednesday	May 27	†	Charlie Mantia
Thursday	May 28	†	Ed Watkins
Friday	May 29	†	Jim Emig



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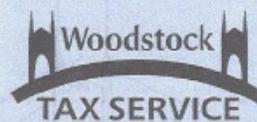


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