



ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

3400 SE 43rd Avenue * Portland, OR 97206 * 503-777-1491 * www.sipdx.org

September 22, 2019

A Steward's Wisdom

Dear Parishioners:

This weekend we commission parishioners to roles of leadership in the faith community. At all of the Masses, members of the Pastoral Council, Finance Council, Stewardship Team, Campus Care Team, Administration Commission, and Community/Family Life Commission will stand to receive their mission for the year. Our prayer is that the same Spirit who raised up these leaders for service will accompany them to support the whole parish community to accomplish our mission: "to heed the urgent call of Jesus in our time."

Today's scriptures serve as a cautionary tale. In the first reading, the prophet Amos warns powerful people not to wrench profit from the poor. Examples of exploitation today abound. Drug dealers make money from addicts. Phone scams dupe the elderly. Unscrupulous bosses rip off undocumented workers with hazardous work environments and substandard pay. Criminals traffic foreigners for domestic and sexual slavery. When it comes to care of the earth, the authoritarian regime of Brazil burns the Amazon rain forest – and closer to home, people keep discarding plastic bottles and wasting food.

In the second reading, Paul urges intercessory prayer especially for civil leaders. Partisan politics play out on CNN, MSNBC, and FOX television networks. Consider some of the hot button topics: immigration, gun control, religious bigotry -- or trade wars that roil the markets. Polite civil discourse is challenging enough, much less praying for your opponents. Is there any doubt that the human family needs divine wisdom to help us move past our differences and embrace instead the values we have in common?

Today's gospel is about a dishonest steward – and about the value he might unwittingly teach. Some people wonder why Jesus referred to the steward's fraud and embezzlement in commending his shrewdness to provide for his future. Note, Jesus is not commending the steward for his dishonesty or selfishness.

What Jesus commends is the value of living with a sense of purpose. Although the steward was entering a crisis of his own making, he did not lose his sense of hope for the future. He was not immobilized by worry. Instead, the steward seized the possibility of a new job and a new boss. He was shrewd, clever and daring – even if he was dishonest. Jesus commends living fully in the present moment in the light of eternity. Jesus urges his hearers to invest now in the opportunities that are at hand "in order to be received into heavenly dwellings." And note: your mission is to be holy *now* – your choices now are unrepeatably valuable to hasten God's reign on earth.

Yes, the steward is a rogue. Jesus often used shady characters to reverse the usual expectations for how the Kingdom of God works. Remember the unjust judge Jesus used to illustrate God's responsiveness to persistent prayer? Jesus was fond of this kind of example. His point is an argument from lesser to greater. If an unjust steward or unjust judge will eventually do something right, how much more will God do the right thing?

Today's Readings:

Amos	8:4-7
1 Timothy	2:1-88
Luke	16:1-13

Next Sunday's Readings:

Amos	6:1a, 4-7
1 Timothy	6:11-16
Luke	16:19-31

Preaching Next Sunday:
Fr. Craig Boly, SJ

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00PM
Sunday: 8:00AM & 10:30AM
Sunday Contemplative: 7:30PM
Daily: Monday 8:00AM in church
 Tuesday - Friday 8:00AM La Storta Chapel
Centering Prayer: Friday 7:00AM
Anointing Mass: First Friday 8:00AM
First Saturday Mass: 8:00AM
Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30-4:30PM
 or by appointment with a priest

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It may seem a little scandalous that Jesus was not “respectable.” He was not afraid to use sinners in his stories. He was not afraid to eat with sinners, touch lepers, or challenge hypocrites. After all, he was executed on a cross between thieves. By contrast, imagine if Jesus depicted God as a righteous bookkeeper. Imagine if Jesus said that your life will end up before a God who only rewards those whose accounts are paid in full? What if only perfect lives were allowed in the record books of heaven? Think about your life. Aren’t you glad that Jesus can teach divine wisdom even from the example of a scoundrel?

Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.
Pastor

 **IGNITE—Classes start Sunday, Sept. 22, from 6-7:15pm.**

Women's Club outing on Sept. 28th, out to lunch at La Provence on Division. Please meet at South side of church parking lot to car pool by 11:00, unless you want to just meet there. Please call Nancy at 503-659-9473, or Sharon at 971-340-7525, or just email us. Hope to see you there!



Moms - MOPS 2019-2020 registration is open!

Moms – are you looking for a breath of inspiration and some adult time? Join the Moreland MOPS group this year on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month from 9:15-11:15 a.m. Childcare is provided while moms enjoy breakfast, fellowship with other moms, speakers on relevant topics and more. MOPS is a faith-based group for Moms of children birth through kindergarten. Contact Beth Schaller at bschaller@sipdx.org for more information or to visit the group.

Realm Connect

We are beginning to introduce the online platform “Realm” for use on smartphones, laptops, tablets and desktop computers to keep you connected to all that is happening at St. Ignatius Church and School.

The application, "**Connect - Our Church Community**" is available for smartphones for free download in the Apple App Store and Google Play Store and online at <https://onrealm.org/sipdx> . A few of the benefits of using this application include instant notifications to your mobile phone, access to information for specific parish and school groups and events and the ability to set up secure online giving with receipts of all donations. Questions?...call Patty at 503-777-1491 or email office@sipdx.org. If you are not a user of smartphone or computer applications, not to worry, we will continue to publish and plan to enhance the information available in our weekly paper bulletin.

The dates for the 2019 High School Open Houses are as follows:
October 3 – Jesuit * October 13 – Central Catholic * October 20 – Valley Catholic and De La Salle North Catholic * October 27 – St. Mary’s Academy
*** November 3 – La Salle Prep**

Please consider volunteering

for Communion Visitors - to homebound individuals and for Communion Service to various Senior Living communities. No experience needed as training will be offered and requires minimal time each month. If you are interested in being trained for this important ministry please call Theresa King at 503-730-9759.

Mass Intentions

Monday	Sep 23	† Kenny Bibles
Tuesday	Sep 24	† Amelia
Wednesday	Sep 25	† Cordelia Odila
Thursday	Sep 26	Hickey & Knisley family
Friday	Sep 27	† Jim Emig



Next School Mass is September 25, 2019 at 1:20PM in the church



ST. IGNATIUS SCHOOL

*Love consists in sharing what one has
and what one is with those one loves.
- St. Ignatius of Loyola*

Job Description ~ After School Enrichment Staff

St. Ignatius School is seeking a team member for our redesigned after-school enrichment program. A strong candidate will be a creative, collaborative professional for this unique PK-8 Catholic School. Please send resume and letter of interest to Kelli Clark, Principal.

Save the date for:



We want your empty cans and bottles. We have partnered with BottleDrop to fundraise for our Tech Program. Follow these 4 easy steps:

- " Stop by the school office and pick up your blue bags.
- " Fill the blue bag—plastic, aluminum and glass all go in the same bag.
- " Return your blue bags to any BottleDrop location. The label on the blue bag will open the secure drop door.

Thank you for supporting St. Ignatius School!



Church Office
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office@sipdx.org

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Fr. Dan Sullivan, SJ
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Pastoral Council
Co-Chair- James Nguyen
james@dragonberryproduce.com

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

**A full list of staff & council
members is located on
our webpage at
www.sipdx.org/parish-staff**

This I Believe

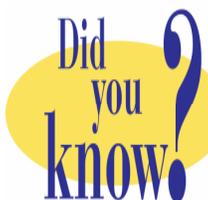
(This reflection is part of a new on-going series from parishioners using This I Believe to express something essential about our faith practices.)

I believe culture and community are powerful shapers of who we become. I was a Cold War baby: born to military parents, survivors of and arguably in flight from poverty in Missouri, they found a place in the frequently glamorous flyboy world of the USAF officer corps. An unchurched, nuclear family, we believed we would eradicate Communism, and arose in sleepy awe at 4 in the morning to watch grainy space shots on black and white televisions. Like the astronauts, we drank Tang.

The work of a child included being seen and not heard, obeying the military routines of the household and doing as well as you could in school. I had a heightened, nervous sense as a first grader on a small airbase in the arctic that somehow the outcome of the Cold War hinged on my learning to read and write well.

I frequently reflect on the experiences of the children in our own parish school. They are surrounded by a deep culture and a community invested in who they become, how they develop their gifts and how they use them for others in service and faith. Beyond being a school (my experience) we are a rich community of faith and formation. I believe when a child experiences this formation, they get to live a different kind of life, where their lens is beyond who the enemy might be into who, in the image of God, we can become together.

Blessings on your week –
Kelli Clark, Principal



- ◆ *You too can participate in the reflection series, "This I Believe"! If you are interested, please call the office and submit your name and you will receive outline information.*
- ◆ *You can also submit items to office@sipdx.org for the bulletin—deadline is on Monday at noon for the following Sunday.*

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