



ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

December 15, 2019

Rejoice in the Lord

Dear Parishioners:

Today is *Gaudete* Sunday, the third Sunday in Advent named after the Latin imperative *Rejoice!* The color of the candle on the Advent wreath and the liturgical vestments is rose-colored – to signal a special joy – that when Christ comes, the world will treat everyone with respect and everywhere there will be peace. We are joyful because Jesus promises a new world where God’s desires for blessing will prevail over selfishness and divisions.

Anointing of the Sick at all of this weekend’s Masses is one significant source of joy. Emmanuel is almost tangibly felt within the community when the circle of parishioners surrounds the one being anointed, and like the Lord touching those he healed, we hold the one at the center of our prayer for healing. All those anointed are *healed* – of anxiety, discouragement or unbelief. And some are *cured* – if the return of their strength and health is for their spiritual betterment and the blessing of their faith community.

Today’s gospel features John the Baptist in a prison cell. Earlier the gospel had shown John as brave and popular and in charge, and people flocking to him and hanging on his every word. But now things are different. No crowds, no affirmations, no Messiah nearby to point to. And plenty of time to think.

John had announced that the Messiah has come. But now as he gazed through his prison bars, where’s all the Messiah confidence? Where’s the peaceable kingdom? The blooming desert? Reconciliation, tolerance, brotherhood? You see him begin to face all of the difficulties. Had he backed the wrong horse? Was it all an illusion? Had Jesus made a difference?

John’s questions seem so contemporary. In our era of turmoil in the church and in our political discourse, where is the Messiah and the peace he came to bring? In Matthew’s gospel, Jesus senses John’s temptation to cynicism – and perhaps our own – and sympathetically responds.

Jesus sends the message to the prisoner that says, in effect, “Listen, John, you may be looking for the Messiah in all the wrong places. I’m not what you expected, and not what people wanted. I’m not a celebrity survivor, a warrior to slay dissidents, or a master to impose conformity and servitude. I have not come for domination and conquest to enforce virtue and wipe out evil. You won’t find me in the halls of power. Remember, I was born in a stable.”

“But, I tell you, you will find me wherever someone helps the blind to see, the lame to walk, the sick to heal, the deaf to hear, the spiritually dead to rise, and the poor to better their lives. And blessed are the ones who take no offense at my doing it this way.”

That’s where the Messiah is. And blessed are those who know this, and minister to Jesus in the least of his little ones, and thereby reveal the Messianic presence. When people are still asking where the Messiah is, perhaps it’s because not enough believers reveal him through their lives.

Today’s Readings:

Isaiah	35:1-6a, 10
James	5:7-10
Matthew	11:2-9

Next Sunday’s Readings:

Isaiah	7:10-14
Romans	1:1-7
Matthew	1:18-24

Preaching Next Sunday:
Fr Dan Sullivan, 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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When Pope Francis was first pope, he initiated a custom of leaving the Vatican one Friday a month to perform some "work of mercy." In August, the Holy Father went to a home for women recovering from prostitution, many of whom had been victims of trafficking. Pope Francis brought joy by not simply talking about Jesus, but by acting like him. As Advent continues, may we find our own joy as Jesus ministers through us.

Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.
Pastor



ACT, Active Catholics Together, is having their annual Christmas party on Dec. 21st, starting at 7PM, at Kay Klang's house, 8338 SE Bufford Lane in Portland. BYOB/soft drinks/potluck munchies. Please bring a gift for our white elephant gift exchange. There's been some pretty funny ones over the years! We warmly welcome anyone who may wish to join us, singles/couples, open to all. Questions, please call Kay at 503-481-1479. So please come have some fun and good holiday cheer with us!

**IGNITE in December: —12/27 – St. John of the Cross/Preface Dialogue – Diving into the Dark Night
IGNITE Winter/Spring Schedule**

January 12th – St. Ignatius/Proclamation of Faith
January 26th – Evagrius Ponticus/Lord's Prayer
February 9th – St. Clare of Assisi/Agnus Dei
February 23rd – Dorothy Day/Concluding Rites

March 8th – Teresa of Avila/Corpus Christi Sequence
March 22nd – St. Maximilian Kolbe/Dies Irae Sequence
April 26th – Ignacio Ellacuría/Easter Sequence
May 10th – Thomas Merton/Pentecost Sequence

Annually St. Ignatius supports the **Saint Vincent De Paul** food pantry with delivery of Christmas food boxes throughout our community. This year we are planning on delivering 50 pre-packed food boxes, and are looking for volunteers to help pack the boxes, and also deliver them. We will be holding a box packing event on Saturday December 21, 2019 at 10am and a secondary packing event on Sunday December 22, 2019 at 9:00am. We will then deliver the boxes at 12:00pm following Mass. We are looking for volunteers that can either help pack the boxes (Saturday or Sunday), or deliver the boxes (Sunday). Signup sheets will be present in the back of the church, and at Dillon hall, and we encourage you to support, as time allows. If you have any questions please email Nathan Williams svdp@sipdx.org.



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AN EASY LINK CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE OPENING PAGE.

First Eucharist Classes begin on Sun Jan 5th, Participants will meet in the School for class while Adults & siblings attend the Epiphany Breakfast. Questions? bschaller@sipdx.org

MASS INTENTIONS

FOR THE WEEK

	Monday	Dec 16	† Maria Obradovich
	Tuesday	Dec 17	† Mike Merriman
	Wednesday	Dec 18	† Laurence Shaheen
	Thursday	Dec 19	† Lynn S. Anderson
	Friday	Dec 20	† Jim Emig



In Thanksgiving for the Life of Raymond Dahl (father of Ginny Sorem)

School News

For Jesus, peace seems to have meant not the absence of struggle, but the presence of love.

-Frederick Buechner, Beyond Words

Expressing love by taking care of our common home is upper most in the efforts of student leadership at St. Ignatius School. For the next few weeks, watch this space for tips on an environmentally friendly celebration. Today's tip from Audrey Schuster, gr.7: "We encourage you to give a gift that is not "stuff". Spend time with someone, create an experience, share a meal. This can also be a gift to our planet."

Service and Caroling: Students are busy collecting gifts and supplies for the Community Transition School for Christmas. This is just one way we share peace and hope with those in need in our community this Advent season. And if you live near St. Ignatius, watch for the school groups to come caroling between 8:30 and 10 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 20. **School will be dismissed at noon.**

Christmas Concert: You are warmly invited to our concert on Thursday morning, Dec. 19. A community social is at 9:30 a.m. and the concert is at 10. Grandparents and special friends are hosted in the classrooms for a behind the scenes look at all we do. If you would like to participate, but do not currently have a family member in the school, please call the office and a student will be thrilled to host you! The family concert is that night at 7 p.m.

Peace and Hope in Advent -
Kelli Clark, Principal

The giving tree alcove is up in the church. We are supporting Embrace Oregon this year with welcome boxes and "tens for teens" gift cards for children in foster care. *Return gifts to the church by Jan 5, 2020.*

Catholic Charities Give your extra day in 2020 to Catholic Charities! Join us for our the 23rd annual gala— Celebration of Hope, February 29, 2020. Saturday, February 29, 2020 Together, we give hope to those who need it most. www.catholiccharitiesoregon.org/events/ Reserve your table or tickets today! Special discount available to Parish hosted tables. Contact us – 503-688-2623 or celebration@CCOregon.org

LOOKING AHEAD:

CALL 503-777-1491 FOR DETAILS

Christmas Program-School	Dec 19	10:00AM (rehearsal-open) & 7PM
IGNITE	Dec 22	6:00PM in the Parish Center
CHRISTMAS EVE	Dec 24	4:00PM, 7:30PM & 10:30PM
CHRISTMAS DAY	Dec 25	10:00AM (only)
Peace Mass	Jan 1	10:00AM (Holy Day)
Epiphany Potluck	Jan 5	9:00AM in the Cafeteria

Church Office
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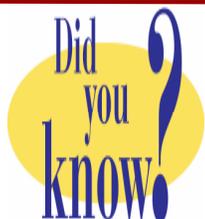
Pastor Fr Craig Boly, SJ
cboly@sipdx.org ext. 231

Fr. Dan Sullivan, SJ
dsullivan@sipdx.org ext. 224

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



- 4' Light fixtures through-out the school classrooms and hallways has been converted to energy efficient LEDs after the fixtures were retro-fitted: better lighting, longer life and lower utility bills - three wins for our planet!
- There is new seating for the Parish Choir that was donated by Angela Kockler!

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