



St. Ignatius Catholic Church

OREGON'S JESUIT PARISH

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

October 4, 2026 - **TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



Isaiah 5:1-7
Philippians 4:6-9
Matthew 21:33-43

"Then the God of peace will be with you." (Philippians 4:9)

The confirmation of St. Paul, after he had borne insults, ridicule, and sufferings for the sake of Christ, gave me the courage to live with ***"whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious"*** for the glory of God (Philippians 4:8).

Born and raised in a devout Catholic family, I have always been deeply grateful to have inherited the precious gift of faith from my parents. I remember the early years of my childhood, when my family suffered under the communist government. Our property was confiscated, and we were forced to relocate to a so-called "New Economic Zone." There, we worked as farmers under harsh conditions and lived in a thatched hut that my father built. Everything we harvested was controlled by the government, and we depended entirely on its distribution.

Our working day began at 4:00 a.m. and ended at 5:00 p.m. At six years old, I was too young to understand the full weight of my parents' and older siblings' sacrifices. My greatest fear was being left alone in that thatched hut while they worked in the fields. Every day, I counted down the hours until they returned home. Dinner was my favorite time. Although our meals were simple and repetitive with corn, sweet potatoes, and cassava, they gave us the chance to share stories. After dinner, my father often took on extra

work to earn more income, while the rest of us prepared the next day's meals with those same humble ingredients. Sometimes, on Thursdays, we stood in long lines for hours to receive bread from the government's distribution. The bread was not tasty, but it gave us a break from the same staple foods we ate day after day.

Despite those difficult years, Sundays became the brightest part of my childhood. Whenever we could, we took the train back to our former neighborhood to attend Mass at a church that was permitted to remain open under government supervision. At that time, I did not understand why my parents made such a long and difficult journey just to attend Mass. The only thing I looked forward to was getting away from that zone and meeting friends my age at church.

Only years later did I realize that, to my parents, nothing was more important than worshiping God on Sundays. That conviction gave them the strength to endure every hardship, and each trip back to our former neighborhood also became an opportunity to see whether they could buy back our house near the church. They believed that living close to the church would help their children remain close to God and faithful to the Catholic faith. Above all, the calm on their faces during Mass after a week of exhausting labor revealed the fruit of that faith. As I grew older, I came to understand that their peace did not come from the absence of suffering, but from God's presence sustaining them through every hardship.

I used to wonder about the peace St. Paul spoke of in his letters. How could he experience peace amid insults, suffering, and sacrifice for Christ? Surely, he could not have produced such peace on his own.

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

Peace comes as a gift from the Risen Christ. In some small way, I came to recognize that the same peace was present in my parents.

This realization strengthened my faith and gave me confidence that, if I put into practice what I have learned and received from Christ, then the God of peace will be with me. It is an invitation to seek truth in the midst of a chaotic world, honor through humble service, justice in a culture of indifference, purity amid life's temptations, graciousness in the presence of suffering, and love in every encounter. I believe that when I strive to live this way, I make room for Christ to dwell within me. Only He can give me the deep and lasting peace to face every challenge and remain faithful to Him.

Therese Tran regularly attends the 8 AM Mass with her husband, Joseph, and son, Thomas.

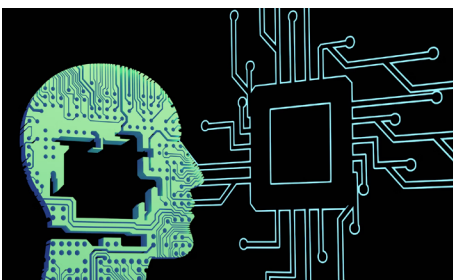


AI and Our Faith

For the final reflection on AI before the Education Ministry series kicks off, we turn to some of the larger-scale ethical issues around the technology, which we are obliged to consider as part of our faithful engagement with the world.

We first have to look at the environmental impacts, which range from high energy costs to increasing land usage to pollution. Because data centers require large plots of land, they are often built on the outskirts, in areas otherwise untouched, which displaces wildlife. Their ongoing operation require substantial energy and water use, straining our already overtaxed resources. Such usage conflicts with Pope Francis's *Laudato Si'* imploring us to reduce usage of these limited resources whenever possible.

These environmental burdens, as usual, fall disproportionately on marginalized communities as they more often lack the political power to resist having data centers built in their midst. We all share the cost of increasing energy, though, and the production of energy is still most likely to be generated from fossil fuels. In many ways, the environmental impact of AI is not notably of a different *kind* than other consumer-driven activity, but our use of the technology is often far removed from its negative outputs and it is thus tempting to ignore what we do not see.



As Christians we are called to appreciate the full impact of our actions, not simply the most immediate ones.

As the technology improves, though, there is hope that it can become more energy-efficient and perhaps run on our local devices instead of in large data centers. Even then, we should give some attention to how the models were trained and what biases they might show.

Modern generative AI requires massive amounts of data to train, and their outputs are (very roughly) a mathematically ingenious interpolation of that data. If you feed a visual model a lot of Monet, its output will look impressionist. If you feed a text AI with the speeches of Hitler, it will start sounding like a Nazi. These cases are obvious, but with corporate control of models, we have to interrogate whose opinions are being intentionally or accidentally reproduced. Already we see that AI being used to screen résumés shows favoritism to white male applicants; the system gives a sheen of impartiality when it is simply reproducing the biases in its training set. Our preferential option for the marginalized obliges us to push against these systemic forms of discrimination. While these reflections may dwell on the downsides of AI, I do not think Catholics need to ignore or pretend it does not exist. Pope Leo's *Magnifica Humanitas* gives a good framework for discerning how and whether we engage with new technologies, and I hope these reflections and the upcoming education sessions serve to give you more tools of your faith for that discernment.

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Office Hours

Monday through Thursday,
from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

PARISH PROGRAMS



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>.

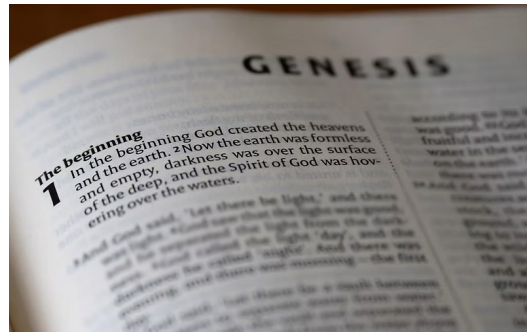
This Fall's sessions include:

- 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#/)

The Book of Genesis



Deepen your understanding of the Bible.

This class, offered by Cliff Yeary, meets weekly in the Bradley Room of the Parish Office from 9:00 AM to 10:15 AM on Sundays, November 8, 15, and 22. Contact Cliff at cliffyeary1@gmail.com

Men's Contemplative Group

Join us for 90 minutes of sharing, contemplative reflection, and encouragement as we explore what it means to be both a contemplative



and a man in the world today, how that "stance" is one that can shift both our own lives and the lives of others. Contact Joseph at jbyrd@sipdx.org

Yarn

If you always wanted to learn how to knit or crochet but never find the time.

If you already know how to knit or crochet but don't have even an hour weekly to do so. OR

If you would be willing to teach someone the finer points of either skill.

Please join us after the 10:30 mass on October 11 (11:30-1:00) at the Fireplace Room in the Parish Office. Bring your own project or contact Maureen at (206) 889-7820 about materials.



Marriage Enrichment Class

This 4-class series focuses on understanding conflict in relationship. Combining therapeutic tools with group wisdom, the class hopes to promote compassion and improved communication in relationship.

Meets 11/1, 12/6, 1/3, and 2/7, from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM. Registration required. Contact Grace at gbyrd@sipdx.org

Pray for Vocations

Meet Brad Mills, SJ



• ORDAINED June 12, 2021

• He is now in TERTIANSHIP after working as ASSOCIATE PASTOR at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in San Diego, CA

• From SAN JOSE, CA

• Earned BS in Psychology and Environmental Science at SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY

• Completed the Regency portion of his Jesuit formation serving in social ministries at CATHOLIC CHARITIES and OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE in San Diego



Pray for Brad and Jesuit Vocations

Know someone who would make a great Jesuit like Brad?

BeAJesuit.org

or reach out to your Jesuit Pastor or Associate Pastor



Mass Intentions

Mon, October 5

† Joseph Dave Dinh

Tue, October 6

Sr. Marie Rose Durocher

Wed, October 7

† Millie Emig

Thur, October 8

† Paul Bernunzio

Fri, October 9

† Anne McNeela



Bethlehem Children's Closet

In October, our parish will be collecting items for the Bethlehem Children's Closet, which serves families in our community by providing clothing and supplies for children, from babies through age 17.

They are especially in need of:

- School backpacks
- Infant formula
- Pull ups
- Children's clothing in sizes 0-3T and 7-10
- Strollers
- Car seats

They do NOT currently accept:

- Diapers (their supply is currently full)
- Cribs
- Beds

Items should be new or in excellent used condition, without tears or stains. Please leave donations in the church alcove. The drive will conclude on October 25.

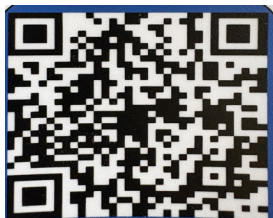


Planned Giving

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. 14-20, 2026	9,482	11,158	85%
Month of September	31,443	48,474	65%
Full Year	133,653	637,000	21%



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

AT A GLANCE

Things you may not know about the day of prayer and sacrifice for the missions, held annually on the second-to-last Sunday of October.

World Mission Sunday is the Catholic Church's **only** collection mandated in canon law (Canon 791).





The proceeds fund the missionary work of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, one of the four Pontifical Mission Societies helping to bring the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

Funds raised in the US help **more than 1,130 mission territories** around the globe—reaching places where the Church barely exists yet, or where it is too young, poor, and persecuted to sustain itself.





The funds go to the missions **under the supervision of the Pope**. This collection is dear to his heart and helps missionary priests.

TPMS provide financial support for **2 out of every 5 seminarians** around the world. A full 41% of all Catholic seminarians study and work in mission dioceses. These seminarians live in mission dioceses and would not be able to study as they do now without this collection.

"I saw firsthand how the faith, the prayer, and the generosity shown on World Mission Sunday can transform entire communities."
— Pope Leo XIV (Oct 13, 2025)



Take Up the World Mission Sunday Collection!

pontificalmissions.org

Equipping the Church to Carry the Gospel to the Ends of the Earth





In the Jesuit tradition, we celebrated a Mass of the Holy Spirit led by our amazing 8th grade leaders. Fr. Shane and Fr. San concelebrated both giving part of the homily on our school year theme, Choose love. Choose to serve. At the end of this Mass, our 8th graders are given a small dove pin to symbolize their leadership in our school. The 8th graders are reminded to access the gifts of the Holy Spirit by wearing this pin during Family Groups. We can hardly wait to see all of the wonderful ways they will impact our community this year!



Nurse Megan and Nurse Tia from the University of Portland taught our students the importance of proper handwashing using a special glow in the dark lotion and black light. Students were able to see their hands before and after washing using this special lotion. So

many of our students already knew how to wash their hands well, and this was a fun activity for them to show our UP Nurses how well they can wash their hands.

Principal

Carol Pausz

cpausz@sispdx.org

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School Secretary

Julie Frangipani

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Ext 233



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.

"May the LORD reward what you have done! May you receive a full reward from the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge." Ruth 2:12

Carol Pausz
Principal

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