ST IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

UNDER THE CARE OF THE JESUITS

3400 SE 43RD AVENUE PORTLAND, OREGON 97206

TWENTY–FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

A Message from the Pastor

When a gospel passage is particularly difficult or confusing, sometimes it's helpful to ask questions. Some of the questions I reflected on this week, in light of the parable the Dishonest Manager or Steward, included the following: Why is the "dishonest manager" commended? What is "dishonest wealth" and what does it mean to make use of it? Who exactly are the children of the light, and how does that translate to today? (And in a world of so much intolerance, should we even try to translate it to today?)

Beyond these questions, I have one more, prompted by the text and potentially addressed by it: Why are we so hesitant to talk about money in the church? I suspect the answer is that we don't want to offend people. But I think it should offend us more that there are entire elements of our life that we feel Scripture does not speak to. I think most of us genuinely struggle to make sense of our economic lives and would welcome some counsel. And I think that's part of what this gospel passage indeed speaks to, the struggle to make good use of our resources.

There are a few themes that seems to run across the Gospels and make an appearance here, in this weekend's parable from Luke's gospel.

The first theme is this: *Wealth is both a blessing and a responsibility.* As throughout Scripture, we are blessed to be a blessing, and we are held accountable less for what resources we have accumulated than how we use them. From this point of view, perhaps the shrewdness or prudence of the manager comes through his recognition that he has privileged amassing wealth to developing relationships. It may be that he earned his money by charging interest on the amounts his lord loaned out to others. Finding himself between a rock and a hard place, he cuts the amount others owe by his surcharge, avoiding further accusation that he is defrauding his master but strengthening, perhaps even establishing, relationships that will sustain him in a time of need.

Continued on next page

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil
at 5:00 PM
Sunday at 8:00 AM
Sunday at 10:30 AM
Sunday at 7:30 PM

Weekdays (M-F)

At 8:00 AM
At LJC La Storta Chapel
Must be: Fully Vaccinated & wear a mask. Thank you!

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays -
3:30 PM to 4:30 PM

OR by appointment
503-777-1491

Contact us:

Phone: 503-777-1491
office@sipdx.org

Website:
www.sipdx.org

Pastor's Message continued from page one:

The second theme is this: *Wealth – along with status, power, and privilege – is fleeting.* One day this manager is on top of the world; the next he is faced with disaster. We are not so far removed, I think, from the financial meltdown of 2008 that we cannot remember how many people lost much of what they'd amassed in such a short time. When faced with the pronouncement that we cannot serve God and Mammon we might remember that whereas the Lord's attention, care, and providence are constant, Mammon proves to be a pretty fickle, and ultimately untrustworthy, master.

The third theme is this*: In a time of crisis, God often appears where we least expect God to be, coming us to "from below" to render help and aid.* There are lots of "crises" in Luke that turn on receiving help from unexpected places – the Jewish traveler left for dead along the road who is saved by a Samaritan (a foreigner); the rich man (in next week's text) who begs for help from Lazarus, the slave he ignored; this manager now suddenly dependent on those who used to look to him for loans. From Mary's Magnificat through the beatitudes to Jesus' death on the cross, God regularly shows up in those places where we least expect God to be so that we are not tempted to place our faith in the wrong place.

Perhaps this is the key – or at least one of the keys! – to this passage: we are placed on this earth to love and care for each other, not to separate ourselves from each other with wealth, status, or privilege. I've heard it said that St. Augustine asserted that God gave us people to love and things to use, and original sin manifests itself in our penchant to confuse those two, loving things and using people.

The world is a hard place to be a Catholic/Christian—raising a family is a constant balancing act; our jobs can demand so much from us and consume our best energies; relationships can get neglected and become stagnant. Sometimes—oftentimes—it is difficult to keep things focused on what is really important and not be distracted and consumed by the "small stiff"—what I like to refer to as "death by mosquitoes."

As Jay Cormier reminds us, "In the parable of the shrewd manager or steward, Jesus asks us what drives us, what inspires us, what moves us to act. Profit and security are important, to be sure—but for the disciple of Jesus, the good we are able to bring about, the work we are able to do in order to bring God's reign of justice and compassion to reality, should be the motivating force in our lives. Our lives find their meaning and purpose not in the estates we build for our own glory but in what we are able to contribute to the common good and progress of humankind."

May God remind us, this and every week, that "All we have is gift from God's hands." May this realization fill us all with gratitude and make us wise stewards with a deep desire to share generously with others the time, the talent and the treasures that have been generously shared and given to us.
Fr. Mike

Mass Readings

Mass Readings for Sept 18, 2022	Mass Readings for Sept 25, 2022
Amos 8:4-7	Amos 6:1a, 4-7
1 Timothy 2:1-8	1 Timothy 6:11-16
Luke 16:1-13	Luke 16:19-31

Weekly Justice Recommendation

https://www.jesuitswestcore.org/

Come one, come all, and have a ball (of yarn)

If you always wanted to learn how to knit or crochet but cannot find the time

If you already know how to knit or crochet but don't have even an hour in your week to do so

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

Please join us for an hour of activity after the 10:30 mass on September 18th at the Parish Hall, Bradley Room. Bring your own project or contact Pat at (503) 473-9118 about materials (COVID precautions will be followed Any age, any level of skill welcome)

St Andrew Nativity School

Apply to be a Coach to a graduating senior!
The Nativity Scholars College & Career Coaching Program is designed to address the need for additional guidance and support of high school seniors transitioning out of high school and planning for post-secondary life. Time commitment varies but on average an hour a week starting in October and ending in late June.
Ideal Coach: Educator or former educator greatly desired; Reliable & committed (e.g., shows up on time); Non-judgmental; Has a good sense of humor; Flexible
Has experience working with/desire to work with adolescents from historically marginalized communities; For questions or more information
contact: Ana Garcia agarcia@nativityportland.org

Beginning in September ~ Sacraments

Confirmation

Students will complete at-home online modules and participate in 6 in=person sessions including an overnight retreat at Mt. Angel. Sessions begin in October and students will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in May. Registration is open to students in grades 8-12. Questions? Contact gbyrd@sipdx.org

Parish Staff

Office Hours:
Mon –Thurs 9am-3pm

503-777-1491
OR
office@sipdx.org

Staff Direct contact:

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Mike Moynahan, SJ
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Pastoral Council

Pastoral Council Members:

Chair: Emily Gumper
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Amy Smithstanza
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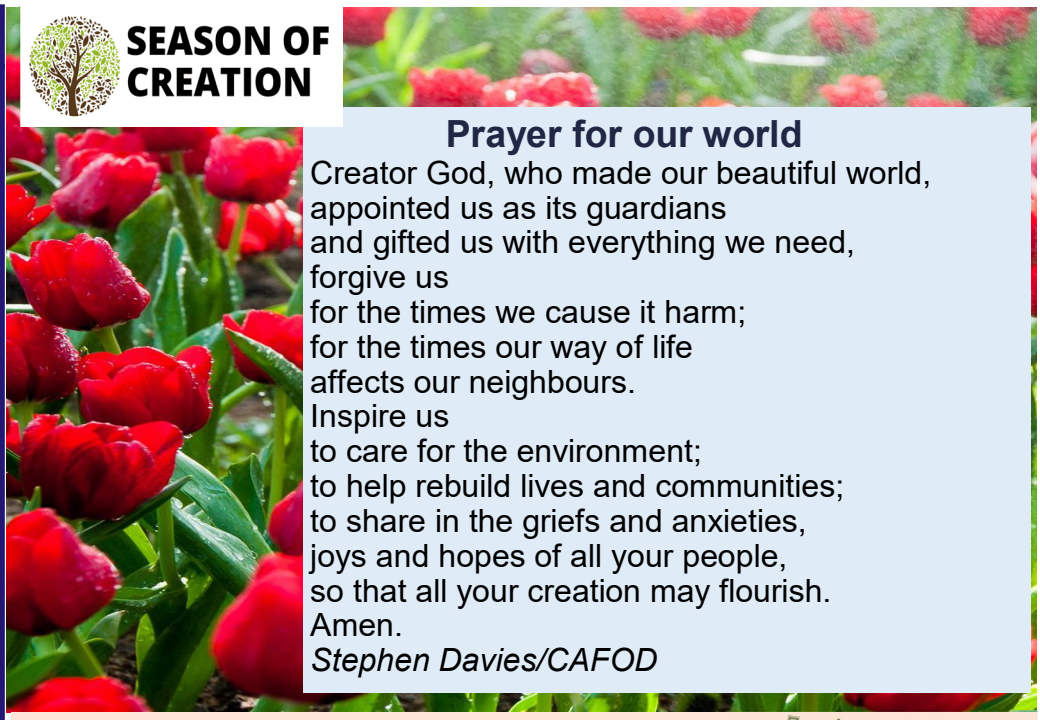
Requesting mass intentions:

An individual may request to ***offer a Mass*** for several reasons: for example, in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as on a birthday), or, as is most common, for the repose of the soul of someone who has died.

If you would like to schedule a future Mass, please call Patty at 503-777-1491. (There is a $10.00 stipend per Mass.)

SEASON OF CREATION



Prayer for our world

Creator God, who made our beautiful world,
appointed us as its guardians
and gifted us with everything we need,
forgive us
for the times we cause it harm;
for the times our way of life
affects our neighbours.
Inspire us
to care for the environment;
to help rebuild lives and communities;
to share in the griefs and anxieties,
joys and hopes of all your people,
so that all your creation may flourish.
Amen.
Stephen Davies/CAFOD

Fund-a-Flush

This year, Fr. Mike is celebrating his 60th year as a Jesuit and his 50th year of ordination. Such a momentous milestone deserves great recognition!

In talking with Fr. Mike about how we might celebrate him, he suggested that he would not feel comfortable with any celebration that would not involve and benefit the entire community. Upon further reflection, he suggested that since his arrival the need that has been most often expressed to him is that of a second bathroom in the church.

Introducing…Fr. Mike's Fund-a-Flush mini-campaign! Fr. Mike will be gone on vacation for the next few weeks, which means that you have until Sunday, October 2nd to contribute to the campaign! You may do so by using the special envelopes in the pews and adding your Fund-a-Flush donation to the offering basket, or by selecting the "Fund-a-Flush" tab in Realm. We plan to have the project completed during this milestone anniversary for Fr. Mike and have begun the process already of designing and pricing the remodel.

We are truly blessed with a pastor who desires to celebrate in community with those whom God has called him to serve! Thank you for your generosity!

8:00AM Daily Mass Intentions

Please keep in your prayers

Monday	Sep	19	†	Jim Emig
Tuesday	Sep	20	†	Patricia Obradovich
Wednesday	Sep	21	†	Marie Hong Tran
Thursday	Sep	22	†	Tristan & Jenny Jimenez
Friday	Sep	23	†	Dragica Stankovik

In thanksgiving for the life of
Jerome Rose & Gary Hereford

St Ignatius School

We are excited to be back in school with our amazing students and supportive families. Our school year theme this year is *"The gifts we have we are given to share." As we return to a more 'normal' school year, we will need everyone's gifts and talents in supporting our school programs. We have already witnessed the gifts of sharing and caring that our students have shown with each other. We can hardly wait to see the gifts and talents that will emerge this year!*

We have returned to whole school Masses in the church, while masked. Our first Mass was dedicated to commissioning our 8th grade students into their leadership role in our school. The 8th graders received a special blessing and leadership pin to remind them of the important role they all have as leaders within our school.

Maybe you or someone you know is gifted in working with children in kindergarten through 5th grade? ***Vermont Hills and Family Life Center,*** *our after school care program, is actively searching for our next aftercare staff person. The hours are daily beginning 30 minutes before our dismissal time to 6:00 PM. There are no more than 15 students to manage on any given day. If you or someone you know are interested in this opportunity, please contact Vermont HIlls Family Life Center at this email address: HR@vhflc.com.*

Our playground renovation project is in the final stages this month. We are looking forward to being able to fully utilize the space in the coming weeks. Our renovated gym floor is simply stunning! We are blessed to have these two renovation projects completed enhancing everyone's experience here in the St. Ignatius Parish community.

School Office
503-774-5533

Principal: Carol Pausz
cpausz@sispdx.org
Ext 246

School Secretary
Julie Frangipani
jfrangipani@sispdx.org
OR
school@sispdx.org
Ext 233

www.sispdx.org

Our school will host our annual ***Jog-a-thon- Luau Our Way to 50K****- on Friday, September 30th. We appreciate all donations for this first fundraising event. If you wish to support our school programs, including our ability to grant tuition assistance, you may donate through Realm, by check in the Sunday envelope or through the mail.*

As we reflect in gratitude for these first weeks of school, let us remember Romans 15:13– *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the holy Spirit."*

Peace be with you always.
Carol Pausz , Principal

The Pastoral Council invites YOU….

TODAY, on **Sunday, September 18** from 12 to 1:30pm in the Parish Office. We encourage anyone who wants to break bread with the listening heart of the parish, and to continue with the model of our synodality team, to join us. You don't need a specific idea or ministry intention to show up. Just bring some bread to share, and soup will be provided, along with break-out sessions for listening, actualizing ministry, and discernment in how we'll move forward together in the coming year. For more information, contact Joseph Byrd at jbyrd@sipdx.org

Church tithing

*Financial report (**July 1, 2022—June 30, 2023):***

Needed for the month of Aug	$39,000.00
Amount received through 8-28-2022	$37,44.48

Thank you, may you be blessed abundantly for your generosity!

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