

ST. IGNATIUS PARISH
CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL
UNDER THE CARE OF THE JESUITS

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

OCTOBER 18, 2020

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

You Are The Coin Of God

Dear Parishioners:

The “Caesar saying” in Matthew’s gospel today is one of Jesus’ most famous remarks. As we approach the national election in these contentious times, now is a chance to reflect on how Jesus deals with religious practice and politics.

The coinage in question bore the image of the Roman emperor, who was called a god. As a graven image of a false god, it contravened the second commandment. Jewish money changers set up booths outside the Temple precincts because offensive Roman coins had to be exchanged for Temple shekels. Jews could only purchase lambs for sacrifice with Temple shekels.

The irony is that Jewish authorities compromised themselves and their religious principles when they rendered service to a false deity in distant Rome by trafficking in money exchange. Jesus’ response is a reminder that there is a huge gap between Caesar’s realm and God’s realm. No one can serve two masters. One god instigates the suffering and death of Jesus, while the true God achieves the real victory – new life, resurrection.

When a foreign power occupies your country, you have three choices: fight them every step of the way; join them; or give them as little as necessary so you can get on with your life. In occupied Israel, some Jews refused to pay taxes to Caesar, some grudgingly paid to avoid persecution, and some (like Matthew) actually collected taxes for Caesar.

Jesus had the same three choices as his neighbors had. He would not betray his own people by helping Caesar tax them. And he did not want to muddy his primary mission by getting side-tracked over a false dichotomy – whether you could be a good Jew and still pay taxes.



Jesus turned the question into a “teachable moment.” ***Just as you give Caesar his due, so you should give God his due.*** It seems to settle the matter. But a further question remains unanswered. If the *tax* belongs to Caesar, *what belongs to God?* Does all of your money that is left after taxes belong to God? A biblical tithe? Or whatever remains after you have taken care of all your other priorities?

ST IGNATIUS
RECORDED MASS
FOR OCTOBER 18, 2020
 WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OUR
 WEBSITE: SATURDAY AT 4:15PM
WWW.SIPDX.ORG
 (MASS AID WITH MUSIC LYRICS ARE
 POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE)
WEEKDAY MASS AT NOON
CALL FOR DETAILS AT 503-777-1491
OR LOOK ON OUR WEBSITE
WWW.SIPDX.ORG

PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Continued from front page:

Scholars say that the coin offered to Jesus probably had the image of the reigning emperor, Tiberius. Minting coinage in your own image was an act of sovereignty. Each successive emperor would begin his reign by destroying the currency of his predecessor in order to replace it with his own.

When Jesus tells his followers to pay their taxes, he reinforced the allegiance every good citizen owes to temporal authority. Believers are to perform their civic duties and pay their taxes, however difficult these may be. "Whose image is stamped on the coin?" "Caesar's." "Then it must belong to Caesar: but whose image is stamped on you?" "God's." "Then you must belong to God."

Think of what it means to belong to God – bearing the image of God. When God decided to have a life outside the Trinity, God in Jesus expressed the divine image in a human person. You and I are human persons, too – numbered, autographed, limited-edition images of God. That you "*reflect God*" as God's image is not just a legal fiction – it is authenticated by divine DNA. In light of this divine identity, what do you owe God?

Some think that today's advice from Jesus justifies a variety of political theories regarding the secular and the sacred worlds. Remember the medieval "two-sword" theory, or the "throne and altar" theology of Luther, or the separation of church and state in the American constitution? Jesus did not mean that religion and politics have to be in separate boxes. He challenges his followers to be the salt, the light, and the leaven that will unite and sanctify both worlds. All your talents and wealth and health are at the service of blessing your fellow human beings.

What does it mean that you are an authentic image of God – a personal, non-transferable passion of God? What does that imply? It means that you can hold nothing back, keep no spare change for private use. The divine image engraved on you makes you more precious than gold, unrepeatably unique, destined for enjoyment of communion with Unapproachable Light without end. Amen.

Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.

Pastor

BRING A PHOTO OF DEPARTED LOVED ONES

You are invited to bring a picture of your loved ones you want our community to remember in their prayers as we approach All Souls Day.

This year we will collect a copy of a photo to be included in our weekend recorded Masses. You may **drop off a photo at the office during the Month of October** between 10AM & 2PM or email it to the office@sipdx.org. Photos will be displayed on Mary's altar and our recorded Masses throughout November.

This year our Memorial Mass is on

Wednesday, November 4 at Noon call to sign up for this Mass. 503-777-1491 x 221.

MASS READINGS

Mass Readings for Oct 18, 2020

Isaiah 45:1, 4-6
1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b
Matthew 22:15-21

Mass Readings for Oct 25, 2020

Exodus 22:20-26
1 Thessalonians 1:5C-10
Matthew 22:34-40

ST IGNATIUS SCHOOL



You go from here to imagine a circle of compassion and then imagine nobody standing outside that circle.

-Fr. Greg Boyle, SJ

Did you hear the wonderful news this week that Fr. Greg Boyle, SJ, and Homeboy industries was awarded the Hilton Humanitarian prize, the world's largest humanitarian award, for alleviating human suffering? The recognition specifically called out not only the difference made in their community of L.A., but that they had changed the model for being with people on the margins around the world.

At the school this year, we are walking very closely with Fr. Boyle's ideas of Radical Kinship and how to build inclusive community. The faculty and staff read his book "Barking to the Choir" over the summer and the School Advisory Commission is reading it now. Their Dolores Mission school is one of only 25 surviving elementary schools like ours that was founded by the Jesuits.

One of the hallmarks that draws people to our parish school is a great focus of Ignatian spirituality: unity. It is even more critical in these days of distance learning and isolation to make sure that everyone is included and that kindness is a value. Students will begin to understand this year that they find their identity and strength in exercising Radical Kinship: it is an expansive and abundant way to be in the world.

In this tense time of pandemic, election and economic upheaval, it seems an increasingly tricky task to find and cultivate common ground and commit to the common good. It is gratifying that our students already have this as a core practice: we are all one in Christ.



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR VIRTUAL FALL FUNDRAISER:

November 21. You will be so surprised at the fun that is planned! More info to follow next week!

Stay safe, take care of each other: it's what we do!

Kelli Clark

Principal, St. Ignatius School

Mass Schedule ~ Monday-Friday at NOON

To attend WEEKDAY MASSES, you no longer need to sign up ahead of time.

Simply sign in with your name and phone number when you enter the church.

The number of participants MUST remain at or below 50, so parishioners are asked to self-monitor the number of people signed up.

Mask is required.

(Sunday Masses continue to be recorded and posted on our website at sipdx.org)

Confession Weekly Schedule ~ Friday's following NOON Mass

(changed from Saturday to Friday's)

PARISH STAFF

**Office Hours
Mon-Thursday
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503-777-1491**

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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

In the subject line please include either:

Asking for prayers
OR

Add me to the Email list to pray



Everyone is invited to join IGNITE!

Sunday October 25, 2020 at 6pm

There is a handout on our website:

www.sipdx.org/ignite

Presenters will be: Fr Craig Boly, SJ and Joseph & Grace Byrd join them for a presentation on St. Therese of Lisieux

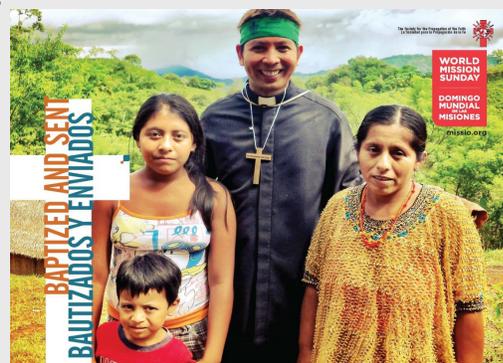
Simply email Grace at gbyrd@sipdx.org to receive the link.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY—OCT 18TH

Be Baptized and Sent—on Mission in the World! Today, World Mission Sunday, in this Extraordinary Missionary Month, we are called to personal encounter with Jesus Christ alive in the Church, and to offer, through this Eucharistic celebration, our prayers and our generous financial support, through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, to continue the mission of Jesus. Today we are “sent” out to witness to Mission in the world through our prayers and personal sacrifices for our brothers and sisters around the world. As little as...

- > \$25 helps support a catechist for a month in remote Latin America
- > \$75 provides for the work of religious Sisters caring for orphaned children in Africa
- > \$100 assists poor children in boarding schools in Asia

As always, your prayers are your most treasured gift to the Missions. Your prayers and financial help, offered today, WORLD MISSION SUNDAY, support mission priests, religious Sisters and Brothers, and lay catechists who are Christ's witnesses to a world so in need of His healing, love, and peace.



WEEKLY RACIAL JUSTICE RECOMMENDATION

Jesuits West “Wrestling with Whiteness” series--

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfBq-N3VqH000ziObh3m3td6prvOSdj-OklAxqM3jAYDtrqNA/viewform>

HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS!

Thank you for your continued generosity to the **Wildfire Relief Fund**! Checks can still be sent to: The Archdiocese of Portland, **Wildfire Relief Fund, P.O. Box 15149 Portland, OR 97293**. Questions? cgaaston@archdpdx.org or 503-233-8332.

IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF LEAH McELHANEY

KUDOS & DID YOU KNOW?



⇒ To Grace and the Confirmation team for leading Sunday's session! (There are 21 HS students in class)
⇒ Did you know: The parish staff is sending out items if interest each Monday to your email!!



FAMILY LIFE



Here's the link for CLW this week with Nathan Williams:



Topic: St. Ignatius CLW - Sunday 10.18.2020

Time: Oct 18, 2020 10:30 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)



Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74940204592?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74940204592?pwd=N2JnYzlyK3FSbDBTVHl0NzJMRzExdz09)
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Meeting ID: 749 4020 4592

Passcode: 3xfERV



DAILY MASS INTENTIONS



Please keep in your prayers

Monday	Oct 19	† Louie Pieretti
Tuesday	Oct 20	† Tom Kiefer
Wednesday	Oct 21	Winnie Kucas
Thursday	Oct 22	† Kenny Bibles
Friday	Oct 23	† Jim Emig



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