



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

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

AUGUST 15, 2021

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Mary's Assumption: Beyond Fear

Dear Parishioners:

In Eugene O'Neill's play, *The Great God Brown*, a man is on his deathbed, and he's very frightened. At his side is a woman who has become something of a mother figure for him in these last moments of his life. So she speaks to him as though he were a child, saying: "Go to sleep, Billy. It's all right." And he says, "Yes, mother." Then he starts to explain what he has experienced in his life.

"It was dark," he says, "and I couldn't see where I was going, and they all picked on me." The woman then says, "I know. But you're tired now. Go to sleep." And he answers, "And when I wake up?" And she replies, "The sun will be rising." Then Billy interrupts and says, in great seriousness, "To judge the living and the dead." And in great fear he adds, "I don't want justice, I want love." The woman replies quietly, "There is only love." As he dies, Billy begins to repeat the words of the only prayer he knows: "Our Father, who art in heaven . . ."

This weekend the church celebrates Mary's assumption. It is the belief of the tradition that Mary died just like every mortal must, but she immediately began her new life in God in her resurrected body. Like the body of Jesus, Mary's body did not undergo dissolution. Because she was free from sin, God graced her with the immediate transition at death into the life in God experienced in her resurrected body.



Why does the church honor Mary with this special recognition each year that she is now bodily in heaven? The answer lies in how Mary is a mother. Mary is mother not only in the sense that she agreed to give birth to Jesus. She is also mother in that she welcomed God's living word to direct all she said and did. Mary is a model of discipleship for every believer. What the church celebrates today is the virtue of hope in the face of human mortality. The promise is true for Mary and for us – beyond death awaits a new and glorious life.

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND MASS

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

WEEKDAY MASS

Noon on Tuesday & Thursday



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays -3:30 PM to 4:30 PM
 OR by appointment 503-777-1491

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Continued on next page

PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE:

The first step in coping with the fear of death is honestly to confront the reality of death. Death is real, a fact of life. In the fourteenth century the artist Hans Holbein did a series of woodcuts called "The Dance of Death." Every station in life is depicted, from infant to grandparent, peasant to king, monk to cardinal. Somewhere in every picture is a suggestion of death in its skeletal starkness. All dance the dance of death. But facing the reality of death actually means learning how to face the demands of life.

The second step in facing the last enemy is a simple yet profound recognition. It is the awareness that the fear of death can be a greater threat than death itself. Recently I spoke with a parishioner at the Courtyard retirement center who was dying of congestive heart failure. Even though she had lived a long and fruitful life, she feared not knowing what came after death. Eventually she felt consoled by the reminder that Mary would welcome her to heaven (as she had prayed faithfully her whole life . . . *pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*)

In today's second reading, Paul clarifies for the Corinthian church what is the Christian's resurrection hope. Paul is not concerned to defend the idea of life after death. He focuses instead on the hope that is uniquely Christian. The basis of this hope, he insists, is the resurrection of Jesus himself. The good news of our faith tradition is that people can live confidently today, without the debilitating fear of death, because in Christ the last enemy is vanquished.

Today's gospel from Luke does not focus on Mary's assumption into heaven. Instead, the church remembers Mary's fearless life. Luke recalls Mary's reaction to the amazing news that she was to bear the divine child, Jesus. Instead of taking a retreat to relish her huge role in human history, she set out for the hill country to tend to Elizabeth's needs. Mary was so grounded in fearless living that she put aside her own news to care for an older, seemingly barren woman, now six months pregnant.

In the encounter between Mary and Elizabeth, promise evolves into fulfillment. What God has done for Mary assures believers down the ages of what God can do for the poor and powerless. In the face of human mortality, every person is poor and in need of rescue. Today celebrates Mary's new life in God. It also celebrates her fearless life. Our joy is to honor her fearless life with fearless lives ourselves.

Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.
Pastor



MASS READINGS

Mass Readings for Aug 15, 2021
Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab
1 Corinthians 15:20-27
Luke 1:39-56

Mass Readings for Aug 22, 2021
Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b
Ephesians 5:21-32
John 6:60-69

"THE FEASTE OF THE NATIVITY."

The Feaste of the Nativity

Saturday, December 11 from 10am to 4pm
Pageants in the Church at 1pm and 3pm



Personnel needs:

Town Criers (I'll take as many as I can get! Some will walk the campus and share information about the Feaste, scheduled events, joke with Feaste-goers [I'll provide a script], and promote good cheer. Some will be stationed in the open windows of the Parish Office, throwing candy out to passers by, and making comments of the season [Wes Hale, good lords and ladies fair! Etc.] Think "Pirates of the Caribbean" where, on the Disneyland ride, folks are hanging out of the shop and ship windows, having fun talking with each other, and to those walking below.

Char-men, and Char-women (These are our lowly servants, and they'll have fun with the crowd, helping pick up trash, sweeping up behind Feaste-goers [and having fun while they do so. "Look what Mr. Collins left behind him here, my dearies!" etc.] Interacting with our Feaste-goers and providing some on-the-spot conversational fun

Poets and Music-Makers. (At various stations around the church and the court yard, these folks will sing, play, read poetry [I'll provide this] and/or write poems and make up songs on the spot about those who come near. Donations toward the Feaste will be welcomed by them!

Jugglers, unicyclists, sword swallows, jesters. (This category explains itself. Do you juggle? Come join us! Do you unicycle? Bring your wheel. Swallow swords? [I'd be shocked if this happens, but the Spirit provides, right?] Jesters are a large part of the Medieval/Renaissance tradition. There is even some sturdy theology about being a Fool for Christ, or even Christ being the ultimate Jester [Surprise...risen from the dead!]. The point will be to have fun with people, and do your thing, whatever that may be, in the name of celebrating the Feaste

Lords and Ladies (This one explains itself. Come dressed in your finery and help make the Feaste that much more festive.)

On the nuts and bolts side, we'll also need:

Greeters and Ushers (Folks who will help get people in and out of the Church for the pageant, as well as help direct people outside)

Set-up and Clean-up crew

Security (It would be great to have plenty of folks who could be on walkie-talkie, watching over the event before and during)

Prop masters (We will be needing things to be created/built, especially for the pageant. Things like a cardboard rainbow, or a wreath of holly, or a pop-up manger, etc. I will be clearer on this as we enter September, and folks return to School and to the campus, and as I craft our script)

Costumers (We'll encourage folks to come in costume, but for anyone who would like to help us sew, we'll be grateful! Costume suggestions can be found for great prices at various locations,

Questions? Call Joseph Byrd, jbyrd@sipdx.org, 503-777-1491, ext. 238



DAILY PRAYER INTENTIONS



Please keep in your prayers

Monday	Aug 16	†	Jaimie Rife
Tuesday	Aug 17	†	Scott Parker
Wednesday	Aug 18	†	David Knisley
Thursday	Aug 19	†	Susie Maderos
Friday	Aug 20	†	Jim Emig

WEEKLY RECOMMENDATION

The Principle of Work is one of the five essential concerns of the Church's social doctrine: "The person who keeps himself and his family with his work develops his dignity, work creates dignity"
Pope Francis.

Prayer for the Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers

Lord God, Master of the Vineyard,
How wonderful that you have invited us who
labor by the sweat of our brow to be workers
in the vineyard and assist your work to shape
the world around us.

As we seek to respond to this call, make us
attentive to those who seek work but cannot
find it.

Help us listen to the struggles of those who
work hard to provide for their families but
still have trouble making ends meet.

Open our eyes to the struggles of those
exploited and help us speak for just wages
and safe conditions, the freedom to organize,
and time for renewal.

For work was made for humankind and not
humankind for work. Let it not be a vehicle for
exploitation but a radiant expression of our
human dignity.

Give all who labor listening hearts that we may
pause from our work to receive your gift of rest.

Fill us with your Holy Spirit that you might
work through us to let your justice reign. Amen.

SUMMER FAITH ADVENTURES CONCLUSION

Our Summer Faith Adventures concluded on July 28th with a communal art project. Look for the art project in the back alcove later this summer!

Thanks to all who participated in the activities. It was great to see parishioners and families each week for the past six weeks to "Find God in All Things." We prayed, sang, visited the Grotto, repaired books for the Book Bank, played games on the lawn, and painted a fabric mural.

Our mission projects were a great success. We collected two large bins of books for the Children's Book Bank and 3 large bins of shoes for Soles4Souls. We also collected \$194 for the Tibbetts House Refugee Ministry with our mission money.

Big thanks to all!

JOHN SCOTT MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2021 * MOUNTAIN VIEW GOLF CLUB 1:00 PM

Hosted by: St. Ignatius School Foundation 3400 SE 43rd Avenue, Portland, OR 97206

Tax ID:93-0853414 For Additional Information and Sponsor details: Email:

Stignatiusfoundation@outlook.com Website: Stignatiuschoolfoundation.org



SPIRITUAL EXERCISES ONLINE RETREAT 2021-2022 – APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED

Due to current health concerns, the 2021-2022 SEEL retreat will be an online experience. We are excited to be able to offer the Spiritual Exercises in a format that will open the retreat experience to graces in unexpected ways. Advance registration is required. Applications accepted NOW! **2021-2022 Online SEEL Retreat applications accepted June 10, 2021 - August 20, 2021. The retreat begins September 13, 2021 – check monthly retreat dates and apply at: [https://](https://seelportland.org/)
seelportland.org/ <https://seelportland.org/how-to-apply/>**

PARISH STAFF

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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



You are in my thoughts and prayers.

In Thanksgiving for the life of Richard Gedrose

Please pray for the repose of his soul and for his loving family.

FAITH FORMATION

Marriage: Are you engaged? Congratulations! Preparing for a marriage in the Catholic Church is a six month process which hopefully offers some tools to help you navigate this wonderful transition in your life. If you're ready to get that process started, contact Grace Byrd for more information.

RCIA: If you are in the process of discerning whether the Catholic Church is your spiritual home, consider registering for the '21-'22 **RCIA** class. This class meets weekly and is a place to explore your faith, examine your beliefs, and recognize God's presence in your life. Contact Grace Byrd for more information, or simply register for the class on our website, and Grace will get in touch with you!



A group of parents have volunteered to help plan some activities for our **Junior High** age parishioners beginning next fall. Would you like to join in on the fun? Email Grace Byrd and she will put you in touch with the other volunteers!

Some of our **young adult** parishioners have expressed an interest in beginning to gather once again for fun and fellowship. Are you someone between the age of 20-40 who likes to plan activities? It can be anything from discussions at the pub, to a hike, to a service project. Talk to Grace if you are interested!



Registration is open for 2021-2022 First Reconciliation & Communion

Next year's Sacramental Preparation program is now open for registration. The program begins in September and is open to **2nd graders** and older. Information packets are available in the vestibule of the Church. Please register online at: sipdx.org/first-reconciliation-and-eucharist

Assistant(s) needed for Sacramental Prep next year

Grace Byrd, gbyrd@sipdx.org
Faith Formation Coordinator
503-777-1491, ext. 245

FREE WILL IS A NEW RESOURCE FOR PARISHES

The resource is an online tool that allows you and members of your parish community to write a legal will, for free.

Last week's webinar was recorded, and you can find it along with templates and other resources, on our website:

<https://advance.archdpdx.org/freewill-for-parishes>

Password: **Parish**





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