



ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

December 1, 2019

What Is The Reason For Your Hope?

Dear Parishioners:

Beginnings often are full of hope. There is the possibility of making a fresh start. There is a sense of expectancy, perhaps even of urgency. The Advent of 2019 is such a beginning. The new church year that begins today promises to reveal God in a new way. It is Matthew's gospel that will instruct hearers this year in how to be respectful and still conscientious.

It is in time, paradoxically, that you meet the timeless Creator. The earliest Christians knew this and developed a liturgical calendar that incorporated the life of God expressed in Christ into the rhythm of their own lives. And so today, centuries later, the cycle begins again – the first day of a new Christian year and Christmas season: Advent – Christmas – Epiphany.

Advent is the season of preparation for Christmas, yet curiously, the gospel text today does not mention the birth of Jesus. Instead, it depicts Jesus describing the end of the world. Scripture speaks not of the baby Jesus but of the Son of Man. This title "Son of Man" refers to Christ's future coming in glory to judge the living and the dead.

It seems that you must first *anticipate the future* before you can accurately *understand the past*. Only by hearing the promise and warning in today's reading can you truly appreciate what the magi came to worship and Herod came to fear.

Although the hour of Christ's second coming is hidden within the divine will, you are exhorted in three ways to remain awake.

First, remember how God's previous judgment was enacted through a huge flood. Notice, too, that it was not the wickedness of the people that Matthew criticized but their lack of preparedness.

Second, there is the image of "one being taken and one being left." This stresses the suddenness and finality of God's judgment.

Third, the parable of the thief in the night calls for watchfulness. You do not know when this age will end any more than you know when your life will end. But the readings caution against complacency – and against losing hope in the promises for the age to come.

Today's Readings:

Isaiah	2:1-5
Romans	13:11-14
Matthew	24:37-44

Next Sunday's Readings:

Isaiah	11:1-10
Romans	15:4-9
Matthew	3:1-12

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

Continued next page >>>

When Christ comes at the end of time, a separation of the just from the unjust will take place. A new age of justice, respect and peace will flower. This new age already began with the *first advent*, or coming, of Jesus. The Son of Man's *second advent* at the end of time will be its completion and a moment of reckoning.

Today's beginning of the new season of Advent proclaims that all this is in progress. Jesus will come again for judgment and vindication of the oppressed. Now is the time for you to reassess your place in this ongoing process. Yes, prepare to recollect Jesus' first advent – Christmas. Yet the Advent scriptures call attention not to the past, joyous as it was, but to the future human destiny in the life of God. What is coming is full of joy, too.

That is how Isaiah sees the advent of God in his vision. "The mountain of the house of the Lord" will be raised high and become the gathering place for all nations. God will save the good from the wicked so there will be peace. And people will "walk in the paths of God." Advent is the time to begin that walk with renewed vigor.

As the first candle of Advent is lighted, hope is a tiny seed to be nurtured throughout the long night watch of this season. Christ will still have to carry his cross. You will still not be exempt from the tensions and heartaches of the present age. But have you ever pondered the brilliance of a single candle shining in a dark room? Such is the hope that is in us.

Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.
Pastor

History Heros December 10, 2019 LOYOLA JESUIT CAMPUS, BEHIND PARISH ON SE 43RD We meet at 12:15 for Mass and follow with lunch and discussion or a program. We are not old: just Fun, Caring & Experienced at Life!! Come & join us.



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 503-481-14 79. So please come have some fun and good holiday cheer with us!

IGNITE in December:

12/8 – St. John of the Cross/Preface Dialogue – Diving into the Dark Night
12/22 – St. Hildegard of Bingen/Sanctus – Composer, Visionary, and Doctor of the Church

VOLUNTEER needed to help deliver bread from the Grand Central Bakery to the Women's Transition Shelter. Take about two hours, and one **Friday** a month. We need one volunteer on the 2nd weeks of the months. If you like to help contact Jim Mumby at [503-519-8991](tel:503-519-8991)

Sign up for **FORMED Daily Advent Reflections -**

WE ARE NOT MEANT TO JOURNEY ALONE

Share the joy of the season with those you love by creating a space for Christ in your day and in your heart. Join us - receive daily meditation, formation, and motivation in preparation for Christ's coming.

LINK:>>>> <https://formed.org/advent>

MASS INTENTIONS

	FOR THE WEEK		
	Monday	Dec 2	† Jaka Mercep
	Tuesday	Dec 3	† Mattha Thu Thi Nguyen
	Wednesday	Dec 4	† Joseph Duc Minh Truong
	Thursday	Dec 5	† Dominic Tung Ngoc Truong
	Friday	Dec 6	Bona Venture Oh & Family





Come to the Festival in Dillon Hall 11:45AM—1:00 PM

SCHOOL NEWS

For Jesus, peace seems to have meant not the absence of struggle, but the presence of love.
—Frederick Buechner, *Beyond Words*

Father Craig is fond of quoting Peter 3:15, saying, "...be always ready at all times to answer anyone who asks, the reason for your hope." For the last several weeks my hope comes from working with our student leadership class. These bright, heart forward young people have several initiatives, but I wanted to especially share their focus on eco-justice. Did you know that impact from shipping and moving goods around quickly (on-line shopping) now accounts for climate impacts equal to the 6th largest country in the world? This student team is helping their peers re-imagine environmentally friendly practices for Advent. Watch this space through Advent for tips from the student eco justice leaders!

Thank you to Ericka Skeldon for her leadership and hard work in raising funds for the school in another incredible Turkey Bingo last weekend. We are also grateful to our volunteers (over 60!) and to everyone who came out to play! We will look forward to sharing numbers with you next week.

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 10:00 a.m. 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 7:00 p.m.

Peace and Hope in Advent -
Kelli Clark
Principal

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Co-Chair - Joyce Keane
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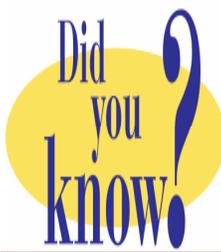
A full list of staff & council members is located on our webpage at www.sipdx.org/parish-staff

Children’s Liturgy information

Did you know? That *only the little kids group* (preschool/kindergarten/1st grade) meets on the 1st Sunday of each month? We invite older kids to join the family choir on 1st Sundays or remain with their families in church so we can maintain safe numbers for supervision.

Did you know? The “2/3/4” banner that is carried up at the beginning of mass indicates that 2nd/3rd/4th graders are meeting those Sundays? This is to help families know when the older group is meeting.

LOOKING AHEAD:	CALL 503-777-1491 FOR DETAILS	
Advent Festival	Dec 01	11:45AM—1:00PM— -TODAY
Advent Penance Service	Dec 09	7:00PM
Christmas Program-School	Dec 19	10:00AM (rehearsal-open) & 7PM
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)



- We had 29 people give blood at the Nov 17 Blood drive. Next one will be in March! (date TBD)
- ONLY the younger group of CLW kids meet on the First Sunday of the month (older kids are invited to participate in or enjoy the family choir). We don't have the volunteers to run that group more than 3x/month. The 2/3/4 banner is the signal that the older kids are meeting that week. We can only safely supervise the younger kids the first week of the month.
- Pope Francis will be adjusting the Catechism to include naming practices that are hurtful to the earth as sinful

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