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CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL
UNDER THE CARE OF THE JESUITS

MARCH 22, 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

All Masses & confession suspended

Check our website for updates www.sipdx.org

Saturday, 5:00 PM Vigil Mass: *Evening Service* – Piano and cantor lead congregation in song.

Sunday, 8:00 AM Mass: *Early Morning Service* – Piano or organ and cantor lead congregation in song. Coffee and donuts following.

Sunday, 10:30 AM Mass: *Mid-Morning Service* – Piano, guitar and choir lead congregation in song. Children’s Liturgy of the Word and childcare/nursery. Coffee and donuts following.

Sunday, 7:30 PM Mass: *Contemplative Service* – A spirit of quiet within a candlelit, prayerful sanctuary; incense. Piano and cantor, and various instrumental ensembles lead congregation in song and meditation.

MONDAY: 8:00 AM Daily Mass, followed by Eucharistic Adoration in the Church.

TUESDAY-FRIDAY: 8:00 AM Daily Mass usually held in La Storta Chapel at Loyola Jesuit Center

FRIDAY: 8:00 AM In La Storta Chapel except First Friday Anointing Mass in the church (Fridays join centering prayer before Mass at 7AM)

SATURDAY: 8:00 AM First Saturday Mass

RECONCILIATION, SATURDAY: 3:30-4:30 PM or by appointment

CONTACT US:

St Ignatius Parish
3400 SE 43rd Avenue
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office@sipdx.org * www.sipdx.org

Pastor’s Message

How Is Faith More Than Physical Sight?

Dear Parishioners:

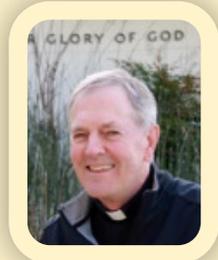
In today’s gospel, Jesus and his disciples run into a man who has been blind since birth. Without asking him, Jesus restores the man’s sight and sends him on his way, thus beginning the man’s troubles.

Is there a connection between sight and belief? Would it be easier for you to believe in Jesus if you had seen him with your very own eyes? Or does Baptism do for us what Jesus did for the blind man – enable us to “see” with the eyes of faith who Jesus really is? This is the question that today’s story raises when we confront the faith of a man born blind.

The story focuses on the blind man’s life. His friends and neighbors are confused about his background. His parents don’t want to become involved. The religious authorities are perturbed that the healing occurred on a Sabbath, when all work is prohibited. When the religious authorities put increasing pressure on the healed man to confess that Jesus is a sinner, the man resists. In the midst of all the badgering, he intuits that Jesus is “a prophet” sent from God. The Pharisees become incensed, and the man – who never asked to be healed in the first place – is excommunicated.

Upon hearing that the authorities have driven the man out, Jesus returns and reveals to the newly sighted man that he has seen the Son of Man. The healed one responds, ‘Lord, I believe,’ and worships Jesus.

Why was this man willing to believe when so many others were not? Was it because he could not deny the evidence before his very eyes?



Continued on next page

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Pastor's Message Continued...

Yet there was certainly enough evidence present for his friends, family, and religious authorities to believe. Perhaps there is more to believing than "seeing."

Here is the point. *Physical* sight can be the catalyst for belief. But it seems that faith is needed for the more demanding *spiritual* sight. In other words, seeing may be believing, but believing is *also a unique kind of seeing*.

Baptism is the way into a life of seeing things anew – the man had to wash in Siloam before he came to full vision. Until that point he had just been following instructions. After washing in the pool, he runs as a messenger of the good news. After baptism, the mission of believers is to witness to the joy of communion with the Risen Lord.

On his return to his community, everyone cross-examined him from different perspectives. To the healed man, the issue is simple – "I was blind, now I see." The simplicity of this experience confounds the authorities. To them, the blind man was a sinner, hence his blindness from birth. But what does it mean that he can now see? Is it possible that Jesus is one who can give a new kind of sight, and not just restore lost sight?

The blind man gradually comes to *spiritual* sight. This point is illustrated by the first reading when Samuel only gradually comes to recognize David as the chosen one from Jesse's sons. Likewise, the opponents of Jesus descend into spiritual darkness when they refuse to acknowledge his true identity. This is a warning that if you think you already know all about Jesus, you may be blinding yourself to the many surprising dimensions of Jesus – and fail to recognize how he wants to change your life.

The second reading from the Letter to the Ephesians ends with a quote from what seems to have been an early baptismal hymn: "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light." The first part of the passage exhorts you to live as "children of the light" inasmuch as "light" produces what is good, right, and true.

On this *Laetare* Sunday, rejoice that the Lord will anoint the sick at all of the weekend Masses. And look forward with joy to the Easter Vigil. On that Saturday night, I will intone "Light of Christ" three times as a summary of the Easter message. Lenten practice aims to help you see Christ as your light. The goal of Lent is for you to live out of the power of Christ's resurrection. This means that you see your life more clearly, and act more joyfully so as to have "no part in the fruitless works of darkness."

As you join the Elect in their second scrutiny this weekend – what are your blind spots? – renew with them your resolve "to see Christ more clearly, love him more dearly and follow him more nearly day by day."

Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.

UPDATES, CANCELATIONS, MESSAGES AND RESOURCES

Please visit our website often, we will keep you up-to-date with what is happening in the Archdiocese and at St Ignatius. We will also offer Resources for your family, online suggestions for daily Mass and prayer. www.sipdx.org

JESUIT IDENTITY ~ "THIS I BELIEVE"

This I Believe – “Taming Each Other”

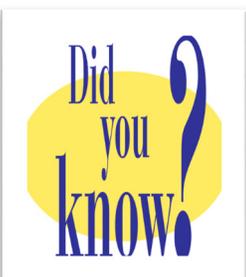
I recently re-read “The Little Prince” by Antoine De Saint-Exupery. It is a gem of a story about how strangers grow to become essential to one another. In this tale, a little prince from a distant planet lands on earth and encounters a strange fox in the desert. Upon meeting, the fox says to the little prince, “To you, I am nothing more than a fox like a hundred thousand other foxes. But if you tame me, then we shall need each other. It will be as if the sun came to shine on my life.” The fox gazes at the little boy and says, “Please – tame me!”

The fox explains that you need patience and time to tame another being. First when you are strangers, you will sit down at a little distance, looking at each other out of the corners of your eyes. But every day, you sit a little closer. Before long, your anticipation of each other makes you happy. Taming is the time you’ve poured into the other that makes you essential to the other.

Perhaps this is a description of an invitation for an inner life of prayer with God. How can we experience God as less of a stranger? And how does God work within our community to help us tame one another?

Not one of us is a stranger to God. And God’s love for each of us has the capacity to diminish the distance between us. Christ’s presence in the Eucharist dissolves the boundaries of our separation from God, and from one another. Week after week and year after year of sharing this holy meal together, as our hands reach for Christ’s body, our fear begins to dissolve and we recognize that we are beloved, and our brothers and sisters are equally loved kin. I believe God has been taming us, and we didn’t even know it.

Barb Scharff



- Our Family Life coordinator, Beth Schaller, was featured in the Catholic Sentinel’s “Forty Faces of Lent” article
- All buildings on campus closed for disinfecting spraying and will remain closed for several weeks after. Please, stay healthy.

PRAYER CONTINUES DAILY AT THE LJC PRIEST’S MASS



SUNDAY Mar 15, 2020

Mass & Activities Canceled

Monday	Mar 23	† Jaka Mercep
Tuesday	Mar 24	Hickey -Knisley Family
Wednesday	Mar 25	Therese Donna Oh
Thursday	Mar 26	† Roseangela D’Ambrosia
Friday	Mar 27	† Jim Emig

MONDAY Mar 16

Mass & Activities Canceled

TUESDAY Mar 17

Mass & Activities Canceled

WEDNESDAY Mar 18

Mass & Activities Canceled

Our St. Ignatius St. Vincent de Paul Conference depends on your support of food and cash to provide food boxes as well as utility and rent assistance to those in need in our neighborhood. Cash donations for February and March totaled \$2,900! In today’s gospel, Jesus gives sight to the blind man. Through grace we are also transformed from not seeing to seeing. Your gift to SVdP brings mercy and kindness to those who struggle with meeting their basic needs. Thank you!

PASTORAL COUNCIL

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Today’s Readings:

Fourth Sunday of Lent

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

Next Sunday’s Readings:

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ezekiel 37:12-14
Romans 8:8-11
John 11: 1-45

OR ONLINE:

WWW.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS

Preaching Next week
Mass suspended

ST IGNATIUS SCHOOL NEWS



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Portland, OR 97206
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www.sipdx.org



***A warm welcome
to all our guests.
We are so happy you are
here to celebrate with
us!***

Are you new to
St. Ignatius Parish?
Register by dropping a
“Welcome” card in the
offering basket with your
information, or visit
us online at
<http://www.sipdx.org>
please visit our website
at:

www.sipdx.org
***The Link is below the
Pastor’s welcome video***

“Many things have been cancelled because of the coronavirus.
Love is not one of them.”

- Fr. James Martin, SJ

<https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/2020/03/13/faith-time-coronavirus>

Whenever there is constraint or limit, it makes you think, “what do I really care about?”
Think about a house fire: what will you try to save?
Or a health challenge: what do I want to do with limited energy or ability?
Where -and what - is my treasure?

That was the driving energy for teachers and staff as we rapidly began to put together ideas and lessons to support kids in navigating COVID-19. How do we help them feel safe and strong? Let’s teach them to *really* wash their hands and why it matters for their safety and that of others. How will we communicate and keep them learning? Every impulse from each adult was for the well-being and uplift of the kids in our care.

You should know that upper most in the minds of the children as we prepared to leave was the well-being of our older parishioners. Kids prayers count double (I know this from personal experience!) so know that they are praying for all our fragile ones through the outbreak. We care about you.

By the time you read this, we will have ended our first week of distance learning and will be off into spring break. I look forward to sharing with you how it went...and whether or not it will go on for awhile. Meanwhile, give the children in your lives opportunities to share their digital work and videos with you. Value the work and growth they are still doing and how their teachers are helping them grow. We are living in historic times. And we live them in love.

Kelli Clark,
Principal



FAITH FORMATION ~ IGNITE

IGNITE –NEXT DATES to be announced

Classes will take place from 6PM-7:15PM in the Bradley Room Which can be found in the lower level of the Parish Office. Childcare will be provided. Questions? Call Grace 503-777-1491 ext 238 or email gbyrd@sipdx.org.

SUNDAY Mar 22

Mass & Activities Canceled

THURSDAY Mar 19

Mass & Activities Canceled

FRIDAY Mar 20

Mass & Activities Canceled

SATURDAY Mar 21

Mass & Activities Canceled

Mom’s group, on Realm there are about 7 different lists of resources for families. You may also join our Mom’s group and meet virtually every Sunday through Zoom from 9:15-10:15 a.m. They can email me if they want to participate. Beth bschaller@sipdx.org

NOVENA ~ THANK YOU



Thank you for all those who gathered for our nine days of prayer: all who came to serve or be served in this difficult, critical time—and exchanged positions of giving and receiving often! We held one another's petitions and prayers together—awaiting and finding a God of care, guidance and supportive strength. We found brilliance in the words from Fr. Mike Weiler and Sara Salzwedel whose leadership into the scriptures brought us closer to a graceful experience of God's presence with us. In this springtime of Lent, we are separated by viral fears but bonded by an overriding, faithful hope with this wisdom.

Thank you to the Sacristans, Environment and Arts Committee, Blessing Ministers, Lectors and Greeters who responded in their identity as Church, People of God to help us be attentive to our covenant call uniting love of God and neighbor.

Novena of Grace Planning Committee: Katie Hennessy, Barb Scharff, Jane Joseph, Jeanette Grimaldi, Brittany Wilmes, Joseph Byrd, Sarah Weller, Mike Buck

THE GROTTO

The shrine grounds and the Chapel of Mary will remain open for private prayer and devotion.

There will be no charge to visit the Upper Gardens through March 31. The Grotto is located at 8840 NE Skidmore Street, Portland, Oregon 97220 (Main entrance is located at NE 85th Avenue and Sandy Boulevard).

PLANTING PROJECT ALONG POWELL ~ THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED!



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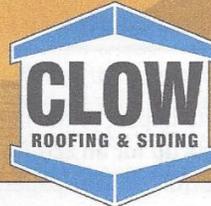
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