

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

JULY 5, 2020

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Life's Burdens

Dear Parishioners:

Happy Independence Day weekend. Here's to all those patriotic speeches, fireworks and parades. It's an opportune moment to pause with family and friends to thank God for our nation's blessings, to acknowledge our blind spots, and to re-commit ourselves to faithful citizenship in this election year. In this weekend's gospel, Jesus invites his hearers to be humble, and to learn from him how to bear the hardships of life.

The first reading from Zechariah is an oracle about the character of the coming Messiah. This passage would shape the imagination of the young Jesus as he wondered what God wanted him to do with his life. The passage said that God is

ST IGNATIUS
RECORDED MASS
FOR JULY 5, 2020

WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE: WWW.SIPDX.ORG

MUSIC:

OPENING SONG - LIFT HIGH THE CROSS-BB 703
INTERLUDE SONG—THE SUMMONS—BB 383
MEDITATION SONG—THIS IS MY SONG—BB 733
CLOSING SONG—DOWN TO THE RIVER TO PRAY—BB
644

(LYRICS ARE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE)

going to bless Israel by returning the people from exile and establishing a new king.

The burden of this expectation for the Messiah could have been enormous. Does it overwhelm Jesus? Apparently not. Jesus does not see the task of returning his people from exile to be impossible. Is it because his closeness with his Father helped him realize that accomplishing "the mysteries of the kingdom" is up to God, not him?

There are some strong statements in today's gospel from Matthew about Jesus and how he relates to his Father. The more intimacy there is in a relationship, the less it can be explained. Jesus is disclosing the intimacy he has with his Father to his followers. Jesus hands to his disciples *things* that will cause consterna-

tion. Yet letting them in on his pivotal relationship with his Father is more important than their comprehension of these *things*.

Jesus thanks his Father for revealing certain "things" to the disciples and not to the wise (a reference to the Pharisees and teachers of the Law). These "things" are the mysteries of the kingdom. These "things" are not duties or particular directives, but rather are attitudes of trust and valuing care of people over careful performance of rituals.

What Jesus is calling *things* are his reversals of the interpretation of the Law. It is the yoke of the Law that becomes a burden when the Pharisees interpret it.



PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Continued from front page:

Jesus teaches that care of others and religious practices are to embody their relationship with God rather than to be a means to win or achieve or guarantee that relationship.

Jesus shows what it means to be his disciple: to preach without fear and without material support – to risk rejection and even persecution. These are the *things* that Jesus thanks his Father for handing to the little ones. Then he tells his followers (and us) that these *things* are not a burden. His "yoke" is easy. Imagine how the disciples felt having heard this.

The "yoke" that is the heaviness of the Law (especially as the Pharisees interpret it) is being replaced by a personal relationship with a gentle Jesus.

The "yoke" of Jesus is personal as well as cultic or institutional. He calls his disciples and us to community (church practice) because loving care of others is not solitary. He summons us to pay attention to our need for reconciliation – to abandon interpersonal conflicts to make room for peace. Jesus encourages us to be gentle with our own struggling selves as he is with us.

The "rest" that Jesus invites us to experience is the interior tranquility of a joyful conscience. Those who labor without interior peace and compassion for their suffering brothers and sisters may find that the heaviness of their burdens comes from constructing a personal kingdom of their own ambition.

Is Jesus saying that life will no longer have its difficulties? No, but life will feel light again when you experience the companionship of Jesus – who makes your burden easy and your yoke light because he accompanies you in shouldering all the challenges that come your way.

Jesus said his yoke was "easy," and not "easier." The yoke of Christ is not simply a better yoke that is less painful than the anguish you endure by living only for yourself. It is a totally different yoke that has its own category of ease. The yoke of Christ brings about an entirely different set of human activities, and a radically different life than seeking only your own comfort and security.

The yoke of Jesus is easy. Keep that in mind when you feel the tug back to self-concern and narrow egotism. Yes, you need to submit to the discipline of Christ's yoke if his values are to shine in you. But living with Christ helping you face your challenges gives the peace that the world cannot give.

On this first weekend of July, thank God for the labors of our ancestors who won for us the freedom we enjoy as citizens of the United States. Acknowledge that our history has a terrible heritage of racism that is ours today to redress. Even as we take up the burden of remedying such a pervasive injustice, celebrate the unique invitation of Jesus. Take his yoke of humility upon your shoulders, so all of us find restoration and renewal for our lives together.

Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.

Pastor

MASS READINGS

Mass Readings for July 5, 2020 Zechariah 9:9-10

Romans 8:9, 11-13

Matthew 11:25-30

Mass Readings for July 12, 2020

Isaiah 55:10-11 Romans 8:18-23

Matthew 13:1-23

ORDINATION JULY 2020



San Mai, SJ July 6, 2020 10:30 a.m. PDT St. Ignatius Church Portland, Oregon

View Live Stream
Read Bio
Watch Video



Perry Petrich, SJ July 6, 2020 4:00 p.m. PDT St. Ignatius Church Portland, Oregon

View Live Stream Read Bio



David Romero, SJ July 7, 2020 4:00 p.m. PDT St. Ignatius Church Portland, Oregon

View Live Stream Read Bio





The link below will take you to a webpage with links to all of the Ordinations Live streaming:

https://jesuitswest.org/2020-ordination?DTN=DTN-20200616025713&bblinkid=232585585&bbemailid=23027518&bbejrid=1569166855

RACIAL JUSTICE WEEKLY RECOMMENDATION

Let the church say Amen

Father J. Glenn Murray, S.J. describes what a good liturgy means from an African American perspective. https://uscatholic.org/church/prayer-and-sacraments/2008/07/let-church-say-amen

A Poem: I, Too https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/47558/i-too

Black poetry: https://blackexcellence.com/black-poets-you-should-know/

OUTREACH ~ ST VINCENT DE PAUL

In the Gospel today we hear Jesus say: "Come to me all you who labor and are burdened and I will give you rest." Help those who are burdened during these challenging times with information about how they can get help. St. Vincent de Paul provides food boxes as well as rent and utility assistance. SVdP Emergency Services can be reached at 503-235-8431 Mon-Fri 9am-4pm. Have a safe and healthy Fourth of July holiday! Matthew Pearl

JVENCORPS



Now is the Time to Serve Our Community! Jesuit Volunteer

EnCorps, a program of JVC Northwest, facilitates rewarding opportunities for service, community and spiritual formation for adults 50 and better who are committed to social and ecological justice. We are offering new ways for our members (JVEs) to serve from home during this time of increased need for those who live on the margins. JVEs meet monthly online or in-person, creating spiritual community while staying safe. Our values arise from the Catholic Ignatian tradition and JV Encorps is an inclusive and welcoming community.

Priority application deadline: August 31st. Opening Retreat in September. For more information visit: www.jvencorps.org

KUDOS & DID YOU KNOW

- ⇒Matt and Kelli for the deep dive into the school finances and the upcoming policy handbook.
- ⇒Kelli for the temperature scanners.
- \Rightarrow St. Ignatius children for their hard work on the welcome videos for Billy Biegler.



- ⇒The school created over 80 videos as a way to welcome Billy Biegler to our parish community!
- ⇒ Fr Craig celebrated his 46th anniversary of ordination on 6/29!!

PARISH STAFF

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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 <u>subject line</u> please include either:

Asking for prayers

OR

Add me to the Email list to pray

R. C. I. A. & HIGH SCHOOL CONFIRMATION

RCIA

- Do you feel drawn to learn more about the Catholic faith?
- Have you considered whether you might like to become Catholic yourself?

RCIA is a class that allows you to explore your own faith journey and discern if the Catholic faith is one that you would like to be a part of. Please join our 20/21 class by registering on our website. If you have any questions, please contact Grace Byrd (gbyrd@sipdx.org)

High School Confirmation

Are you in high school, or will you be entering high school in the fall? If so, then you are invited to register for St. Ignatius High School Confirmation. The program will start this September and will be a hybrid model of digital learning combined with 6 in-person group gatherings including sessions, activities and a retreat. Registration is open now! Just follow this link:

https://www.sipdx.org/high-school-confirmation Contact Grace Byrd with any questions. (gbyrd@sipdx.org)

If you have a heart for working with youth and accompanying people on their unique faith journeys, please contact Grace about joining our High School Confirmation leadership team.



FAMILY LIFE

<u>Mom's Group</u> meets Sundays 9:15-10:15 via Zoom.

During July we will be checking in with one another each week and offering one weekly "action item" to do for racial justice. To join us, contact <u>bschaller@sipdx.org</u> for the Zoom link.

Vacation Bible School: Be Strong and Of Good Courage!

We are excited for the 16 families and 28 children who will be participating in our St. Ignatius VBS program next week. Big thanks to those who have contributed important content in the form of videos, handouts, music, deliveries and more: Michele Becker (& Ruby), Angela Kockler (& family), Nathan Williams, Corpus family, Joe MacKenzie, Joseph Byrd, Godwin Toku, Joey Corpus, Olivia Tynan, and the Schaller family. Participants should have received their supply deliveries. Links to the daily introductory videos will be shared each day from July 6-10.

THANK YOU to all our helpers!!

FIRST RECONCILIATION & COMMUNION FOR 2ND GRADERS

Registration is open for fall Sacramental Preparation Link: https://www.sipdx.org/first-reconciliation-and-eucharist



JUSTFAITH ~ JUSTMATTERS

Do you want to address racism but you don't know where to begin? Join us -- St Ignatius parishioners & friends -- to study, reflect and join in conversations on the topics of Faith & Racial Equity.

Faith & Racial Equity, subtitled Power and Privilege, examines topics such as white fragility, the invention of race, and privilege and the media.

Program Outline

One-Day Retreat: Community-Building & Self-Reflective

Session 1: Introduction to Theme & White Fragility

Session 2: Origins of Race & Racial Identity

Session 3: Messages Influencing Understanding of Race

Session 4: Affect of Whiteness on Institutions/Communities

Session 5: Guest Speaker, Privilege, and Education System

Session 6: Racialized Messages in Media

Session 7: Implicit Bias, Policing, Drug Policy

Session 8: Discerning Ways to Engage in Action

There is a cost of approximately \$40 per participant, but no one will be turned away because of cost.

We will meet via Zoom once a week (two and half hour/session) for 8 weeks on this journey together, beginning the first week of August going through the last week of September.

More information will be presented and frequently asked questions will be answered during a Zoom meeting in the **last week of July, 2020**. For further information and/or an invitation to the Zoom meeting, please contact George Veomett (gweomett@gmail.com) or Le Tran (ltt0101@yahoo.com).

PRIVATE PRAYER TUESDAY & THURSDAYS IN CHURCH

"Open Church" time for private prayer from 11am to 1pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week. What you need to know; Face masks will be required, and will be provided for those who need them, hand sanitizer use upon arrival, social distancing measures, following the state-mandated guidelines of a maximum of 25 people. Signing in, and providing your contact information, will also be required.



For more information and to see the

full flyers on *JustMatters* programs

https://www.sipdx.org/justfaith-1

visit our website link

S.E.E.L.

Portland SEEL will be offering the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius in a virtual format beginning in September. SEEL is a 9-month retreat that invites retreatants to deepen their prayer life and grow in relationship with God. Through one-on -one spiritual direction and a monthly two and a half hour online retreat, participants explore their deepest desires to be reflective, to discern God's call and presence in their lives, to develop a personal relationship with Jesus, and to seek God in all things. Please visit our webpage at seelportland.org or call Janet Buck at 503-951-8682 for more information. The deadline for applications is August 15.

DAILY INTENTIONS FOR PRAYER

Please keep in your prayers		
Monday	Jul 06	† Ed Watkins
Tuesday	Jul 07	† Henry Mancini
Wednesday	Jul 08	All Youth
Thursday	Jul 09	† All souls
Friday	Jul 10	† Jim Emig



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