



# St. Ignatius Catholic Church

## OREGON'S JESUIT PARISH

3400 SE 43rd Ave. Portland, OR 97206 - 503 777 1491 - [office@sipdx.org](mailto:office@sipdx.org) - [www.sipdx.org](http://www.sipdx.org)

March 15, 2026 - **FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

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

### *Wisdom from the Pews*

In early February, I served as an adult leader on Jesuit High School's February Encounter retreat at St. Benedict's Lodge, a 70-acre slice of heaven on the McKenzie River at the edge of the Willamette National Forest. For decades, students in their Junior year, accompanied by a group of Senior leaders, have withdrawn "down to the River to Pray, studying about that good ol' way."

Throughout the weekend, I stood on the deck of the main lodge and

watched the McKenzie River gallop and curl around the bend on its way to the Pacific. There, I pondered the kids, whose lives seem to become no easier day by day, often leading them to look where God is not. Yet, when students departed St. Benedict's, most were filled with a renewed understanding of where the Holy Spirit is felt, heard, and seen in their lives. How is that?

On this fourth Sunday of Lent, a blind man encountered Jesus, who, out of compassion, bent to the ground and **"made clay with saliva, and smeared the clay on [the blind man's] eyes, and said to him, 'Go wash in the Pool of Siloam' — which means Sent. So [the blind man] went and washed, and came back able to see."** Soon after, some of the Pharisees criticized Jesus for healing on the Sabbath and expelled the once blind man. While the Pharisees knew God—i.e., they knew their Theology and laws—they left no space for wondering where else God was among them.

As I learned from one of my fellow adult leaders directing the retreat at St. Benedict's that weekend: "You don't go to the River for answers. Rather, the River is a space in which God can be found." There is an enormous temptation these days to evangelize young people by way of providing answers to questions they do not have, as the Pharisees once did (**"You were born totally in sin, and you are trying to teach us?"**). Jesus in today's Gospel shows those who educate in and for faith to be "humble" (in Greek, this means "close to the ground") in their approach, meeting each young person where they are, with all their baggage and sometimes doubt and

unbelief, and provide spaces for them to share, reflect, imagine, question, grapple, pray, wonder, and, hopefully, see God's love already present in all things, including in life's challenges and obstacles to God's love.

It was not the Pharisees' injunctions that won the heart of the once blind man; they turned him away. It was the man's direct encounter with Christ's love that led him to say, **"I do believe, Lord, and he worshipped him."** The second part of the final sentence in this week's passage—**"and he worshipped him"**—is as important as the first. To Encounter Christ and enter into the fullness of life is to come to believe that each of us is loved and capable of loving, called and "Sent"—like the River itself, flowing ever outward toward a broken world in need of Christ's healing hands.

*Russell Fiorella, Ed.D., has taught for a decade in Jesuit schools and currently teaches theology at Jesuit High School in Portland, Oregon. He and his wife, Anna, typically attend Mass at 8:00 or 10:30 AM*



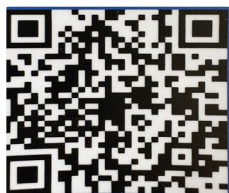
### Mass Times

Saturday Vigil            5:00 PM  
Sunday                      8:00 AM  
                                    10:30 AM  
                                    7:00 PM  
Adoration (during Lent)  
                                    6:15 - 6:45 PM  
before 7:00 PM Sunday Mass  
Weekday (M-F)            8:00 AM  
at LJC - La Storta Chapel

### Reconciliation

Saturdays, 3:30–4:30 PM, or  
by appointment 503 -777-1491

### Giving



## Pray for Students preparing for their First Reconciliation and Communion

As the young members of our parish prepare to celebrate their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion this Spring, we invite you to keep them in your prayers.

This joyful and sacred milestone marks an important step in their faith journey as they encounter God's mercy and receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time.

May we support them and their families with our encouragement, love, and prayers during this special time.



### Parish Staff

Fr. San Mai, SJ  
Pastor  
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Therese Tran  
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Ext 221

John Muench  
Pastoral Council Chair  
[pastoralcouncil@sipdx.org](mailto:pastoralcouncil@sipdx.org)

### Office Hours

Monday to Thursday  
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

### Mass Intensions

Mon, March 16  
† Jim & Marge Petrone  
Tue, March 17  
† Kuchar Family  
Wed, March 18  
† Mary Ann Kuchar  
Thu, March 19  
† George Veomett  
Fri, March 20  
† Theresa Pieretti

### Calling all Bakers

Join us after the 8:00AM and 10:30AM Masses on Sunday, March 22, 2025 to share your delicious baked goods with the community.

Coffee will be provided!



# LEANING INTO LENT

## Adoration



During Lent, every Sunday from 6:15-6:45PM, you are invited to be with Christ through the intimate prayer of Adoration. This time of prayer will culminate with the celebration of Mass at 7PM.

## Soup and Conversation

This family-friendly event hopes to deepen our community through food and faith sharing.

Friday from 6:00-8:00  
March 27 at Dillon Hall

Sign up to bring something through this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C4CAEA82DA2F49-61641478-soup#/>



## Stations of the Cross

Please join us for the Stations of the Cross on March 18 at noon.

This year's Stations of the Cross journey invites you to discern your call as a Catholic in a wounded world through music, scripture, and a series of reflections.



## Tenebrae

Journey with Christ to the cross in the service of scripture, song, and darkness.

Wednesday, March 25 at 7PM

## TRIDUUM Masses/Services Times

**Holy Thursday**

April 2  
at 7PM

**Holy Friday**

April 3  
at 7PM

**Easter Vigil**

April 4  
at 8:30PM

**Easter Sunday**

April 5  
at 8AM & 10:30AM  
(NO 7PM Mass)



# COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION

## Planned Giving



For several decades, St. Ignatius has been here in SE Portland serving people in faith, educating the young with hope, and engaging the world with the love of Christ and the Good News of the Gospel in the Jesuit tradition.

Please prayerfully consider including the parish in your estate plans to help us sustain this mission for future generations.

If you are interested in learning more about planned giving options at St. Ignatius Parish, please see the [“Ways to Give”](#) page on our website or [contact Fr. San.](#)



## Easter Flower Donations in Memory of Loved Ones



If you would like to honor your loved ones with a Easter flower donation, envelopes are available at the tables.

Each name will be placed on a flower displayed in our church as a tribute of love and remembrance.

**From  
July 1, 2025  
to  
June 30, 2026**

Church tithing	Actual	Budget	% of Goal
February 23 - March 1, 2026	10,294	9,945	104%
Month of March	10,294	49,724	21%
Year-to-Date	361,168	585,000	62%

## UNDER ONE ROOF - Fundraising Campaign

**GOAL: \$250,000**

Thermometer scale: \$250,000, \$150,000, \$125,000, \$50,000

**UNDER ONE ROOF**  
St. Ignatius Parish Community

For years, Dillon Hall has been the gathering place for parish assemblies, school events, and student activities. Its roof now requires urgent replacement to preserve this vital space that unites our community.

Our fundraising goal is \$250,000, and your contribution will help us complete this essential project.

Please consider supporting us by scanning the QR code or making a [donation online](#) (“Under One Roof” Fund).

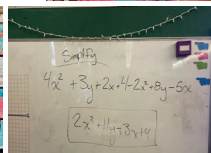
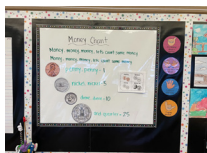
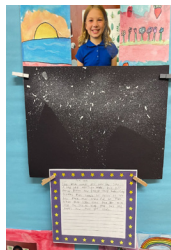


# ST. IGNATIUS SCHOOL

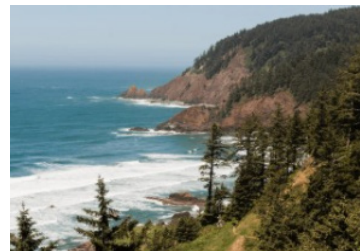
Our students spent time recently in Examen prayer practice. The Ignatian Examen is a 5-step prayer that asks us to look back on our day with God to find joy, feel loved, and grow. By reviewing moments from our day, thanking God for our blessings, asking for forgiveness of mistakes or unkind actions, and looking forward to starting fresh tomorrow, we learn to recognize God's presence in our life. Many of our classrooms use this poster to assist in guiding the students through this thoughtful reflection process.



As we continue learning throughout the Lenten season, we can see the wonderfully inspired Lenten artwork across grade levels. Our preschoolers decorated popsicle sticks to create a beautiful cross in their classroom. And our third graders are creating faux stained glass crosses with tissue paper. The kindergarten students have created self-portraits with ashes along with a Lenten quote from Pope Francis. In first grade, the students decorated pictures of our Blessed Mother Marie Rose whose birth name was Eulalie. The fourth graders have written about how to pray during Lent. Meanwhile, in second grade, the students are learning about money. In fifth grade, the students have created stories and artwork about the stars in the sky. The sixth graders are simplifying algebraic expressions in math. The seventh graders are giving Renaissance presentations in social studies. And the eighth graders are pondering the question, "How do people find strength when they feel powerless?" in English Language Arts. We are so proud of our students as they develop eager minds, passionate hearts, enthusiastic spirits, and brilliant futures!



Our [Aspire, Believe, Celebrate](#) school auction will take place on **Saturday, April 18, 2026**. We would love to see our parishioners at this community-building event. You can enjoy a great meal, bid on baskets or live auction items or just enjoy the fun atmosphere. Maybe your bid on *a trip to the Oregon Coast or perhaps a wine tasting adventure this summer?* We have so much fun in store for you! Enjoy a night out that is tax deductible! All are welcome! Thank you for supporting our school's mission of developing students committed to building a just and compassionate world for all. **Enjoy a fun night out that is tax deductible!**



## School Office

503-774-5533  
[www.sispdx.org](http://www.sispdx.org)

## Principal

Carol Pausz  
[cpausz@sispdx.org](mailto:cpausz@sispdx.org)  
 Ext 246

## School Secretary

Julie Frangipani  
[jfrangipani@sispdx.org](mailto:jfrangipani@sispdx.org)  
 Ext 233

May we celebrate St. Patrick on his upcoming Feast day through this prayer in his honor:

**May the Strength of God pilot us. May the Power of God preserve us. May the Wisdom of God instruct us. May the Hand of God protect us. May the Way of God direct us. May the Shield of God defend us. May the Host of God guard us against the snares of the evil ones, against temptations of the world. May Christ be with us! May Christ be before us! May Christ be in us, Christ be over all! May Thy Salvation, Lord, Always be ours, This day, O Lord, and evermore. Amen.**

*We, the community of St. Ignatius School, in the tradition of Mother Marie Rose and St. Ignatius of Loyola, provide a faith-centered Catholic education guiding God's children toward building a just and compassionate world.*

**Carol Pausz**  
 Principal

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