



ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

August 25, 2019

Enter By the Narrow Gate

Dear Parishioners:

In Vienna, Austria, you will find a church in which the Hapsburgs, the former ruling family of Austria, are buried. It is said that when royal funerals finally arrive at the church for the burial rites, the mourners leading the funeral procession knock at the door to gain entrance.

“Who is it that desires admission here?” a priest asks through the locked door. “His apostolic majesty, the emperor!” calls the guard. “I don’t know him,” answers the priest.

A second knock follows and a similar question is asked. This time, the funeral guard announces the deceased as “the highest emperor.” Again, “I don’t know him” echoes throughout the vaulted burial chamber.

Finally, a third knock is heard. “Who is it?” “A poor sinner, your brother,” comes the final answer. Then the door is opened and the royal burial concludes.

“Strive to enter by the narrow door,” Jesus says in today’s gospel. Usually Luke’s good news speaks of inclusion and openness to compassion. Today Jesus reveals a reason for exclusion. He emphasizes three points concerning salvation. First, salvation involves a struggle. Second, some key moments are crucial for deciding to enter God’s kingdom. And third, belonging to a religious tradition does not guarantee entrance into the kingdom.

Luke uses a Greek word for “strive” that is more powerful than what “work at” or “try” express. The Greek *agonizomai* involves conflict, fight and struggle, and in this context, it implies an overcoming of obstacles. Luke’s message is that those who struggle, who possess a certain staying power, will make it through the narrow door.

Jesus’ second point is that timing is important. The “moment for action” (the *kairos*) comes and is gone – people know this but Jesus emphasizes it here. When the occasion has passed, when the householder has closed the door, the moment is gone. It is too late. No amount of knocking can bring the opportunity back.

The third point Jesus teaches about salvation is that even if people have firsthand knowledge of Jesus, that does not mean Jesus will recognize them if they are evildoers. Even membership in the people of the patriarchs and prophets is no guarantee against being shut out.

The path that the followers of Jesus walk is not easy. Yet it is not enough simply to know Jesus, to feast with him, or to have heard his teachings. Those chosen for heaven’s banquet are those who have squeezed through the door, not those who got a foot in early but did not focus enough to stay on the narrow path.

Today’s Readings:

Isaiah	66:18-21
Hebrews	12:5-7, 11-13
Luke	13:22-30

Next Sunday’s Readings:

Sirach	3:1-7-18, 20, 28-29
Hebrews	12:22-24a
Luke	14:11, 7-14

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 >>>

The householder who closes the door does not recognize those pounding outside. The message is clear. Being present is not enough. It is not simply knowing God that counts -- *but being known by God.*

It is not enough to be raised Christian, to attend church, to know the doctrines of the faith and to share in the Eucharist. What is required is to be familiar to God – for God to know you. Being known by another requires letting down defenses, risking vulnerability, and engaging in dialogue.


Being known by God involves opening up to One who brings fire as well as peace, whose glance can be searing as well as kind. And it also involves action. Once the door has opened and the time has passed, it is too late. Entering by the narrow door is not something that can be put off until tomorrow. It must be done while the time is at hand. It must be done today.

This week the church remembers St. Monica (August 27), Saint Augustine (August 28), and the beheading of John the Baptist (August 29). Many people have come to faith in Jesus and the church through these three people. Monica and John worked tirelessly to point others to the life of Jesus in the faith community. They met their own deaths with confidence in the mission of their lives. They entered through the narrow door.

Fr. Craig Boly S.J.

Realm Connect

We are beginning to introduce the online platform “Realm” for use on smartphones, laptops, tablets and desktop computers to keep you connected to all that is happening at St. Ignatius Church and School.

 The application, "**Connect - Our Church Community**" is available for smartphones for free download in the Apple App Store and Google Play Store and online at <https://onrealm.org/sipdx> . A few of the benefits of using this application include instant notifications to your mobile phone, access to information for specific parish and school groups and events and the ability to set up secure online giving with receipts of all donations. Questions?...call Patty at 503-777-1491 or email office@sipdx.org. If you are not a user of smartphone or computer applications, not to worry, we will continue to publish and plan to enhance the information available in our weekly paper bulletin.

The Parish Choir starts rehearsing again on Sunday, September 8 at 9:15am in the church, and sings at the 10:30 Mass throughout the



academic year. Interested in joining us? Come be a “Choir Tryer” for a Sunday (or more) in September, to get a feel for what goes on during rehearsal. See Joseph Byrd jbyrd@sipdx.org for more information.

Now made possible through REALM connect, text giving!

Text **sipdx Chu \$25** to **73256** to give to Sunday Tithing using your text messaging. Standard text message rates do apply.



Mom’s Night Out

Sept. 7th Chocolate Tour at CREO

Join other mom’s for a tour and chocolate tasting at CREO at 3pm followed by appetizers and socializing with other moms. \$20 for tour and tasting. Tour is limited to 14 women.

Contact bschaller@sipdx.org to RSVP.

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

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/about>

Mass Intentions

Monday	Aug 26	† Brian McPherson
Tuesday	Aug 27	† Loretta Allen
Wednesday	Aug 28	† Loretta Case
Thursday	Aug 29	† Benancia Serna
Friday	Aug 30	† Jim Emig

In Thanksgiving for the life of Roger Van Dyke & Joan Chan

IGNITE—Coming this Fall



Is the Holy Spirit calling you to a deeper Catholic Faith experience? This fall we invite you to a Sunday night series: “IGNITE,” where we will explore what it means to “find God in all things” as we dive into the lives of the Saints and the mystics while reveling in the music and the history of the mass. Facilitated by Joseph and Grace Byrd, this class will meet you where you are, whether you are new to the Catholic faith or a seasoned traveler. Contact gbyrd@sipdx.org or jbyrd@sipdx.org for information.

Seeking Parish Sponsors One of the blessings of our faith is witnessing those who are choosing to dive into it for the first time. The RCIA process is a time where candidates are invited into a deeper awareness of the presence of the Holy Spirit in their daily lives. Please prayerfully consider accompanying these RCIA candidates as they discern their call into the Catholic Church as a parish sponsor. Your role as a parish sponsor would be to: 1) Attend all IGNITE classes on 2nd and 4th Sundays from 6-7:15 PM. 2) Share your own faith experience within the class during times of reflection. 3) Possibly pair up with one particular candidate as spiritual companions. 4) Attend masses that involve the RCIA candidates, e.g. the rites, the scrutinies, and the Easter Vigil. 5) Pray for all RCIA candidates throughout the RCIA process. Please talk to Grace if you are interested in participating in this ministry. gbyrd@sipdx.org

Church Office
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Pastor Fr Craig Boly, SJ
cboly@sipdx.org ext. 231

Fr. Dan Sullivan, SJ
dsullivan@sipdx.org ext. 224

Pastoral Council
Co-Chair- James Nguyen
james@dragonberryproduce.com

Co-Chair - Joyce Keane
joyce.sipdx@gmail.com

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



ST. IGNATIUS SCHOOL

School Welcome back picnic is Thursday, August 29th at 5:00PM ~ Can't wait to see you there!



Come to the RCIA Open House on **September 12th**, 7-8 in the dining room of the Parish office. RCIA is not just for people who know they are ready to become Catholic. It is for anyone who is currently in the process of discerning the direction of their faith journey, or for anyone who would like to understand more fully what it means to be Catholic in a Jesuit parish. If you feel even slightly drawn to participate, then it is for you. The Open House will be a time for food and fellowship, a time to ask questions, a time to register if you would like, and a time to meet others who have decided to participate in RCIA this year. If you already know that you would like to register for RCIA, then forms are available in the vestibule or on our website. Questions? Contact Grace Byrd: gbyrd@sipdx.org



Did you know?

About Campus Care. Have you noticed the recent campus transformations to improve the health, sustainability and beauty of our church and school? Tree trimming and removal is underway as some trees were dead or dying (e.g., rhododendrons on the west side of the gym, birch trees on Powell) and others threaten damage to buildings (e.g., two trees on the south side of the school next to the Pre-K classroom). (Buildings have been) We have purged buildings of decades of junk; cleaned out the main drains on campus; and power washed sidewalks, stairs and the church plaza. An expansion of the preschool classroom is underway; the parking lot is being re-sealed and striped for safety; basketball hoops refurbished, and outside security cameras are being installed. Questions? Contact Steve Scopelleti, our new Facilities Manager.

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