

St. Ignatius Catholic Church

March 23, 2025

Wisdom from the Pews

In today's first reading from Exodus, we heard "...the people grumbled against Moses...." I must admit, I am a grumbler.

Often, I manage to keep my negative thoughts inside my head. For one thing, I am embarrassed. I often think about people who have faced much greater trials than I have, and I am humbled. I have a sister who lost one of her daughters a few years ago. Another sister lost her husband to a vicious battle with cancer. Who am I to complain about how my life is going? I know how important it is to stay positive, and at some level I believe things are going to work out. But sometimes my faith is buried deep below my worries. It is easy to fall into anxiety, and even despair, at times. I'll admit something that is not easy, without going into details. I have mental health issues that really exacerbate this struggle. I know there are others in our parish in the same situation.

So what is an often-depressed, highly anxious follower of Christ to do? Well, the second reading says this:

Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ... and we boast in hope of the glory of God. And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

This passage gives me real hope. Though at times my faith may falter, I know that God is with me throughout it all. I pray to the Holy Spirit daily. I ask for wisdom, patience, and peace. I pray for courage and strength. And I do be-



lieve the Holy Spirit showers me with many gifts. Some days it is a struggle even to get out of bed, but I do it. Then I get ready for the day. Many days, that involves working as a substitute teacher. That definitely can be a source of anxiety, especially when going to a new classroom for the first time. But time after time, I am able to do what feels impossible.

Third Gunday of Lent

Continued >>>

3400 SE 43rd Ave. Portland, OR 97206 Contact us:

Phone: 503-777-1491 office@sipdx.org

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil at 5:00 PM Sunday at 8:00 AM Sunday at 10:30 AM Adoration 6:15-6:45 PM before 7:00 PM Mass. Sunday at 7:00 PM

Weekdays (M-F) 8:00 AM At LIC—La Storta Chapel

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays -3:30 PM to 4:30 PM OR by appointment 503-777-1491

Pastoral Council

The goal of the Pastoral Council is to enhance the quality of parish life.

We aid the pastor in identifying the pastoral needs of the community, develop a plan for the parish's programs and services and evaluate their effectiveness. If you have feedback or ideas to share, please contact any of the Pastoral

email: pastoralcouncil@sipdx.org

Council members directly or

Wisdom from the Pews continued:

Finally, we find in today's Gospel another source of hope. In the story of the woman at the well, Jesus said "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." Later, He promises "...whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The Lord longs to bless us with His living water. Do we ask him to do so? During this season of Lent, I will strive to rely on this living water.

My name is *Lori Voakes*, and I am an elementary school teacher. I've been a member of St. Ignatius Parish for 33 years and typically attend the Contemplative Mass.

Have you enjoyed reading the weekly **Wisdom from the Pews?** Then this is a your chance to join other parishioners who have shared their faith journey as it relates to the weekend readings. Contact Joseph Byrd with any questions (<u>ibyrd@sipdx.org</u>) or Please consider writing your Wisdom from the Pews https://bit.ly/wisdomfromthepews



Calling all bakers: get your favorite *baked goods* ready for our Bake-Luck on **Sunday**, **March 23rd** to be shared after the 8 and 10:30am Masses. Coffee will be provided!



St Vincent de Paul Volunteer opportunity! We are in need of pre-packers on the 3rd

Friday of the month. This is a once-a-month commitment in the late afternoon/early evening. Please respond to svdp@sipdx.org with your interest.

You can help by **bringing non-perishable food donations to the Masses on the weekends and placing your donation under the stairwell in the vestibule,** or making a cash donation through Realm Connect. Your support is much appreciated. Contact us at svdp@sipdx.org if you have any questions. **Do you**

know someone who might be food insecure? or needs help paying rent or utility bills? The St. Vincent de Paul Portland Council accepts requests for assistance at 503-235-8431. Requests from our neighborhood are then forwarded to our SVdP pantry that delivers food to those in need on Saturday mornings.

Leaning into Lent

Stations of the Cross
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.

Wednesday, 3/26 - noon Wednesday, 4/2 - 7PM Wednesday, 4/16- noon

Adoration

During lent, every Sunday from 6:15-6:45, 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.

Spirituality of Aging

This series, meant for parishioners over the age of 55, explores the newness of growing older, from relationship to self-perception, from our experience of world to our spiritual growth.

Meets Thursdays at 10AM in the parish office dining room from 3/6-4/10.

Mass Readings

Mass Readings for Mar 23, 2025

Exodus 17:3-7 Romans 5:1-2, 5-8 John 4:5-42 Mass Readings for Mar 30, 2025

Joshua 5:9a, 10-12 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Dear St. Ignatius Parish -

Catholic Social Teaching

It is remarkable that our Catholic Social Teaching now includes concern for the earth, our common home. During Lent, let us take to heart this urgent call from the Church to care for our common home. What follows is an excerpt from Pope Francis's encyclical *Laudato Si*, in which he criticizes the weak response of governments to respond to the needs of the earth.

54. It is remarkable how weak international political responses have been. The failure of global summits on the environment make it plain that our politics are subject to technology and finance. There are too many special interests, and economic interests easily end up trumping the common good and manipulating information so that their own plans will not be affected. The Aparecida Document urges that "the interests of economic groups which irrationally demolish sources of life should not prevail in dealing with natural resources". The alliance between the economy and technology ends up sidelining anything unrelated to its immediate interests. Consequently the most one can expect is superficial rhetoric, sporadic acts of philanthropy and perfunctory expressions of concern for the environment, whereas any genuine attempt by groups within society to introduce change is viewed as a nuisance based on romantic illusions or an obstacle to be circumvented. 60. Finally, we need to acknowledge that different approaches and lines of thought have emerged regarding this situation and its possible solutions. At one extreme, we find those who doggedly uphold the myth of progress and tell us that ecological problems will solve themselves simply with the application of new technology and without any need for ethical considerations or deep change. At the other extreme are those who view men and women and all their interventions as no more than a threat, jeopardizing the global ecosystem, and consequently the presence of human beings on the planet should be reduced and all forms of intervention prohibited. Viable future scenarios will have to be generated between these extremes, since there is no one path to a solution. This makes a variety of proposals possible, all capable of entering into dialogue with a view to developing comprehensive solutions.

61. On many concrete questions, the Church has no reason to offer a definitive opinion; she knows that honest debate must be encouraged among experts, while respecting divergent views. But we need only take a frank look at the facts to see that our common home is falling into serious disrepair. Hope would have us recognize that there is always a way out, that we can always redirect our steps, that we can always do something to solve our problems. Still, we can see signs that things are now reaching a breaking point, due to the rapid pace of change and degradation; these are evident in large-scale natural disasters as well as social and even financial crises, for the world's problems cannot be analyzed or explained in isolation. There are regions now at high risk and, aside from all doomsday predictions, the present world system is certainly unsustainable from a number of points of view, for we have stopped thinking about the goals of human activity. "If we scan the regions of our planet, we immediately see that humanity has disappointed God's expectations".

-Fr. James, SJ

SOUNDS FROM THE GROUNDS, a Facilities update: Ahhh.... Spring has sprung. It's a wonderful time to explore the St. Ignatius campus as our plantings come to life. Our labors from the fall are coming to life as our new plantings are popping up and budding out from their winter slumber.

In celebration of Earth Day this year the Eco-Team is leading a new project to build 5 planter beds on the North side of the church. **Volunteers needed on Saturday April 26**^{th.} **10am-2pm.** Please join us in constructing the boxes, filling them with planting soil and laying down a crushed rock pathway around them. Please email me (bwatson@sipdx.org) if you can help out.

On **Sunday May 4^{th.}** the Eco-Team will be hosting a plant sale in honor of Mother's Day. Time to be determined, but it will coordinate with the morning mass times.

The **new candle holders** in the windowsill are made from the salvaged wood from the former Maple tree that once stood tall where the turf now resides by the school.

The **new planter boxes** will be constructed form Juniper, a wood sourced from grassland and watershed restoration projects in Central-Eastern Oregon, primarily in the John Day, Blue Basin area. Juniper is rugged and enduring, like the land it comes from. Cheaper and more durable than cedar Juniper is a great exterior wood for eco-conscience choices. The wood was procured from Sustainable Northwest Woods located in SE Portland. Fun fact they provided all of the wood used for the finished ceilings at the recent PDX International Airport remodel.



 ${\sf St\ Ignatius\ School}$ 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.

We celebrated Eucharistic Adoration and Mass, led by our 1st grade class with 8th grade helpers, this week.

We would like feedback on our auction event for future planning. Please take this quick auction survey even if you didn't attend this year's auction. Thank you for helping St.



Ignatius School provide a faith-filled Catholic education through inspiring teachers and *necessary resources* as our students build lifelong friendships and prepare to build a more just and compassionate world for all.



Our students are enjoying hands-on learning experiences across content areas. Our preschoolers are developing their gross motor skills and artistic expression through painting umbrellas for their hallway bulletin board. The kindergarten students are sharpening their

writing skills through writing about how they plan to deepen their faith

during Lent. Our first graders paraded around to "Pomp & Circumstance" to celebrate graduating to their next Journeys reading textbook. Our kindergarten, first and second grade students are developing their musical knowledge through playing instruments in music class. Our third graders analyzed photos from Mars and compared them to photos from Earth to uncover geographical features of the red planet. This week, in our morning announcements, we celebrated the great work of several famous women for Women's History Month. The



fourth and sixth graders adorned our hallways with more ways to celebrate Women's History Month. The fifth graders created optical illusion artwork with their hands for their hallway bulletin board. The seventh graders are making podcasts about the Seven Sacraments. And the seventh and eighth graders participated in Bystander Training, learning how they can assist and support their classmates through difficult social dynamics and situations.

In our Lenten journey, may we find ways to reflect, work for the common good, and encounter God in new ways. In Lamentations, chapter 3 verses 22-23, we hear "The LORD's acts of mercy are not exhausted, his compassion is not spent; They are renewed each morning—great is your faithfulness!"

Peace be with you always, Carol Pausz **Principal**



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School Secretary Julie Frangipani jfrangipani@sispdx.org Ext 233

Principal **Carol Pausz** cpausz@sispdx.org Ext 246

Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon, exist to give witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As an apostolate of the Church, Catholic Schools minister the salvation of Jesus Christ, exercising His mission to teach (Mt. 28:19-20) by providing Mission Passionate Catholic Education.

It's the Year of Jubilee! In the month of March, Pope Francis has missioned churches to Clothe the needy, we will be having a Children's Clothing and Supply Drive following items:



diapers, wipes, Pull-Ups, strollers, car seats, new or gently used maternity or children's clothes.





Pancake Breakfast: Once a month, after the 10:30 AM Family Mass, we will host a Pancake Breakfast in Dillion hall for all school families and parishioners starting at 11:30 AM. Each month a different school group will assist in hosting the Pancake Breakfast. Sunday, April 27th, 11:30 AM = 1st & 6th gr. Hosts & Sunday, May 18th, 11:30 AM = preschool, 2nd, & 5th gr. hosts

Catholic Relief Services-collection

March 30th Your compassion helps those in need around the world. Every gift you give helps a child thrive, brings hope to a family and rebuilds a community. When you give, you help fill the bellies of young children so they can study hard in school. You help prevent trafficking and provide welcome kits for survivors. You help mothers and babies around the world receive nutritional care and health exams. READ More at: Donate to Where It's Needed Most | Catholic Relief Services (envelope are at the doors)



Care for Creation "May we all, with the special help of God's grace during this Jubilee season, change our convictions and practices to give nature a rest from our greedy exploitations", Pope Francis.

Animal agriculture is one of the leading contributors to greenhouse gas emissions that trap heat in the atmosphere and warm the planet, so creating less demand for animal products can have a significant impact on your carbon footprint. From EARTHBEAT 3/7/2025.

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.



Church tithing	July 1, 2024—June 30, 2025		
	Actual	Budget	% of Goal
Mar 3-9, 2025	14,641	11,000	133%
Month of Mar	25,091	55,000	46%
YTD	371,805	560,000	66%

Thank you, for also supporting other funds like our Campus renewal/Bldg., St. Vincent de Paul, School, Novena and more! May you be blessed abundantly for your generosity!

8:00AM Weekday Mass Intentions

Please keep in your prayers

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Monday	Mar 24	† Jaka Mercep
Tuesday	Mar 25	† Maria Vu Thi Dau
Wednesday	Mar 26	† Anthony Ngoc Hoang
Thursday	Mar 27	† Anthony Hoang Nhung
Friday	Mar 28	† Maria Thu Hoang



Parish Staff

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