Dear Parishioners,

Welcome to St. Clare Parish on this 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time. I hope you are well amidst these challenging times. Please join me in praying for the health and safety of our community.

Sacraments - Please visit www.saintclarechurch.org for more information on sacramental preparation.

Weekend & Daily Mass:  
Saturday - 5:00 pm  
Sunday - 8:00, 9:15 & 10:45am 
Weekdays except Tuesdays - 8:30am  
All Masses limited to 25 people each. 
Mandatory sign-up at 503.244.1037.

Pre-recorded Sunday Mass:  

Reconciliation  
Saturdays with Fr. Don Gutmann from 4pm-4:30pm in the church. Social distancing will be practiced.

Matrimony  
Six month preparation required. Contact Fr. Don Gutmann.

Adult Confirmation & How Can I Become a Catholic?  
Contact Pia de Leon.

Baptism, 1st Eucharist, 1st Reconciliation & Confirmation?  
(Children & Teens) Contact Deacon Bill McNamara.

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP WITH US

Whether you are a long-time parishioner and need to update your information or newly arrived in the parish and not yet registered, please complete the information below and place in the offertory basket or mail to the parish office.

Name: ____________________________________________ Phone: (    ) ____________________________

Address: __________________________________________ City: __________________________ Zip: __________________________

☐ New Parishioner  ☐ Returning Catholic  ☐ Moving (please remove from parish directory)

☐ New Phone Number  ☐ New Address  ☐ Please send Sunday Offertory envelopes
**Weekly Reflection**
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 26, 2020

When a merchant finally finds a priceless, perfect pearl, he sells all he has and buys it. He does this because that pearl matters to him. It has significance and brings a depth of joy like none other. What matters and is of importance to you? When what matters to us has something to do with the kingdom of God, God is delighted. His exuberant happiness is hard to contain because He knows that we are happy stumbling upon this beautiful wisdom. Ask God to help you discover this pearl of great price. There are many things competing for our attention every day. But not all of these things are important. We focus too much energy on the unimportant, superficial stuff and neglect paying attention to the things that really make a difference and have the greatest impact. Things all too easily become more significant than people, and our agendas become more essential than God’s. We do not have to empty our bank accounts and totally detach from everything we have in order to serve God. But, we are asked to prioritize our lives and make what matters to God what matters most to us. In doing so, when we rise each day, we will be able to see what really needs our attention and embrace it with great joy! ©LPi

**Week-at-a-Glance**

Each Mass is limited to 25 people. Sign-up is mandatory by calling the parish office at 503-244-1037, x104 on Tuesdays or Wednesdays, 9am-12pm only.

**Saturday, July 25**
4:00pm Confession Church
5:00pm Mass Church

**Sunday, July 26**
8:00am Mass For the People Church
9:15am Mass Church
10:45am Confirmation Mass Church

**Monday, July 27**
8:30am Daily Mass Church

**Wednesday, July 29**
8:30am Daily Mass +Holy Souls in Purgatory Church

**Thursday, July 30**
8:30am Daily Mass Church

**Friday, July 31**
8:30am Daily Mass +Justine Dacernor Church

**Saturday, Aug. 1**
4:00pm Confession Church
5:00pm Mass Church

**Sunday, Aug. 2**
8:00am Mass For the People Church
9:15am Mass Church
10:45am Confirmation Mass Church

**Fr. Don’s Musings . . .**

This pandemic looks like it’s going to stretch on for quite a while. I was thinking the pandemic would get better this summer but obviously that’s not what is happening. The uncertainty of the virus makes planning very difficult. Here at the parish, we are planning for next school year as well as various church activities, but it is hard to make firm plans at this point, because things are changing so rapidly. We want to provide normal services, but we certainly need to keep everyone safe as well.

I feel good about the way Masses are going here at St. Clare. We have good protocols to keep everyone safe. Our church seats 500, but current regulations only allow for 25 people at a time so there is plenty of room to spread out. We open the windows and have the big exhaust fan pulling in lots of fresh air. Everyone is wearing masks and the church is sanitized after each Mass. We aren’t doing any personal contact outside of family groups and people come forward to receive communion (host only, no cup) with 6 feet of spacing. I appreciate everyone’s willingness to “go with the program” to keep everyone safe. Our online Mass will continue for those who don’t come into the church.

It seems like Covid-19 going to be here for a while. It’s certainly affecting our lives. Let’s all watch out for one another, keep safe and wear our masks when in public. This is an opportunity for us to let God’s goodness shine brightly through us. Lots of people are struggling right now, let’s all be instruments of God’s peace and joy to those around us. ~ Fr. Don

**Prayer During A Health Crisis**

Compassionate and Loving Father,
In the face of confusion and concern
impart to us the calm of your presence.
In You allow us to find hope and healing.
Be with those who serve the sick and give them
Your caring hands.
Be with those who lead and give them
Your Spirit of wisdom.
Be with those who have fallen ill and give them
Your comforting heart.
Wrap your arms around our world
and hold us in your love.
Allow us at this time of trial to then serve as
instruments of that love to all we meet.
We ask this in Your Name. Amen. ©LPi

**Scripture Readings**
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Aug. 2, 2020

Reading 1 - IS 55:1-3
Psalms - PS 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18
Reading 2 - ROM 8:35, 37-39
Gospel - MT 14:13-21
Today’s readings give us an opportunity to reflect on what really matters to us in life: what we seek, where we look for it, and whether we will nurture it when it appears. Some of us have clear answers to those questions, and we vigorously pursue what we value. Others are less clear. Regardless of our approach, our search will not be in vain, if we have an open heart.

*United in Prayer ~ Lord Hear Our Prayer*

For the whole church, that God may grant its leaders and members, understanding and “hearts so wise,” so they may know the right thing to do during times of conflict or confusion . . . we pray to the Lord.

For all nations throughout the world, that Christ our King will convert them to the Father’s will and be able to love and follow His command . . . we pray to the Lord.

For those whose hearts are drawn to service and love for others, especially those tasked to care for and protect all lives during this pandemic and from systems that do not value all people equally . . . we pray to the Lord.

For all the people affected by the coronavirus, that God may redeem them from physical illness, from economic hardships, from the isolation and powerlessness and from losses of lives and loved ones . . . we pray to the Lord.

For true dialogue between the people of Portland and its leaders and decision makers, that the Holy Spirit will come down upon them and open their hearts so that a genuine reconciliation may be achieved and peace and order be restored in the city and state . . . we pray to the Lord.

For the renewal and transformation of our parishioners into missionaries of love and hope in the communities beyond the walls of the church . . . we pray to the Lord.

For all in the community who need our support and prayers; for those who are sick and for those who have died, especially David Ludwig, and for those who are grieving . . . we pray to the Lord.
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all he has and buys that field.” Matthew 13:44

Have you ever watched a cartoon or movie where someone found or received a map with a big X to show where a treasure was buried? (That is where we get the phrase X marks the spot.) That movie or cartoon would usually involve a person or persons gathering up everything they need and heading off in a hurry to hunt for the treasure. It would be the only thing on that person’s mind and all he cared about. That person could not wait to see what it was. Maybe after seeing such a movie or cartoon, many of you have dreamed about finding an old map and following it to the spot where a pirate had buried a chest full of glittering gold?

Today, we heard about a treasure more valuable than a chest full of gold! The man in Jesus’ story sold everything to buy the field where the treasure was buried. His total focus and total goals were to own that field. His whole concentration was on how he could keep the treasure no matter what it would take. But, he did it out of joy, because he knew that this was the most important thing he would ever do. Jesus told us that the treasure the man was looking for was not gold but was the Kingdom of Heaven.

The Kingdom of Heaven is more precious that anything we can imagine in this life and it is that big X for us in our lives. You know what? Jesus helps us to get to that big X. He gives us a map on how to find Heaven. That map is the Bible - the Good News from God. There are so many stories in the Bible that give us the clues we need to get to heaven. Stories about people, places and things and rules to help us stay on the right path to find joy in our travels to get to that big X.

God also gives us big treasures along our journey of life. You know what? You are a treasure in your parent’s eyes. Just like the man in the story, they have sacrificed so much to give you the good things in life. Our parents lead us and guide us by word and example. They help us to be that person God called us to be, so God can welcome us to our true home in heaven – that BIG X!

Let us pray: Almighty and Loving God, nothing we have or ever will have can compare to life in the Kingdom of Heaven. Help us to place our trust in You, so that we may find that priceless treasure – the BIG X! We pray in Jesus’ Name. Amen
Our first PARKING LOT VESPERS for Peace and Justice was quite successful. With scriptures and reflection, a decade of the rosary and some blessings from Fr. Don, 25 parishioners gathered to lift up the many people affected by injustices in the world and seek mercy and compassion for all. We hope that you can be part of one of our parking lot evening prayer sessions during this summer.

The next one is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 6 at 7pm in the school parking lot. Registrations for this event will be accepted until Friday, July 31. The maximum number of allowable attendees is 25 people. Masks and social distancing are required to participate.

To register, please email at pia@saintclarechurch.org or call Pia at 503.244.1037, ext. 103. Please leave a voice mail and you will receive a call back to as soon as possible. Thank you!

**RCIA INVITATION**

Has Jesus Christ been knocking on the door of your heart? Have you been discerning on becoming a part of the Catholic Church? Are you being called to return to the Catholic Faith?

Even during these strange times of the pandemic, our Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults process will proceed. Through this process, the parish can help answer some of your pressing questions about Catholicism and help you develop your relationship with Jesus through His Body, the Church. If you wish to be baptized and be fully received into the Catholic Church, would like to renew your commitment as a Catholic or simply want to know more about the Faith, join us. Sessions start in September.

For more information or to register as a RCIA participant, please email Pia de Leon at pia@saintclarechurch.org.

---

**Weekly Offertory Report**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual Offertory</th>
<th>Average Offertory</th>
<th>Amount Over (Under) Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W/E 7.19.20</td>
<td>$7,076</td>
<td>$8,481</td>
<td>($1,405)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W/E 7.12.20</td>
<td>$8,051</td>
<td>$8,481</td>
<td>($430)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total July</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21,782</strong></td>
<td><strong>$25,443</strong></td>
<td><strong>($3,661)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Fiscal Year</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21,782</strong></td>
<td><strong>$25,443</strong></td>
<td><strong>($3,661)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Goal for FY 19-20: $8,481 needed weekly to fund the current programs, personnel and facilities of the church.

Reminder: Donations may be mailed to or dropped off at the parish office. Interested in Online Giving? Please visit www.saintclarechurch.org and click the Online Giving link. Thank you!

---

**Faith Formation**

Many thanks to all who contribute!

---

**The St. Clare Conference Society of St. Vincent de Paul ~ Food Pantry Needs**

- Canned Ravioli & Spaghetti
- Breakfast Cereal
- Instant Mashed Potatoes
- Pasta-Roni
- Toothpaste & Deodorant

Donations may be placed in the food basket on the front porch of the parish office. Thank you!

*Please check dates to ensure foods have not expired.*

---

**RESOURCES ON RACISM**

*Racism is a Life Issue: A Webinar*

Inspired by Pope Francis's observation that Christians "cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life," Notre Dame's de Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture will host a webinar discussion on racism and the culture of life on Tuesday, July 28 at 5pm. More information and advance registration at: ethicscenter.nd.edu/racism
For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St. Clare, Portland, OR A 4C 05-1663