St. Clare Parish
Apr. 26, 2020

A Catholic Community guided by the Holy Spirit
to proclaim Christ’s love in worship, service and life-long learning.

Church
8535 SW 19th Ave Portland, OR 97219 503.244.1037
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8am - 12:30pm & 2 - 4pm
office@saintclarechurch.org www.saintclarechurch.org

Pastor Fr. Don Gutmann 101
Business Manager Shelley Worrell 102
Pastoral Associate Pia de Leon 103
Faith Formation Coordinator Dcn. Bill McNamara 104
ECHO Apprentice Andie Bodary 105
Administrative Assistant Laurie Zupsic 100

School
1807 SW Freeman St Portland, OR 97219 503.244.7600
info@stclarepdx.org www.stclarepdx.org

Interim School Principal Jeananne Bloudek
Administrative Assistant Donna Parker MacNeur

Preschool
1812 SW Spring Garden St Portland, OR 97219 503.244.5458
nancy@stclarepreschool.org

Director Nancy Melzer
Administrative Assistant Jeanne Raffety

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

Daily and Weekend Masses are currently canceled due to the COVID-19 outbreak.
To view pre-recorded Sunday Masses with Fr. Don Gutmann, go to www.saintclarechurch.org.

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)
Our school year at St. Clare School certainly has been an interesting one. By decree of the governor there are no schools holding classes onsite, so all of our learning is online or distance learning. Our teachers have done an AMAZING JOB of adapting to a new way of teaching, and they did it very quickly. On Friday, March 13th, the governor announced schools would close. Our teachers took the following Monday to plan and on Tuesday they had online classes up and running for our students. I was in awe of their adaptability and professionalism in making the shift. And I’m in awe of the families who have had to adapt to the students learning at home every day. Big changes for everyone!

I’d like to give you more details about a change for next year that I’ve already written about a bit. This year, we have an interim principal, Mrs. Bloudek (who has been very helpful in leading us through the coronavirus episode) and a month ago we selected our permanent principal, Mr. Chris Harris. I’d like to tell you more about him. I’ve already told this to the teachers and school families, but the school is our biggest ministry at St. Clare Church and I want all our parishioners to know who our new principal will be.

Mr. Chris Harris is a local man, grew up near here and has spent most of his adult life serving in Catholic education. He graduated from St. Anthony School in Tigard, LaSalle High School, Gonzaga University for his Bachelor’s Degree and Saint Martin’s University in Lacey, Washington for his Master in Educational Administration. His mom was the long-time principal at our neighboring school of St. John Fisher. Mr. Harris has taught in Catholic schools in Oregon, Washington and California, and for the last 6 years has been the principal of St. Agatha School across the river in Sellwood. He lives with his wife and children in Tigard. Besides his classroom experience, he is also very gifted in technology and theater. He is a very competent leader and just a really nice guy. You’ll enjoy getting to know him.

Mrs. Monahan, our former principal, strongly encouraged Mr. Harris to apply for this position, because his leadership style will fit in very well with our school culture. We have an outstanding school and I think Mr. Harris is the right person to help our school continue to grow and excel. He will begin here in August. I will introduce him to the parish when the new school year starts.

It’s been an interesting year for the school and for all of us, as we adapt to life with coronavirus. Mr. Harris will be a good leader to help our school get back into its more normal routine next year.

Know that I’m praying for all of you. Let’s all keep praying for one another as we progress through this difficult time.

~ Fr. Don

P.S. Special birthday wishes to a few longtime parishioners who are celebrating milestone birthdays now: 90th birthday greetings to Eva Baura and Bill Sternberg, and 95 year greetings to Leonor Lewis. These are three much loved parishioners. Blessings to them!
Weekly Reflection
3rd Sunday of Easter
Apr. 26, 2020

Is God a real Being for you or simply an idea to be entertained? Often, we reduce God to a set of ideas, theories, and principles and neglect to see Him as the One who takes joy in helping us to understand all of the events and mysteries of life. God delights in journeying with us and is the only One who can fill us with joy and make our hearts burn with excitement and jubilation. He is the One who assists us in recognizing the truth that is before us and interpreting not only the jewels of Sacred Scripture but the events of history. If we recognize God, we can also see that He inspires us to see the divine meaning of our own lives as well. Sometimes it takes us a little time. After all, even Jesus’ closest friends had to walk with him for a while on the road to Emmaus before their eyes were opened in the breaking of bread. ©LPi

Spiritual Resources
COVID-19 may have slowed us down as a spiritual community, but we still need to nourish our souls and spirits. Please consider the resources below . . .

The YouTube video of pre-recorded Sunday Mass at St. Clare will be uploaded to www.saintclarechurch.org each Saturday by 4pm. Just click and join Fr. Don for Mass.

The Archdiocese of Portland has information on Masses livestreamed from the Cathedral (including those on Sundays at 11am) and other area parishes at: https://archdpdx.org/live-masses

Check out these links to view other celebrations of the Eucharist, daily and on Sunday:
https://www.ewtn.com/tv/shows/sunday-mass-live
https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/daily-readings
https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/

The US Conference of Catholic Bishops offers links to online Mass from the Vatican and churches throughout the country, prayers, readings and other resources at:
https://catholiccurrent.org/covid19/
http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/usccb-president-reflection-and-prayer-during-coronavirus.cfm

Please Read: Updated Information from the Archdiocese of Portland

In light of the COVID-19 situation, many parishes have not collected the physical Rice Bowls. However, the Church is involved in the response to the pandemic at home and around the world, and we can still use the Rice Bowl campaign to contribute to the Catholic Relief Services emergency fund which allows the Church to respond to various crises immediately. The Archdiocese is asking that we keep any cash we may have put into our Rice Bowls and instead make a donation online at: https://tinyurl.com/qrd4c84.

Don’t forget, 25% of your Rice Bowl proceeds is used to fund charitable projects around our archdiocese. We will not be collecting the Rice Bowls as previously announced. Thank you!

Mass Intentions

Prayed privately by Fr. Don
Saturday, Apr. 25
+Lorraine Digregorio  +Domenico Digregorio
Sunday, Apr. 26 & Monday, Apr. 27
Leonor Lewis (Happy 95th Birthday!)
Wednesday, Apr. 29
+Patricio P. Diaz
Friday, May 1
Bill Sternberg (Happy 90th Birthday!)
Saturday, May 2
Eva Baura (Happy 90th Birthday!)
The challenging questions continue. How do we encounter this risen Christ? Where do we find him? Our search is no different from our early Christian brothers and sisters. When they broke bread together in the Eucharist, they realized that He was there. By participating in this holy meal as members of a believing community, we experience that same presence among us. We learn about the power of being with one another in the simplest gestures of life. What could be more universal than breaking bread together — whether at an altar or an ordinary table?

United in Prayer ~ Lord Hear Our Prayer

For the Church, that all of its Eucharistic actions may point to Christ especially in the breaking of the bread . . .we pray to the Lord.

For Christians who are deprived of celebrating the Eucharist — especially where there is war or a threat of one, poverty, health crisis or the lack of pastoral leaders . . . we pray to the Lord.

For all leaders of nations, states and cities, that they may exercise prudence in their decisions and are mindful always of the sanctity of life and value of the common good . . .we pray to the Lord.

For those who are responsible for communicating the importance of the Eucharist: parents, guardians, godparents and catechists . . . we pray to the Lord.

For the community of St. Clare, may the prayers said for one another and all acts of kindness to each other, be a source for our souls’ daily bread . . . we pray to the Lord.

For all of God’s people during this pandemic, that the Eucharist received spiritually or sacramentally reminds us of God’s patience and His Easter promise to be with us always . . . we pray to the Lord.

For those who are sick, those who are dying and those who have gone back to their Maker . . . we pray to the Lord.
“They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.”

In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 2:42-47) proclaimed on the 2nd Sunday of Easter, is a line that struck me differently this time. It says “and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles”. Even after the Lord had risen, He never stopped ministering to his people, comforting, healing, forgiving, inspiring and loving them. However, he did this not by himself physically. The Lord once ascended into Heaven, assured us that there is a Body that will continue to comfort, heal, forgive, inspire and love. That body as St. Theresa of Avila said is yours.

“Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks with compassion on this world...”

Jesus, while still in his public ministry went through towns and villages teaching and healing, making people believers in the glory and power of God, His Father. He did not just want the people to have faith and live it out. More profoundly, he wanted to form his disciples to be his collaborators in the mission given to him by the Father. Through the rituals and miracles he performed, the doubt and persecution, Jesus formed his apostles. He did this so he could send them off with excitement and courage in their hearts to proclaim the message of the resurrection to all; and in the process, form other disciples who would in turn continue the mission until the end of time. This is the Body of Christ He was forming while on earth and continues to do so through the works of His apostles. This is the raison d'être of the Church. Most especially during challenging times like we are in today, we are still being called to “drop our nets” and follow the leader who gave up His life for us to be saved. We are constantly called to be formed in the ways of Christ – in the ways of love. Simply advertising ourselves as Christians does not serve the mission given by God to us, His Body, unless we can do it in and through our lives as constant as our breathing. We become what we have received and we share what we have become.

The Church will always have the ministry of formation along with prayer and the sacraments for the purpose of the mission. This formation must penetrate every milieu we are part of, every day. As parents, we form our children not only in matters of good manners and right conduct or in how to be successful in life. As workers or employees, our call is not only to push ourselves to be competitive or to be the best in our fields. As decision makers, we are not only called to make the most brilliant, fiscally sound and strategic policies. Whether we are parents, workers, government or religious institution leaders, the real call is to be like Christ and be Christ to all. Our human goodness must point to Christ – not us! This is the scandalous and counter-cultural truth about being apostles sent on the mission of the Resurrection.

When all else passes like the Easter Bunny candies on the grocery shelf, when clothes have changed with the season, when times demand a new set of rules and new daily agenda, the mission we have as Christ’s followers does not change. We continue to form ourselves so we can move forward the work of Christ given to us as Church, most especially when we cannot be in our familiar pews or visit in person with our favorite people in the parish, school or preschool. The challenge for us today is how to allow Christ and his resurrection to affect our daily grind in spite of the crisis we are in and our extraordinary circumstance.

The Resurrection changes us regardless of our situation so that Christ can continue to do wonders and give signs through us, his “apostles” today.

Did you ever wonder what Jesus really looked like? We see many different pictures of Jesus in our religion books, children’s bibles and videos. But what did He really look like? Where can we find Jesus?

Well, you are not alone. Today, we hear a story of 2 people, one named Cleopas, who most likely told the story to St. Luke who writes about it. These people where heading away from Jerusalem to the town of Emmaus talking about the events that had happened over the weekend. Jesus, who was a great prophet and who they thought was their Savior, was crucified, died and was buried, but some of his followers went to the place where He was buried and could not find His body. All of a sudden a stranger joins them and walks with them! This stranger tells them stories from the Bible. Then, they sit down together to share a meal just like we all do when we gather together in church. At their meal, the stranger takes bread, says the blessing, breaks it and gives it to them! With that, they recognize that He is Jesus and He vanishes from them!

Isn’t this a wonderful story! Would you like for Jesus to reveal himself to you? Well Jesus does this every time we come to Mass. We celebrate the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus. When Fr. Don takes the bread, blesses it, breaks it and says the same words that Jesus said, “This is My Body,” Jesus is with us. I know this, because Jesus told his disciples at the Last Supper, “Do This in Remembrance of Me.” Jesus not only gave us His Body, but also the ministry of the priesthood at that special gathering. Priesthood has been passed down from the disciples who were present all the way to Fr. Don.

But, there is a problem. Right now, we can’t go to church to see Jesus. What can we do? Where can we see Jesus when we are asked to stay home? Jesus is God and God is Love! We can take a “God Walk” and see God’s work and love in the plants, trees, birds, sky, in all created things! We can see God’s love in our pets! We can see God’s love in our family! We can read Bible stories and watch videos about Jesus on Formed. Jesus promises us that He will be with us forever!

Let us pray: Lord Jesus, open our eyes every day to see you more clearly in our lives. We pray in Jesus’ Name. Amen!

Thoughts for Kids from Deacon Bill...

Puzzle

Unscramble words from today’s Gospel:

Emuams
Polprets
vliagel
talkign
Crihts
berda
Clapoet
Mesos
Sonim

Puzzle Answer:

Emuams
Polprets
vliagel
talkign
Crihts
berda
Clapoet
Mesos
Sonim

Mission for the Week

Pack a bag with some snacks and your Bible, and take a long walk with your family. When you stop to eat your snacks, read your favorite story about Jesus.
Hello from St. Clare Youth Group!

This past weekend St. Clare Youth Group met up over Zoom for the first time. We gathered to share how we are doing in the midst of COVID-19. All 6th-12th grade students are welcome to join us Sunday Nights at 6:30pm to pray together, discuss the Sunday readings, and share our week with one another. Email Andie Bodary at andie@saintclarechurch.org to join us. We hope to see you then!

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

Catherine of Siena
by Sigrid Undset

With sensitivity to the zealous love of God and man that permeated the life of Saint Catherine, Undset presents a most moving and memorable portrait of one of history’s greatest women.
Easter was certainly a new experience. Although we were blessed to have family quarantined with us to celebrate, we certainly missed the Joy of a full Easter Mass. Twenty-nine years ago, I became Catholic, so our Elect are on my mind. After all their preparation and anticipation for Easter Vigil, it must be hard to still be waiting for that overwhelming feeling of Love I know encompassed me as I came into full communion with my faith.

This global pandemic has made us ponder God’s plan for this world. We certainly like the idea of reading the Gospels and avoiding Revelations. Like everyone, we have tried to make sense of it all. During Easter, we thought about the troubling times before the Crucifixion. How Jesus himself knelt in the garden asking his Father, if it be his will, could this painful cup pass over him. We think about how deep down he knew this act of love for us was the only way to heal the world.

Our faith has helped us look past the fear of this pandemic to see the love in our community healing the world. We see people sewing facemasks, neighbors ringing bells at 7pm for front line workers and the generosity to keep food pantries going. No doubt God’s love is present in a Drive by Birthday party.

Our hope is when this is over, everyone doing these “Holy Moments” will continue to spread God’s love and make THIS the new normal.

Blessings, The Freepons
Outreach

The St. Clare Conference
Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Food Pantry Needs

- Canned Mixed Veggies, Peas & Carrots
- 1 or 2lb Bags of Brown Rice, Dried Black Beans, Kidney Beans & Split Peas
- Jars of Jellies & Jams  • Pancake Syrup
- Canned Pineapple  • Deodorant & Shampoo

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

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

Message from the Knights . . .

Dear Parishioners,
What do you need? How can we help?
While we cannot do home visits per archdiocesan directives, and any help must be without contact, the Knights of Columbus want to support you with volunteers at the ready. Please email Ted Seeber at seebert42@gmail.com or call James Morgan at 503.320.1510 if you would like a friendly check-in by phone or have a need for which you are seeking resources. Contact us! Reach out to your neighbors. We are all in this together. Leave No Neighbor Behind!

Catholic Charities is committed to assisting parish members experiencing the ripple effects of the pandemic. Although our building is closed, we are still operating remotely. Please contact us if needed.

Family Support & Counseling: 503.238.5196
Housing Transitions: 971.222.1880
Save First Financial Wellness: 503.688.2659
Refugee Services: 971.222.1883
Immigration Legal Services: 503.542.2855
Other Services: 503.231.4866

Scripture Readings
4th Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2020
Reading 1 - ACTS 2:14A, 36-41
Psalms - PS 23:1-3A, 3B-4, 5, 6
Reading 2 - 1 PT 2:20B-25
Gospel - JN 10:1-10

For daily readings, please visit www.usccb.org

Administration

Many thanks to all who contribute!
Weekly Offertory Report

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<th>Actual Offertory</th>
<th>Average Offertory Goal</th>
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<td>W/E 4.19.20</td>
<td>$6,277</td>
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<td>Total April</td>
<td>$19,408</td>
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<td>Total Fiscal Year</td>
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Goal for FY 19-20: $8,481 needed weekly to fund the current programs, personnel and facilities of the church.

Dear Parishioners,

During this time when there are concerns about exposure to and the spread of COVID-19, Online Giving is a convenient option to continue to support St. Clare Parish. Even though we are worshipping from home, vital donations can still happen. Visit www.saintclarechurch.org on your computer, laptop or mobile device. Click the Online Giving link and begin making weekly, monthly or one-time gifts.

Another option is to mail your donation to us at St. Clare Church  8535 SW 19th Ave Portland, OR 97219.

Your contributions will help sustain our parish during this difficult time. If you have any questions, please contact shelley@saintclarechurch.org.

Thank you as always for your generosity,
Shelley Worrell, Business Manager

Contact Info for Fr. Don & the Parish Staff

Please remember we are still working for you during the current shutdown. Call us at the parish office at 503.244.1037 and leave a message. Our extensions are listed below. You can also send us an email. We are checking both throughout the day and will respond as soon as we are able. In case of emergency, call the parish office and listen to the main voice mail for instructions. We are praying for you. Stay safe.

Fr. Don frdon@saintclarechurch.org x101
Dcn. Bill dcnbill@saintclarechurch.org x104
Pia de Leon pia@saintclarechurch.org  x103
Andie Bodary andie@saintclarechurch.org x105
Shelley Worrell shelley@saintclarechurch.org x102
Laurie Zupsic laurie@saintclarechurch.org x100