St. Clare Parish
Apr. 12, 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

We Rise with the Lord,
Happy Easter!

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: _________
I  New Parishioner  I  Returning Catholic  I  Moving (please remove from parish directory)
I  New Phone Number  I  New Address  I  Please send Sunday Offertory envelopes
Weekly Reflection
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
Apr. 12, 2020

Our world wants us to believe that life is only what we make of it. Today, we realize how untrue that is. Life is ultimately about what God makes of it, and the resurrection of Jesus reveals this. Alleluia, Christ is risen! Who do you understand yourself to be? What we did yesterday, are doing today, and may do tomorrow pretty much determines how we perceive ourselves. We even perceive Jesus this way in limiting our vision of him to his earthly accomplishments. But, we know through today’s triumphant celebration that Christ is much more than his earthly legacy. The transfigured and resurrected Christ is the beginning, the end, and the fulfillment of all things and every person. All that Jesus did stands in second place to who we now know him to be. Do we realize that this will be our journey too? Christ is risen. Alleluia, alleluia! ©LPi

Fr. Don’s Musings . . .

He is Risen! Easter is the time to celebrate God’s gift of Jesus Christ to our world. Jesus tells and shows us who God is, that God is love, God is compassion and mercy, God gives us fullness of life and helps us to be the best version of ourselves.

During these current unusual times, I’ve seen some outstanding examples of people being the best version of themselves. Here are some of them:

• Ted Seeber and family printed 8x10 pictures of everyone who is pictured in our parish directory, then came to church and taped all the pictures to the pews. It’s wonderful, every time I walk into church now I see all of you, at least in picture form. It puts a smile on my face. KGW News even ran a picture of it in the Monday morning news.

• A parishioner dropped off masks for Deacon Bill and myself and mentioned that she has made and donated over 100 masks (and she is making more). Her masks are beautifully crafted. Her masks are being used at OHSU, Providence, even as far away as New York City.

• I love seeing so many people out walking. I especially enjoy seeing whole families (always with a dog!) walking together. And everyone is so friendly (from a distance). Everyone says hi and smiles to one another.

These are tough times. Lots of people have lost their jobs, are bored or frustrated, kids are stuck at home doing on-line studying when they would rather be at school with their friends. But there is so much goodness out there right now. So much resurrection. Jesus is risen from the dead and he is continuing to raise us up to be the best version of ourselves.

Happy Easter, Everyone! ~ Fr. Don

Upcoming Pre-Recorded Liturgies at St. Clare

The YouTube link to Fr. Don’s pre-recorded liturgies for Holy Thursday and Good Friday will be available by 4pm on both days. Easter Sunday Mass will be available by 4pm on Saturday. All links may be found on the parish website at www.saintclarechurch.org.

Options for LIVE Easter Vigil Mass
Saturday, Apr. 11

• From the Vatican with Pope Francis, tune in to EWTN (Comcast Channel 232) at 12pm.

• From the Archdiocese with Archbishop Sample, go to www.archdpdx.org/live-masses at 8:30pm and click the Facebook Live link.

Mass Intentions

Prayed privately by Fr. Don
Easter Sunday, Apr. 12 + Linda Roholt
Wednesday, Apr. 16 + Danny Larson
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord ~ Apr. 12, 2020

What does it take to believe in the Resurrection? Many might respond saying, “If we had only been there.” If we had found the empty tomb, how would we have responded? As today’s Gospel reveals, all we have in this story is the account of reactions to that tomb, which changed people’s lives both then and now. Some who saw it believed that Jesus had risen. On this day, we rejoice and we ponder the blessings of this astounding mystery.

United in Prayer ~ Lord Hear Our Prayer

For the Church and all the people of God; that by the Paschal Mystery of Christ, all may embrace their salvation and live it . . . with Easter Hope, we pray to the Lord.

For all who believe in Christ, that we strive to live as people of the Resurrection, choosing always, light over darkness, good over evil, hope over despair and love over death . . . with Easter Hope, we pray to the Lord.

For nations and their leaders, that all may strive to work for peace through justice, minding always the value of life and the common good of God’s creation, most especially during this critical time of pandemic . . . with Easter Hope, we pray to the Lord.

For all people who are gravely affected by the present health crisis, particularly those who suffer through it alone, that Christ’s Resurrection brings healing and hope . . . with Easter Hope, we pray to the Lord.

For the community of St. Clare, that God’s love and mercy be our anchor and that each one may leave death behind and choose eternal life by rising with the Lord . . . with Easter Hope, we pray to the Lord.

For all who are sick, those about to enter eternal life; for those who accompany them, and for those who have died especially the victims of COVID-19 and Kenneth Fortune, that they, too, may find comfort and solace in the Resurrection . . . with Easter Hope, we pray to the Lord.
In the past several weeks, we have been challenged in profound ways, as we have never been before. With this health crisis of COVID-19, life has taken on a different normal. With country lockdowns and extended community quarantines or just milder “stay at home” ordinances, people’s daily lives have been somewhat turned upside down. However, as the days of isolation and social distancing pass, people are discovering that there are also positive things emerging from this crisis. In addition to enjoying increased quality time with family, paying attention to health and health practices, learning to cope with online school and work, and even engaging in prayer like people have never done before, there are even more profound reflections taking place in people’s hearts about what is truly valuable in their lives. Maybe for the first time for many people today, it has become more real that there is a world outside our individualities, and that we are more connected than we think. Could this be the light at the end of the tunnel? We know that there will be an end to this darkness one day and the death may have been collateral for the majority of humanity to survive. Science is certain that there will be a cure for COVID-19 and the pandemic will eventually end, therefore, more people will not have to die or suffer from coronavirus. From the depths of this sheol-like situation, we, too, can rise up.

A pastor once preached about the resurrection of Christ. He described the event in Jesus life as fundamentally transformative like molecules that change to make something more beautiful, more fragrant and more hopeful. The unconditional love of the Father made clear by his Son’s passion and death on the cross, finally saved us from the depth of sin and rising with Christ returned us to our Father’s arms. Resurrection showed God overcomes death, any death. If we, who believe in the Lord, believe in this transformative capability of the resurrection, truly saved from death of our souls, then we become closer to our God already imprinted in our souls – in his image and likeness. We, too, in embracing our rising with the Lord, allow our molecules to be profoundly changed and transformed in order to become more and more like Jesus. Once we take that to heart and commit to this transformation, we are no longer living in our past self. In fact, we can no longer go back to our old selves because of the conversion of our being that occurred in our resurrection with Christ. The old normal will no longer be normal.

Thus, I return to our current situation today. Are the good values we have recovered or uncovered, paving the way for a new beginning, a new life for us? Will the values of presence to each other revert back to working endlessly to give family their material needs? Will good health practices be a priority so that it could change our own medical future? Will using more fossil fuel be a thing of the past so that we can finally see the grandeur of God’s creation with clear skies and fresh air? For what wealth will you be laboring? What would success mean this time? Will praying be as constant and deep as breathing? God did not allow this “bad dream” to happen only for us to wake up to our former world of death and negativity, of violence and illness, of marginalization and exploitation. COVID-19 may be the passion and death we have to go through, but to rise up, truly resurrect from it, we will need the bigger vaccine of God’s love to infiltrate every molecule in our being and overpower all our humanity to give rise to the Divine in us. Only then, can we say, we are truly risen.

Rise Up!
As our lives began to shift a few weeks ago, I created a color coded list of things to do: make online resources for the parish, homework, read, exercise, paint, bake, pray, etc. I was quickly discouraged by my inability to stick to the (unrealistic) schedule I had imposed on myself. After time, some realizations surfaced: I was measuring my worth by the things I was doing, I had allowed productivity to be an idol in my life, and I had assumed what I should be doing rather than discern what God wanted for me during this time. Was it so great that I made substantial progress on “x” if at the end of the day I had not checked in with my community member or taken time to pray? When I look back on these past couple of weeks my most fulfilling days were not ones where I crossed off all the tasks on my list, but the days when I put my list of things to do in the drawer and went into the living room to talk with my community members or called a friend on the phone. During this time, I am challenged to remember that I am not going to find God in my to-do list, but in the other people in my life.

“Thank you, Pia, for the reminder that, ‘The church is not closed or empty – it has been deployed,’ and that we all can reach out to others and help them by and through our faith. AND that now is the perfect time to increase and enrich our prayer lives.” ~ Debbie Hollingsworth

“Thank you for the reminder that the church is not closed or empty – it has been deployed.” ~ Anonymous Parishioner

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From Pia de Leon, our Pastoral Associate

Stay Home, Write your Thoughts, Share your Story

During these times when we are being asked to practice self-isolation and social distancing and we cannot gather at Mass, parishioners are being encouraged to share a thought or story about their experiences. For example...

- How is home schooling going?
- What creative things are you doing to combat the loneliness brought about by isolation?
- Are there people you know who have inspired you to "not be afraid?"
- Are you reciting a special prayer?

Share your stories in 200 words or less.

This is our way of connecting our parishioners with one another so we can continue to be community during these unusual times.

Willing to share?

Email your stories to pia@saintclarechurch.org or mail them to St. Clare Church 8535 SW 19th Ave Portland, OR 97219 or call Pia at 503.244.1037 x103.

Stay Home, Write your Thoughts, Share your Story

May the Lord keep us all safe.

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Reflection by Andie Bodary

Our Notre Dame University Echo Apprentice

Our Faith Community

Sharing Our Stories

See People First

Parishioners Speaking Out About Community

From Pia de Leon, our Pastoral Associate

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Important Information from
The St. Clare Conference Society of St. Vincent de Paul

THANK YOU to all who have contributed food and money to the St Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. More families were fed in March - mostly in the last half of the month - than in January and February combined! And thanks to the expertise of the Giving Tree team, the pantry now has cases of basic canned and boxed foods (helping the pantry shoppers to better practice social distancing.)

However, monetary contributions and items not available in case quantities at this time such as jam and toilet paper are still needed. If you are not able to go to the grocery store, but would like to support our work with a monetary donation, please make checks payable to St. Vincent de Paul and write “St. Clare Conference” on the memo line. Mail to or drop off at the parish office. In addition, a new option of making a contribution is now available via Online Giving at www.saintclarechurch.org. Check it out!

Current Food Pantry Needs

• Canned Oranges & Fruit Cocktail  • Canned Carrots, Peas, Corn & Mixed Veggies  • Jars of Jellies & Jams
• 1 # Bags of Brown Rice  • 1 # Bags of Dried Beans, Lentils and Split Peas
• Toilet Paper  • Deodorant  • Shampoo • Other Personal Hygiene Items

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.*

Please keep your Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowls and continue to fill them with coins. They will be collected AFTER we return to normal operation. Thank you.

In this time of crisis, the Knights of Columbus have been advised many men wish to join, but new initiation cannot be held due to social distancing. On Apr. 16 at 5pm PDT, a livestreamed initiation will be held online from New Haven, CT. If you wish to register, please contact Grand Knight Ted Seeber at seebert42@gmail.com.

Many thanks to all who contribute!

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<tr>
<th>Weekly Offertory Report</th>
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<tr>
<td>Actual Offertory</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/16 - 3/31/2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total March</td>
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<td>Total Fiscal Year</td>
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<td>Goal for FY 19-20: $8,481 needed weekly to fund the current programs, personnel and facilities of the church.</td>
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Dear Parishioners,

During this time when there are concerns about exposure to and the spread of Coronavirus, 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
How to Pray the Chaplet . . .

The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy combines the Rosary with some extra prayers asking God for mercy on us and the whole world. For directions on how to pray the chaplet, visit:


Follow along at 3pm daily at KVBM 88.3 FM Radio.

The Story of Divine Mercy

If you were born well before the year 2000, you know the feast of Divine Mercy has not always been celebrated in the Church. In the early 1900s, a young Polish nun began receiving private revelations. Jesus appeared to her during her times of prayer, speaking a message of mercy and love for the world. She received a set of prayers — the Divine Mercy Chaplet — and the request to have a feast day established to remind the Church of the mercy of God. St. Faustina died in 1938, on the cusp of war and in the midst of one of the most violent centuries in the history of the world.

Her story and her diaries began circulating in Poland and beyond. It quickly became apparent that this was a holy young women, and the cause for her canonization opened. In the year 2000, she was canonized by the first ever Polish pope, St. John Paul II. On her canonization day, he established the second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday, “a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind will experience in the years to come.” ©LPi

To Learn More …

Visit www.formed.org and search Divine Mercy to find 14 different resources. If you are a 1st time user, insert parish code J7N7CD on the registration page.
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Real Estate Broker

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SuzannePage.com