



# ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

January 13, 2019 — Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

## The Baptism of Jesus

Dear Parishioners:

Today's feast of the Baptism of the Lord brings the Christmas season to an end. When Jesus emerges from the waters of the river Jordan, he fulfills the promise to Israel – that a messiah would bring peace by championing justice. When we baptize our babies today, they receive the same mission – to be bearers of peace and justice to a broken world.

A clue to the meaning of baptism comes from the scriptural image of the dove. In the Hebrew tradition, doves were used to represent what is sacred. Think of the associations with doves – Israel as a holy people; atoning sacrifice; a divine sign of dry land after Noah's ark; peace and new life; passionate love, and the presence of the Holy Spirit. When the dove appeared at Jesus' baptism, it signaled to the witnesses that Jesus realized their longing for peace, and that the Spirit was inaugurating a new stage in Jesus' ministry. The second-century theologian Clement of Alexandria urged early Christians to use the dove to identify themselves to one another as peaceable followers of the Risen Lord.

Do you see any parallels between your baptismal call and the dove as a universal image of peace, empowerment, and self-surrendering love?

The power of a dove's soft cooing can quiet a troubled mind and restore inner peace – inviting hearers to live with calm and renewed purpose. Isaiah seeks peace for the nations – but in a non-violent, nonaggressive way. Jesus showed that the best and lasting way to peace was through gentleness and compassion. When the world uses self-importance as a weapon, Jesus tenderly tends to “the bruised reed and the smoldering wick.” Likewise, our call is to free the oppressor as well as the oppressed.

The first World Peace Congress convened shortly after World War II. Picasso created the emblem of a dove with an olive branch for the occasion. Speaking before the Congress, he testified, “I stand for life against death; I stand for peace against war.” Our baptism impels us to do the same.

Doves are known for their self-sacrifice, especially in the care of their young. Just before the mother lays her eggs, she ceases foraging for her own food to insure that her offspring are protected from any contamination she may pass on. One possible lesson from the dove in our practice of justice could be to consider others' needs when caring for ourselves. The example of Jesus impels us to surrender the privileged position of judging others, and to use our power instead to empower others. The measure of our cherishing the common good becomes apparent in how we support others to live into their full potential.

Doves are gifted navigators so over the years they have delivered messages with uncommon success. What message did the dove deliver for God at Jesus' baptism? “You are my beloved.” Think of all the connotations of “beloved:” one who is precious, cherished, treasured, prized, admired and valued. To feel that sentiment from someone you love, from someone who loves you – it's what life is all about. Jesus felt the

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### Today's Readings:

Isaiah	40:1-5, 9-11
Titus	2:11-14; 3:4-7
Luke	3:15-16, 21-22

### Next Sunday's Readings:

Isaiah	62:1-5
1 Corinthians	12:4-11
John	2:1-11

*Preaching Next Sunday:  
Fr. Charlie Moutenout, S.J.*

### 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

unfathomable love – and that powerful experience propelled him to embrace even a wretched end. And what about us?

Do you know your true value simply because God loves you? You are treasure enough without doing anything to earn your worth. God makes you beautiful because God’s longing gaze fills you with your possibilities. And it’s amazing but true – you become beautiful when you experience yourself as prized and desirable. You can share yourself more confidently, and treat others with abundant admiration free from jealousy. Like doves that mate for life, followers of Jesus are transformed as he was by the overwhelming delight that the Divine takes in each of us.

The dove at Jesus’ baptism carried the dynamics of promise – that God’s irresistible attraction would help Jesus stay faithful when the going got tough; and that our following Jesus would bring us true peace. Our baptismal role is to find ourselves as God’s beloved, and to lead others to find God through our thirst for justice and a peace-drenched life.

What baptism means for you and me is precisely what it meant for Jesus. His baptism was his call and inauguration, his rite of entrance into that mission. In the waters of the Jordan he was initiated and called and commissioned. That’s baptism. As you dip your hand into the miniature baptismal pools (called holy water fonts) when you enter or leave church, think of your dignity, your call, and God’s words of your commission: “You are my Beloved in whom I am well pleased. Go, be my disciple.”

Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.  
Pastor



## ST. IGNATIUS SCHOOL

Happy New Year! It’s been a lively time as we’ve gotten back into the swing of learning and moved into mid-year academic testing, the Geography Bee competition (winner announced next week!) and all of our service activities. There is never a dull minute at St. Ignatius School!

**OUR PARISH SCHOOL:** Last year, our small school grew 10% in overall enrollment. The broader community is learning about the incredible education and formation our children receive and nearly every day we get inquiries about enrollment. While we strive to serve each child who comes to us, our priority is building belonging and connection here in our parish. Many sitting in the pews today participated in our school 20, 30 and even 70 years ago (I’m talking to you, Mary Fran!) We especially welcome children of the parish into this unique education. Our students are known, nurtured and loved.

**OPEN HOUSE:** If there is a child in your life who would benefit from the belonging, spiritual formation, excellent academics that are the hallmarks of a St. Ignatius education, you are warmly invited to attend our Open Houses, Sunday, Jan. 27, 12-2:30 and Thursday morning, Jan. 31, 9-10:30. We have openings at most grade levels, including room in

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### Mass Intentions

Monday	January 14	† Bettee Frank
Tuesday	January 15	† Roseline Amdu
Wednesday	January 16	Souls in Purgatory
Thursday	January 17	† Amelia
Friday	January 18	† Greg Sparks

next year's pre-school and kindergarten. We hope you will help us in adding 20 students to our school community for the next year. Need based financial aid is available and parishioners receive an in-parish rate of tuition. Please contact the school office if you have questions.

Blessings!  
Kelli Clark  
Principal

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

Two Great Community events  
coming up, save the date:

The 84th Italian Dinner  
**February 17, 2019**  
Noon till 6pm

Novena of Grace  
**March 4 through 12th**  
8am & 7pm Masses

### Parishioner Spotlight

Check out the January 4th edition of the *Catholic Sentinel* to see fellow parishioners, **Tom Streckert & Robin Rodrigues**, putting their faith in action at St. André Besette—a Parish and social service organization formerly run by the Jesuits, and current partner of Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest.

**Parish Office**  
503-777-1491  
office@sipdx.org

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

**Fr. Dan Sullivan, SJ**  
dsullivan@sipdx.org

### Pastoral Council

**Co-Chair- James Nguyen**  
james@dragonberryproduce.com

**Co-Chair - Janice Harwood**  
jcharwoodster@gmail.com

**A full list of staff & council  
Members are located on**

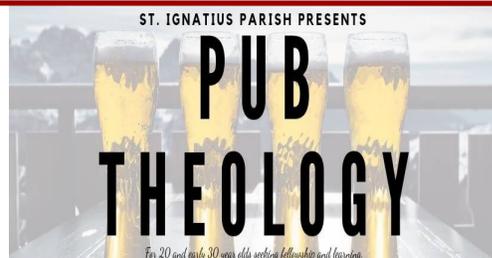
### Collection Next Week

Next week, our second collection is for the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign connects people with Christ, here and around the world in developing countries, through the internet, television, radio, and print media. And fifty percent of funds collected remain in our diocese to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the gospel message! To learn more, visit [www.usccb.org/cc](http://www.usccb.org/cc).

### Upcoming Events with *The Faber Institute*

The Faber Institute invites you to join the Night School for Deeper Learning on Tuesday, January 15th on the eastside at the Loyola Jesuit Center, or on Thursday, January 17th on the westside at Valley Community Presbyterian Church, both from 5:30 - 7:00PM. The Night School is an adventurous exercise of depth and reflectivity led by Fr. Rick Ganz. The featured guest for the January classes is St. Ephrem the Syrian. For more information and to RSVP, visit [www.faberinstitute.com/events](http://www.faberinstitute.com/events).

**Young Adult Pub Theology—Thursday, January 24th at Mt Tabor Brewing Tap Room** Join other young adults, 20s and early 30s, for fellowship and learning on various topics in relation to religion and faith. *See you there!*  
**21+ ~ Beverages available for purchase ~ Outside food allowed in**  
Call Gretchen for info. 503-777-1491 x227 or [gschissel@sipdx.org](mailto:gschissel@sipdx.org)



### Mater Dei Radio Event

Mater Dei Radio celebrates 30 years of broadcasting with two exciting nights featuring EWTN's Dr. David Anders. Equip yourself for 2019! Don't miss Dr. Anders' "*How the Catholic Church Saved My Marriage*" on **Friday, January 18 at St. Anthony Church in Tigard, and Saturday, January 19 at Queen of Peace Church in Salem. Tickets are free, but very limited. Get yours now at MaterDeiRadio.com.**

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