

St. Therese of the Child Jesus Catholic Church and School

1260 N.E. 132nd Ave., Portland, OR 97230

503-256-5850



July 26 2020, 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sacraments of the Eucharist

Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 pm

Sunday Mass 9:00 am and 11:30 am

Important:

You need to call the Office to sign up for Masses. Walk-ins will not be allowed.

Reconciliation

By Appointment



School Office Information

Phone (503) 253-9400
Website www.stthereseschool.org

Parish Office Information

Office Hours Monday to Friday
9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Address 1260 N.E. 132nd Ave.
Portland, OR 97230
Phone. (503) 256-5850
Website www.stthereseor.org

Staff Members

Pastor Rev. Stephen Michael Geer
Business Manager Mrs. Penny Montani
School Principal Mrs. Rosemarie El Youssef
Faith Formation and Liturgy Mrs. Stella Armstrong
Facilities Manager Mr. Matthew Shelton
Receptionist Mrs. Angie Barnett

The Great Seine of God

July 26, 2020

A purse seine is a large net which is lowered into the sea where schools of fish congregate. The net flattens as it reaches its desired depth and is then slowly pulled up and together much as one might close up a large purse. Like all nets, the seine is indiscriminate and captures everything within its broad circumference. Larger varieties require two boats and can reach over a mile in breadth and 2 ½ football fields in depth. God's seine misses nothing and is fully inclusive in its captured diversity. The net of the Lord is only full when it includes all human beings, living and dead, for the Great Seine of God is a tool of the end of the age, the Parousia of the Lord Jesus. When all have been gathered together there is a sorting, a judgement.

We have heard in the last weeks how the seed of the Gospel is profligately, indiscriminately, sown. Yet few seeds seem to take root, but some do. Even when weeds grow up in their stead, forbearance leaves them be in the hope of conversion. But time is not endless and an accounting of man must take place, for our destiny lies outside time. As such, at the end of the age there will be a judgement of the content of our lives. Those whose open hearts have allowed faith, hope and charity to bloom go off to eternal life; those of obdurate soul are consigned to the outer darkness. Much is at stake in human life and in the final analysis there can be only a 'yes' to Christ or a 'no' to love. No neutrality or procrastination. Decide my brothers for Christ and give over your lives completely into his care. He who has ears, let him hear.



With fear and so many information flying about on how to live in this world that seems to be dominated by the COVID Virus, never lose sight of the foundational rock of our Faith, which is the Holy Eucharist, “the crux and summit of our Christian life” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*). Participating in the work of God (liturgy), being in the Holy presence of His Son and receiving His Body and Blood is the very antidote that we all need. There may be a “new normal” in how we live our lives, but we must all pray that we never lose sight of the foundational truth of our Faith. We need to receive His Body because by doing so, we reap the full benefit of His saving grace. By being open to receiving His precious Body we open ourselves to His perfect love, and perfect love drives out fear. (1 John 4:18) Please remember in your prayers our courageous Ministers who are all committed to work together not just to help in Mass, but also to keep our church sanitized and safe for all those who so hunger to participate in Mass and receive Jesus Christ.



The Bread of Life is the foundation of all - come eat!



This is how our church looks like with 25 people. We are blessed with a roomy and flexible layout that meets most, if not all, demands for physical distancing. Come and visit and most especially, finally receive the Most Precious Body of our Lord! With the COVID - 19 reducing most of what we do to the bare minimum, trust in Jesus Christ to show us and to affirm in us that His ultimate sacrifice at the Holy Altar of the Mass is as true as always and forever. Our early Church Fathers refer to Holy Communion as a “medicine” and an “antidote.” What better time then to come to Church and receive the Bread of Life!



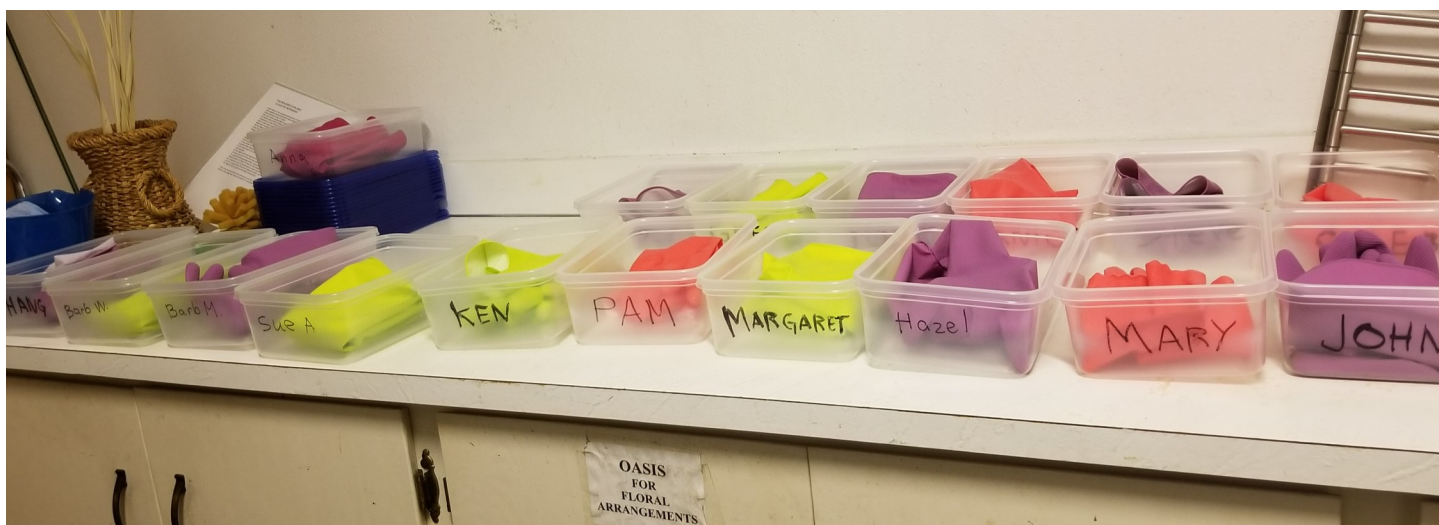
The Why's of our Safety Protocol

The safety protocol adopted by our Parish is derived from the safety checklist provided by the Archdiocese - what we have in place ensures that we provide, to the best of our ability, a safe environment that radically minimizes contact with surfaces, maximizes physical distance among those who attend a Mass and provides multiple opportunities to sanitize our hands before, during and after Mass. It could be a tedious process from one point of view; but on the other hand, it gets easier when our community takes this opportunity to **act** like a community. We already have a really amazing team of volunteers who not only help with the celebration of the Mass but have taken on additional roles as door keepers, ushers and sanitizers. And, with a few exceptions, all of those who have attended our Masses have been very patient, understanding and supportive as we work through some changes in our routines. If you have family members or friends who have questions, please continue to share with them the following information:

Why do we need to wear face masks: it is now required by the State to wear face masks indoors, and the mask should be covering **both** your **nose and mouth**. It is undoubtedly inconvenient for sure, but think of it as a thoughtful gesture and a proactive measure that lessens the spread of the virus through droplets in the air. Although our church appears to be "large" with plenty of space, our Mass is an "indoor" gathering. Additionally, most of those who attend Mass and those who serve as Ministers in the Mass belong to the high-risk group. Another thought to think about is that the priest **cannot** wear a face mask (he may wear a mask only when he is distributing Holy Communion). By wearing our masks we help show our collective effort in doing the best we can to provide Fr. Steve that safety "bubble." We are also getting ready for that time when the number of individuals allowed to attend Mass increases to 50 and more - having more people attending actually means we need all the more to be consistent with the safety standard that we have, and even make it better.

We try our best to explain why the wearing of a mask is required, so please feel free to call the Parish Office if you have more questions. Ultimately though, the door keeper will not let you in if you are not wearing a mask, **and** the usher will ask you to leave if your mask is not covering both your nose and your mouth.

Why can't we use the kneelers, while other churches allow the use of kneelers: our kneelers are cloth-covered (in emerald green), and the cleaning/sanitizing solution that we use is bleach and water. Besides that, if we wiped down the kneelers with the bleach and water solution they will not dry in time for the next Mass - think of Sunday when we have the 9:00 am Mass and the 11:30 am Mass, and we have to completely sanitize after the 9:00 am Mass. Some churches' kneelers have vinyl or plastic cover that of course will not discolor if wiped down with a bleach solution, and will dry quicker. And so, to another question - why wipe down pews and surfaces with bleach and water? It is the best sanitizing solution and manner of cleaning as recommended by our cleaning company. We do "double" sanitize as pews and surfaces are also sprayed with alcohol after the first cleaning. If you have any more questions, please feel free to call 503-256-5850!



PASTOR'S CORNER

Plague Journal

From week to week, as the Spirit moves me, I will share with you certain theological reflections concerning the liturgy and its relation to the times we're in.

As we move back into Ordinary Time this week, I would like to ask you all to pray the following prayer each night before you retire. It comes from the monks of Mount Angel Abbey and is sung each night at the conclusion of Compline (Night Prayer). It is called the *Stella Caeli* (Star of Heaven) and was originally composed and sung during the 14th Century as a response to the Black Death (the Bubonic Plague). Covid 19 is not nearly as dangerous (thank God) as the Plague of that time; nonetheless people are fear ridden and over 108,000 have died in our country of the current pestilence:

**Star of Heaven,
who nourished the Lord
and uprooted the plague of death
which our first parents planted:**

**May that star now deign
to hold in check the constellations
whose strife causes in people
the sores of a terrible death.**

**O glorious star of the sea,
save us from infections.**

**Hear us:
for your Son, who honors you,
denies you nothing.**

**Jesus, save us,
for whom the Virgin Mother prays
to you.**

Amen.



Weekly Intentions

Ordinary Time				
<i>Please note that both the school and parish offices remain closed due to the Pandemic</i>				
Day	Date	Time	Observance	Mass Intention
VIGIL	July 25	5:00 pm	Vigil of the Sunday Eucharist	Richard B. Leander + Margaret Schommer +
SUNDAY	July 26	9:00 am	Eucharist of the Lord's Day	John Keller + Carol Lee
		11:30 am	Eucharist of the Lord's Day	Missa pro populo
Monday	July 27		No service	
Tuesday	July 28		No service	
Wednesday	July 29		No service	
Thursday	July 30		No service	
Friday	July 31		No service	
VIGIL	Aug 1	5:00 pm	Vigil of the Sunday Eucharist	STWA Jody Marks
SUNDAY	Aug 2	9:00 am	Eucharist of the Lord's Day	Francis Whang & Chung Whang Thomas Choi +
		11:30 am	Eucharist of the Lord's Day	Missa pro populo



Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon

Online learning at your convenience

<https://franciscanathome.com/portland-oregon>



Call Shasta Hatter for more information or to volunteer.
503-253-7566.

**WEEKLY DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN ENTRIES IS EVERY
MONDAY AT 1:00 PM. EMAIL stella@stthereseor.org.**



Please Pray For

Living: Vilma Anker, Antoinette Barker, Mary Basaraba, Maria Rosa Brekke, Bobbi Brown, Patty Burtner, Fr. Rob Bustamante, Arlene Cabal-lero, Marie Carter, Jenni Clark, Mary Cox, Melanie Davantes, Joanne Gargano, Julie Ho, William Keller, Gregorio Manalo, Arden Manning, Margie Nelson, Edna Orello, Liz Parker, Fred Pelzer, Jim and Ava Riopelle, Margaret Routledge, Frances Ryland, Rosa Santos, Karen Saso, Joanne Scabery, Vera Saxton, Anne Schmidt, Kiersten and Elsa Schneider, Thelma Striplin, Marcie Farlow Taylor, Joe Van Buren, Bernadine West, Fr. Dave Wilkins, Rose Zenger, Becky

Food Box Distribution Location at St. Henry in Gresham

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FRIDAYS
JULY 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & AUGUST 7, 14, 21 & 28
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

DRIVE-THRU PICK-UP LOCATION:
St. Henry Catholic Church
346 NW First Street Gresham, OR 97030

Thank you, Volunteer Ministers!

Please remember to thank our volunteer Ministers who make it possible for our weekend Masses to be offered. Although our attendance is still restricted to 25 people, our ministers commit 100% of their efforts and dedication in maintaining our standard of safety protocol so that everyone who attends Mass will be safe and protected.

Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:00 pm

Sunday Mass at 9:00 am

Sunday Mass at 11:30 am

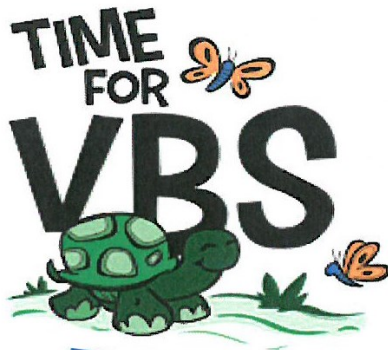
Janice Levesque
Sue Buhr
Greg Buhr
Tom Byington
Titay Schommer
Steve Schommer



John Crouch
Pam LaFerte
Mary Haney
Hazel Philbrook
Margaret Oliphant
Ken Oliphant
Joan Galles



Angie Jauregui
Barb Wilwers
Thang Nguyen
Sue Anker
Barb Miller
Kathy Hobbs
Gabiella Maertens



Limited VBS
space available.
**REGISTER
NOW!**

One morning ONLY
Join us for a VBS Tour
of Faith and Fun.
Wednesday - July 29...
10 am– 12:30 pm

...Faith, Fun, Friends, Music, Crafts, Mission...

Phone registrations ONLY...

**You must pre-register by calling
Jeanne at the office 665-9129 or
Cyndi @ 503-349-2432**

Registration Ends Wednesday- July 22nd.

This is a free morning
to all parishioners
and friends who reg-
ister by phone.
Please consider
bringing a package of
diapers to support
our Catholic Charities
pregnancy program
or canned food for
the St. Vincent de
Paul food center.



We are adhering to the following guidelines for the
safety of our children and volunteers:

- *Pre-health check-in temperature screening for all participants...**
- *Adult masks required...Under 12 years at parent discretion...**
- *Activities will be spaced according to social distancing guidelines....**
- *Hand sanitizer will be at each station with frequent sanitizing of materials between stations...**
- *Individual pre-packaged crafts provided**
- *Individual pre-packaged water & snacks provided**
- *Parent participation with your child....**

*****Families are invited to
observe social distancing,
bring a sack lunch and
picnic on the grass.**



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