



St. Clare Parish

Dec. 3, 2023

*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, 9am - 12:30pm & 2 - 4pm

office@saintclarechurch.org www.saintclarechurch.org

Follow us on Facebook at [St. Clare Catholic Church](#)

Pastor	Fr. Don Gutmann	x101
Deacon	Dcn. Bill McNamara	x108
Pastoral Associate	Kim Zea	x104
Business Manager	Shelley Worrell	x102
Administrative Assistant	Laurie Zupsic	x100

School

1807 SW Freeman St Portland, OR 97219 503.244.7600

info@stclarepdx.org www.stclarepdx.org

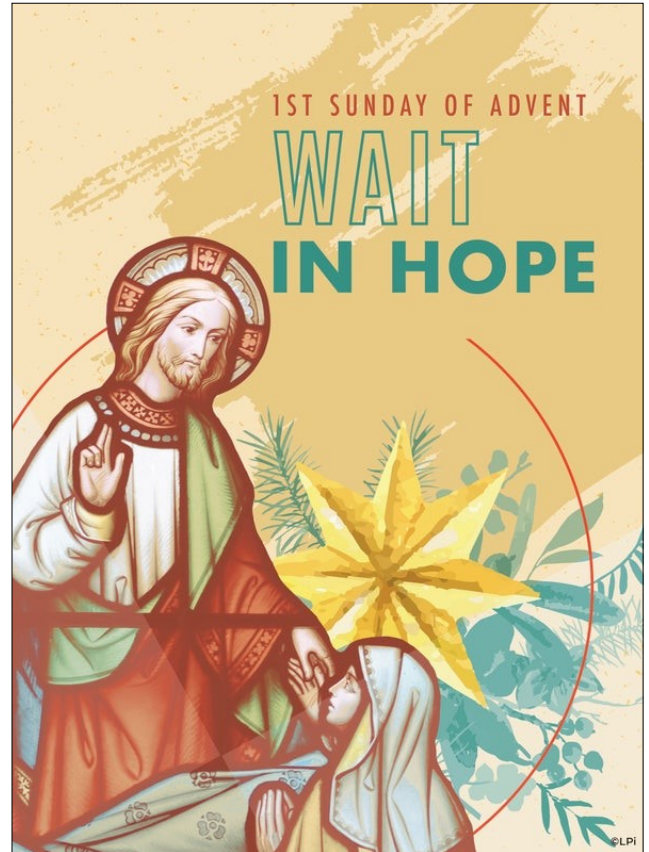
Principal	Chris Harris
Office Manager	Donna Parker MacNeur

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.

Weekend & Daily Mass Schedule

Saturday - 5pm

Sunday - 8:30am & 10:45am

Weekdays except Tuesdays - 8:30am

Holy Days - 8:30am, 12pm & 7pm

Visit www.saintclarechurch.org to view our livestream weekend Masses.

Reconciliation Saturdays from 4pm - 4:30pm in the church or by appointment. Contact Fr. Don Gutmann.

Matrimony Six month preparation required. Contact Deacon Bill McNamara.

Baptism for Infants Contact Deacon Bill McNamara.

Faith Formation & Sacramental Preparation for Adults & Teens

Contact Kim Zea; **for Children** Contact sacramentprep@saintclarechurch.org

A Warm Welcome To All Who Worship with Us

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

Name: _____ Phone: () _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Parishioner | <input type="checkbox"/> Returning Catholic | <input type="checkbox"/> Moving (please remove from parish directory) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Phone Number | <input type="checkbox"/> New Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Please send Sunday Offertory envelopes |



Weekly Inspiration

1st Sunday of Advent

Dec. 3, 2023

Advent is a time for waiting, for hoping, for praying. It is a time for reflecting on the special work to which God calls us all. Stay alert. Show Him you are listening.
©LPi

Week-at-a-Glance

Saturday, Dec. 2

9:30am	Sisters in the Spirit Gathering	Parish Office
2:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Church
4:00pm	Confessions until 4:30pm	Church
5:00pm	Vigil Mass + <i>David Kerno</i>	Church

Sunday, Dec. 3 Family Advent Festival after Masses

8:30am	Mass + <i>Marilyn Fay Howe</i>	Church
10:45am	Mass <i>For the People</i>	Church

Monday, Dec. 4

8:05am	Weekly Rosary	Church
8:30am	Daily Mass + <i>Viola Wray</i>	Church

Wednesday, Dec. 6

8:30am	Daily Mass + <i>Lee Schultz</i>	Church
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Thursday, Dec. 7

8:30am	Daily Mass + <i>Edith Luther</i>	Church
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Friday, Dec. 8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

8:30am	Mass <i>Special Intention & +Melissa Harris</i>	Church
12:00pm	Mass	Church
7:00pm	Mass	Church

Saturday, Dec. 9

10:00am	Dave Montgomery Funeral Mass	Church
4:00pm	Confessions until 4:30pm	Church
5:00pm	Youth Mass	Church

Sunday, Dec. 10

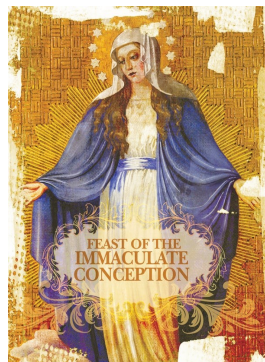
8:30am	Mass <i>For the People</i>	Church
10:45am	Mass	Church

*Solemnity of the
Immaculate Conception
of the
Blessed Virgin Mary*

Friday, Dec. 8

Holy Day of Obligation
Mass Schedule:

8:30am, 12pm & 7pm



Fr. Don's Musings . . .

This week, we begin Advent, our season of preparation for Christmas. I'm sure you've been seeing lots of Christmas decorations in stores and in front yards, hearing Christmas music on the radio, and seeing Christmas movies on the TV. The church doesn't start celebrating Christmas until Christmas, so you won't be hearing Christmas songs at Mass yet, but you'll be hearing Advent songs, songs about *getting ready* for Christmas. Our Christmas decorations in the church will gradually go up as we progress through the Advent season.

I encourage you to keep Christ in the center of Christmas. In our secular society, it's easy to let all the other aspects of the winter holiday overshadow the birth of Jesus, but as Christians, let's be proud to make Jesus the center of our celebrations. Reindeer, tinsel, eggnog, and candy canes are all good, but Jesus is the core of what Christmas is all about.

During the four Sundays of Advent, I will be preaching on the Eucharist. This year is the national Eucharistic Revival and the archbishop has asked all the parish priests to preach on the Eucharist this season. It fits: at Christmas, we celebrate Christ becoming present in our world, and in the Eucharist, Christ becomes present every time we celebrate Mass. This first week, I'll talk about the Eucharist as a meal, next week, I'll talk about it as a sacrifice, and then, I'll talk about the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist and living as Eucharistic people.

Happy Advent everyone! ~ *Fr. Don*



The funeral Mass for Dave Montgomery, a very active parishioner, will be held on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 10am with a reception to follow in the parish hall. May Dave rest in peace.

Scripture Readings

2nd Sunday of Advent

Dec. 10, 2023

Reading 1 - IS 40:1-5, 9-11

Psalms - PS 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14

Reading 2 - 2 PT 3:8-14

Gospel - MK 1:1-8

For daily readings, please visit www.usccb.org



Church • School • Preschool

Dec. 3, 2023

Important Dates Giving Tree 2023

Drive-thru Drop-off Donation Sundays

Nov. 26, Dec. 3 & Dec. 10
9am-1pm
Parish Office Garage

Drive-thru Drop-off Tuesday Evenings

Dec. 5 7-9pm
Dec. 12 7-9pm
Parish Office Garage

Donation Sorting -

All Days/Times are Filled!
Thank you!

Monday, Dec. 11 7-9pm
Tuesday, Dec. 12 7-9pm
Wednesday, Dec. 13 7-9pm
Thursday, Dec. 14 7-9pm
Friday, Dec. 15 4pm

Delivery Day

Saturday, Dec. 16
9am-12pm

- Box Pick up at Parish Office Garage every 15 minutes
- Sign up is mandatory. Email Theresa at pntduda@gmail.com



**THIS Week's Donation Drop-Off Events: Parish Office Garage,
Sunday, Dec. 3, 9am-1pm & Tuesday, Dec. 5, 7-9pm**



- * Soap - Bath, Dish & Laundry
- * Shampoo
- * Toilet Paper
- * Toothbrushes & Toothpaste
- * Christmas Candy & Nuts
- * Checks payable to St. Clare Church.
Write "Giving Tree" on the memo line.

- * **Turkeys (under 15 lbs), turkey breasts and hams are still needed. Our donations are running low.**
To donate, please contact Mary at marybunday@yahoo.com or 503.246.9265 by **Friday, Dec. 8.** She will provide specific drop off details.

Note: Monetary donations for Giving Tree may be made online at <https://www.osvhub.com/saintclarechurch/giving/funds/>.

Delivery Day, Saturday, Dec. 16, 9am-12pm, Parish Office Garage

Delivery drivers are needed throughout the morning. To volunteer, please contact Theresa at pntduda@gmail.com.

- * Box pick-up times will be assigned every 15 minutes. Many drivers make multiple trips.
- * Drivers will use a drive-thru procedure to pick up boxes entering from SW Spring Garden St. and exiting SW 19th Ave.
- * Drivers will not exit their cars; volunteers will load items and boxes into cars.

Special Note: If you are a St. Clare parishioner in need of assistance this Christmas season, we would like to help. Please contact the parish office at 503-244-1037. All information will be kept confidential.

Signs of the Times by Deacon Bill . . . Advent has Arrived!

Welcome to Advent which is the start of another Church year.

So what is so important about Advent this year?

Just like every year, this season is one of waiting and preparing for God to enter more deeply into our hearts and minds, a time for reminding us that Jesus will come again, and a time to celebrate the great feast of Christmas.



Just like every year, purple vestments and somber music reminds us of this penitential season. Our Advent wreaths with their four candles symbolizing hope, peace, joy, and love help us journey week by week, so we will be ready to greet God who is Love.

Just like every year, it is a time to reflect on the end times whether it be our own individual death or when Jesus returns at the end of the entire world.

What can make this year different from past Advent seasons?

- Well, for one, we will begin to hear the gospel according to St. Mark, the shortest gospel, which tells us about Jesus in a simple and sweet way.
- Also, we will have another chance to really embrace the true meaning of the season by staying focused on its religious aspects instead of the craziness of the secular world.
- We could venture into the Formed program for quick five-minute reflections on the readings for the day or take home one of the special resources offered at the church doors.
- We could read and reflect on the readings of the day offered on the USCCB website at <https://bible.usccb.org/> or listen to the Amen app on our phones.
- We could avail ourselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation which is available every Saturday at 4pm in the church or mark our calendars to come to the community Reconciliation service scheduled for Friday, Dec. 15 at 7 pm.

Along this journey to and through Christmas, we will meet again many of those who became a part of God's plan for our Salvation. Let us clear our minds and open our hearts to embrace the people, places, things, and events that are part of that plan. Listen anew to the scripture passages about Mary, Joseph, John the Baptist, Herod, the innkeeper, and the kings' bearing gifts. Listen intently to the prophecies of Isaiah, Zechariah, Sirach, Jeremiah, Judges, Song of Songs, Samuel, Malachi, and the wisdom of Paul. Put yourself in the picture of the journey of Mary and Joseph from Mary's yes to God after her Immaculate Conception up to the Holy Family's journey to Bethlehem and then to Egypt. Be amazed with appearance of angels and the way God communicated to Joseph in dreams. Be amazed to "listen anew to what the Almighty can do" and recall what God did to save us and reopen the gates of heaven.

Yes, welcome to Advent 2023.

Let's share it with our families and friends. And remember, let's not get so caught up in the secular world of Christmas that when the Advent season is over, we say, "I could of, should of, would have - but didn't."

After all, Jesus is the Reason for the Season. Amen.

~ Deacon Bill

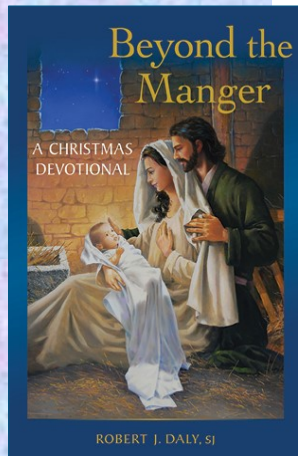
Advent

“Be Still and Know” Psalm 26:10

During this Advent season, gift yourself with this time of reflection and prayer on the Nativity of the Lord.

Wednesdays, Dec. 6, 13 & 20 following 8:30am Daily Mass until 10am in the church.

We will begin with a short reflection, peaceful music, and time with the Lord before the Blessed Sacrament.



Retirement Fund for Religious

2nd Collection ~ Dec. 9-10

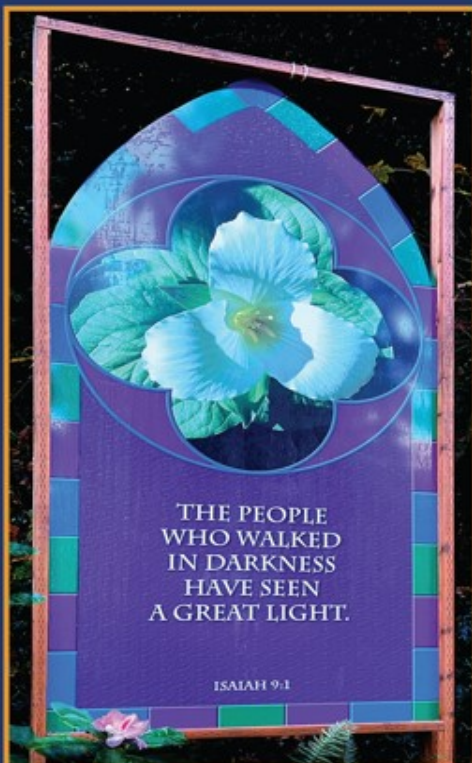
Support a lifetime of service. Religious women and men have spent their lives serving others in prayer, ministry, education and care for those in need usually for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. As they age, essential care and medications are needed. Please support them by giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation makes a difference for nearly 25,000 senior men and women religious. For more information, visit retiredreligious.org. Contribution envelopes may be found at the church exits or give online at <https://www.osvhub.com/saintclarechurch/giving/funds/>.

Mark your Calendars

Advent Reconciliation Service

Friday, Dec. 15 7pm Church

Plan to join us for our communal penance service. Several priests will be on hand to hear confessions.



THE GROTTO'S CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Open November 24–December 30
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Tickets sold online at thegrotto.org

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Community Life

All ages and skill levels welcome!



Saturday, Dec. 16

After the 5 pm Mass in the Parish Hall

Join us for a festive night in the neighborhood as we gather to spread holiday cheer through Christmas carols. First we'll warm up with delicious soup before our caroling adventure. Please bring a to-go cup for hot chocolate to keep you cozy during our walk. Let's create beautiful memories together as we celebrate the season's joy. Questions? Please contact Debbie at Debbiehenkelman923@gmail.com



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

Food Pantry Needs

- Jams & Jellies • Canned Fruit
- Bags of White & Brown Rice
- Applesauce in Jars, Cans & Cups

Donations may be placed in the food baskets at the church or on the front porch of the parish office.

Please check dates to ensure foods have not expired.

Many thanks to all who contribute!

Offertory Report

	Actual Offertory	Average Offertory Goal	Amount Over (Under) Goal
W/E 11.26.23	\$9,066	\$10,779	(\$1,713)
W/E 11.19.23	\$36,357	\$10,779	\$25,578
Nov. 1-26 only	\$71,470	\$43,116	\$28,354
Fiscal Year 23/24	\$250,689	\$237,138	\$13,551

***FY 23/24 Offertory Goal: \$10,779 per week to fund the current programs, personnel and facilities of the church.**

Reminder: Interested in Online Giving? Please visit www.saintclarechurch.org. Thank you!

Outreach

Fr. Jim's Toiletry Project Appreciation!



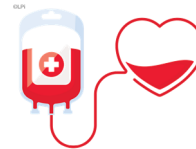
Thank you so much for your generous donations and help with this year's toiletry drive. Our volunteer team assembled 1,675 gift bags for people in need. They were distributed to Rose Haven, Nativity School, Maybelle Center, Downtown Chapel, Our House HIV Day Center, Avenue for Youth, and Outside In.

With much gratitude, Fr. Jim Galluzzo

December Red Cross Blood Drive

Wednesday, Dec. 20

Parish Hall 2:15-7pm



Please register at www.redcrossblood.org
(Sponsor Code is St.ClarePortland)

If you need assistance with registering, either call 800.RED.CROSS or contact Maria DaSilva, St. Clare Blood Drive Coordinator, at 503.260.3633 (cell) or mariad8984@gmail.com.

Beyond St. Clare



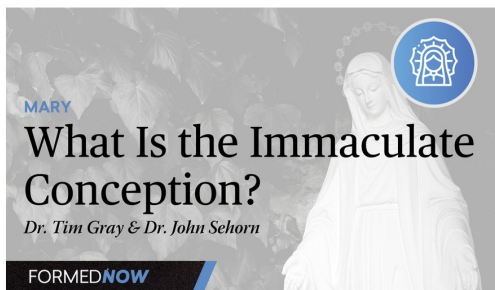
You Can Help Your Marriage

Plan now to join Oregon Retrouvaille as we host a working weekend for couples struggling in their marriages by couples who have been there in the struggle. Come to Our Lady of Peace Retreat Center in Beaverton on Jan. 26-28.

For confidential information about or to register for the program, contact portland@retrouvaille.org or 503.225.9191 or visit www.helpourmarriage.org.

THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of December 03, 2023



What Is the Immaculate Conception?

Join Drs Tim Gray and John Sehorn as they examine Mary under her title of the Immaculate Conception. This dogma of the Catholic faith, promulgated in 1854 by Pope Pius IX, speaks of Mary's conception and what it means to the Church.



St. Nicholas Day | Catholic All Year at Home w/ Kendra Tierney

Kendra shares her favorite recipes and traditions for celebrating the feast of St. Nicholas (a.k.a. Santa!). Learn how to make mulled wine and cider, speculaas cookies, and deep-fried Dutch meatballs



Shalom/Peace | Advent: Word Studies | The Bible Project

"Peace" is a very common word in English, that means different things to different people. It's also a very important word in the Bible that refers not only to the absence of conflict but also to the presence of something else.

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