



St. Clare Parish

Dec. 28, 2025 - Jan. 4, 2026

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	Santo Graziano	x102
Children's Faith Formation	Debbie Henkelman	x103
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 Teens & Children:** Contact Debbie Henkelman.

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: _____

- ☐ New Parishioner
- ☐ New Phone Number

- ☐ Returning Catholic
- ☐ New Address

- ☐ Moving (please remove from parish directory)
- ☐ Please send Sunday Offertory envelopes

Note: The Dec. 28 & Jan. 4 bulletins have been combined. The Jan. 11 bulletin will be the next available.

Weekly Inspiration



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sunday, Dec. 28, 2025

God created the Holy Family with a great sense of purpose, because he knew that Jesus would be defined by the woman and man who raised him. Who is our “Holy Family” — the people who will define us? Who has God placed within our lives for a specific purpose? ©LPi

Fr. Don's Musings . . .

I hope you all had a very good Christmas. I enjoyed our Christmas Masses and then I had a good time with my family in Hillsboro. Now with Christmas behind us it's time to incorporate the Christmas message into our daily lives.

The church gives us a bunch of special holy days after Christmas to help us plug Jesus into our lives. The Feast of the Holy Family reminds us to strive to make OUR families holy families. The Feast of Mary, Mother of God reminds us that she is Jesus' mother but also OUR spiritual mother. Epiphany reminds us of the wise men and OUR call to be wise people, looking for and finding Jesus.

Christmas is a huge celebration, but it isn't over on Dec. 26. It is just beginning. Every day I want to find ways to put Jesus in the center of my life and the center of my family. I want to look for new experiences of God's goodness and love. I want to bring the light of the baby Jesus into our sometimes dark world. I want to continue the joyful emotions of Christmas all year long.

I don't know what 2026 will hold but I know that if I keep Jesus in the center of my life it will be a year of grace. Good things will happen, probably some difficult things will happen, and God is going to be at my side through it all. God is going to guide me and help me to make the most of 2026.

We've had great Christmas celebrations, now let's continue that though the new year, both here in the church and in our lives ~ Fr. Don

Parish Office Holiday Closure

The Parish Office will be closed until Monday, Jan. 5.

However, Fr. Don and the parish staff will periodically check voice mail and return phone calls as needed throughout the week.

Two Weeks-at-a-Glance

Saturday, Dec. 27

4:00pm	Confession (until 4:30pm)	Church
5:00pm	Vigil Mass + <i>Ronnie McCarthy</i>	Church

Sunday, Dec. 28 Feast of the Holy Family

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

Monday, Dec. 29

8:30am	Daily Mass + <i>Hono Yacapin</i>	Church
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Wednesday, Dec. 31 New Year's Eve

8:30am	Daily Mass <i>Mary Daniels</i>	Church
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Thursday, Jan. 1 Solemnity of Mary

10:00am	Holy Day Mass	Church
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Friday, Jan. 2

8:30am	Daily Mass + <i>John Tujo</i>	Church
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Saturday, Jan. 3

2:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration (ends at 4pm)	Church
4:00pm	Confession (until 4:30pm)	Church
5:00pm	Vigil Mass	Church
	+ <i>Luigi Conti and +Diodato Digregorio</i>	

Sunday, Jan. 4 Epiphany of the Lord

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

Monday, Jan. 5

8:30am	Daily Mass + <i>Roxann Messner</i>	Church
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Wednesday, Jan. 7

8:30am	Daily Mass <i>Mary Daniels</i>	Church
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Thursday, Jan. 8

10:00am	Daily Mass + <i>Larry Varner</i>	Church
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Friday, Jan. 9

8:30am	Daily Mass <i>Santo Graziano</i>	Church
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Saturday, Jan. 10

9:00am	K-5 Children's Choir Rehearsal	Church
9:00am	Brothers in Spirit 1st Meeting	Parish Office
4:00pm	Confession (until 4:30pm)	Church
4:00pm	Youth Choir Rehearsal	Parish Hall
5:00pm	Youth Mass + <i>Stephen Loomis</i>	Church
6:00pm	Youth Group	Offsite

Sunday, Jan. 11 Baptism of the Lord

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

“This and That “from Deacon Bill . . . Emmanuel, God is with Us

The waiting is over. All the running around to get that special gift and all those items to make that Christmas meal so special is over. Christmas is the day where the Son of God has become one of us. It is a time of joy and welcome. But wait a minute, every time we gather in Church, we do so to give glory, thanks and praise to God.



When we gather in a Catholic Church for Mass, Jesus comes to us – Body – Blood – Soul – and Divinity in the Eucharist under the form of bread and wine consecrated by the priest.

So, what makes this day, Christmas Day, so special? Churches are full – Christians everywhere come to worship. Sometimes we get so caught up in all the decorations, lights, parties and presents we overlook the real meaning of Christmas and why we come to church in the first place.

I would like to share with you a story that I heard about a little boy who lived in a small town in Middle America who had always wanted to go to the circus. One day as he was walking down the street he spotted a poster in a store window. The poster said that the circus was coming to town, his town, and that the ticket would cost \$10. The boy ran home and asked his father if he would give him the \$10 so that he could go to the circus on Saturday.

His father told him that if he worked hard all week and got all his chores and schoolwork done, he would give him the \$10 so that he could go to the circus. Saturday morning finally came, and the boy got up early to complete all his chores. Then he went to his father and said, “I have done all that you asked. Can I go to the circus, please?”

The boy’s father gave him the \$10 and the boy headed into town filled with excitement about seeing the wild animals, trapeze artists and all the things that he had heard and read about at the circus. Since he arrived so early in town, he was on the front row when the circus parade started down the main street of town. The boy was thrilled when the animals and all the circus acts paraded by him. At the end of the parade, came the clowns followed by the ringmaster. When the ringmaster passed by where the boy was standing, the boy ran out into the street, took his folded up \$10 dollar bill, and handed it to the ringmaster. “Thanks, Mister,” said the boy, “ That was a great circus.” Then he turned around and headed home. He never knew what he missed. He thought that he had been to the circus but had only been to the parade.

If we are not careful, we can be like that little boy. We get so caught up in the celebration, the decorations, and the gifts that we miss the real Christmas – Jesus Christ, the Son of God becoming human just like all of us. This is something so wondrous that we need to give thanks, glory and praise every day of the year.

So even though it is so great to come to church on Christmas, we may forget why we are there. The real reason should be to greet the risen Lord in the real presence. Something so sacred needs to be celebrated not only on this day but also at every other opportunity we have throughout the year. That, I think, is the significant power of Christmas, the reason that year after year this beautiful message resonates in us. Christmas is about God’s overpowering, overwhelming love for us and his reassurance to a troubled, frightened, war torn world that he is always with us through everything. He dreams with us. He struggles with us. He grieves with us. He hopes with us. Remember his name, Emanuel, meaning God is with us.

Let us take that gift of Jesus – Emanuel – God is with us - and continuously unwrap that gift and share it with all those we meet on this life’s journey by our words and actions.

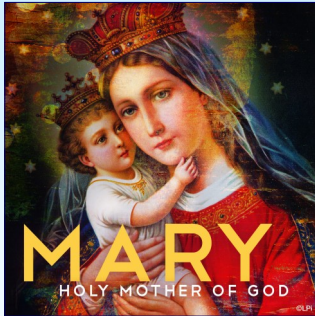
Have a Blessed Christmas every day of the year!

~ Deacon Bill

HAVE A BLESSED
new year

©LPi

***The Solemnity of Mary,
Holy Mother of God***



**Holy Day of Obligation ~ Jan. 1
Mass at 10am**

**Scripture Readings
Solemnity, Mother of God**

Thursday, Jan. 1, 2025

Reading 1 - Nm 6:22-27

Psalms - Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8

Reading 2 - Gal 4:4-7

Gospel - Lk 2:16-21

For daily readings, please visit www.usccb.org

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

This solemnity is a rather recent addition to the cycle of seasons, Sundays, and feasts in our liturgical year. We have Pope Paul VI to thank for the 1974 enshrining of the devotion to Mary into our calendar on Jan. 1. It is also a day in our calendar as a World Day for Peace.

Let us pray...

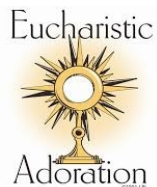
God of heaven and earth,
you came to us and took our earthly flesh
through the gift of Mary's yes.
She is our Mother in faith,
as she is your earthly mother.

We are thankful beyond our ability to thank you
for the gift of her Son as our brother and savior.
Through her self-giving,
we have been reconciled to you.

Bless us as we begin this New Year
and endow us with the desire and ability
to create a world of peace.

We ask all this,
through the intercession of Mary to you,
one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

©LPi



Saturday, Jan. 3 2-4pm
Come and spend a few minutes
with the Lord in prayer.
Benediction begins at 3:45pm.



The Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, Jan. 4, 2025

Scripture Readings

Reading 1 - Is 60:1-6

Psalms - Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

Reading 2 - Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel - Mt 2:1-12

For daily readings, please visit www.usccb.org

Weekly Inspiration

The journey of the Magi reflects how treacherous our Christian life on earth can be. Always, evil works against us — Satan lays traps. He sows confusion. May we, like the Magi, recognize the will of God as our guiding star. ©LPi

Reflection . . . Gifts of the Magi

The song "We Three Kings" details the gifts of the Magi, but do you know what you're singing? "Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown Him again." This one is the most straightforward - gold symbolizes the Kingship of Christ."



"Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom." Myrrh is an embalming spice. Already at Christ's birth, we have the symbolic reminder of his death.

"Frankincense to offer have I. Incense owns a deity nigh." In many religious traditions, incense symbolizes prayers rising to heaven. In some pagan traditions, it is thought to help "call down" the deity. The gift of frankincense symbolizes Jesus' role as the Great High Priest, sanctifying the world through his sacrifice.

Source: wecreate.4lpi.com/lpi/vibrantchurches

Outreach



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

Food Pantry Needs

Now that the Giving Tree project is finished, please help us restock our pantry with the basics.

- Peanut Butter & Jelly • Pancake Mix & Syrup
- Canned Tuna & Chicken • Hot & Cold Cereals
- Canned Fruits, Vegetables, & Soups
- Dry Pasta & Pasta Sauce • Paper Towels

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.

Mark your 2026 Calendars!

Junque & Jewels

Saint Clare Parish Rummage Sale

Sale dates: June 19, 20, & 21

As you enjoy those new presents,
please save all those gently used re-sellable items
for our annual parish rummage sale.

Donations accepted: June 13 to 16

Volunteers Needed: June 12 to 22

Many thanks to all who contribute!

Offertory Report

	Actual Offertory	Average Offertory Goal	Amount Over (Under) Goal
W/E 12.21.25	\$14,129	\$12,472	(\$1,658)
Total December	\$43,271		
Fiscal Year 25/26	\$288,155	\$311,791	(\$23,636)

***FY 25/26 Offertory Goal: \$12,472 per week to fund the current programs, personnel and facilities of the church.**

- The offertory reports from Dec. 28 and Jan. 4 will be included in the Jan. 11 bulletin.
- **End of the year reminder:** Please note all final 2025 donations may be placed in the offertory baskets on Dec. 27 - 28, brought to the parish office drop slot by Dec. 31, or sent via US Mail postmarked on or before Dec. 31.
- Interested in Online Giving? Donations may be made at osvhub.com/saintclarechurch/funds or by scanning the QR code below.

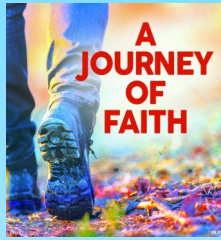
**Scan the QR code
to donate to St. Clare Church.
Thank you for your support.**



Faith Formation

Exodus 90 - A 90-Day Spiritual Journey for Men Begins on Monday, Jan. 5

Men of St. Clare are invited to take part in *Exodus 90*, a transformative 90-day Catholic spiritual exercise designed to renew the heart through prayer, asceticism, and fraternity. This proven program helps men break free from spiritual distractions, grow in discipline and virtue, and strengthen their relationship with Christ.



Participants commit to:

- Daily prayer and Scripture reflection
- Ascetic practices that foster interior freedom
- Weekly Zoom gatherings for support and accountability
- Assigned prayer partners for ongoing encouragement

Exodus 90 begins on Jan. 5 and concludes at Easter, offering a powerful path of renewal and preparation for the Lenten season.

Signup QR codes are available at each church entrance, along with informational flyers for those wishing to learn more.

For additional questions, please contact Dr. David Villegas at drdavevillegas@gmail.com.



**BROTHERS
IN SPIRIT**

NEW! Monthly Men's Faith Formation Group
Begins on Saturday, Jan. 10
9am - 11am Downstairs at the Parish Office

All men of the parish are invited to participate in *Brothers in Spirit*, a new men's faith formation group devoted to spiritual growth, prayer, and fraternity.

Our mission is to form faithful Catholic men grounded in Scripture, the Sacraments, and brotherhood — equipped to live their faith courageously in family, work, and society.

For further information or to express interest, contact Dr. David Villegas at drdavevillegas@gmail.com.

Women of St. Clare

Deepen your faith and build community.



It's time to register for the
St. Clare Women's ACTS Retreat
March 12 - 15.

Come and immerse yourself in
Adoration, Community, Theology, and Service
during this enriching weekend retreat.

For more details and to register, go to
www.saintclarechurch.org/acts-retreats
or scan the QR code:



Questions? Contact Kim Zea
at kim@saintclarechurch.org or x104.

Community Life

Save THE Date!

Italian Dinner ~ Saturday, Feb. 7
Hosted by St. Clare 2026
Confirmation Candidates and Sponsors

Quiet Moments for Moms to Meet with Jesus

Want to press pause on all the responsibilities of running a home, raising children, working and volunteering? Come refresh your soul and recharge your spiritual batteries from the busyness of life through devotional books, podcasts & community. Let's create more calm in the midst of all the noise and chaos of everyday life.

For more information, please contact
Melissa at melissa.grelli@gmail.com
or Sarah at sfreepons23@gmail.com




January Youth Group Outing
Sign up by Dec. 31

ST. CLARE YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Directed Liturgy
Dinner
Roller Skating

REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED ONLINE NO LATER THAN DECEMBER, 31, 2025

WAIVERS
All students and volunteers participating in roller skating at Oaks Park must complete an ONLINE WAIVER. Waivers for minors must be completed by a parent or guardian. Any individual who does not have a waiver on file will not be able to skate



January 10, 2026
5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Oaks Park Skating Rink

SKATE NIGHT

St. Clare School

Discover St. Clare School!

All School Open House

Sunday, Jan. 25 12-2pm



Come and learn all about St. Clare School and what makes us the "Small School with the BIG heart!"

Don't miss this once-a-year event! The Open House is a great opportunity to meet our faculty and staff, learn about our curriculum and programs, have one-on-one conversations with current parents and students, and tour our building and facilities, and more!

This event is free and for the whole family: Parents, students, and siblings are all welcome to attend! We encourage new families and returning families with younger children entering kindergarten to attend the Open House. If you have any questions, please reach out to Emily Bridge (ebridge@stclarepdx.org), Director of Enrollment and Marketing.

Open House RSVP Link: <https://forms.gle/siHkCPeWrmrA3NyX6>

St. Clare School is a K-8, Catholic parish-school community rooted in Gospel values and is dedicated to the spiritual and educational development of the whole child. St. Clare School offers small class sizes, before and after school care, learning support, classes in Art, PE, Spanish, Music, Technology, Drama, Library, and more. Founded in 1914, St. Clare School has proudly served students for 110 years! Financial aid is available.

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Questions? Call 503-231-9484 or email campdirector@cyocamphoward.org

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