



# St. Clare Parish

**Mar. 29, 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

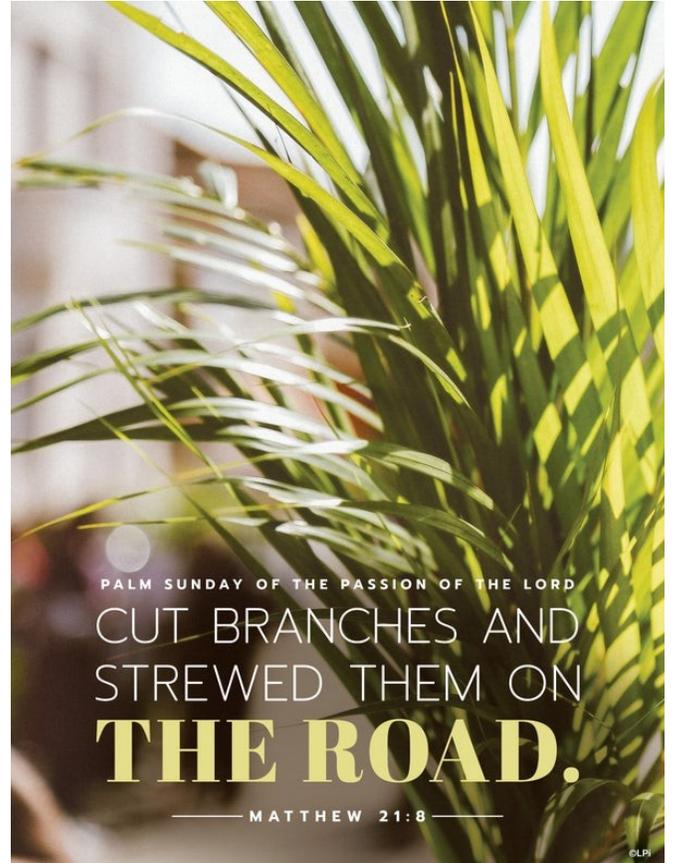
1807 SW Freeman St Portland, OR 97219 503.244.7600  
info@stclarepdx.org www.stclarepdx.org

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](http://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](http://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 Kim Zea.

**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
- Returning Catholic
- Moving (please remove from parish directory)
- New Phone Number
- New Address
- Please send Sunday Offertory envelopes



**Weekly Inspiration**  
**Palm Sunday of**  
**the Passion of our Lord**  
 March 29, 2026

This week, we see things that break our heart - God betrayed. This week, we see things that shake our faith - God bleeding on a cross. This week, this Holy Week, with all its difficult moments, can change us, if we let it. Are we ready? ©LPi



**Week-at-a-Glance**

**Saturday, Mar. 28**

9:00am	Brothers in Spirit	Parish Office
4:00pm	Confession (until 4:30pm)	Church
5:00pm	Vigil Mass +Joan Tow	Church

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Mar. 29**

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

**Monday, Mar. 30**

8:30am	Daily Mass	Church
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**Wednesday, Apr. 1**

8:30am	Daily Mass	Church
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**Holy Thursday, Apr. 2**

7:00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper	Church
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**Good Friday, Apr. 3**

7:00pm	Good Friday Service	Church
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**Saturday, Apr. 4**

9:00am	Brothers in Spirit	Parish Office
8:30pm	Easter Vigil Mass	Church

**Easter Sunday, Apr. 5**

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

***Fr. Don's Musings . . .***

Welcome to Holy Week. This week we commemorate the most important events in our faith: Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection.

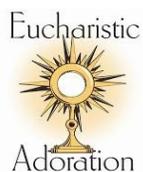
Holy Week starts with Palm Sunday as we recall Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The crowds are finally recognizing that he is the long-awaited Messiah/Savior. They lay palm fronds on the road like a red carpet for Jesus. But then the Mass shifts to the reading of the death of Christ which happened just a few days after this triumphant entry.

On Holy Thursday, we have Mass at 7pm. This Mass commemorates the Last Supper when Jesus gave us the Eucharist. We will do the traditional foot washing and we'll conclude Mass with a Eucharistic Procession around the inside of the church and then offer a time of Eucharistic Adoration for those who want to stay.

On Good Friday, we commemorate Jesus' suffering and death. We don't do Mass that day but will have a Solemn Good Friday Service at 7pm. The evening service will include the reading of the Passion and Veneration of the Cross.

On Holy Saturday, we have the big Easter Vigil Mass, our biggest Mass of the year. This Mass starts after dark, so 8:30pm is the starting time. Mass begins with the lighting of the Easter fire in the darkened church and everyone holding candles, then we read the history of salvation culminating with the resurrection. We welcome our newest members into the church (14 new converts this year) with Baptism, Confirmation and Communion. It's a longer Mass than usual, it usually takes about 1¾ hours.

On Easter morning, we have our usual 8:30am and 10:45am Masses celebrating resurrection followed by the very popular Easter Egg Hunt after the 8:30 Mass. I pray that this Holy Week is a special time for you as you focus on these critical events in Jesus' life and their implications for us. God bless you all! ~ Fr. Don



Please note our usual 1st Saturday Eucharistic Adoration will NOT be held on Holy Saturday, Apr. 4.



**Apr. 2 - Holy Thursday**  
**Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7pm**

**Apr. 3 - Good Friday Service, 7pm**

**Apr. 4 - Holy Saturday**  
**Easter Vigil Mass, 8:30pm**

**Apr. 5 - Easter Sunday**  
**Mass at 8:30am & 10:45am**

## ***“This and That “from Deacon Bill . . . A Reflection on The Passion of Christ***

As we reflect on our gospel readings this weekend, all seemed to start off well for Jesus in the reading at the Procession with Palms heard in our first gospel at the baptismal font. Jesus mounted on a donkey entered Jerusalem in triumph.



As we look at the Passion of Jesus, I think it is fair to say that few of us have formed our images of Jesus' Passion and Death from the four Gospel narratives. Most have shaped our concepts from pious devotions, the Stations of the Cross, and Holy Week homilies. We have been encouraged to zero in on the suffering and pain our sins caused the Son of God, and have been led not only to experience deep sorrow for those sins, but also to resolve never to commit them again. Certainly nothing is wrong with such a process, but it isn't what our four evangelists intended us to take from their Passion narratives.

Notice, as we listened to Matthew's Passion narrative this week, there's almost no mention of Jesus' physical suffering and pain. Only a handful of the 141 verses even refer to it. The actual crucifixion, the event we are expected to spend hours reflecting on, is described in only 11 verses: "But Jesus cried out in a loud voice, and gave up his spirit" (27:50). None of the Gospel accounts even include Jesus falling three times as we pray and reflect on during the Stations of the Cross, nor do they indicate that he was nailed to the cross. If our evangelists are trying to make us focus on Jesus' physical suffering, they do a lousy job.

Though Matthew certainly narrates Jesus' suffering, there's a reason he glides over the physical and emphasizes the psychological. His Passion story starts with a woman anointing Jesus' body for burial. The group of his followers don't understand. At the Last Supper, we meet his betrayer, Judas, his denier Peter, and some of his special handpicked followers. In the garden, his three special apostles Peter, James, and John, who witnessed the transfiguration, now cannot stay awake and pray. And throughout Matthew's entire gospel, only a Roman centurion and the men with him acknowledge, "Truly this was the Son of God!" (27:54)

No matter what unique theology each of our sacred authors put forth, they all agree on one thing: those who desire to achieve the life of Jesus, must also die with Jesus.

### *How does someone die with Jesus?*

We all go through emotional and psychological suffering which Jesus encountered as well and it often causes much more pain than our own physical suffering: the loss of a loved one, the denial of a friend, the betrayal of a friend, the feeling of loneliness, the feeling of an impossible task, "Take this cup away from me," the feeling of abandonment from God noted in our psalm today.

### *How do we survive these hardships and pain?*

We are a Eucharistic People. Included in the Passion account of the synoptic gospels, Jesus gives us his body and blood, our food for the journey of life. It is the Eucharist that sustains us and helps us to endure those difficult times, those passions, we all encounter in this life. It is the Eucharist that leads us to eternal life. It is the Eucharist that helps us to die for self to help someone else, to walk and carry someone else, to be Jesus to someone else.

*~ Deacon Bill*

## Holy Week



### ***Blessing for Holy Week***

Be with us this week, Lord,  
journeying closer and closer  
to Your pierced and Sacred Heart.

Immerse us in Your intense and undying love.

Help us to encounter Your passion  
in new ways

that inform, surprise, and inspire us.

Amen. ©LPi

### ***Scripture Readings***

#### **Holy Thursday ~ Mass of the Lord's Supper**

April 2, 2026

Reading 1 - Ex 12:108, 11-14

Psalms - Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18

Reading 2 - 1 Cor 11:23-26

Gospel - Jn 13:1-15

#### **Good Friday of the Lord's Passion**

April 3, 2026

Reading 1 - Is 52:13-53:12

Psalms - Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25

Reading 2 - Heb 4:14-16;5:7-9

Gospel - Jn 18:1-19:42

#### **Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

April 5, 2026

Reading 1 - Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Psalms - Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

Reading 2 - Col 3:1-4

Gospel - Jn 20:1-9

## Outreach



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

Those large baskets at the doors of the church are the most visible indication of the work of the St. Clare Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. For almost 100 years the parish has supported the work of the SVdP Portland Council by providing food, rent and utility assistance in our neighborhood. Your food and monetary donations make this possible.

Foods that the pantry always needs are:

- peanut butter & jam or jelly
- hot & cold cereal
- canned fruits & vegetables
- hearty soups & boxed sides
- vegetable oil

The SVdP pantry also provides hygiene and cleaning products (essentials which cannot be purchased with SNAP benefits). Always needed are:

- shampoo, deodorant & toothpaste
- dish & laundry detergent
- paper products for bathroom & kitchen

THANKS for your support of this ministry.

## **Junque & Jewels**

**Saint Clare Parish Rummage Sale**

Plan now for our annual parish rummage sale, Junque & Jewels, This unique event raises funds for parish programs, offers a low-cost shopping opportunity for the neighborhood, and helps parishioners recycle usable goods.

You can be part of Junque & Jewels by:

- Saving your used "junque" to donate - especially wanted are dishes & kitchenware, clothes & linens, small appliances & furniture, books & media, toys, games, sporting goods, décor
- Bringing your donations to the St. Clare gym from June 13-15
- Volunteering to help for set-up, merchandising, pricing, sales, clean-up and MORE! Volunteer opportunities are available from June 13-22. NO experience needed.

**Sale Dates: June 19, 20, & 21**

Watch the bulletin for additional information.



# St. Andre Bessette Ministry to the Downtown Poor and Homeless

## 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

From John Kowalczyk, Ministry Leader

### A YEAR OF MAJOR CHANGE IN SERVICE

This was the first year of new Pastor Randy directing the food service procedures. In the past 20 or so years St. Clare parishioners have been serving once a month Friday night cafeteria style meals. It took about 8 volunteers to prepare and serve the food to guests as they came through the food line with their trays and dinnerware. They could decide what food they wanted served to them and get their beverage in the food service line. The guests had about an hour and a half to remain in the dining hall. This stimulated conversations among the guests and a fair amount of time to warm up in the winter and cool off in the summer. About one hundred guests were served.

Fr. Randy decided he wanted to radically change the food service process into two distinct time periods and into a new service procedure. From 6 PM to 6:30 PM food service was designated for staff, volunteers and 2 or 3 seminarians from Mt. Angel who were getting credit for this activity. This was a welcomed change. From 6:30 PM to 7:20 PM guests would be served restaurant style when they were seated at a table. The same meals were plated in the kitchen and brought out to the guests seated in the dining room by our volunteers. It took a significant increase in volunteers, about 14, to implement this new restaurant style service. St. Clare Church has been able to meet this requirement most of the time. When there has been a shortage of St. Clare volunteers, St. Andre would arrange for the additional needed volunteers.

The number of guests participating has stabilized at about 60. The lower amount is believed to be because of moving many street campers out of the downtown area. With our food budget from St. Clare Church, we have been able to purchase meal ingredients for about 100 dinners. This covered the dinner for staff, volunteers, seminarians, and guests with some seconds for the guests.

The St. Clare Church ministry to St. Andre Bessette Church has been blessed with a volunteer list of about 25 people which includes some couples and families with children. The one time we had a real shortage of helpers was when our service to St. Andre coincided with the St. Clare campout. St. Andre was able to fill the significant shortage of St. Clare volunteers. We always are open to adding additional volunteers to our list.

**We remember Jesus' words: "WHATEVER YOU DO FOR THE LEAST OF MY BROTHERS, YOU DO FOR ME." Mt 25:40**

**For more information about this ministry, please contact [John Kowalczyk @ johnkowal@aol.com](mailto:John.Kowalczyk@aol.com)**



Large Painting on Dining Room Wall



Student Volunteers



Christmas Dinner



St. Andre Bessette Church Dining Hall

## Easter Garden 2026

Donations Accepted until Sunday, Mar. 29

Donate \$10 each *In Memory* of or *In Honor* of family members and/or friends. Your remembrances will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin and your donations will be used to purchase beautiful flowers for our Easter Garden displayed on the altar during the Easter Season. Please **legibly print** the information requested below, attach your donation and drop it into the Sunday collection basket or deliver/mail to the parish office, or submit names and donations online at <https://www.osvhub.com/saintclarechurch/forms/easter-garden-2026>

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



**The Easter Egg Hunt is almost here  
and your help is requested!**

**Last Call! Donations Still Needed!  
Accepted until Wednesday, Apr. 1**

Bags of individually wrapped candy, small toys to fit in eggs, and plastic Easter eggs. Goodies may be dropped in the baskets at church or the parish office front porch on Mondays-Fridays, 8am-6:30pm.

Monetary contributions are also welcomed to help purchase egg hunt supplies. Checks may be made payable to St. Clare Church and placed in the Sunday collection baskets or brought to the parish office.

**Volunteers Still Needed:** Interested in helping? Contact Heather Castrillon at [heabrady@gmail.com](mailto:heabrady@gmail.com). School parents may earn in-parish tuition/PIP hours for volunteering.

**Plan to Attend:** Easter Sunday morning, Apr. 5 after the 8:30am Mass on the school playground. Toddlers - 12 year olds and their parents are invited!



### Coming After Easter



Pancake  
Breakfast 

Sunday, April 12  
9:30am-1pm Parish Hall

Come and enjoy a delicious breakfast served up after both Masses by the John Clare Council of the Knights of Columbus. The Menu includes Plain & Blueberry Pancakes, Sausage & Eggs, Fruit & Applesauce and Choice of Beverage

Donations will be accepted to support the Knights' outreach programs.

Questions? Contact Don Mey at [dmey1951@gmail.com](mailto:dmey1951@gmail.com) or 434.429.9881.

**Many thanks to all who contribute!**

### Offertory Report

The Offertory Reports for Mar. 15, 22 & 29 will be included in the Apr. 5 Easter bulletin.



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

April Youth Group for Grades 6-12. Sign-up by Sunday, Apr. 5.



ST. CLARE YOUTH MINISTRY

# KARAOKE



# GYM NIGHT

Sign up ONLINE by April 5  
at [www.osvhub.com/  
saintclarechurch/forms/april-  
youth-group-signup](http://www.osvhub.com/saintclarechurch/forms/april-youth-group-signup)



5:00 Youth Mass  
6:00 Dinner  
6:30 Faith Sharing, Karaoke, Open Gym  
8:30 Parent Pick Up

**SATURDAY APRIL 11, 2026**

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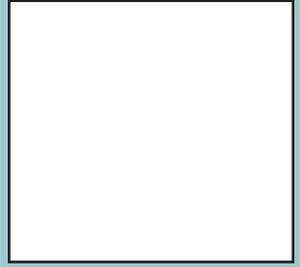
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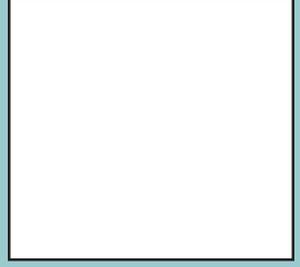


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