



St. Clare Parish

Sept. 21, 2025

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

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Pastor	Fr. Don Gutmann	x101
Deacon	Dcn. Bill McNamara	x108
Pastoral Associate	Kim Zea	x104
Business Manager	TBD	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: _____

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <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 Inspirations

**25th Sunday
in Ordinary Time**
Sept. 21, 2025

No servant can serve two masters, and in his goodness, God gives us the ability to choose. Will we serve mammon, the riches of this world? Or will we seek true wealth, the kind that cannot be hoarded or wasted, but only given freely away? ©LPi

Week-at-a Glance

Saturday, Sept. 20

9:30am	Sisters in the Spirit Gathering	Parish Office
4:00pm	Confession (until 4:30pm)	Church
5:00pm	Vigil Mass + <i>Laura Digregorio</i> + <i>Linda Conti</i>	Church

Sunday, Sept. 21 Ministry Fair

		Parish Hall
8:30am	Mass	Church
9:35am	1st Communion Parent-Student Meeting	BASC Rm
10:45am	Mass + <i>James W. Starr</i>	Church
12:00pm	RCIA Class	Parish Hall/Music Rm

Monday, Sept. 22

8:30am	Daily Mass + <i>Rudolf Lanz</i>	Church
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Wednesday, Sept. 24

8:30am	Daily Mass + <i>Emmet Cullen</i>	Church
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Thursday, Sept. 25

8:30am	Daily Mass + <i>Barbara Gruenfeldt</i>	Church
2:15pm	Red Cross Blood Drive (until 7pm)	Parish Hall

Friday, Sept. 26

8:30am	Daily Mass	Church
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Saturday, Sept. 27

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

Sunday, Sept. 28

8:30am	Mass + <i>Marie Tedesco</i>	Church
10:45am	Mass	Church
12:00pm	Confirmation Parent-Student Meeting	Church

Fr. Don's Musings . . .

This weekend we are highlighting our St. Clare Day-care and Preschool. It's an amazing place, filled with about 70 cute little children. We started the St. Clare Preschool 28 years ago. Nancy Melzer started it and she is still leading it. She does a great job of leading it! Nancy is passionate about the kiddos and their families. She has built the preschool into the largest Catholic parish-based preschool in the state. We have five classes depending on age/maturity. The youngest class is Infants and the "oldest" class is Pre-kindergarteners. I get to visit every classroom every day and it's a joy. We have a dedicated staff that enjoys the children and wants to help the children develop to their fullest potential. We are a Catholic preschool so faith in God is a part of it, we present the faith at a level the children can comprehend. I enjoy praying with them.

Their curriculum is both indoors and outdoors. We have a nice nature garden where the children can explore God's creation. Many other preschools have come here for tours of our nature garden so they can incorporate that into their plans. It is a unique component of our preschool.

Our St. Clare Preschool has a great community of parents who support and enjoy each other. As the parents drop off their children in the mornings, I like seeing them chatting with one another and getting caught up on each other's family happenings. St. Clare Preschool is a great place, filled with lots of life and laughter.

This weekend we have our *Building Bright Beginnings* campaign to help support the preschool. Please consider making a contribution to St. Clare Preschool to help keep it strong and affordable for our families.

Thank you! ~ Fr. Don

Liturgy

St. Clare Children's Choir - Calling All Singers and Musicians!



The St. Clare Children's Choir is starting up again, and we are welcoming new members. No experience necessary! Children's Choir sings at the 8:30am Mass one weekend each month from October - June plus Christmas Eve. For school families, time spent participating counts toward in-parish tuition hours. If you have a child in grades K-5 interested in joining, please contact Jessica Leahy at childrenschoir@saintclarechurch.org.

"Singing is praying twice." - St. Augustine

“This and That” from Deacon Bill . . .

This week our Jewish brothers and sisters celebrate a special holy week that starts at sundown on Monday with a two-day feast called Rosh Hashanah and ends on Thursday, Oct. 2 with the celebration of Yom Kippur. Our heritage as Catholics comes to us from the people of Israel portrayed in the Old Testament readings which we hear proclaimed every Sunday. We also hear the story of creation leading us to God’s plan when he sent the Archangel Gabriel to a teenage virgin in a remote village in Bethlehem. Keep in mind that the most important feast that the Jewish people celebrate is the Passover meal which recalls their freedom from bondage in Egypt. For Catholics, the Passover feast is our most important feast also when we celebrate Jesus giving us the gift of his Body and Blood on Holy Thursday and saying to his apostles, “. . . Do this in memory of me.” (Lk 22:19)

So what is this Jewish 10-day celebration of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kipper all about?

Rosh Hashanah can be traced back to 6th century B.C. It was never mentioned in the Torah (the Jewish Old Testament writings) but was first found in the Mishna (the first major written collection of oral laws) in 200 B.C. However, its roots come from Leviticus 23; 23-24, “The Lord said to Moses, ‘Tell the Israelites: On the first day of the seventh month you shall keep a Sabbath rest with a sacred assembly and with the trumpet blasts as a reminder.’” The holiday celebrates the Jewish New Year with the start of the Hebrew month of Tishrei, the agricultural new year. It was transformed from the time of Babylon captivity which celebrated the anniversary of the creation of the world and the day of judgement. The Jewish calendar was fixed around 360 B.C. by three Jewish leaders who calculated year 3761 B.C. as the date the world was created. If we add 2025 from the Roman calendar, then 5786 is the year the Jewish people are celebrating. The celebration starts Monday at sundown and focuses on special synagogue services with readings from Abraham and the hearing of the shofar (ram’s horn) being blown. (Ex 19:26 and Jos 6:20) It is a time for personal reflection, asking for forgiveness, and a spiritual wake-up call to begin the new year with good intentions. Festive foods (apples and honey to wish for a sweet new year and new fruit that is blooming) and charitable giving are part of the celebration. On the first day, people go to a body of water and toss breadcrumbs into it, symbolizing the casting away sins from the previous year.

On **Yom Kipper**, the holiest day of the year, Jews fast for 25 hours, refrain from work and physical pleasures (like bathing and kissing your spouse) and attend five special synagogue services for confessions and reading from the Book of Jonah. The day is a solemn time for repentance, prayer (including the deceased), introspection, and seeking forgiveness from God for past mistakes, and concluding with a single, long blast from the shofar. Many celebrate by wearing white to signify purity as they begin to enter the new year.

To our Jewish sisters and brothers, we wish you a blessed and meaningful holy week.

~ Deacon Bill

Faith Formation

Children's & Youth Programs Starting Soon! Sign-up NOW!

* Parents and students should plan to attend the first sacramental preparation class meeting together on the dates listed below:

*** First Reconciliation/Communion**

Grades 2-3 and Grades 4-6
Sunday, Sept. 21 9:35-10:35am BASC Room

*** Confirmation**

Grades 7-12
Sunday, Sept. 28 12-1pm Church

Youth Group

Grades 6-12
Begins on Saturday, Oct. 11
at the 5pm Youth Mass. Come and join us!

To view schedules and register,
please visit www.saintclarechurch.org.

On the homepage, click Sacraments
then First Communion or Confirmation.

For Youth Group, click on Faith Formation >
Youth Ministry > Youth Group.

Questions? Please contact Debbie Henkelman,
Children's Faith Formation Coordinator,
at debbie@saintclarechurch.org or x103.

All Invited!

Feast of St. Francis of Assisi

Saturday, Oct. 4



12:30-1pm

Outside the East Church Door (School side)

Deacon Bill is looking forward
to blessing any and all pets who stop by!

COME HOLY SPIRIT

New this Year! Dinner Talks

Where is the Spirit Leading You?
Come to the Feast!
Strengthen your Faith and Build Fellowship.

Join us for a light dinner, listen to our guest speaker,
and share your journey with others
from our St. Clare Community
on five Thursday evenings this year.

Dinner Talk #1 - Thursday, Oct. 23

5:30-7pm Parish Hall

Topic: Prayer by Jerry Roussell,
St. Clare Parishioner

Interested in attending? Please register at
[https://www.osvhub.com/saintclarechurch/forms/
dinner-talks-1](https://www.osvhub.com/saintclarechurch/forms/dinner-talks-1)

More details? Contact kim@saintclarechurch.org



Deepen your faith and build community.

Save the date for the upcoming
St Clare Men's ACTS Retreat
November 13-16.

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.

Outreach

Red Cross Blood Drive - Last Call!



Thursday, Sept. 25
Parish Hall 2:15-7pm

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

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

Fr. Jim's Toiletry Project

Small, personal hygiene items such as soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotions, dental supplies and hand sanitizer are still needed. Please bring them to the baskets at church or front porch of the parish office. They will help us to fill hundreds of gift bags in mid-November for our neighbors in need. Your support of this annual outreach project is always much appreciated! ~ Fr. Jim



The St. Clare Conference Society of St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Needs

- White or Jasmine Rice • Cooking Oil
- Applesauce Jars & Cups • Chicken Noodle Soup

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.



Pancake Breakfast!

Sunday, Oct. 5
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.



Plain & Blueberry Pancakes
Sausage & Eggs
Fruit & Applesauce
Choice of Milk, Chocolate Milk,
Orange Juice, Coffee, or Tea

Donations will be accepted
to support the Knight's outreach programs.

Questions? Contact Don Mey
at dmey1951@gmail.com or 434.429.9881.

Scripture Readings

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sept. 28, 2025

Reading 1 - Am 6:1a, 4-7

Psalms - PS 146:7, 8-9, 9-10

Reading 2 - 1 Tim 6:11-16

Gospel - Lk 16:19-31

For daily readings, please visit www.usccb.org

Community Life



**Welcome
GATHERING!**

Sunday, Oct. 5

Following the 8:30am Mass School Music Room

Whether you've been with us awhile or just joined us, you and your family are invited to come and find out what makes our St. Clare Community such a wonderful place to worship, serve and learn. Afterwards, plan to stay and enjoy the Knight's Pancake Breakfast. We look forward to seeing you there! For more details, contact Dorothy Riechers at riechers4_5@msn.com

Many thanks to all who contribute!

Offertory Report

	Actual Offertory	Average Offertory Goal	Amount Over (Under) Goal
W/E 9.14.25	\$8,894	\$12,472	(\$3,577)
Total September	\$20,519	\$24,943	(\$4,424)
Fiscal Year 25/26	\$118,220	\$137,188	(\$18,968)

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

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Thank you for your support.



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