



Holy Family

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Third Sunday of Advent—December 14, 2025

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you.” - Mt 11:10

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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PARISH CALENDAR

- Mon 12/15** 7pm Simbang Gabi Mass
7:30 Adult Pickleball
- Tue 12/16** 10am Women's Morning of Reflection
6:30pm OCIA, Big Room
7pm Simbang Gabi Mass
- Wed 12/17** 9:15am HFCS Mass, led by 3rd Gr.
6:30pm SAC Meeting, Big Room
7pm Simbang Gabi Mass
- Thurs 12/18** 7pm Simbang Gabi Mass
8:00pm Men's Basketball
- Fri 12/19** 10am Adoration, Chapel
10am Bible Discussion, Big Room
1pm SVDP Food Box Assembly, CH
7pm Simbang Gabi Mass
- Sat 12/20** 8:30am-12:30pm SVDP Food Box Distribution, CH
10am—12pm Christmas Tree set up, church
5:30pm Simbang Gabi Mass

- Sun 12/14** 3:30 Adult Volleyball
7pm Simbang Gabi Mass

LITURGY SCHEDULE

- Wed 12/17** 9:15am Mass: Int. People of the Parish
- Thur 12/18** 12 noon Mass: Elena de Mesa +
- Fri 12/19** 12 noon Mass: Gabe Orlando +
- Sat 12/20** 5:30 pm Mass: Int. Alejandro & Vanessa Cardona-Rosas
- Sun 12/21** 8:30am Mass: Kathleen Cleary +
10:30am Mass: Patti Schwindt +

Pastor: Fr. Rodel de Mesa **Deacon:** Tim Dooley

Church: 7525 SE Cesar Chavez Blvd., Portland, OR 97202

Parish Office: 3732 SE Knapp St. **Phone:** 503-774-1428

Find us online at:

WWW.HOLYFAMILYPORTLAND.ORG

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

TUESDAY—FRIDAY, 9:30AM—4:00PM

Johnson Creek Dental Care
TIMOTHY P. SHANNON D.M.D., P.C.
4450 Southeast Johnson Creek Boulevard
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Holy Family class of '08

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CHRISTMAS GIVING

WE GIVE BECAUSE HE GAVE
Showing generosity to the greater community
Take a tag and return unwrapped gifts (with tag attached)

Drop off in the back of church or parish office by **December 17th**

This year benefits: Catholic Charities, Mother and Child, and Transition Housing Project

ORDER of Christian Initiation of Adults

UPCOMING SESSIONS -

December 16th - the Liturgical Year
How is the liturgical year set?

January 6th - The Nicene Creed.
The Mission Statement of the Catholic Church

6:30pm in the parish office (3732 SE Knapp St) OR Zoom
(contact Krisi for the link)

All are welcome anytime

Contact Krisi Christensen for more info:
pastoralministry@holymfamilyportland.com or 503-774-1428

Women's Morning of Reflection

The Advent Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John and our Eucharistic Prayer

December 16th 10am - 12pm
presented by Msgr. Chuck Leinert

Advent is upon us and we have a wonderful upcoming Women's Morning of Reflection. If you have not already done so, please set aside two hours to pause from the busyness and enjoy our special Advent Program on the 3rd Tuesday of December

For questions, contact Lynda Taylor, 503-706-7923 or Winnie Smidt, 805-216-1609.

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY CHOIR!

Get a plush front row seat at the 4pm Family Mass on Christmas Eve--just sing in the choir! Sing next to your child/grandchild, or just come on your own. All ages are welcome, no experience necessary, no rehearsal other than an hour prior to mass. This is a wonderful way to participate in an important ministry in a low-pressure situation. All music provided, easy selections.

In years past this has been very popular, and we have a maximum of about 20 people. If you would like to participate, contact me at csbrunelle@msn.com to reserve your spot, and get the important info!

Peace! Chris Brunelle

PARISH CONTACTS

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

Parish Center Office Phone: 503-774-1428

Pastor	Fr. Rodel de Mesa Pastor@holymfamilyportland.com <i>*Please contact for Weddings, Anointing & Confession</i>
Deacon	Tim Dooley Tim_dooley@hotmail.com <i>*Please contact for Homebound/Communion Visits</i>
Business Manager	Marivic Tupaz BusinessMgr@holymfamilyportland.com
Director of Pastoral Ministry	Krisi Christensen PastoralMinistry@holymfamilyportland.com <i>*Please contact for Baptisms, RCIA, Funerals</i>
Administrative Assistant	Sherry Brost sbrost@holymfamilyportland.com <i>*Please contact for Bulletin Info, Sacrament Records, Mass Intention Requests, & Child Protection Programs</i>
Faith Formation	Desi Dominguez faithformation@holymfamilyportland.com <i>*Please contact for First Communion & Children's RE</i>
Youth Ministry	Krisi Christensen PastoralMinistry@holymfamilyportland.com <i>*Youth Group, & Confirmation for Teens</i>
Bookkeeper	Lorenz Mallari bookkeeper@holymfamilyportland.com
Maintenance	Kathy Aragon karagon@holymfamilyportland.com
Parish Office Volunteer	Joyce Holohan-Bell receptionist@holymfamilyportland.com
School Principal	Joe Galati 503-774-8871 jgalati@holymfamilypdx.net
Music Director	Chris Brunelle MusicMinistry@holymfamilyportland.com
Traditional Choir Director	Tina Paradiso-Herlein tparadiso@archdpx.org

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

All phone numbers begin with area code 503 unless indicated

Administrative Council	Andrea Roepke	
Altar Society	Joyce Holohan-Bell	775-5767
Bible Discussion	Dave Bergman	784-3272
CYO	Andy Owings	793-1446
	cyoholyfamily@gmail.com	
Christian Service	Sandra Fisher	329-4562
Eucharistic Adoration	Parish Office	774-1428
Hospitality	Krisi Christensen	774-1428
JOY Ministry	Vic & Terri Cozzoli	788-2073
(Just Older Youth 50+)	JOY@holymfamilyportland.com	
Knights of Columbus	Steve Tassinari	
	HolyFamilyKnights@protonmail.com	
Needle Works Ministry	Judy O'Donnell	929-3194
PTO	Katie Steipp	
	pto@holymfamilypdx.net	
Pastoral Care /Homebound	Deacon Tim Dooley	
Pastoral Council		
Prayer Circle	Kathy McMahan	
	holymfamilypdxprayercircle@gmail.com	
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Kathy McMahan	307-8605
	Deacon Tim Dooley	
Rosary Makers	Dorothy Danna	698-3578
School Advisory Council	Alan Murray	
School Principal	Joe Galati	774-8871
St. Vincent de Paul	Don Wolkerstorfer	946-8341

PRAYER REQUESTS

Sabas Quiray	Janice Oliverio Black	All special intentions
Doree D'Angelo	Marilyn Walstrom	All grieving loss of loved ones
Mary DeSousa	Patricia McEvoy	Mental Health of all HF Parishioners
Tim Evens	Doug Sinclair	Ukraine
Jean Goerl	Cam Hanemann	Peace in the Middle East
Sam Johnson	Doug Marsh	
Kathy Kaopuiki	Dennis McNulty	
Joshua		

Kathy McMahan at
holymfamilypdxprayercircle@gmail.com

Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Please donate at your local parish, or by mail at:
National Religious Retirement Office
3211 Fourth Street NE
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Make check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious.

retiredreligious.org

Visit retiredreligious.org/2025photos to meet the religious pictured.
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(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: We go to Mass. We go to Confession. We pray. We read Scripture. In doing all these things, again and again, we go out to the desert. Why? What are we expecting to see?

What We See in the Desert

I've always wanted to see a real desert.

I know all about frigid, snowy winters and warm, wet summers. I grew up on rich soil that yields lush vegetation and bountiful harvests. But I've never experienced a desert, not in my own country or abroad, and I'm curious.

I know there must be something magical about the desert for it to feature so heavily in Scripture, for it to provide a backdrop to so many crucial moments of salvation history. The Israelites following the cloud, the temptation of Christ, the voice crying out: "Prepare the way for the Lord."

Why do these moments have to happen in a desert? Why do they make so much less sense in a tropical rainforest or a verdant forest?

I think it's because the desert doesn't have anything to offer us, at first glance. No one longs for the physical sensation of a dry heat and a beating sun. But the vast emptiness and the almost mystical harshness — even if we don't desire and delight in it, this is a setting that we understand, somehow, intrinsically. We know it deep within our soul. God is there.

We go to Mass. We go to Confession. We pray. We read Scripture. In doing all these things, again and again, we go out to the desert.

Why? What are we expecting to see?

If we expect to be entertained, we will be disappointed. If we expect reassurance, we will be disappointed. If we expect to feel pleasant and safe and sheltered, we will be disappointed.

The desert is there to challenge us. The desert is there to show us who we are, and who we can be.

So go.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Our prayer group has been reading the lives of some saints, and we were struck by how some of them thought they were such sinners. Why would someone so holy think they had such serious sin?

Answer:

As Professional athletes practice the fundamentals of their sport over and over again, reaching for better form, consistency, and performance. They focus on the basics, review past performances, and visualize greater success. Practice makes better, if not perfect!

Spiritual masters such as the saints also looked for perfection. They practiced their faith in the search for holiness, grace, and virtue. Through sacraments, prayer, study, good works, and penance, they raised their level of awareness and their sensitivity to the presence of God, the demands of the Gospel, and the workings of the Holy Spirit. They examined their consciences daily, reviewing the day for moments of failure and times that they could have been more virtuous in one way or another. They resolved to do better, be more attentive, and alert!

Therefore, anything that would distract them or interfere with their relationship with God would be like a small black spot on a bright white wall — you can't miss it! The great saints were aware of sin and the presence of evil because they were so tuned into the struggle between good and evil that was fought in their own lives, hearts, and souls.

STEWARDSHIP

	November 2025			November 2025 to June 2026		
	Actual	Budget	\$ Variance	Actual	YTD Budget	\$ Variance
Operating Income:						
Total Offertory Collections	\$ 35,183	\$ 37,291	\$ (2,108)	\$ 166,301	\$ 187,320	\$ (21,019)
Total Other Operating Income	\$ 17,294	\$ 15,133	\$ 2,161	\$ 92,044	\$ 96,680	\$ (4,636)
Total Operating Income	\$ 52,477	\$ 52,424	\$ 53	\$ 258,345	\$ 284,000	\$ (25,655)
Operating Expenses:						
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 24,881	\$ 67,916	\$ (43,035)	\$ 294,547	\$ 309,663	\$ (15,116)
Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$ 27,596	\$ (15,492)	\$ 43,088	\$ (36,202)	\$ (25,663)	\$ (10,539)

Readings for the week of December 14, 2025

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17

Thursday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Friday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Saturday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Observances for the week of December 14, 2025

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

Saturday:

Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent

MINISTRY SCHEDULE ~ December 20-21, 2025 Saturday & Sunday

	Altar Server	Greeter/Usher	Eucharistic Minister	Reader	Sacristan
Saturday Vigil 5:30 Mass	Lucas Pienovi NOT FILLED	Jenn Pienovi	Tim Dooley Joseph Pienovi Dominic Pienovi	Amanda Owings - Lector	Joyce Holohan-Bell
Sunday 8:30 am	Nate Mullett Winnie Russell	JoAnna Mullett	Ann Conlon Joy Hunt Bruce Wright	Kristin Burgher - Lector	Tim Dooley
Sunday 10:30 am	Collette Perrin Serafina Raschio	Gene Dieringer	Kiele Kaopuiki-Delaney Noa Kaopuiki-Delaney Malia Kaopuiki-Delaney	Kathy McMahon - Lector	

Capital Campaign Update and Exciting News!

December 2025



OUR PURPOSE

- Most of you know about the Holy Family capital campaign that started a few years ago. Our purpose was to give Holy Family school a new heating, ventilation and air conditioning system, and to build a new parish welcome center. These are necessary and important projects - the school's boiler had broken down after 75 years last year, and the parish office was originally built to be a dormitory for Sisters in the 1950s who were teaching at the school. It has a poor heating and electrical system, and no real meeting place inside for us to gather as a community. It is also far from the church and hard for strangers to locate.
- Since the campaign started we've raised almost 3 million dollars! We are so grateful for the donations, pledges and grants we have received to date. The heating and cooling (HVAC) system was installed over the summer at the school! The Welcome Center is under construction next door - you can see it week by week as it is going up.
- In order to pay off construction of the Welcome Center and remaining bills for the school's new HVAC system, we need to raise one more million dollars. A fourth of our total goal of 4 million.
- That's a big figure, and sounds daunting, yet here is the exciting news:

A GENEROUS, ANONYMOUS DONOR IN THE PARISH HAS COME FORWARD WITH A MATCHING GRANT OF \$500,000.

- That means that every dollar donated now will be matched up to \$500,000. What an amazing gift!!
- That matching grant cuts the million in half for what we need to raise to get the Capital Campaign over the finish line.

LEAD DONORS HAVE ALREADY PLEDGED MORE THAN \$300,000, LEAVING US WITH LESS THAN \$200,000 TO RAISE IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE \$500,000 MATCH AND FULLY FUND THE PROJECT.

- We're asking every parish household to join in supporting our campaign. These projects—the Welcome Center and Holy Family School—belong to all of us, just as our church did in 1999 when our parish came together in faith and generosity.
- Every gift matters and brings us closer to unlocking the full \$500,000 matching grant. No gift is too small. You can increase your pledge, make your first pledge, or extend your commitment two more years through 2028. But we need new pledges by December 31 so the Archdiocese can approve the loan that will help retire our debts.
- We hope you will join us in securing the future of Holy Family for generations to come. We are so close!! Thank you.

—The HF Capital Campaign Committee



With heartfelt gratitude for the faith and generosity you have already shown, we are deeply moved by your willingness to stand with us once more at this crucial moment. Your additional pledge helps carry this mission across the finish line and brings to life the hope we have long prayed for as a community. Thank you for continuing to shepherd this vision with us—your commitment is a true blessing to our parish family.

Second Campaign Gift Commitment

I/We wish to support our Capital Campaign with an additional gift commitment as follows:

Name(s) _____
 Address _____
 Phone(s) _____
 Email _____

Total Gift \$ _____ Today's Payment \$ _____ Balance Due \$ _____

Payment Schedule: Monthly Quarterly Semi-Annually Annually
 Other _____

Payment Method: Cash/Check Electronic Funds Transfer/Credit Card
 Other _____

Special Instructions: _____

Does your company match gifts? No Yes _____
 _____ Company Name/Address

Signature _____ Date _____

Gift	Initial Gift	Monthly	Per Day*
\$1,000,000	\$100,000	\$25,000	\$821.92
500,000	50,000	12,500	410.96
250,000	25,000	6,250	205.48
100,000	10,000	2,500	82.19
50,000	5,000	1,250	41.10
25,000	2,500	625	20.55
15,000	1,500	375	12.33
10,000	1,000	250	8.22
5,000	500	125	4.11
3,000	300	75	2.47

*These figures are approximate and provided for illustration purposes only. All gifts are payable over three years with fulfillment payments starting the month after the active campaign ends. Pledges are voluntary and not legally binding. An electronic payment and credit card authorization form to confidentially complete and return will be sent with a letter acknowledging your gift. Thank you for your support.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS BOXES DRIVERS NEEDED!

Thanks to all of you who have taken home one or more food boxes and returned them - your response has been most welcome! Please return your boxes by Sunday, December 14.

If for some reason you are not able to return your box (or shopping bags) before December 14, please contact Bruce Hadfield or Don Wolkerstorfer and we can arrange to pick it up.

Here is the final task left to be done:

On Saturday, December 20, everyone that can, please come to Celebration Hall between 9 and 10 am (or as soon thereafter as possible) with your family or friends and deliver boxes to a less fortunate family.

We now have about 150 families who have requested food assistance this Christmas, so WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

If you are by yourself, we will try to pair you up with someone else. This is an excellent way to continue your holiday gift giving!!

Thank you very much and God bless you.

Parish Survey

Please take a couple minutes to complete our parish survey. Click the button below or scan the QR code