

ST. AGATHA

CATHOLIC CHURCH

APRIL 2025

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass

Tuesday - Saturday

8:30am

Holy Days - 8:30am & 7:00pm

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil

5:00pm

Sunday

8:30am & 10:30am

Latin (1962 Missal) - 12:30pm

Reconciliation

Saturday

3:30pm - 4:30pm

Adoration Chapel

Monday - Friday

6:00am - 8:00pm

Communion & Liberation

Wednesday

7:00pm



 @StAgathaPDX

OUR LOCATIONS

St. Agatha Catholic Church

7983 SE 15th Avenue, Portland, OR 97202

(503) 236-4747

stagathapdx@gmail.com

www.stagathaportland.org

Mailing Address

1430 SE Nehalem Street, Portland, OR 97202

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Fr. Luan Tran

Deacon

Greg Pashley

Parish Coordinator

Karen Blodgett

Business Manager

Pat Hainley

Friends of St. Agatha

Tom McClung

www.friendsofstagatha.org

From Padre's Desk

My dear people:

Today we turn our hearts and minds once again to the suffering and death of Jesus Christ as we enter Passion Tide. That suffering won for all mankind the definitive victory over sin and hopelessness. But the question that keeps coming back to me year after year is this: God is all-powerful. He could have chosen to save us from sin in many other ways. Why did he choose to do it by suffering? What is the meaning of the Passion? The answer does not change, but the heart is not satisfied, and every year it longs to know and to be told once again the great story of God's love for man.

The Passion tells us with perfect clarity the message we most need to hear. The Passion of Our Lord says to us: God is faithful; you can trust him. Trusting God is the most important thing for us, but it's also the hardest, because our trust has been violated.

We have all been wounded because people we trusted let us down, in little things and big things. As a result, we have all built up walls around our hearts, to protect ourselves from being let down again. But those walls also keep out God. God knows that unless we let him into our hearts, we can never experience the happiness we long for. So he came up with a way to win back our trust: the Passion of Christ. The Passion is God saying to us: *"No matter what you do, I will keep on loving you. I will never let you down."* If we reject Him, scourge Him, crown Him with thorns, betray Him, even if we crucify Him, he continues to love us: **"Father, forgive them, they know not what they do."** God's love and faithfulness doesn't depend on us being perfect, and it doesn't depend on His whims. He will never take it back. We can trust Him - completely. That's the message of the Passion. And it's the message that each of us, wounded and sinful as we are, most needs to hear.

We have to learn to trust God more and more in order to be transformed by him into the kind of person we know we should be. The Catechism teaches that *"man, tempted by the devil, let his trust in his Creator die in his heart and, abusing his freedom, disobeyed God's command. This is what man's first sin consisted of. All subsequent sin would be disobedience toward God and lack of trust in his goodness."*

This was experienced in a powerful way by the actress who played the role of Veronica in Mel Gibson's movie, *The Passion of the Christ*. She was an Italian actress in her early thirties. Although she had grown up Catholic, she had long ago stopped practicing her faith. At the time when they began filming, she was at a spiritual low point in her life. She was dead inside. She explained later that she had really wanted to believe in Jesus, but she simply couldn't. And then something incredible happened, for God might have had mercy on her. She was given a minor part in a soon-to-be world-famous movie, *The Passion*. And her part was small, but indeed memorable. Jesus is carrying His cross to Calvary, and He falls for the third or fourth time. The crowds surge around Him, abusing Him as He lies on the ground. The soldiers try to control the crowds. Gliding through the middle of this confusion is Veronica. She looks at him with love and devotion. Or at last she tries. She kneels down beside Him and says, *"Lord, permit me."* She takes a white cloth and wipes His blood and sweat-stained face. Then she offers Him a drink. It is a beautiful moment of intimacy in the middle of violent suffering. But it was hard to film that scene. The churning crowd kept bumping into Veronica and disrupting the moment of encounter. So they had to film it over and over again. That was providential.

After fifteen or twenty times of kneeling before the suffering Christ, looking into his eyes, and calling him Lord, the actress felt something start to melt inside her. Later, she explained that while she looked into his eyes, she found that she was able to believe. "For a moment," she said, "I believed!" That experience lit the flame of hope in her darkened heart.

From Padre's Desk

This is what Christ wants to do in his Passion, to convince us that we can believe in him, that no matter how confusing and difficult and painful life may be, and no matter how many times we may fail or even sin, He is still loving us, he is trustworthy. Today and throughout these two weeks we have a chance to renew our trust in this God who went to such great lengths to prove that he is trustworthy. Today and throughout these two weeks we have a chance to let this truth heal the wounds of our hearts and renew our lives. But we shouldn't think only of ourselves. Many people have been wounded and have erected walls around their hearts, and they have never heard the message of the Passion. There are many Veronicas in each one of our lives, people who want to believe in Christ, who want to experience the hope He has to give, but simply can't. They need someone to show them the love, mercy, and faithfulness that the actress found in the face of Christ. There are two ways that each one of us can make this Holy Week truly holy, not only for ourselves, but for those around us. There are two ways that each one of us can be a living image of Christ's Passion to those around us: by words and by deeds.

So that our faith might not be useless to our life, but truly shows us the reality of God's love, we must meditate on the Passion. Put yourselves there in the crowds accompanying Christ on the way to Calvary. Look at the faces of the Blessed Mother and Mary Magdalene, and realize the incredible pain and sorrow they experience. Put yourselves next to the cross and look at the Lord in His last agony, and realize that God is dying for us. And by our deeds: we can participate in Christ's Passion by doing what he did, by sharing our neighbor's burdens, by taking upon ourselves the crosses of others. It may be as simple as stopping by the roadside and rolling down your car window and speak a blessing to the homeless man begging for alms, not ignoring him. It could be getting involved and being truly present when

your co-worker tells you the burdens she has been carrying all these years. It could be paying for a meal for the homeless street artist outside your restaurant, having listened to him his life story. In other words, be ourselves the reason for people to hope and trust in God once again!

Fr. Luan Tran



St. Agatha Prayer Line

Do you have a prayer intention, special request, or need accompaniment during a difficult time?

Contact our prayer line at
stagathaprayerline@gmail.com.

A team of parishioners will be praying for your intentions. The Mass on the First Saturday of every month will be offered for the intentions sent to the prayer line.



ST. AGATHA
— Est. 1911 —
Catholic School

A Message from Dr. Casey

During the fifth week of Lent, our journey toward Easter continues to invite us into deeper prayer, reflection, and acts of compassion. This season is a sacred time for our school community to grow closer to Christ through small daily sacrifices and moments of grace.

The readings during the week remind us of God's enduring mercy and the hope we have in His promises. As a school, we are encouraging our students to look for ways they can bring light to others—whether through kindness, forgiveness, or service.

Let us continue to walk this Lenten path together, supporting one another and preparing our hearts for the joy of the Resurrection. Thank you for the many ways you nurture faith at home and help your children live out the Gospel each day.

Many thanks to those who attended the Family Stations of the Cross on Friday, April 4th. Our middle school hosts did an amazing job leading us in praying this Lenten tradition. Thank you to Savannah, Michael, Ellie, Estevan, Brenna, Elysandra, Trent, Henry, Cristian, Dominic, Claire, and Silvano. I would also like to thank Sara Hainley, Shawna Parra, and Vera Skovierova for helping with food for the Soup Supper.



ST. AGATHA MONTHLY BULLETIN



OUR MISSION

Saint Agatha Parish is centered on the living Word of God and Christ's Eucharistic presence in the Liturgy. We are committed to evangelization through Catholic education and faith formation. By spreading the Good News of God's love and salvation, we

encourage adherence to the greatest commandments: love of God and neighbor. We welcome new disciples to the Catholic Church and promote the culture of life, peace and justice.

MONTHLY GATHERINGS

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Join us every Tuesday at 6:30pm in the Adoration Chapel for our Devotions to Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The Society of St Vincent de Paul St Agatha Conference continues to help serve our neighbors in need. Do you know of someone needing (food, rent or utility) assistance? Call St Vincent de Paul (503-235-8431) so that we can be a sign of God's love to the suffering and poor who live among us. We meet the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm in the Parish Center.

Monthly Suggested Donation: Paper Towels

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We meet on Thursday mornings weekly in the Parish Office beginning at 6:45am for fellowship, breakfast and discussions.

SEIWAKAN JUDO

Monday 5:30pm; Tuesday 6pm; Wednesday 5:30pm; Thursday 6:30pm; Friday 6pm; Saturday 10am in the Parish Hall Gym. For information call 503-756-6446

CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE

April 7—Shannon Ellison & Brian Corey
April 21—Molly Scrutton & Patti Dewey

GIVE ONLINE TODAY!

Would you like to make your donations online? Visit our website www.stagathaportland.com and select "Support Our Mission"

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWSLETTER

Stay informed and connected! Sign up for our at www.archdpdx.org/newsletter to receive the latest news, updates, and events from across the archdiocese!



ADORATION CHAPEL

Looking for a quiet moment? Come visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and experience His real presence. If you can't spend an hour, just drop by! Monday through Friday 6am—8pm

Have a Prayer Request or Need a Pastoral Visit?

Contact us for a prayer request at stagathaprayerline@gmail.com

SCRIPTURE READINGS

April 20, 2025

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:34a,37-43

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel Reading: John 20:1-9

LECTORS

April 17	7pm	Peggy Spencer
April 18	Noon	John Meyer
April 18	7pm	Lauren Loosveldt/John Snyder
April 19	8:30pm	Pat & Ben Dieringer
April 20	8:30am	Lauren Loosveldt
	10:30am	Pat Hainley

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

April	6	\$ 5,920
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MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

April 12	Saturday
8:30am	Pastor's Intentions
5pm	†Fr. Nathan Zodrow
13	Sunday – Palm Sunday
8:30am	Joe & Shirley Dasso "Birthdays"*
10:30am	Missa pro populo
12:30pm	Pastor's Intentions
14	Monday – No Morning Mass
15	Tuesday
8:30am	Kathleen Weismandel
16	Wednesday
8:30am	†Brady Carlson
17	Thursday – Holy Thursday
8:30am	†Monica Weimer
7pm	Pastor's Intentions
18	Friday – Good Friday
7pm	Communion Service
19	Saturday – Holy Saturday
8:30pm	†Mary O'Toole
20	Sunday
8:30am	Missa pro Populo
10:30am	†John Gibney
12:30pm	Pastor's Intentions

* **Joe & Shirley Dasso** long time St. Agatha Parishioners are celebrating their birthdays (Joe turned 93 and Shirley 91! They met while attending St. Agatha school in 1947 and married in 1955. Joe was a long-time usher at the 8:30 Mass and Shirley was involved with the Altar Society. They are homebound now and Father Luan visits them often. They are delightful couple and we wanted to wish them both "Happy Birthday"!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

- 12 Weekday Mass, 8:30am – Church
Candle Workshop, 10am – Parish Hall
Seiwakan Judo, 10am – Hall Gym
Weekly Reconciliation, 3:30pm – Church
Saturday Vigil Mass, 5pm – Church
- 13 Palm Sunday Mass, 8:30 & 10:30am – Church
Coffee & Donuts, 9:30am – Parish Hall
1st Communion Class, 10:30am – SFR
Palm Sunday Latin Mass, 12:30pm – Church
- 14 School After-Care, 3pm – Parish Hall
Seiwakan Judo, 5:30pm – Hall Gym
- 15 Weekday Mass, 8:30am – Church
School After-Care, 3pm – Parish Hall
Seiwakan Judo, 6pm – Hall Gym
NP Big Band Rehearsal, 6:30pm – Parish Hall
Weekly Devotions, 6:30pm – Chapel
- 16 School Mass, 8:30am – Church
School After-Care, 2pm – Parish Hall
Seiwakan Judo, 5:30pm – Hall Gym
Communion & Liberation, 7pm – Parish Center
- 17 Men's Bible Study, 6:45am – Parish Center
Weekday Mass, 8:30am - Church
School-led Stations, 2pm – Church
School After-Care, 3pm – Parish Hall
Seiwakan Judo, 6:30pm – Hall Gym
Holy Thursday Mass, 7pm – Church
- 18 Stations of the Cross, Noon – Church
Walking Stations, 3pm – Meet on Church Steps
Music Ministry Rehearsal, 4:30pm – Church
Veneration Service, 7pm – Church
- 19 Easter Vigil Mass, 8:30pm – Church
- 20 Easter Sunday Mass, 8:30 & 10:30am – Church
Coffee & Donuts, 9:30am – Parish Hall
Easter Latin Mass, 12:30pm – Church

RESPECT LIFE – Safe Haven Laws in the U.S. allow a parent to relinquish their unharmed infant to a designated Safe Haven provider within a specific time after birth. The National Safe Haven Alliance equips Safe Haven providers and parents with safe alternatives that prevent infant abandonment while providing holistic care for both parents and babies. The National Safe Haven Alliance ensures every parent is given support, resources and opportunity to create a safe post-birth plan for their baby. For immediate assistance, call or text the 24/7 Safe Haven Crisis Helpline at 1-888-510-BABY.



ASCEND AND THE MISSION OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION

ASCEND's vision is to share the beauty, goodness, and truth of Catholic education with families who want it for their children but cannot afford it. Operating independently within the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon and under the leadership of Archbishop Sample, ASCEND provides tuition assistance regardless of a family's location or chosen Catholic school. For more information visit www.ascend-cseforegon.org

Are you single and over age 55? **SOLO SENIORS** is a catholic-based social organization, for single men and women over age 55 in the greater Portland area. It primarily provides social and recreational programs in a safe and friendly environment for its members. For more call Donna Dubinski at 503 246-6536.

COFFEE & DONUTS -- We would like to encourage you to join us every Sunday after the 8:30 and 10:30 Masses for fellowship in the Parish Hall. You don't need to even like coffee or donuts to come to say "Hello" and help strengthen our church community. Everyone is welcome!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Information and membership or questions visit www.kofc7388.org



CYO / CAMP HOWARD

Summer Camp and Track & Field Registration is open! For information and registrations visit www.cyocamphoward.org



SMOKE & SPIRITS COMMUNITIES

Smoke & Spirits groups bring together Christ following men for genuine conversations about spiritual, social, and relational matters, all while enjoying fine whiskey and a good cigar. Founded in 2019, they have expanded from a single group in Oregon to multiple gatherings across the country, each dedicated to fostering authenticity, vulnerability, and growth in their walk with Christ. The mission is to create environments where men can be real, moldable, trusted, committed, and servant-hearted. Join a brotherhood today at www.smokeandspirits.org

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

Question: What is the name for the short stories Jesus would tell to teach a spiritual lesson based on familiar life experiences?

Answer: Parables

Question: What is the official name for the seats inside of a church used by the general congregation?

Answer: Pews

Question: What year marked the first time that Catholics in the United States were allowed to receive the Eucharist in their hands?

Answer: 1977



NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

(please complete and place in the collection basket)

Name: _____
Phone: _____
Address: _____
Email: _____



Holy Week & Easter Mass Schedule



Call Karen in the Parish Office for questions.

Holy Thursday – April 17

- Mass at 7pm
 - This includes the Rite of Reception of the Holy Oils, procession of the Holy Eucharist, and silent adoration in the church

Good Friday – April 18

- Stations of the Cross at Noon
 - This includes the Stations of the Cross and musical setting of *The Seven Last Words of Christ*
- Way of the Cross at 3pm
 - Sponsored by Communion & Liberation. A walking pilgrimage around Sellwood, containing scripture, meditations and music to reflect on the passion and death of Jesus. The pilgrimage will begin and end in front of St. Agatha and last about half an hour.
- Liturgy of Good Friday – Service @ 7pm
 - Celebration of the Lord's Passion with Veneration of the Cross
 - This includes the Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion.

Easter Vigil – April 19

- Mass at 8:30pm
 - This includes the Blessing of Fire and Easter Proclamation, Liturgy of the Word, and Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Easter Sunday – April 20

- Mass at 8:30am, 10:30am, and 12:30pm (Latin)



St. Agatha Parish and School Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday, April 20th



10:00 am



Thrifty Cottage Lawn

All parish and school children welcome.

10 eggs will contain a free dress pass!

The hunt will happen rain or shine.





ST. AGATHA

— Est. 1911 —

Catholic School

SING OUT EARTH AND SKIES



A FUNDRAISER FOR
THE MUSIC PROGRAM
AT ST. AGATHA
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SATURDAY, MAY 3RD
AT 2PM
\$20 SUGGESTED
DONATION



ST. AGATHA CHURCH,
PORTLAND, OR





You have the power to transform thousands of lives today with a gift to the Archbishop's Catholic Appeal.

- You help seminarians grow in faith as they discern God's call.
- You care for the senior priests who have faithfully served us.
- You bring Christ to others through religious education and small faith-sharing groups.
- You nurture the faith, minds, and hearts of students in our Catholic schools.

Each year, more than 11,000 donors come together to support this mission. **Will you join us?** For more information, visit <https://osd.archdpdx.org/aca>. Pledge weekend will be April 26th and 27th.

Your dedication and faithful generosity ensure that Christ's love reaches every corner of western Oregon. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and for supporting the Archbishop's Catholic Appeal!



BROTHERHOOD OF PRIESTS

- Seminarian Education & Support
- Promotion of Vocations
- Housing and medical expenses of our retired priests



CATHOLIC EDUCATION

- Mission passionate Catholic education
- Tuition Assistance
- Maintain and improve facilities



PARISH SUPPORT

- Adult Faith Formation
- Youth Ministry
- RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)
- General Operations



OTHER PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES

- Pastoral Conferences and Councils
- Sacramental Records
- Evangelization



430,687
CATHOLICS SERVED
BY THE ARCHDIOCESE

30
SEMINARIANS



148
PARISHES
& MISSIONS



50
RETIRED
PRIESTS

11,000
STUDENTS ENROLLED IN
CATHOLIC EDUCATION

