



ST. PHILIP BENIZI CATHOLIC CHURCH

August 14, 2022

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



PARISH INFORMATION

18211 S Henrici RD
Oregon City OR 97045
PHONE: 503-631-2882
FAX: 503-631-7443

EMAIL:
stphilipbenizi_redland@archdpx.org

Pastor: Fr. Paschal Ezurike

Email: pezurike@archdpx.org

Parish Staff

Business Manager: Mary Pattyn
503-631-2882

mpattyn@archdpx.org

Secretary: Sherrie Havens
503-631-2882

shavens@archdpx.org

RE Director: Melissa Payne
503-631-2882

mpayne.81441@gmail.com

Music Director: Debbie Schaffer
(C) 503-887-7701

Youth Minister: Katy Schnoor
(C) 503-314-8907

Pastoral Council President:

Matt Anderson

Administrative Council Chair:

Dan Sweeney

Adoration: Janet Tankersley
(C) 503-545-2229

Minister Volunteer Coordinators

Altar Servers: Don Payne
(H) 503-632-4370

Prayer Requests: Peggy St Andre
503-631-3531

Email Prayer Chain: Heather Hannam
hahannam@juno.com

“Do you think that I have come to establish peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division.” (Luke 12:51)

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm Mass
Sunday - 8:00am & 10:30am Mass
Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri - 8am Mass
Tuesday - 6:30pm Mass

RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays – 4:00-5:00pm or by Appointment

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Thursdays – 8:30am-10pm *(ends with Benediction)*

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

If you or someone you know is homebound, wants to receive Communion or the Sacrament of Anointing, please call the parish office, 503-631-2882.

Baptisms: Call the Parish Office.

Funerals: Call the Parish Office.

Weddings: Call Fr. Paschal at least 6 months in advance of the planned date.

St. Philip Benizi Website: www.philipbenizi.com

God is good, all the time! All the time, God is good!

Dear friends in Christ, on the first Sunday of this month, we beamed our reflection searchlight on being attentive to the voice of the Good Shepherd and the willingness to accept him without reservation in our hearts. It is worth mentioning that, lending our ears, and accepting him wholeheartedly never go unrewarded. Last week's words of encouragement took their bearing from the Gospel that dwelt on the warning from Christ, "Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like the servant who awaits their master's return, to open when he comes and knocks." (Luke 12:34).

Since the master's return would be unexpected, God's children should be prudent, diligent, and awake like a worthy sentinel to open the door and welcome the master as soon as the doorbell rings. Those who are found doing what the Lord asks us to do will receive eternal rewards while those who think they are more intelligent than God will receive eternal punishment. So, as God's chosen and prudent servants, it is incumbent on us to stay awake and be ready for the master's coming which will happen like a bolt from the blue.

The opening prayer of today's liturgy prepares a smooth takeoff and comfortable landing of the words of exhortation. "O God, who have prepared for those who love you good things which no eye can see, fill our hearts, we pray, with the warmth of your love, so that, loving you in all things and above all things, we may attain your promises, which surpass every human desire." Good things that are incomprehensible to man await those who unreservedly love the Truth (Jesus Christ) because God knows more than we do. We are finite, and the things we consider best for us might be the least in God's verdict. When we love him the way he wants us to, we will not need to engage in profound betrayal when the enemies of truth challenge or intimidate us. The opening prayer links us to the first reading from Prophet Jeremiah.

At a particular time in history, during the reign of King Zedekiah, Jeremiah prophesied, proclaiming a message from God (the duty of a prophet) which enraged the princes who claimed that Jeremiah was demoralizing the soldiers who were still left in the city. Jeremiah had announced, "This city shall certainly be handed over to the army of the King of Babylon; he shall capture it." (Jeremiah 38:3). His prophecy conflicted with the military strategies of the princes, who brought their accusations against him to Zedekiah. The verdict was against Jeremiah; and instead of his earlier suggested execution, they threw him into a muddy cistern, intending to make him a humiliating spectacle whose prophetic word would be ridiculed. Luckily, Jeremiah was released from prison with the intervention of Ebedmelech, a court official.

The great lesson in this story is that his suppression and oppression notwithstanding, Jeremiah continued with his prophetic role from God. No mortal excesses deterred him "To root up and to tear down, to destroy and to demolish, to build and to plant." (Jeremiah 1: 4). He showcased that pitching our tent with God, the source of truth, should be pivotal than succumbing to the sugar-coated promises of mortal men.

Jeremiah preferred to be in the mud, starve and die in the cistern than to abandon his anointed role to speak for God. We are either for God and reap the benefits or sell down the river by compromising the truth. The Psalmist assures us that God comes to our rescue amid the persecutions that confront His chosen ones. He hears our cries, draws us out of the pit of destruction, and destroys all the snares of the foes. He is our ultimate help and deliverer; therefore, we must obey him rather than mortal men.

The letter to the Hebrews urges the audience to fix their eyes on Jesus Christ at every moment, especially when they are enduring suffering for his sake. This urgent call also applies to us in the 21st century. Since persecutions of various degrees are inevitably possible from family members, co-workers, peers, supervisors and supervisees, church members, and those who stand for Truth, our sure consolation and sustenance come because we are fixed/focused on Truth, Jesus Christ. Speaking and standing for Christ come with imaginable and unimaginable consequences; however, it is by professing the Truth amid the challenges that we confront them. We need to speak and stand for the Truth because many souls are perishing because of ignorance. "My people perish due to lack of knowledge." (Hosea 4:6). Truth upsets evil minds and thwarts their ways. As a result, they ploy many avenues to oppose it.

Also, as witnesses, one of our most significant burdens is sin. Sin hinders our smooth race to God; running the spiritual race with the weight of sin is arduous and painful. As a result, our faith journey's speed is drastically impeded. Consequently, as we fight persecutors, we must rid ourselves of sin's encumbrances that prevent us from making substantial progress.

Continued on Page 7

This week at SPB and Upcoming Parish/Archdiocesan Events

Sunday, 8/14/2022

8:00am Mass: Denise Shea (Mary & Josh Pattyn)

10:30am Mass: All Parishioners

Monday, 8/15/2022 Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church

8:00am Mass: +Tony Setera (Mary Lou Silvander)

Tuesday, 8/16/2022

6:30pm Mass: +Jacquie Bothman

Wednesday, 8/17/2022

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church

8:00am Mass: +Helen Watts (Dale & Kim McGriff)

Thursday, 8/18/2022

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church

8:00am Mass: +Earl & Lucille Zak
(Todd & Heather Zak)

7:00pm: Faith Sharing via Zoom

8:30am-10:00pm:
Eucharistic Adoration 

Friday, 8/19/2022

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church

8:00am Mass: +Mary Lou Denman
(Dale & Kim McGriff)

Saturday, 8/20/2022

4:00-5:00pm: Reconciliation/Church

5:30pm Mass: All Parishioners

Sunday, 8/21/2022

8:00am: **NO MASS**

10:30am Mass: +Lila Lee Gadbois
(Joel & Darby Bender)

August 13th: Happy Birthday Fr. Paschal! 
August 21st: Parish Picnic
 after 10:30 Mass/Hall (No 8am Mass that day)
August 22nd-26th: Vacation Bible School
 9-12:00/Hall

**“Monumental
Celebrating God’s Greatness”**

is the theme for this years Vacation Bible School August 22nd-26th 9:00-Noon
 Kindergarten to 5th grade are welcome. Cost: \$20 per child (Scholarships available). Register online at the link on the website. Or pick up a registration form at the side door of the Church and bring it to the office.

Calling all kids preschool - 12th grade, it is time to register for Religious Education. Please register by September 4th. Forms are at the side door and in the office. Classes will begin September 11th. Volunteer teachers are needed. If you have questions or would like to volunteer contact Melissa, mpayne.81441@gmail.com.

**The Parish Picnic is next Sunday
Remember, there is no 8am Mass on 8/21**

Come for food, games and fellowship. August 21st starting after the 10:30 Mass. Buster’s BBQ will provide the meat. There are still food tags in the basket at the side door of the Church. Take a tag and bring the food item to the picnic. There will be games for the kids, bingo and fun for the whole family.
 Hope to see you at the picnic. 

Archbishop Releases Diocesan Synod Results
 See the bulletin board for the full report.

16th Annual Rosary Bowl NW
 Come pray with us! A Marian and Eucharistic Celebration: Saturday, Oct. 1, 2022
 9am-3pm
 East Salem Community Center. Free Admission, free parking (A free will offering will be taken). See flyer on the bulletin board. (www.RosaryBowlNW.org)

Finance Corner

Registered Household 218	WEEK OF 8/07/2022	
	Actual	Budget
Donors 32	\$4,129 (online: \$1,011)	\$6,074
Fiscal Year	\$23,731	\$25,888

Ushers

8/20~5:30pm: Volunteer
 8/21~10:30am: Kevin Horace

Next Weeks Assignments

Lector/Commentator

Heather Hannam
 Dan Sweeney

August Church Cleaners: Janet Tankersly (503-545-2229)

August Altar Linens: Alice Bechtold (971-219-0011)



8/21 9:00: No 8am Mass
11:30: Parish Picnic



A House Divided

One of the heaviest burdens people are forced to carry is the distress of “a house divided.” When Abraham Lincoln said “a house divided against itself cannot stand,” he was referring to the division within the country during the Civil War. We experience a similar, though not as lethal, separation when our two-party system of government engenders obstinate division—not merely acceptable political diversity. Perhaps the most heartbreaking example of a house divided is a family in which members are alienated from each other.

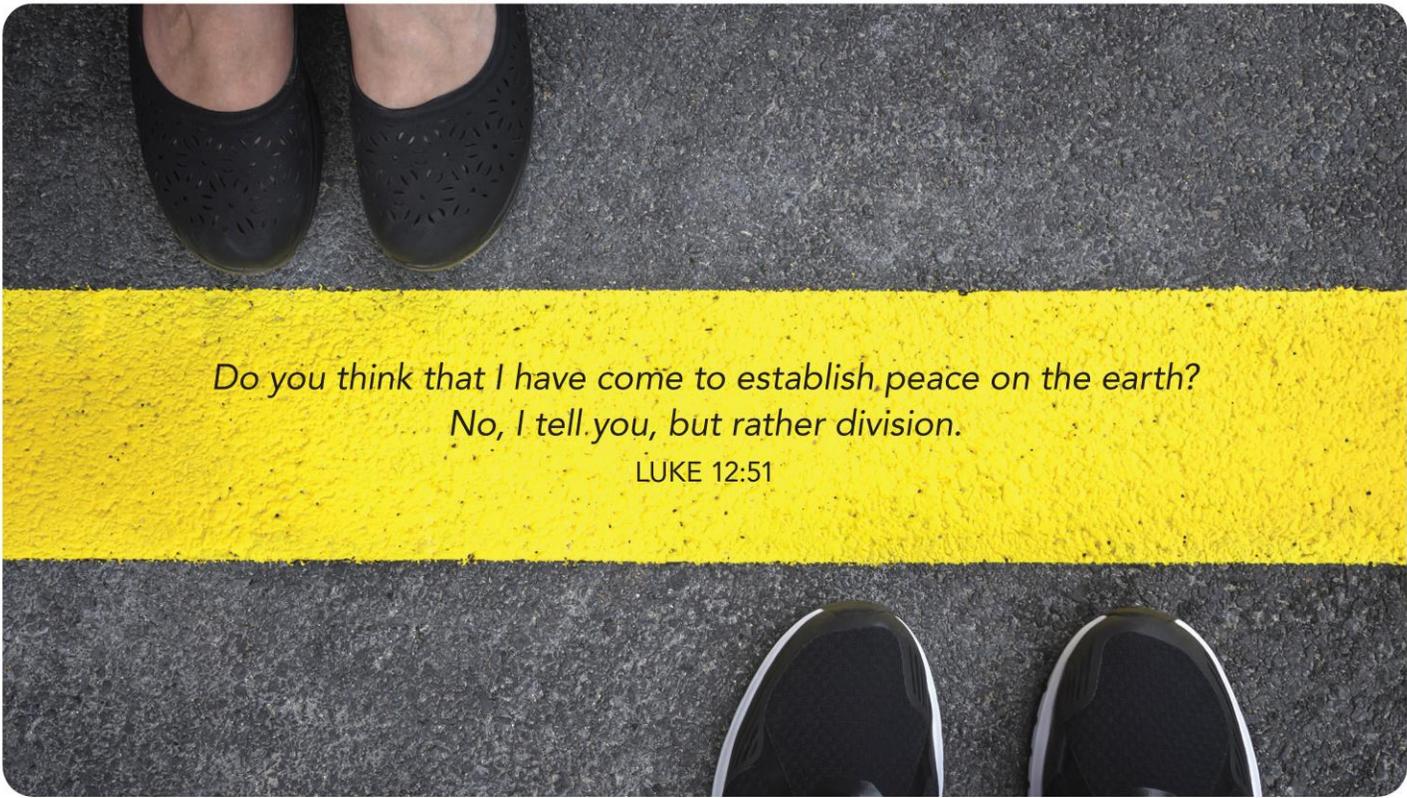
There are as many reasons for family division as there are families. Reasons include the betrayal of one member by another, inheritance disparity, parental favoritism, sibling rivalry, to name a few. One might think that those involved should be able to resolve such differences—after all, isn’t blood thicker than water? On the other hand, how are serious family rifts to be repaired if the reason for division is one’s faith or commitment to God? That is the situation that Jesus describes today.

We might wonder how faith in God can tear families apart. It often happens when someone leaves the religion of one’s family and converts to another tradition. This might be judged as a betrayal of the family’s values. This may be what many of Jesus’ Jewish followers faced when they claimed that Jesus fulfilled their religious expectations while other family members did not share their belief. That was a terrible price to have to pay for fidelity to their faith, but they paid it.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

✦ *What steps might you take to heal a family rift? What’s keeping you from taking them?*



*Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth?
No, I tell you, but rather division.*

LUKE 12:51

Dear Padre,

A friend told me not to worry about salvation because we're predestined to be saved or condemned. Why try to be a good person if God has already decided where I'll end up?

The idea that some people are predestined to be saved and others are damned is contrary to Catholic teaching.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says that “when therefore [God] establishes his eternal plan of ‘predestination,’ he *includes in it each person’s free response to his grace*” (600; emphasis added).

The *Catechism* (1038) also cites the parable of the separation of the sheep from the goats, in which the sheep and goats are separated not randomly, but based on their actions: “When the Son of Man comes in his glory...all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father’....And [those on the left] will go off to eternal punishment” (Matthew 25:31–46).

God wants to save all people. The way we respond to God’s gift of salvation is called *free will*. Unfortunately, not everyone accepts that gift.

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Jesus says, “I came to bring division.” It is not that Jesus wishes to split people up....Following Jesus entails giving up evil and selfishness and choosing good, truth, and justice, even when this demands sacrifice and the renunciation of our own interests. And this indeed divides; as we know, it even cuts the closest ties.

ANGELUS, AUGUST 18, 2013

Calendar

Monday

AUGUST 15

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Rv 11:19a;

12:1–6a, 10ab

1 Cor 15:20–27

Lk 1:39–56

Tuesday

AUGUST 16

Weekday

Ez 28:1–10

Mt 19:23–30

Wednesday

AUGUST 17

Weekday

Ez 34:1–11

Mt 20:1–16

Thursday

AUGUST 18

Weekday

Ez 36:23–28

Mt 22:1–14

Friday

AUGUST 19

Weekday

Ez 37:1–14

Mt 22:34–40

Saturday

AUGUST 20

St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

Ez 43:1–7ab

Mt 23:1–12

Sunday

AUGUST 21

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 66:18–21

Heb 12:5–7, 11–13

Lk 13:22–30

Salt of the earth and light of the world

You are the salt of the earth. It is not for your own sake, he says, but for the world's sake that the word is entrusted to you. I am not sending you into two cities only or ten or twenty, not to a single nation, as I sent the prophets of old, but across land and sea, to the whole world. And that world is in a miserable state. For when he says: *You are the salt of the earth*, he is indicating that all mankind had lost its savor and had been corrupted by sin. Therefore, he requires of these men those virtues which are especially useful and even necessary if they are to bear the burdens of many. For the man who is kindly, modest, merciful and just will not keep his good works to himself but will see to it that these admirable fountains send out their streams for the good of others. Again, the man who is clean of heart, a peacemaker and ardent for truth will order his life so as to contribute to the common good.

Do not think, he says, that you are destined for easy struggles or unimportant tasks. *You are the salt of the earth.* What do these words imply? Did the disciples restore what had already turned rotten? Not at all. Salt cannot help what is already corrupted. That is not what they did. But what had first been renewed and freed from corruption and then turned over to them, they salted and preserved in the newness the Lord had bestowed. It took the power of Christ to free men from the corruption caused by sin; it was the task of the apostles through strenuous labor to keep that corruption from returning.

Have you noticed how, bit by bit, Christ shows them to be superior to the prophets? He says they are to be teachers not simply for Palestine but for the whole world. Do not be surprised, then, he says, that I address you apart from the others and involve you in such a dangerous enterprise. Consider the numerous and extensive cities, peoples and nations I will be sending you to govern. For this reason, I would have you make others prudent, as well as being prudent yourselves. For unless you can do that, you will not be able to sustain even yourselves.

If others lose their savor, then your ministry will help them regain it. But if you yourselves suffer that loss, you will drag others down with you. Therefore, the greater the undertakings put into your hands, the more zealous you must be. For this reason, he says: *But if the salt becomes tasteless, how can its flavor be restored? It is good for nothing now, but to be thrown out and trampled by men's feet.*

When they hear the words: *When they curse you and persecute you and accuse you of every evil*, they may be afraid to come forward. Therefore, he says, "Unless you are prepared for that sort of thing, it is in vain that I have chosen you. Curses shall necessarily be your lot, but they shall not harm you and will simply be a testimony to your constancy. If through fear, however, you fail to show the forcefulness your mission demands, your lot will be much worse, for all will speak evil of you and despise you. That is what being trampled by men's feet means."

Then he passes on to a more exalted comparison: *You are the light of the world.* Once again, "of the world": not of one nation or twenty cities, but of the whole world. The light he means is an intelligible light, far superior to the rays of the sun we see, just as the salt is a spiritual salt. First salt, then light, so that you may learn how profitable sharp words may be and how useful serious doctrine. Such teaching holds in check and prevents dissipation; it leads to virtue and sharpens the mind's eye. *A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor do men light a lamp and put it under a basket.* Here again he is urging them to a careful manner of life and teaching them to be watchful, for they live under the eyes of all and have the whole world for the arena of their struggles.

(From a homily on Matthew by Saint John Chrysostum, bishop)

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

"Truth is not an idea; it is Jesus Christ. Sticking with Jesus should be our priority, even if the decision is unpalatable with family members and associates. Loyalty to the Truth unites, while disloyalty separates. Therefore, God's children should refrain from compromising the truth and firmly pitch their tent with the Divine rather than with fellow sinful human beings."

--- Fr. Paschal Ezurike.

St. Philip Benizi Mission Statement

St. Philip Benizi Catholic Church being part of the universal church shares in its mission: to proclaim Jesus Christ who came to the world to fulfill His father's will; by proclaiming the kingdom of God, building up the parish community as a witness to God's love and care for the world, helping one another to become what God has called us to be. We are therefore encouraged to work toward God's purpose of "wanting all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth." (1 Tim 2:4).

Those to Whom Ecclesiastical Funerals May Be Granted.

- 14.3.1 Deceased members of the Catholic faithful must be given ecclesiastical funerals according to the norm of law.
- 14.3.2 In the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon a priest or minister may not refuse funeral rites for a Catholic without the permission of the local Ordinary.
- 14.3.3 When it concerns funerals, catechumens must be counted among the Catholic faithful.
- 14.3.4 Manifest sinners can be granted ecclesiastical funerals in cases where there will not be a public scandal of the faithful (for example, persons in irregular marriages).
- 14.3.5 The current Code of Canon Law does not prohibit an ecclesiastical funeral for someone who dies by suicide and the Order of Christian Funerals makes provision for such person. For the purpose of arranging a funeral, a victim of suicide should be treated in the same manner as someone who dies of an untreated or incurable illness.
- 14.3.6 Those who have expressed in some way their desire to receive Baptism, even though they have not been received formally into the catechumenate, may be counted as catechumens, since they would have been entitled to Baptism in danger of death.
- 14.3.7 The local ordinary can permit children whom the parents intended to baptize but who died before Baptism to be given ecclesiastical funerals. Moreover, in the Archdiocese of Portland, pastors and parochial vicars have the faculty to "allow Church funeral rites for an unbaptized child whose parents had intended to have the child baptized." The Order of Christian Funerals provides special prayers to be used in these circumstances.

Continued from page 2.

Jesus says in the Gospel that he has come to set the earth on fire and how he wished that it was already burning. Jesus is setting the world on fire with his message of love and truth. The fire of the Holy Spirit will ignite a passion that motivates and fortifies those faithful to him to witness the truth and live love without fear or intimidation. The fire will also cleanse us of our impurities and inadequacies. He also said, "Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division." (Luke 12: 51). Division in the sense that people may decide to go their separate ways, not God's way. Not following the way, the truth, and the life means not following Jesus Christ, which is equivalent to division. We have the freedom to choose to be with Jesus, who is the way, truth, and life, or to pathways with him.

Today, the division is noticeable and rife among God's children. The premier and, simultaneously, a significant cause of division is Jesus' Gospel. In this passage, Jesus addresses all of us and warns us of the consequences of following him. Also, he challenges us not to choose what we want because our choice shows whether we wish for peace or division.

Sticking with Jesus should be our priority, even if the decision rocks the boat and brings division among family members, friends, and acquaintances. Loyalty to the Truth unites, while division separates; it is more rewarding to pitch our tent with the Divine than with fellow sinful human beings.

Undoubtedly, loyalty to Christ (Truth) exacerbates the possibility of persecuting soldiers of Christ by Christ's antagonists/non-believers. Holding on to the eternal word of God like Jeremiah and other holy men and women should be our desire despite the consequences.

As God's chosen children, we should know that our vocation compels us to choose God before others, commandments before our political manifesto, and the Church before our political party. In addition, to choose God before our political leaders/godfathers, money (idolatry), truth, and not big or small lies. Let us refrain from compromising the truth and be determined to face the consequences of standing for the truth.

Remember, the closer we are to God, the better for us.

Blessings, Your servant in Christ, Fr. Paschal Ezurike.



FINANCE of AMERICA
- MORTGAGE™ -

f: 855-564-6079
c: 503-317-5464
marina.logue@financeofamerica.com
famadvisor.com/marinalogue

Marina Logue
Mortgage Advisor
NMLS-1620811



Featured Listing!



Milwaukie - Move-in ready!
Beautifully updated ranch on quiet
cul-de-sac! Offered at \$499,000!

Serving the St. Philip Benizi
Community for over 30 years!

Larry & Nancy Carnahan

Principal Brokers | Licensed in Oregon

Call or email us today with all of your
real estate needs:

(503) 804-6029

Nancy@VenturesRealtyGroup.com



Space Available
Advertise here!
Call 503-631-2882



MARINA LOGUE

503-317-5464

marina498@comcast.net

Change your water

Change your life

Free Water Demo

Call for Appointment



DR. RAINI SPITZE, D.D.S.

18221 S. Redland Rd. 503-631-2353
Oregon City, OR 97045 www.redlandfamilydental.com

**REDLAND
LEARNING CENTER**

Excellence in early childhood education

Daily Preschool
Ages 3-5

503-956-1745



DENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATES

Family Dentistry

Marc F. Bianco, DMD

1133 SE 122nd Ave. • Portland, OR 97233

(503) 252-1722 • www.biancodentistry.com



Council 2325

Knights of Columbus
Dr. John McLoughlin Council 2325,
Oregon City
Catholic Men Serving Our Church
and Communities. For More
information about us, please
contact: David Beaty (503) 632-
3941 or Joel Bender (503) 310-3367
or go to: kofc.org/joinus

REDLAND-CONSTRUCTION.com

Local Contractor

Outbuildings
Home Remodels
Decks and more...



CCB# 225341

Local References
(503) 908-3267

Mater Dei
RADIO

88.3 FM



**Clear Creek
Communications**

**YOUR LOCAL CHOICE
FOR QUALITY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
SERVICES**

voice • video • internet • security



(503) 631-2101

www.ccmtc.com

18238 S. Fischers Mill Road, Oregon City, OR 97045-9696