



Pentecost Sunday - May 19, 2013

Mission Statement

We proclaim Christ's healing compassion in downtown Portland. Through prayer and service, we welcome all people to nurture community, restore hope and share in God's persistent love.



An Apostolate of the
Congregation of Holy Cross

A Parish of the
Archdiocese
of Portland



Our Parish Prayer

O God of our longing, we stand at your door yearning to be received as we are. We are people searching for a home and recovery from our addictions. We are people suffering from illnesses of mind and body. We are rich and poor and always in need of one another. Open your generous love to all who ache for your grace and companionship.

Hear the prayers of our hearts that sound from the streets and burden our lives. Relieve our hunger for hope. Through the intercession of Blessed Basil Moreau and Saint André Bessette, we ask your healing in the promise of Jesus, the Christ, your Son, living now and forever. Amen

Dear Believers,

Thank you, dear friends, for welcoming me here on March 13, 2002 when I felt homeless in the Church. Thank you for being patient with me as I unpacked my fear in our early days together. Thank you for carrying my grief from my mother's death in 2004 and celebrating my priesthood anniversary in 2008.

Thank you for reading the scriptures and serving the Eucharist so that we can all find our home in God. Thank you for singing the hymns and psalms at Mass that can be heard in the streets. Thank you for praying on your knees for the healing of our community and the ongoing suffering of our world. Thank you for those of you who offered your life in Baptism as I poured ancient waters across your brow and anointed your heads with oil.

Thank you for the times we sat together in conversation or in the confessional when only our silence could stop the tears. Thank you for entrusting me with your stories and your sins. Thank you for showing me that God heals our pasts. Thank you for presenting your open hands and your naked foreheads to be anointed in the sacrament of the sick. Thank you for waiting in line for me to mark your forehead with ashes in Lent. Thank you for processing on Good Friday to kiss the cross that still marks our souls. Thank you for receiving the Bread of Hope from me even on days when love eluded you. Thank you for all the ways we have shared our communion with one another.

Thank you for processing with me to the streets to pray for the murdered. Thank you for the many times we prayed for peace on concrete. Thank you for the blankets you donated because faith compelled you. Thank you for the white socks, underwear, food and time you donated when it was a struggle for you. Thank you for welcoming the stranger in us all. Thank you for accepting people with mental illness as your brother or sister. Thank you for relieving the loneliness of urban poverty. Thank you for believing that addictions do not completely define us. Thank you for showing me that our common poverty reveals true communion and our common reliance on Jesus Christ.

Thank you for your love that unsheltered my heart. Thank you for teaching me how write articles and use a computer. Thank you for compelling me to publish books about your stories. Thank you for more than I needed. Thank you, Fr. Bob and Fr. Steve. Thank you members of the staff throughout the years.

Thank you, with love and forever peace.

Fr. Ron

