

Lent



oaks parish

Our Mission

To abide in Christ Jesus for the renewal of all things.

Our Core Values

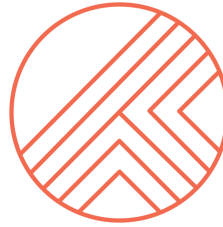
Gospel of Grace



The gospel of grace is the foundation of everything we are and do at Oaks Parish.

At Oaks Parish, we experience holistic flourishing through the person and work of Christ. The death and resurrection of Christ has redeemed us individually, and collectively as a church; we try to mirror that grace in all we do.

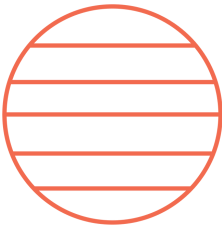
Faithful Presence



We are committed to Portland and aspire to be a church woven into the fabric

of the city. Oaks Parish is a uniquely welcoming and inclusive place. We greet our neighbors, friends, families, and co-workers with infectious hospitality, faithfully showing the love of Jesus in Portland.

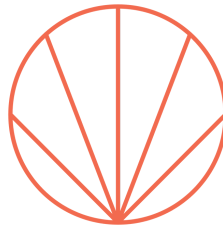
Formative Rhythms



The rhythms of our life shape our character, and at Oaks Parish we anchor our

practices in Scripture and the historical church. Our liturgical and expressive practice of gathered worship on Sunday pervades and shapes our rhythms of prayer, study of Scripture, and gatherings throughout the week. This process of intentional formation, or discipleship, shapes us to be more like Jesus.

Extended Family



Oaks Parish is intensely relational. We strive to live together as a diverse,

multi-generational extended family—not just on Sunday, but throughout the week. We share our stories and how God is redeeming them even as we work, play, and serve together. We want everyone to experience being known and loved in Christ.

Quotes for Reflection

Simone Weil, Gravity and Grace

Waiting patiently in expectation is the foundation of the spiritual life.

Charles Spurgeon, Morning & Evening

'Stand Still'-keep the posture of an upright man, ready for action, expecting further orders, cheerfully and patiently awaiting the directing voice; and it will not be long ere God shall say to you, as distinctly as Moses said it to the people of Israel, 'Go Forward.' If the Lord makes us wait, let us do so with our whole hearts; for blessed are all they that wait for him. He is worth waiting for. The waiting itself is beneficial to us: it tries faith, exercises patience, trains submission, and endears the blessing when it comes. The Lord's people have always been a waiting people.

Julian of Norwich, The Complete Julian of Norwich edited by Father John-Julian, OJN

When we are fallen because of frailty or blindness, then our gracious Lord inspires us, stirs us and calls us, and then he wills that we see our wretchedness and humbly let it be acknowledged. But He does not wish us to remain thus. Nor does He will that we busy ourselves greatly about accusing ourselves, nor does He will that we be full of misery about ourselves; for He wills that we quickly attend to Him; for He stands all alone and waits for us constantly, sorrowing and mourning until we come, and hastens to take us to himself, for we are His joy and delight and He is our cure and our life.

Brevard Childs, Exodus

The giving of the law is above all a revelation of God as 'a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness ... forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin . .' This essential message of the gospel did not have to await the New Testament's proclamation, but was fundamental to the old covenant from the outset.

Call to Worship

from Psalm 43

Send out your light and your truth;
let them lead me;

**Let them bring me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling.**

Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy;

**And I will praise you with the harp,
O God, my God.**

Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?

**Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.**

Songs of Praise

Come and Rest

Have you been trying to move a mountain
and the mountain it will not move?

Have you been struggling
to remember somebody is looking out for you?

Come and rest,
come and rest,
come and rest
in the love of God.

Do you need a mother?
Do you need a father?
Oh, everybody needs a friend.
And are you looking for the way home,
do you wanna feel that peace again?

There's a time for all your working.
There's a time to put your hand to the plow.
Can you hear it,
Jesus is singing,
come and lay your burdens down!
Come and lay your burdens down,
come and lay your burdens down!

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Psalm 62

My soul finds rest in God alone,
my rock and my salvation.

A fortress strong against my foes,
and I will not be shaken.

Though lips may bless and hearts may curse,
and lies like arrows pierce me,
I'll fix my heart on righteousness,
I'll look to him who hears me.

Oh praise him hallelujah, my delight and my reward,
everlasting never failing, my redeemer my God.

Find rest my soul in God alone,
amid the world's temptations.

When evil seeks to take a hold,
I'll cling to my salvation.

Though riches come and riches go,
don't set your heart upon them,
the fields of hope in which I sow,
are harvested in heaven.

I'll set my gaze on God alone,
and trust in him completely.

With every day pour out my soul,
and he will prove his mercy.

Though life is but a fleeting breath,
a sigh too deep to measure,
my king has crushed the curse of death,
and I am his forever.

Words & Music by Aaron Keyes and Stuart Townend

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Gospel Reading

John 12:20-33 NRSV

20 Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. 21 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” 22 Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. 23 Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. 25 Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26 Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

27 “Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” 29 The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” 30 Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. 31 Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. 32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” 33 He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

Offering Prayer

Lord Jesus, because of your cross we know
that in losing our lives, we find them in you.
In this season of Lent, show us how to give
abundantly, joyfully, and faithfully.
With open hands and generous hearts,
we lay our gifts before you. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 33 NRSV

1 The Lord said to Moses, “Go, leave this place, you and the people whom you have brought up out of the land of Egypt, and go to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, ‘To your descendants I will give it.’ 2 I will send an angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanites, the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. 3 Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; but I will not go up among you, or I would consume you on the way, for you are a stiff-necked people.” 4 When the people heard these harsh words, they mourned, and no one put on ornaments. 5 For the Lord had said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘You are a stiff-necked people; if for a single moment I should go up among you, I would consume you. So now take off your ornaments, and I will decide what to do to you.’ ” 6 Therefore the Israelites stripped themselves of their ornaments, from Mount Horeb onward.

7 Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, far off from the camp; he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought the Lord would go out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp. 8 Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise and stand, each of them, at the entrance of their tents and watch Moses until he had gone into the tent. 9 When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the Lord would speak with Moses. 10 When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would rise and bow down, all of them, at the entrance of their tent. 11 Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Then he would return to the camp; but his young assistant, Joshua son of Nun, would not leave the tent.

12 Moses said to the Lord, “See, you have said to me, ‘Bring up this people’; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor

in my sight.’ 13 Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.” 14 He said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” 15 And he said to him, “If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. 16 For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.”

17 The Lord said to Moses, “I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.” 18 Moses said, “Show me your glory, I pray.” 19 And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, ‘The Lord’; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. 20 But,” he said, “you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.” 21 And the Lord continued, “See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; 22 and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; 23 then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.”

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Bryan Buck: Obedience
Postures of Discipleship

Notes

Application Questions

1. What is so hard about waiting?
2. Read through Exodus 33 and note God's designs for an intercessor. What meaning does this hold for you as you look to Jesus?
3. How does God's indwelling Spirit make obedience something we want for our lives?

Confession of Sin

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide, and too deep to undo.

Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer
bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.

Set us free from a past that we cannot change;

open us to a future in which we can be changed;

and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image;
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

John 3:16-17 NRSV

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone
who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed,
God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in
order that the world might be saved through him.

Confession of Faith

We believe in God, the father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

We believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended to heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

God With Us

You've come to bring peace,
to be love, to be nearer to us.
You've come to breathe life,
to be light, to shine brighter in us,
o Emmanuel, God with us.

Our deliverer, you are Savior,
in your presence we find our strength.
Over everything, our redemption,
God with us, you are God with us.

You've come to be hope
to this world, for your honor and name.
You've come to take sin,
to bear shame, and to conquer the grave,
o Emmanuel, God with us.

You are here, you are holy, we are standing in your glory.

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Sursum Corda

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good and right to do so.

Communion

Christ has died,

Christ has risen,

Christ will come again.

We do not dismiss in any set order, come forward when you feel ready.

Form two lines down the center aisle, return to your seats by the side aisles.

Take the elements and consume them at your seat at your discretion.

Bread is locally sourced and gluten free. Choose between red wine and white grape juice.

Be Still My Soul

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to your God, to order and provide,
In every change, he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heav'nly friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
To guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: The waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart
And all is darkened in the vale of tears,
Then shall you better know his love, his heart,
Who comes to soothe your sorrow and your fears.
Be still, my soul: your Jesus can repay
From his own fullness all he takes away.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hast'ning on
When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

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Benediction

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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Prayers for Those Not Communing

Prayer for Those Searching for the Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared confess, but through you I am more loved than I ever dared hope. Thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, enable me to see in you the fulfillment of all my true needs, and may I turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to see that your Gospel is bigger than my sin, and that your work breaks the power of sin as well as freeing me from its penalty. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and author of my faith. Amen.

oaks parish

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Oaks Parish: Get Connected

Welcome to Oaks Parish

To make our community more accessible, our worship service is available online and in person.

New Visitor Form

Thanks for joining us today - we would love to connect with you! Visit oaksparish.org/visitor and someone from our team will be in touch soon!

Sign up for the Weekly Email

Get detailed announcements right to your inbox by signing up for our weekly email at oaksparish.org.

Download the OP App

Text OaksParish App to (833) 245-5311 or search for Oaks Parish in your app store!

No Morning Prayer 3/26

We will resume our regularly scheduled morning prayer after spring break, starting back on April 5th. See you then!

Lent Resources

Download the final week of our Lenten prayer guide and activities for families at oaksparish.org/lent.

Register for Abide 2023

If you need spiritual respite or a place to process how God is working in your life, join us at the Abide Retreat, April 28-30, at Mt Angel Abbey. The retreat is open to individuals and couples. Cost ranges between \$195-\$270 per person depending on room arrangements (scholarships are available). Space is limited so register by April 10th at oaksparish.org/retreat.

Behold, Your King is Coming

Holy Week begins next Sunday, April 2nd and our daily reader will guide you through each step of Jesus' journey toward the cross. Download at oaksparish.org/lent.

Good Friday

Join us on April 7th at 7:30pm as we remember the death and burial of our Lord Jesus with a service of Scripture, song, and solemn reflection.

Easter Potluck & Egg Hunt

We'll celebrate the resurrection on April 9th with our Sunday morning liturgy at 10am. Following the service, join us for an Easter lunch potluck. We'll provide the main dish and beverages. Please bring a side dish to share. Children are invited to participate in an egg hunt after lunch.