

Christi simus, non nostri. + We belong to Christ, not ourselves.



November 29, 2020—1st Sunday of Advent

ST. COLUMBAN PARISH

506 First St. S, Yelm, WA 98597

Parish Office

360-458-3031

Hours: Monday—Thursday
9AM-12PM; 12:30-2PM

office@saintcolumbanyelm.org
www.saintcolumbanyelm.org

Mass Schedule

Sunday: 10:30AM

Saturday Vigil: 5:00PM

Daily Mass: Wednesdays 9:00AM
Rosary is said 30min prior to each Mass

Sacraments

Anointing of the Sick: By Appointment
Confession: Fridays 4:00—5:00PM

The church may be opened upon request during office hours for private prayer

Faith Formation

Offered Sundays before and after the
10:30AM Mass, depending on grade

RCIA: Tuesdays 6:30PM

Adult Education & Outreach

Contact the parish office for more information

Bible Study

Thursdays 6:30PM

Hispanic Prayer Group

Tuesdays 6:00PM

Rosary Prayer Group

Mondays 7:00PM

ST. PETER MISSION

149 Keithahn St. S, Tenino, WA 98589

Mission Office

360-264-2124

Hours: Wednesdays & Fridays
10:30AM – 2PM

gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Mass Schedule

Sunday 8:00 AM

Rosary is said 30min prior to Mass

Sacraments

Confession: Sunday 7:30 -7:45AM

Anointing of the Sick: by Appt.

Adult Education & Outreach

Contact the mission office for more information

Bible Study Thursdays 9:00AM

MISSION STATEMENT - WE ARE A CATHOLIC FAITH COMMUNITY THAT SEEKS TO PLACE GOD FIRST, TO KNOW HIM, AND TO GROW IN HOLINESS TOGETHER. WE STRIVE TO LIVE THE GOSPEL THROUGH THE EUCHARIST, IN OUR TEACHING AND WAY OF LIFE.

For emergency assistance contact Society of St. Vincent de Paul: 360-458-1904. Please leave your name, number, and details of your need.

SAINT COLUMBAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

WELCOME! Please contact the office to register as a parishioner, for questions about any announcement, how to prepare for a sacrament, schedule a funeral or Mass Intention or to update your contact information.

PARISH OFFICE: (360) 458-3031

Fr. Dean Mbuzi, *Priest Administrator*
Ext.6 frdean@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Patricia Selsor, *Bookkeeper*
Ext.2 pat@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Katie Hennigan, *Faith Formation*
Ext. 3 katie@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Chad Lucero, *Youth Ministry & Confirmation*
Ext.4 chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Jennifer Langham, *Liturgy & Admin Support*
Ext. 5 jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Chris Bixby, *Director of Music*
chrisb@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Steven Slater, St. Columban *Custodian*
steven@saintcolumbanyelm.org

ST. PETER OFFICE: (360) 264-2124

Gaby Makinster, *St. Peter Admin*
gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org



Mass Intentions

Pray for all those affected by Covid-19 and for first responders and caregivers.

December 2nd—Amanda McMayburns

In Our Prayers

Loving God, we join with others of your people here asking you to hold in Your hands Mona Guffey, Joseph Waters, Oneida Blagg, Jess and Jessica Nash, Jodi Smith, Don Troyer, Ray Wilson, Paul Hennigan, Duane Kusler, Frances & Richard Sheriff, Bob Sundstrom and all those in harm's way.

Rest in Peace: Linda Azarella, Josh McCormick, Virginia Gaynor

Financial Stewardship

St. Columban St. Peter

Weekly Goal	\$5,762	\$712
Nov. 15th	\$3,106	\$751

From a catechetical instruction by Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop

On the twofold coming of Christ

We do not preach only one coming of Christ, but a second as well, much more glorious than the first. The first coming was marked by patience; the second will bring the crown of a divine kingdom.

In general, whatever relates to our Lord Jesus Christ has two aspects. There is a birth from God before the ages, and a birth from a virgin at the fullness of time. There is a hidden coming, like that of rain on fleece, and a coming before all eyes, still in the future.

At the first coming he was wrapped in swaddling clothes in a manger. At his second coming he will be clothed in light as in a garment. In the first coming he endured the cross, despising the shame; in the second coming he will be in glory, escorted by an army of angels. We look then beyond the first coming and await the second. At the first coming we said: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord*. At the second we shall say it again; we shall go out with the angels to meet the Lord and cry out in adoration: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord*.

The Savior will not come to be judged again, but to judge those by whom he was judged. At his own judgment he was silent; then he will address those who committed the outrages against him when they crucified him and will remind them: *You did these things, and I was silent*.

His first coming was to fulfill his plan of love, to teach men by gentle persuasion. This time, whether men like it or not, they will be subjects of his kingdom by necessity. Malachi the prophet speaks of the two comings. *And the Lord whom you seek will come suddenly to his temple*: that is one coming.

Again he says of another coming: *Look, the Lord almighty will come, and who will endure the day of his entry, or who will stand in his sight? Because he comes like a refiner's fire, a fuller's herb, and he will sit refining and cleansing*.

These two comings are also referred to by Paul in writing to Titus: *The grace of God the Savior has appeared to all men, instructing us to put aside impiety and worldly desires and live temperately, uprightly, and religiously in this present age, waiting for the joyful hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ*. Notice how he speaks of a first coming for which he gives thanks, and a second, the one we still await.

That is why the faith we profess has been handed on to you in these words: *He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end*.

Our Lord Jesus Christ will therefore come from heaven. He will come at the end of the world, in glory, at the last day. For there will be an end to this world, and the created world will be made new.

Pax et bonum,
Fr. Dean.

SAINT COLUMBAN PASTORAL COUNCIL

Judith Cusick (Chairperson),
Sheila Johnson, Jerome Didier,
Joseph Judge, Dennis Stumpf
office@saintcolumbanyelm.org

SAINT PETER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Sherry Bachmann (Chairperson),
Marilyn Ritter, Bernie Schwarz,
Bob Bacon, Diane Weston,
stpeteradvisory@saintcolumbanyelm.org

For daily Mass readings and Event Calendar please see our Monthly Insert, found in the narthex and on our website.

Faith Formation



All Adult Learners
Welcome!

R.C.I.A.

December 1—Mary

Tuesdays @ 6:30PM in the
Religious Ed Bldg. Rm. 103

**The 2020-21 Faith Formation year
has begun! It is not too late to join
us for class.**

Contact Katie Hennigan in the
Religious Education Office for more
information.

katie@saintcolumbanym.org
360-458-3031x3



CHILDREN'S PRAYERS

PARENTS: Keep up the good work with
reminding your children to return their
prayer charts every week! Last weekend
we had 3 charts returned with 50 prayers
listed. Imagine if everyone in our parish
prayed at least 50 prayers every week!

*"We know that all things work
for good for those who love God,
who are called according to his
purpose."* -Romans 8:28

Due to the latest guidance from the Archdio-
cese, Stations of the Crib has been cancelled.

Readers still needed for the 5PM Children's
Mass on Christmas Eve!



Sacrament of Baptism

All those who wish to bap-
tize their child or be a god-
parent for a child to be bap-
tized here at St. Columban
must complete the Baptism Preparation
before a baptism can be scheduled. Please
contact Katie Hennigan in the Religious
Education Office for more information.

katie@saintcolumbanym.org
360-458-3031x3

All Masses will resume with modifications, see below for details

MASS RESERVATIONS

In obedience to the COVID Safety
Guidelines from the Archdiocese, public
Mass at our parish has resumed with the
following safety measures in place.

- ◆ Masks will be required. Those with a
medical exemption will be seated
according to Archdiocesan
guidelines.
- ◆ Attendance will be limited to 90
people per Mass at St. Columban and
40 people per Mass at St. Peter.
- ◆ The cry room at St. Columban is
limited to one family per Mass and
will be reserved on a first come-first
served basis.

Reservations at St. Columban: call the
parish office at 360-458-3031 ext. 5

Reservations at St. Peter: call the
mission office at 360-264-2124

If you are unable to call during office
hours, please leave your name, phone
number, and how many will be in your
party and we will call you back to confirm
your reservation.

**Please note that leaving a voicemail does
not confirm your reservation**

Important Things to Remember

- ◆ Only persons who are under the
same reservation will be seated
together.
- ◆ Please arrive at least 20 minutes
early for Mass. You will be checked
in by a Greeter and then seated by an
Usher.
- ◆ We recommend you bring your own
missal with you for the readings as
they will not be provided.

Attention St. Peter Parishioners

A letter was sent out with instructions
for attending Mass at St. Peter and
temporary office hours during the
week of Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Bonus Bulletin Content!

To save on printing, some extra bulletin
content will now be exclusively found in the
online edition of our bulletin, which is also
emailed weekly to parishioners.

Sign up at
flocknote.com/saintcolumbanym.org or visit our
website saintcolumbanym.org



Women's Club

Coffee Hour and all other
events suspended until
further notice.



Knights of Columbus

No events currently scheduled



December 8—Immaculate Conception

9:00AM Mass at St. Peter

7:00PM Mass at St. Columban

**December 20—Cleaning & Decorating the
Church for Christmas after
Mass**

December 24—CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00PM Children's Mass

8:00PM Mass w/Incense



**CALLED TO
SERVE as CHRIST**

A campaign for our
PRIESTS, SISTERS & FAMILY OF FAITH

3 Year Goal for St. Columban: \$307, 368

As of: November 6, 2020

Total Pledged: \$76,284 25% of Goal

Number of Families Participating: 292

Potential Share: \$11,443

3 Year Goal for St. Peter: \$54,327

As of: November 6, 2020

Total Pledged: \$13,632 25% of Goal

Number of Families Participating: 45

Potential Share: \$2,046

Thank You for Pledging Your Support!

Advent is Here! Jesus is coming!



Advent is here! It's time to begin preparing for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

Jesus came the first time long ago in Bethlehem. Now He comes to us every time we go to Mass, in Holy Communion. But we celebrate Jesus' coming in a special way at Christmas time.

Advent is the time to get ready for Christmas. We get our houses ready by cleaning and decorating. We get our souls ready by cleaning out our sins when we go to confession, and by learning and thinking about Jesus.



Here are some things that will help you get ready for Christmas:

~ Light a candle on an advent wreath when you say your prayers every day.

~ Read a book about Advent or Christmas.

~ Go to Confession before Christmas.



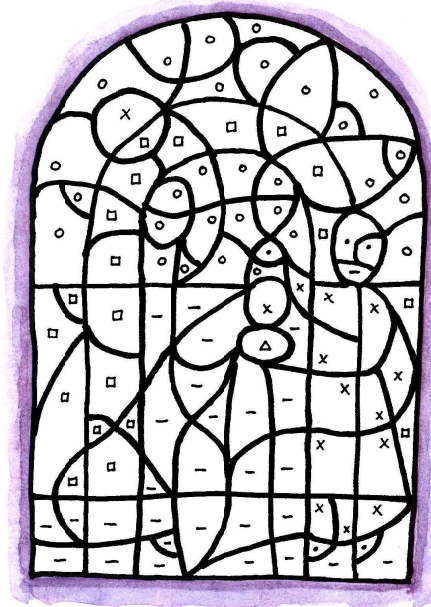
~ Do nice things for people. Remember that anything you do for someone else you do for Jesus!

Answers to Fill in the Blanks: know, man, servants, each, watch, therefore, you, lord

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2020

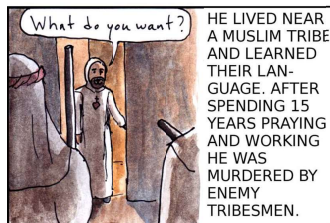
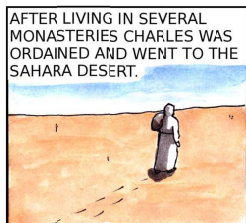
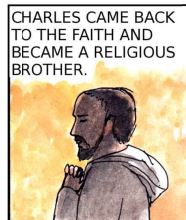
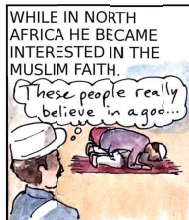
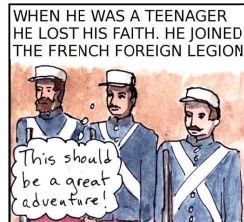
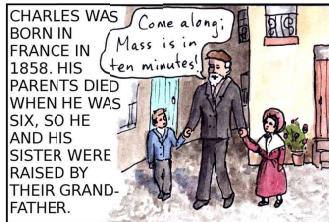


In the Gospel, Jesus tells us to always be ready. Here's someone waiting for his master to return...

Use this code to colour the picture in:

- DARK BLUE
- SKIN COLOUR
- GREY
- * WHITE
- BROWN
- ▲ RED

Blessed Charles de Foucauld December 1



WHEN HE WAS YOUNGER BLESSED CHARLES CARED ONLY ABOUT HAVING FUN. BUT GOD PUT IN HIS HEART A DESIRE TO KNOW HIM. THEN WHEN CHARLES PRAYED, GOD GAVE HIM THE GIFT OF FAITH. DO YOU KNOW PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW GOD? CAN YOU PRAY AND DO A SACRIFICE FOR THEM TODAY?

Fill in the Blanks

In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the people to be ready for His next coming.

Fill in the blanks with the words at the end and use the letters in squares to fill in the blanks at the end, in the order they come.

You do not ___ [] ___ when the time will come.

It is like a ___ [] ___ traveling abroad.

He leaves home and places his ___ [] ___ in charge,

___ [] ___ with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the ___ [] ___;

Watch, ___ [] ___; ___ [] ___ do not know

when the [] ___ of the house is coming.

Be ___ [] ___ !

THEREFORE KNOW MAN
SERVANTS EACH LORD WATCH YOU



ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE

At Home with Faith

As we prepare for a disrupted Advent, let's take the opportunity to remember we are waiting for Jesus' return and let the Holy Spirit bring joy to our families.



It's been over 40 weeks since the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted our lives. For many of us, our Thanksgiving celebration wasn't what we hoped it would be. But as we continue to wait for an end to the pandemic, this time of year also reminds us to look forward to the return of Jesus.

November 29 is the first Sunday of Advent. We remember how Israel waited for the Messiah in the Old Testament, and we look forward to when Jesus will return again to conclude the story of salvation. This Advent may be difficult, but we can hold one another in hopeful prayer. Christ the King is coming to be with us. Let us make room in our hearts and prepare to welcome him in.

Read

Take time to read and reflect on the Scriptures for this day.

Don't have access to a Bible?

Visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings or download an app such as *Laudate* or *iBreviary* to access the Mass readings.

Isaiah 63:16B-17, 19B; 64:2-7

Lord, return for the sake of your servants!

Psalms 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

Lord, make us turn to you and we shall be saved.

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

God will keep you firm to the end.

Mark 13:33-37

Be watchful! Be alert!

At Home with Faith

Talk

Here are some reflection questions to help you have **Great Conversations** with the whole family.

Follow these steps to make the most of a disrupted Advent:

- **Acknowledge with your family that the pandemic is going to disrupt how we would prefer to celebrate the holidays.** We can't gather as we would prefer with our extended families. Many of our favorite traditions will be disrupted, and we may be facing more financial pressures. It is natural and healthy to recognize this loss. It's also helpful to remember that Advent is a time of waiting for Jesus, who promises to restore creation to what God intends it to be. Embrace this time as a powerful reminder of whom we are waiting for.
- **Adapt to this new environment.** Revise some old traditions and explore some new ones. Take advantage of some of the suggestions on our At Home with Faith website for ways to enjoy Advent as a more reflective time. Make an Advent wreath. Go for walks as a family. Take the initiative to set the tone for the season.
- **Appreciate this time.** Once we accept that this season is not going to be like previous years, we can start to appreciate unexpected blessings this year offers. Odds are good that we will remember this time of the pandemic for many years afterwards. Let's encourage our families to let our faith shine a light on our experience and be open to the Holy Spirit among us.



For many years, the Church has encouraged families to use Advent wreaths as a way to focus our prayer. Families can quite easily make an advent wreath. Click on [this link](#) for a step by step guide. When constructing yours, feel free to improvise materials and involve your children. What's most important is to provide a reminder that we really are waiting for Jesus' return. Also important is to be careful whenever we are using the wreath as greenery is very flammable.

In using the wreath, it's helpful to follow the pattern of lighting the candles done at Mass. Start by lighting the first purple candle in week one, the second purple candle in week two, the pink candle on Gaudete Sunday, and the last purple candle on week four.

As your family uses the Advent wreath, invite your children to see symbols in the wreath that can serve as reminders of Jesus. For example, its circular shape suggests eternity, purple suggests royalty, and pink symbolizes joy. Also, the four candles can remind us of stages of salvation prior to the birth of Jesus: forgiveness to Adam and Eve, the promise to Abraham, the Covenant with Israel, and king David.

For more resources, visit us online at:

<https://marriagefamilylife.seattlarchdiocese.org/athomewithfaith>



THE STORY OF THE NATIVITY: THE TRUTH OF CHRISTMAS

Enjoy this fast-paced, thought-provoking look at the true story of the Nativity as we enter into the joyful season of Advent.

WATCH

LEARN

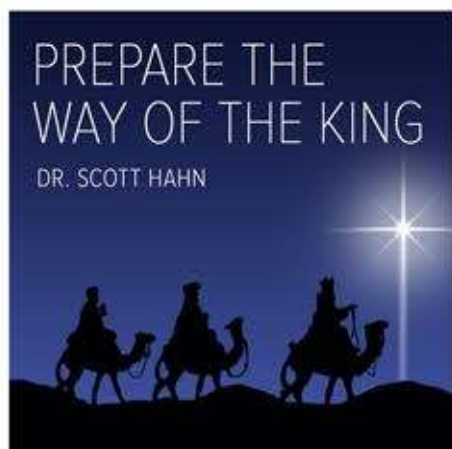
ADVENT

This Advent prepare your heart through this exploration of the mystery of the Incarnation, the Virgin Birth, and the events surrounding the arrival of Jesus Christ.



PREPARE THE WAY OF THE KING BY DR. SCOTT HAHN

Your Advent journey will take on new meaning with Dr. Scott Hahn's illuminating presentation on the greatest gift ever given to mankind—Jesus Christ.



LISTEN

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

The First Sunday of Advent

NOVEMBER 29, 2020



The Advent season begins today!

The Advent season begins today! Take time to reflect on how you will use the next four weeks to prepare your heart for Christmas.

Blessing of the Advent Wreath

It's time to bring out and bless the Advent wreath! The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead.

Use this prayer to bless your family wreath:

When the blessing of the Advent Wreath is celebrated in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another member of the family.

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Response (R/.) Who made heaven and earth.

Then the Scripture, *Isaiah 9*: (lines 1-2 and 5-6) or *Isaiah 63* (lines 16-17 & 19) or *Isaiah 64* (lines 2-7) is read:

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

With hands joined, the leader says:

Lord our God,

we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:

he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,

he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,

he is the Savior of every nation.

Lord God,

let your blessing come upon us

as we light the candles of this wreath.

May the wreath and its light

be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.

May he come quickly and not delay.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R/. Amen.

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The blessing may conclude with a verse from

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”:

O come, desire of nations, bind
in one the hearts of humankind;
bid ev’ry sad division cease
and be thyself our Prince of peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

—From *Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers*





SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2020

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



“Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.” - Mk 13:33

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 2020

- SUN 11/29** Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37
- MON 11/30** Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10]/Mt 4:18-22
- TUE 12/1** Is 11:1-10/ Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [cf. 7]/Lk 10:21-24
- WED 12/2** Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37
- THR 12/3** Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27
- FRI 12/4** Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt 9:27-31
- SAT 12/5** Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. Is 30:18d]/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
- SUN 12/6** Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 2020

- Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Advent
- Monday:** St. Andrew, Apostle
- Thursday:** St. Francis Xavier, Priest
- Saturday:** St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr
- Next Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Advent

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

Be watchful! Be alert! The core message of Advent cannot be more direct or simple. As those who are postured in a spirit of readiness and anticipation, we must always be attentive and vigilant. We have to be ready not only for the anticipated arrival of our Lord, but watchful and attentive to the unexpected visit as well. While we know that the Christ is coming, we also do not know the exact time. Cultivating this expectant attitude is the purpose of this season. It is easy to grow slack, inattentive, and too self-assured. We can easily deaden ourselves to the wonder and surprise of God's presence. We get so absorbed in so many other distractions that it can seem like Christ's second coming, and even Christ's coming in time are of lesser importance. When it finally dawns on us that we have wandered far away from where we need to be, and lost our attentiveness and focus, we will wonder how this all happened. We may even try to put the onus on God and blame God for a lack of involvement or presence. We are the ones, who through our own choice, put the distance in our relationship and lost touch. Now it's time to come back and perk ourselves up a bit!



The One
Who is
to Come

WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING

Oh, that you would rend the heavens
and come down,
with the mountains quaking before you. (Is 63:19b)



PSALM

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face
and we shall be saved. (Ps 80)



SECOND READING

God is faithful,
and by him you were called to fellowship
with his Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. (1 Cor 1:9)



GOSPEL

“Watch, therefore;
you do not know when the lord
of the house is coming,
whether in the evening, or at midnight,
or at cockcrow, or in the morning.” (Mk 13:35)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,
1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm
Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981,
1997, International Commission on English in the
Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.*



GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

You are at the eye doctor and it's time for the peripheral vision test. You know the one. It's where you put your head up to a contraption and have to click a switch every time you see a squiggly line. If you don't concentrate and maintain optimal focus, you will miss them and skew the outcome of the test. You can easily find yourself with a diagnosis that really isn't accurate! Concentration and focus are key to succeeding with this evaluation. They are also key to developing a healthy, vibrant spiritual life. If we do not bring our full consciousness to the task, concentrate with all our might, be watchful and vigilant, we are not going to see God's loving presence flashing before our eyes!

That's why we need Advent. Let's face it. We can easily get distracted, focus on nonessential and superficial things and lose touch with what really matters. Our attentions wander. We daydream and even become a bit overwhelmed and tired. All of the stresses and demands of life consume us and we find ourselves constantly trying to play catch up rather than relishing the moment of the now. "Now" moments are so fleeting. They flash before us like those squiggly lines on a screen. Present moments go as quickly as they come but it is important to discover them and rest in them as often as we can. Though gone in a flash, these now moments of encounter with God teach powerful lessons and offer a grounding in truth that can be found nowhere else. It's the grace of Advent to become watchful and attentive because we are never sure when God will surprise us.

God loves surprises and love thrives on them! God's now moments of surprises come as tender instants of intimate connection where I find profound peace, experience joy, and rest in love. These are Advent times reflective of the now moments when Christ first was born, when God surprises us during every time we care to watch and when the great surprise of Christ's second coming dawns upon us all. But, to discover the grandeur and experience the awe of these now times, we have to be ready. We have to want to be there. We have to believe. And, we have to have the desire to soak in as much as we can in the time we have before us.

LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING *to the Call*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

In the Unexpected

“What could happen next?” How many times have you asked yourself that question in the past year? Though we most often use that expression when things don’t seem to be going our way, this year it has been an expression of the constant changes to our world which the COVID-19 pandemic has wrought. But we might use the same expression to explain our feelings of being overwhelmed by blessings and good things, when the stars seem to align just right.

No matter what, we can say with certainty that tomorrow will not go exactly as we envisioned. Our lives are influenced by so many factors and the world around us is increasingly complex. Rather than be surprised by the unexpected, maybe we should expect the unexpected.

Living in this manner causes us to cherish more deeply the gifts we have been given. It helps us to live in the present and become mindful of those around us. Our relationships deepen. Our sense of responsibility builds. Our stewardship way of life finds new meaning and purpose.

This Advent will not be the same experience as last Advent. It remains to be seen what the coming days and weeks have in store for each of us. However, no matter what happens, Jesus Christ is there to welcome us to the unexpected. He will celebrate with us in joy and he will even feel our pain. You can count on the unexpected, but you can also count on Him to be there with you. He is now and forever, Emmanuel, “God with us.” He is the expected in all things unexpected.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!



WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

When we say the Penitential Act at Mass, why do we strike our chest three times?

Answer:

Our rituals and liturgical celebrations are filled with a variety of symbols, some of which also relate to our gestures and physical postures (e.g. kneeling, sitting, processing, making the Sign of the Cross). The custom of striking our breast three times during the “I Confess” of the Penitential Act of the Mass is one of those gestures that is loaded with symbolism.

The tradition of Christian’s striking the breast (above the heart) is rooted in the image of Sacred Scripture, especially texts like Psalm 51 which speak of a “humbled contrite heart” or how God heals broken hearts, binding up our wounds (see Psalm 147:3). Early Christian writers like Saint Augustine of Hippo and Saint Jerome also refer to this custom in their writings.

Ultimately, this practice is an expression of our sorrow for those times when we have been guilty of faults and a sign that we are willing to take responsibility for our sins and failings. That we all perform this gesture together is also an act of solidarity, recognizing that none of us, regardless of where we are on our journey of faith, is without fault and the need for grace and forgiveness.

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**Jesus said to his
disciples: "Be
watchful! Be alert!
You do not know
when the time will
come. What I say
to you, I say to all:
'Watch!'"**

- Mk 13:33, 37

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QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

We hear today the prophet Isaiah's internal spiritual struggle as he questions God's ways and decries our human tendency to sin. What spiritual struggles do you need to confront as we enter into the season of Advent?

Second Reading

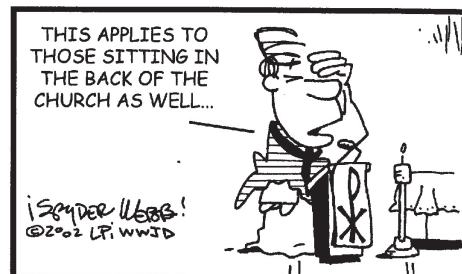
In his opening words to the Corinthian Christians, Paul reminds the faithful of God's fidelity to those who believe in his Son. He then cites examples of the blessings they have received since coming to the faith. What are some blessings you have received in your faith journey?

Gospel Reading

Jesus instructs his disciples to be vigilant for the end times. How can you make this spiritual discipline a focus of your Advent season this year?



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

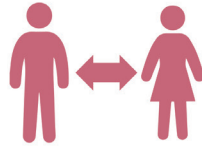


LITURGICAL LIFE

3 EASY STEPS

To Keeping Yourself & Others Healthy!

We are cautioned to be especially careful during the Coronavirus outbreak. Here are some simple ways to keep sickness away.



Wash Your Hands

Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can't wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.

Don't Touch Your Face

Especially around the eyes, nose and mouth. If you must sneeze, use a tissue or your arm.

Keep Your Distance

Practice social distancing during this epidemic and stay away from large groups. Instead, call, email or check up on family and friends using social media.

*“Watch,
therefore; you do
not know when
the Lord of the
house is coming,
whether in the
evening, or at
midnight, or at
cockcrow, or in
the morning.
May he not
come suddenly
and find you
sleeping.”*

- Mk 13:35-36

THE SEASON OF ADVENT
MEANS THERE IS SOMETHING
ON THE HORIZON
THE LIKES OF WHICH WE HAVE
NEVER SEEN BEFORE.

— JAN RICHARDSON

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KIDS CORNER

READ THE GOSPEL AND COMPLETE A PUZZLE!

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel.

WATCH
READY
TIME

COME
MASTER
EVENING

MIDNIGHT
DAWN
MORNING

U W A T H O W Y S W U
M O R N I N G T I E L
A T Y U T K U A G V P
S U N H A Y C O M E Y
T I M E W I H P A N D
E C B W U E **W** I E I A
R E A D Y L A N O N L
Y H O A E I T E H G E
S A R W L S C P Y H W
M I D N I G H T W O R
A T E K U A O U S F I

SHARING THE GOSPEL

When you play on a baseball team, you learn how to pay attention. Your coach reminds you and your teammates to stay ready. You learn to watch the ball. Those are good lessons to learn, because Jesus wants you to pay attention, too. Keep your eyes and your mind on Jesus, so you're ready when he comes.

PRAYER

Jesus, help me to stay ready for you.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Play a quick game of baseball. Cheer for one another. End the game with a prayer that you will keep your eyes on Jesus.



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