

Christi simus, non nostri

We belong to Christ, not ourselves

ST COLUMBAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

A Parish of the
Archdiocese of Seattle



St. Columban Church

506 First St. S | Yelm, WA 98597

Sunday Mass: 10:30 AM

Saturday 5:00 PM

Daily Mass 9:00 AM *(Tuesday-Friday, Except First Fridays)*

Eucharistic Adoration First Fridays 6:30 PM

Confessions Saturday 3:30-4:30 PM

Anointing of the Sick By request

Baptism & Wedding Preparation

Contact the Parish Office

St. Peter Mission

149 Keithahn St S | Tenino, WA 98589

Sunday Mass 8:00 AM | **First Friday Mass** 9:00 AM

Confessions Sunday 7:30-7:45 AM

Anointing of the Sick By request

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Providing emergency assistance for those in need.

Help Line: 360-458-1904

Parish Office Hours at St. Columban Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Friday by appointment

January 1, 2023

Mary, Mother of God

Entrance Antiphon: *Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King, who rules heaven and earth for ever.*

1st Reading: Numbers 6:22-27

Responsorial Psalm: *May God bless us in his mercy.*

2nd Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel Acclamation: *In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets, in these last days, he has spoken to us through the Son.*

Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

Communion Antiphon: *Behold, your King will come, the Holy One, and Savior of the world.*



www.saintcolumbanyelm.org

360-458-3031

parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Parish Staff

360-458-3031

Fr. Brian Thompson Priest Administrator
frthompson@saintcolumbanyelm.org Ext. 6

Jennifer Langham PA for Admin, Liturgy, and Music
jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org Ext. 1

Holly Dodd PA for Admin, Bookkeeping, & Records
holly@saintcolumbanyelm.org Ext. 4

Gabriela Makinster Elementary & Adult Faith Formation
gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org *habla Español* Ext. 2

Chad Lucero Youth Ministry
chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org Ext. 3

Steve Slater St. Columban Maintenance
steven@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Gilberto Espino St. Peter Maintenance

St. Columban Parish Pastoral Council

Judith Cusick (Chairperson), Sheila Johnson, Jerome Didier,
 Joseph Judge, Dennis Stumpf

St. Peter Advisory Commission

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

St. Columban Parish Finance Council

Joseph Judge (St Columban)
 Mari Evans (St Peter)

Weekly Calendar & Mass Intentions

MONDAY January 2

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Rosary Prayer Group 7:00PM Church

TUESDAY January 3

NO DAILY MASS

Choir Practice 6:00PM Church

RCIA 6:30PM RE Building

Spanish Prayer Group 6:30PM Parish Hall

WEDNESDAY January 4

Mass 9:00 AM *Int. Lilia Ahearn* Church

THURSDAY January 5

Mass 9:00 AM *Int.: Ezekiel Makinster* Church

Sunday Scripture Study 6:30 PM Sm. Hall

FRIDAY January 6

First Friday Mass 9:00 AM *Int. Pam Walker* St. Peter

Homeschool Enrichment 10:15 AM RE Building

First Friday Devotions 6:30PM Church

SATURDAY January 7

Confessions 3:30 PM Church

Anticipatory Sunday Mass 5:00 PM *Int.: Pro Populo* Church

SUNDAY January 8

Epiphany of the Lord

Confession 7:30-7:45 AM St. Peter

Sunday Mass 8:00 AM *Int.: Pro Populo* St. Peter

Sunday Mass 10:30 AM *Int.: Pro Populo* Church

Faith Formation (Grades K-5) 9:00-10:15 AM RE Building

Youth Bible Study (Grades 6-12) 9:15-10:00 AM Small Hall

Confirmation Preparation 11:45-1:00 PM RE Building

Week of December 18, 2022

Ordinary Income	St Columban	St Peter
Weekly Goal	\$5,800.00	\$1,000.00
Collection (Cash & Envelopes)	\$2,971.76	\$455.00
Online Giving	\$515.85	\$170.15
Net	(\$2,312.39)	(\$374.85)
Special Funds		
St Vincent DePaul	\$9.41	\$0.00
Sacramentals (Candles, Beeswax tapers, Salt)	\$30.50	\$0.00
Flowers	\$10.00	\$0.00
Building Fund	\$137.00	\$0.00
Mass Intentions	\$0.00	\$0.00
2 nd Collection (name)	\$0.00	\$0.00

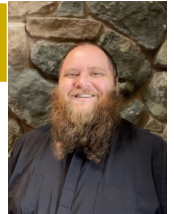


To all those who donated to this years' Giving Tree Project including the Cross Fit Gym in Yelm.

Over \$1700 in Gift Cards were collected and 19 families assisted this year!

*The Daughters of Mary &
 The St. Columban St. Vincent de Paul Ministry*

A Word from Father Thompson



Nothing too lofty or (directly) theological this week, but as we continue to celebrate Christmas I thought I might share something regarding finding a happy and refreshing way of approaching family celebrations of Christmas. When I was a small child, my grandparents had an expectation that their adult children would maintain the Christmas traditions of their youth, an all-night affair requiring the bulk of Christmas Eve though to Christmas morning: Gifts, pepper salad, Midnight Mass, Ravioli feast (my mother's side of the family is of Italian extraction), etc. Then, of course, there were expectations on my Dad's side of the family on Christmas Day... While It was good to spend time with family and enjoying traditions, it left my parents exhausted in a lot of ways. Plus, it meant bundling and transporting kids all around the county to fulfill all those expectations.

At some point, life got in the way and the Christmas Eve routine stopped happening. In retrospect, my mother recognized it was for the best, and we began to keep a similar tradition, but just among my immediate family in our own home. We kept doing that the rest of the time I was growing up.

When my siblings began to marry and started having their children (and I began working on Christmas), my mother decided that while our traditional Italian Ravioli feast and gift exchange was precious, she did not want Christmas to be a stressor for my siblings as it had been for her and her sisters. So, what my family has done for the past several years has been to gather all the siblings and nibblings at my parents' house and keep our old family traditions, usually on the 4th Sunday of Advent, but this year we are doing it today, on Mother of God. This frees my siblings and their kids to develop and to keep their own traditions in their own families on Christmas itself without feeling like they have to truck the kids around on the day itself to see various grandparents, aunts, and uncles when the kids just want to enjoy their gifts and the parents want to rejoice in their children.

Come to think of it, I think this approach to celebrating Christmas across generations is pretty theologically profound. My parents, in their backing off to leave Christmas free for my siblings and their children reflects that my parents really understand the nature of Matrimony. The very purpose of Matrimony is the creation of a new and autonomous family. Of course, the spouses still are and will always be connected to their family of origin, but the family they have created by the Sacrament of Matrimony deserves priority over even the parent-child bond (...this is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife...). My mom trying to strike this balance between bringing the extended family together (10 siblings, plus their spouses, plus about a dozen nibblings and counting) and allowing each nuclear family to have their own lives was a very wise idea, and very much embodies the Christian theology of Matrimony.

In Christ,

Remember in Your Prayers

Loving God, we join with others of your people here asking you to hold in Your hands all of our homebound brothers and sisters and those who have asked for our prayers:

The Sick and Homebound

Jessica Nash, Robert Fisher, Mary Taylor,
John Gallwas, Dan Kavanaugh

The Deceased

Paul Hennigan

Extraordinary Intentions

+ All those in harm's way, for the people of Ukraine

+ All the souls in purgatory, especially those who have no one to pray for them.

To add a name to this list or request a Mass Intention please contact the parish office. All submissions must have permission from the named individual or an authorized family member for privacy purposes.

St. Columban Prayer Chain: *Confidential and private prayer chain. To join contact the parish office.*

Elementary Faith Formation



Gaby Makinster 360-458-3031 x2 gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Act of Consecration to Mary

O my Queen, O my mother, I love you and give myself to you. I give to you this day my eyes, my ears, my mouth, my heart and my whole self. Since I am yours, keep me and guard me as your child forever, Amen!

**HAIL
MARY
FULL
OF
GRACE**



Faith Formation: Grades K-12

All K-5 classes meet before Mass from 9AM-10:15AM on Sundays.

- Jan 8th Class
- Jan 15th NO Class /MLK
- Jan 22nd Class
- Jan 29th Class

Tuition for Religious Education Classes is now DUE. We accept cash, check or credit cards. You can also pay online via the website. Partial payments are accepted. You can make payments Sunday morning during class or during office hours. We appreciate your conscientious efforts in this important matter.

RCIA & Adult Faith Formation



The next class is Tuesday, January 3rd at 6:30pm in the Religious Education Building.

The topic is: Our desire and capacity for God.

Explore how you have been drawn to this class and begin to recognize your desire and capacity for God. Leading into the Sacraments as the way Catholics receive God.

Understand Your Catholic Faith with *The Catechism in a Year* Podcast with Fr. Mike Schmitz! New episodes premiere every day this year.

What the Catholic Church Teaches

1 God, infinitely perfect and blessed in himself, in a plan of sheer goodness freely created man to make him share in his own blessed life. For this reason, at every time and in every place, God draws close to man. He calls man to seek him, to know him, to love him with all his strength. He calls together all men, scattered and divided by sin, into the unity of his family, the Church. To accomplish this, when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son as Redeemer and Savior. In his Son and through him, he invites men to become, in the Holy Spirit, his adopted children and thus heirs of his blessed life.

Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 1

By listening to this podcast, Catholics will:

- Read the entire *Catechism of the Catholic Church* in 365 days
- Understand the essentials of the Catholic Faith and why they matter
- Transform their relationship with the Church that Christ founded

Get the FREE Reading Plan!

Scan this QR code with your phone to learn more and get your free reading plan!

www.ascensionpress.com/ciy



Youth Ministry & Confirmation



Classes resume **January 8**: Sunday Scripture Study meets 9:15-10AM. Confirmation classes meet after Mass 11:45-1:00PM. Same dates as Elementary Faith Formation. All Confirmation students must sign-in for Sunday Mass; sign-in sheet is posted in the Narthex. **POC**: Chad Lucero chad@saintcolumbnayelm.org

Youth Ministry Saturday: Fortify Your Faith

January 21, 9am-2pm, Parish Hall
A Mini-Retreat for everyone Grades 6-12

- Icebreakers and Prayer
- All about the Winter Coat Closet
- Learn about the Brown Scapular
- Potluck meal, bring a dish or a dessert item to share
- Special movie screening



Happy Eighth
Day of
Christmas!

Hey Parents!



Mandatory Parent & Sponsor Meeting is scheduled for Jan. 22, during Confirmation Classes in the RE building.

For every parent of a first or second year confirmation candidate. Sponsors who live in the area are strongly encouraged to attend.

A YOUTH CONFERENCE LIKE NO OTHER

IGNITE YOUR TORCH is a high school Catholic youth conference in which "on fire" religious (e.g. monks/brothers, nuns/sisters, priests) seek to Ignite the faith of teens through engaging talks, small group discussion, workshops as well as personal interaction at recreation, meals and just hanging out. It is an opportunity to make new friendships in Christ, to receive the sacraments, to meet and talk to young priests and religious, and to worship, pray, learn, and recreate together. *Ignite Your Torch* is Eucharistic-centered, devoted to Our Blessed Mother, catechetical in nature, and teaches youth practical ways to build up the culture of life.

July 6-9, 2023, University of Portland
For more information go to ignitenw.org



FORMED The Catholic Faith. On Demand.



Mary of Nazareth

What would it have been like to have known the Mother of God? Watch this beautiful film portraying the life of Mary in order to contemplate Mary's profound faith and the mysteries of her life.

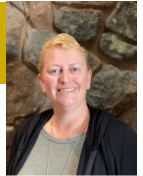
<https://watch.formed.org/videos/mary-of-nazareth>

Our parish pays for a subscription to FORMED.org, a streaming service, allowing you to register for FREE:

1. Visit formed.org/signup
2. Enter our parish zip or name
3. Enter your name and email



Parish News & Events



Please contact Jennifer at the Parish Office for more information about events and to connect with our various parish groups: 360-458-3031 x1 jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Ministries



Altar Society

Meets every Thursday after Daily Mass to clean the church.



Daughters of Mary

St. Columban Catholic Church Yelm, WA

Monthly Meeting

January 10th, 10:00 AM
RE Bldg.



Knights of Columbus

Next Council Meeting

January 19th 5:30PM Church
6PM Hall



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Monthly Meeting

January 20th 7PM
Parish Hall



St. Peter's Circle

St. Peter Mission Tenino
Meets Bi-monthly

Next Meeting

January 10th 9:30 AM



FLOCKNOTE

WE LOVE HAVING YOU AS

a part of
our Flock!

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SAINTCOLUMBANYELM

TO 84576



OR CONNECT WITH US ONLINE AT:

saintcolumbanyelm.flocknote.com

Text STOP to 84576 to stop txt notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View full privacy policy & terms at flocknote.com/txt.



Parish Office
Closed

January 2nd

No Daily Mass

January 3rd

To all those who helped decorate for Christmas and served at the Christmas Masses including....

Altar Society

Altar Servers

Ushers

Host Ministers

Choir

Livestream

Knights of Columbus

Readers

Maintenance

Flower Ministry

THANK YOU!

Winter Clothes Closet

Hours of Operation:

Tuesdays & Thursdays 6:00 PM Parish Hall

Free winter clothes to anyone in need, no questions asked!

Clothing donations may be made before or after Mass, during hours of operation, or by contacting the Parish Office.

Feature/In focus



First Friday Devotions

January 6, 2022

6:30PM

Join us for a Holy Hour of adoration and prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Outside Events



“YOU ARE MY FRIENDS” (Jn 15:14),
an archdiocesan-wide virtual social gathering and dance

Wednesday, January 25th, 2023 6:30 – 7:30 PM

Virtual Event via Zoom

Join the Inclusion Ministry community in welcoming the winter months during an hour of fun, fellowship, games and – of course – dancing! We are actively celebrating people of all abilities in the Catholic Church!

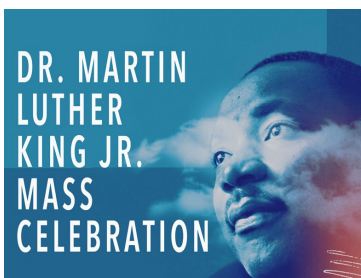
The Archdiocese of Seattle Inclusion Ministry serves and works collaboratively with our parishes and schools to promote the inclusion and meaningful participation of people with disabilities in the life of our Catholic faith community.

Preaching on Vocations

“God, what do you want me to do with my life for you?”



The Director of Vocations for the Archdiocese of Seattle, Fr. Justin Ryan, will be preaching on vocations at the Masses at All Saints in Puyallup and St. Martin of Tours in Fife the weekend of January 14 & 15, 2023.

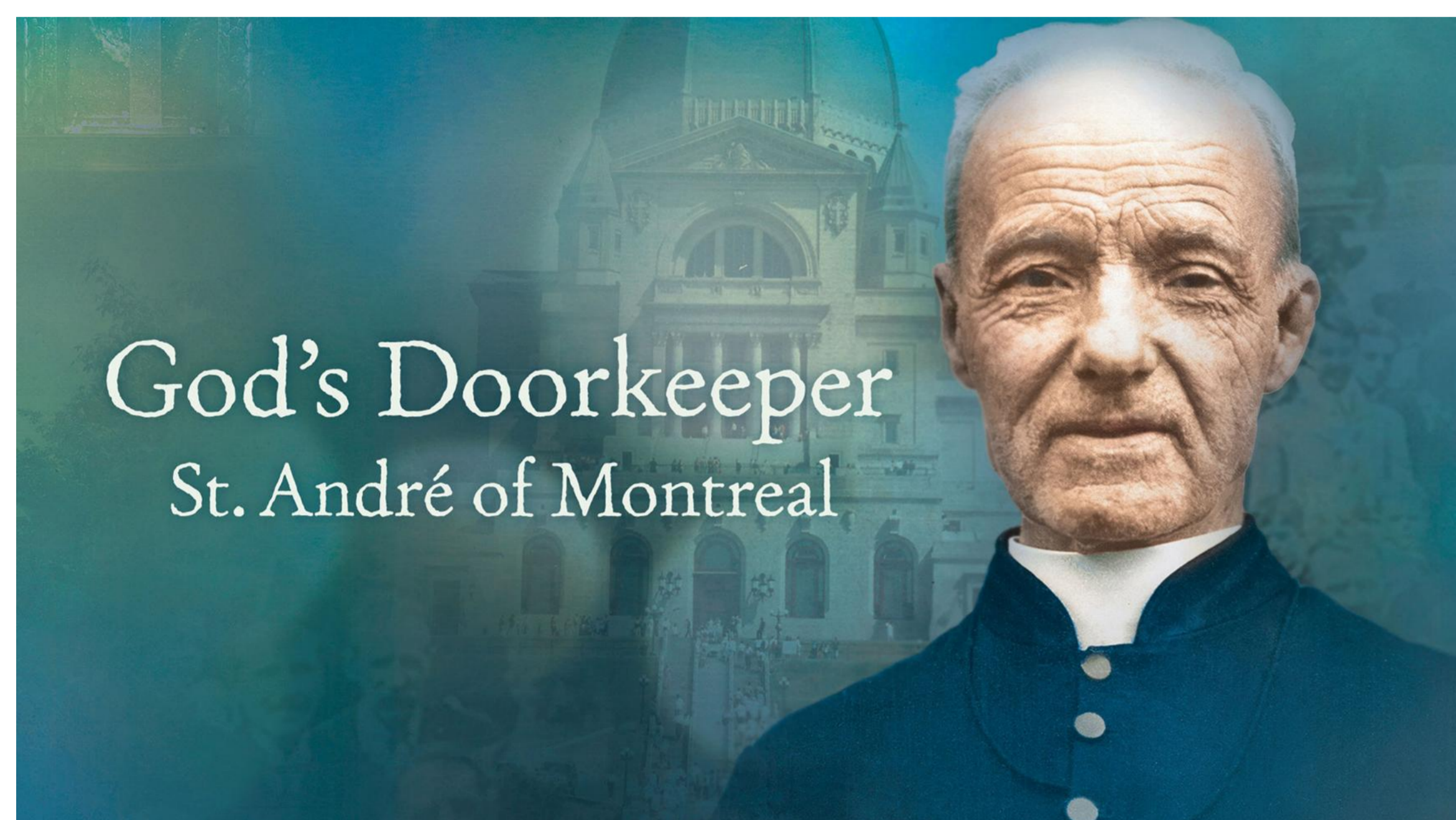


January 17 at 11am
St. Ignatius Chapel,
Seattle University

Join Bishop Frank Schuster and keynote speaker Malcolm Nelson, principal of St. Therese Catholic Academy.

THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of January 01, 2023



God's Doorkeeper: St. André of Montreal

This week, we celebrate the memorial of a humble doorkeeper, St. André of Montreal. Learn how this man became a great saint through his small acts of love!



How to Pray


Whether you are a veteran in the spiritual life or are just beginning, start this year off right by recommitting yourself to prayer! Join Drs. Tim Gray and Elizabeth Klein as they discuss ways to kickstart your prayer life this year!



Mary of Nazareth

What would it have been like to have known the Mother of God? Watch this beautiful film portraying the life of Mary in order to contemplate Mary's profound faith and the mysteries of her life.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.



Reflect with Mary

January 1, 2023

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother of God

ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE

At Home with Faith

At Jesus' birth, Mary reflected upon what God has done and let that reflection stay with her. Let's take time to follow her example and ask Mary to pray for us, that our reflection might make us more open to her Son.



The Gospel tells us that when the shepherds reported what they had seen at the birth of Jesus, many were amazed. It also describes how "Mary kept all these things, reflecting upon them in her heart." She does this at other times too, including after finding Jesus in the Temple.

Mary provides us a beautiful model for our faith. She was active, keeping close to Jesus, throughout her life. She was also contemplative; pausing to reflect on her encounter with Jesus and then letting that reflection bear fruit within her. As we prepare for the new year, let's dedicate ourselves to taking time to reflect on our encounter with Jesus and let that reflection influence our actions.

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.

Numbers 6:22-27

The Lord promises a blessing to Israel.

Psalm 67

May the Lord let his face shine upon us!

Galatians 4:4-7

When the time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman.

Luke 2:16-21

Mary kept all these things, reflecting upon them in her heart.

At Home with Faith

Talk

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

Ask your children to imagine that they lived in Bethlehem at the time of Jesus' birth. They heard about his birth from the shepherds and went to see him. Then ask them to imagine watching the Holy Family at the birth of Jesus, without knowing anything about these people or the meaning of this event. Would they have understood what was happening at the time? Probably not.

Then let them know that Mary did a really good job of understanding what was happening, even though she did not know exactly what was in store for her or her son. Let them know that they can ask Mary to pray for us that we might get to know Jesus better.

Celebrate the Christmas season with us! Visit <https://archseattle.org/Christmas/>



Photo: Adobe Stock

Celebrate the Feasts and Solemnities of the Christmas Season

			
CHRISTMAS 12/25	FEAST OF SAINT STEPHEN 12/26	FEAST OF SAINT JOHN 12/27	FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS 12/28
			
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY 12/30	SOLEMNITY OF MARY 1/1	EPIPHANY 1/8	FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD 1/9

Check out the Archdiocese of Seattle's "Celebrate the Feasts and Solemnities of the Christmas Season" webpage:

<https://archseattle.org/christmas/>

Check out Bishop Schuster's video reflection on the Solemnity of Mary Most Holy Mother of God:

<https://bishopfrankschuster.com/>

For more resources, visit us online at:

<https://www.athomewithfaith.org>

Reflexione con María

1° de enero de 2023

Solemnidad de la Santísima Virgen María,
Madre de Dios

ARQUIDIÓCESIS DE SEATTLE

En casa con Fe

En el nacimiento de Jesús, María reflexionó acerca de lo que Dios había hecho y permitió que esa reflexión permaneciera con ella. Tomémonos un tiempo para seguir su ejemplo y pedir a María que ruegue por nosotros, para que por medio de la reflexión nos acerquemos más a su Hijo.



Leer

Tómense el tiempo para leer las Escrituras para este domingo.

¿No tienen una Biblia en casa?

Ingresen al sitio www.usccb.org/bible/lecturas o pueden descargar una aplicación como *Laudate* o *iBreviary* para acceder a lecturas de las misas.

El Evangelio nos dice que cuando los pastores reportaron que habían visto el nacimiento de Jesús, muchos se sorprendieron. También describe cómo “María guardaba todas estas cosas en su corazón y meditaba acerca de ellas”. Ella hace esto varias veces más, como por ejemplo después de encontrar a Jesús en el templo. María es para nosotros un bello modelo de fe. Ella fue activa, se mantuvo cerca de Jesús durante toda su vida. También fue contemplativa; se detenía a reflexionar sobre su encuentro con Jesús y luego permitía que esa reflexión diera frutos en ella. Al prepararnos para el nuevo año, esforcémonos por dedicar tiempo para reflexionar sobre nuestro encuentro con Jesús y permitir que esta reflexión surta efecto en nuestros actos.

Números 6, 22-27

El Señor promete bendecir Israel.

Salmo 67

¡Que el Señor haga resplandecer Su rostro sobre nosotros!

Gálatas 4, 4-7

“Cuando vino la plenitud del tiempo, Dios envió a Su Hijo, nacido de mujer”.

Lucas 2, 16-21

María guardaba todas estas cosas en su corazón y meditaba acerca de ellas.

En casa con **Fe**

Conversa

Aquí tienes algunas preguntas de reflexión para ayudarte a tener **Grandes Conversaciones** con toda la familia.

Pida a sus niños que se imaginen viviendo en Belén en el tiempo del nacimiento de Jesús. Ellos escucharon acerca del nacimiento de los pastores y fueron a verlo. Luego pídeles que se imaginen observando a la Sagrada Familia en el nacimiento de Jesús, sin saber nada acerca de estas personas ni del significado de este acontecimiento. ¿Será que hubieran entendido lo que estaba sucediendo en ese momento? Probablemente no.

Luego, hazles saber que María tuvo la capacidad de comprender lo que estaba pasando, aunque ella no sabía exactamente lo que le esperaba a ella ni a su hijo. Dígales que ellos pueden pedirle a María que ruegue por nosotros para que podamos conocer mejor a Jesús.

¡Celebra la temporada navideña con nosotros! <https://archseattle.org/temporada-de-navidad/>



Celebrate the Feasts and Solemnities of the Christmas Season



CHRISTMAS
12/25



FEAST OF SAINT STEPHEN
12/26



FEAST OF SAINT JOHN
12/27



FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS
12/28



FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
12/30



SOLEMNITY OF MARY
1/1



EPIPHANY
1/8



FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
1/9

Fíjese en los recursos de la Arquidiócesis de Seattle para Celebrar las fiestas y Solemnidades de la Temporada Navideña en el sitio web:

<https://archseattle.org/temporada-de-navidad/>

Visite el siguiente enlace para ver el video del Obispo Schuster con la reflexión sobre la Solemnidad de María, la Santísima Madre de Dios:

<https://bishopfrankschuster.com/>

Para más recursos, visítanos online en:

<https://www.athomewithfaith.org>



SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2023

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD



When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. - Lk 2:17-19

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 1, 2023

- Sunday:** Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
- Monday:** 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28
- Tuesday:** 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34
- Wednesday:** 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42
- Thursday:** 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51
- Friday:** 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38
- Saturday:** 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a, and 9b/Jn 2:1-11
- Next Sunday:** Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

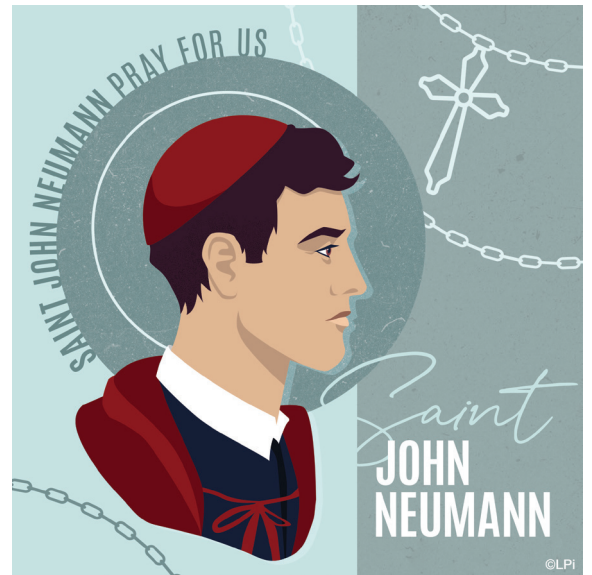
OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 1, 2023

- Sunday:** Mary, The Holy Mother of God, National Migration Week, New Year's Day
- Monday:** Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
- Tuesday:** The Most Holy Name of Jesus
- Wednesday:** St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
- Thursday:** St. John Neumann, Bishop
- Friday:** St. André Bessette, Religious
- Saturday:** St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest
- Next Sunday:** The Epiphany of the Lord

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

The shepherds returned from Bethlehem “glorifying and praising God.” They were affected deeply by the sight of the infant Messiah and the message of the angels. What would the world look like, if we allowed ourselves to be likewise impacted by the word of God?



SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. John Neumann, patron saint of educators, immigrants, and sick children, was the first male saint to be canonized from the USA. An immigrant himself, he expanded Catholic education in his region from 2 schools to 100 & ministered in 6 different languages!

PRAYER

Prayer for St. John Neumann's intercession

O St. John Neumann, your ardent desire of bringing all souls to Christ impelled you to leave home and country; teach us to live worthily in the spirit of our baptism which makes us all children of the one Heavenly Father and brothers of Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the family of God.

Obtain for us that complete dedication in the service of the needy, the weak, the afflicted, and the abandoned which so characterized your life. Help us to walk perseveringly in the difficult and at times painful paths of duty, strengthened by the Body and Blood of our Redeemer and under the watchful protection of Mary our Mother. May death still find us on the sure road to our Father's house, with the light of living faith in our hearts.

Prayer Source: <https://stjohnneumann.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Prayers-to-St.-John-Neumann.pdf>

WORSHIP & MEDITATION

FIRST READING

“So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites, and I will bless them.” (Nm 6:27)



PSALM

May God bless us in his mercy. (Ps 67)



SECOND READING

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman. (Gal 4:4)



GOSPEL

The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. (Lk 2:16)

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

We hide ourselves and our secrets from God because we are afraid. Even Mary can seem too perfect to approach. The shepherds find the strength to speak to Mary and Joseph *at the moment they see the child in the manger*. They open their hearts and share what they've experienced. Saint Luke writes of the shepherds, **“When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child.”**

When I was a college student, I visited Rome. Beggars often approached and said, *“Mangia? Mangia?”* I didn't speak Italian and thought, “Why are they speaking about the Christmas nativity scene?” My friend said, *“Mangia means eat. They're hungry.”* That's when I realized more deeply than ever before that Mary puts her baby in a place designed for hungry animals to eat.

See that baby in the manger in your heart. Imagine Mary kneeling nearby looking at you with love. She doesn't cling to God for herself. In that cave, from the beginning, she quietly offers her son to hungry souls. The manger means vulnerable self-offering love. That's the sign. This week that same manger opens our hearts to tell Mary about our lives, too.

— Father John Muir



LITURGICAL LIFE

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

She Kept All of These Things in Her Heart

“What was my first word? Who was there when I was born? When did I start to walk? Which toys did I play with? What made me cry when I was a baby?”

My oldest has reached the age where she has started to ask questions like this. As she grows up, she is realizing that, in order to understand the world around her, she must first understand herself. This makes her insatiably curious about her own identity, her history — her “origin story,” as they say in the movies.

I’ve got most of it documented either in writing or in photos, but even if it’s a detail that wasn’t scribbled in a baby book or saved to my digital cloud, it’s a memory that I can quickly summon and make real for her as we snuggle and talk about who she was, who she is, and who she may become.

I’m the mom. I have kept all of these things in my heart.

The Blessed Mother knew more about God before opening a book than most of us could discover after a lifetime of study and prayer. There is no one whose knowledge of Christ was so intimate, so deep, so simultaneously ordinary and extraordinary, as the human woman who bore him, birthed him, nursed him, raised him and eventually gave him up.

In the way that I can tell my daughter everything there is to know about the part of her life she cannot recall, Mary can tell us everything we need to know about Christ. All we have to do is ask.

Mary kept all of these things in her heart. — Luke 2:19

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

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WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

What is the history of the rosary? Where did this prayer come from?

Answer:

Although a longstanding tradition attributed the rosary to Saint Dominic and the Dominican Order, the practice of using beads to count prayers predates the Dominicans by a few hundred years. In fact, it seems that what we now think of as the rosary (which means “garland of roses”) was first developed by illiterate peasants and religious brothers and sisters as a way of offering 150 “Our Fathers” to replace the praying of the 150 psalms in the Divine Office.

The practice of reciting 150 Hail Marys (which was later subdivided into 15 decades of 10 Hail Marys) arose during the late Middle Ages. Devotion to the rosary began to flourish in the nineteenth century, especially as new devotions to Mary began to spread throughout Europe and the New World. An annual liturgical celebration of Our Lady of the Rosary was introduced into the Church calendar in 1573 and it has been observed on the date of October 7 since 1913. In the apostolic letter *On the Most Holy Rosary*, Pope Saint John Paul II not only added five new mysteries to the traditional fifteen, but he also reminded Catholics that the rosary is, at its core, an opportunity to go deeper into the life of Jesus: “The rosary, though clearly Marian in character, is at heart a Christocentric prayer ... It has all the depth of the Gospel message in its entirety, of which it can be said to be a compendium. It is an echo of Mary’s prayer, her perennial Magnificat ... With the rosary, the Christian people sit at the school of Mary and are led to contemplate the beauty of the face of Christ and to experience the depths of his love” (no. 1).

LITURGICAL LIFE

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

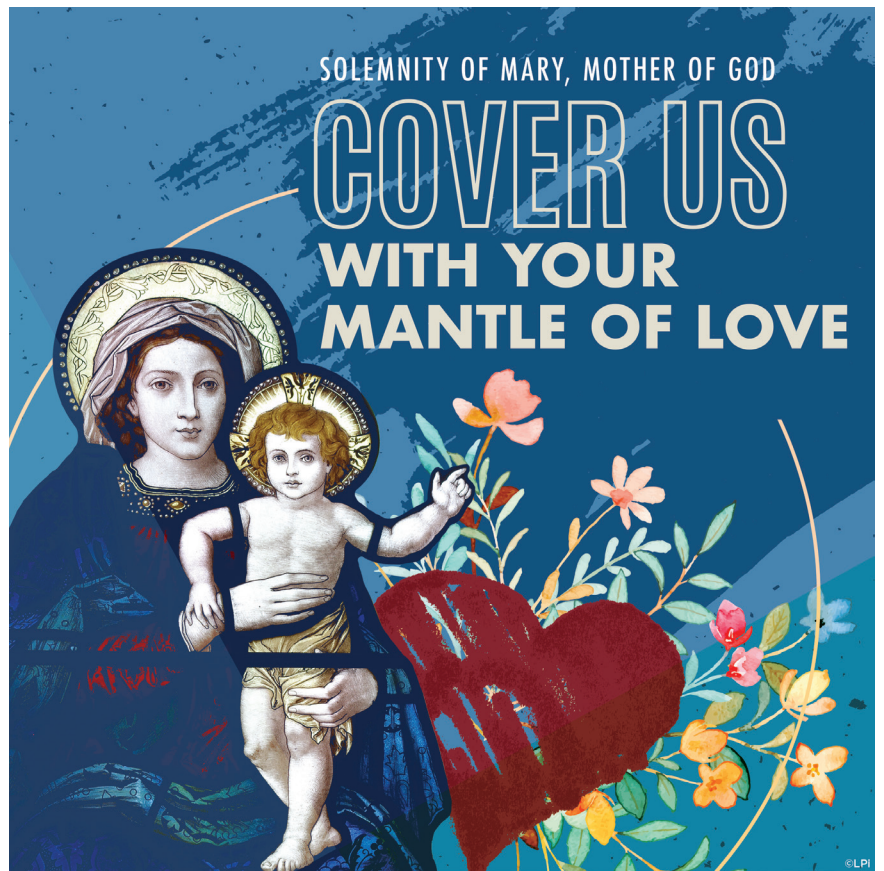
This priestly prayer was originally for the ancient Israelites who dedicated themselves to the Lord in the time of Moses. The prayer is filled with the hope of God's blessing, generosity, kindness, and peace. Which part of this prayer (God's blessing, generosity, kindness, or peace) do you most need this week?

Second Reading

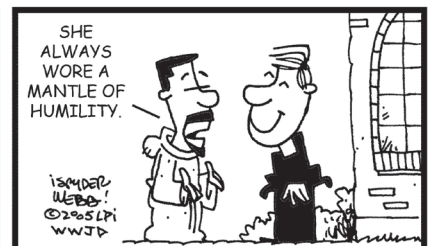
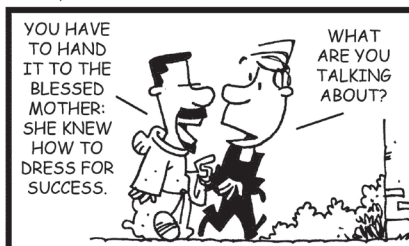
Paul teaches "the fullness of time had come" in Mary's birth of Jesus in that all believers are now "heir" (adopted sons and daughters) to God's promises made to Israel. Have you ever been "heir" to something from your family?

Gospel Reading

Luke teaches us that Mary — even as a young woman — reflected in her heart the events she was experiencing with her newborn son, Jesus. How often do you pray and reflect on events within your own life or in the life of others?



MARY, MOTHER OF GOD



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When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

- Lk 2:21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD



When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.

- Lk 2:17-19

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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KIDS CORNER

READ THE GOSPEL AND COMPLETE A PUZZLE!

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

MARY
JOSEPH
BABY

SHEPHERDS
JESUS
ANGEL

LISTENED
WONDERFUL
NAMED

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

SHARING THE GOSPEL

Mothers think their babies are pretty special, and Mary was no different. She probably kissed his nose, snuggled his little cheeks, and sang songs to him. But a lot of people thought her baby was special.

Mary had more than just curious relatives showing up to visit. Angels praised God, and shepherds came running to see the baby, too. When it was time to name him Jesus,

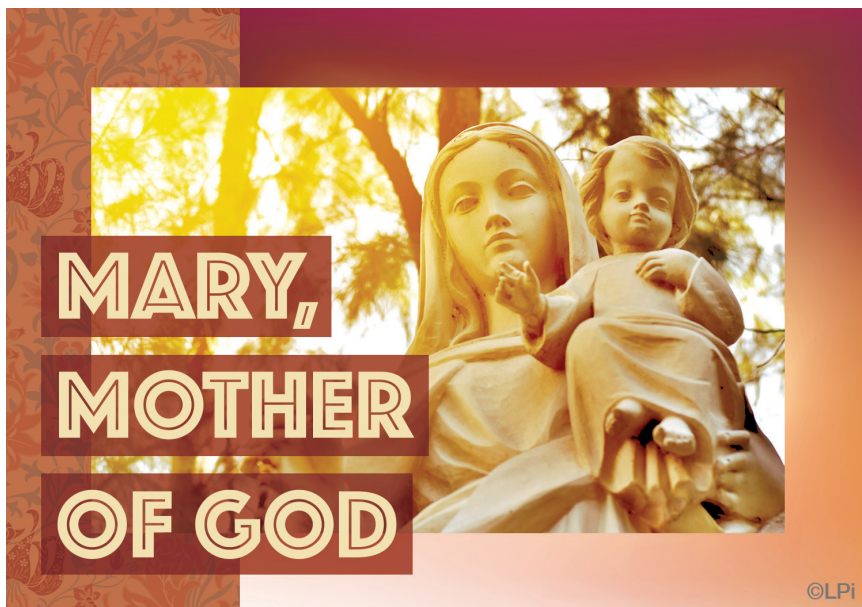
Mary knew he was the Savior.

PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for letting everyone know that Jesus was more than a special baby. He was the Savior. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Ask your parents what they enjoyed about you as a little baby. You might also want to look at some baby pictures together.



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