

Christi simus, non nostri

We belong to Christ, not ourselves

ST COLUMBAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

A Parish of the
Archdiocese of Seattle

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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, *resuming in May*

Confessions Saturday 3:30-4:30 PM,

Fridays in Lent 6:00 PM *until all are heard*

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 (*resumes May 5*)

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. 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Friday by appointment

March 19, 2023

4th Sunday of Lent Cycle A

Entrance Antiphon: *Rejoice Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful all who were in mourning, exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.*

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

Responsorial Psalm: *The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.*

2nd Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel Acclamation: *I am the light of the world says the Lord, whoever follows me will have the light of life.*

Gospel: John 9:1-41

Offertory Antiphon: *Praise the Lord for he is good. Sing a psalm to his name, for he is delightful. The Lord does whatever he wills in heaven and on Earth.*

Communion Antiphon: *The Lord anointed my eyes, I went, I washed, I saw, and I believed in God.*



www.saintcolumbanyelm.org

360-458-3031

parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Parish Staff 360-458-3031

New Parish Office Hours: M-Th 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM

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)

Week of March 5, 2023

Ordinary Income	St Columban	St Peter
Weekly Goal	\$5,800.00	\$1,000.00
Collection (Cash & Envelopes)	\$2,969.00	\$1,306.00
Online Giving	\$1,532.61	\$591.86
Net	(\$1,298.39)	\$897.86
Special Funds		
St Vincent DePaul	\$314.59	\$0.00
Sacramentals (Candles, Beeswax tapers, Salt)	\$19.00	\$15.00
Flowers	\$70.00	\$12.00
Building Fund	\$69.79	\$20.00
Mass Intentions	\$70.00	\$100.00
2 nd Collection (Catholic Home Missions)	\$189.28	\$0.00

Weekly Calendar & Mass Intentions

All events are at St. Columban unless otherwise noted.

MONDAY March 20 *St. Joseph, Spouse of the BVM*
 Rosary Prayer Group 7:00PM Church

TUESDAY March 21
 Mass 9:00 AM *Int: Parish Staff* Church
 Choir Practice 6:00PM Church
 RCIA 6:30PM RE Building
 Spanish Prayer Group 6:30PM Parish Hall

WEDNESDAY March 22
 Mass 9:00 AM *+In Mem: Marjorie West RIP* Church

THURSDAY March 23 *St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bp*
 Mass 9:00 AM *Int: Faith Formation Program* Church
 Sunday Scripture Study 6:30 PM RE Bldg

FRIDAY March 24
 Mass 9:00 AM *Int: Youth Ministry* Church
 Homeschool Enrichment 10:00AM RE Building
 Stations of the Cross 6:00 PM Church & St. Peter
 Confessions 6:00 PM - until all are heard Church
 Soup Supper 6:30 PM Parish Hall & St. Peter

SATURDAY March 25 *The Annunciation of the Lord*
 Confessions 3:30 PM Church
 Anticipatory Sunday Mass 5:00 PM *Int.: Pro Populo* Church

SUNDAY March 26 **5th Sunday of Lent Year A**
 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 Scripture Study (Grades 6-12) 9:15-10:00 AM Small Hall
 Confirmation Preparation 11:45-1:00 PM RE Building
 Knights of Columbus Breakfast 11:45AM Parish Hall

Fridays of Lent

ST. COLUMBAN

Stations of the Cross & Confessions
 6:00PM

Soup Supper (Parish Hall) - 6:30PM
 March 24 *hosted by the Daughters of Mary*
 March 31 *hosted by St. Vincent de Paul*

ST. PETER MISSION

Stations of the Cross 6:00PM
 Soup Supper 6:30PM

On the cover *Healing the Man Born Blind* by El Greco, ca. 1570
 (Staatliche Kunstsammlungen, Dresden).

A Word from Father Thompson



As I wrote about in previous weeks (again, a 30,000' view), the ancient Church had a 2-track process of penance: the Order of Penitents for serious public sins, and an open-ended private process for private sins. While the Order of Penitents did technically exist in the Church's documents until the 1960s, after Christianity was legalized and persecutions ended, it swiftly fell into disuse (if the bishop never denounced a sinner, he was never cast out and could use the private process, which was far less onerous).

The private process also underwent some level of deformation in late antiquity. Different regions emphasized different elements of the process of Reconciliation, and disunity arose in various parts of the Christian world. The need for massive numbers of priests as entire nations converted didn't help either, and the Church often had to find way to make do with clergy who were not well formed in theological or spiritual matters. In Continental Europe, a practice of publishing tables of sins and associated penances in books called "penitentials" arose. Priests would keep a ledger of their parishioners' assigned penances (but not the sins, obviously) as if they were debts, and give absolution when they were complete. This in turn led to odd situations such as people paying others to do penances for them, or people doing a penance (such as a pilgrimage) in advance of confessing sins in the expectation that the priest would judge that the already-done penance would suffice to "pay for" the sin and absolve the pilgrims immediately.

In Ireland, penances were treated as punishments to appease an offended God by offsetting the illicit pleasure of the sins with physical mortifications. In addition to spiritual works like prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, things such as sleeping in open graves or standing in frozen rivers were often assigned.

In both cases, and other practices in other countries I didn't mention, one big issue was that penances were treated like debts or penal sentences, rather than medicine to help heal and reorient one's moral life. Furthermore, because the debt to God was the focus, the Irish sometimes didn't always confess to priests (sometimes lay monks took confessions), and the Continental Europeans sometimes didn't return for Absolution after the penances were complete (thinking that they were square with God, having "settled the debt"). This only was intensified when Ireland sent missionaries to Northern Europe and multiple practices converged and got muddled.

Eventually, when Charlemagne established the Holy Roman Empire in Europe, he appealed to the Pope to correct this confusion, and the Pope obliged. The Pope clarified that while spiritual direction and discipline could be sought from holy people, Sacramental Confession requires the power of Holy Orders given to priests alone. The pope also clarified that a priest could not just implicitly reconcile a person by readmitting him to communion, but that he must give an explicit absolution in an approved form.

A little later, to combat the "penance as debt" misunderstanding that still persisted after Charlemagne and the Pope's intervention, the Absolution was moved to within the Confession itself, on the promise by the penitent that any penances assigned would be faithfully completed afterwards. A few other shifts and modifications continued over the years (e.g. screens for anonymity came in around the 16th century), but by the 11th-12th century or so, the familiar pattern of confession, counsel, assignment of penance, act of contrition, and absolution, became more or less the universal standard in the Roman Rite (the Eastern Christians have their own history and development of how they celebrate this, and each, sacrament).

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, Mary Taylor, Jeanine Kavanaugh, Vivienne Hayden, Ralph Monroe, Robert Fisher, Joseph Whitney

The Deceased

Karen Bellrose, Nick Lock, Marjorie West

Extraordinary Intentions

- + All those in harm's way, especially those experiencing natural disasters and terrorism.
- + 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.*

Parish Ministries & 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



Holy Week & Easter Schedule

Last Lenten Confessions March 31, 6:00 PM and April 1, 3:30 PM at St. Columban. Regular Confession hours resume April 15.



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, April 2

8:00 AM – St. Peter Mission

10:30 AM – St. Columban

Mass begins with procession in the Parish Hall



Holy Wednesday, April 5 Tenebrae

7:00 PM – St. Columban

Service of Shadows

Join us in sung prayer as we enter into the Holy Triduum



Holy Thursday, April 6

7:00 AM – St. Columban

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Ends with procession to the Parish Hall & Adoration



Good Friday, April 7*

7:00 PM – St. Columban

Celebration of the Passion of the Lord (Liturgy of the Word, Solemn Intercessions, Adoration of the Holy Cross)

*Obligatory Day of Fasting & Abstinence



THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Easter Vigil in the Holy Night, April 8

8:00 PM – St. Columban

Initiation & Baptism of RCIA Candidates

Morning Mass of Easter Sunday, April 9

8:00 AM – St. Peter Mission

10:30 AM – St. Columban

Childrens' Easter Egg Hunt follows Mass in the Church Yard



Altar Society
Meets every Thursday after Daily Mass to clean the church.

Daughters of Mary
St. Columban Catholic Church Yelm, WA

Monthly Meeting
April 11th
10:00 AM RE Bldg.
daughtersofmary@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Knights of Columbus
Council 17152

Parish Breakfast: Next Sunday March 26, after the 10:30 AM Mass

Next Meeting: April 19th
5:30 PM Church 6 PM Hall

Free membership for one year for new online applications submitted the entire month of March 2023

Visit kofc.org/joinus enter code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY

Prayer Groups

Rosary Prayer Group
Mondays - Church
7:00 PM

Spanish Prayer Group
Tuesdays - Hall
6:30PM

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Monthly Meeting
April 20th, 7:00 PM
Parish Hall

St. Peter's Circle
St. Peter Mission
Tenino

Next Meeting
May 9th 9:30 AM

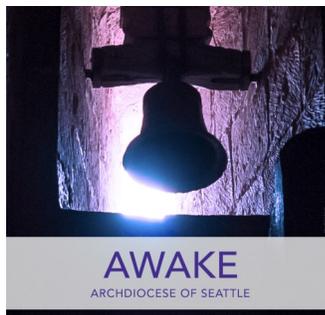
Lent: Reflect and Renew

March 19-25

Conversation starts this week:

- Did you make time to pray today? What are ways you make time to pray to Jesus in the morning, throughout the day, at meals, and in the evening before bed?
- What are your favorite prayers and why? What prayers have you heard but never memorized? Can you think of one and try to memorize it as a family?
- Sometimes it helps to pray for what's in your heart when others are praying with you. Is there something specific you would like to pray for today? If you are ready, take a moment to share with your family and ask them to pray with you.

Lent calls us to conversion through the three pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Visit archseattle.org/lent for additional resources and inspiration.



FASTING & ABSTINENCE Catholics of age 14 and older abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all Fridays of Lent. In addition, on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, Catholics from age 18-59 fast; limiting themselves to one full meal and two smaller meals each day.

PRAYER– Consider singing or praying the seasonal Marian Antiphon with your family before bed. During Lent, the Marian Antiphon that is prayed is the *Ave Regina Caelorum*. The lyrics for the hymn are translated:

Hail, O Queen of the heavens. Hail, O Lady of the angels. Hail, root of Jesse and the portal from which the world's true Light is risen. Rejoice, O glorious Virgin, O fairest of all creatures. Farewell, O most lovely one; pray for us to Christ, our Lord.

VI

A - ve Re-gi-na cæ-ló-rum, * Ave Dómi-na Ange-ló-rum: Salve rá-dix, salve porta, Ex qua mundo lux est orta: Gaude Virgo glo-ri- ó-sa, Su-per o-mnes spe-ci- ó-sa: Va-le, o valde de-có-ra, Et pro no-bis Christum ex-ó-ra.

This year, since March 19 falls on Sunday, the Solemnity of St. Joseph, husband of Mary is celebrated on Monday, March 20.



Memorare to St. Joseph - Remember, O most chaste spouse of the Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who implored your help and sought your intercession were left unassisted. Full of confidence in your power I fly unto you and beg your protection. Despise not, O Guardian of the Redeemer, my humble supplication, but in your bounty, hear and answer me. Amen.

Act of Consecration to St. Joseph - O dearest St. Joseph, I consecrate myself to your honor and give myself to you, that you may always be my father, my protector and my guide in the way of salvation. Obtain for me a greater purity of heart and fervent love of the interior life. After your example may I do all my actions for the greater glory of God, in union with the Divine Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. O Blessed St. Joseph, pray for me, that I may share in the peace and joy of your holy death. Amen.

Catholic Media Recommendations for Everyone



Our parish pays for a subscription to FORMED.org, a streaming service from the Augustine Institute and Ignatius press.

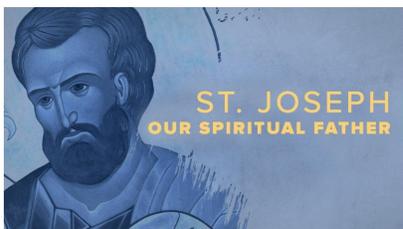
Go to formed.org/signup and enter our parish name to redeem your FREE membership.

Once logged-in access these suggestions at watch.formed.org/this-week-on-formed



The Annunciation Sacred Art

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp as they discuss the spiritual and theological significance of the Annunciation over a piece of Sacred Art by Elizabeth Zelasko that depicts this incredible scene.



St. Joseph: Our Spiritual Father

While the Gospel has not preserved any of his words, his actions have resounded through the ages. St. Joseph stands out as the model par excellence of Christian virtue. Encounter St. Joseph in a new way with St. Joseph: Our Spiritual Father.

Elementary Faith Formation



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

On this Fourth Sunday of Lent, all students in 2nd and 3rd grade will be encouraged to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

An Examination of Conscience for Children

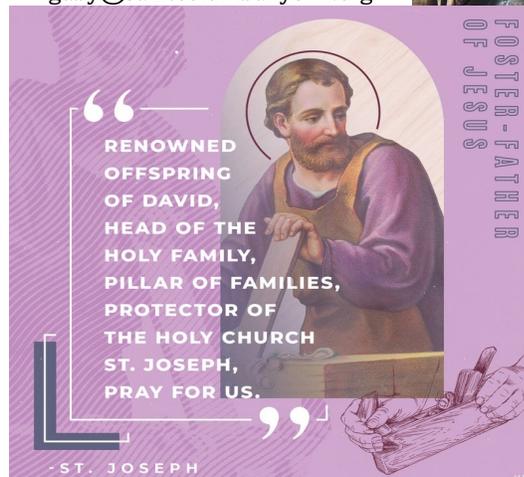
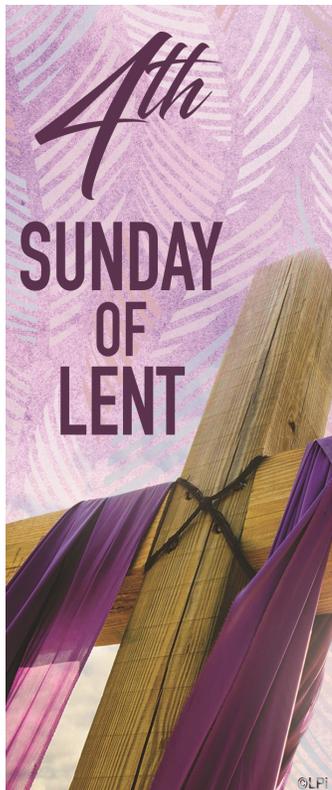
Responsibilities to God

- Have I prayed every day?
- Have I prayed my morning prayers and night prayers?
- Have I prayed with my parents and family?
- Have I been moody and rebellious about praying and going to church on Sunday?
- Have I asked the Holy Spirit to help me whenever I have been tempted to sin?
- Have I asked the Holy Spirit to help me do what is right?

Responsibilities to others

- Have I been obedient and respectful to my parents?
- Have I lied or been deceitful to them or to others?
- Have I been arrogant, stubborn or rebellious?
- Have I talked back to parents, teachers or other adults?
- Have I pouted and been moody?
- Have I been selfish toward my parents, brothers, and sisters, teachers, or my friends and schoolmates?
- Have I gotten angry at them? Have I hit anyone?
- Have I held grudges or not forgiven others?
- Have I treated other children with respect or have I made fun of them and called them names?
- Have I used bad language?
- Have I stolen anything? Have I returned it?
- Have I performed my responsibilities, such as homework and household chores?
- Have I been helpful and affectionate toward my family?
- Have I been kind and generous with my friends?

(There is a link to this examination of conscience and more regarding children and reconciliation in the ebulletin link.)



We will pray this prayer to St. Joseph in class today:

Prayer to St. Joseph for Fathers

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

St. Joseph Terror of demons,
Pray for us!

RCIA & Adult Faith Formation



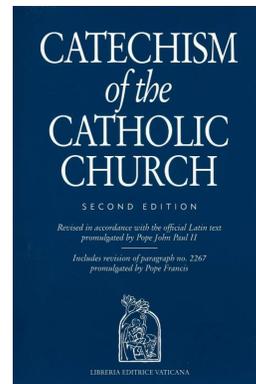
Our RCIA classes have come to an end.

Registration for the upcoming year 2023-2024 is happening now through September when classes begin. Please contact Gaby Makinster for more information on how to register.

For the next couple of weeks we will share what the **Catechism of the Catholic Church** says about the Precepts of the Church. What are the Precepts and what do they mean?

The Precepts of the Church are set in the context of a moral life bound to and nourished by liturgical life. The obligatory character of these positive laws decreed by the pastoral authorities is meant to **guarantee to the faithful the very necessary minimum in the spirit of prayer and moral effort**, in the growth in love of God and neighbor: CCC-2041-2043

1. You shall attend Mass on Sundays and on holy days of obligation & rest from servile labor.
2. You shall confess your sins at least once a year (unless there is mortal sin)
3. You shall receive the sacrament of Eucharist at least during the Easter Season.
4. You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church.
5. You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church.



Youth Ministry & Confirmation



Youth Ministry Saturday

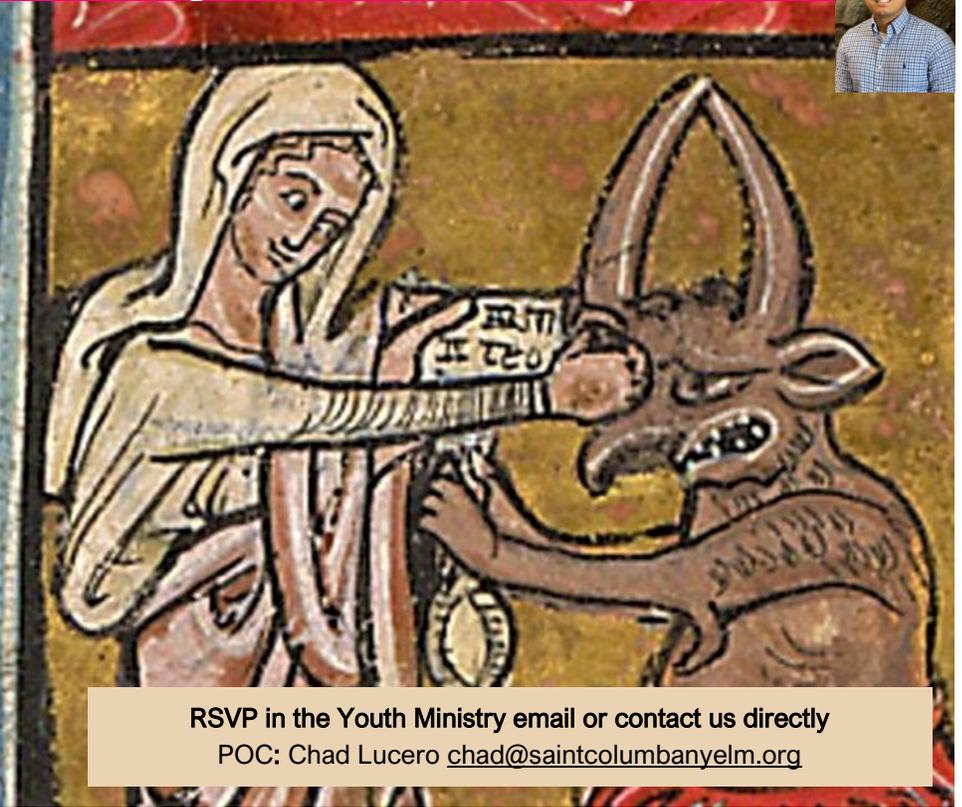
A Mini-Retreat for everyone
Grades 6-12

March 25

9am-2pm

Parish Hall

Community Service
Discussion about The Annunciation,
Holy Week & Easter
Potluck meal
Maybe a movie
Get to know Eucharistic Adoration
Opportunity for Confession
Fun & Games



RSVP in the Youth Ministry email or contact us directly
POC: Chad Lucero chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org

CONFIRMATION

Second Year Confirmation update

Our Confirmation Date is set! Friday, April 28 at 6:30pm.

Second Year Confirmation Candidates: You will need to complete missed classes at home. Due by April 16. Next Sunday classes will discuss the tradition of taking a Saint Name for Confirmation and what happens at the Confirmation Mass. Classes on April 30 and May 7 will cover mystagogy.

Rehearsal for Confirmation Mass is scheduled for April 23, after the 10:30am Mass. Sponsors or a stand-in are required to attend.

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Youth Sunday Scripture Study meets 9:15-10AM in the Youth Space.

Bible Tidbit: The New Testament has 27 books, and it is comprised of 260 chapters of 7,957 verses.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is called Laetare Sunday, from the first words of the Introit (Entrance Antiphon) at Mass, "Laetare Jerusalem" ("Rejoice, O Jerusalem"). Like Gaudete Sunday midway through Advent, Laetare reminds us of the event we look forward to at the end of the penitential season and the joy in anticipation of the Resurrection. Father's vestments for Laetare Sunday are colored Rose, as they also are on Gaudete Sunday during the Third Sunday of Advent. Always remember Jesus rose from the dead on the Third Day.

From the Archdiocese



We invite you to read the complete Q&A, read the latest updates, and learn more at archseattle.org/partners

Why the focus on strategic pastoral planning?

The mission of the Catholic Church is at the heart of strategic pastoral planning. To achieve our mission, we must re-invigorate our parish communities, which includes adapting to the needs of the faithful and to our current reality. As part of strategic pastoral planning, we continually examine our resources and how we can best use them to support vibrant, sustainable, mission-focused parish communities across the entire Archdiocese of Seattle.

When will this happen?

Here is a timeline of the key milestones for Partners in the Gospel:

- January 2023: Public launch
- Fall 2023: Invitation to provide input on parish families
- Early 2024: Final parish family structures announced
- July 2024: Parish families go into effect with one pastor
- 2024-2027: Parish families journey together
- 2027: Parish families become one canonical parish

What are the benefits of this approach?

This highly consultative approach gives parishioners the ability to provide input and take an active role in building their local Church. The process allows communities time to truly journey together and accompany one another while forming one new vibrant community. It is intended to give priests more time for pastoral care.

Holy Week & Easter Masses 2023

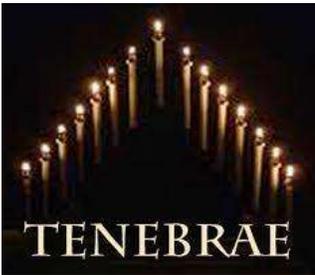


Palm Sunday – April 2nd *Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*

8:00AM Mass @ St. Peter Mission

10:30AM Mass @ St. Columban

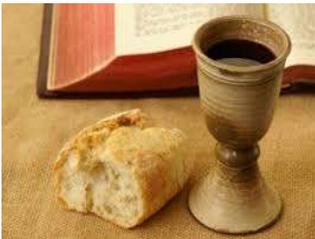
Procession will start in the Parish Hall



Tenebrae – Wednesday April 5th *Service of Shadows*

7:00PM at St. Columban

Join us in sung prayer as we enter into the Holy Triduum.



Holy Thursday – April 6th

Mass of the Lord's Supper

7PM Mass @ St. Columban

Adoration to follow in the Parish Hall



Good Friday – April 7th

The Passion of the Lord

**Obligatory Day of Fasting & Abstinence*

7PM Service @ St. Columban

With Veneration of the Cross



Easter Vigil – April 8th

8PM Mass @ St. Columban

Initiation & Baptism for RCIA Candidates



Easter Sunday– April 9th

Sunday of the Resurrection

8AM Mass @ St. Peter Mission

10:30AM Mass @ St. Columban

Easter Egg Hunt

April 9th after the 10:30 AM Mass

Parents, please meet in the Large Hall for some instructions and dismissal.



Children of all ages are welcome to participate!

This year's Egg hunt is sponsored by the Daughters of Mary. A group open to all women of the parish. "In the spirit of Mary our Mother, we strive to be attentive to the spiritual and corporal needs of our pastor, parish, and community through service and prayer."



Daughters of Mary

St. Columban Catholic Church Yelm, WA

SUPPORT THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION

REVEAL
Christ's
LOVE



DEAR FATHER,

Your diocese will soon take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. When your parishioners participate in the collection, they support organizations that provide housing for victims of natural disasters, pastoral ministries to travelers and migrants who lack consistent access to the sacramental life of a parish community, legal services for immigrants and asylum seekers needing help to understand and comply with complex immigration laws, and refugees displaced by the violence of war.

For nearly 60 years, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' office of Migration and Refugee Services (MRS) has assisted victims of war and persecution coming to the United States in search of asylum, peace, and stability. Through local diocesan resettlement offices, MRS welcomes them and provides legal and educational support, assistance finding housing and employment, and resources such as volunteer English tutoring. MRS, in cooperation with the U.S. government, helped develop and staff eight reception sites to welcome Afghans who were evacuated from Afghanistan after it fell to the Taliban in the summer and autumn of 2021. More than 75,000 Afghan refugees were welcomed in the reception centers; after their arrival, MRS provided the educational and legal support they needed to adjust to life in the United States. By cooperating with other organizations such as Catholic Charities and Catholic Relief Services, MRS has followed the gospel command to welcome the stranger.

Works of mercy, such as the welcome provided to victims of war by Migration and Refugee Services, are at the heart of the mission of The Catholic Relief Services Collection, through which MRS receives crucial support. When you participate in the collection, you sustain that work and ease the burdens of refugees starting new lives here in the United States.

Four practical ways you can support The Catholic Relief Services Collection are to mention it at Mass, tell this story, use the parish appeal or bulletin announcements inside, and use the additional resources, including web ads and a social media tool kit, available at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief/collection. If you have questions or need additional materials, please contact our promotions staff at 202-541-3346 or ncpromo@usccb.org.

Thank you for **revealing Christ's love** to people living on the margins of society. We could not do this without you.

+ James S. Wall

Most Reverend James S. Wall
Bishop of Gallup
Chairman, USCCB Committee on
National Collections

PARISH APPEAL

Today we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Your support for this collection aids victims of persecution and natural disasters, provides legal services to poor immigrants, and advocates for the powerless. Through your generosity, six Catholic agencies reveal Christ's love to the vulnerable refugee, the immigrant family, and those who are poor and marginalized. Please prayerfully consider contributing to The Catholic Relief Services Collection today.

LLAMADO A LA PARROQUIA

Hoy realizaremos The Catholic Relief Services Collection. El apoyo de ustedes a esta colecta ayuda a las víctimas de persecución y de desastres naturales, proporciona servicios legales a los inmigrantes de bajos recursos y aboga por las personas indefensas. Gracias a su generosidad, seis agencias revelan el amor de Cristo al refugiado vulnerable, a la familia inmigrante y a los pobres y marginados. Por favor, en oración, consideren contribuir hoy a The Catholic Relief Services Collection.

YOUR DONATIONS HELP OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS . . .

IN THE UNITED STATES

Feed Jesus' hunger in suffering refugees . . . through the **USCCB Department of Migration and Refugee Services** (MRS).

Offer legal assistance to Jesus in struggling immigrants . . . through the **Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc.** (CLINIC).

Reach out to comfort Jesus' loneliness in isolated workers . . . through the pastoral work of the **USCCB Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church**.

AND AROUND THE WORLD

Give water to quench Jesus' thirst in the people of Syria and Niger . . . through the humanitarian work of **Catholic Relief Services** (CRS).

Advocate on behalf of Jesus in the poor and marginalized . . . through the public policy work of the **USCCB Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development**.

Send aid to Jesus in the victims of natural disaster . . . through the **Holy Father's Relief Fund**.





ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE

At Home with

Faith

Though Lent is a penitential time, moments like Laetare Sunday can also be joyful. Through our disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, God opens our eyes to the actions of Jesus in our lives.



Photo: Adobe Stock

When we hear the unfolding drama of the man born blind, it's hard not to be surprised and disappointed by the response of the Pharisees. Rather than realizing the good thing that Jesus did, they respond with eyes, hearts, and minds closed to the kingdom of God unfolding before them.

God's work is always greater than our imagination. That is why we continually need to ask Jesus to open our eyes, hearts, and minds to him, the Word of God. The practices of Lent help us do this.

On this Laetare Sunday, let's pause and rejoice. Though a penitential time, Lent can also be joyful as, through our practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, God opens our eyes to his work.

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.

1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 1-13

God calls Samuel to anoint David, the youngest brother.

Psalms 23

The Lord guides us in straight paths.

Ephesians 5:8-14

Live as children of the light.

John 9:1-41

Jesus heals the man born blind; some do not believe, but others do.

At Home with Faith

Talk

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

In Jesus' encounter with the man born blind, Jesus heals his blindness and changes his life forever. The man now sees on both a physical and spiritual level.

From time to time, God does this for us in small ways. He opens our eyes to a deeper reality, or he helps us to see that we were on the wrong path.

Take some time to reflect on an experience when God helped you see things in a way you could not before. Perhaps God helped you overcome a lack of faith. Or maybe your heart was burdened by a resentment, and God removed that burden by helping you to forgive.

Then, share this experience with your family. Let them know how God restored your powers of perception so that they may become more prepared to let him do that for them as well.

Visit us online for more prayer resources and weekly Lenten reflections:

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



Photo: Adobe Stock

March 19 is the Feast of St. Joseph. Check out this video to learn more about St. Joseph:



**Who is St. Joseph?
MEET THE SAINTS**

<https://youtu.be/GEVikiTv1fA>

Have you ever wondered what Laetare Sunday is or why priests wear rose on Laetare Sunday or why it is important? Watch this 2-minute video to learn more.



**What is Laetare Sunday?
3 Things to Know**

<https://youtu.be/4f2OcZld6Go>

For more resources, visit us online at:

<https://www.athomewithfaith.org>



SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2023

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT



When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out,
he found him and said, "Do you believe in the
Son of Man?" - Jn 9:35

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

Then Samuel, with the horn of oil in hand,
anointed David in the presence of his brothers;
and from that day on, the spirit of the LORD
rushed upon David. (1 Sm 16:13)

Psalm:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
(Ps 23)

Second Reading:

"Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will give you light." (Eph 5:14)

Gospel:

He spat on the ground
and made clay with the saliva,
and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him,
"Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" — which means
Sent — .
So he went and washed, and came back able to
see. (Jn 9:6-7)

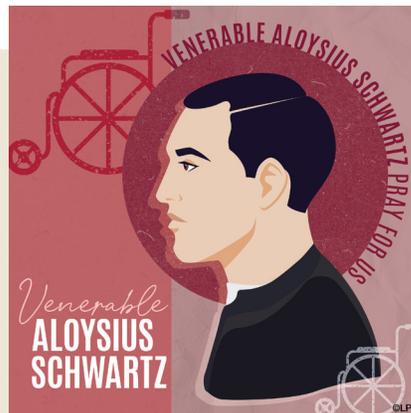
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

The blind man showed great bravery by speaking of Christ's miracle in the face of the Pharisees' disdain. But then, how could he ignore the truth, once he had seen it? It would be a form of blindness worse than the absence of physical sight. To deny Christ would be a blindness he chose for himself.

Observances for the week of March 19, 2023

- Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Lent
Monday: St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thursday: St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop
Saturday: The Annunciation of the Lord
Next Sunday: 5th Sunday of Lent



Saint of the week

Venerable Aloysius Schwartz (Father Al) spent his life embracing poverty, building hospitals, and supporting orphans in war-torn Korea, the Philippines, and the Americas. His legacy lives on through the religious orders he founded — the Sisters of Mary and the Brothers of Christ.

Prayer

Prayer for Venerable Aloysius Schwartz's intercession

Almighty, ever-living God, giver of good gifts, You have filled Msgr. Al with an ardent love for You and for souls. You have inspired him to dedicate his life to relieve the suffering of the orphans, abandoned, the sick and poor, especially the youth, which he did with all humility and courage until the end of his life. May his holy life of love and service to the poor be recognized by the Church through his beatification and canonization.

For Your honor and glory, we pray that the life of Msgr. Al. be an inspiration for us in striving for perfection in the love of God and service to others. I ask You to bestow upon me, through the intercession of Fr. Al (your intention).

I ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, and the maternal aid of Mary, the Virgin of the Poor.

Amen.

Readings for the week of March 19, 2023

- Sunday:** 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
- Monday:** 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
- Tuesday:** Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16
- Wednesday:** Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd 14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30
- Thursday:** Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21 22, 23/Jn 5:31-47
- Friday:** Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
- Saturday:** Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7 8a,8b-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10 Lk 1:26-38
- Next Sunday:** Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

God asks a rhetorical and slightly sarcastic question to Samuel, the prophet: **“How long will you grieve for Saul, whom I have rejected as king of Israel?”** Like us, Samuel is depressed that the old king failed. It’s painful to admit that the old regime is done. But God won’t let us wallow our pity-party forever. **“I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem,”** announces the Lord, **“for I have chosen my king from among his sons.”** Samuel finally goes and anoints the young David as the new king. And his kingdom is glorious; it’s the golden age of Israel’s earthly history.

How discouraging to see that my own selfish ego is no longer in charge! How long will I grieve that money, power, pleasure, and reputation have been rejected as the ruler of my life? How wonderful that God has a new future in store for you and me. He is sending us to Bethlehem to anoint the new David as our king. His kingdom won’t fail us. He’ll slay our goliaths, unite our dispersed energies, and build a Temple where God himself will dwell.

So how long will you grieve? How long?

— *Father John Muir*

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Not As Man Sees

I don't know Fr. Stu personally, but I've heard a fair number of his homilies. I think it is safe to assume that if he and I were to get into a discussion on any number of things, from church history to liturgical music to stand-up comedy, each of us would cringe at the opinions of the other.

But Fr. Stu happens to offer just about the only confession time within 20 miles of me that consistently works with my schedule. That means that, quite by accident, Fr. Stu is my regular confessor. For years now, he's sat patiently on the other side of the grille, listening to me pour out the details of my transgressions, from the pathetic to the embarrassing, and he absolves me of my sins.

In the Gospel, Christ links vision with humility and pride with blindness. We see again and again in Scripture how God delights in surprising us, in revealing himself through people, places, and experiences we not only didn't expect but perhaps had totally written off.

We are right to be proud of the truth, but we are wrong if the truth causes us to be proud of ourselves. The truth no more belongs to the one who believes it than sight belongs to the blind man in the Gospel. A gift does not reflect on the recipient. It reflects on the giver.

After a great deal of thought, I've decided to be grateful that God contrived to give me a confessor whom I strongly disagree with on so many things. It's a powerful reminder of how much I must receive from other people, even those I may think are wrong. In that confessional, Fr. Stu is only a priest, and I am only a sinner.

"Not as man sees does God see." — 1 Samuel 16:7

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

What can I do to help our family practice our faith each day?

Answer:

Some families practice their religion together as just another event on their schedule: go to church, observe Lent, help at the parish picnic, go to a meeting, volunteer time, make your confession, use your envelope... But the focus needs to be on who we are—God's people, in relationship with him, loved, forgiven, and redeemed, and called to live and proclaim the Gospel. Our awareness of God's presence and our sense of mission are supported by the daily rituals, celebrations, and traditions that help us stay focused. Sharing our faith strengthens us and clarifies the beliefs and values of Christian living.

Daily family practices include time for prayer—before meals, before bed, before important meetings and activities. Attend Sunday Mass together and discuss the homily afterward. Create family celebrations for holy days and holidays. Make religion a regular part of your discussions. Include others, especially the elderly and the less fortunate, in your activities and charitable efforts. By applying the virtues of faith, hope, and love to each day, faith becomes part of who your family is. It influences how you act towards others, what you value, and how mindful of God you are. Faith is the leaven of life that helps all of us rise to our calling and dignity as God's people.

They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see."

- Jn 9:13-15

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Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

Much to Samuel's surprise, the Lord instructed him to anoint the youngest of Jesse's sons, David, to be the next king of Israel. When have you been surprised by God?

Second Reading

Paul urges the Ephesians: "Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord." What do you think pleases the Lord?

Gospel Reading

Jesus' healing of the blind man created confusion, anger, and fear among some of the people witnessing this event. In a real sense, Jesus' healing exposed the blindness of others. How do we prevent ourselves from being blind to God's presence in this season of Lent?



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FOSTER-FATHER OF JESUS

“ RENOWNED OFFSPRING OF DAVID, HEAD OF THE HOLY FAMILY, PILLAR OF FAMILIES, PROTECTOR OF THE HOLY CHURCH ST. JOSEPH, PRAY FOR US. ”

- ST. JOSEPH



When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered and said, “Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “I do believe, Lord,” and he worshiped him. - Jn 9:35-38

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Prayer

Jesus, thank you for helping the blind man believe in you.

Mission for the Week

Draw a cross and put it in a place where you can see it and think of Jesus every day.

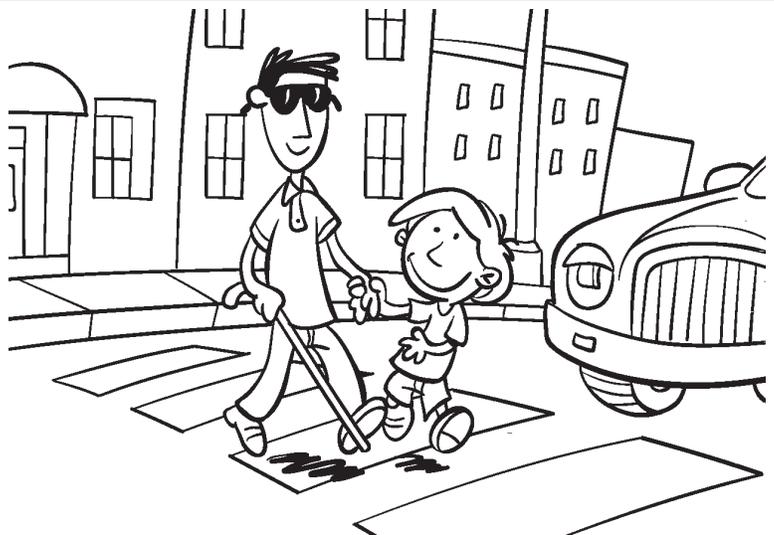
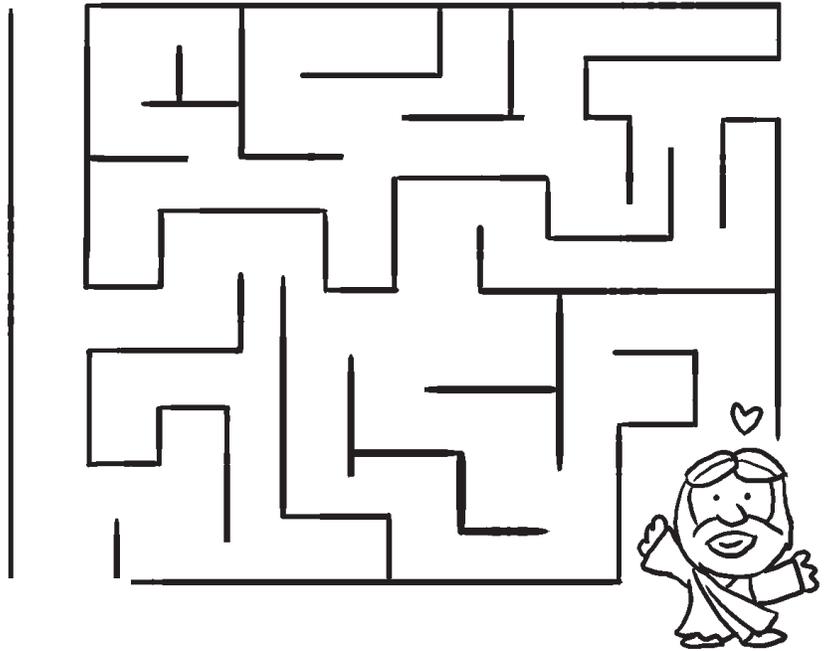
Sharing the Gospel

When Jesus saw the blind man, he did not just walk by. Jesus stopped. He knew he could help the man, and honor God at the same time. Showing all of God's love and power, Jesus healed the blind man's eyes. For the first time in his life, the man could see Jesus and believe in him.

Now color the picture!



Help me to find God!





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