

Christi simus, non nostri

We belong to Christ, not ourselves

# ST COLUMBAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

A Parish of the  
Archdiocese of Seattle

**February 18, 2024**

**First 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

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

**Sacramental Emergencies:** 208-572-5251 *The church may be open for prayer during office hours upon request.*

**Entrance Antiphon:** *When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.*

**First Reading:** Genesis 9:8-15

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 25 "Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant."

**Second Reading:** 1 Peter 3:18-22

**Gospel Acclamation:** *One does not live on bread alone,*

*but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.*

**Gospel:** Mark 1:12-15

**Communion Antiphon:** *The Lord will conceal you with his pinions, and under his wings you will trust.*

**On the Cover:** *Christ Tempted by the Devil* John Ritto Penniman  
Wikimedia Commons

[www.saintcolumbanyelm.org](http://www.saintcolumbanyelm.org)

360-458-3031

[parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org)



# Welcome to St. Columban

## Weekly Calendar & Mass Intentions

All events are at St. Columban unless otherwise noted.

### MONDAY February 19

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Rosary Prayer Group 7 p.m. Church

### TUESDAY February 20

NO DAILY MASS

Winter Clothes Closet 6:00PM-8:00 p.m. Small Hall

Spanish Prayer Group 6:30 PM Hall

### WEDNESDAY February 21 St. Peter Damian, Bishop & Doc.

Mass 9:00 a.m. Intentions of: Robert Fisher Church

Bible Study 10:00 a.m. St. Peter

Winter Clothes Closet 2-4 p.m. Small Hall

### THURSDAY February 22 The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

Mass 9:00 a.m. Church

Winter Clothes Closet 6-8 p.m. Small Hall

Choir Practice 6 p.m. Church

Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Small Hall

### FRIDAY February 23 St. Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr ☩

Mass 9:00 a.m. Church

Homeschool Enrichment 9:45 a.m. RE Bldg

Stations of the Cross 6: 00 p.m. (No Confession) Church

Soup Supper 6:30 p.m. Parish Hall

hosted by the Daughters of Mary & the Altar Society

### SATURDAY February 24

Confession 3:30PM Church

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

### SUNDAY February 25 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

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

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

Religious Ed 9:15 a.m.-10:15 a.m. RE Bldg

Confirmation 9:15 a.m.—10:15 a.m. Sm. Hall/Youth Space

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

Knights of Columbus Breakfast 11:45 a.m. Parish Hall



We proclaim the Roman Catholic faith to the communities of McKenna, Nisqually, Rainier, Roy, Tenino, and Yelm in southeast Thurston and southwest Pierce counties.

Our community has grown since its origins at the former St. Margaret Mary Church in McKenna, and our current church in Yelm is named for the Irish-born 6th century missionary to Europe St. Columbanus of Bobbio. We have also been present in Tenino since 1891 through St. Peter Mission, named for the apostle and first pope.

## Announcements

### Winter Clothes Closet

Tuesdays & Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. and Wednesdays from 2-4 p.m. October thru March. As our season is coming to a close we are no longer accepting donations. Thank you for your continued support of this vital resource for those in need in our community. This year we were able to help over 230 people which is 150% more than the previous year.

**Please be aware of email scams!** Official emails will only originate from our staff emails with our domain [saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:saintcolumbanyelm.org) or from [flocknote.com](http://flocknote.com), or [ccbchurch.com](http://ccbchurch.com). We will never directly solicit for non-official donations or items to purchase by email or text. Donations and fundraisers will always be announced during Mass.

### Fasting and Abstinence During Lent

The current law of the Church obliges those age 14 and over to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent. Those age 18 through 59 are also obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting is defined as one full meal and two other meals which, when combined are less than a full meal.

Announcements continue on page 4.

## Connect with us

WEBSITE [saintcolumbanyelm.org](http://saintcolumbanyelm.org)  
LIVESTREAM

[youtube.com/@stcolumbanyelm](https://youtube.com/@stcolumbanyelm)

SOCIAL MEDIA

[facebook.com/saintcolumbanyelm](https://facebook.com/saintcolumbanyelm)

ONLINE GIVING

[pushpay.com/g/saintcolumbanyelm](https://pushpay.com/g/saintcolumbanyelm)

PARISH STAFF (360) 458-3031

Fr. Brian Thompson In Office: Tu-Th/AM  
Priest Administrator

[frthompson@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:frthompson@saintcolumbanyelm.org) x6

Jennifer Langham In Office: M-Thu

PA for Admin, Liturgy, & Music  
[jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org) x1

Matthew Tolar In Office: M-Tu/AM

PA for Admin, Bookkeeping & Records  
[matthew@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:matthew@saintcolumbanyelm.org) x4

Gabriela Makinster In Office: Tu-Th  
Elementary & Adult Faith Formation,  
[gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org) x2  
\*habla Español

Chad Lucero  
Youth Ministry & Confirmation  
[chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org) x3

Steven Slater St. Columban Maintenance  
[steven@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:steven@saintcolumbanyelm.org)

Gilberto Espino St. Peter Maintenance  
[gilberto@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:gilberto@saintcolumbanyelm.org)

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](mailto:stpeteradvisory@saintcolumbanyelm.org)

Parish Finance Council Joseph Judge (St Columban), Mari Evans (St Peter)

## A Word from Father Thompson



On Ash Wednesday, I mentioned that Lent took its origins from the customary preparation of Catechumens for Baptism and Penitents for Reconciliation. I thought some might be interested to hear a bit more about the history of the Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation/Confession. I am glossing over many details, but this is a rough sketch:

In the earliest days of the Church, though we understood that Christ gave the Apostles the authority to forgive sins (who passed it down to bishops, who delegate it down to their priests), there was disagreement as to when and how to use this power for someone who has already been baptized. Initially, the thought was that Baptism was one's primary chance at repentance, and that if one was caught sinning gravely afterwards, he would be expelled from the community and given a heavy list of penances to help reform his life. If he was faithful to this penance, the bishop would pray over the sinner on his deathbed, asking that as the sinner encounters the mystery of death, God might forgive the sin of the repentant. At first, this deathbed prayer was without the Sacraments, but later the penitent would be given Viaticum; The bishop himself offering Holy Communion effected the end of the sinner's excommunication, and the contact with the all-pure Christ in Holy Communion effected the purification and forgiveness of the penitent's sin.

Later, penitents were reconciled not on their deathbeds, but after they had demonstrated sufficient conversion, in the process I mentioned on Ash Wednesday. A public grave sinner would be expelled from the community. If he wanted to repent, a priest would meet with him to assign penances (which could take years; also, if the sin was renouncing the Faith under persecution, the sinner had to first seek the endorsement of someone condemned to die for the Faith, or at least someone who had suffered and not apostatized). The sinner could then return to the church grounds but would be allowed only to kneel or lie prostrate outside the door, begging for the prayers of the faithful. As his repentance continued, his priest would allow him to listen to the Readings at Mass, but only in the vestibule and through the closed door of the church. Next, he would be allowed into the church, but would have to leave after the Homily. Finally, ashes would be imposed on him 40 days prior to Easter, and on Holy Thursday, the Bishop would welcome him back to Communion. At first, this was simply by administering Holy Communion to the repentant person (with the same logic as deathbed Communion), but later an explicit absolution was added to the Holy Thursday ceremony which begged God to rejoin the sinner to the Body of Christ not because the sinner deserves forgiveness but because the Body of Christ would be maimed without all its members. Note this was all done in public for publicly known heinous sins. I will talk about private penance next week.

In Christ

*Father Thompson*

*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*



### FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND\*

Stan Villadelgado,  
Robert Fisher, Tina  
Wilson, and Theresa  
Gonzales.

### FOR THE DECEASED

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

### FOR OUR EXTRAORDINARY INTENTIONS

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

### PRAYER INTENTIONS OF THE POPE

**FEBRUARY:** For The  
Terminally Ill  
Let us pray that the sick  
who are in the final  
stages of life, and their  
families, receive the  
necessary medical and  
human care and  
accompaniment.

*Our Father..., Hail  
Mary..., Glory Be...*

*The church may be open  
for prayer during office  
hours upon request.*

### Act of Contrition

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because of thy just punishments, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, who art all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace to sin no more and to avoid the near occasion of sin. Amen.

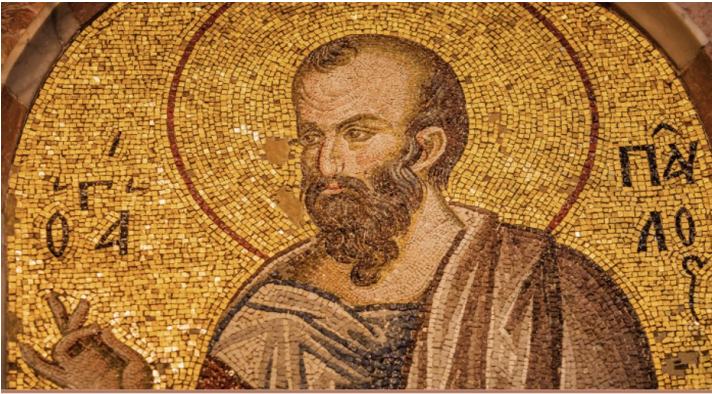
\*To add a name to this list or request a Mass Intention please contact the parish office. All submissions must have permission from the named individual or an authorized family member for privacy purposes. St. Columban Prayer Chain: Confidential and private prayer chain. To join, contact the parish office.

## Ministries & Events

Whether you are new to the parish or have been here for many years, we encourage you to share your time, talents and treasures in support of the mission of our parish community. Contact Jennifer Langham at the Parish Office for more information about events and to connect with a group: 360-458-3031x1 / jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org



### Outside Events & Notices



### A PILGRIMAGE TO GREECE

Under the Spiritual Direction of Most Rev. Frank R. Schuster  
Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Seattle, Washington  
Group Coordinator: Ms. Erin Oest-Larsen

Hosted by the Crozier Society of the Archdiocese of Seattle

Land Only Program

**11-Days: October 8 to 18, 2024**

You are invited to follow in the footsteps of St. Paul the Apostle and the Early Christian Community with Bishop Schuster and Fr. Johnson. Enjoy Greek culture and cuisine while seeing the Acts of the Apostles and Letters of St. Paul come alive in your travels.

Please use this link: [archseattle.org/events/pilgrimage-to-greece-with-bishop-schuster/](https://archseattle.org/events/pilgrimage-to-greece-with-bishop-schuster/) to learn more about the pilgrimage and register for this amazing opportunity!

Please contact Carin Brown at:  
carin.brown@seattlearch.org or 206-274-3117 if you have any questions.

### Financial Stewardship Report

Feb 3-4

Ordinary Income	St Columban	St Peter
Weekly Goal	\$5,800.00	\$1,000.00
Collection (Cash & Envelopes)	\$3,964.00	\$1,163.00
Online Giving	\$260.00	\$670.00
Net	(\$1,576.00)	\$833.00
<b>NW Catholic</b>	\$0.00	\$10.00
St Vincent DePaul	\$150.00	\$0.00
Sacramentals	\$29.00	\$0.00
(Candles, Beeswax tapers, Salt)		
Flowers	\$0.00	\$0.00
Building Fund	\$520.00	\$0.00
Mass Intentions	\$15.00	\$0.00
Second Collection	\$0.00	\$0.00

### Altar Society

A team of talented parishioners beautifully maintain and clean the Church every Thursday after Daily Mass.

### Daughters of Mary

daughtersofmary@saintcolumbanyelm.org

All women of the Parish are invited. Next monthly meeting is **Tuesday, Feb 27 at 6 p.m.** in the Parish Hall. Bring your favorite snack to share!

### Liturgical Ministries

parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Altar Servers, Choir, Greeters/Ushers, Readers

### Knights of Columbus

kofc@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Council 17152 and Assembly 3742 meets monthly third Wednesdays of every month. Next meeting **Feb. 21, 5:30 p.m.**

Open to all Catholic gentlemen committed to the exemplification of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism and to the defense of the priesthood.

**Next Sunday Breakfast** Feb. 25 following the 10:30

Mass. Knights please come help starting at 8 a.m. All Parishioners are welcome to eat; donations accepted.

**St. Patrick's Dinner** Saturday March 16 following the 5 p.m. Mass. Tickets are on sale after Sunday Masses next month.

### Society of St. Vincent de Paul

360-458-1904  
Our chapter is composed of parishioners who provide assistance and prayerful healing to those in need in our community. Members meet weekly and monitor the helpline.

### St. Peter Circle

360-264-4856  
Second Tuesdays every other month, beginning in January at St. Peter Tenino. Next meeting this Tuesday March 12.

### Prayer Groups

Rosary group Mondays 7 PM in the Church,  
Spanish Group Tuesdays 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall

### Winter Clothes Closet

Tuesdays & Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. and Wednesdays from 2-4 p.m. October thru March. As our season is coming to a close we are no longer accepting donations. Thank you for your continued support of this vital resource for those in need in our community. This year we were able to help over 230 people which is 150% more than the previous year.



### Elementary Religious Education

*Links to related articles & blogs will be posted in the emailed bulletin and on our social media channels.*



### Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.

**Prayer:** The Family is often referred to as the “Domestic Church”, a place where God is worshipped and adored and his will is sought and acted upon. What does that mean to your family? How does your family fit into the image of the Domestic Church?

**Fasting:** Does your family fast during Friday’s in Lent? Could you fast daily by not taking second helpings? You can also fast from devices and read books instead. There are many ways to fast that are child friendly and good for their character and soul.

**Almsgiving:** As a family, research and select a charity that you will support and share your talents.

Mrs. Makinster  
Elementary & Adult Faith  
Formation,  
gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org  
360-458-3031 x2 *habla Español*

At St. Columban, we provide an opportunity for children and youth to learn about their Catholic faith and grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ through study, prayer, and community service.



### Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)/Adult Faith Formation

*Classes meet Tuesdays 6:30-8pm in the Religious Education building. These classes are open to all adult learners and to those seeking the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.*

Next Class is February 20th and the lesson will be the Sacraments of Healing: Penance, Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick . Fr.

Thompson will be our instructor. This lesson will help us understand both the Church’s teaching about these Sacraments as well as the ceremony of words and actions and when one should seek to celebrate these two sacraments of healing.



### Youth Ministry & Confirmation (Grades 6-12)

**Saint of the Week** St. Pius X (1835 – 1914), born Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto, was from the Austrian Empire in what is now modern-day Veneto, Italy. He was the 257th Pope and served from 1903 until his death in 1914. St. Pius X's love for the Eucharist was evident from a young age and he carried this devotion throughout his life. As Pope, he emphasized the importance of fostering a personal relationship with Jesus through the Sacrament, advocating for its accessibility to all Catholics, regardless of social status.

One of St. Pius X's most significant contributions to the Church was the role he played in lowering the age of eligibility for First Communion. Recognizing the significance of early spiritual formation, he sought to enable children to receive the Eucharist as soon as they reached seven years old. He believed that children could experience the profound graces of the Eucharist, grow in their faith at an early age, and that the reception of Holy Communion regularly in a child's life would set the foundation for a lifetime of spiritual growth.

His papacy was also marked by his efforts to combat the rising tide of modernism — a movement that challenged traditional Catholic teachings. He wrote an encyclical entitled "Pascendi Dominici Gregis," subtitled “On the Doctrines of the Modernists,” condemning modernist errors and safeguarding the integrity of Church doctrine. His commitment to preserving the traditional scope of Catholicism, especially the teachings of Christ’s true presence in the Eucharist, earned him the epithet “Pope of the Eucharist.”

Despite his rejection of modernism, St. Pius X was the first Pope to use a typewriter for his encyclicals, signaling an embrace of modern technology during his time as Pope. St. Pius X, Pope of the Eucharist, pray for us!

Mr. Lucero  
Youth Ministry & Confirmation  
chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org  
360-458-3031 x2 x3



## Introduction to the Devout Life by St. Francis de Sales

### CHAPTER VI. The First Purification, namely, from Mortal Sin.

THE first purification to be made is from sin;—the means whereby to make it, the sacrament of penance. Seek the best confessor within your reach, use one of the many little books written in order to help the examination of conscience. Read some such book carefully, examining point by point wherein you have sinned, from the first use of your reason to the present time. And if you mistrust your memory, write down the result of your examination. Having thus sought out the evil spots in your conscience, strive to detest them, and to reject them with the greatest abhorrence and contrition of which your heart is capable;—bearing in mind these four things:—that by sin you have lost God's Grace, rejected your share in Paradise, accepted the pains of Hell, and renounced God's Eternal Love. You see, my child, that I am now speaking of a general confession of your whole life, which, while I grant it is not always necessary, I yet believe will be found most helpful in the beginning of your pursuit after holiness, and therefore I earnestly advise you to make it. Not unfrequently the ordinary confessions of persons leading an everyday life are full of great faults, and that because they make little or no preparation, and have not the needful contrition. Owing to this deficiency such people go to confession with a tacit intention of returning to their old sins, inasmuch as they will not avoid the occasions of sin, or take the necessary measures for amendment of life, and in all such cases a general confession is required to steady and fix the soul. But, furthermore, a general confession forces us to a clearer self-knowledge, kindles a wholesome shame for our past life, and rouses gratitude for God's Mercy, Which has so long waited patiently for us;—it comforts the heart, refreshes the spirit, excites good resolutions, affords opportunity to our spiritual Father for giving the most suitable advice, and opens our hearts so as to make future confessions more effectual. Therefore I cannot enter into the subject of a general change of life and entire turning to God, by means of a devout life, without urging upon you to begin with a general confession.



#### Reflect and Respond to the Sunday Mass Readings:



**First Reading:** *God said to Noah and to his sons with him: "See, I am now establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you." (Gn 9:8-10)*

God used a rainbow as a sign of his covenant with Noah and all living creatures to never again flood the earth. Are there some additional signs in your life of God's love for us?

**Second Reading:** *If it is not a removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. (1 Pt 3:21)*

St. Peter taught that baptism serves as an appeal or pledge to God for a clear conscience. What leads you to an examination of conscience?

**Gospel:** *He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him. (Mk 1:13)*

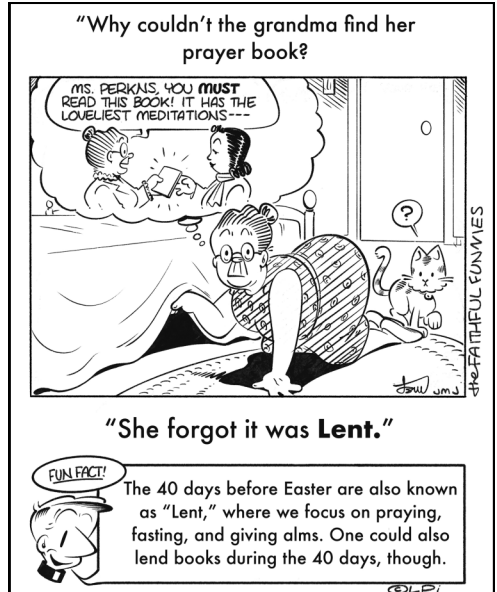
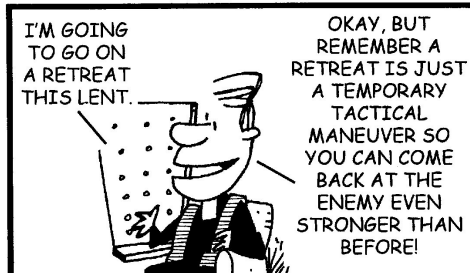
After a brief report of Jesus' temptation by Satan in the desert, we hear the first words of Jesus at the launch of his public ministry in Galilee: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." As we begin the Lenten journey, what are some temptations you plan to face this Lent?

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. Reflections, select clip art and content are ©LPi, our bulletin publisher.

From the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

539 The evangelists indicate the salvific meaning of this mysterious event: Jesus is the new Adam who remained faithful just where the first Adam had given in to temptation. Jesus fulfills Israel's vocation perfectly: in contrast to those who had once provoked God during forty years in the desert, Christ reveals himself as God's Servant, totally obedient to the divine will. In this, Jesus is the devil's conqueror: he "binds the strong man" to take back his plunder. Jesus' victory over the tempter in the desert anticipates victory at the Passion, the supreme act of obedience of his filial love for the Father.

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT Father Flood © LPi





## From the Archdiocese

Registration is open!  
Visit our website.



**undone**

FREEDOM FOR THE FEMININE HEART

MARCH 21-23, 2024  
SAINT MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH - OLYMPIA, WA

IN-PERSON OR LIVESTREAM

 **JOHN PAUL II Healing Center**  
*Transformation in the Heart of the Church*

## REMEMBER THE PARISH IN YOUR WILL.

Most adults do not have a legal will.  
Write your will today by visiting  
[MyCatholicWill.com](http://MyCatholicWill.com).

This Lent, protect those you love  
most in under 15-minutes through  
the online, easy-to-use form.

**Leave a legacy of faith by including  
the parish in your will.**

[www.MyCatholicWill.com](http://www.MyCatholicWill.com)  
Use code: **PARISH20** to save 20%



## an in-person marriage encounter experience

The Marriage Encounter experience is a heart  
haven that helps you listen, share and connect  
more deeply. There's no group discussion. It's  
just about the two of you learning to be the best,  
most loving and thriving couple you can be.

**Apr 12-14, 2024 La Quinta  
Inn & Suites, Tacoma,  
WA**

**Apply at:**  
[wwme.org](http://wwme.org)

Questions?

**Jeff and Sandy Corneil**  
**360 930-2321**

[jeff.sandy.corneil@wwme.org](mailto:jeff.sandy.corneil@wwme.org)

Other Locations and dates:

-Mar 8-10, 2024 Immaculate Heart  
Retreat Center, Spokane, WA

-Apr 26-28 2024, Everett, WA

-Oct 4-6 2024 Immaculate Heart  
Retreat Center, Spokane, WA

-Oct 11-13 2024, Tacoma, WA

-Nov 15-17 2024, Everett, WA



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

# INTO THE **DESERT.**

— MARK 1:13 —



— SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2024 —



# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

God said to Noah and to his sons with him:  
"See, I am now establishing my covenant with you  
and your descendants after you  
and with every living creature that was with you."  
(Gn 9:8-10)

### Psalm:

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who  
keep your covenant. (Ps 25)

### Second Reading:

It is not a removal of dirt from the body  
but an appeal to God for a clear conscience,  
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. (1 Pt 3:21)

### Gospel:

He was among wild beasts,  
and the angels ministered to him. (Mk 1:13)

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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

In the desert, Jesus endured forty days of hardship and temptation. But he did not endure it alone: "the angels ministered to him," the Gospel tells us. Remember that you do not face Lent alone. God is beside you in your journey to the desert.

## Observances for the week of February 18, 2024

- Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Lent
- Monday:** Presidents' Day
- Wednesday:** St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Thursday:** The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
- Friday:** St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr
- Next Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Lent



## Saint of the week

St. Pius X's devotion to the Eucharist was truly inspiring! He lowered the age of First Communion to seven years old, encouraging young hearts to encounter Christ early-on. He also advocated that everyone, regardless of their social class, should have access to the Eucharist.

## Prayer for Lent

Dear Jesus,  
This is the first Sunday of Lent, and I want to commit myself more deeply to you this season. Inspire me with the Lenten penances you most desire, the ones that help me to grow ever nearer to you. Amen.

## Readings for the week of February 18, 2024

### Sunday:

Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (see 10)/  
1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

### Monday:

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/  
Mt 25:31-46

### Tuesday:

Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/  
Mt 6:7-15

### Wednesday:

Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/  
Lk 11:29-32

### Thursday:

1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6/Mt 16:13-19

### Friday:

Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/  
Mt 5:20-26

### Saturday:

Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48

### Next Sunday:

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15,  
16-17, 18-19 (116:9)/Rom 8:31b-34/  
Mk 9:2-10



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The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for  
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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I feel down, I sometimes watch the famous “Double Rainbow” video on YouTube to feel better. It’s hilarious. A young man camping in Yosemite Park sees two rainbows stretching across the sky. He bursts into a kind of ecstasy. “Double rainbow, all the way! Oh my God!” he announces. Then he starts to weep. He cries out, “What does it *mean*?” Beneath the humor of his glorious overreaction is the deep intuition we all have, I think, when we see the colorful bow in the sky. This Sunday, God sends a rainbow to Noah, and to us. What *does* it mean?

Long before YouTube had the double rainbow, Dante’s medieval poem *The Divine Comedy* featured one in his image of paradise. Seeing two rainbows, he muses that one is born of the other. The bow is God’s promise of peace. For Dante, it’s even more: nature’s encrypted image of the Trinitarian God. One visible rainbow (God the Son) is begotten of another usually invisible one (God the Father) united by invisible light between them (God the Spirit). Like invisible light, Trinitarian glory surrounds us in every moment — but Jesus has made it visible in his glorious body.

**Lenten challenge:** This might seem silly, but this Lent I invite you to find a rainbow and meditate on it. You might have to make one yourself, like this current desert-dweller will. Gaze on it. See there a natural gift from the Creator, saying to you, “Here I am! I will love and protect you, surrounding you in My glory.” This Lent let’s embrace that with confidence, rain, or shine.

— Father John Muir



## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

### Lent and the Flood

I would bet money that somewhere in your church this Lent, there's a bare tree branch draped in purple fabric and an empty bowl filled with rocks.

I'm not poking fun, the desert imagery that surrounds the season of Lent isn't a cliché — or if it is, it's only because clichés are essentially true. Lent is the dessert. Lent is the wilderness. Lent is the time of less.

But what if Lent was also the flood?

It seems counterintuitive, floods are excessive, and we don't think of Lent as a time for superabundance. Lent is when we limit experiences outside of ourselves in order to limit proclivities within ourselves. Lent is not a time for anything to be washing over us, consuming us, carrying us away on a tide.

Unless...it is.

Consider the flood of the Old Testament. An act of destruction, yes, but also an act of purification. An endurance test for the soul, an epic trust fall exercise between God and Noah in which Noah had to ride the literal waves, clinging to life as God wiped away everything familiar. Everything sinful.

In Lent, we relinquish our weaknesses and our infirmities to the flood. It's frightening, certainly. But it's also exciting. Because just as the flood destroys everything, it also makes everything possible. It is a baptism.

Lent, like the flood, makes the world new.

*"Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit." — 1 Peter 3:18*

*Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman*

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

What do the colors of the priest's and deacon's vestments mean?

### Answer:

In the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church, the colors of the vestments evolved over the course of several centuries and there was wide variation both in the colors used, and in the feasts and seasons associated with particular colors. It was Pope Innocent III (d. 1216) who gave us the basic outline that was later prescribed by Pope Saint Pius V in 1570. The various colors remind us of the dominant themes of a particular season or celebration.

- **White:** Used for the seasons of Christmas and Easter and in celebrations of the Lord, of Mary, the angels, and saints who were not martyrs. This color is also used in Masses for the dead, at baptisms, weddings and other festive celebrations.
- **Red:** As the color of both blood and fire, red is used on Palm Sunday and Good Friday, as well as Pentecost and special celebrations of the Holy Spirit. Moreover, red is used on the feasts and memorials of the Apostles and those saints who died as martyrs.
- **Violet:** The color for Advent and Lent. Violet may also be used in Masses for the dead and on All Souls Day (November 2).
- **Green:** A color of life and hope, green is used throughout Ordinary Time.

Other colors: Rose may be used on the Third Sunday of Advent and the Fourth Sunday of Lent, black may be used in Masses of the dead and on All Souls Day, gold or silver may be used on solemn occasions in place of white, red, or green.

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."  
- Mk 1:14-15

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## Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

### First Reading

God used a rainbow as a sign of his covenant with Noah and all living creatures to never again flood the earth. Are there some additional signs in your life of God's love for us?

### Second Reading

Peter taught that baptism serves as an appeal or pledge to God for a clear conscience. What leads you to an examination of conscience?

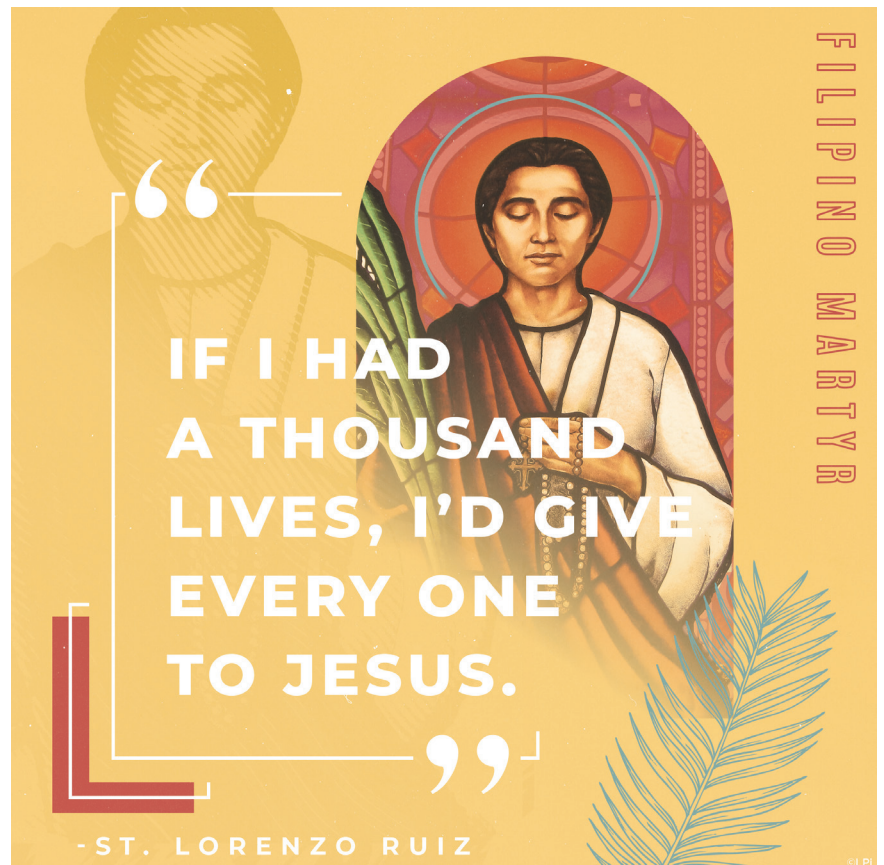
### Gospel Reading

After a brief report of Jesus' temptation by Satan in the desert, we hear the first words of Jesus at the launch of his public ministry in Galilee: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." As we begin the Lenten journey, what are some temptations you plan to face this Lent?



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# YOUR WAYS ARE LOVE AND TRUTH.

PSALM 25



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## Prayer

God, help me to stay close to you so that I am ready for my tests.

## Mission for the Week

Memorize Proverbs 1:3, “You will learn what is right and honest and fair.” Practice writing it and saying it every day, until you know this verse by heart.

## Sharing the Gospel

In today’s Gospel, Jesus spent forty days in the desert. Jesus stayed close to God, and he followed God’s directions every day of his life. When Satan came to test Jesus he was ready. Jesus passed every test beautifully. He said “No” to temptation. When you write spelling words over and over, it is easier to remember them. If you are learning a new language, it helps to make flash cards to practice with. Once you memorize all your words, taking the test is pretty easy. The more you read the Bible and do what God asks in his word, the easier it will be for you to pass Satan’s tests, too.

**Now color the picture!**



Find and circle the words from today’s Gospel:

SPIRIT  
JESUS  
DESERT

FORTY  
SATAN  
TESTED

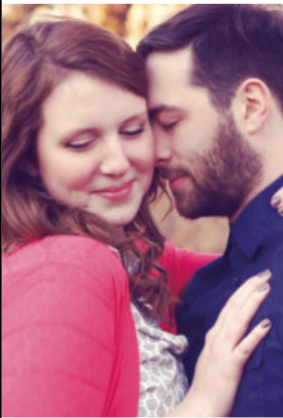
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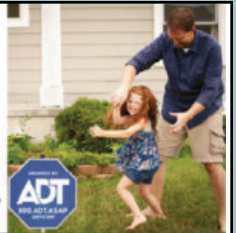
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