

Christi simus, non nostri

We belong to Christ, not ourselves

ST COLUMBAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fourth Sunday of Advent December 22, 2024

St. Columban Church

506 First St. S | Yelm, WA 98597

Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.

Saturday 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve: 7:30 p.m.*

Wednesday, Dec. 25 Christmas Day:

Midnight 12 a.m.*; 10:30 a.m.*

**Carols begin 30 min. before all Masses*

Daily Mass Tuesday-Friday 9 a.m.

(Except Dec. 24-31, Jan 3)

Eucharistic Adoration First Fridays 6:30 p.m.

Confessions Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Anointing of the Sick By request

Rosary Prayer Group Monday 7 p.m.

Spanish prayer group Tuesday 6:30 p.m., Hall

Sacramental Preparation Contact the office

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

St. Peter Mission

149 Keithahn St S | Tenino, WA 98589

Sunday Mass 8:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Dec. 24: 5:00 p.m.

First Friday Mass Jan. 3: 9:00 a.m.

Confessions Sunday 7:30-7:45 a.m.

Anointing of the Sick By request

Parish Office at St. Columban

parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Monday-Thursday 9:30 a.m.– 2p.m.

Friday by appointment

Sacramental Emergencies

In danger of death call: 360-704-7051

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Help line 360-458-1904

www.saintcolumbanyelm.org

360-458-3031

parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org

For your Prayer and Meditation

Reflect on the Sunday Liturgy

Entrance Antiphon

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds drain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Savior.

Sunday Readings *Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45*

First Reading

You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah too small to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel. (Mi 5:1)

Micah prophesied a "ruler" would come through the line of David ("Bethlehem-Ephrathah") and bring peace to the divided kingdom of Judah and Israel. How might you be able to promote peace this week among your family or co-workers?

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

Second Reading

"Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll, behold, I come to do your will, O God.'" (Heb 10:7)

The author of Hebrews reminds us that Christ makes us holy so that above all else, we do God's will. As the season of Advent draws to a close, what could be one practical way to do God's will this week?

Gospel

"And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Lk 1:43)

St. Elizabeth calls Mary "blessed" because she believed and trusted in the Lord. Are there people in your life who model such trust and faith in God?

Communion Antiphon

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

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.

Mass Intentions

Parishioners may schedule a Mass intention on our website or by calling the office. Sunday & Christmas Masses are offered Pro Populo

NO 9AM DAILY MASS DEC 24 -27

The Code of Canon Law confirms the practice of offering Masses for particular intentions is ancient: "The Christian faithful who give an offering to apply the Mass for their intention contribute to the good of the Church and by that offering share its concern to support its ministers and works" (945 §2).

Prayer Intentions

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*

Robert Fisher, Marcella Thornton, , Theresa Gonzales, Joe Judge, Pam Henslee, Mary Taylor, Leslie Seffern, Gaby Makinster, Maria Espino, Mort Kimball, and Fr. Jim Lee.

For The Deceased

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

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

For peace in the world, for God's protection on those in danger, the defeat and true repentance of unjust aggressors, and mercy for those who have died by violence.

For our young people, that they may eagerly seek and generously respond to their vocations from God.

Monthly Intentions of the Pope

For pilgrims of hope—We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

Connect with us

WEBSITE saintcolumbanyelm.org

PHONE (360) 458-3031
Ministries x1, Spanish/Español x2

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youtube.com/@stcolumbanyelm

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parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org
*not private

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Parochial Vicar

Fr. Martin Bourke
Senior Priest in residence

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PA for Admin, Liturgy, & Music
jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org x1

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gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org x2
*habla Español

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chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org x3

Steven Slater
St. Columban Maintenance
steven@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Gilberto Espino St. Peter Maintenance
gilberto@saintcolumbanyelm.org

St. Columban Finance & Pastoral Council Please be patient as this council is being restructured. Members will be posted once they have been officially appointed by our Pastor.

St. Peter Advisory Commission Sherry Bachmann (Chairperson), Marilyn Ritter, Bernie Schwarz, Bob Bacon, Diane Weston

Sunday Letter

WELCOME TO SAINT COLUMBAN 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.

Did you know our front pews are always empty? Be closer to the Lord and sit closer to the altar next Sunday.

A Word from our Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Is there a better Christmas hymn than O Holy Night? The answer is no. There isn't. It is hands down the best, and it isn't a debate, so don't come at me trying to tell me I'm wrong, unless you want to lose any influence over me that you may have gained in the last six months.

When I think of the song I of course think of the gorgeous melody, and the crescendo at that final "Divine" belted out by the singer. No Christmas hymn has a more powerful moment. Although the melody stands out, there are also a few profound lyrics that I think need to be acknowledged.

♪ *Long lay the world in sin and error pining, Till He appeared, and the soul felt its worth.* ♪

A powerful lyric, that speaks to the reality of many worn souls. Sin isn't just breaking a rule. The word for sin in Hebrew, Kata, literally means, "Missing the Mark." It means that you try to hit a target and miss. Well, a lot of people are trying to fill their hearts, but they miss the mark. What they do for love doesn't hit the spot. That is the human condition at its worst. We are in error, pining for some relief, and hating ourselves because we can't seem to get things right.

♪ *But when he appeared, the soul felt its worth.* ♪

Have you ever had a moment where your soul suddenly felt its worth? Have you ever gone from feeling completely worthless and unworthy of love, to experiencing the love of God? Because that is what the lyrics convey and they convey it very well. This is what we should always be trying to convey to others... to help their soul feel its worth.

♪ *In all our trials born to be our Friend. He knows our*

need— to our weakness is no stranger. ♪

This is from the oft omitted second verse of the song, so the lyric might be unfamiliar to you, but it speaks to the reality that the love of God draws close to us. God does not run from us when we are in need, as many do. God draws close to us and endures our trials with us. He is a friend who opens himself up to experience some of the burdens that life throws at us.

God knows the needs of the human heart. He knows the need for love and in some odd way, he has experienced that need himself. But he also shows us how to fill the needs of the heart, to lead us into love and peace. He shows us how to love the Father, and to love others. Hence the third verse:

♪ *Truly He taught us to love one another; His law is love and His gospel is peace.* ♪

Love isn't something that we know with our instincts. When we rely on instincts and feelings to find true love, we often find ourselves broken hearted, and in that place of the above lyric pining for relief in our error. We need to be taught to love and, when we love rightly, we experience the peace of the Gospel.

I hope everyone has a truly wonderful Christmas and can enter into the joy of the Gospel that this wonderful hymn explains so well.

Merry Christmas!

Fr. Bryan



Dialogue for Justice: Catholic Advocacy to Reduce Poverty

Mary and Elizabeth greet one another out of joy because they recognize the blessings they have received from God (Lk 1:41). Their lives are an expression of overflowing gratitude for the children they are bearing. These two humble women are rich in the blessings given them by the Lord God. They recognize their blessings in the gift of their everyday lives. Their lives were sacred journeys.

And so, it is the same with our lives as well. We journey in God's goodness. Have we ever considered our lives as sacred journeys? Frederick Buechner invites us to reframe our lives when he proposes to "try listening to my life as a whole...for whatever of meaning, of holiness, of God, there may be in it to hear." So how do we hear God calling us this new Church year to be a people of justice? The Catechism of the Catholic Church (#1807) tells us that "justice is the moral virtue that consists in

Continued on Page 4

Announcements

Help us decorate the Church for Christmas

Following 10:30 a.m. Mass & the Knights of Columbus Breakfast today, Dec. 22. All volunteers are welcome! Children must be supervised at all times.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Tuesday, Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve) -
5 p.m. St. Peter Tenino, 7:30 p.m. St. Columban

Wednesday, Dec. 25 (Christmas Day) — All Masses will be at St. Columban: Midnight 12 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Incense will be used at all Masses at St. Columban

Carols begin 30 minutes before every Christmas Mass at St. Columban.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God- Wed., Jan. 1

Mass for Mary, Mother of God, a Holy Day of Obligation, will be 9 a.m. at St. Columban on New Years Day.

Are you registered? Registration ensures that we know you are here, makes us aware of your needs and gifts, but most of all it helps us to welcome you to the parish! Stop by and introduce yourselves! Stop by the Parish Office or register online at saintcolumbanyelm.org

Parish Family Advisory Council nominations

Fr. Ochs is looking for parishioners interested in joining the Parish Family Advisory Council, an advisory committee with a term of about three years. To nominate someone, please fill out the online form, linked at this QR code or call the parish office at 360-458-3031 to nominate over the phone.

Nominations will be accepted until Sunday, Dec. 29.



Winter Clothes Closet

Open Tuesdays-Thursdays 6-8p.m. Closed Dec. 24-25. Free to all in need, no questions asked. Donations are through the parish office or by using the bin in the narthex. Please do not leave donations outside the doors of the office or hall.

Keep in mind donations should be of good, re-usable quality; something you would wear. Items such as boots, gloves, hats, scarves, coats, blankets, etc. are needed; rather than summer apparel

Daughters of Mary Giving Tree

Thank you for helping with this year's Giving Tree! As a church we collected \$3,800 for gift cards that will be distributed through our local St. Vincent de Paul ministry. May God reward your generosity

December 22, 2024

Faith Formation

Sunday Faith Formation Schedule for all Children & Youth (Grades K-12) 9-10:15 a.m.

NO CLASS Dec. 22, 29, Jan. 5, 12

Children & Adults, Contact: Mrs. Makinster

Elementary & Adult Faith Formation,

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

Catechists for our Kindergarten Faith Formation Classes and Sponsors for our OCIA program are needed,

contact Gaby Makinster at the parish office if you are available to help.

Youth Ministry, contact: Mr. Lucero,

ym@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Parents, check your emails! *We will communicate with you directly over email regarding YM events.*

Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)

Are you or do you know someone who is interested in joining the Roman Catholic Church? Classes have resumed. Contact the parish office for more information.

Bible Study—Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. at the Winter Clothes Closet.

From the Catechism

2677 Holy Mary, Mother of God: With Elizabeth we marvel, "And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Lk 1:43) Because she gives us Jesus, her son, Mary is Mother of God and our mother; we can entrust all our cares and petitions to her: she prays for us as she prayed for herself: "Let it be to me according to your word." (Lk 1:38) By entrusting ourselves to her prayer, we abandon ourselves to the will of God together with her: "Thy will be done."

458 The Word became flesh so that thus we might know God's love: "In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him." "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in

Continued from Page 3

the constant and firm will to give their due to God and neighbor." We do not need a telescope to peer into the distance to see where we might lend our hands and voices to the cause of justice. When we listen and act upon God's word, the words of the Gospel speak to us: "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled" (Lk 1:45).

Peace, Deacon Terry, ofs



Weekly Calendar

All events are at St. Columban unless otherwise noted.

MONDAY December 23 *St. John Kanty, Priest*
Rosary Prayer Group 7:00p.m. Church

TUESDAY December 24 CHRISTMAS EVE
Christmas Eve Mass 5:00p.m. St. Peter
Christmas Eve Mass 7:30p.m. St. Columban
 Caroling begins 30 minutes prior to each Mass
 NO SPANISH PRAYER GROUP
 NO WINTER CLOTHES CLOSET
 PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

WEDNESDAY December 25
Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (CHRISTMAS)
Midnight Mass 12:00 a.m. St. Columban
Christmas Day Mass 10:30a.m. St. Columban
 Caroling begins 30 minutes prior to each Mass
 PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
 NO BIBLE STUDY AT ST. PETER
 NO WINTER CLOTHES CLOSET

THURSDAY December 26 St. Stephen, First Martyr
 NO DAILY MASS
 PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
Altar Society Weekly Cleaning 9:30 a.m. Church
Choir Practice 6:00p.m. Church
Winter Clothes Closet 6:00-8:00 p.m. Small Hall
Bible Study 6:30p.m. Small Hall

FRIDAY December 27 St. John the Apostle, Evangelist
 NO DAILY MASS

SATURDAY December 28 Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Confession 3:30p.m. Church
Anticipatory Sunday Mass 5:00p.m. Church

SUNDAY December 29 Feast of the Holy Family
Confession 7:30-7:45a.m. St. Peter
Sunday Mass 8:00a.m. *Int.: Pro Populo* St. Peter
 NO RELIGIOUS ED OR CONFIRMATION CLASSES
Sunday Mass 10:30a.m. *Int.: Pro Populo* Church

Upcoming Dates

TUESDAY, Dec. 31—Adoration 11:00p.m. –12:00a.m.
Hosted by our Rosary Prayer Group

WEDNESDAY, Jan 1—Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)
 9:00 a.m.—Mass at St. Columban



Altar Society

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



Daughters of Mary

Meets monthly on the fourth Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be **January 28th** at 6 p.m. in the Parish Hall. All women of the parish are invited to attend and bring your favorite snack to share!



Liturgical Ministries

parishoffice@saintcolumbanyelm.org
 Altar Servers, Choir, Greeters/Ushers, Readers
 Please check your schedules and arrive in time for Mass.



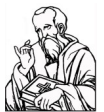
Knights of Columbus

The Council and Assembly meet monthly third Wednesdays of every month at 6 p.m. in the hall, with Vespers beginning at 5:30 p.m. **Next Council & Assembly meetings: Wednesday, Jan. 15.**



St. Peter Circle

Meets second Tuesdays every other month at St. Peter Tenino. Next scheduled meetings: Jan. 14, Mar. 11, and May 13 at 9:30 a.m.



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Meets monthly, on the third Thursday of the month in the parish hall at 7 p.m. **Next meeting is January 16th.**



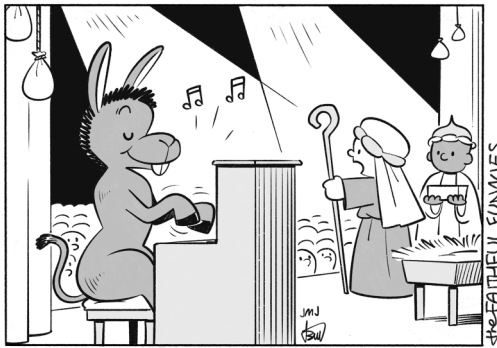
4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Father Flood © LPI

Christmas

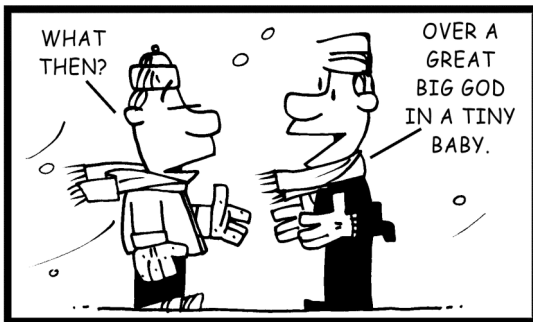
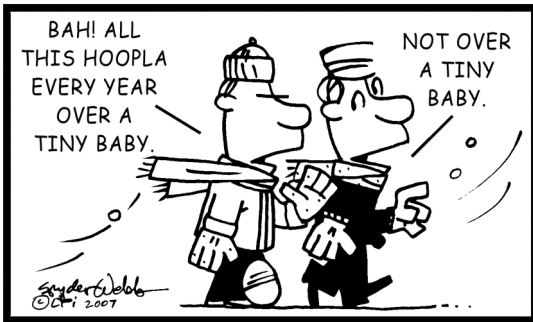
"What type of key do you need for the Nativity play?"



"A don-key!"

FUN FACT!
The Bible doesn't have any recording of Mary riding a donkey, but it's become a beloved part of the way we imagine the Holy Family traveling to Bethlehem.

CHRISTMAS



Father Flood © LPI

Reflect on the Liturgy

Vigil Mass Readings: Isaiah 62:1-5, Psalm 89, Acts 13:16-17, 22-25, Matthew 1:1-25

Midnight Mass Readings: Isaiah 9:1-6, Psalm 96, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14 52: 7-10

Morning Mass Readings: Isaiah 62:11-12, Psalm 97, Titus 3:4-7, Luke 2:15-20

First Reading: For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. (Isaiah 9:5)

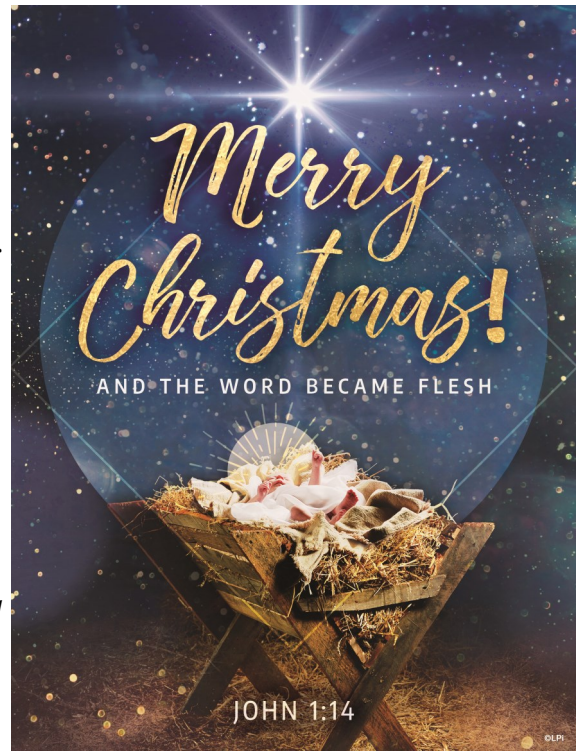
While in exile in Babylon, Isaiah foresaw and celebrated the time when Israel would declare, "All the ends of the earth can see the salvation of our God." How will you celebrate the birth of Jesus?

Second Reading: The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age. (Titus 2:11-12)

The opening verses of Hebrews describe Jesus as the "very imprint" of God's glory. What do you think the author meant by describing Jesus in this way?

Gospel: "For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord." (Lk 2:11)

St John opens his Gospel with the same first words of the Old Testament, "In the beginning..." He sees the birth of Jesus, "the Word became flesh," as creation itself beginning anew. Do you find this an interesting way to think about the birth of Jesus?



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Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

Parish Family Christmas Mass Times

Tuesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

Sacred Heart Lacey

5pm* Family Mass

7:30pm Youth Choir

10pm Spanish/English Bilingual, Incense used

St. Columban Yelm

7:30pm Incense used

Carols at 11:30pm precede Midnight Mass

St. Peter Tenino

5pm



Wednesday, December 25 - Christmas Day

Sacred Heart Lacey

8am

10am* Schola, Incense Used

Noon

St. Columban Yelm

Midnight* Incense used

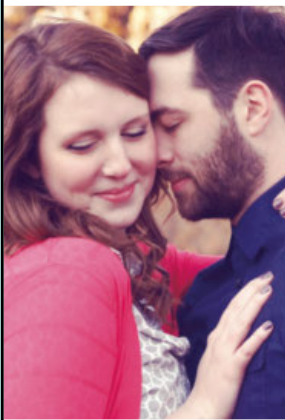
10:30am Incense used

Carols begin 15 min. before Masses at Sacred Heart and 30 min. before Masses at St. Columban

*Livestreamed on YouTube



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