

Calendar

- 4 Second Sunday of Advent**
Mass: 8:30am – Church, coffee hour following
Children’s Faith Formation: 9:30 - Benincasa
First Reconciliation Class: 9:30 - Church basement
Babysitting during 10:30 mass -Benincasa basement
Mass: 10:30am – Church, coffee hour following
Indonesian Mass: 1pm - Church, reception following
- 5 Monday**
Communion Service: 9am – Church
Pastoral Council: 7pm - Victoria Hall
- 6 Tuesday**
Mass: 9am – Church
First Reconciliation Make-up Class: 3pm - Benincasa
Eucharistic Adoration: 9:30am-7pm
- 7 Wednesday**
Communion Service: 9am – Church
Gospel of Luke Study: 9:45am - Benincasa
School Commission: 7pm - Church
- 8 Thursday - Feast of the Immaculate Conception**
Mass: 9am – Church
Mass: 7pm - Church
- 9 Friday**
Mass: 9am – Church
- 10 Saturday**
First Reconciliation: 2pm-Church, reception following
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3pm – Church
Mass: 5pm – Church
- 11 Third Sunday of Advent**
Mass: 8:30am – Church, coffee hour following
Children’s Liturgy of the Word: 8:30 mass
Children’s Faith Formation: 9:30 - Benincasa
Babysitting during 10:30 mass: Benincasa basement
Mass: 10:30am – Church, coffee hour following
Children’s Liturgy of the Word: 10:30 mass
Youth Group Christmas Party: 7pm - Benincasa

Parish Stewardship

November 27, 2011 - \$6,307

PRAYERS

Fred Burr	Frank Martin
Don DeVera	Joan McGuire
Ken Dobson	James McNamara
Evan Dubicki	Bert Naiman
Eileen Hinnebusch	Effie Rohner

PRAYERS

Readings for December 11 Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

.....A Word from Fr. Tony.....

After Mass last Sunday I asked Victoria if I could write the bulletin column for this week in order to reflect on my experience of celebrating the Eucharist according to the new missal.

As I mentioned to all of you during the announcements, I was more nervous at Mass this weekend than I was on the day of my first Mass. Even so, once I settled in to the praying of the Eucharist Prayer at the Saturday evening Mass, I was overtaken by a sense of awe and insight. Yes, part of it was due to the excitement of getting to recite something new after nearly 30 years of praying in the same way. It was more than that, however, as I found myself hearing the great themes of the prayer in a new way. I was particularly struck by the future orientation of the prayer as we prayed more explicitly “as we look forward to his second coming” and “so that we may obtain an inheritance with your elect.” The future felt somehow nearer and I felt honored to be so close to the saints. I then felt that sense of anxiety and incompleteness when we urged God “to gather to yourself all your children scattered throughout the world.” Then, near the end, as we prayed for the deceased, I felt a confident peace when saying “to all who were pleasing to you at their passing from this life.”

Perhaps Mark will have his own take on this, but I wanted to say a few words about the important role the music played in my experience. I was very pleased with Mark’s choice of music for the new ordinary texts. I found the melodic themes a joy to sing, and the fact that they repeat themselves throughout the various prayers makes it easy to learn. The assembly bravely sang out and the choir and schola added confident strength.

Someone did ask me about “all that singing.” Although it is going to take some adjusting, especially at the blessing/dismissal, I decided that it would be easier to alert the assembly to the shortest and most frequent change, “And with your spirit,” by singing that response each of the five times that it comes up. I think we are ready for the response at the beginning of Mass, before the Gospel, at the start of the Preface dialogue and at the final blessing. The hardest to remember, I think, is at the Sign of Peace, because I wish you the peace of the Lord instead of saying, “The Lord be with you.” I suspect that by the start of Ordinary Time in mid-January I will revert to reciting those parts of the Mass, but we are still urged, especially on Sunday, to sing more of the Mass than we may be used to.

All in all, it was an exhilarating weekend for me to witness renewed interest and strong participation in the Mass. Many of you picked up a worship aid right from the start, the Creed was well prayed at twice the usual volume and we all had our moments of forgetting. Now if I can only remember the encouragement I offer you: “Take it easy, and don’t be afraid to respond.” If we are well prepared and alert to pray and sing, we can easily smile at the mistakes and quickly be at ease with our new texts. May God bless you and draw us closer through our common prayer.

- Fr. Tony

Announcements

Advent Reconciliation Service

Wednesday, December 14

1pm with the School

7pm communal service with individual confession

The Giving Tree

Please help meet the needs of the larger community this Advent by taking part in our giving tree program. The giving tree is located at the back of the church and has tags on it that ask for gifts for Baby Corner, St. Vincent de Paul Society, the juvenile detention center, and St. Francis House. Please note that there was an error on our Advent flier regarding return dates. All purchased gifts should be returned to the church no later than Dec 14th and preferably by Dec 11th. If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne Hall at 524-8800, ext 112.

Babysitting Night!

Friday December 9th 6 – 10PM in Victoria Hall. \$20 per child ages 4 – 11. Let St. Catherine 8th grade students watch your children while you enjoy a night out shopping or experiencing some holiday cheer! All proceeds go to support their spring trip to Washington DC. There will be teachers and adults to supervise. To reserve a spot, contact Leslie Bartlett in the school office at 525-0581 or lbartlett@stcatherineschool.net

Youth Group Christmas Party

All high school youth are invited to attend our youth group Christmas party on December 11th. We will be meeting in the Benincasa Center living room at 7pm. We will be watching the movie Elf and enjoying holiday cookies and other snacks. There will also be cards and board games available for use. If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne Hall at jeannehall@stcatherineparish.net.

Help Deliver Christmas Food & Gifts

Our chapter of the St. Vincent de Paul Society needs help delivering Christmas food and gifts on Saturday morning, December 17, in our area. If you can help, contact the parish office.

Kindergarten Applications for the 2012-2013 School Year

If you have a child who will be five years old by August 31, 2012, applications for St. Catherine's kindergarten are now available. You may pick one up in the school or parish office, download one from the school website, www.stcatherineschool.net, or call the school office at 206-525-0581 and ask for one to be mailed to you. We will accept your application at any time, but would greatly appreciate receiving them by Dec. 31, 2011.

School Annual Fund

Thank you for donating and pledging to the school Annual Fund. Your gift to the Annual Fund will help our school to keep all of our current teachers and staff. Every gift helps. If you have questions about the Annual Fund, please call the school Development Director, Stephanie Gravenkemper at 206-525-0581 ext. 111 or email her sgravenkemper@stcatherineschool.net.

School Openings

St. Catherine School has one or more openings in most all grades. If you are interested in learning more about our school, please contact Stephanie Gravenkemper, sgravenkemper@stcatherineschool.net or 206-525-0581.

"Be Prepared" for Christmas

Boy Scout Troop 151 is selling Christmas Trees in the Safeway parking lot located on 75th & Roosevelt. Open weekdays 4pm to 8pm and weekend 9am to 8pm. Fresh, beautiful trees grown locally by Hunter Tree Farms.

Wreaths Still for Sale

If you would like to purchase a Christmas wreath we have extras! They are \$20 each and checks can be made out to the Marjorie Ryan Circle. All proceeds benefit the local children's charities that ACC supports. Please contact Leslie Bartlett in the school office or Gayle Kaplan at (206)527-5261/ gayle@kaplan1.com to arrange pick-up.

Middle School Night at Archbishop Murphy

Join the fun at the second Archbishop Murphy High School Middle School Murphy Night, Friday, December 9. Free basketball game admission for 6th-8th graders with middle school ID card. Game time is 7:00pm. There is a dance after the game, and a parent dessert social too. Giveaways, raffles and prizes! For complete details, visit the AMHS website at www.am-hs.org.

An Artist's Meditation on the Advent Gospels

Please join the Ignatian Spirituality Center as Fr. Arturo Araujo, S.J. offers a unique experience of prayer and reflection through his beautiful illuminated manuscripts of the Advent gospels. Fr. Araujo, a Jesuit priest from the Colombia Province, created the manuscripts as his project for honors in art at Seattle University. The gospels are hand lettered and illuminated by Fr. Araujo using clays and pigments from around the world. Wednesday, December 7, 2011, 7:00 – 9:00 pm, Seattle Preparatory School Chapel. Admission by free will offering. For more information, e-mail emily@ignatiancenter.org or call 206.329.4824 x3.

You Can Help Your Marriage

Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. For confidential information about or to register for the January program call 206-706-2608, or go to our website: helpourmarriage.com.