

Fourth Sunday of Advent

20 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mass: 8:30 & 10:30, coffee hour following
 Advent Movie Night: 4pm - Victoria Hall
 AA Meeting: 6pm - Church Basement

21 Monday

Communion Service: 9am

22 Tuesday

Mass: 9am
 Eucharistic Adoration: 9:30am-7pm

23 Wednesday

Communion Service: 9am

24 Thursday

Mass: 9am
 Christmas Eve Mass: 6pm and 9pm

25 Friday

Christmas Mass: 9am

26 Saturday

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3pm
 Mass: 5pm
 AA Meeting: 6:30pm - Benincasa Basement

27 Feast of Holy Family

Mass: 8:30 & 10:30, Coffee hour following
 AA Meeting: 6pm - Church Basement

*Readings for December 27th
 Feast of Holy Family*
 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28
 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24
 Luke 2:41-52

PRAYERS

Ray Barnes
 Luis Batayola
 Joe Byrne
 Kay De Ambrosio
 Evan Dubicki
 Bob Flakus
 Martha Harris

Frank Martin
 James McNamara
 George Nemeth
 Effie Rohner
 Evelyn Stetz
 Don Sullivan
 Chris Young

PRAYERS

I hope to see you many times over these more-than-twelve days of Christmas. May these days be ones of peace and joy, love and hope for you and your loved ones.

Victoria

..... *A Word from Victoria*

THANKS: I am regularly in awe of the generosity of our community. It is apparent in every appeal for money or time or talent. Whenever there is a need, some one--and more often some many--steps forward to help.

There have been several appeals for our money in the past month. We have been asked to make a pledge of our financial resources (and time and talent), to buy and use scrip to support the school (though this does not cost anything other than the time to purchase), to donate to Catholic Community Services, to give to the Altar Society Christmas Flower collection, to purchase gifts to benefit Catholic Relief Services, to donate to the Christmas Giving Tree, and on and on.

The need is greater than ever. A cover story in the New York Times this past week was very sobering. The percentage of people who have been adversely affected by the recession is very large. People are borrowing money from family, defaulting on loans, suffering from anxiety and depression, and struggling to feed their families. There are people in our own community who are facing job loss and financial trouble.

Thank you for your generosity in the face of these many appeals. If you find yourself needing financial assistance, please do not hesitate to ask.

POURING OF THE WINE: On another note: Some have noticed a change in the mass we made a couple weeks ago: we are now pouring the wine into the cups at the preparation of the table rather than at the fraction rite. The fraction rite is when we break the "one" bread and place it in separate bowls for ease of distribution and when we pour from the "one" cup/pitcher into separate cups. Because of concern about the spilling of the precious blood while pouring, it has been mandated by the Roman curia that the wine be poured before it is consecrated. I have only rarely seen the wine spilled at the time of pouring, and then it has only been a drop. Though our Archbishop is concerned about this change to the ancient fraction rite, he is now mandating that all parishes comply. And so we have. We have tried to handle this in the least obtrusive manner. If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Fr. Tony.

CHRISTMAS SEASON: A well-known Christmas carol is "The Twelve Days of Christmas." What I like about the carol is its suggestion that Christmas is not a one-day celebration. Though it is not uncommon to see Christmas trees set out with yard waste the day after Christmas, our faith sets aside even more than 12 days for the celebration of Christmas. Just as the Easter season lasts for 50 days, so the Christmas season extends from Christmas through the baptism of the Lord, this year on January 10. In this season we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family (Dec 26-27), Mary the Mother of God (New Year's Day), Epiphany (Jan 2-3) and The Baptism of the Lord (Jan 9-10).

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Announcements

Rebuilding homes in New Orleans

St. Catherine is sending a group of parishioners down to New Orleans this spring to rebuild homes with the St. Bernard Project. Parishioner Sr. Judy is now working with this group in NOLA. This is a program operating in the areas hardest hit by the hurricanes Katrina and Rita. 100% of the homes were rendered uninhabitable and few have been rebuilt. We have not confirmed a date yet but are looking at sometime in April or May. Cost per person will be around \$600 and we plan to fundraise as a group. We have lodging in a retreat house in the French Quarter so there will also be opportunity to explore the city. Check out the parish web site under Social Justice for more information including pictures and links to the St. Bernard Project Web site. There is an informational meeting on Sunday, 1/10 at 9:30AM in Victoria Hall. Contact Shannon Fleming Bray with questions.

Boy Scout Christmas Trees

Boy Scout Troop 151, which meets at St. Catherine's, is selling beautiful local Christmas trees. The sale is in the Safeway parking lot at Roosevelt and 75th. We are open every day, from 4 to 8 pm Monday through Friday, and 9 am to 8 pm on weekends.

Christmas Tree Sale at Our Lady of the Lake

Proceed to benefit our mission trips with Esperanza International to Tijuana, Mexico. Trees will be available through presale or on site purchase in the upper parking lot from 9am-7pm this weekend.

Volunteer Opportunity

Healing the Culture is looking for a part-time volunteer to come in one day a week to help with office administration and office support. If being an integral part of a great pro-life mission, partnering with a loving Christian team, working in a peaceful and comfortable environment, and having your choice of day to volunteer is appealing to you, please call Healing the Culture at (425) 481-6563. The office is located in Kenmore, Washington, near Lynnwood and Bothell, about 20 minutes north of downtown Seattle.

Parish Stewardship

December 13, 2009

Collection Total: \$7,108.00

Social Justice Meeting Today

If you are interested in Social Justice or learning more about it please join the Social Justice Committee every 3rd Sunday of the Month. Meeting TODAY, December 20 after the 10:30 mass.

Discernment in Daily Life

A process for listening to God's presence in your daily life choices. Five Thursday evenings beginning January 28, from 6:30-9pm at St. Joseph Parish Center. Cost is \$150. For more info or to register: www.IgnatianCenter.org; info@ignatiancenter.org; 206-329-4824.

Whole Community Movie Night Tonight!

Join us at 4pm in Victoria Hall. We'll be showing *It's a Wonderful Life* on the big screen and *Polar Express* in the music room. Please bring cookies to share (hot chocolate and popcorn will be provided) and something comfortable to sit on (folding chairs available). After the movie we will meet in the plaza to light the Christmas Tree and sing carols.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve: Mass at 6pm and 9pm with carols beginning half hour before

Christmas Day: Mass at 9am

