

Feast of Christ the King

22 Feast of Christ the King

Mass: 8:30 & 10:30, Coffee Hour following
Faith Formation: 9:30am - Benincasa
First Reconciliation Class: 9:30am - Benincasa
Altar Society Holiday Bazaar: 9am-1pm - V. Hall
AA Meeting: 6pm - Church Basement

23 Monday

Communion Service: 9am
StrengthFinders Introduction: 7pm - Benincasa

24 Tuesday

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

25 Wednesday

Children's (4th-8th) Choir: 7:45am - Music Room
Communion Service: 9am

26 Thursday - Thanksgiving Day

Mass: 9am

27 Friday

Mass: 9am
Directory Pictures: 1-8pm - Victoria Hall

28 Saturday

Directory Pictures: 9-4pm - Victoria Hall
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3pm
Mass: 5pm
Advent Festival: 6pm - Victoria Hall
AA Meeting: 6:30pm - Benincasa Basement

29 First Sunday of Advent

Mass: 8:30 & 10:30
Advent Festival following both masses - Victoria Hall
AA Meeting: 6pm - Church Basement

*Readings for November 29th
First Sunday of Advent*

Jeremiah 33:14-16
1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2
Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

PRAYERS

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

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

PRAYERS

..... *A Word from Victoria*

My neighbors have very large maple trees growing in their back yard. Not surprisingly, the leaves end up in my yard. Not only the leaves, but also the "helicopter" seeds. Not only the seeds, but also the new trees. When we first moved into our house many years ago, there were many maple saplings growing from our neighbor's trees.

Over the years I have observed that the maple leaves are very large. When they die and fall to the ground they cover the seeds that have already fallen, thereby creating a great environment for the seeds to take root and to flourish. Soon we have little trees. Year after year, the same cycle!

This is the pattern for our lives—new beginnings grow from endings. The seeds of new life are wrapped in the dying of the old. This is true of nature; it is true of our experience; it is true of our spiritual lives. Death leads to new life.

We see this same pattern in the turn of the church year. This Sunday, the Feast of Christ the King, is the end of the church year. Next Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent, is the start of the new church year. The readings wrap around each other in much the same way the leaves enable the growth of the seeds into new trees.

These last weeks of the year turn our attention to the end times, to the time when Jesus will come again at the end of time. The first week of Advent begins with this same focus on the end times. From that end-time focus our attention is drawn to the new thing that is happening in the coming of Jesus in time. The end that is the final end brings us to the new life that is Jesus among us. And the cycle begins again.

The lesson of the maple trees is the lesson of the church year is the lesson of faith—dying leads to new life. When we are in difficult time in our lives, it is not easy to remember that the seeds of new life are being planted. However, if we look back over our lives, we will see this pattern again and again. What we thought was an ending, we now see was the beginning of something new.

As this fall season turns to winter, we keep in mind the spring that is taking root even now. As our church year ends with this Feast of Christ the King and a focus on end times, we come again to the beginning of the church year and attention to the birth of Jesus.

Where do you find the seeds of new life in your life now—new beginnings given their start in endings? Believe the good news!

Victoria

Announcements

Parish Picture Directory

If you have not registered, please take time to fill out a registration form ASAP so that you can be included in the address and phone section of the new directory. Forms are available in the west vestibule. If you can help with phoning or with welcome on the picture days, contact Elsa Alvarez at 524-8981.

StrengthFinders

If you have not yet done the StrengthFinders assessment, please join us on Monday, Nov. 23 at 7pm in the Benincasa Living Room for an introduction to the assessment and on Monday, Nov. 30 at 7pm for an explanation of the results. This is a great tool to understand your own strengths, those of your family members and other members of the community.

Advent Festival

After the masses for the First Sunday of Advent: Saturday, Nov. 28 after the 5pm mass and Sunday, Nov. 29 after the 8:30am and 10:30 am masses in Victoria Hall. Listen to Advent music as you make your Advent wreath and join in other Advent crafts.

H1N1 virus and mass

At the present time, we are not making any changes in the mass, but we ask for your own careful participation. If you are sick, please do not shake hands at the exchange of peace, do not receive the cup, and do not receive on the tongue. Please wash hands regularly.

Thanksgiving Mass

Thursday, November 26 at 9am. Please bring food for the hungry to stock our food closet. The collection will be for St. Vincent de Paul.

Catholics come Home

We are preparing to welcome Catholics and others to our community after the TV ads run during Lent. Our first step in participation is financial: to raise money for the TV advertising. So far, we have received \$2000 in donations toward our goal of \$2754. Thanks to those who have already contributed. If you can help, please use the Catholics Come Home envelopes on the tables at the doors of the church. Questions, ask Victoria.

Baptism for young children

The next date for baptism is The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, January 9-10, at any mass. Call/email Victoria to register for the class and to schedule the baptism.

Parish Stewardship

November 15, 2009

Collection Total: \$6,183.00

Cantare Vocal Ensemble

Under the direction of Mark Adrian, presents its Christmas concerts on Saturday, Dec. 5 at 8:00 p.m., and again on Sunday, Dec. 6 at 2:00 p.m. Both concerts are at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral on Capitol Hill. Advance tickets are \$18 seniors and \$20 general (under 18 are admitted FREE with paying adult). All tickets at the door are \$22. Call 206-551-4544 or log onto nwassociatedarts.org.

High School Choir

for Christmas Eve: Interested teens should plan to meet with Mark Adrian in the church on Sunday, December 13 and 20, after the 10:30 Masses for two Sunday rehearsals. There will be an additional rehearsal sometime during the week of Christmas. Both Sunday rehearsals will last until 1:00. The high school choir will sing at the 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. Call or e-mail Mark for more information: 206-524-8800 ext. 105 or markadrian@stcatherineparish.net.

Advent Day of Reflection for Women and Men

"AWAKENING TO THE PROMISE" by Sister Sheila Lemieux, CSJP, will be held at The Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace, St. Mary-on-the-Lake Chapel, on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. To register or for more information, call Sister Carmel Little, CSJP, 425-454-7909 or e-mail clittle@cjsp-olp.org

Advent Retreat: Inbreaking of the Word in Cosmic History

Presented by Michael Crosby, OFM Cap, Sat, Dec 12, 9am-1pm, St. Joseph Parish, 732 18th Ave E, Seattle. Preregistration \$15 before Dec. 7; \$20 at the door. Call 206.223.1138; Online registration: www.ipjc.org

Social Justice

We meet every 3rd Sunday of the month.

Youth Ministry

Sr. High Youth

Youth Group has begun and all students in the 9-12th grades are welcome!