

First Sunday of Advent

29 First Sunday of Advent

Mass: 8:30 & 10:30, Advent Festival following
AA Meeting: 6pm - Church Basement

30 Monday

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

1 Tuesday

Mass: 9am
Eucharistic Adoration: 9:30am-7pm
Directory Pictures: 1-8pm - Victoria Hall

2 Wednesday

Children's (4th-8th) Choir: 7:45am - Music Room
Communion Service: 9am
Directory Pictures: 1-8pm - Victoria Hall
School Commission: 6pm
JustMatters: 6:30pm - Benincasa

3 Thursday

Mass: 9am
Directory Pictures: 1-8pm - Victoria Hall
RCIA: 7pm - Benincasa
Choir: 7pm

4 Friday

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

5 Saturday

Directory Pictures: 9-4pm - Victoria Hall
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3pm
Mass with children's choir: 5pm
AA Meeting: 6:30pm - Benincasa Basement

6 Second Sunday of Advent

Mass: 8:30 & 10:30, Coffee hour following
Faith Formation: 9:30m - Benincasa
First Reconciliation: 9:30 - Benincasa Basement
AA Meeting: 6pm - Church Basement

*Readings for December 6th
Second Sunday of Advent*

Baruch 5:1-9
Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11
Luke 3:1-6

PRAYERS

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

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

PRAYERS

..... *A Word from Victoria*

Advent is here. Advent is the season of coming; the word advent means coming. It is the season in which we focus on the coming of the Lord. The new liturgical year begins where the past liturgical year ended—with the coming of the Lord at the end of time. We continue to focus on the end of time, on the final coming of the Lord. The gospel, this year from Luke, is the parallel passage to Mark's which we heard on the last Sunday of the year before last week's Feast of Christ the King. It speaks of the disruption to come when there will be signs in the heavens and distress on the earth, when "people will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world."

Lest we get too fearful of what is to come, the season of Advent turns our focus to the coming of the Lord in history two thousand years ago. We remember how Jesus came among us to save us as a people many years ago.

Finally, so that this Advent season is more than a scare tactic and more than a history lesson, we focus as well on the coming of the Lord among us now. It is this coming which asks the most of us. The coming of the Lord at the end of time invites us to be ready; the coming of the Lord in history fills us with gratitude; the coming of the Lord among us now draws us to deeper relationship with God daily.

As in the season of Lent, the church provides ancient practices which prepare us for the three-fold coming of the Lord. The first I would suggest for this season is prayer. Daily prayer is what deepens our relationship with God. Time spent in prayer is as important to our relationship with God as time spent with our loved ones is to those relationships. We do not expect to have deep relationships with friends and family without spending time with them. Similarly, we can only develop a deep and growing relationship with God if we take time to talk with God, to listen to God, to be with God.

Though the season of Advent is not a penitential season in the same way that Lent is, this season does invite us to review our lives, to examine our patterns, and to turn to God for mercy and forgiveness. Prepare for the three-fold coming of the Lord by turning more fully to God and seeking God's forgiveness. Every Saturday, Fr. Tony is available in the Reconciliation Room from 3-4:30pm to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If it has been a while since you celebrated this sacrament, Fr. Tony will help you; there are also guide sheets on the table in the west vestibule. In addition, there will be an Advent Reconciliation Service on Wednesday, December 16 at 2pm (with the school) and at 7pm (with individual confession). Please join us.

The Lord is coming! Prepare now! Happy Advent!

Victoria

Announcements

Parish Picture Directory

If you have not registered as a parishioner, 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 on tables at all doors of church.

Baptism for young children

Baptism of infants and young children will take place on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord at any mass the weekend of January 9 and 10. If you are interested in having your child baptized, please contact Victoria ASAP. There will be a class on Sunday, December 13 after the 10:30 mass.

Advent Festival TODAY!

After the masses in Victoria Hall. Listen to Advent music as you make your Advent wreath and join in other Advent crafts.

Christmas Mass Schedule

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

Christmas Day: Mass at 9am

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Mass at 9am and 7pm. Please join us in celebrating this important feast of our church year.

Advent Reconciliation Service

Wednesday, December 16 at 2pm (with the school) and at 7pm (with individual confession).

Advent Movie Night

We are planning a movie night on December 20 at 4pm. We will show *It's a Wonderful Life* on the big screen in the hall; and *Polar Express* in the music room for the younger children.

Need TV

Do you have large flat screen TV you might want to donate to St. Catherine? Or do you know enough to advise us on the purchase of a flat screen TV for parish and school events? (We will need the TV for the Advent Move Night.) If so, please contact Victoria.

HiNi virus and mass

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.

Parish Stewardship

November 22, 2009

Collection Total: \$8,248.00

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 Evening of Prayer

Thursday, December 10, 2009 from 7-9pm at St. Joseph Parish Center, 732 18th Ave E, Seattle. Dance, Reflection & Prayer led by Betsey Beckman, MM & Matt Henley www.ignatiancenter.org

The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge

A fun night for all on Thursday, December 3rd at the Renton Civic Theater. Doors open at 7:00pm. This once a year fundraiser is for the Central Deanery of the Seattle Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women who focus on Pro-Life Issues, Pregnancy Aid, Seminarian support and spiritual growth for Catholic Women. For tickets (\$15.00 in advance & \$20 at the door), call 253-631-7879.

