

Thoughts Along the Way

Advent

The Season of Advent begins today, marking the start of a new Christian year. Appropriately, Advent (from Latin *advenire* “to come to”) is our four-week preparation to celebrate the first coming of God's Son, and anticipate His return in glory!

The purple colors of Advent symbolize preparation and expectation. Purple has penitential overtones, reminding us of our need for God's Grace to make us fully the person that God has created each of us to be.

Lighting candles on the **Advent Wreath** in both churches and homes is also highly symbolic of our time of preparation and the spirit of expectation.

The Advent wreath has four candles and we light a candle for each week of Advent. Today we light one candle, next Sunday (December 4), two, and so on, until we light all four on the Fourth Sunday (December 18).

Traditionally, three of the candles are purple and the fourth is rose-colored. The rose-colored candle is lit on the Third Sunday of Advent, *Gaudete* (“Rejoice”) Sunday, symbolizing that our time of celebration is drawing near.

As we light a candle for each week of Advent, it symbolizes the coming Light of Christ which brings more and more light to the world. In times without electricity, this symbolism was powerful.

The Advent Wreath came to these shores with German immigrants. Like these previous immigrants, we are also people on a spiritual journey to a new land—the New and Eternal Jerusalem.

Advent Challenge to Families:

PLEASE TAKE ONE NIGHT A WEEK each week of Advent FOR A FAMILY NIGHT.

Have dinner together

Pray together

Light your Advent wreath together

Talk with each other

Read to each other – Christmas stories, bible stories, good books.

Listen to quality music together

Turn off the television, or watch a quality program together

Stay off the internet, or visit quality websites together

Whether your family is a traditional two-parent family with children, a single-parent household with children, extended generations living together, or that group of close friends we call family, let's all make the effort to put God and our family more at the center of our lives this Advent.

You can make time to eat dinner together: my mother was a young widow, who worked full-time, yet we always ate dinner together as a family – dinner which mom came home and prepared – while we maintained sports schedules and other extra-curricular activity.

Kids too busy? As someone recently said, adults make family schedules not children!

BE A FAMILY! Build a healthier future for our children and their children. Imagine what could happen if we were to challenge our other family and friends to do the same?

Have a blessed Advent,

Fr. Matthew O'Leary

Pastor

Our Saints

November 30—ANDREW, APOSTLE was a follower of John the Baptist before Jesus' call to discipleship. Andrew brought his brother Simon Peter to Christ. After Pentecost Andrew preached north of the Black Sea and in Greece, and was martyred in Achaia on an X-shaped cross. He is the patron of the Greek Orthodox Church, Russia and Scotland, and the fishing industry.

Coming Events this Advent

GOD & COFFEE

CATHOLICISM – The Series – “The Teachings of Jesus”

Ground-breaking program by internationally acclaimed teacher Fr. Robert Barron uses the art, architecture, literature, music, and all the treasures of the Church to help us achieve a greater understanding of the Catholic Faith.

Fr. Matthew will host the hour-long episode, and lead discussion afterward. This is one of the best presentations of the Catholic Faith in modern times!

All welcome.

Holy Disciples—Friday, December 2, 7:00 p.m.

Our Lady of Good Counsel—Wednesday, December 7, 7:00 p.m.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Holy Day of Obligation

Our Lady of Good Counsel—Wednesday, December 7, 6:30 p.m.

Holy Disciples—Thursday, December 8, 7:30 p.m.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Holy Disciples—Saturday, December 10, 10:00 a.m.

Our Lady of Good Counsel—Saturday, December 17, 10:00 a.m.

Mom’s Group

Mom’s Group is meeting twice a month in the nursery from 9:30AM - 11:00AM on selected Mondays.

Please check the bulletin board at the back of the church for dates. Please contact Patty Ward with questions. 253-640-3756 or patty.ward@hotmail.com

“WORK OF HUMAN HANDS” SALE

November 26th and 27th

December 3rd and 4th

After Masses

Unique gifts crafted by artists from around the world.

Catalogs will be available to order additional items.

This is a Fair Trade project through

Catholic Relief Services.

Sponsored by Holy Disciples

Justice in Action Commission

THIS WEEK AT HOLY DISCIPLES PARISH

Monday, November 28

No Mom & Tot Group in Church Nursery

Silver Threads Exercise Class-10:30AM

HAP -6:30PM

Monday Night Bible Study-7:00PM

SVDP Council Meeting-7:00PM

Tuesday, November 29

Deanery Meeting-10:00AM

HAP-3:30PM

Junior High-6:00PM

8:30AM Choir-7:00PM

Bible Study-7:00PM

Wednesday, November 30

Rosary-8:40AM

Mass-9:00AM

Bible Study-10:00AM

Silver Threads Exercise Class-10:30AM

New Creation Choir-7:00PM

Thursday, December 1

Rosary-8:40AM

Mass-9:00AM

Senior High-6:00PM

RCIA-7:00PM

Liturgy Commission-7:00PM

Friday, December 2

Rosary-8:40AM

Mass-9:00AM

Silver Threads Exercise Class-10:30AM

God & Coffee-7:00PM

Martial Arts-7:30PM

Saturday, December 3

Many Faces of Holy Disciples-10:00AM

Faith Formation-3:30PM

Mass-5:00PM

Work of Human Hands after Mass

Sunday, December 4

8:30AM-Mass

New Creation Choir-9:00AM

Mass-10:30AM

Work of Human Hands after Masses

Confirmation for Youth-112:00PM

Widow & Widowers Dinner

Friday, December 9, will be the next dinner sponsored by the Grief Ministry for widows and widowers. Meet at Northwest Vintage Restaurant, 10404 156th St. E near the Sunrise Target, at 5:30PM. For more information, call Barbara Smith at 253-262-2047 or Maryanne King at 253-847-9763.

July 1, 2011 thru June 30, 2012

Total FY Offering Budget:

Week 20 November 13, 2011

Our Financial Stewardship

Year To Date:

Offerings Received Nov. 12/13, 2011	\$ 12,596.90
FY '11-12 Year To Date Budgeted:	\$ 295,694.91
FY '11-12 Year To Date Received:	\$ 264,990.00
FY '11-12 Year To Date Surplus:	\$
FY '11-12 Year To Date Shortage:	\$ (30,704.91)

Parish Mortgage Loan & Payment Status

Total Loan Amount:	\$ 2,836,486.44
FY '11-12 Interest Paid To Date:	\$ 27,135.36
FY '11-12 Principal Paid To Date:	\$ 0.00
FY '11-12 Total Payments:	\$ 27,135.39
Interest Past Due (as of 9/30/11):	\$ 218,713.39

Other Donations:

Food Bank	\$ 1,025.00
SVDP	\$ 1,036.01
Other	\$ 2,407.59

Thank You To All For Your Stewardship Support!

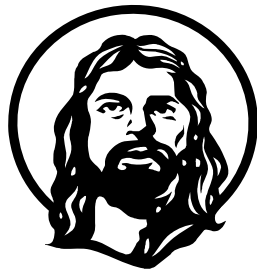
Let us know if you have any questions.

The Members of Your Finance Council are:

Denny Woyak (Chairman), Susie Brown (Bookkeeper),
Bob Lorenz, Chuck Nicholas, Walt Kuehlthau,
Janice Melodia, Kory Pederson
Fr. Matthew O'Leary (Pastor)

Our Saints

November 22—CECILIA (d. 250?) was known for her legendary *Passio*, a poem which exalts Christian virginity. Though Cecilia married, she remained a virgin out of Christian zeal. Cecilia was martyred for the faith, and Christians continue to honor her resting place in the catacomb of St. Callistus. She is mentioned in the Roman Canon (First Eucharistic Prayer). Cecilia is honored as the patron of music because of the song of God in her heart.



LITURGY-December 3/4

Sacristans:

5:00PM-Helen Aichner

8:30AM-Mary Verdile

10:30AM- John Humble

Linen Warrior-Charlene Whittaker

Eucharistic Ministers:

5:00PM-

8:30AM-

10:30AM-

Lectors:

5:00PM-Carolanne Randich, Cathy Murdock

8:30AM-Geri Haworth, Joanne Shoji

10:30AM-Yanet Zaldivar, Barb Frye

Altar Servers:

5:00PM-Sarah, Jack H., Ben

8:30AM-Mackenzie, Jakob, Jacob

10:30AM-Francisco, Jennifer, Osiel

Coffee & Donut Fellowship:

8:30AM Mass:

10:30AM Mass:

LITURGY

Readings for the First Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 63: 16b-17, 19b, 64: 2-7; 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9;
Mark 13: 33-37

Readings for the Second Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11; 2 Peter 3: 8-14; Mark 1: 1-8

YOUTH MINISTRY

Junior High- Hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. We get back into our normal schedule with a game night on Tuesday, Nov. 29! If you have a favorite, please bring it. Friends are always welcome!

Senior High- On Dec. 1, a Thursday, we will have a game night in the St. Cecilia Room starting at 6:00PM. Bring a game you like to play, some friends to make it fun, and we'll have snacks and challenges to pass the time!

SACRAMENTAL PREP

We have a wonderful group of young people who are learning more about the Catholic faith in order to complete Sacraments of Initiation. They meet together once a month and attend youth group weekly to receive education and formation around the faith they will be professing. Our next gathering is Sunday, Dec. 18 after the 10:30 Mass. If you are interested please see Carmen!

DEPLOYED PARISHIONERS

Aaron, Alex, Anthony, Bill, Bryce, Conrado, Damian, Dave, Denise, Dennis, Dominic, Don, Donald, Eric, Greg, James, Jeff, Joe, John, Joseph, Kim, Mark, Matthew, Noel, Richard, Rick, Ryan, Sara, Sam, Thomas.

“Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as you protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform in our time of need. Amen.”

Please remember these individuals in your prayers:

Sue Ford, Monica Harvey, Delores Reed.

When the names of the ill have been in the spoken Prayers of the Faithful for a month or more, they will then be remembered in our prayers from this list in the bulletin.

MANY FACES OF HOLY DISCIPLES

Immaculate Conception Novena

When: November 30 thru December 8, 2011

Where: Holy Disciples Catholic Church

Time: 7:00PM

A novena will begin on Wednesday, Nov. 30 at 7:00PM leading to the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Prayers in the Chamorro tradition will be prayed, along with the recitation of the Rosary each night. On the holy day of obligation, Dec. 8, the tradition will be prayed just before Mass which is at 7:00PM

Guadalupe Prayer Vigil

A prayer vigil in the Mexican tradition will be held on Sunday evening, Dec. 11 from 7:00-10:00PM in anticipation of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Along with prayer there will be some refreshments.

Religious Education Faith Formation Kindergarten thru Grade 6

There will be no classes this weekend.
Enjoy your Thanksgiving weekend.
Regular schedule next weekend!

Sacramental Prep Parents

Please Note: The date for

First Communion has changed.

The celebration will take place on Saturday,
May 5th at 5:00PM mass.

First Reconciliation will be celebrated

Friday, January 13th 6:30 PM

& Saturday, January 14th at 10:00AM

Adult Education Opportunities

God and Coffee

Mark your calendars now!

Friday, December 2nd 7PM

Fr. Matthew will host the second part of Robert Barron's Catholicism series.

Advent Adult Bible Studies

Two bible studies are being offered.

Monday nights starting November 21 and

Tuesday night beginning November 29.

Monday nights will be a Threshold Bible Study (new to our parish) created by Stephen Binz,.

Tuesday will be a Little Rock Scripture Study.

To sign up for either of these studies, call Rosyln Castillo at 253-848-1435 or 253-683-9508.

Advent Little Blue Books are available!

The Little Blue Books that we have offered for the past several years are once again available in the back of the church. Please take one home to assist you in your spiritual preparations for the Christmas season.

Warning!!!

A six minute a day commitment to prayer this Advent Season may be life changing!

SILVER THREADS

We will be going to McGee's to do our Christmas caroling and handing out the "Goody Bags" filled with homemade cookies, candy and fruit on Tuesday, December 13, at 12:15 PM. We will meet at the church on Monday, December 12, at 1 PM to put the gift bags together. After our trip to McGee's, we will go to Rock Wood Fired Pizza (all you can eat) to have lunch together. Please sign up on the Silver Threads board at the back of the church.

HOMEMADE COOKIES GLADLY
ACCEPTED