

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 1, 2013

Reflection Next Week:
Anna Clarke

Readings for December 8, 2013

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 11:1-10
SECOND READING: ROMANS 15:4-9
GOSPEL: MATTHEW 3:1-12

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday - 5 pm
Sunday - 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:30 pm

Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday - Friday, 7 am, Parish Center

Reconciliation

Saturday - 3:30-4:15 pm in the Church
or by appointment

Parish Center Hours

Monday-Thursday - 8 am - 4:30 pm

Saturday - 9 am - 1 pm

www.stjosephparish.org

Parish Receptionist (206) 324-2522

Pastor

Rev. John D. Whitney, S.J. x107
jwhitney@stjosephparish.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Glen Butterworth, S. J. x103
gbutterworth@stjosephparish.org

Deacon/Pastoral Associate

Steve Wodzanowski x106
stevew@stjosephparish.org

Pastoral Staff:

Dottie Farewell, Dir. Religious Ed. x112
dfarewell@stjosephparish.org

Rebecca Frisino, Business Mgr x108
rebeccaf@stjosephparish.org

Tina O'Brien, Development Mgr x114
tinao@stjosephparish.org

Renée Leet, Admin Assistant x100
rleet@stjosephparish.org

Bob McCaffery-Lent, Liturgy & Music x109
rmclent@stjosephparish.org

Caprice Sauter, Administration x102
caprices@stjosephparish.org

John Stuntebeck, Organist/Pianist x105
jstuntebeck@stjosephparish.org

Yuri Kondratyuk, Facilities x110

St. Joseph School

Main Office x210
Patrick Fennessy, Principal x218
Rick Boyle, Academic VP x215
Kris Brown, Vice Principal x216

Participate in the Survey

Answer the Pope's Call

In asking the bishops of the world to listen to the ordinary women and men of the Church, in calling you and me and every other member of St. Joseph Parish to put our two-cents in about the issues to be addressed at the upcoming Synod, Pope Francis is signaling something quite radical: the Church begins with us.

This huge institution, which seems so far away, up the great ladder of hierarchy and across the sea in Rome, begins with the experience of God in the heart and life of individual men and women of faith, who are brought together by the love of Christ Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit.

In this call, Francis reminds us of the words of the Second Vatican Council: *"All the faithful scattered throughout the world are in communion with each other in the Holy Spirit so that 'he who dwells in Rome knows those in most distant parts to be his members'"* (Lumen Gentium, 13).

And in a way more profound and amazing than most of us have experienced, *'he who dwells in Rome'* is clearly interested and enriched by the experience of you and me.

To answer the summons of the Pope in the short time available, dioceses and parishes around the world have sought various methods and tools.

At St. Joseph, we will offer two venues of response: a written survey, and a series of forums.

**The forums will occur at the
St. Joseph Parish Center on:**

Thursday, December 5 at 9:00 am & 7:00 pm

Thursday, December 12 at 7:00 pm

**The survey is also available at our website
www.stjosephparish.org**

Individuals are encouraged to respond to the survey questions, and to include reflections as requested. All are asked to respond prayerfully and honestly, with hearts open to the movement of the Spirit in your own life and in the life of the community of the Church that you know. May God give us wisdom and insight, and so bless the Church with our reflections. Please also fill out the personal inventory at the end of the survey with as much information as you're comfortable sharing.

Opening Our Lives to the Mystery

"You know the time; it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep.

The night is advanced, the day is at hand."

-Romans 13:11-12-

I sat at the bedside—as I had sat at the bedsides of so many others, most of whom I barely knew—and I held her hand between mine, listening to the labored but rhythmic breathing. When she opened her eyes, responding by some instinct to my gaze, I tried to smile a little for her, and she, too, smiled; though behind that smile I could see the ache of pity for me and for the rest of us, who would be left behind. We were the last threads that held her, the shadows fading in the rising sun. She had nearly finished her long journey of release and surrender. She had done all the treatments she could do, had endured the radiation and the painful losses: her voice and her work, her strength and her independence. She had borne the days of nausea and the mornings struggling for breath; and now, as her lungs filled with fluid, all that was left was the final labor of letting go. Like a child, poised for birth, she struggled for release. She awaited the morning; open to the mystery.

As December begins, our whole world declares the coming of Christmas. Even before Thanksgiving, the image of Santa appears beside a car-carrier, loaded with Mercedes-Benzes and Lincolns. Meanwhile, Best Buy (trading on the desperate need of their employees) proclaims it will open 6:00 pm on Thanksgiving, and K-Mart (not to be outdone in crassness) prepares to open at 5:00 am that same, once-sacred day. Black Friday, Cyber Monday . . . who among us is not, at least, distracted by all the sirens of consumption? And, if not by those, then by the parties and social events, the pageants and plays, the constant strains of *Jingle Bell Rock* and *Santa Claus Is Coming to Town*? Reluctantly or filled with the near-maniac "*spirit of the season*," we plunge into the whirl, like Labradors on a treadmill, running and running, through the artificial wonder and the manufactured joy; most of us hoping only to make it to December 25, so that we can collapse beneath the Christmas tree and slumber amid the wrappings.

In such an environment, the season of Advent—billed by the Church as the great season of hope—seems a quaint anachronism, like a wristwatch or political integrity. In the face of so much light and glitter, Advent appears as a season that exists only in the Church, to make us feel guilty for all our indulgence, or to remind us that we don't *really* have the spirit of the season that God wants us to have. Like raw vegetables on a buffet table

laden with treats and truffles, Advent can seem an unattractive duty for people of faith, even while, in the eyes of the world, it seems a distraction from the economic wonderland that is the Christmas (or rather, *Christmas-shopping*) Season.

Yet, neither of these images of Advent—as quaint distraction or as spiritual scold—hold true to the message that is offered and the promise that is given. Far from calling us to distraction, Advent is about truth and vision: about love that waits, even in darkness, and trusts, even when all seems lost. Advent is faith in that *something* which we know most deeply, but can never quite express, never quite see: a mystery that lives in us, obscured by pride or fear or anger, but never wholly lost. Without denying the goodness of gatherings and songs, of gifts and giving, Advent invites us to become conscious of our whole life: freed from the fear that reduces rather than enriches us, the fear that makes us not *women* and *men* but merely *consumers*, the fear that blinds us from the reality that we are on the way to something more—that we, like Mary's child, are *in utero*—and that our birth (even when it appears like our death) is rising in us like the dawn.

John



Men's Advent Gathering

Please join us on Saturday, December 7th from 8:30 am – 11:00 am for our Annual Men's Advent Gathering in the Parish Social Hall. This will be a time of prayer, reflection and renewal as we make room in our lives and hearts for the birth of Christ. Tim Reilly, Toan le Duc and John Paul will be our Animators. For more information please contact Dn. Steve at (206) 965-1646 or SteveW@stjosephparish.org



Prayer

"Prepare the Way of the Lord"

Saturday, December 14th, 10 am

A TIME OF RECONCILIATION & RENEWAL IN ADVENT

Fr. John will be offering a morning of reflection and renewal—a miniature retreat in the midst of Advent. On Saturday, 14 December 2013, from 10 am until 1:00 pm, members of the Parish are invited to come and pray in the church around the themes of advent. During this time, confessors will be available and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered continually. Each hour, a brief prayer and scriptural reflection will be presented, with points for prayer.

*Come for 15 minutes, for an hour,
or for the whole morning!*

RCIA Sponsors Needed

We have about six people currently participating in the RCIA process who are in need of a sponsor. A sponsor is a faith companion who accompanies the RCIA participant in their journey towards full initiation in the Catholic Faith. The commitment is some Tuesday evenings from 7-8:30 pm, being available to accompany RCIA participant at Sunday mass and participation in 2-3 Liturgies and being available to get together and answer questions. Sponsors begin in December and finish up in May.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please join us at a meeting on Tuesday, December 10th at 7 pm.

For more information, contact Deacon Steve at 965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

Handmade Christmas Tree Skirts

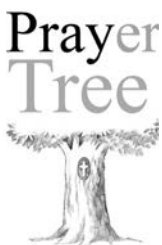
FROM OUR SISTER PARISH IN EL SALVADOR

As both a way to directly support their local economy and to raise funds to pay for transportation for three people to visit, St. Joseph's Sister Parish Ministry is selling Decorated Christmas Tree skirts made in El Salvador.

Cost is \$45.00 and we have 15 left to sell. All proceeds go towards helping defray costs of upcoming visit.

For more information or to purchase a skirt contact Deacon Steve at 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions: Happy and joy filled 100th birthday to El Marie Kam . . . For the comfort of Darcy's mother . . . For all those who are travelling this week – safe journey . . . With appreciation and gratitude for Maxine Larson's time and energy in keeping our church linens so beautiful – which are used when we celebrate Mass and receive communion . . . In thanksgiving for those who help St. Francis House with food donations; for those who make sandwiches and bring fruit for St. Martin de Porres shelter; for those who help at our Overnight Shelter; for those who provide diapers and clothing and formula for the Baby Corner – your generosity has made a significant difference in many lives, bless you . . . For those who are seeking new directions in their lives, direct their paths.



"God will instruct me and teach me in the way I should go. He will guide me with his eye."

~ Psalm 32:8

"La Voz de la Justicia: Human Rights at a Critical Juncture in El Salvador"

Please join us on Thursday December 5, 2013 from 7-9pm in the St. Pat's Social Hall for an important presentation and conversation facilitated by Dr. Angelina Godoy from UW Center for Human Rights. She has recently returned from a field research trip in El Salvador with an update on many issues directly affecting our sister parish community who has long hoped for reparation and justice after the war. Come hear Dr. Godoy and meet representatives from other institutions who sponsor sister parish relationships. All who are interested in responding to recent disturbing events that are seriously undermining justice advances in El Salvador will find this evening inspiring! This event is free and refreshments will be served. For more information and to RSVP(optional but helpful), please contact Lisa Dennison at 206-234-3614 or email at lisa2karl@aol.com. Co-sponsored by St. Pat's Social Justice Committee.



Liturgy & Music

Music Ministry Bulletin Columns – November 28, 2013



"The Singing Thing"
Weekly Reflections the music
we use at Mass at St. Joseph

MUSIC FOR THANKSGIVING

Have you ever taken a moment to ponder over the word "THANKSGIVING?" I mean, really look at it? How apropos that the word "thanks" and "giving" are so closely connected. Isn't that truly how it is in life? As the line from the Prayer of St. Francis goes: "It is in giving that we receive." What better way to say "thank you" than to do so by giving of ourselves. There's another line from one of my favorite pieces of Christmas music, "In the Bleak Midwinter." The text is by the poet Christina Rossetti and the final verse reads: "What can I give him poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb. If I were a wise man I would do my part. Yet what I can I give him... give my heart."

Thanksgiving is always a special liturgy in, part, because, there is so much to be thankful for. As a parish musician I am always inviting, cajoling, enticing all of us to give something that all of us have: OUR VOICE. As with our treasure, our time, our skills...we are all uniquely gifted. And whether you sing like an angel or on Orc, like Christina Aguilera or Tom Waits, it makes no difference. From where I stand it is the cumulative effect of a raggedy band of believers giving what they have in song that inspires. "What I can I give him..."

On Thanksgiving this week we sang a Welsh tune *Ar Hyd Y Nos* commonly known as: "All Through the Night" or, liturgically, "For the Fruits Of This Creation." For centuries the church has borrowed tunes from the culture and changed the words and made them her own...our own. (Remember that *Hark the Herald Angels Sing* was originally written to celebrate the invention of the Gutenberg printing press!) This particular tune from 18th century Wales has been set to many different texts and sung widely in situations as diverse as *The Beggar's Opera*, and *The Adventures of Baron Munchausen* and by artists as diverse as Olivia Newton John and Michael McDonald. The text we sing, giving thanks for the gifts of creation, was written by Fred Pratt Green one of the great hymn writers of the 20th century. There are no fewer than 5 of his texts set to music in our Gather songbook.

We also sang "*For the Beauty of the Earth*" a hymn written by Samuel Pierpoint when he was 29 years old. He was mesmerised by the beauty of the countryside that surrounded him. The version we sang this week was used the TUNE "*Adore Te Devote*" a French processional from 1697 and usually associated with the Latin text of the same name by Thomas Aquinas. Paul Winter of the Paul Winter Consort wedded this tune and text for his *Missa Gaia (Earth Mass)* performed every year at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City.

Robert McCaffery-Lent
Minister of Music



Community

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam Concert Series

Seattle University Choir A Festival of Christmas

Friday, December 6, 2013, 8 pm
Sunday, December 8, 2013, 2 pm

A Seattle tradition you won't want to miss - the Seattle University Choir's annual candlelit Christmas concert presented in St. Joseph Church, one of our city's loveliest historic spaces. Hear the enchanting echos of outstanding singing. The choir offers a wide variety of textures and styles, including the men singing Biebl's moving Ave Maria, and Healy Willan's charming Tyrlé, Tyrlow sung by the women's voices. Thrill to the lush harmonies of Pavel Chesnokov's Salvation is Created, sung by the large mixed choir.

Other composers include: Thomas Weelkes, John Rutler, Michael Praetorius, Richard Dering, to name a few, plus numerous carols to warm the heart, including the traditional Nigerian carol, Betelehemu.

Tickets available for purchase at the door.

Choral Arts with Bob McCaffery-Lent, Director of Music and Liturgy

Christmas with Choral Arts

Sunday, December 15, 2013, 7:30 pm

Choral Arts' signature program, Christmas with Choral Arts, is our gift to you during this holiday season. An hour-long concert of uninterrupted music with interludes played by classical guitarist Bob McCaffery-Lent provides a reflective and peaceful experience. Escape the hustle and bustle of this hectic time of year and let Choral Arts fill your soul with our unique collage concert including chant, traditional carol settings, unaccompanied choral favorites, and new works.

"When the brief audience sing-along ended and Choral Arts' final song faded into silence, the audience drew itself up for a standing ovation. What a gift, that perfect little hour of music." - Seattle Times

For more information about this concert, visit www.choral-arts.org.

St Joseph's Almost Boomers Christmas Caroling Party

Single? Married? Single again? Married again? If you are a St Joseph's Parishioner 45-75ish you are an Almost Boomer. Please join us for Caroling and good food and company.



Sunday December 15th, 6:00 PM

The party is graciously hosted by Mary Beth & Dick Gemperle at 1116 15th Ave East. Please bring a hearty appetizer or dessert, and beverages to share.

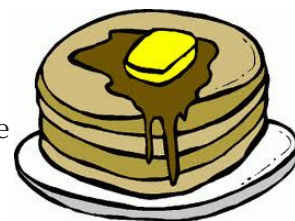
For information or to help, call Mary Beth at 325-0784 or Carolyn Baker at 324-3695

Seniors On the Go

- **Friday, December 6th** - Healing Mass at 11:30 am followed by Seniors Luncheon in the Parish Center.
- **Tuesday, December 16th** - Seniors Potluck, 6 pm in the Social Hall. Call Mary Ott 206-324-7459 or Dolores Dorn 206-322-2259 for details.

Family Mass & Breakfast

Sunday, December 8th, after the
9:00 am Mass
Parish Pancake Breakfast
Crafts for the Kids



Breakfast will include pancakes, eggs, sausage and fruit; \$5 per person, kids 4 & under eat free.

There will be no CFF 1 through Junior High classes that day; this is a CFF1 & 2 Event

St. Vincent de Paul

We have a lot to be thankful for this Thanksgiving weekend. Not the least of our gratitude is for the gift of our faith in its many guises. One of those of course is your continuing donations to support St. Vincent de Paul. Another is for the gift of faith itself.

Our St. Vincent group—formally called a conference—begins our weekly meeting with a short prayer that included the following:

“Let us reflect on the words of Our Lord Jesus Christ, recalling His unity and presence among us: “Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there I am in the midst of them.”

Vincentians take this to heart in voluntary service to the poor, to help those not only poor in the material sense but also in the spiritual sense. For when we visit those who request help, many we see suffer from depression and not only because they lack financial resources. We see many who are lonely, who lack hope, and who get beaten down by their day-to-day living on life's edge.



Christ is among us in this work. Christ is among you and us in this mission to reach out to people in need. For this we are most thankful.