

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 15, 2013

Reflection Next Week:
Sue Grady

Readings for December 22, 2013

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 7:10-14
SECOND READING: ROMANS 1:1-7
GOSPEL: MATTHEW 1:18-24

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

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jwhitney@stjosephparish.org

Parochial Vicar

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

Deacon/Pastoral Associate

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St. Joseph School

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

St. Joseph Holiday Schedule



Sunday, December 22

No 5:30 pm Mass for
Church decorating

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 24

7:00 am, Daily Mass

4:00 pm, Children's Mass
(Doors open at 3:00 pm)

6:00 pm, Mass in the Evening

10:00 pm, Lessons & Carols

10:30 pm, Mass in the Night

Wednesday, December 25

10:00 am, Mass in the Morning

New Year's Eve

Tuesday, December 31

7:00 pm, Benediction & Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament, ending at Midnight



2014 Stewardship
Fund

As of December 9, 2013

Amount Pledged: \$839,171.00
Goal: \$1,500,000.00

The Mystery of the Pink Candle

*I know this happiness / is provisional:
the looming presences— / great suffering, great fear—
withdraw only / into peripheral vision:
but ineluctable this shimmering / of wind in the blue leaves:
this flood of stillness / widening the lake of sky:
this need to dance, / this need to kneel:
this mystery.*

-Denise Levertov-

Winter came to Seattle last week with a brilliance and bitterness that left many of us awed by the sharp-shadowed beauty of the world outside our windows. As we watched the mountain float in the southern sky, painted by the rising sun; or watched the Olympics carved against an early sunset, as plumes of vapor rose from rooftops and from passing cars, it seemed as though the world were held suspended in a frozen beauty—although, admittedly, the appreciation of that beauty was easier from inside a heated home than when we walked outside. Yet, even walking with popsicle toes and a ridiculous hat, I sensed the grace of these middle days, and felt as though the world was speaking the advent prayer of chill quiet, longing for the coming light.

But, like advent itself, these winter days bore with them more than quiet moments of hot cocoa and conversations around a fire. For the candles glow, but the circle of light is not yet complete, and the world—being the world—remains a place of loss as well as beauty, of darkness as well as light, of separation as well as profound and promised union.

Last week, Patricia Boyle, the mother of Rick Boyle, Assistant Principal at St. Joseph School, died in Spokane, surrounded by her husband and sons. Soon after, Steve Wodzanowski's mother, Rosemary, thought to be on the mend, died in New Jersey, again surrounded by her family. Others, too, connected to our community have passed out of our small circle of light, including Tom Royce, former Provincial of the Jesuits, who died in Spokane; and a young woman, Joan Kelly, sister in-law of Christine Kelly, who died of brain cancer at only 54. These are just a few, of course, of the many deaths in our world in these last few days—some, like Nelson Mandela, mourned with great celebration, some mourned only by a small circle of family and friends, and most mourned hardly at all, anonymous in the face of so much other suffering, so many other losses. Cold is the winter that surrounds us, and many are the hours of darkness as the winter gloom descends.

How odd it can seem that at this moment, as the world's light moves toward its nadir, our advent preparations call us to ignite the pink candle—or, as in St. Joseph, the candle with the pink ribbon. "Gaudete!" "Rejoice!" the Church proclaims, as we begin the third week of advent. Even as the hours of sunlight shrink across the northern hemisphere, as we feel the ache of our losses and the fragility of all that we had seen flourish in the sun, we are summoned to rejoice. How is this possible? How can our hearts, frozen and darkened in the wintering world, turn from the deep purple of twilight to joy? Yet, we are called to this: as the baptist was called to the desert, as Mary was called to her motherhood, as Joseph was called to welcome a child he knew he had not fathered. Rejoice! Rejoice!

With unfathomable love, God chooses to enter the world in all its darkness. God chooses to come among us, not with conquering armies nor with hosts of angels, flashing with the brilliance of the divinity. No. God chooses to grow in the darkness of a human womb—from fertilized egg to embryo, from embryo to child—wholly dependent on a mother's love, on the food her husband brings her, on the community of care in which she grows and lives. God ripens among us, in a dark place, protected from the cold world by a body of love. And as with Christ, so also with us: we grow surrounded by communities of love, by bodies who hold us and give us life, who carry us in our fragility and feed us with the small nurturance by which we are strengthened for the painful birth that will bring us into light and family. And at the same time, we are that body of love by which others are held and nurtured, even in the times of their darkness, in moments of loss and loneliness.

We rejoice today not because the dark is vanquished and the cold is no more, but because we are, as one body, the mystery of advent: the promise of light that cannot be overcome, of warmth and new life that neither death nor darkness can destroy. Rejoice!



Stewardship

We Care for St. Joseph Stewardship Update

Many, many thanks to all who have made gifts and pledges thus far. To date, we have received **361 pledges totaling \$839,171.00**. We are endlessly grateful for your care of and commitment to St. Joseph Parish!

Meghan Arbuckle • Rachel Bergere, Thomas & Saovane Borthwick, III, Brian & Julie Bridwell, Mike Buckley • Terrence Cronin, Philip & Barbara Cutler • Victor & Annie Delucchi, James & Allison Dixon, Michael Donovan & Erin Foster • John Goebel & Suzanne Long, John & Kate Goodwin • Patrick Hogan • Eileen McAuliffe, Donald McDonald • Allen Payne, Patrick & Margaret Pressentin • Earl & Nancy Sutherland • Arthur Wahl, Nicholas & Silvia Waltner, John Warme

We ask each and every Parish family to complete a pledge envelope, whether or not you are able to make a financial gift. Your affirmation of membership and pledge of prayers is enough for us but we want to know that you join us in this gracious and holy work.

Please, if you haven't done so already, take a close look at our annual report, ask any questions you may have about our strategic plan or finances, and prayerfully consider what gift-- if any-- you may be able to pledge to our parish in the coming year. Together, we stand united, Ignited by the Eucharist to love and serve. And in doing so become what Pope Francis calls the Church to be: a home for all people, not a chapel for a selected few.

Reduce Your 2013 Taxes: Did you know that you can reduce your taxes for 2013 by making a gift to St. Joseph Parish?

Extension of the IRA Charitable Rollover

The fiscal cliff act passed on January 1, 2013, includes several important provisions that allow you to support the causes you believe in using your Individual Retirement Account (IRA). If you are 70½ or older, you can make a gift of up to \$100,000 to St. Joseph Parish from your IRA. The amount you give can meet your annual distribution requirement. By making an IRA charitable rollover gift, you are able to lower your income and taxes for this year while supporting the mission of our Parish.

How to Make an IRA Rollover Gift in 2013

Contact your IRA custodian to make a gift from your IRA for 2013. The IRS will treat the amount of the cash gift as if you had made a direct rollover to charity and you can then avoid federal tax on the amount of the gift.

For more information

To learn more about how you can redirect excess IRA income to support St. Joseph Parish, please contact Tina O'Brien, Pastoral Assistant for Stewardship and Development at (206) 965-1654 or tinao@stjosephparish.org or visit the Seattle Archdiocese planned giving website at <http://www.seattlearchpg.org>

Thank you for all you do to support the work of St. Joseph Parish!

**St. Matthew,
Patron Saint
of Tax Collectors**



Sacramental Preparation

Thank yous for Reconciliation

Our Sacramental Preparation community would like to extend its warmest thanks to all the folks who helped make Saturday's First Reconciliation so memorable for our children.

Thank you to our participating priests, Fr. Paul Fitterer, SJ, Fr. Jeff McDougall, SJ, Fr. Ignatius Ohno, SJ, Fr. Pat O'Leary SJ, Fr. Glen Butterworth, SJ and Pastor John Whitney, SJ. A special thank you to our hardworking teachers, Monica Alquist, Dorothy Ambuske, Mary Guerra, Kesslie Hollingshead, & Grace McLaughlin you are a blessing to St. Joseph.



Pancake Breakfast

Our most sincere thanks goes out to all the many people who helped make last Sunday's pancake breakfast such a success, Mary P., The Theisen Family (Mike, Patrice, Lily, Ryen, & Noah) Krista F., George P., Katie F., Joe R., Ted N., The Heymann Family (Peter, Nicole, Nick, Ben, Franklin, and cousin Kira), Jen R., Sam R., Jackson H., Jack R., Max N., Joe N., Ethan F., Janet H., Alli H., Colette C., Christopher C., Juliette D., Mia A., Colin E., Fletcher W., Kaitlin C., Sydney M., Carter J., & Bill Sauvage's 8th grade religion class. It was a wonderful morning of good food and fellowship!





Community

Giving Tree

Thank you for supporting one of our Outreach Partners!

Instructions: **GIFTS MUST BE BACK TO THE CHURCH BY MONDAY DECEMBER 16th WITH THE TAG ON!**

1. Please choose an ornament and purchase the requested item.
2. If your item does not indicate whether to wrap the gift or to leave it unwrapped, please leave the gift **UNWRAPPED**.
3. Please attach the ornament/tag you received to the wrapped/unwrapped gift.
4. Bring your giving tree donations back to the St. Joseph's Giving Tree or the Parish Center. The last day of our collection is Monday December 16th
5. If you have any questions regarding the Giving Tree, please contact Deacon Steve at 965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org



St. Joseph's Epiphany Dinner

Sunday, January 5th
1 - 4 pm
Parish Social Hall

We will open our doors to anyone in the Community for a shared meal and fellowship. Similar to last year we are reaching out to our "Outreach Partners" such as Recovery Café, St. Martin de Porres Shelter, Chief Seattle Club and Jubilee Women's Center to name a few. We will be providing transportation from several locations downtown. As is our tradition, we invite members of our community to provide cooked turkeys, hams, vegetables, potatoes, beverages, desserts and appetizers. Volunteers are needed to do the food prep, cooking, decorating, table hosting and clean-up. Please sign-up after Mass or by calling the parish center at 324-2522 ext 100 or by emailing Renee Leet at rleet@stjosephparish.org

Come help us prepare St. Joseph's Church for Christmas

Please join us Sunday, December 22rd, after the 11 am mass for cleaning and decorating our sacred space for the celebration of Christmas. If you can give us an hour or so (we will be in the church until 4 pm), it will make a difference. Hot lunch will be provided.

St. Joseph School Youth Choir

Students in grades 4 - 6 are invited to join the St. Joseph School Youth Choir. We meet on Wednesday afternoons in the primary music room. Rehearsals are from 3:15 - 4:15, with supervised snack time and "down" time from 2:45 - 3:15. We will prepare a variety of music for a concert in March, and will sing at a St. Joseph Parish Mass in February. Please contact Betsy Baeskens Giri at bbaeskens@stjosephsea.org for details.



Prayer

St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions: For Sharon's continued recovery and progress from brain surgery . . . For Michael's upcoming shoulder operation, may it provide needed relief . . . For Ralph's and for Carole's eye surgeries may they both be more comfortable afterwards . . . For John who is experiencing liver problems . . . For Helen, Scott, Reilly, Cregan, Betty, Rebecca and others who have health challenges . . . Gratitude for the wonderful response to our Giving Tree in helping others celebrate Our Lord's birthday . . . Thankfulness for the those who have donated blood - it makes a difference . . . For the intentions we hold close in our thoughts and hearts.



***"You are generous to me, dear Lord;
You have taught my soul to trust you.
I have crept beside you and found
Shelter in the shadow of your wings . . ."***

~ Psalm 57

R.I.P.

***Remember in your prayers, Deacon Steve's mother,
Rosemary Wodzanowski.***

"Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.."



Prayer Shawl Ministry

*Shawls ... made for centuries
universal and embracing,
symbolic of an inclusive,
unconditionally loving, God.
They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother,
hug, shelter and beautify.*

*Those who have received these shawls
have been uplifted and affirmed,
as if given wings to fly above their troubles*

Prayer Shawl Ministry up and running

On November 7th and December 5th we gathered in the Arupe room for our first two prayer shawl meetings. Father John prayed with us about the importance of our work in making prayer shawls for those in need of healing. After prayer, refreshments and conversation, we set about knitting our shawls and enjoying getting to know one another better. Our next gathering will be Thursday, January 9th in the parish center. The plan is to meet the first Thursday of each month unless holidays/vacation times conflict. Please consider joining at any time if you are interested. As a few are doing, if you cannot attend the gatherings, you are more than welcome to work on a shawl at home. When the shawls are finished, they will be blessed by Father John and given to someone in need. If you have any questions and or need help getting started on a shawl, please contact Jennifer Rothmeyer at jenniferrothmeyer@hotmail.com

Yarn donations needed- If you would like to donate yarn towards this effort it would be greatly appreciated. Worsted and bulky yarns are best and yarn that can be washed. Please drop donations at the parish center. Thank you

Baptism for Older Children

If you have a child four years of age and older whom you would like to be baptized into the Catholic Faith, Our first gathering for parents and children will be in **January**. **The December meeting is cancelled. Please email Deacon Steve if you would like more information stevew@stjosephparish.org**



Social Ministry

CAPPELLA ROMANA THE FINNISH ORTHODOX CHORAL SOCIETY

Thank you St. Joseph's Parish:
Save 15%
Platinum + Gold tickets
with coupon code "StJoseph"
cappellaromana.org

ARCTIC LIGHT
FINNISH ORTHODOX CHORAL WORKS

TIMO NUORANNE guest dir. (HELSINKI)

8pm, Saturday, January 18, 2014
St. Joseph's Parish 722 28th Ave E

For its debut at St. Joseph's parish, Cappella Romana presents a sumptuous program, which sold out in 2008, of music from the Finnish Orthodox Church. This music marries the shining Northern clarity of sound with a sonic richness clearly linked to the traditions of Russian choral singing.

TICKETS START AT \$25

cappellaromana.org
503-236-8202 or 800-494-8496

Blood Drive Thank You!

Monday's blood drive brought in 29 donors. Our goal was 36 so we met 80% of our goal. Not a great turnout but, every donation counts and we collected 24 units which, because each pint can be separated into 3 different parts, will help up to 72 patients over the holidays!

Just this morning we had an order for a patient, a 22 year old male with Burkitt Lymphoma who had internal bleeding. He is O Positive but was transfused with O Negative because it was urgent and the doctor's didn't have time to 'type' him. He used 27 units of blood. That's almost the equivalent to the number of donors at St. Joseph's blood drive, just for one patient!

We are so grateful to all the donors who regularly support us! You make a difference!



Participate in the Survey Answer the Pope's Call Let Your Voice Be Heard!

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 a written survey.

**The survey is 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 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.



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

"Singing fosters a community, as the harmony of voices fosters the harmony of hearts. It eliminates the differences of age, origin and social class and it brings everyone into one accord in praising God."

PAUL

MEMBERS OF THE SAINT JOSEPH CHOIR

Elvira Cardona — I immigrated to Seattle from the Philippines with her parents at the age of 9 months and has lived here ever since. Music and singing has always been a part of her life since her grade school days at Immaculate Conception. At Cleveland High School she sang in both Choir and Vocal ensemble. A graduate of the UW School Of Drama she has established her acting career in Seattle having worked at Seattle Repertory Theater, Seattle Children's Theater, and Hook-it Repertory Theater. Earlier this year she sang in an all female production of Jesus Christ Superstar at Burien Little Theater (Thaddaeus/ensemble & maid at the fire), an experience she considered a very enlightening Lenten journey. Elvira and her husband, Roger chose St. Joseph to be their spiritual home while preparing for their wedding in part because the church reminded him of his home parish in the Philippines, Mary The Queen. And also because the mission statement of social justice greatly appealed to Roger especially, having lived in Manila during the Marcos regime, and witnessing the People Power Revolution with Elvira here in Seattle. Together they have two daughters, Nicola (Nikkie) and Linda. Elvira sometimes pulls double duty by also being a lector for the 11am mass.



David Beaudry — I joined the St. Joseph's choir as the result of gentle nudging from my RCIA sponsor, Kate G. I am not sure how she knew that I could carry a tune but I am thankful that she pushed. For the past six years I have really enjoyed being a part of this group. My formal music training is quite limited, but the choir directors at St. Joseph's have always been helpful and encouraging. My children, Andrew and Sarah, graduated from St. Joes and Seattle Prep, and singing in the choir allows me to remain an integral part of St. Joseph Parish and this faith based community. How can we keep from singing in this beautiful place?

Now you have met all of the members of the Saint Joseph Choir which rehearses on Wednesday evenings and sings the 9 a.m. mass every Sunday. Currently, we are busy preparing for Advent and Christmas, and, after the new year, will be accepting new members to sing throughout winter Ordinary Time, Lent and Easter. If you would like to sing with the choir please contact Director of Music Ministries Bob McCaffery-Lent at Rmclent@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1649 or come and talk with me after mass. You can also find more information AND register for the choir at the parish website: Liturgy and Prayer - Liturgical Music.



Community

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam

Concert Series

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

• **Tuesday, December 17th** - Seniors Monthly Potluck, 6 pm in the Social Hall. Call Mary Ott 206-324-7459 or Dolores Dorn 206-322-2259 for details.

• **Friday, January 10th** - Healing Mass, 11:30 am, with lunch following in the Parish Center (**Note Date Change**)

St. Joseph Parish Couple's Retreat

January 31-February 2, 2014 at LaConner Channel Inn

"Pack Your Bag With the Essentials for Your Life Together"

Cost \$300 (plus \$70 for dinner per couple Saturday evening) Contact Deacon Steve Wodzanowski: stevew@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646.

With Grateful Hearts

A sincere Thank You to all who gave to our Thanksgiving collection for St. Francis House. Because of your generosity, we were able to give them \$1,904.00 to support their efforts to feed & clothe those in need.

St. Martin de Porres

Monday Hamburger Delivery Drivers Needed

Every Monday, a St. Joseph parishioner delivers hamburgers from the Capitol Hill Dick's Drive-In to the St. Martin de Porres Men's Shelter (in SODO) for their 6 pm dinner. We need one new driver to deliver every 3rd Monday of the month and one or two volunteers that could be flexible back ups. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Beth Carman at kiki.wondercar@gmail.com



St. Vincent de Paul

Advent is the season for reflection and anticipation. As your fellow parishioners privileged to do the volunteer work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, we reflect at once reflect upon the many blessings we enjoy even as we strive to help people not as fortunate. Poverty, being in need, is not a sentence for bad behavior. So many people we see take hits in life that somehow elude the rest of us somehow elude. Not everyone is born in the same place, to the same circumstances.

As Vincentian volunteers say a prayer that, we strive to serve a person's needs as we meet up with them. In this we are an extension of you, the people in our parish community. A line from one of our prayers expresses a remarkable aspect of what we do. It goes: "We thank You, Lord, for the many blessings which we receive from those whom we visit." We witness the courage in people barely getting by on \$700 a month and coping with cuts in food stamps; we see the pluck in people who live each day on the edge but who are cheerful and good; we get to know those who work but who just can't earn enough to make ends meet,

and who rarely can enjoy even some of the smallest pleasures in life that so many of us take for granted. It is a genuine blessing to serve such people.

Pope Francis continually stresses the imperative for serving the poor. So, in this season of anticipation of the birth of Christ, we also anticipate a renewed and re-invigorated effort in the coming year to help the people who call upon the St. Vincent de Paul Society for help. Thank you for your support. Every dime and dollar you contribute goes to help the folks who need it.

