St. Joseph Holiday Schedule

Sunday, December 21
No 5:30 pm Mass for Church cleaning & preparation

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 24
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

Thursday, December 25
10:00 am, Mass in the Morning

New Year’s Eve

Wednesday, December 31
8:00 pm, Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, ending at Midnight

New Year’s Day

Thursday, January 1, 2015
10:00 am Mass, Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother Of God

Painful Truth, Gracious Mercy

Pain is truth; all else is subject to doubt. That is what I bear away from my conversation with Colonel Joll, his slender feet in soft shoes I keep imagining back in the capital he is so obviously impatient for, murmuring to his friends in theatre corridors between the acts. (On the other hand, who am I to assert my distance from him? I drink with him, I eat with him, I show him the sights, I afford him every assistance as his letter of commission requests, and more. The Empire does not require that its servants love each other, merely that they perform their duty.)

-J.M. Coetzee-

Whoever fights monsters should see to it that in the process he does not become a monster. And when you look long into an abyss, the abyss also looks into you.

-Friedrich Nietzsche-

Torture is a mortal sin. It’s a very serious sin.

-Pope Francis-

When I was 28 years old, a graduate student at St. Michael’s Institute in Spokane, I wrote the first paper I ever had published. In the Company of the Barbarians was a study on the ethics and practice of torture, and sought to present a usable definition by which torture could be banned. As an American Catholic, I felt well-supported in my position, given the role of Americans in the
drafting of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man. Torture was what other nations did—what happened in the Gulags of Russia or in the dark chambers of Pinochet’s Chile. Though not always perfect in practice, America had never accepted torture as a legitimate method of interrogation, not even in wartime, and had never pursued it as policy. It was, I presumed, a vestige of barbarism that our nation of laws had outgrown.

This week, after long delay and much debate, the 528 page Senate report on CIA detention and interrogation of prisoners during the years following 9-11 was, at last, made public, and proved how wrong I was. Detailing, with a gruesome and clinical thoroughness, the cruel, inhuman treatment of prisoners, few of whom were ever convicted of a crime, the report has raised cries of shock and astonishment from various pundits, from members of the media, and from ordinary citizens. “A Stunning Revelation” the headlines cry, and everywhere from Facebook to the halls of Congress, people seem shocked and dismayed at the breadth and barbarism of the torture, and at the many lies told by its defenders.

On the other hand, some believe that the report should never have been released—even if the stories of the torture of prisoners and the misleading of Congress and the public is true—because the publication will only enrage our enemies abroad and endanger those now serving, especially in predominantly Moslem countries. (That was, after all, years ago, and things are different now.) Others, while acknowledging that the stories in the report may be accurate, deny the actions described constitute torture; or they justify them by the “actionable intelligence” they produced, or because those against whom they were done were terrorists and enemies of the United States. After all, some say, didn’t such methods help us get Bin Laden—as told in the movie, Zero Dark Thirty? (Although, in fact, as the report reveals, it was not torture that got the information on Bin Laden—or virtually any usable information.) Finally, many argue that the release of the report is merely political posturing in a city in which little else matters.

The truth is, few will read this report, or even its conclusions. Fewer still will be moved to reflect upon what it might mean for us as a nation and as a people. In the midst of Advent, with Christmas close upon us, who wants to remember so much cruelty or dwell upon the mistakes that seem so long ago? Like so much in media, the report is just words, the people in it unreal to us. Certainly, we will be dismayed at the gruesome descriptions; and maybe we will be angry, for awhile, that so many lies were told and pain inflicted to no good end. (Though never, perhaps, asking the deeper moral question of whether torture should be acceptable, if it provides us with better information.)

Yet, as followers of Jesus Christ, who was tortured and killed for the “good of the people,” we should not so easily ignore this report; for it is not the story of some movie-Nazi’s or Soviet thugs: it is our story. Those who tortured, and those who justified this torture are our brothers and sisters, our sons and daughters. They live, even now, in our communities and attend our churches and synagogues. They did what they did in our name, empowered by legal visions that our fear enacted. And like their prisoners, they bear the scars put on them by actions we allowed. For, despite all the shock expressed this week, anyone with eyes to see knew or should have known—at the time—that torture was being practiced; and while we may not have known the details, we knew enough to turn the other way. Like the rich man, stepping past Lazarus, we did not see because most of us did not want to see—though some did, and gave up career and popularity to speak out.

The Senate report is not simply an indictment of a few: it is a profound reminder of the fragility of our humanity, of our closeness to that first couple who hid in the bushes because they had sinned and were afraid. It recalls to us the sad reality that the world is misshapen by centuries of pain and fear, darkness and pride—what Christians call Original Sin—which still wreaks its havoc, even among those who fancy themselves “civilized.”

Yet, before we despair, we should also recall that it was into just such a world that the Savior came: a world shrouded in darkness and violence, poverty and cruel torture. Then, as now, the One who was without sin entered into our sin with the fullness of God’s love. Let us embrace that love: not hiding from the evil done by our nation, but acknowledging our sins fully—in what we have done and in what we have failed to do. Let us repent with humility, rather than deny; and let us resolve to sin no more, but to undo the effects of our sin as best we can. Then we can rejoice in the mercy of God, and give thanks that Christ comes, again and again, to call us back to the light our hearts’ desires.

Come, Lord Jesus, rescue your people!

All Are Invited To Come Forward

During communion, we invite all to come forward. If you do not ordinarily receive Eucharist, or choose not to, come for a blessing, indicating your desire by putting your hand on your heart.

If you have a gluten allergy, & need of a gluten free host, please come to the Presider & indicate this.
Order of Celebration
Third Sunday of Advent

Prelude (5 & 11)
Instrumental

Prelude (9)

Rejoice in the Lord Always

Traditional Round

Entrance Song
O Come, O Come Emmanuel

VENI VENI EMMANUEL

The Introductory Rites

Call To Worship

Please stand at the sound of the bell.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to you, O Israel.
Penitential Act

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

Strike breast during next line.

through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Kyrie

Cantor:

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

All:

Cantor:

Chrisite eleison. Chrisite eleison.

All:

Cantor:

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Liturgical Form

Cantor:

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor,
to heal the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives
and release to the prisoners,
to announce a year of favor from the Lord
and a day of vindication by our God.

I rejoice heartily in the Lord,
in my God is the joy of my soul;
for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation
and wrapped me in a mantle of Justice,
like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem,
like a bride bedecked with her jewels.
As the earth brings forth its plants,
and a garden makes its growth spring up,
so will the Lord God make justice and praise
spring up before all the nations.

First Reading

Psallite

Canticle of Luke: My Soul Rejoices In God

My soul rejoices in God, all my being blesses God's name.
Second Reading  
Romans 16:25-27
Brothers and sisters: Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it.

Gospel Acclamation (5 & 11)  
Alleluia  
A. Gregory Murray OSB

Gospel Acclamation (9)  
Advent Alleluia  
Michael Joncas

Gospel  
John 1:6-8, 19-28
A man named John was sent from God. 
He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.
He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.

And this is the testimony of John. 
When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, “Who are you?”
He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, “I am not the Christ.
So they asked him, “What are you then? Are you Elijah?”
And he said, “I am not.”
“Are you the Prophet?”
He answered, “No.”
So they said to him, “Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?”
He said: “I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, ‘make straight the way of the Lord,’” as Isaiah the prophet said.”

Some Pharisees were also sent. 
They asked him, “Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?”
John answered them, “I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie.”
This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.
The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

At the words that follow, up to and including ‘and became man’, all bow.

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offertory Song

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!
Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Mystery of Faith

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord,

until you come again.

Great Amen

Amen.

Lamb of God

Vatican Edition XVII

Agnus Dei, qui tollis pec-ca-ta mun-di: mi-se-re-re no-bis. A-gnus De- i,

qui tollis pec-ca-ta mun-di: mi-se-re-re no-bis. A-gnus De- i,

qui tollis pec-ca-ta mun-di: do-na no-bis pa-cem.
Communion Song (9) *Rejoice In the Lord, Again, Rejoice*

Communion Song (5 & 11) *Now In this Banquet*

Song of Praise *People, Look East*

**The Concluding Rites**

Recessional *Instrumental*
This Week At St. Joseph

Sunday
9:00 AM  Mass
9:00 AM  Childcare during Mass
10:00 AM  Pancake Breakfast
11:00 AM  Mass
5:30 PM  Mass
7:30 PM  Concert - Choral Arts

Monday
7:00 AM  Daily Mass
7:00 AM  Yoga - Body in prayer
12:30 PM  PSBC Blood Drive
7:00 PM  Sacred Silence Prayer
7:00 PM  Holy Rosary Goup

Tuesday
7:00 AM  Daily Mass
7:00 PM  RCIA

Wednesday
7:00 AM  Daily Mass
7:00 AM  Yoga - Body in prayer
9:00 AM  MOM’s Ministry Advent Series
6:00 PM  Pathfinders
6:30 PM  Choir Practice
7:00 PM  The VOICE youth group
7:00 PM  Women’s Ministry Yoga

Thursday
7:00 AM  Daily Mass

Friday
7:00 AM  Daily Mass
7:00 AM  Men’s Prayer Group

Saturday
8:00 AM  Centering Prayer Group
3:30 PM  Weekly Reconciliation
5:00 PM  Vigil Mass
7:30 PM  Concert - Good Tidings We Bring

For additional information about these or any other upcoming events, please visit our website at www.stjosephparish.org or call the Parish Center at (206) 324-2522.

Stewardship

One Minute: Once a Year
Each year, during our stewardship appeal, we ask each parish family to take just one minute to reaffirm active membership in St. Joseph as a sign that you are intentional in joining us in this gracious and holy work. During this time, we also ask that you prayerfully consider what, if any, gift you are able to give in support of our work. We try to make this process as easy as possible:

- Send us an email to stewardship@stjosephparish.org
- Give us a call at (206) 965-1654,
- Stop by the Parish Center,
- Complete a stewardship envelope (available in the pews)
- Make a gift online at www.stjosephparish.org
- ...whatever is easiest for you, works for us!

We are endlessly grateful for the many parishioners who have already pledged participation, as well as those who have made a financial pledge for 2015. To date, we have received 346 pledges of participation and commitments of $767,934 toward our goal of $1,500,000. THANK YOU!!!

Additional names of parishioners who have affirmed their membership in St. Joseph. We thank you!

Should you have any question whatsoever, please don’t hesitate to contact Tina O’Brien at stewardship@stjosephparish.org (206) 965-1654. Many thanks!
Liturgy and Worship

Many hands make light work!

Join fellow parishioners on Sunday, December 21st to prepare the Church for Christmas. This is a great opportunity for new parishioners to get to know others in our community. Immediately following the 11 am Mass, we will gather for a quick lunch in the Arrupe Room of the Parish Center, then head over to the Church, divide in teams, and thoroughly clean the church, light the trees, hang the wreaths and set out the poinsettias. Bring the family. Stay an hour or three. Make it an annual tradition!

Sacred Silence

A time for silent prayer and peace

The Sacred Silence prayer group gathers on Monday nights at 7 pm in the Church for an hour of silent prayer. Newcomers always welcome. Open to all types of prayer practice. People are encouraged to use whatever silent prayer practice works best for them whether it is centering prayer, Ignatian imagination or another prayer. Time is spent both sitting and walking in silence.

For information on Sacred Silence and silent prayer contact Jim Hoover at jhoover3law@qwestoffice.net or 206-286-0313.

The Rosary At St. Joseph

St. Joseph parishioners have been praying the Rosary since the church was built. The grace of the prayer to the Holy Mother has lit the journey to Jesus through painful addictions in families, the loss of loved ones and when everything seems darkest. Many Catholics have historically viewed Mary as the person who will defeat evil on earth.

Everyone is welcome to pray the Rosary, Mondays from 7 to 8 pm in the Parish Center Loyola Chapel.

Faith Formation

Preparation for Older Children Baptism

If you have a child five years of age and older whom you would like to be Baptized into the Catholic Faith, please set up an appointment with Deacon Steve Wodzanowski at stevew@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646. The plan is to gather monthly (Jan-April) with family catechesis at home between sessions. In accordance with Archdiocesan policy, the norm is for children seven years of age and older to be fully initiated into the Catholic Faith by receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil Mass. Children younger than seven receive the Sacrament of Baptism only at a designated Sunday Mass during the Easter Season – This year that date is Sunday April 19th at the 9:00 am Mass. Classes are all on Thursday evenings from 6-7:30 pm, Jan. 29, Feb. 26, March 26 and April 16th. Deacon Steve Wodzanowski (206) 965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org
Faith Justice

St. Joseph’s Epiphany Dinner
Sunday, January 4th
1 - 4 pm
Parish Social Hall

Come one: Come all! As is our tradition each Epiphany, we open our doors to everyone in the broader community for a shared meal and fellowship. Clients and staff from St. Joseph Parish Outreach Partners—Recovery Café, St. Martin de Porres, Chief Seattle Club, Noel House, Jubilee Women’s Center, St. Francis House and L’Arche—will be our special guests. (The parish provides transportation from several locations downtown.)

Please join us, and if you are able, consider providing cooked turkeys, baked hams, vegetables, & potatoes or beverages, desserts or appetizers. Volunteers are also needed to do food prep, cooking, decorating, tablehosting, and clean-up.

This year, sign-ups are on-line at PerfectPotluck.com. Sign-up by entering your name, email & phone number, and the item you would like to bring or the volunteer assignment you desire—SUPER EASY! Visit PerfectPotluck.com and locate the meal by coordinator last name (Wodzanowski) and password (Epiphany).

Thank you in advance for joining us for this very special event!

For additional information, visit the www.stjosephparish.org calendar, or contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org or (206) 965-1646.

Together we imagine a circle of compassion with no one standing outside of it.
~Peggy O’Neill, SC

Giving Tree
Thank you for supporting one of our Outreach Partners!

Instructions: GIFTS MUST BE BACK TO THE CHURCH BY MONDAY DECEMBER 15th

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 15th

5. If you have any questions regarding the Giving Tree, please contact Deacon Steve at 965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

ORNAMENT CODES
Gold - Westside Baby
Red - Francis House
Blue - St. Martin de Porres
Violet - Jubilee Women’s Center
Yellow - Chief Seattle Club
Orange - Winter Shelter
Light Green - L’Arche
Dark Green - C.C.S Pregnancy Support
Orange - Recovery Café
Light Blue - Noel House
Black - Peace for the Streets by Kids From the Streets
White - St. Vincent de Paul

Parish Blood Drive
We are having another blood drive on Monday, Dec 15th from 12-6 pm (Closed 2-2:45) in the Parish Center. To sign up for the blood drive, please email Renee Leet at rleet@stjosephparish.org
Choral Arts
St. Joseph Choir-In-Residence, will present its signature program as a gift to you during this holiday season. Our unique hour-long concert of uninterrupted music with interludes played by classical guitarist Robert McCaffery-Lent provides an oasis of calm in the midst of this hectic holiday season. Sunday, December 14, St. Joseph Church, 7:30 pm. Suggested donation is $25 general admission, $20 for seniors and students are always free! For more information about this concert visit www.choral-arts.org

Seniors On The Go
Friday, January 9th - Healing Mass at 11:30 am in the church. Followed by lunch in the Parish Center.

Please note the date change!

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 trouble

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is going strong making prayer shawls for the community as a source of healing comfort and prayer. To date, thirty-two shawls have been given to people in need, recently including six shawls that were given to Northwest Hospital to provide comfort to terminally ill patients. As well, at the Healing Mass in November, shawls were blessed and given to parishioners who requested them.

We continue to meet the first Thursday of every month in the Parish Center for fellowship and time to knit together. We welcome new members any time, and of all knitting levels. There are excellent teachers in our group who are happy to get a new knitter started.

If you have any questions or would like help getting started on a shawl, please contact: Jennifer Rothmeyer at jenniferrothmeyer@hotmail.com

St. Joseph’s MOMS Group
Advent: Welcoming the Mystery
Wednesday, December 17
9:30-11am, coffee and check in begins at 9am
St. Joseph Parish Center-Main Floor
Childcare available (advanced notice required)
Contact Jeanine Benham-Jones at jeanine@cwjones.net or 206-799-5177

Women’s Ministry
Yoga In Advent
Pray the Magnificat with Mary

Rest your bones in silence, still your racing heart, close your tired and restless eyes, and come awhile apart... come swiftly, loved and precious ones, God longs to sit with you, to absorb your lovely presence as the flower holds the dew. —Edwina Gately

This Advent consciously create space and stillness to allow something new to be born within. For centuries yoga has been used to prepare the body for meditation and communion with the Divine. Join us yoga in which we will practice vigorously so that we can rest the bones and still the racing heart.

Come on Wednesday, December 17th at 7 pm. Wear comfortable clothes; bring a yoga mat and water. The class will last for approximately 75 minutes. No previous yoga experience is necessary but this will be a moderately vigorous physical, as well as spiritual, practice. Linda Chavez, who has been a Director of Faith Formation for over 20 years and a certified yoga teacher for the last five will lead the series. The cost for the series is $20 and is limited to the first 20 folks to register. To sign up contact Deacon Steve Wodzanowski (206) 965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

St. Joseph Young Adults
Join other young adults in Breaking Open the Word. We will be taking a closer look at the upcoming Mass readings together through Lectio Divina. St. Joseph’s at 6:30 pm on December 15th. Bring $5 for a simple soup supper!
Surprised By Love
Faith, Commitment, and the Unexpected in Marriage

St. Joseph’s Couples Retreat Weekend
January 30 – February 1, 2015
La Conner Country Inn

$365 per couple*
Partial scholarships available

*Includes Continental breakfast Saturday and Sunday
and Saturday group dinner

Saturday lunch and afternoon on your own

Register with Deacon Steve by January 5th.
206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org
St. Joseph Parish Presents:

**Good Tidings We Bring**

*A Concert of Songs & Carols*

Madeline Bersamina, soprano
Erin Calata, mezzo-soprano
John Stuntebeck, piano

**Saturday, December 20th, 7:30pm**
St. Joseph Parish
732 18th Ave. E – Seattle, WA 98112

Suggested donation: $15 (youth 18 & under: free)