"Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’"
"All Life Is Advent"

There is perhaps nothing we modern people need more than to be genuinely shaken up. Where life is firm we need to sense its firmness; and where it is unstable and uncertain and has no basis, no foundation, we need to know this too and endure it.

We may ask why God has sent us into this time, why he has sent this whirlwind over the earth, why he keeps us in this chaos where all appear hopeless and dark and why there seems to be no end to this in sight. The answer to this question is perhaps that we were living on earth in an utterly false and counterfeit security. And now God strikes the earth till it resounds, now he shakes and shatters; not to pound us with fear, but to teach us one thing—the spirit's innermost moving and being moved.

-Alfred Delp, S.J.-

Seated at a rough wooden table in his unheated prison cell, Alfred Delp awkwardly crossed one hand over the other to accommodate his handcuffs as he wrote the words “More, and on a deeper level than before, we really know this time that all of life is Advent”

-Abtei St. Walburg-

On February 2, 1945—the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord—Alfred Delp, S.J., who had professed his final vows only two months before, on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (December 8), was hanged in Plotzensee Prison for crimes against the Third Reich. He was 37 years old, and had been in prison a little over 5 months, accused, with numerous others, of treason for his alleged collaboration in an attempt to assassinate Adolf Hitler and overthrow the Nazi regime. Already on the Gestapo’s radar for his writing and preaching, Delp was swept up in the raids that followed the assassination attempt; and though he had endured torture, he had betrayed no one. Eventually, he was moved to Tegel prison, where he found some guards who were sympathetic to his suffering, and who allowed him to celebrate Mass secretly. They also helped smuggle out his writings, including several meditations on the meaning of Advent. Advent had always been an important season for Delp, and in the years following the rise of Nazism in Germany, it had become even more significant to him—a metaphor for all that was happening in the world, and a reminder that the reign of God is not yet complete and that we who wait for the coming of Christ must be shaken to the core, that we might be fully awake for the grace that has yet to be revealed.

This week, thanks to an article shared by Bob McCaffery-Lent, I have been preparing for Advent by reading a number of Fr. Delp’s reflections—some written in prison, some given as homilies in the years before his arrest—and I have found them both spiritually profound and distressingly contemporary. While there remain, thankfully, many differences between Germany of the 1930’s and 40’s and our culture today, still the shouts of intolerance and the stains of war, the internment of countless innocent people and the displacement of millions of others, the image of torch-bearing marchers chanting fascist slogans and the disordered sense of entitlement
among the powerful men of our nation draws from me an ache of recognition: we are not so far from Delp as we might wish, not so far from the cell where he paced in chains while awaiting the hangman’s noose. Like him, our Advent call comes not in a time of fulfillment, but in a time of promise, when the darkness is deep around us and hope seems banished from the public square. Everywhere we look we see terror and betrayal, the world shaken and falling apart. In this moment, our hope comes—like the angel to Mary—into the quiet room of our everyday lives, with a message that seems impossible amid so much darkness and so many lies: the light is coming, the truth remains unconquered. As Delp himself writes from his cell (where, like St. Paul, he sat chained and awaiting execution): “If the angel’s murmured word does not simultaneously shake us to the depths and lift up our souls—then it is over for us. Then we are living wasted time, and we are dead, long before they do anything to us.”

I have often understood the Advent call of “Be watchful! Be alert!” as a counterweight to the manic pace of the pre-Christmas season. In the darkness at the heart of winter, as the earth moves into a fallow stage, we are invited to move, instead, with the rhythm of the season, to take time to wait and watch, as Mary waited for the coming of Jesus. Yet, there is something more than passivity in the call of Advent; something I have often missed, but which the reflections of Alfred Delp have helped me to see. For the call to be watchful and alert is not so much a call to become fallow as it is a call to assume our place on the ramparts, i.e. to set aside the superfluous and the comfortable, and to prepare for the coming of that great power, which will overthrow all that we know. Advent is a call to become like John the Baptist, who cried out in the desert not because he expected people to change, but because what he said was the truth. It is a call to become like Mary—not the gracious mother-to-be we imagine sitting quietly in her well-appointed room, but the young woman who faced possible stoning for a pregnancy she could not explain, who followed her husband into the cold of winter by order of the state, and who became a refugee in Egypt to protect the life of her infant son. It is a call to become like the Son of God, who emptied himself of every honor and glory to be born into the poverty of this world as a fragile child. No, Advent is not simply about slowing down: it is about waking up, about being shaken until everything false falls away and the hard core of truth stands unadorned in our midst. And, while we may be frightened by these days of tribulation, we cannot be alert and still doubt that there is much in our culture (and in our selves) that needs falling away, that needs the “refiners’ fire” spoken of by the prophets.

We live—as Alfred Delp lived, as perhaps all Christians have ever lived—in Advent days, in days when the fullness of God’s love remains unrecognized, hidden behind a shroud of hatred and greed, egoism and violence. And though history may belie our feelings, it can seem that it is worse now than it has ever been: worse because we have a President who lies so profusely and viciously, who tweets out fascist videos created to incite division and hatred, unconcerned about their authenticity; worse because numerous public figures and petty tyrants are seen to abuse women for sexual favors, thinking they have the right because they have power; worse because thousands of veterans commit suicide every year, uncared for by the nation and government they served; worse because 65 million people are cast adrift in the world, and the nations with power do little to ease their plight; worse because, even as the separation between rich and poor grows, our Congress still has not reauthorized health care for children, but is pursuing policies to increase that imbalance; worse because, after 16 years of war, humming like a jack-hammer in the background of our lives, we are not safer from terror and violence, but only harder and less merciful, more savage to each other and more fearful of our neighbors. So much of the world, it seems, has given up on discerning right versus wrong, and lowered its standards to those of mere legality or, worse yet, public opinion. In this darkness, truth becomes mere interpretation, hope becomes salesmanship, and love—true, self-emptying love, the love present in the Incarnation and pointed to in Advent—becomes a radical act of rebellion and revolution.

Let us welcome, then, the shaking of Advent, which overthrows the powers of venality and viciousness that hold us in darkness and despair. Let us welcome the disruption that comes with the angel’s call and the revolutionary “Yes!” of that young woman in Nazareth. Let us trust that, though we are in chains and sentenced to death—as Alfred Delp was—we will be set free, if we wait upon our God with voices as strong as John the Baptist and hearts as sure as Mary’s. As Alfred Delp wrote, just before his execution: “The sounds of devastation and destruction, the cries of self-importance and arrogance, the weeping of despair and powerlessness still fill the world. Yet, standing silently, all along the horizon are the eternal realities with their age-old longing. The first gentle light of the glorious abundance to come is already shining above them. . .This is today. And tomorrow the angels will relate loudly and jubilantly what has happened, and we will know it and will be blessed if we have believed and trusted in Advent.”
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Please take a moment to silence your cell phones.

Prelude
Sleepers Awake/Wachet auf
Nicolai/Bach

Call To Worship
Please stand at the tolling of the bell.

Entrance Song
Creator Of the Stars Of Night
Latin 9th C

Your people's ever-lasting light,
Should doom to death a universal verse,
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all,
You came, O Saviour, to set free
All things on earth with one accord,
De fend us while we dwell below,
Praise, honour, might and glory be

Blessing The Advent Wreath

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,

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.

Strike breast during next line.
First Reading
You, LORD, are our father, 
our redeemer you are named forever. 
Why do you let us wander, O LORD, 
from your ways, and harden our hearts so that we fear you not? 
Return for the sake of your servants, 
the tribes of your heritage. 
Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, 
with the mountains quaking before you, 
while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for, 
such as they had not heard of from of old. 
No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you 
doing such deeds for those who wait for him. 
Would that you might meet us doing right,

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 80
Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.
O shepherd of Israel, hear us, enthroned on the cherubim, shine forth. 
Rouse up your might and come to save us.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore; look down from heaven and see. 
Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted, the son of man you have claimed for yourself.

May your hand be on the man at your right hand, the son of man you have confirmed as your own. 
And we shall never forsake you again; give us life that we may call upon your name.

Second Reading
Brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always on your account for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus, that in him you were enriched in every way, with all discourse and all knowledge, as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will keep you firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Jesus said to his disciples: "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch. Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us.

1. For justice,
2. For wisdom,
3. For healing,
4. Lord save us,

1. for freedom, for mercy: hear our prayer. In
2. for courage, for comfort: hear our prayer. In
3. for wholeness, for new life: hear our prayer. In
4. take pity, light in our darkness. We

1. sorrow, in grief: be near, hear our prayer, O God.
(9) Choral: Wake, Awake!  
Nicolai/Bach

Wake, O wake and sleep no longer, for he who calls you is not stranger: Awake, God’s own, Jerusalem!
Hear the midnight bells are chiming the signal for his royal coming; let voice to voice announce his name!
We feel his footsteps near, the Bridegroom at the door, Alleluia!
The lamps will shine with a light divine and Christ the Savior comes to reign.

Zion hears the sound of singing; our hearts are thrilled with sudden longing: She stirs and wakes and stands prepared.
Christ her friend and Lord and lover, her star and sun and strong redeemer.
At last his mighty voice is heard. The Son of God has come to make with us his home: Sing hosanna!
The fight is won the feast begun; we fix our eyes on Christ alone.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Mystery of Faith

Great Amen

Lamb of God
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 a gluten free host,*
please come to the *presider* & indicate this.

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All Are Invited To Come Forward

Prepare the Way of the Lord

All people will see the salvation of our God.

Jesus, Hope of the World

Come to us, O Son of God!
Come to us, O Son of Man!

Come to us, O Promised King!
Come, Promised Peace!

Come to us, O Rising Sun!
Come, Endless Light!

Come to us, O Heart’s Desire!
Come, Saving Love!

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**VERSES**

1. Shepherd your people in love!
2. Come and be Lord of our hearts!
3. Shatter the darkness of death!
4. Banish our doubt and our fear!
**Song of Praise**  
*The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns*  
Brownlie/Wyeth

1. The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri- um-phant breaks. 
2. Not, as of old, a lit-tle child, To suf-fer and to die, But 
3. The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And earth’s dark night is past; O 
4. And let the end-less bliss be-gin, By wea-ry saints fore-told, When 
5. The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau-ty brings. Hail, 

beau-ty gilds the east ern hills And life to joy a-wakes. 
crowned with glo-ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky. 
haste the ris-ing of that morn Whose day shall ev-er last. 
right shall tri-umph o-ver wrong, And truth shall be ex-tolled. 
Christ, the Lord! Your peo-ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings.

**Recessional**  
*Tolling of the Bell*

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**This Week At St. Joseph**

**Sunday**
- 9:00 AM Mass
- 10:00 AM Coffee & Donuts - Join us!
- 11:00 AM Mass
- 5:30 PM Mass

**Monday**
- 7:00 AM Mass
- 7:00 PM Sacred Silence
- 7:00 PM Holy Rosary Group

**Tuesday**
- 7:00 AM Mass
- 7:00 PM Yoga

**Wednesday**
- 7:00 AM Mass

**Thursday**
- 7:00 AM Mass

**Friday**
- 7:00 AM Mass
- 7:00 PM Immaculate Conception Mass

**Saturday**
- 3:30 PM Weekly Reconciliation
- 5:00 PM Vigil Mass

**WELCOME!**

**New? Visiting? Interested?** Are you visiting for the first time? Interested in knowing more about the ministries and activities at St. Joseph Parish? Please join our weekly e-news blast at www.stjosephparish.org and click on the “Sign up for our eNewsletter” link in the upper right corner of the homepage. Thank you!

**Register!** Are you a Catholic attending Mass at St. Joseph Parish, yet haven’t officially registered? Join us!

**Why register?** St. Joseph Church is a vibrant parish offering many avenues for ministry, connecting with other parishioners and spiritual development. We’d love to get to know you, connect with you, and inform you of our various activities, groups and events going on at the church. Please pick up a registration form in the back of the church or go online to register at www.stjosephparish.org and click on the “Join Our Parish” link.
Liturgy and Worship

Prayer Tree
St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions: For Josh who is recovering from a broken collarbone and a concussion . . . For Aunt Grace on her birthday . . . For Katie’s health . . . For a friend who was recently diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer . . . For the people of all ages who are living on the streets.

“Come to me, all you who are . . . overburdened.”

~Mt 1:28-30

Rest in Peace
Rosaleen Sweeney, beloved parishioner and friend of St. Joseph Parish.

Immaculate Conception Mass

On Friday, December 8th, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary. There will be two parish masses on this Holy Day: 7 am in the Arrupe Room and 7 pm in the church. Special collection for Noel House. Please join us!

Children’s Choir

The St. Joseph Children’s Choir, “Joyful Voices” will sing for the 4 pm Christmas Eve mass this year! There will be two rehearsals during the week prior to Christmas. Watch the bulletin and listen for an announcement at mass about specific rehearsal times. All children are welcome, as long as they are able to focus on singing through rehearsals and mass. Parents of younger children may need to sit with them and help them through the music. To sign up or for more information please contact Jen or Matt Tilghman-Havens at j.tilghmanhavens@gmail.com and mtilghman-havens@gmail.com. You can also sign up at the parish website under the Liturgy and Worship tab.

Come Pray With Us!
Monday Night Prayer Groups

Join us in prayer on Monday, December 4th, at 7 pm. There are two prayer groups meeting. Join our Sacred Silence prayer group in the church or come pray the Rosary in the Parish Center Chapel.

Contemplative Prayer

SACRED SILENCE

The second of our Contemplative Prayer events sponsored by the Liturgy and Worship Commission will be Sunday, December 3 from 4:00 - 5 pm in the church. This series of events is designed to offer parishioners the opportunity to learn about, and get a taste of, some of the prayer experiences that are already part of the St. Joseph community life.

The December 3rd presentation will cover various forms of contemplative/silent prayer, resources on prayer, and how we gather for silent prayer on Monday nights. Persons wanting to learn about contemplative/silent prayer are most welcome.

4 PM Meet and greet attendees.
4:10 PM Discussion of attendees questions, prayer practices and experiences.
4:15 PM Presentation on various forms contemplative/silent prayer; handout resources on prayer.
4:25 PM Discussion of the Sacred Silence format, and the struggles with silent prayer practices.
4:35 PM Experience Sacred Silence.
4:55 PM Finish with questions and comments.

Any questions, contact Jim Hoover at 206-286-0313.

Future Contemplative Prayer events:
• IGNATIAN CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER - February 4
• TAIZE PRAYER - February 25
SEEKING THE LIGHT... 
AN ADVENT DAY OF RECONCILIATION
SATURDAY
DECEMBER 16
12:00 NOON - 4:00 PM

• Come for part or the entire time.
• Points for Prayer & Opportunities for Personal Sacramental Reconciliation.

Prepare Yourself For Christmas

LITURGY AND WORSHIP

ST. JOSEPH PARISH
THE JESUIT PARISH IN SEATTLE
Marriage Enrichment Weekend

February 2-4, 2018
La Conner, WA

“Love Me Tender”
Please join with married couples of all ages and walks of life as we gather for a weekend of spiritual reflection and fellowship. This year’s theme, Love Me Tender, invites us to explore how the ordinary, every day things we do for one another can be filled with loving tenderness.

$365 per Couple*
Partial Scholarships Available

For more information or to register, please contact Deacon Steve at (206) 965-1646 or steve@stjosephparish.org.

* Price includes two nights lodging, Continental breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, and the Saturday evening group dinner.

St. Joseph LGBTQ Ministry Presents

An Advent Morning of Reflection
The Three Incarnations of Christ

Saturday, December 9th
9:00 AM - Noon
St. Joseph’s Parish Center in the Arrupe Rm

All are welcome to join the LGBTQ Ministry as we journey with St. Bernard Clairvaux into the three comings of Christ. In his first, Jesus came in our flesh, he entered our humanity to redeem us; in his middle coming he comes to us through the power of the Holy Spirit and is made manifest through us. In the final coming he will be seen in glory and majesty as we are transformed and fully incorporated into the life of the Trinity. The doors will open at 8:30 AM and we will provide continental breakfast and refreshments.

For more information and to RSVP please contact Theresa Lukasik at theresa@stjosephparish.org.

St. Joseph Women’s Ministry

Advent Yoga & Scripture Reflection
With Diane LeStrangio

DECEMBER 9TH
9-10:30AM
SOCIAL HALL
RSVPs Appreciated!
WOMEN@STJOSEPHPARISH.ORG

Bring your mat! Free of charge.
YOGA BEHIND BARS donations encouraged.

Seniors On The Go

Tuesday, December 5th - Join us for our annual outing to Molbak’s, Flower World and the Maltby Café. We hop on the parish mini-bus which seats up to 14 passengers around 10:00 am and return around 3:30 pm. Reserve your seat by emailing Renee at rleet@stjo-sephparish.org or by calling 206-324-2522, Ext 100.

Friday, December 15th - Join us for our Seniors Christmas Potluck Party from 5-8 pm in the Arrupe Room.
STEWARDCHIP

Thank you!

Many, many thanks to all who have made gifts and pledges to our annual stewardship appeal. **To date, we have received 247 pledges totaling $539,781 toward our goal of $1,500,000.** We are endlessly grateful for your commitment to St. Joseph Parish! If you haven’t yet affirmed your active membership in our parish, please do so, and prayerfully consider what, if any, gift you are able to give to support our work. Many thanks to: Brian & Laurel Buckner, Michael & Mary Dawson, Martin & Cherlyn Dermody, Jerry & Karrie Dinndorf, Russell & Carolyn Fairbanks, Gary Fallon & Leona DeRocco, Patrick Gemperline & Jan Dwight, John & Kate Goodwin, Jacob Hiatt & Claire Craft, Jim & Kathie Hood, Amanda House, Renato & Ana Martins, Michael Moore & Aurora Santiago-Moore, Michael and Angela Myers, Michael & Lori Newell, Knut Nordness & Patricia Shanahan, Matthew & Catherine O’Donnell, Ifeoma Okoro, Sr. Rosemary Perisich, SNJM, Frank & Gail Reath, Mai Russell & Chris Krejei, Sam & Connie Shepherd, Kyle & Jessica Smits, David & Marti Spicer and Joseph & Donna Whitford. As always, for additional information please don’t hesitate to contact Tina O’Brien, Director of Advancement, at stewardship@stjosephparish.org or (206) 965-1654. Many thanks!

FAITH JUSTICE

Share The Journey

ADOPT A REFUGEE FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS

St. Joseph’s is partnering with Refugee Woman’s Alliance (ReWA) in helping 6-10 Refugee families this Christmas. If you would like to ADOPT A FAMILY, please contact Deacon Steve at 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

Recovery Cafe Dinner

It was a great evening of food and fellowship at the Recovery Cafe last Saturday, as the St Joseph community again rallied with turkeys, hams, mashers, sweet potatoes and all the rest of a traditional thanksgiving trimmings. We served upwards of 75 members and friends at the Cafe and finished up the evening with an Open Mic Night. Lots of dancing fun and food was had by all, and we couldn’t have done it without our wonderful St Joseph community. Thanks again to everyone!!
Come Join us even if you missed the first part.

St. Joseph Adult Faith Formation Presents:

THE GOSPEL OF MARK
A BIBLE STUDY FOR THE LITURGICAL YEAR
IN 3-PARTS PRESENTED BY
FR. JOHN WHITNEY, S.J.

THURSDAY - 30 NOVEMBER  THURSDAY - 7 DECEMBER
MONDAY - 11 DECEMBER  7 - 9 PM
ARRUPE ROOM, ST. JOSEPH PARISH CENTER

“This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand.”
-Mark 1: 15-

www.stjosephparish.org
St. Joseph Holiday Schedule

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Saturday, December 23, 5:00 pm Mass
Sunday, December 24, 9:00 am Mass
(no 11:00 am or 5:30 pm Mass)

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
Sunday, 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

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

New Year’s
Sunday, December 31
Sat 5:00 pm, 9:00 am, 11:00 am Feast of the Holy Family
5:30 pm Vigil Mass, Mary Mother of God

Monday, January 1, 2018
10:00 am Mass, Mary Mother of God