

# Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

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SEATTLE, WA 98168

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**WELCOME!**

Thank you for celebrating with us today. We invite you to come and worship with us again. If you would like to be a member of our faith community, please take a moment to register. We would love to have you as our spiritual companion.

## MASS SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY

5:00 pm Vigil Mass (Vietnamese)

### TUESDAY - FRIDAY

6:00 pm (Vietnamese)

### SUNDAY

8:30 am Mass (English)

10:30 am Mass (Vietnamese)

Livestream (Facebook and Youtube)

12:30 pm (Vietnamese for Youth)

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

1st Friday of the Month - 5:30 pm Adoration  
6:00 pm Mass

### CONFESSIONS

Saturday 4:30 pm - 4:50 pm  
Sunday 8:00 am - 8:20 am  
Tuesday - Friday 5:30 pm - 5:50 pm



# Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

## PARISH STAFF

### PASTOR:

Father Joseph Vu, S.D.D., STL  
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### Parochial Vicar

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### Administration/Data Entry

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### Administration/Data Entry

Monica Schwarz  
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### Liturgy Coordinator

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## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: Closed  
 Tuesday & Friday: Please Call for Appointment  
 Wednesday: 9:30am - 3:00pm  
 Thursday: 9:30am - 3:00pm  
 Please leave a message if no one answers and your call will be returned.

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP (DECEMBER 24TH – 25TH)

Donation	\$5,581.00
Donation Online	\$2,195.00
Maintenance Fund	\$5.00
Debt Reduction	\$0
<b>Total Donation</b>	<b>\$7,781.00</b>



What is the history of the rosary? Where did this prayer come from?

Answer:



Although a longstanding tradition attributed the rosary to Saint Dominic and the Dominican Order, the practice of using beads to count prayers predates the Dominicans by a few hundred years. In fact, it seems that what we now think of as the rosary (which means "garland of roses") was first developed by illiterate peasants and religious brothers and sisters as a way of offering 150 "Our Fathers" to replace the praying of the 150 psalms in the Divine Office.

The practice of reciting 150 Hail Marys (which was later subdivided into 15 decades of 10 Hail Marys) arose during the late Middle Ages. Devotion to the rosary began to flourish in the nineteenth century, especially as new devotions to Mary began to spread throughout Europe and the New World. An annual liturgical celebration of Our Lady of the Rosary was introduced into the Church calendar in 1573 and it has been observed on the date of October 7 since 1913.

In the apostolic letter *On the Most Holy Rosary*, Pope Saint John Paul II not only added five new mysteries to the traditional fifteen, but he also reminded Catholics that the rosary is, at its core, an opportunity to go deeper into the life of Jesus: "The rosary, though clearly Marian in character, is at heart a Christocentric prayer ... It has all the *depth of the Gospel message in its entirety*, of which it can be said to be a compendium. It is an echo of Mary's prayer, her perennial *Magnificat* ... With the rosary, the Christian people sit at the school of Mary and are led to contemplate the beauty of the face of Christ and to experience the depths of his love" (no. 1).

**THURSDAY, January 19th at 7:00 pm**

**Pray the Rosary at St. Thomas Parish in the Daily Chapel**

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### First Friday Healing Mass



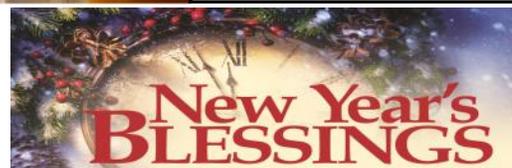
with Fr. James Northrop

### First Friday Healing Mass January 6, 2023

8 AM Adoration, 8:30 AM Rosary, 8:50 AM Litany of the Sacred Heart, 9 AM Anointing of the Sick Mass

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

St. Thomas Parish - 4415 S 140th ST, Tukwila, WA 98168



## LEARNING FROM THE SHEPHERDS

### Homily by Father Joseph Vu

Eight days have passed since we celebrated Christ's birth on Christmas.

- Most of the world has already left the message of Christmas far behind.
- But the Church, in its wisdom, has been spending these days in unceasing celebration and contemplation of this most astonishing event in the entire history of the human family.
- And the liturgy will continue doing so all the way through the feast of Epiphany.

Let's stay in tune with the Church. Let's keep enjoying the message of Christmas, savoring it, living it deeply. Unfortunately, there are fewer people here at Mass with us today than there were on Christmas Eve.

- Maybe the noise of New Year's Day has distracted them from the true meaning of every year and every day.
- That's all right - we are here to pray for them, to take their place beside the manger, so Jesus and Mary don't have to celebrate New Year's Day all alone.
- In fact, another New Year's Day would have little meaning if Christ had never been born to give us hope and guidance.

One way to activate that hope and make use of that guidance is by following in the Shepherds' footsteps. St Luke paints a beautiful picture of those poor, hardworking shepherds making their way to the stable cave at Bethlehem.

- Where did St Luke find out about this encounter?
- He wasn't there. No newspapers covered it. None of the Apostles were there.
- Only Mary could have told him about it.
- And when she told him, she chose her words carefully, to make the full meaning come out.

And so, the three verbs that describe the shepherds' actions are not mere coincidence - they are the inspired pattern of how every Christian should live out the message of Christmas.

The shepherds are models for every Christian. They clarify what's most important in life: seeking Christ, sharing Christ, and rejoicing in Christ.

- But life for the shepherds didn't end on Christmas. They had to return to the humdrum of the daily grind.
- And after today, we will too.

How can we keep the meaning and lessons of Christmas shining in our hearts even after we take down the Christmas lights?

Mary, whose motherhood we remember in a special way today, gives us the secret.

Mary didn't let life's hustle and bustle drown out the beauty and wonder of Christmas.

St Luke tells us that "Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart."

- God did not tell Mary his entire plan.
- We know much more than she did about how everything was going to work out.
- She had to walk in the dim light of faith, one step at a time, trusting in God, witnessing his action, and seconding it whenever she could.
- But she paid attention.
- She pondered in her heart all of God's gifts to her, all of his words and deeds.

Today in Holy Communion we will receive the Body of Christ, which was formed in the womb of Mary. When we do, let's ask our spiritual Mother, the Mother of God and of all Christians, to teach us how to take care of the precious faith we have received and renewed during these days, just as she took care of the baby Jesus.

# WORSHIP & MEDITATION

## FIRST READING

"So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites, and I will bless them." (Nm 6:27)



## PSALM

May God bless us in his mercy. (Ps 67)



## SECOND READING

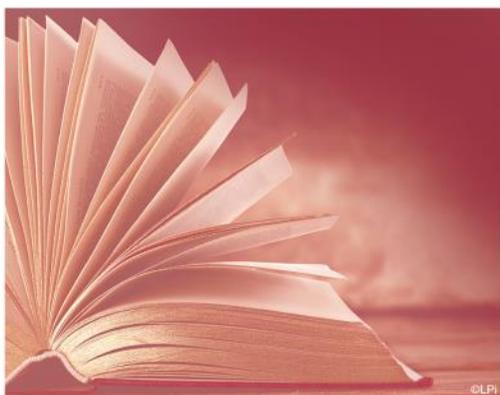
When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman. (Gal 4:4)



## GOSPEL

The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. (Lk 2:16)

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## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

We hide ourselves and our secrets from God because we are afraid. Even Mary can seem too perfect to approach. The shepherds find the strength to speak to Mary and Joseph *at the moment they see the child in the manger*. They open their hearts and share what they've experienced. Saint Luke writes of the shepherds, "**When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child.**"

When I was a college student, I visited Rome. Beggars often approached and said, "*Mangia? Mangia?*" I didn't speak Italian and thought, "Why are they speaking about the Christmas nativity scene?" My friend said, "*Mangia* means eat. They're hungry." That's when I realized more deeply than ever before that Mary puts her baby in a place designed for hungry animals to eat.

See that baby in the manger in your heart. Imagine Mary kneeling nearby looking at you with love. She doesn't cling to God for herself. In that cave, from the beginning, she quietly offers her son to hungry souls. The manger means vulnerable self-offering love. That's the sign. This week that same manger opens our hearts to tell Mary about our lives, too.

— Father John Muir