

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 17, 2021

# *Our Lady of Lourdes Parish*

10243 12TH AVENUE SOUTH  
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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

5:00pm Vigil Mass (Vietnamese)

### SUNDAY

8:30am Mass (English)

10:30am Mass (Vietnamese)

Livestream (Facebook and Youtube)

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

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

## CONFESIONS

Saturday 4:30pm – 4:50pm  
Sunday 8:00am – 8:20am  
Also by Appointment

## Our Lady of Lourdes Parish



### PARISH STAFF

#### PASTOR:

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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:

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Donation              | \$1,51300         |
| Donation Online       | \$2,647.00        |
| Maintenance Fund      | \$55.00           |
| Debt Reduction        | \$0               |
| Children's Donation   | \$0               |
| <b>Total Donation</b> | <b>\$4,215.00</b> |

UPDATE: Annual Catholic Appeal Goal: \$23,323  
As of 12/22/2020, Collected: \$32,525

### SPECIAL UPCOMING COLLECTION: Northwest Catholic Magazine JANUARY 30-31, 2021



Northwest Catholic is the official publication of the Archdiocese of Seattle, mailed 10 times each year to every registered Catholic household in Western Washington. Its mission is to promote the new evangelization and form disciples by proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ.

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### Sunday Readings 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Samuel 3: 3-10, 19; 1 Corinthians 6: 13-20  
John 1: 35-42



**Samuel answered, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."**

**1 Samuel 3: 10**

## **Jesus Is the Meaning of Life**

History's great philosophers and religious leaders have given various answers to humanity's central question: What is the meaning of life? But only Jesus Christ has given us the complete answer. And he gives it in today's Gospel passage.

- He is about thirty years old, and the time has come for him to leave behind his simple life as a carpenter in Nazareth and take up his public ministry of preaching to the crowds and training his twelve apostles.
- And where does he go to find those apostles? To John the Baptist, who had been preparing his own disciples to recognize and welcome the Messiah.
- So, as Jesus walks along the bank of the River Jordan, John the Baptist points at him and tells his two disciples that he is the One, the Lamb of God, the Messiah.
- John and Andrew can barely believe their ears; they decide to check out this new Rabbi. Jesus hears them approaching, turns around, looks them in the eye, and asks: "What are you looking for?" It's the key question. In other words, where are you searching for meaning in your life?
- Struck by the simplicity and warmth of Jesus' greeting, and maybe surprised by the question, they just say, "Teacher, where are you staying?" Maybe without realizing it, they have given the perfect answer: "Jesus, we are looking for you; we want to stay with you." A smile spreads over Jesus' face, and he says to them, "Come, and you will see." He invites them to walk with him, to follow him, to be his companions - and that is Christ's answer to the question of life's meaning.

The meaning of life is not a thing to be possessed, or an abstract doctrine to be understood. The meaning of life is a relationship to be lived out: it is a personal friendship with Jesus Christ.

### **Three Ways to Deepen Our Friendship with Christ**

If the meaning of life is to be found in friendship with Christ, then our highest priority in life should be to constantly deepen that friendship. There are three essential ways to do this.

First, we have to gradually develop a mature life of prayer.

- Prayer involves saying prayers and asking for good things from God.
- But it also involves reading and meditating on the Bible, and filling our hearts with gratitude for God's many gifts.

Second, we have to build our lives around the sacraments.

- When John the Baptist called Jesus the "Lamb of God," he was alluding to the Old Testament lamb sacrificed right before the Exodus from Egypt. The blood of that lamb saved the Israelites from slavery. In New Testament times, that prophetic image is fulfilled in the Eucharist - the body and blood of the real sacrificial lamb, Christ himself, who saves us from sin.
- Adoring the Blessed Sacrament, receiving Holy Communion, and opening our hearts to God in confession, anointing of the sick, and the other sacraments draws us deeper into that mystery of salvation by linking our lives more intimately with Christ's.

Third, to deepen our friendship with Christ we have to make God's will our first concern.

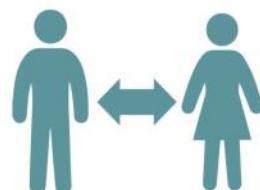
- One key aspect of friendship is wanting and liking the same things.
- Friendship with Christ, then, means wanting and working for whatever Christ wants and works for. Today's Psalm puts it beautifully: "Here I am, Lord, I come to do your will... To do your will, O my God, is my delight."
- And what does God's will include? The Ten Commandments, first of all, and loving our neighbor as ourselves.

Prayer, sacraments, and obedience to Christ's plan: these are the foundation stones of a meaningful life, a life anchored in heaven, where our friendship with Christ will reach its everlasting fulfillment.

## 3 EASY STEPS

### TO KEEPING YOURSELF & OTHERS HEALTHY!

We are cautioned to be especially careful during the Coronavirus outbreak. Here are some simple ways to keep sickness away.



#### WASH YOUR HANDS

Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can't wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.

#### DON'T TOUCH YOUR FACE

Especially around the eyes, nose and mouth. If you must sneeze, use a tissue or your arm.

#### KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

Practice social distancing during this epidemic and stay away from large groups. Instead, call, email or check up on family and friends using social media.

**“The time is always right  
to do what is right.”**

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

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