

# *Our Lady of Lourdes Parish*

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[WWW.DUCMELODUCSEATTLE.ORG](http://WWW.DUCMELODUCSEATTLE.ORG)  
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)

### SUNDAY

8:30 am Mass (English)

10:30 am Mass (Vietnamese)

Livestream (Facebook and Youtube)

### ANointing of the Sick Mass

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

### Confessions

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

## Our Lady of Lourdes Parish



### PARISH STAFF

#### PASTOR:

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

Fr. Peter Doan, S.D.D.  
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#### PA Administration/Bookkeeper

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#### Administration/Data Entry

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#### Liturgy Coordinator

Barb Ridge  
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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.

[archseattle.org/be\\_fed/](http://archseattle.org/be_fed/)

### FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Donation	\$4062.00
Donation Online	\$1,647.00
Maintenance Fund	\$20.00
Debt Reduction	\$0
Children's Donation	\$0
Total Donation	\$5,729.00



#### A Prayer for Thanksgiving

Loving God,  
We turn our hearts to you on this day for giving thanks, mindful of your many gifts.  
For each one, we are grateful.  
For each one, we are blessed.  
For each one we are opened to the abundance of your love.  
May this Thanksgiving Day offer a reminder to be generous with others, as you are with us.  
We praise you.  
We rejoice in you.  
We give you thanks.  
Amen.

#### Sunday Readings Christ the King

Dn 7: 13-14; Rev 1: 5-8  
Jn 18: 33-37



"So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?"  
Jesus answered, "You say I am a king.  
For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

Jn 18: 33-37

## Christ's Kingdom Is not of This World

**(Homily by Father Joseph Vu)**

We just listened to one of the Bible's best known phrases.

- Jesus affirms that he is a king, but he also affirms that his kingdom does not "belong to this world."
- This was important for him to mention, because Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor who was interrogating, was worried that Jesus was trying to organize some kind of political rebellion against the Roman Empire.
- And Jesus explains that he was not.

But if Jesus is not a political king, what kind of king is he?

If his kingdom is "not of this world," what kind of kingdom is it?

On the Solemnity of Christ the King in 2006, Pope Benedict XVI explained the answers to these questions:

"[Jesus] did not come to rule over peoples and territories," the Pope pointed out, "but to set people free from the slavery of sin and to reconcile them with God."

Ever since original sin, this fallen world has been enslaved to selfishness and separated from God.

- Tempted by the devil, our first parents believed the lie that they could achieve the fulfillment, meaning, and happiness they longed for apart from God.
- That lie led them to disobey God's commands, to act as if they themselves were gods.
- That self-centered rebellion, instead of liberating the human race, poisoned it with suffering, death, and evil.
- By throwing off God's rule, we made ourselves into followers of the very first rebel against God: the devil.

Jesus came to save us, by bringing the light of truth back into our darkened, confused world. And what is that truth, the truth that will set us free from sin?

That God is love. By accepting God's love in our life, we accept the antidote to the poison and are reinstated as citizens of the Kingdom of God, where Christ is the everlasting King.

All of us desire to experience the freedom that comes from accepting the truth of Christ. And yet, if we are honest with ourselves, we have to admit that there are times when we feel a strong temptation to keep the truth at a distance, to push it away from our hearts, as Pilate did.

- Sometimes it seems easier to get ahead by going along with shady activities at the office.
- Sometimes we like to trick ourselves into thinking that lust and self-indulgence will bring us the happiness we long for.
- Sometimes the rejection that comes from obeying Christ's commandments seems unfair.

Precisely at those times we need to lift our eyes to our King, enthroned upon his cross.

- Jesus bore witness to the truth that saves by dying on the cross.
- We cannot live in that truth and experience that salvation unless we follow that example.
- Jesus is the pioneer who forged the path of salvation, meaning, and interior peace, and he forged it with the cross.
- If we keep that in mind, we will not be surprised or discouraged when our efforts to follow that path also lead us to experience the cross.

Christ's Kingdom does not belong to this world.

- And so, it will outlast this world, as today's First and Second Readings remind us so vividly.
- And if we are faithful citizens of this Kingdom, we too will outlast this world, sharing in Christ's own divine life here on earth and forever in heaven.
- And being faithful citizens simply means being true to the truth, following in the footsteps of our King, "listening to his voice" by loving God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and loving our neighbor as our self.

As we continue with this Mass, let's ask God for the grace to do exactly that.



+ November 10, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Blessings and joy of our Lord be with each of you!

Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard keeping our parishes and schools running so that we can continue our mission. Despite the challenges and darkness of this pandemic, we continue to bring the light of Christ to others as seen in our outreach ministries, food banks, visits to the homebound, prayer groups, faith formation, adoration, and much more. Thank you to all the volunteers, staff, students and others who have creatively nurtured our parish communities! You are His light in our world today.

Our Coronavirus Taskforce has been tracking the latest science to inform the guidance we are issuing. As you know, this data has led to *temporary* changes to how we do things. These changes are warranted to keep people safe while not compromising the sanctity of the Mass. I remain firm in my resolve to keep our people safe — including the most vulnerable among us — so that we can continue safely celebrating the Eucharist.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have celebrated tens of thousands of Masses with only a handful of cases of coronavirus spread, which have been traced to people not following our safety guidance. In general, this indicates that our protocols are effectively protecting people and providing a safe environment for worship. This is something for which we can be very grateful!

As such, the general obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation (including the Saturday/vigil Mass) is to be reinstated (CIC, can. 1247) during Advent on December 8, the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. Advent is a wonderful time to draw near to Christ. It is time to renew our faith through personal reception of the sacraments and rebuild the relationships and community life of our parishes.

As has always been the case, those who have a serious reason are excused from attending Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2181). This includes those who are ill, have significant health risk factors or care for someone who is ill or immunocompromised, as well as those who have significant fear or anxiety about contracting COVID in a large group.

I invite you to come back to church. Be a part of our family of faith. Make the Lord's Day a true celebration of the Resurrection, and a great celebration of being renewed in his life, mercy and love. I continue to pray for you, and I ask for your prayers as well. As always, I remain,

In the Heart of Christ,

Most Rev. Paul D. Etienne, DD, STL  
Archbishop of Seattle