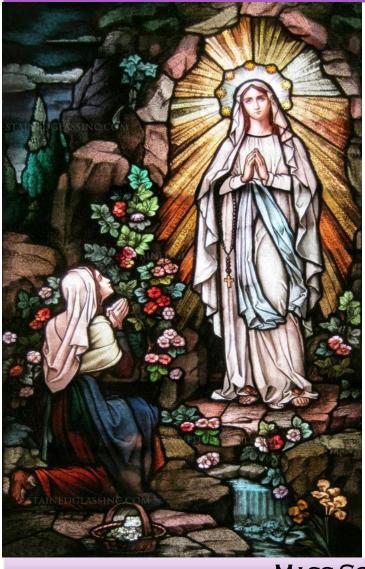
# 1 ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# DECEMBER 3, 2023



# Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

10243 12TH AVENUE SOUTH SEATTLE, WA 98168

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 69206 SEATAC, WA 98168 - 9206

206-735-7598

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)

**TUESDAY - FRIDAY** 6:00 pm (Vietnamese)



**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION** (Holy Day of Obligation)

> Mass Times: 10:30 AM Bilingual (English & Vietnamese) 7:00 PM Vietnamese

# ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

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

8:30 am Mass (English)

10:30 am Mass (Vietnamese)

Livestream (Facebook and Youtube)

12:30 pm (Vietnamese for Youth)

# CONFESSIONS

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



# PARISH STAFF

**PASTOR:** Father Joseph Vu, S.D.D., STL Frjoseph.vu@ollpsea.org

**Parochial Vicar** Fr. Paul Thanh Vu, S.D.D. Thanh.Vu@ollpsea.org

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Administration/Data Entry Monica Schwarz Monica.schwarz@ollpsea.org

**Safe Environment & Facilities Manager** Tang Nguyen (Volunteer Staff) Tang.nguyen@ollpsea.org

# PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Please Call for Appointment
PARISH OFFICE 206-735-7598

Sacrament of Anointing the Sick: Ext. 1 Parish Staff: Ext. 2 Administrative Support: Ext. 3

Please leave a message if no one answers and your call will be returned.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP (NOVEMBER 25TH – 26TH)		
Donation	\$4,764.00	
Donation Online	\$1,145.00	
Maintenance Fund	\$5.00	
Debt Reduction	\$0	
Total Donation	\$5,914.00	



-DECEMBER 8-

"Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing!" December 8th is one of our feasts celebrating Mary - the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. From the beginnings of the Church, spiritual writers and theologians have acknowledged the innocence and holiness of Mary. St. Irenaeus called her the "new Eve." Both faced with the pure freedom to accept or reject God, Mary began with work of redemption with her yes to Christ! The Church began to celebrate the feast of Mary's conception in the early Middle Ages. In 1854, Pope Pius IX infallibly declared that Mary was free of original sin from the first moment of her conception. On this feast day, we celebrate the beauty and goodness of Our Lady!

### **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION** (Holy Day of Obligation)

Mass Times: 10:30 AM Bilingual (English & Vietnamese)



### Observances for the week of December 3, 2023

Sunday:	1st Sunday of Advent
Monday:	St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Tuesday:	
Wednesday:	St. Nicholas, Bishop
Thursday:	St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Friday:	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Saturday:	St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin
Next Sunday:	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

©LPi



### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT HOMILY BY FATHER JOSEPH VU God Fulfills His Promises

God knows the limitations of our human nature very well - after all, he created it.

• We can only focus our attention - really focus it - on one or two things at a time; we can't keep everything in mind all at once.

• But on the other hand, we can't focus our attention on the same thing

all the time either; we need variety, otherwise we become depressed.

These limitations of our human nature are one reason God inspired the Church to divide the year into liturgical seasons.

The mystery of our salvation includes the whole Bible, the whole life of Christ, and the whole history of the Church.

But we can't possibly keep all those things in mind all the time.

So we focus on different aspects of them at different times of the year (which has the added benefit of giving variety to our spiritual lives):

- in Lent we focus on the reality of sin and mercy and the need for repentance;
- during Easter we focus on the power of God and the Resurrection;
- during Ordinary Time we focus on the everyday life and teachings of Christ and the wisdom they impart for our everyday lives;
- and now, during Advent, we focus on God's faithfulness.

St Paul puts it briefly in today's Second Reading: "God is faithful."

- God didn't abandon the human race after original sin.
- He promised to send a Savior, and he fulfilled his promise on the very first Christmas.
- And God has also promised that this Savior, Jesus Christ, will come again to bring our earthly exile to its completion,

• just as in Old Testament times God brought his Chosen People out of their exile in Babylon, as today's First Reading reminded us.

God is faithful; he will fulfill his promises - that's one of the key themes for Advent.

# **Cleaning Out the Corners**

In today's First Reading, Isaiah says twice, "Lord, you are our Father."

By reminding us today that God always fulfills his promises, the Church wants to put that same prayer in our hearts.

- God is our Father; he is always looking after us, protecting us, and loving us.
- And unlike earthly fathers, God's fatherly love has no limits, no imperfections, no blind spots.
- Advent is meant to be a time when we renew our awareness of God's perfect Fatherhood in our lives, letting his love for us renew our spirits.

The best way to do that is to spend more time with God in prayer during this Advent season.

- But that will be impossible unless something else happens first.
- Prayer is a funny thing: even though we usually don't see God with our physical eyes or hear him with our physical ears, when we turn our attention to him, he really is present, and we know it.
- As we become aware of this presence, we also, almost automatically, become aware of our own sinfulness, because God is truth, and his light shines into all the hidden corners of our heart.
- If in those corners we have been hiding some un-repented and un-confessed sins, or harboring some sinful habits, as soon as we sincerely try to pray, they will come into view and distract us.
- So if we want to spend more time in prayer this Advent, filling our hearts with the Father's goodness and wisdom, the first thing we need to do is clean out those dark corners by taking a trip to the confessional.
- OLLP confession will be available on Tuesday December 19 at 19:00 pm. We will have some other priests to help with Advent Penance Services.
- Today, as we begin this sacred season, let's promise that we will let him clean up our dark corners, so that we can enjoy his presence as we prepare for the great commemoration of Christmas Day.

# Weekly Prayer

# **Sunday's Readings**

### First Reading:

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you. (Is 63:19)

#### Psalm:

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved. (Ps 80)

### Second Reading:

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. (1 Cor 1:6-7)

### Gospel:

"Watch, therefore;

you do not know when the lord of the house is coming." (Mk 13:35)

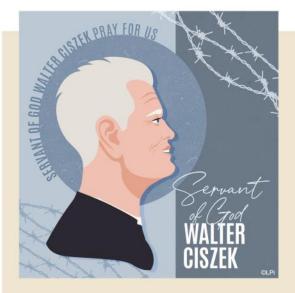
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# Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Advent is a time for waiting, for hoping, for praying. It is a time for reflecting on the special work to which God calls us all. Stay alert. Show Him you are listening.

# Observances for the week of December 3, 2023

Sunday:	1st Sunday of Advent
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Next Sunday:	2nd Sunday of Advent



# Saint of the week

Servant of God Walter Ciszek was a Jesuit priest and theologian who spent 23 years as a prisoner of war during the World War II and the Cold War. His endurance of suffering for his beliefs and his writings reminds us of the importance of religious freedom and the power of faith.

# Prayer

We adore You, Most Holy Trinity, and we thank You for the exemplary life of Your Servant, Father Walter Ciszek. We pray that his strong faith in Your loving providence, his great love for You, and his kindness to all people be recognized by the Church. If it be Your will, may he be given to us as a saintly model of these virtues so that we too may be better motivated to dedicate our lives to Your greater honor and glory. We commend our petition through the prayers of the holy Mother of God. For to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is due all glory, honor, and worship, now and forever.

Amen.

(Prayer Source: https://www.ciszek.org/Prayers.html)