

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

10243 12TH AVENUE SOUTH
SEATTLE, WA 98168

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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

12/24, Christmas Eve - SATURDAY
5:00 pm Vigil Mass (Vietnamese for Youth)
8:00 pm Vigil Mass (Vietnamese)

12/31, New Year's Eve - SATURDAY
5:00 pm Vigil Mass (Vietnamese)

TUESDAY - FRIDAY
6:00 pm (Vietnamese)

12/25, Christmas & 1/1 New Year's Day
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 (Vietnamese)

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

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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.



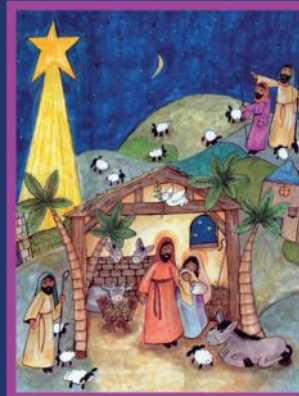
FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP (DECEMBER 10TH – 11TH)

Donation	\$4,625.00
Donation Online	\$2,195.00
Maintenance Fund	\$5.00
Debt Reduction	\$0
Total Donation	\$6,825.00

A Prayer for the Poor

Lord, let Your Light shine where people feel forgotten and hopeless.
Let Your Light comfort the ill, the abandoned and the abused.
Let Your Light lift up those who suffer at the hands of hate and prejudice.
Help us be Your ears, listening to the cries of the poor.
Help us be Your voice, speaking out of love and compassion.
Help us be Your hands, feeding, clothing, and sheltering those most in need.
Help us bring Your Light and Hope to those in this world who feel lost and unloved.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Amen



LIGHTING THE PATHWAY TO HOPE

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES
CATHOLIC HOUSING SERVICES
SERVING PEOPLE OF ALL BELIEFS

CCSWW.ORG

THANK YOU to all who supported the 2022 Annual Appeal for the Poor. 94 cents of every dollar you donated will go back to our community

GIFTS RECEIVED \$2,698.00



ANNOUNCEMENT FOR LITURGY IN ENGLISH AT



ST. THOMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

4415 S. 140TH ST.
TUKWILA, WA 98168

206.242.5501

WWW.SAINTTHOMASTUKWILA.ORG

Public Weekend Masses - In Church

Saturday 12/24 Christmas Eve - 5pm
Sunday 12/25 Christmas - 10:30 am
Saturday 12/31 New Year's Eve - 5pm
Sunday 1/1 New Year - 10:30 am

Public Weekday Masses - In Church

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday - 9am

1st Friday & Adoration

8am - Adoration, 8:30am - Rosary, 9am - Mass
Adoration ends at 11am

Anointing of the Sick

First Friday of the month, or by appointment

The Call to Be a Christian

Homily for 4th Sunday of Advent

Amidst all the activities that swirl around these final days before Christmas, the Church wants to make sure that we don't forget the real meaning of this great Christian holiday. Christmas is the anniversary of the birth of Jesus Christ, the day when we celebrate the "Mass" of "Christ's" birth - Christ-Mass.

- The exchange of gifts that we are getting ready for, the time that we will be spending with family and friends - these are good things, good ways to celebrate.
- Exchanging gifts reminds us that on Christmas God gave us his greatest gift, our Savior.
- Spending time with family members reminds us that the result of that gift was our salvation, which consists in our adoption into God's family through the grace we received at baptism.

This is the heart of what Christmas is all about.

But it is not just something that happened in the past.

Through the Church and the sacraments, Christ has wanted to stay with his newly adopted family all throughout history.

In a sense, every Mass is a new Bethlehem, a new coming of Christ among us.

And every day he renews his invitation to us, the invitation he brought when he arrived on earth that on the first Christmas night.

What is that invitation?

- St Paul described it well in the Second Reading.
- He wrote that a Christian is someone who is "called to belong to Jesus Christ" and "called to be holy."
- Christ comes at Christmas, but he doesn't come passively - he comes to save us, to call us out of a self-centered life and into a Christ-centered life.

That's what it means to "belong to Jesus Christ" and "to be holy." And that's exactly what all of us are called to.

Sharing the Meaning with Others

Christ came all the way from heaven to announce this Good News to us, to invite us to follow him to the truly abundant life. And twenty centuries later, we can still hear that invitation because his followers through the years have continued to pass that Good News on to every generation.

Now it's our turn.

- We know Christ.
- We know the true meaning of Christmas.
- But all around us there are people who do not know Christ, or who have given up on him.
- All around us there are people who may be celebrating Christmas on the outside, but on the inside they are hurting. Their lives are falling apart and they don't know where to turn.

We do know where to turn.

- Our lives aren't in perfect shape by any means, but we have heard the call of Christ;
- we know his voice;
- we have set out on the path that leads to the only lasting fulfillment available to human beings.
- We at least have hope; we have access to the spiritual gas station of the Eucharist and the spiritual clinic of confession.

And this gives us strength in our struggles.

- It guarantees that even in the darkness of winter, at least a few Christmas lights are always shining in the depths of our hearts.
- All of this we have because someone, at some point, took the trouble to tell us about Jesus Christ, to invite us to follow him.

In these beautiful days ahead of us, let's keep our eyes open for those people who need someone to tell them about Jesus Christ, and when we see them, let's pass on the Good News.

That's the best possible present we can give Jesus on his birthday.



WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING

Therefore the Lord himself will give you
this sign:
the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son,
and shall name him Emmanuel.

(Is 7:3-4)



PSALM

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

(Ps 24)



SECOND READING

The gospel about his Son, descended
from David according to the flesh,
but established as Son of God in
power. (Rom 1:15)



GOSPEL

The angel of the Lord appeared to him
in a dream and said,
"Joseph, son of David,
do not be afraid to take Mary your
wife into your home.

For it is through the Holy Spirit
that this child has been conceived in
her. (Mt 1:20)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,
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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

An entire town is wiped out by fire, a tornado rips through several neighborhoods, a bomb claims a maternity hospital and a sudden heart attack takes the life of a soul mate. Life is unpredictable and dramatic. Many buy into the sad illusion that the securities and familiarities we see around us today will remain forever: our homes, our friends, our spouses, our churches, and even our health. We are stunned and shaken by a sudden change, finding ourselves bewildered, mortified, and even embittered. We do not like change, especially change driven by sources beyond our control. Are there any guarantees in life? We often live as if our lives come with lifetime warranties. When they break, they can be fixed or replaced. Such is not the case. Many things are irreplaceable and unable to be fixed. During life's inevitable chaos, God says: "Do not be afraid." Seriously? How can one not be afraid when things are falling apart?

Fear is normal and it has a purpose. It is unrealistic, and somewhat unhealthy, to strive to live without any fear. Fear teaches us lessons and can be a catalyst to discovering more profound things. What we do with fear and how we understand it is critical. Fear can either cripple us or move us forward. God does not want fear to cripple us. If we look around at all that can change in our lives and consider what we might have to do, we can easily wallow in the mire of self-misery. Or we can step up to the challenge, as Mary did, and do what needs doing! We can stand tall, as did Joseph, and do the right and just thing! What gives us this courage? Faith.

God is with us. This is the focus of our Advent preparations. We need to be reminded that we are not in this alone. God not only made us and loves us, but God keeps us! In the person of Jesus Christ, God is the sign we need to persevere! Do not be afraid and do not be unbelieving! Hold fast to what God has done in giving us His only begotten Son. We do not have to anxiously attempt to control life's unpredictability. God has blessed us with the birth of His Son. Trust that He is with us and will not abandon us, even in death.