



Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

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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

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)

~ SPECIAL MASSES ~

Christmas Eve 12/24 - 5:00 pm Bilingual | 8:00 pm Vietnamese

Christmas Day 12/25 - 8:30 am English | 10:30 am Vietnamese

New Year's Eve 12/31 - 7:00 pm Vietnamese

New Year's Day 1/1 - 8:30 am English | 10:30 am Vietnamese

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:

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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.

archseattle.org/advent

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Donation	\$4,404.00
Donation Online	\$1,625.00
Maintenance Fund	\$5.00
Debt Reduction	\$0
Total Donation	\$6,034.00



CCS APPEAL FOR THE POOR


CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES
CATHOLIC HOUSING SERVICES
OF WESTERN WASHINGTON

COLLECTED \$3,354

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"BLESSED ARE YOU WHO BELIEVED
THAT WHAT WAS SPOKEN TO YOU BY THE LORD
WOULD BE FULFILLED."

—LUKE 1:45

Jesus is our Peace **Homily by Fr. Joseph Vu**

The wait is almost over. Christmas is only 5 days away.

- Maybe your Advent has flown by, and you can't believe that Christmas is already just around the corner. You're asking yourself, where did Advent go?
- Or maybe Advent has been very fruitful for you this year.

Either way, today is a moment to recommit. The Church gives us this 4th Sunday of Advent as a last reminder that Christ is coming.

- The first reading, from the book of Micah, reminds us that Christ is coming. "Bethlehem, too small to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel."
- The Psalm says: "Rouse your power and come to save us."
- And then the gospel gives us the meeting of Elizabeth and Mary. The wait is almost over, and Elizabeth realizes it. She says: "How is it that the Mother of my Lord comes to me?"

There's a sense of anticipation, someone is coming. And he is The Prince of Peace.

- There doesn't seem to be a lot of peace in the world. Terrorist attacks abound. We have shootings in our own country. Evil and injustice can appear overwhelming. Is peace possible?
- On our own, no it's not. The English philosopher Thomas Hobbes said that human life is nasty, brutish, and short. And if we look at life without Christ, Hobbes is right.

But in the first reading today, Micah tells us something more. The first reading ends with these powerful words: "He shall be peace." Who's he talking about? Jesus Christ.

- Isn't that interesting? It doesn't say that the Savior will bring peace, but that He is peace.
- Why is He peace? Because peace means wholeness. If we are not OK with God, then we can't be at peace with ourselves or with others. Blessed Teresa of Calcutta used to say: "I'm not ok, and you're not ok, and that's why Jesus came."
- But in Jesus, in the sacraments that make him present here today, we come to be at peace with God. In the sacrament of Reconciliation, our sins are forgiven and we're at peace with God. In the Eucharist, we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ and we're united to God.
- And that experience brings an awareness of the great story into which all our individual stories fit. We start to see others with the eyes of Christ.

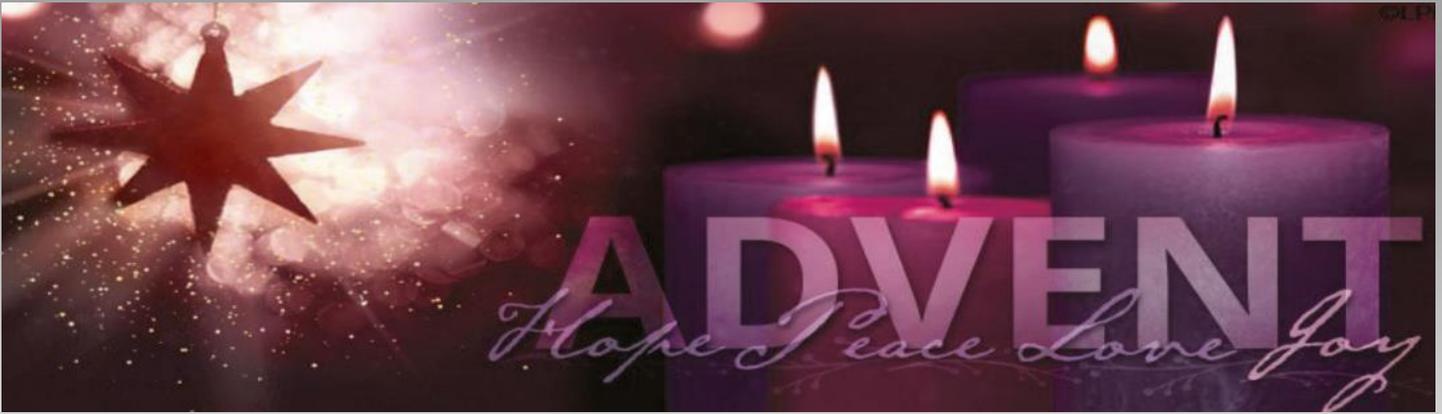
So Christ himself is Peace

The Prince of Peace is about to be born. We have 5 days left. How is Jesus asking each one of us to be open and ready for this gift?

A few suggestions.

- Read the daily readings. You can find them online on Laudate or IBreviary. They're so beautiful, and they put us in contact with Jesus. Good old St Jerome used to say that ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ. If we really want to know the peace of Christ, we have to get to know him better.
- The sacrament of Reconciliation. Here we receive a tangible sign of the peace that Christ's presence brings. He is our peace. The word Reconciliation comes from the Latin Re-Conciliare: to reunite. If we want to experience wholeness and peace, come to this sacrament. (Remind people of the times for confession.)
- Daily Mass. Is it possible for me to attend daily Mass this week? What better way to prepare for Christmas than to receive the Prince of Peace in the Eucharist each day.

So daily readings, reconciliation, daily Mass. Do I sense that God is inviting me to pick one of these this week? Or perhaps I think he's inviting me to choose something else. Whatever it is, ask God about it in Mass today, pick that one thing and stick with it this week. When you receive communion, ask Jesus to help you live it out this week. And you'll experience the amazing truth that Christ is our peace.



Fourth week of Advent: Be Still and Listen

The Virgin Mary exemplifies two essential aspects of the life of faith: the active and the contemplative. The Gospel reading for the Fourth Sunday of Advent finds the newly pregnant Mary in full active mode, traveling “in haste” to the hill country to visit her relative Elizabeth, who is pregnant with John the Baptist.

At the sound of Mary’s greeting, the infant in Elizabeth’s womb leaps for joy, and Elizabeth cries, “Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.”

Mary *believed* because she *heard*, and she heard because she *listened*. She made time to listen for the voice of God in silent, contemplative prayer, and she listened for him in the events of her life, “reflecting on them in her heart” (Luke 2:19).

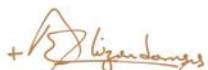
Amid the bustle and excitement of these final days before Christmas, make time this week to sit in silence and listen for what God is saying to you.

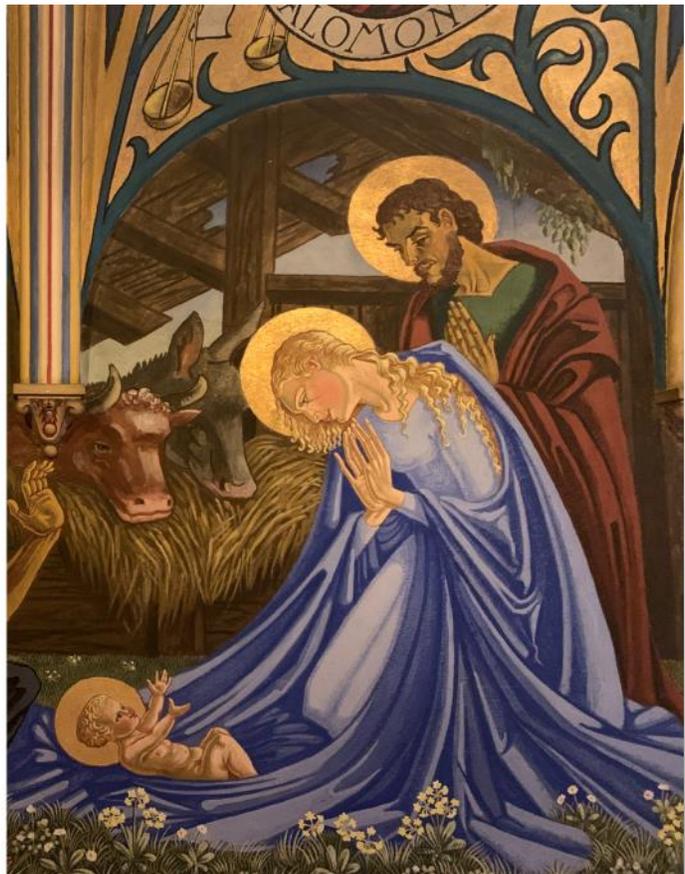


The birth of Jesus brings life and hope
to a world dwelling in the shadow of death.
He is the light that shines in the darkness,
and the darkness shall never overcome it.

As we celebrate our Lord’s Nativity,
let us draw near to Christ who draws near to us,
that we may be transformed by his grace
and radiate his love to our neighbors.
May the joy of the Christmas season be yours!
You and your loved ones are in our prayers.


Archbishop Paul D. Etienne


Bishop Eusebio Elizondo



About the artist: Dom Gregory de Wit (1892–1978) was a Dutch Benedictine monk who from 1938 to 1955 lived in the United States, where he painted murals for Catholic churches and monasteries. This image is from a mural in the chapel of the archbishop’s residence in Indianapolis, used with permission.