

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

10243 12TH AVENUE SOUTH
SEATTLE, WA 98168

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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

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Sunday, December 24th

8:30 AM English
10:30 AM Vietnamese
5:00 PM Vietnamese
8:00 PM Vietnamese

Monday, December 25th

8:30 AM English
10:30 AM Vietnamese

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)

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19th 7:00 PM – End

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish



PARISH STAFF

PASTOR:

Father Joseph Vu, S.D.D., STL
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Safe Environment & Facilities Manager

Tang Nguyen (Volunteer Staff)
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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 (DECEMBER 16TH – 17TH)

Donation	\$3,985.00
Donation Online	\$1,165.00
Maintenance Fund	\$10.00
Debt Reduction	\$0
Total Donation	\$7,119.00



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever." (2 Sm 28:16)

Psalm:

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 89)

Second Reading:

The revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God, made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith. (Rom 16:25-26)

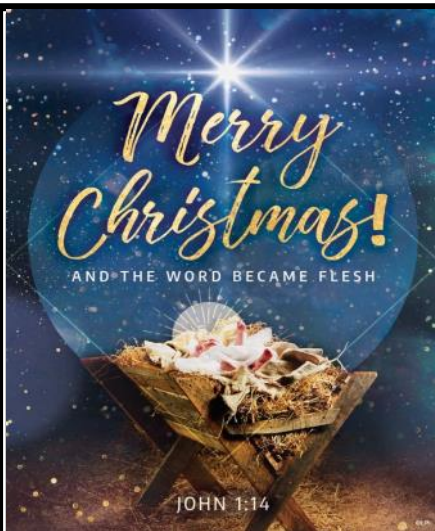
Gospel:

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus." (Lk 1:31)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

God's plans are not always what we imagined. Sometimes they make us hesitate. Be like Mary. Say "Yes, Lord" — and God will show you that His imagination is better than yours.



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT HOMILY BY FATHER JOSEPH VU

Nothing Is Impossible with God

Tomorrow we will celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

- When we do, this church building will be fuller than any other time of the year.
- It is good that so many people come to welcome the newborn Jesus. But those of us here today can intensify our spiritual preparation for Christmas by asking ourselves why so many people who come on Christmas stay away at other times. It's because they feel torn inside.
- On one hand, they feel drawn to the baby Jesus, God so gentle and kind, so eager to befriend them that he makes himself small.
- But on the other hand, they are afraid.

• They are afraid that if they really make a commitment to Jesus, if they really make an effort to build a friendship with him, then they will have to follow his commandments and teachings. And those teachings are not popular in today's society.

- Jesus is pro-life, but our culture isn't.
- Jesus lived in humility and simplicity, but our culture suffers from over-indulgence and consumerism.
- Jesus was truthful, but our culture encourages deception, lies, and virtual, "Second Lives".
- Jesus was faithful, but our culture encourages superficiality, hook-ups, divorce, and irresponsible quick-fixes.

And so our neighbors are torn: they feel Jesus tugging at their heart, but the tug of our secular culture is just as strong, if not stronger.

- They fear that if they follow Jesus, it will be impossible to be happy, because they will have to give up things that our culture says are necessary for happiness.
- But today the Church is reminding us, through the angel's words to Mary "Nothing will be impossible with God."
- God can do all things, and no matter what we have to give up in order to live in friendship with him, he will give us much, much more.

How God Disrupts Our Plans

Mary's "yes" to God wasn't easy; it involved a total change of her plans.

- Mary had felt called early on to serve God through consecrated virginity, which meant not having children.
- This is the reason behind her comment to the angel: "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?"
- That comment would have made no sense if she were planning on leading a normal married life with St Joseph, her fiancée.
- Life as a virgin consecrated to God was what she had envisioned for herself and planned for.
- But then the angel came along and changed those plans.

God often does the same thing with us.

Like a good coach, he pushes us out of our comfort zone so that we can reach our full potential as Christians. There are three ways especially in which God tends to disrupt our plans.

- First, when we are really busy and don't want any interruptions he brings us into contact with someone who needs help.
- Second, we suddenly discover that certain popular and fashionable behaviors or activities (which we would like to follow) are actually against Church teaching, that they cause damage to us and to others.
- Third, when we are really tired, fed up, or angry, our conscience - like the angel Gabriel in today's Gospel passage - sends us a message saying that we really need to keep working, or to do a little extra work, or to be extra patient with someone, or to hold our tongue.
- These are three common ways that God disrupts our personal plans in order to invite us to be partners in his plan of salvation.

During this Mass, let's ask God for the grace to respond generously to those disruptions, as Mary did, especially during the Christmas season, so that our part in God's plan of salvation is sure to get done.

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Observances for the week of December 24, 2023

- Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Advent; Christmas Eve
Monday: The Nativity of the Lord
Tuesday: St. Stephen, First Martyr
Wednesday: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
Thursday: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Friday: St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
Next Sunday: The Holy Family; New Year's Eve



Saint of the week

Servant of God Michelle Christine Duppong worked as a FOCUS missionary and a lay parish minister in the early 2000's. Her life was a testament to her commitment to God and social justice work. She died at age 31 in 2015 but her legacy lives on today in those whose lives she touched.

Prayer

Jesus, I praise and thank you for the life of your servant Michelle Duppong. In her life and suffering, she joined you in your thirst for souls and embraced the cross offered to her. Following her example, I ask for the special grace of [personal intercession] and, if it brings you greater glory, that she be honored by your Church. Jesus, I ask this in your Holy Name.

Amen.

-With ecclesiastical approval of Bishop David D. Kagan, Diocese of Bismarck

(Prayer Source: <https://bismarckdiocese.com/prayer-of-intercession>)