

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

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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

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

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish



PARISH 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 - FEBRUARY 24 & 25, 2024

Donation	\$4,870.00
Donation Online	\$1,275.00
Maintenance Fund	\$5.00
Debt Reduction	\$0
Total Donation	\$6,150.00



Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Is it ever Ok to leave Mass before it ends?

Answer:

This is an interesting question because beneath the surface there seems to be an assumption that if it's okay, then why do we have to stay after we receive communion? The short answer is "no," but we definitely want to go a bit deeper as we consider why.

First, when we think about questions like this, we must consider this in adult terms. If there is something gravely important that we need to do, then we must attend to that. However, if it is a matter of convenience or preference, then we really have to stop and think again. First, while we always want to recognize the importance of sacramental communion in the Mass, we also need to understand how important the time of thanksgiving and prayer after communion is. This is summarized in the Prayer After Communion offered by the celebrant and then we are also commissioned to "Go forth" during the Dismissal of the Mass, reminding us that we have been entrusted with a gift — the Word of God and the Presence of Christ in the sacrament — and that we are to share that gift with others.

If we simply leave after we receive communion, we risk two things. First, there is the possibility that we will turn our reception of communion into a purely personal, individual experience that is separated from our common experience of worship — and communion in the fullest sense — and, second, we lose an opportunity for gratitude and serious reflection if we simply leave after communion. This time of thanksgiving, reflection, and, ultimately, missioning, are important and, in the end, an essential part of the celebration of the Mass.

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT
HOMILY BY FATHER JOSEPH VU

Jesus Wants Us to Find True Satisfaction

We all want to be satisfied in life.

- That's what happiness is, really, the achievement of satisfaction, of spiritual contentment, of a sense of fulfillment that doesn't wear out.
- Everything we do is directed towards that end.
- It's like we have a homing device built into our hearts, and it keeps drawing us towards fulfillment and satisfaction.
- We keep seeking new activities, accomplishments, relationships, adventures - all because we feel this interior drive for fulfillment, meaning, and happiness.
- This is a good thing. • God made us that way.
- He put the homing device in our hearts, because he wants us to find that satisfaction and fulfillment, that happiness.

But there is a problem.

- Ever since sin entered into the world, we have had a tendency to look for this fulfillment in the wrong places.
- God designed the human heart to find its lasting fulfillment in a deep, personal, ongoing friendship with him - in what the Catechism calls "communion with God" (#45).
- This is why the first three commandments, as we read in today's First Reading, have to do with our relationship with God - that's the most important thing.
- But our fallen human nature tends to look for it in other places: career success, money, pleasure, power, popularity...
- But that is wrong. • Those things are fine in themselves, and they have their place in the human story.
- But they cannot substitute God! • Only God can satisfy our deepest longing.

And that's why Jesus gets so worked up in today's Gospel passage.

- The Temple was set aside as a place where people could go to pray, to encounter God and develop their friendship with him.
- But all of these merchants and money changers had made it into a mall, a place of buying and selling things!
- The place that should have helped people find God had gradually become full of obstacles to finding God.

Jesus passionately wants us to find God, because he wants us to find true satisfaction.

Two Methods for Cleansing the Soul

Jesus wants our friendship, because the only place we can find the fulfillment and satisfaction we yearn for is in communion with God.

And he wants this for us so much, that sometimes he goes to extreme measures in order to cleanse the temple of our hearts.

Many times, this is why he permits suffering in our lives.

- When we suffer, we are forced out of our comfort zone; • We learn our limitations;
- We discover that the promises of this world's politicians, advertisers, and self-help gurus just don't hold up under pressure.
- When that happens, we can become more open to hearing God's voice, to stop pretending that we don't really need God and start leaning more completely on God.

But Jesus doesn't want to have to resort to extreme measures all the time.

- And so, he gives us another option, an ongoing opportunity for us to work with him in cleansing out the temple of our hearts.
- It's called confession. • The sacrament of reconciliation is a voluntary cleansing of the temple.
- As Christians, our hearts are the real temple of God - the Holy Spirit and the Blessed Trinity dwell within us.
- But our sins and selfish actions and habits can turn that temple into a place of confusion, noise, and tension, instead of one where we encounter God and discover his love.
- Whenever we make a good confession, we give Jesus free entrance into our hearts, so that he can cleanse them, and fill them up again with the light and strength of his friendship.
- I would like to remind you that on Friday March 15 we will have a penitential Lenten service at 7:00 pm. This is a time for your confession schedule during Lent. Please come and bring your friends and families who may be away from the Church to this penitential service, giving Christ a chance to win back their hearts.

Jesus wants to lead us to the meaning and fulfillment we long for.

Today, as we continue with this Mass, let's promise that we'll give him the chance to do so.

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

In those days, God delivered all these commandments:
"I, the LORD am your God,
who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place
of slavery.
You shall not have other gods besides me." (Ex 20:1-3)

Psalm:

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life. (Ps 19)

Second Reading:

We proclaim Christ crucified,
a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,
but to those who are called, Jews and Greeks alike,
Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.
(1 Cor 1:23-24)

Gospel:

Jesus answered and said to them,
"Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up."
(Jn 2:19)

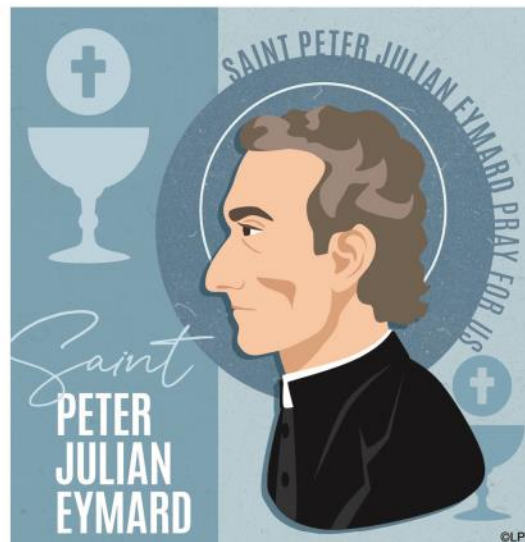
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Jesus was not afraid to confront iniquity wherever he encountered it, and his zeal for righteousness was so strong it looked like anger as he drove the moneychangers from the temple. Pray that, with that same devotion and care, he will cleanse our hearts from sin.

Observances for the week of March 3, 2024

- Sunday:** 3rd Sunday of Lent
Monday: St. Casimir
Thursday: Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs
Friday: St. John of God, Religious
Saturday: St. Frances of Rome, Religious;
St. Catherine of Bologna
Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Lent, Daylight Saving Time begins



Saint of the week

St. Peter Julian Eymard, known as "Apostle of the Eucharist," founded the Society of the Blessed Sacrament and the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament. He promoted perpetual adoration, inspired those estranged from the Church to return, and worked to educate all about Christ.

Prayer of Surrender

Dear Lord,
Help me to place You in the center of my plans for the future, my dreams for my life, my goals for the time ahead. Be my God and my guide. Amen.