



# 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](http://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)

## 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:

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

#### Parochial Vicar

Father Paul Thanh Vu, S.D.D.  
Thanh.Vu@ollpsea.org

#### Parish Secretary

Thu Thai Duong  
thu.duong@ollpsea.org

#### PA Administration/Bookkeeper

Jadelyn Manuel  
jadelyn.stoll@gmail.com

#### Administration/Data Entry

Michelle Miller  
Michelle.Miller@ollpsea.org

#### Administration/Data Entry

Monica Schwarz  
Monica.schwarz@ollpsea.org

#### Ministry Coordinator

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 - MARCH 2 & 3, 2024

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Donation              | \$6,020.00        |
| Donation Online       | \$1,260.00        |
| Maintenance Fund      | \$30.00           |
| Debt Reduction        | \$0               |
| <b>Total Donation</b> | <b>\$7,310.00</b> |



Our Lady of Lourdes, Seattle



Vanco online donation system is being transferred to the Pushpay system. The parish will have instruction and support session for parishioners after the Masses of the first and second weekends of the month of April, 4/6/24-4/7/24 and 4/13/24-4/14/24. To help everything goes smoothly when transferring to the Pushpay system, you will need a mobile phone number, an email address, a credit or debit card to deposit your donation or bring a bank check. You can also use the QR codes provides here to create your account from the comfort of your home. We appreciate and thank you for all your support.

### Weekly Prayer

#### Sunday's Readings

##### First Reading:

Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy. (2 Chr 36:15-16)

##### Psalm:

Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you! (Ps 137)

##### Second Reading:

God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ. (Eph 2:4-5)

##### Gospel:

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. (Jn 3:16)

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### Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Out of love for us, God sent His son into the world, to illuminate the truth that brings salvation. But light can be blinding to eyes that have only seen darkness. Pray that God will teach us to walk bravely in the light.



**THAT THE  
WORLD  
MIGHT  
BE SAVED.**  
JN 3:17

## 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT HOMILY BY FATHER JOSEPH VU

### God Cares

You never really know someone until you know what's in their heart - what motivates them, what they're looking for, why they do what they do.

In the Gospel passage we just listened to, Jesus lays bare the heart of God.

- Jesus is talking with Nicodemus, a member of the Sanhedrin, Israel's ruling body.
- It is at night - Nicodemus was afraid to come to talk to Jesus during the day-time, afraid to be seen with him.
- Maybe they are sitting around a campfire, or at a table with an oil lamp on it, casting restless shadows on their faces.

What message does Jesus give to this confused and fearful Jewish leader?

- The history of salvation, from the fall of Adam and Eve until the final judgment, revolves around the coming of Jesus Christ, the Savior, the Son of God.
- Why did he come? Because the Father sent him.
- Why did the Father send him? Because he "loved the world so much."
- God simply couldn't bear to see us perish in our sins; he longed to share with us his everlasting life.
- He cares. God cares.

And Jesus Christ is the definitive proof that he cares.

- He cares so much that he is willing to sacrifice his only Son to atone for the sins that have separated man from God, the source of all good things.
- We need look no further to find the very core of the Gospel:
- "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish, but might have eternal life."
- No hidden agenda, no selfish undertones - pure generosity.
- This is the heart of God, of the Lord who longs for our friendship.

Only when we internalize this fundamental motive of God does our Christian adventure really begin.

### Spreading the Joy (linked to "Laetare Sunday")

We are the lucky ones; know that God loves us, that we are infinitely valuable in his eyes, no matter what, in spite of our sins, failings, and weaknesses.

- This is why every year, right in the middle of this penitential season, on the Fourth Sunday of Lent, the Church invites us to rejoice.
- This Sunday is "Laetare [lay-TAHR-ay] Sunday," the Sunday of rejoicing.
- The rose-colored vestments are a symbol of that joy, like the pink horizon that comes before a beautiful sunrise.
- We have had four weeks to meditate on our weaknesses and sinful tendencies.
- And so now we are able to appreciate more deeply just how full and unconditional God's love is - that while we were "dead in our transgressions" as St Paul put it, God reached down and rescued us.
- That's how we are in his eyes - that's the unquenchable source of the Christian's unquenchable joy.

We are the lucky ones; we know this.

But what about all those people who don't know it?

What about those people all around us, our friends, family members, colleagues, teammates - the ones who underneath a respectable appearance are searching desperately for a solid foundation?

- We all know someone like Nicodemus, who even though he was successful in the eyes of the world, was searching and unsatisfied in his heart.
- Christ wants that person to discover the joy that only God can give.
- And how will they discover it?
  - If we tell them about it.
- We are Christ's messengers - imperfect, clumsy, ignorant messengers, but that's OK.
- Even fragile, simple, and misshapen clay vases can hold beautiful flowers.

This week, let's show Christ how grateful we are for his unconditional love by telling someone else about it, so that the sunrise of Christ's love can illuminate their hearts too.

# Liturgical Life

## ( PRACTICING ) CATHOLIC

### The Uncomfortable Life in The Light

If you have ever been a woman over the age of 30 who stayed in a budget motel, you know the horror of awakening in a dark room, switching on the bathroom lights and screaming at the shriveled-up she-witch you find hiding there.

And you know the feeling of disappointment that blooms in the pit of your stomach as you realize the shriveled-up she-witch is your own reflection staring back at you beneath the merciless glare of overhead fluorescent lighting.

You may also know the relief of visiting a nice restaurant after dark and catching sight of yourself in the mirror. You lean forward, mesmerized by how different — how matte! How smooth! — the contours of your face look in what we call “forgiving light.” But this turn of phrase is simply not correct. It is not light, and it does not forgive. It is darkness, and it merely conceals.

But it feels so much better, doesn't it? Salvation can feel like condemnation, when being lost is all you know. Sometimes it is so much more comfortable to live lost in the shadows.

It is possible to yearn for darkness. Darkness gives cover to so many things. The light has a harshness that can almost seem demanding, exposing. Light can bleach. Light can burn.

“Is this really me?” you think in that budget hotel bathroom, examining acne scars you never saw before and crow's feet that seem to have developed overnight. The answer is yes. Yes, that is really you, all of it, every inch. There's nothing to be afraid of, just step into the light and own it.

*“And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil.” — John 3:19*

*Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman*

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

What's the difference between priests and brothers, friars, etc.?

### Answer:

The distinctions titles and categories used for priests and the male members of religious communities can be confusing, especially since the categories can sometimes be intertwined as a man can be both a priest and a monk, or a brother and a friar. So, to help to piece the puzzle together, it's important to begin by noting some basic distinctions:

The distinction between priests (who are ordained for sacramental ministry) and brothers (who are non-ordained members of religious communities and who are committed to lives of prayer and service).

**Priests:** A priest is a man who has been ordained for sacramental ministry and these fall into two categories: A) Diocesan (or Secular) Priests can either be attached to a diocese and who serve under a bishop. Their ministry is usually oriented toward pastoral service. B) Religious Priests are members of religious communities (like the Franciscans, Jesuits, Salvatorians, or Carmelites) and their lives are guided by the special mission and charism of their community. While both kinds of priest practice sacramental ministry, their spirituality and how they live out their priesthood can be very different.

**Brothers:** Brothers are non-ordained members of religious communities (such as those mentioned above) who live lives committed to prayer and service. Religious priests and brothers serve together in their communities and their ministries include much more than the care of parishes.

**Monks, Friars, and Canons:** These are broad categories that include religious priests and brothers, and each of these is connected to specific ways of life and spiritualities.