

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

10243 12TH AVENUE SOUTH
SEATTLE, WA 98168

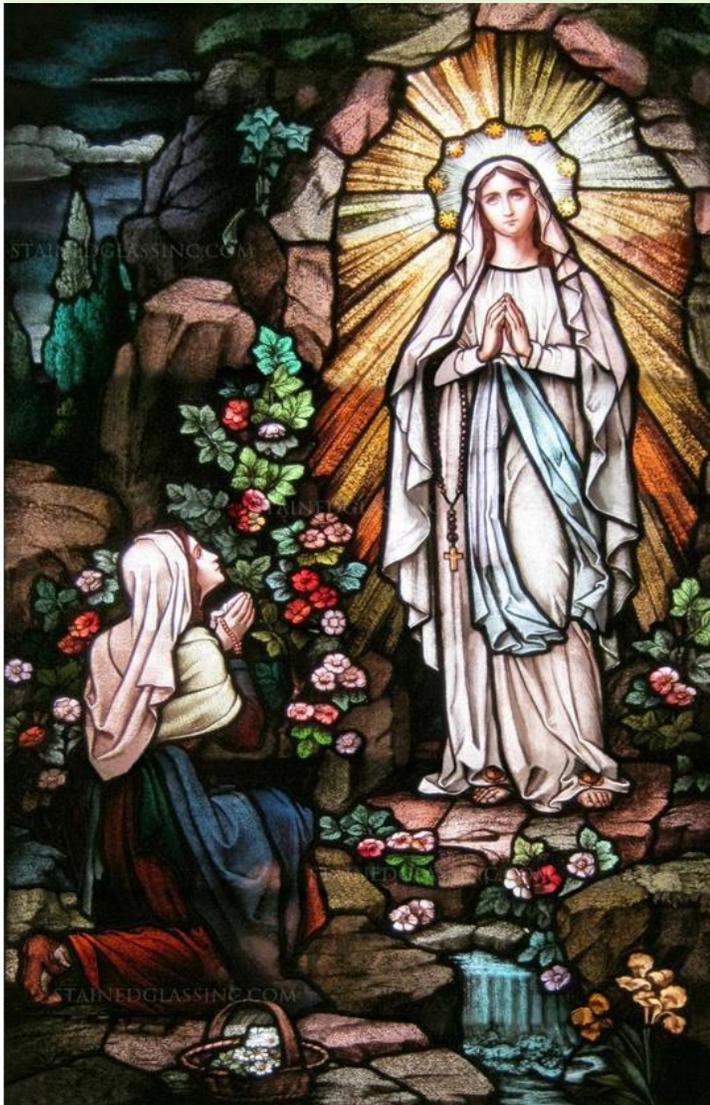
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WELCOME!

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

SATURDAY

5:00 pm Vigil Mass (Vietnamese)

SUNDAY

8:30 am Mass (English)

10:30 am Mass (Vietnamese)

Livestream (Facebook and Youtube)

ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

1st Friday of the Month - 5:30pm Adoration
6:00pm Mass

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 4:30pm – 4:50pm
Sunday 8:00am – 8:20am
Also by Appointment

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish



PARISH STAFF

PASTOR:

Father Joseph Vu, S.D.D., STL
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Liturgy Coordinator

Barb Ridge
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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/be_fed/

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP:

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Donation | \$3,614.00 |
| Donation Online | \$1,310.00 |
| Maintenance Fund | \$20.00 |
| Debt Reduction | \$0 |
| Children's Donation | \$0 |
| Total Donation | \$4,944.00 |



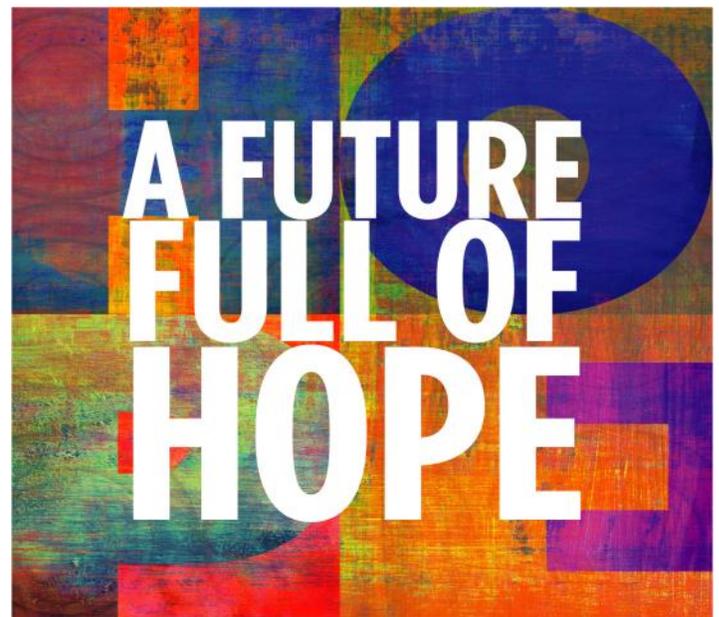
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

2021 Appeal Goal: \$23,246

Received as of 8/17/21: \$36,395
*please note this total includes cash, pledges received & pledges still to be collected)
Actual Collected: \$34,750

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

www.archseattle.org/acadonate



Sunday Readings

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Joshua 24: 1-17; Ephesians 5: 21-32
John 6: 60-69



“Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

John 6: 67-68

God Wants Friends, not Robots

Why do so "many disciples," as St John puts it, decide to stop following our Lord after his explanation of the Eucharist as the "living bread," while at the same time the Twelve stay with him?

The question touches one of the great mysteries of our existence: human freedom.

- Somehow, in the depths of the human heart, God leaves us free to accept or reject the gift of faith.
- No one can manufacture faith in God, it is a gift that always begins with God, comes from God: "no one can come to me unless it is granted him by my Father."
- But the choice to accept or reject that gift, to follow Jesus or turn one's back on him, remains with each individual: "Do you also want to leave?"
- Jesus Christ is the Lord of life and history, but he refuses to impose his rule on hearts that want to "stop accompanying him" and return to their former way of life.

God gives us the gift of life, but he leaves us free to administer it as we wish, either in communion with him, or not.

Try to imagine how Jesus spoke the words "Do you also want to leave?"

- Try to picture his expression as he looked into the faces of his chosen Twelve.
- He cared deeply about them; he had handpicked them to be his closest companions.
- He had opened up his heart to them, and now, as other followers said "no thanks," giving up on him, he looked to the Twelve with a tinge of sadness, perhaps apprehension.

Would they abandon him too?

How near God draws to us in Jesus Christ!

He humbles himself, makes himself weak, almost powerless in the face of our freedom.

He doesn't want mindless robots or heartless slaves; he wants friends, forever.

Respecting Others as God Respects Us

A mature faith is, among other things, a conscious faith.

- Jesus doesn't want us to remain spiritual infants for our whole lives.
- Rather, he wants us to follow him in freedom and in love, fully aware of what we are doing.
- When he allows trials and tests to come our way, it gives us a chance to deepen that awareness, to exercise our freedom and our love.
- And when we exercise them, we strengthen them.

God wants mature followers, not robots, zombies, or fanatics.

If God treats us with so much respect, we should treat others in the same way.

During the Last Supper, Jesus commanded his Apostles to "love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12).

Imitating Christ's love involves being ready to sacrifice our own likes and comforts for the sake of others, as Jesus sacrificed his on the cross for our sake.

But it also means treating others with this deep sense of respect.

- When we lose our patience with people we work with or live with, we end up failing to respect them as God has respected us.
- After all, when has the Lord lost his patience with us?
- When we try to manipulate people, tricking them, flattering them, or forcing them into giving us what we want, we end up violating their dignity as human beings.

When has God forced us to do the right thing?

God knows that, in the end, only if our faith matures and deepens, if it becomes truly conscious, will we be able to weather life's storms and triumph over life's temptations.

Today, as Christ comes to us once again in Holy Communion, proving his desire for our friendship and happiness, let's take his hand and promise to follow wherever he leads, knowing with absolute certainty that he can never lead us astray.



Join the bishops in prayer for rain

As the West continues to experience severe drought in many parts of the region, which is leading to depleted water supplies, water restrictions, forest fires and more hardships, the Metropolitan Archbishops from Los Angeles to Anchorage are asking everyone to prayerfully implore the Lord to send us rain.



Prayer for rain

O God, in whom we live and move and have our being, grant us sufficient rain,
so that, being supplied with what sustains us in this present life,
we may seek more confidently what sustains us for eternity.

Heavenly Father, we beg your protection,
save us from the perils of drought and fire,
so that we may continue to serve you in good health, safety, and peace.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your son, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Amen.

Adapted Collect from the Roman Missal