

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)

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

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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	\$3,751.00
Donation Online	\$972.00
Maintenance Fund	\$60.00
Debt Reduction	\$0
Children's Donation	\$0
Total Donation	\$4,783.00



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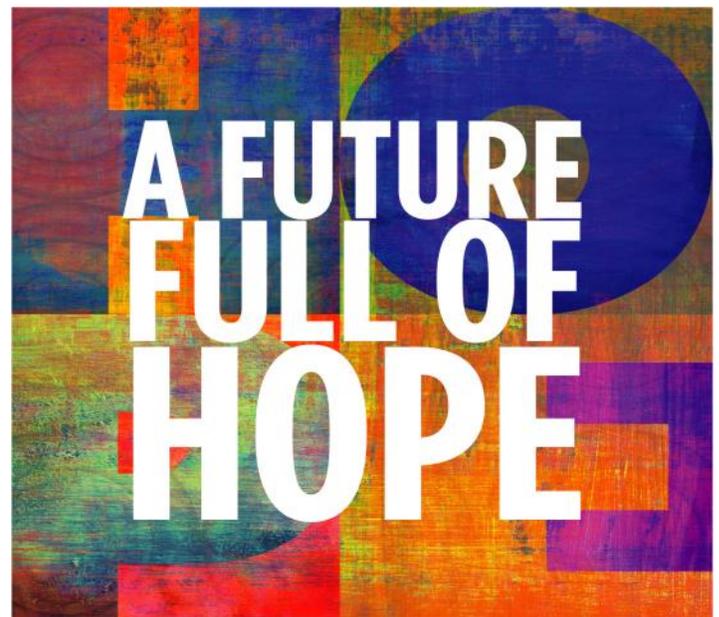
2021 Appeal Goal: \$23,246

Received as of 9/02/21: \$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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 35: 4-7; James 2: 1-5

Mark 7: 31-37



Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised?

James 2: 5

Christ's Miracles Are Signs

St Mark includes a puzzling observation towards the end of today's Gospel passage. He writes that Jesus ordered everyone to keep this amazing miracle under wraps, not to spread the news, not to talk about it. Why would he do such a thing? Was he shy? Was he fearful? No, he was simply wise.

- Jesus knows the tendencies of our fallen nature.
- He knew that too many reports of miracles and prodigious events would lead people to think of him merely as a wonder-worker.
- They would feed the impression that he had come to create paradise on earth, that his Kingdom was merely a really good earthly reign.

And Jesus didn't want to give that impression. He wanted more time to explain his vision,

- to convince people that the Kingdom of God went far beyond politics and economics,
- touching people's hearts and bringing them back into communion with God,
- putting them on the path to eternal life.

His miracles were not the goal of his ministry, they were simply signs of credibility, confirmations of the truth of his teachings, invitations to trust, obey, and follow him.

In order to give himself time to explain this, he discouraged his followers from spreading news about the miracles. But it didn't work.

- The more the crowds heard about his wondrous deeds, the less - it seems - they understood them.
- This became clear at the end of his life: although many people had been willing to be cured by him, few were willing to follow him to the cross.
- Even his closest disciples, the Apostles, denied or abandoned him during his passion.

Today one of our Lord's miracles has been replayed for us in the liturgy. Have we read the sign aright, or are we missing the point?

A Second Kind of Sign

Sometimes we think we could solve all the world's problems if we could perform miracles.

- But that is an illusion.
- Christ performed hundreds of miracles, dramatic miracles, and he was still rejected by the most influential people of his time.
- And Catholic saints from all times and places have continued to perform miracles, but the majority of people in the world are still not Christian.
- Miracles are signs, but they are a specific kind of sign, the kind that has to be willingly read, understood, and taken seriously.

There is another kind of sign that is even more powerful.

And although not all of us can perform miracles, all of us can give this second kind of sign, the sign of ourselves.

- We are Christ's followers: we are Catholics, members of his true Church, his messengers.
- Every one of us is a living billboard for the Gospel.
- Day after day, by showing forth God's goodness and power through our example of responsibility, respect, patience, forgiveness, dedication, and concern for those in need, we are providing evidence for Christian hope that cannot be written off by a skeptic, the way miracles can.
- We ourselves are meant to be living signs of God's goodness and power in this fallen world.
- We are called to be Christ's ongoing, long-lasting miracles.
- This doesn't mean that we're perfect.
- Rather, we just have to strive each day to be faithful to our friendship with Christ.
- If we do that, he will shine through us even when we are not aware of it, spreading his light and warmth to the spiritually handicapped all around us.

As Jesus renews his commitment to us through performing the miracle of this Mass, let's renew our commitment to do our best to be his living miracles, living witnesses of his goodness and power, to everyone God puts in our path.

EMERGENCY COLLECTION FOR HAITI

**Special appeal for the U.S. Bishops
Emergency Disaster Fund**
to support Haiti after the Earthquake
and Tropical Storm Grace

DONATE NOW

<https://donate.seattlearchdiocese.org/haitispecialcollection>



Women's Conference
September 9-11 @ MQP

Undone Women's Conference: Freedom for the Feminine Heart

September 9-11

Mary, Queen of Peace Parish,
Sammamish.

You're invited to become "undone" in God's presence while deeply receiving the truth of your authentic identity.

[https://jpiihealingcenter.org/
events/undone-womens-
conference-sammamish-wa/](https://jpiihealingcenter.org/events/undone-womens-conference-sammamish-wa/)