

December 13, 2015

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Rejoice in the Lord always! Great in our midst is the Holy One of Israel, a mighty savior. It is He whom John foretold: it is He who will baptize in the Holy Spirit.



WORSHIP AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

December 14	10:30 AM	
Mary Brandstatter		RIP
December 16	6:00 PM	
Charles Tchuinkwa		RIP
December 17	10:30 AM	
Ralph Theriault Jr.		RIP
December 18	10:30 AM	
George Chmelik		RIP
December 19	5:00 PM	
Dominic Swope		RIP
December 20	8:30 AM	
Jack Heller		RIP
	10:30 AM	
Pro Populo		
	12:30 PM	
Maria Luiza Pereira		RIP

*SI = Special Intention
RIP = Rest in Peace
Pro Populo = For the people of the parish*



This week the Sanctuary Lamp burns in honor of:
Ellen Costello

**Daily Worship
Week of December 13, 2015**

Monday, December 14 <i>Saint John of the Cross</i>	Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a Psalm 25:4-5b, 6, 7bc, 8-9 Matthew 21:23-27
Tuesday, December 15	Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13 Psalm 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23 Mathew 21:28-32
Wednesday, December 16	Isaiah 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25 Psalm 85:9ab, 10-14 Luke 7:18b-23
Thursday, December 17	Genesis 49:2, 8-10 Psalm 72:1-4b, 7-8, 17 Matthew 1:1-17
Friday, December 18	Jeremiah 23:5-8 Psalm 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 Matthew 1:18-25
Saturday, December 19	Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a Judith 71:3-4a, 5-6b, 16-17 Luke 1:5-25
Sunday, December 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent	Micah 5:1-4a Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

**December 24th
Christmas Eve**
Children's Mass 4:00 pm
(There will be no incense at the 4:00 pm mass)
Youth/Multilingual Mass 7:00 pm
Solemn Night Mass 10:00 pm

**December 25th
Christmas Day**
Mass 9:30 AM

Come early to enjoy the caroling that begins one half hour before Mass.

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP
Fridays, 1:30-3:30 PM in the Stafford Room**

"The salvation of the just is from the Lord; he is their refuge in time of distress. And the Lord helps them and delivers them."
Ps. 37: 49-40a.

Our group is small but we come to share our stories to pray and help each other on our healing journey. All are welcome.
Info: Nancy Fudge, 734-9563.

**EVENING PRAYER
and
EXPOSITION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT**



**Tuesday evenings
beginning at 6:30 PM.**
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues until Wednesday evening and ends with Benediction at 5:45 PM, and Mass at 6 PM.
Are you being called to spend an hour with the Lord? We especially need someone on Tuesdays at 11:30 PM and Wednesdays at 1:30 & 2:30 AM and 3:30 & 4:30 in afternoon.
If you are able to help, call Linda at 595-4366.

**HEALING PRAYER
MINISTRY**

**Wednesday eves. after Mass
from 6:45-8:30 PM**
As indeed God says in Hosea:
"Those who were not my people I will call my people; and she who was not beloved I will call beloved. And in the very place where it was said to them, "You are not my people, they shall be called children of the living God."
Romans 20: 25-26.
God delights when we go to him as a child turning to our Father for help. May we come and pray with you. It is private and confidential, just come to the Gathering Space, there will be someone there to help you.

BAPTISMAL CLASSES

The next baptismal classes will be on Saturday, January 9 & 16 at 9:30 AM in the Stafford room. You must attend both classes.

ENGAGED CHURCH—IN MY PARISH MY SPIRITUAL NEEDS ARE MET.

We recently ended our first trimester and had 25 students on the honor roll, with a grade point average of between 3.5 and 3.99

Sophia Angeli	Helen Cierebiej
Lauren Ariz	Timothy Malo
Emma Balogh	Grayson Atwell
Ryan Diefel	Michael Bernard
Kennedy Ives	Miranda Finkbonner
Jenna Lewis	Mark Frazey
Daniel Maeda	Garrett Jabbora
Izzy Maher	Angie Peters
Maddy Reyes	Branden Powers
Madeline Schumacher	Aline Salcido
Paige Simons	Charles Streeter
Alexandra Streeter	Dylan Wong
Colm Schaefer	

And two students earned Principal's Honors with a perfect 4.0 grade point.

Nathan Chen Trisha Claret

Congratulations to all of you!!

SAVE THE DATE

School Auction
March 5, 2016

2016 CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS EDUCATION CONTEST

THEMES: WE ARE STEWARDS of GOD'S CREATION or HOW DO WE CARE for the ENVIRONMENT?

Details for this contest are posted on the Assumption Parish Website. We accept entries in Poetry, Essay, Art, Computer Art, Music, and Photography, due Feb. 1, 2016.

Contact Jo Hulse at jburmanhulse@gmail.com with any questions and to arrange pick-up of submission.



COME AND HELP

Come help clean the church for Christmas Mass. We will be cleaning on Friday December 18 at 11:15am until 2pm. There is no need to bring cleaning supplies as they will be provided. Everyone is welcome. There are sign-up sheets in the Gathering Space.



SAVE THE DATE

Ministry Fair
Jan. 2 & 3, 2016



CONSIDER JESUS

Discover Jesus as our Brother, High Priest, Sacrifice, and Shepherd during the 9-week Adult Bible Study

HEBREWS: CONSIDER JESUS, beginning Tuesday, January 12, 2016 in the Stafford Room. Sessions are held at 1 p.m., also at 7 p.m., for your convenience. Cost is \$10. To pre-register or for further information call Christine at 671-9712.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS WISH TO *THANK* ASSUMPTION PARISH FOR THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR RECENT BAKE SALE.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS will be meeting Thursday, Dec. 17th at 1:15 pm in the Stafford Room at Assumption. This will be our Christmas Party with lunch served by the Board. All ladies of the parish are invited to join us for a time of fellowship.

YES, WE CAN! YES, WE DO! OUR HOMEBOUND MINISTERS,

We make weekly visits to homes and facilities, rehab, nursing homes, and assisted living. They bring the HOLY EUCHARIST to those unable to attend services. For additional information about the Homebound Ministry, please visit us at the Ministry Fair, Jan. 2 & 3. We hope to see you there!

YOU ARE INVITED TO A "COME AND SEE"

Our Lady Star of the Sea community of the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites (St. Teresa of Jesus and St. John of the Cross) meets once a month at St. Cecilia's Parish Institute of Carmelite Studies in Stanwood. Formation as a secular Carmelite is an exciting six year program and our community will be accepting new aspirants in Jan. 2016. You are invited to a "Come and see" visit on Dec. 13. If you are interested call Christine Gubbins at 671-7646.

FAITH FORMATION, SCHOOL, PARISH EVENTS

ATTENTION SCRIP SUPPORTERS

Please support our school by purchasing Scrip. It is available on the first and third Sunday of each month between the 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM Masses. Thank you for your support!

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

- Floyd Carpenter
- Chris Formichella
- Don Veltum
- Capt. Mark Bieda
- Capt. Trevor Corrigan
- Adam Honda
- Jason Woolsey
- Steve Ploog
- Corey McDaniel
- Patrick Kelley
- Patrick L. Blake
- Capt. Paul Cleary
- Michael Condit
- Gabriel Feely
- John Hutson
- Gabriel Rodriguez
- Steven Faecke
- Lt Col Gregory DeMarco
- Keanu Franco
- Michael Dahl
- Matt Edge
- Kurt DeVries
- 2nd Lt. Garrett Burnham
- Bob Iverson
- Lt. Michael Bertschinger
- Capt. Eric Stein
- Caleb Trottnr

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & LIFE, JUSTICE & PEACE MINISTRY

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chris Craven
Blanca Cruz
Dick Etter
John Getchell
Colleen Jeffrey
Edwin Ordóñez
Dan Parsons
Doris Torres
Bonnie Trenouth
Jean Wilford
Nancy Wopperer

COMMISSION & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Faith Formation Commission
John Getchell
Parish Life & Social
Mary & Bill Chambers
Spiritual Life & Worship
Chris Attebery
School Commission
Ross Driscoll
Life, Justice & Peace
Nick Mele
Pastoral Care
Tashie Zang & Belen Saturay
Building & Grounds
Andrew Krzysiek
Stewardship/Engaged Church
Anne & Bill Turnbull
Finance Council
Bill Zang
Pastoral Council Exec. Comm.
Chris Craven
Dick Etter
John Getchell

POSITION AVAILABLE: KITCHEN SUPERVISOR, PART TIME

Sacred Heart, Bellingham is looking for a part-time Kitchen Supervisor, not to exceed 79 hours/month, to oversee use of the kitchen, training and supervising of volunteers for parish functions such as coffee hour, funeral receptions, hospitality for meetings, and social events as needed. May not need to be present at every event. Schedule will be flexible and will include some weekends. Position reports to Parish Administrator. Salary in keeping with Archdiocesan standards.

For full job description and to apply, mail application, resume and references to the parish hall at 1110 14th St., Bellingham, WA, attn. Melissa Johnson, PA for Administration. Closes Jan. 30th, 2016.

PRO-LIFE PRAYER VIGIL

Come and pray with us once a month on the 3rd Sunday for one hour from 2 - 3pm at Whatcom County's abortion clinic: Mt. Baker Planned Parenthood (1530 Ellis St. in Bellingham). Our monthly vigil will be Sunday, December 20, rain or shine. In addition to our usual prayers, this month we will sing Christmas carols. Let us pray for an end to all abortions and healing for all women suffering from post-abortion syndrome. For more information call Kathy St.Hilaire, 671-4836.



This is the second of a series of weekly reflections for the Year of Mercy which began on Dec. 8, 2015. Each week there will be a brief passage from Sacred Scripture, the Catechism of the Catholic Church or other ecclesial document with a theme related to mercy and forgiveness. This will be followed with one or more reflective questions which connect the message in the text to real life. We hope you will find them thought provoking.

Year of Mercy Weekly Reflection

Theme: Corporal Works of Mercy
"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me." (Matthew 25:35-36)
Reflection: How can you follow Jesus' teaching to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, and welcome the stranger?



Hope House Closure
Dec. 19th thru January 3rd
Re-opening Monday, January 4th

TENS OF THOUSANDS OF MARRIAGES HELPED

Is your marriage in trouble? Are you considering separation or divorce? Are you losing hope? There is hope – it's called Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vī). Retrouvaille can bring reconciliation and healing to seemingly hopeless marriages. You are not alone. For confidential information about, or to register for our upcoming program beginning **Jan 22-24, 2016** call **360-671-6479** or visit our website at www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

PREPARES/FATHERHOOD GROUP

Prepares which is a statewide initiative of the Catholic Bishops of Washington State now has training for and wants to start a Fatherhood Group for Assumption Parish. We are looking for Men willing to start and lead this group. The leaders of this group would meet with other Father's and help them with parenting skills and emotional support. If you are interested in being involved in the Fatherhood Group or want more information, please call Prepares at Assumption Church 733-1380 ext. 4245. Leave a message and your call will be returned. Kathy Kelso, Prepares Parish Area Coordinator.

VOLUNTEER CHORE PROGRAM

If you have an hour to spare to help a senior or adult with a disability with some essential tasks, Volunteer Chore Program has some clients in your neighborhood that would love your help! To share some of your time with someone in need, contact Abby Lund VCP Director at: 360-746-2366 or Abbyl@whatcomvolunteer.org

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Monday, December 14th

10:30 AM Mass
6:30 PM Bible-based Weight Loss
7:00 PM Reconciliation Service

Tuesday, December 15th

3:00 PM Cub Scout Webelos 2
3:00 PM Cub Scout Webelos 1
3:00 PM Basketball Practice
6:30 PM Adoration
7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 16 Mtg.
7:00 PM Cub Scouts Webelos 2

Wednesday, December 16th

12:00 AM Adoration
10:00 AM Women's Scripture Study
3:00 PM Little Flowers
5:45 PM Benediction
6:00 PM Mass
6:30 PM Faith Formation (Special Needs) Class
6:45 PM Children's Christmas Choir Practice
6:45 PM Prayer Ministry

Thursday, December 17th

10:30 AM Mass
11:30 AM Rosary Prayer Group
1:15 PM Catholic Daughters of America
3:00 PM Cub Scout Wolf Den
5:30 PM Lifeteen Core Team
6:00 PM Eagle Scout Board of Reviews
6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal
7:00 PM RCIA

Friday, December 18th

10:30 AM Mass
11:30 AM Church Cleaning
1:30 PM Grief Support Group
3:00 PM Auction Committee
7:00 PM Christmas Program
7:00 PM Grupo de Oración
8:00 PM Christmas Program Reception

Saturday, December 19th

1:00 PM Rosary Makers
3:30 PM Reconciliation
4:00 PM Cantor Rehearsal
5:00 PM Mass

Church
PCLR
Church

Stafford
Room 1
Gym
Church
Gym
St. Cecilia

Church
Stafford
Stafford
Church
Church
Stafford
Church
Church

Church
Church
Stafford
Room 1
3rd floor PC
Stafford
Church
LMC

Church
Church
Stafford
Room 1
Church
LMC
Gym

Stafford
Church
St. Cecilia
Church

Sunday, December 20th ~ 4th Sunday of Advent

7:45 AM Choir Rehearsal Church
8:30 AM Mass Church
8:30 AM RCIA/C Dismissal Stafford
8:30 AM RCIA Dismissal PCLR
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal Church
9:30 AM Coffee Hour Gym
10:00 AM MFCC Room 1
10:30 AM Mass Church
10:30 AM Children's Liturgy of the Word LMC
11:00 AM Ensayo de Coro St. Cecilia
11:30 AM Coffee Hour Gym
12:30 PM Misa Iglesia
2:00 PM Christmas Set-up Church
2:30 PM Faith & Light LMC
7:00 PM Posadas Gym

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Don't forget that we will be having a reconciliation service on Monday, December 14 at 7:00 PM in the Church. All are welcome.



SERVICIO DE RECONCILIACIÓN DE ADVIENTO

No olvides que vamos a tener un servicio de la reconciliación el lunes 14 de diciembre a las 7:00 PM en la Iglesia. Todos son bienvenidos.



CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Calling all children in grades K-8 of Assumption Parish. Come be a part of the Christmas Eve Children's Choir at the 4:00 P.M. Mass on December 24th. If you didn't make it to the first two practices, you still can join us for the last practice on Wednesday **Dec. 16 in the church**, from 6:45 to 7:45 P.M. If you are interested email Susan Roland sroland@school.assumption.org

LIFETEEN MASS

There will be no Lifeteen Mass on Dec. 20 & 27, and Jan. 3.



If you would like to share a reflection or make a comment, please visit our Year of Mercy blog at <http://ams1516blog.blogspot.com>. This is a moderated blog site, so it may take upwards of 24 hours for comments to appear.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

	Wk(12/06/2015)	Month	YTD
Contributions needed:	\$18,077	\$ 18,077	\$ 415,771
Contributions received:	\$21,043	\$ 21,043	\$ 384,043
Over/ under for wk/mo/yr	\$ 2,966	\$ 2,966	-\$ 31,728

Thank you for sharing God's blessings with our parish community.

	Wk(12/06/2015)	Month	YTD
Debt Reduction			
Contributions needed:	\$ 1,058	\$ 1,058	\$ 24,334
Contributions received:	\$ 828	\$ 828	\$ 15,906
Over/ Under for wk/mo/yr	-\$ 230	-\$ 230	-\$ 8,428

GIFTS FROM THE OTHER HALF OF OUR STEWARDSHIP GIVING

Hope House	\$	2,196
Christmas Flowers	\$	587

Thank you for sharing God's blessings with the larger community.

PLEDGE PAYMENT REMINDER

As we near the end of the calendar year, now is the time to catch up any missed pledge payments. We will be reporting your 2015 contributions to you in January. Also, in January the parish must make the annual pension plan payment, so any additional cash flow at this time would be very much appreciated.

TAX PLANNING

Any gifts or payments you want credited to the **2015 calendar year for tax purposes** need to be in the parish office by December 31st. Please note: The parish office will be closed Dec 24th through Jan 1st. You can mail your gift or place it in the collection basket at any of the December masses. If you are mailing in the payment, the **postmark must be stamped by Dec 31, 2015 in order to be applied in the 2015 calendar year.**

ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF ELECTRONIC GIVING

Assumption Church offers electronic giving as a convenience to you. To sign-up go to our web site www.assumption.org; click on the dove found on the home page, above "God Gives it All -Then Calls Us to Share". This will take you to Vanco, our EFT provider, where you can setup an account and manage your gifts to the parish either through your checking account or credit card. Or you can set up "bill pay" through your bank; adding Assumption to your automatic monthly bill paying cycle.



SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING: PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

Where: Sacred Heart Parish Hall, Bellingham **When:** 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2015

If you are a new employee or volunteer in the Archdiocese of Seattle, you will need to take this class. If you have not already done so, visit www.virtusonline.org to register. Once you have taken the class, you will be able to fulfill all future training requirements online.

During class, students will view a DVD and have a question-and-answer session afterward. The class typically runs about three hours and will be in the parish hall library.

If you have any questions on how to register with Virtus or about the class itself, please call Melissa Johnson at Sacred Heart at 360-734-2850 x301.

A Stewardship Moment

Today's Gospel provides a blueprint for good stewardship: "Let the man who has two coats give to him who has none. The man who has food should do the same."

Un Momento De Corresponsabilidad

El Evangelio de hoy provee un bosquejo detallado para la buena administración de los bienes de Dios: "El que tenga dos capas, que dé una al que no tiene, y el que tenga de comer, haga lo mismo."



Gracious God,

Out of Your great generosity
You brought the world into
being and gave it life.

Then you gave it Yourself, on
the cross of human suffering.
Such priceless, painful giving!

Show us a different kind of
world, a different cost of living,
where the pain will not be
eased by the money we spend
on ourselves, but by the way
we spend ourselves for others
and the way we value life.

Eternal God, out of your great
generosity, make us generous,
bring us into being.

Amen.