

January 19, 2014
Second Sunday In Ordinary
Time

Jesus, the Lamb of God, is the light of the nations who came to do the Father's will. In Christ we have been called to be a holy people.

WORSHIP AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

January 22	6:00 PM	
Fr. Brian McGovern		RIP
January 23	10:30 PM	
Colleen Kelleher		RIP
January 24	10:30 AM	
Dewey Lawrenson		RIP
January 25	5:00 PM	
Nick Moothart		RIP
January 26	8:30 AM	
Miles Walsh Sr.		RIP
	10:30 AM	
Rosemary Vincent		RIP
	12:30 PM	
Pro Populo		RIP
	5:00 PM	
John Harris		RIP



This week the Sanctuary Lamp burns in honor of :
Michelle Nguyen

Daily Worship
Week of January 19, 2014

Monday, January 20 Saint Fabian & Saint Sebastian	1 Samuel 15:16-23 Psalm 50:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23 Mark 2:18-22
Tuesday, January 21 Saint Agnes	1 Samuel 16:1-13 Psalm 89:20-22, 27-28 Mark 2:23-28
Wednesday, January 22	1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51 Psalm 144:1-2, 9-10 Mark 3:1-6
Thursday, January 23 Saint Vincent	1 Samuel 18:6-9; 19:1-7 Psalm 56:2-3, 9-13 Mark 3:7-12
Friday, January 24 Saint Francis de Sales	1 Samuel 24:3-21 Psalm 57:2-4, 6, 11 Mark 3:13-19
Saturday, January 25 The Conversation of Saint Paul	Acts 22:3-16 Psalm 117:1-2 Mark 16:15-18
Sunday, January 26 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	Isaiah 8:23 — 9:3 Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17 Matthew 4:12-23

ORDINARY TIME

There's nothing ordinary about it. Perhaps the translation of Ordinary Time is unfortunate, since no time in the worship of God is ordinary. During this time the Mass readings consider the events of Christ's life. Ordinary Time is celebrated in two segments: from the Monday following the Baptism of Our Lord up to Ash Wednesday; and from Pentecost Monday to the First Sunday of Advent. This makes it the largest season of the Liturgical Year. During this season the color is green, the color of hope and growth, the Church counts the thirty-four Sundays of Ordinary Time, inviting her children to meditate upon the whole mystery of Christ – his life, miracles and teachings – in the light of his Resurrection.



EVENING PRAYER
and
EXPOSITION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT



Tuesday eves.
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.

HEALING PRAYER
MINISTRY
Wednesday after Mass
6:45-8:30 PM

"For everyone who asks, receives, and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. What Father among you would hand his son a snake when he asks for a fish"
 Lk.2:10-11.

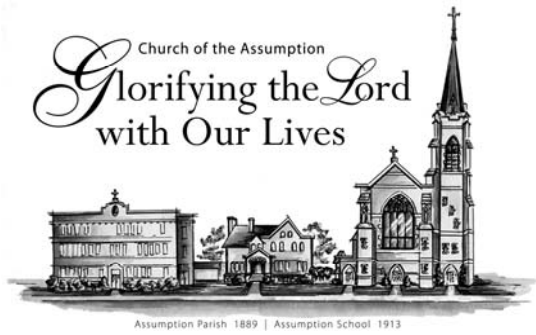
Our Father always hears our prayers, but the answer may not be the one we are looking for. It will be the one that God in his wisdom knows is best for you. We invite you to come and permit us to be your companions in prayer as you take your burdens to the Lord. No appt necessary. Private and confidential.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER
GROUP

Mondays at 6:30-8:30 PM in the St. Cecilia Room. Group will be cancelled until further notice.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Fridays at 1:30-3:30 PM in the Stafford Rm. Group will be cancelled until further notice.



THIS GRACE OF GIVING

Giving is a grace that is essential to the Christian life. It is not an extra or special quality reserved for a few “super saints,” for it is the grace that ties us most closely to our Lord.

The Grace of Rich Generosity (II Corinthians 8:1-5)

“And now brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints. And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God’s will.”

In Paul’s second letter to the Corinthians, he pours out his heart about several topics related to the Christian’s deeper walk with the Lord, one of which is the grace of giving. It appears the Christians in Jerusalem were suffering extreme poverty, and several churches started by Paul on his missionary journeys were collecting money to send for their relief.

Enabled by the grace of God, these Macedonian churches gave beyond what was expected or even deemed possible. You could call this “sacrificial giving.” Their generosity came not from their abundance but from their poverty, even extreme poverty. There is nothing about poverty itself that makes us generous. For that matter, there is nothing about having an abundance that makes us generous. Generosity is an attitude of the heart, not a condition of the checkbook. In a time of great affliction, they were still concerned about giving to others.

The grace of giving is not something we do entirely on our own. It is giving our full consent to God, allowing Him to accomplish His purposes through us. We acknowledge that God provides all our abilities and resources. Even more, this grace of giving is dependent upon our proper attitudes, as well as upon God for wisdom and strength in the use and distribution of our gifts.

The Macedonians especially wanted to give themselves first to the Lord. When we do that, money is no longer an issue. Actually giving money was the outward expression of having given themselves first to the Lord. And then, their giving was in obedience to the divine will of God.

The Proving of Love (II Corinthians 8:6-9, 24, 9:1,2)

6-9 – “So we urged Titus, since he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part. But just as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us – see that you also excel in this grace of giving. I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.”

24 – “Therefore show these men the proof of your love and the reason for our pride in you, so that the churches can see it.”

9:1-2 – “There is no need for me to write to you about this service to the saints. For I know your eagerness to help, and I have been boasting about it to the Macedonians, telling them that since last year you in Achaia were ready to give; and your enthusiasm has stirred most of them to action.”

In II Corinthians 8:6-9,24, Paul commends them for their positive spiritual depth and experience (faith, speech, knowledge, earnestness, and love), then his attention focuses on their excelling in this grace of giving. How do you know when you have excelled in this grace? These other graces he mentions (faith, etc.) cannot be measured. There is no scale to determine our level of faith. Is there a way to tell if we excel in our giving? Certainly! We can measure our growth in this area by examining the extent of our giving.

In the Scriptures, we are never encouraged to compare amounts, but we are encouraged to compare the extent of the sacrifice. Equal sacrifice, not equal giving.

The ultimate comparison, of course, is with the sacrificial gift of our Lord Himself. All our giving wanes in comparison to His. Not only did He die for our redemption, His example shows us the extreme and inescapable incentive of all Christian generosity – “so that you through His poverty might become rich.” If we must compare our giving to our Lord’s, then we too are to sacrifice of our own personal good so others might become rich in their relationship with God.

Faithfulness, Willingness, and Equality (II Corinthians 8:10-15)

“And here is my advice about what is best for you in this matter: Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have. Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Then there will be equality, as it is written: “He who gathered much did not have too much, and he who gathered little did not have too little.”

The church has suffered too often by those who start in a flurry of good intentions, and then falter by the wayside when the extent of their character runs out. Sometimes emergencies do interfere, and God knows about those. But to simply lay our commitment aside when the motivation is no longer present and the circumstances make it tough to fulfill a promise is to betray ourselves and the integrity of our character. The Psalmist declared, “Make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them” (Psalm 76:11). And Solomon emphasizes “when you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to make a vow than to make a vow and not fulfill it” (Ecclesiastes 5:4, 5).

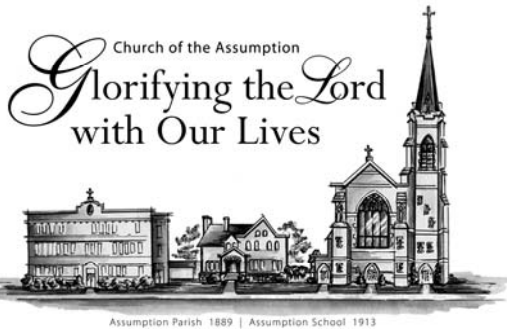
Does that mean we are not to make vows to God? Certainly not! We would be anchorless without our commitments to and relationship with Him. The emphasis here is to consider seriously the vows and purpose, and then be faithful in fulfilling them.

Our means will certainly affect the extent of our giving. But an even greater influence on our giving is our willingness to do so. It is the willingness to give, not just our ability to give that will determine the acceptability of our giving. God knows that we cannot give what we do not have, but He also knows we can give what we do have. We are not judged by what we are unable to give, but by what we are able to do. So those who are giving their full potential should take encouragement from the God who sees and knows all.

What a picture of the unity of the Body of Christ – the Church. While some may be able to give more than others, and they need to, the others will contribute to the support of the Body in other ways. But whether the amount is great or small, everyone can participate in this “grace of giving.”

And as we obey God’s revealed will in our giving, we will experience both joy in Him, and the thrill of freedom from this world’s possessions.

Open your heart to hear God’s will for you.



La Gracia de Dar

Dar es una gracia esencial para la vida cristiana. No es una calidad suplementaria o especial reservada para “santos súper”, ya que es la gracia que nos une más estrechamente a nuestro Señor.

La Gracia de Riquezas de su Generosidad (II Corintios 8 1:5)

“Asimismo, hermanos, os hacemos saber la gracia de Dios que se ha dado a las iglesias de Macedonia; que en grande prueba de tribulación, la abundancia de su gozo y su profunda pobreza abundaron en riquezas de su generosidad. Pues doy testimonio de que con agrado han dado conforme a sus fuerzas, y aún más allá de sus fuerzas, pidiéndonos con muchos ruegos que les concediésemos el privilegio de participar en este servicio para los santos. Y no como lo esperábamos, sino que a sí mismos se dieron primeramente al Señor, y luego a nosotros por la voluntad de Dios;”

En su segunda carta a los Corintios, Pablo desahoga su corazón sobre varios temas relacionados con el paseo más profundo del cristiano con el Señor, uno de los cuales es la gracia de dar. Parece que los cristianos en Jerusalén sufrían la pobreza extrema, y varias iglesias comenzadas por Paul en sus viajes del misionero coleccionaban el dinero para aliviarles.

Habilitado por la gracia de Dios. Permitido por la gracia de Dios, estas iglesias macedonias dieron más allá de lo que se esperó o hasta se juzgó posible. Podría llamar esto “dar de sacrificio.” Su generosidad vino no de su abundancia, pero de su pobreza, hasta pobreza extrema. No hay nada sobre la propia pobreza que nos hace generosos. En realidad, no hay nada sobre tener una abundancia que nos hace generosos. La generosidad es una actitud del corazón, no una condición del talonario de cheques. En un tiempo de la gran aflicción, todavía estaban preocupados por dar a los demás.

La gracia de dar no es algo que hacemos únicamente por nuestra cuenta. Es dar nuestro consentimiento pleno a Dios, permitiéndole lograr Sus propósitos a través de nosotros. Reconocemos que Dios es la fuente de nuestras capacidades y nuestros recursos. Aún más, esta gracia de dar depende de nuestras actitudes apropiadas, así como de Dios para sabiduría y fortaleza en el uso y la distribución de nuestros regalos.

Los macedonios sobre todo quisieron darse primero al Señor. Cuando hacemos esto, el dinero ya no es un factor. En realidad, dando el dinero era la expresión externa de haberse dado primero al Señor. Entonces, su acto de dar estaba en la obediencia a la voluntad divina de Dios.

La demostración de Amor (II Corintios 8:6 -9, 24, 9:1,2)

6-9 – “de manera que exhortamos a Tito para que tal como comenzó antes, asimismo acabe también entre vosotros esta obra de gracia. Por tanto, como en todo abundáis, en fe, en palabra, en ciencia, en toda solicitud, y en vuestro amor para con nosotros, abundad también en esta gracia. No hablo como quien manda, sino para poner a prueba, por medio de la diligencia de otros, también la sinceridad del amor vuestro. Porque ya conocéis la gracia de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, que por amor a vosotros se hizo pobre, siendo rico, para que vosotros con su pobreza fueseis enriquecidos.”

24 – “Mostrad, pues, para con ellos ante las iglesias la prueba de vuestro amor, y de nuestro gloriamos respecto de vosotros.”

9:1-2 – “No hay necesidad de que yo os escriba acerca de este servicio para los santos. Porque yo sé que su afán de ayudar, y me han comentado con orgullo entre los macedonios, diciéndoles que desde el año pasado que Acaya esta dispuesto a dar, y su entusiasmo ha despertado la mayoría de ellos a la acción.”

En II Corintios 8:6-9, 24, Paul los alaba para su profundidad espiritual positiva y experiencia (fe, discurso, conocimiento, seriedad y amor), entonces su atención se centra en la maestría de esta gracia de dar. ¿Cómo se puede saber cuándo se han destacado en esta gracia? Estas otras gracias que menciona (fe, etc.) no se pueden medir. No hay ninguna escala para determinar nuestro nivel de la fe. ¿Hay una manera de juzgar si sobresalimos en nuestros actos de dar? ¡Por supuesto! Podemos medir nuestro crecimiento de esta área examinando el grado del que damos.

En las escrituras sagradas, nunca se nos anima a comparar las cantidades, pero nos animamos a comparar el grado del sacrificio. Sacrificio igual, no dar igual.

La comparación definitiva, por supuesto, es con el regalo de sacrificio de nuestro Señor mismo. Todo que damos mengua en comparación con el del Señor. No sólo murió para nuestra redención, su ejemplo nos demuestra el incentivo extremo e inevitable de toda la generosidad cristiana – “de modo que a través de Su pobreza se pudiera hacer rico.” Si tenemos que comparar el que damos a nuestro Señor, también debemos de sacrificar de nuestra bien personal para que otras podrían convertirse en ricos en su relación con Dios.

Fidelidad, Voluntad e Igualdad (II Corintios 8:10-15)

“Y en esto doy mi consejo; porque esto os conviene a vosotros, que comenzasteis antes, no sólo a hacerlo, sino también a quererlo, desde el año pasado. Ahora, pues, llevad también a cabo el hacerlo, para que como estuvisteis prontos a querer, así también lo estéis en cumplir conforme a lo que tengáis. Porque si primero hay la voluntad dispuesta, será acepta según lo que uno tiene, no según lo que no tiene. Porque no digo esto para que haya para otros holgura, y para vosotros estrechez, sino para que en este tiempo, con igualdad, la abundancia vuestra supla la escasez de ellos, para que también la abundancia de ellos supla la necesidad vuestra, para que haya igualdad, como está escrito: El que recogió mucho, no tuvo más, y el que poco, no tuvo menos.”

La iglesia ha sufrido demasiado a menudo por aquellas personas que empiezan en un frenesí de buenas intenciones, y, a continuación, caer por el camino cuando el alcance de su carácter se agota. A veces las emergencias realmente interfieren, y Dios sabe sobre aquellos. Pero es traicionar a nosotros mismos y la integridad de nuestro personaje simplemente dejar nuestro compromiso a un lado cuando la motivación ya no está presente y las circunstancias complican el cumplimiento de una promesa. El Salmista declaró, “Haga votos al Señor su Dios y cumplidlos” (Salmo 76:11). Y Solomon enfatiza “Cuando hagas un voto a Dios, no tardes en cumplirlo, porque a Dios no le agradan los insensatos. Cumple tus votos. Vale más no hacer votos que hacerlos y no cumplirlos.”

¿Significa esto que no debemos hacer votos a Dios? ¡Desde luego que no! Estaríamos sin anclaje sin nuestros compromisos y relación con Él. El énfasis aquí es de considerar seriamente los votos y el propósito y, a continuación, ser fieles en su cumplimiento.

Nuestros medios afectarán seguramente el grado del que damos. Pero una influencia aún mayor en el que damos es nuestra buena voluntad para hacerlo. Es la buena voluntad de dar, no sólo nuestra capacidad de dar lo que determinará la aceptabilidad del que damos. Dios sabe que no podemos dar lo que no tenemos, pero también sabe que podemos dar lo que realmente tenemos. No somos juzgados por lo que no somos capaces de dar, sino por lo que somos capaces de hacer. Por lo tanto, aquellos que están dando su pleno potencial deben tomar aliento del Dios que ve y sabe todo.

¡Qué imagen de la unidad del Cuerpo de Cristo — la iglesia! Mientras que algunos pueden ser capaces de dar más que otros, y deben hacerlo, los demás contribuirán al apoyo del Cuerpo de otros modos. Pero si la cantidad es grande o pequeña, cada uno puede participar en esta “gracia de dar.”

Y como nosotros obedecemos la voluntad revelada de Dios en el que damos, experimentaremos tanto la alegría en Él como la emoción de la libertad de las posesiones de este mundo.

Abre tu corazón para escuchar la voluntad de Dios para ti.

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

BUS TO THE MARCH FOR LIFE

The Knights of Columbus has chartered a bus to transport 50 people to the March for Life in Olympia on Tuesday, January 21. The bus will leave from Assumption at 6:00am that morning and return by 5:00pm. The first stop will be the Mass for Life, celebrated by Archbishop J. Peter Sartain, at St. Martin's University. Then the bus will take us to the capitol building where we will join thousands of others for the rally. Reservations for the bus will be taken after Masses at Assumption starting in January. Or you can contact Joe St.Hilaire, 671-4836. Cost is \$20. Donations for the bus also are being taken for students and others who are less able to pay.

YOUNG ADULT FRASSATI SOCIETY- TUESDAYS AT 7PM.

The Frassati Society is a Bible Study group, inspired by Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati. While alive, Pier Giorgio ministered to the poor and vulnerable in Italy, and also to his fellow young adults. Join us on Tuesdays at 7pm in the Assumption Parish-Office living room, for bible study, food and fellowship as we strive to follow Blessed Frassati's example. Talk to Grace Bandolon for more details: graceb@assumption.org

YOUNG ADULT MASS- SATURDAYS 5PM

Assumption will be having a young adult choir sing at the Saturday evening Mass on the 4th Sunday of every month, with our next one being on January 25th. If you love praising God through song or through playing a musical instrument, please consider joining us! Our next young adult choir will be on Saturday, January 25th. Please meet for rehearsal in the Church at 3:30pm, prior to the 5pm Mass. Contact Chelsea Madura for more information: chelseam@assumption.org

YOUNG ADULT- THEOLOGY ON TAP

Who: Young Adults between the ages of 21 and 35.

What: Making friends and growing in faith over good beers and faith-filled discussions.

This month's speaker and topic: Deacon Larry Kheriaty—Lay ministry and the role of Young Adults in the Church.

When: Jan. 22nd 7pm, after Assumption's 6pm Mass

Where: Bellingham Bar & Grill, downtown Bellingham

More info? contact Chelsea Madura chelseam@assumption.org. See you there!



SAVE THE DATE

For the 14th annual
Growing Great Kids Auction
benefiting Assumption Catholic School
Saturday, March 1, 2014

at Bellingham Golf and Country Club
For information please visit:

www.growinggreatkids.org

email: growinggreatkidsauction@gmail.com



A FAMILY-FRIENDLY SUPER BOWL PARTY

The Knights of Columbus are hosting the sixth annual Super Bowl party Sunday, Feb 2 in the Assumption gym. Doors will open at 3PM, so you can be settled in time for kickoff at 3:25 PST.

Snacks and dinner will be provided, and the halftime show will be replaced by family-friendly challenges, raffles, and trivia. So bring your kids, your appetites, and your love of the game.

Suggested donation: \$5/person, or \$15/family of three or more.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

Catholic Daughters will be meeting Thursday, Jan. 23rd at 12:30 in the Stafford Room at Assumption. We will have a guest speaker from Hope House. Members are asked to bring hats, scarves, gloves, and socks for Hope House. Also, we will have the installation of new members. Dessert and beverage will be provided. All ladies of the parish are invited.

CATHOLIC MOMS!

Please join us at our next meeting on Thursday, January 23rd at 11:00 in the Stafford Room. Moms and children of all ages are welcome. We are excited to be able to offer childcare in the gym for a portion of the time now! For more information contact Bev Williams at bevjohnson_13@hotmail.com or 920-7592.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

For information and instruction, contact Kathy St.Hilaire, certified teacher of Natural Family Planning, 671-4836.

FAITH FORMATION, SCHOOL, PARISH EVENTS

ATTENTION SCRIP SUPPORTERS

Please note: Scrip will be sold on the **first & third** Sunday of the month after the 8:30 AM Mass and before the 10:30 AM mass.

El Scrip ya esta en venta después de la misa en Español. Gracias por su apoyo.

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
Paul Cleary
Michael Condit
Gabriel Feely
John Hutson
Gabriel Rodriguez
Steven Faecke
Maj. Gregory DeMarco
Keanu Franco
Michael Dahl
Matt Edge
Kyle Frisbie
Kurt DeVries
Cadet Garrett Burnham*

ENGAGED CHURCH—IN MY PARISH I HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO WHAT I DO

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & LIFE, JUSTICE & PEACE MINISTRY

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Bill Attebery
Jim Gibson
Jerilou Jones
Carlos Muñoz
José Ordóñez
Denise Plaisier
Sam Raines
Belen Saturay
Jean Wilford
Tashie Zang

COMMISSION & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Faith Formation Commission
John Getchell
Parish Life & Social
Mary & Bill Chambers
Spiritual Life & Worship
Ronald Delbecq
School Commission
Dan Kamkoff
Life, Justice & Peace
Michael DiSpigno
Pastoral Care
Carol Frazey
Building & Grounds
Eric Schueler
Stewardship/Engaged Church
Patti & James Wright
Finance Council
Bill Zang
Pastoral Council
Jim Gibson
Bill Attebery
Belen Saturay

CHURCH OF THE SECOND

CHANCE – JustFaith unit on prison reform. Six sessions -two evening meetings each month (January, February, and March). The module does not soften the gritty truth of prison reality but introduces the Christian principle of restorative justice, points out the critical need for comprehensive prison reform as well as focusing on the power of prayer and the Christian messages of reconciliation and redemption. If interested, please call or e-mail the JustFaith Steering Committee contact Dan Larguier (360-920-1816 or dflarguier@yahoo.com) for more information.

CATHOLIC ADVOCACY DAY

Join us for Catholic Advocacy Day on Friday, February 21, 2014. This year's theme is *Proclaim Justice & Life for All!* and will begin at St. Michael Church in Olympia with registration at 8:45 a.m., followed by legislative briefings to prepare you and fellow constituents for group visits with your legislators. There will be Mass at 10:40 a.m., and then transportation to the Capitol for appointments with legislators, scheduled between 12:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

**Please register for
Catholic Advocacy Day
by February 1, 2014!**

COMMUNICATIONS & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR PART-TIME POSITION AT INTERFAITH COALITION

Interfaith Coalition of Whatcom County seeks a 20 hour per week experienced development and communications director to work with our small staff in a dynamic, non-profit office. The coalition is a partnership of over 40 congregations that provides housing to homeless families, severe weather shelters, and support to Interfaith Community Health Center. Please contact Interfaith Coalition at info@interfaith-coalition.org or 734-3983 for a job description.



She's pregnant and alone, but she's doing the right thing for her baby by carrying her to term and giving her up for adoption. I am impressed by her strength and courage, and I am so glad Hope House is here for her. "Katie" has all the medical support she needs and the Christian adoption service is helping her in many ways, as well, however, when it comes to maternity clothing and the stress of a shrinking budget, we are able to help ease that load. I also like to think we offer emotional and spiritual support, an understanding hug, and some "cheerleading" for her wonderful decision to choose life for her child.

We are always in need of maternity clothing—always. God bless,
Cheri Woolsey
www.bellinghamhopehouse.com

RETROUVAILLE

Marriage Help – For confidential information about, or to register for the Retrouvaille marriage saving program beginning **January 24-26, 2014** call **206-706-2608** or visit www.helpourmarriage.com

INTERFAITH COALITION'S MARCH 22 ANNUAL HOPE AUCTION

Save the date for Interfaith Coalition's Annual Hope Auction on Saturday, March 22. You will enjoy an evening of fun and community spirit, and the proceeds will support housing for homeless families and health care for all in need. The auction is Interfaith's biggest fundraising event, and raises more than one-third of Interfaith's annual income. The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Best Western Lakeway Inn in Bellingham. Tickets are on sale now for \$45 each, which includes a sit-down dinner.

You also may support the event by contributing an item to be auctioned. If you can provide a service, getaway home, art or craft item, gift certificate or other sought-after item, then you have something to offer that would raise money to assist local people in need. The coalition also is seeking financial support to help underwrite the auction.

For more information, tickets, or to make a donation, please call Interfaith Coalition at **734-3983**, or contact Mike DiSpigno, who represents our congregation on the coalition board.

WEEK
Monday, January 20th
Martin L. King Day—Office Closed
 10:30 AM No Mass or Word & Communion Church
 6:00 PM Just Faith PC 2nd floor
 6:30 PM One King Light Weigh PCLR

WEEK
Tuesday, January 21st
 1:00 PM Bible Study Stafford
 3:00 PM Cub Scout Pack Meeting Stafford
 6:30 PM Adoration Church
 7:00 PM CC Follow-up Training Metting LMC
 7:00 PM Bible Study Stafford
 7:00 PM Frassati Society PCLR
 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 16 Meeting Gym


WEEK
Wednesday, January 22nd
 12:00 AM Adoration Church
 10:00 AM Women's Scripture Study Stafford
 5:45 PM Benediction Church
 6:00 PM Mass Church
 6:00 PM Rite of Acceptance/Welcome Church
 7:00 PM Prayer Ministry PCLR
 7:00 PM School Commission LMC
 7:00 PM Life, Justice & Peace Commission PCLR
 7:00 PM Theology on Tap Off-site

WEEK
Thursday, January 23rd
 10:30 AM Mass Church
 11:00 AM Mothers & Children Stafford
 11:30 AM Pro Life Rosary Church
 12:30 PM Catholic Daughters of America Stafford
 1:00 PM Purple Readers Group Stafford
 5:30 PM Life Teen Core Team PC 3rd floor
 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal Church
 7:00 PM RCIA Catechumenate LMC
 7:00 PM Finance Council PC 2nd floor

WEEK
Friday, January 24th
 10:30 AM Mass Church
 11:30 AM Rosary Prayer Group Church
 5:00 PM Basketball Party Gym
 5:30 PM Fulcrum Dinner Off-site
 7:00 PM Grupo de Compartir el Evangelio LMC

Saturday, January 25th
 1:00 PM Rosary Makers Stafford
 3:30 PM Reconciliation Church
 4:00 PM Cantor Rehearsal St. Cecilia
 5:00 PM Mass Church

Sunday, January 26th
Catholic Schools Week — Baptismal Weekend
 7:45 AM English Choir Rehearsal Church
 8:30 AM Mass Church
 8:30 AM RCIA Dismissal PCLR
 8:30 AM RCIC Dismissal Stafford
 9:30 AM English Choir Rehearsal Church
 9:30 AM Coffee Hour Gym
 10:00 AM Grupo de Oración Room 1
 10:30 AM School Mass Church
 11:30 AM K-5 Faith Formation School
 11:30 AM Ensayo de Coro St. Cecilia
 11:30 AM Coffee Hour Gym
 12:30 PM Misa Iglesia
 3:45 PM Youth Choir Rehearsal Church
 5:00 PM Youth Mass Church
 6:00 PM Life Teen Gym

 On Monday January 20, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, there will be no Mass or Word & Communion, and our office will be closed.

CELEBRATION DINNER
 As a highlight of our Capital Campaign the parish is delighted to be hosting a Celebration Dinner at the Silver Reef Casino on January 31st. The event will begin at 6:30 PM. This will be a night of community, information and celebration for the adult members of our community. Dinner will be followed by dancing. Please come join us. There is no cost to you but you must RSVP. Please RSVP in the Gathering Space before or after Mass or call the parish office. **Reservations must be received by January 22nd.**
 Do you need child care in order to attend the Celebration Dinner on January 31st? **Children 3-12 can attend the parish-sponsored Children's Party but pre-registration is required.** A small number of spaces remain. Space is limited so hurry and get your reservations in! If you would like your children to attend, pick up a registration form at the parish office or in the Gathering Space and turn it in immediately.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

	Wk(01/12/2014)	Month	YTD
Contributions needed:	\$17,404	\$34,808	\$487,312
Contributions received:	\$14,543	\$44,894	\$528,809
Over/under for wk/mo/yr	-\$ 2,861	\$10,086	\$ 41,497

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

Debt Reduction	Wk(01/12/2014)	Month	YTD
Contributions needed:	\$ 1,058	\$ 2,116	\$29,624
Contributions received:	\$ 610	\$ 1,331	\$47,090
Over/Under for wk/mo/yr	-\$ 448	-\$ 785	\$17,466

GIFTS FROM THE OTHER HALF OF OUR STEWARDSHIP GIVING

Hope House \$ 2,080

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

CALLED TO PROTECT MINISTRIES

This three hour training is designed to teach participants how to recognize the signs of abuse, how to respond to suspected abuse and how to keep our ministries, programs and schools safe. Required for clergy, employees and volunteers, to be in compliance with the Archdiocesan requirements

Where: St Joseph 205 12th Street, Lynden, Parish Hall

When: February 8, 2014, 9:00 a.m.— Noon. You may register online by visiting www.seattlearch.org; click on the box for the Safe Environment Program (found on the right side of the page) and click the link that says “Register for Classes.” That means sacristans, altar servers, lectors, ushers, greeters, and teachers need to attend. Dianna Reese and Chris Regis are the facilitators.

INTERFAITH COALITION’S OUR HOUSE FRAME SIGNING

Please drop by on Sunday, January 26 between 1 – 2:30 pm at Our House in Ferndale to bless the home with prayers for homeless families. Interfaith Coalition’s Our House is currently under construction and when completed it will provide temporary housing to homeless families. Join us to sign posts and frames during the Our House construction to surround the homeless families who will live in the home. Your blessings will live on beneath the finished construction. Because of limited parking at the construction site, please park at the United Church of Ferndale, 2034 Washington Street, and a free shuttle will bring you to Our House.

Our House involves the expansion of an existing single-family residence into a triplex. Funding for the project comes from monetary and in-kind contributions from individuals and congregations throughout Whatcom County. When completed this spring, the triplex is expected to annually house around 12 families that would otherwise be homeless. While living at Our House and in Interfaith Coalition’s eight other units of homeless housing, families will receive case management services to help develop skills critical to breaking the cycle of homelessness. After three months or longer in Interfaith Housing, 90% of families find stable housing.

Please join us to bless Our House families. For additional information, please contact Interfaith Coalition at 734-3983.

A Stewardship Moment

Today’s responsorial psalm is the theme song of the good steward: “Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.” May I, too, stand ready to offer myself and my gifts in the service of God.

Un Momento De Corresponsabilidad

Es Salmo de oración de hoy es la canción del tema del buen administrador. “Aquí estoy, Señor; Vengo a hacer tu voluntad.” Que yo también pueda estar listo para ofrecer mis regalos y a mi mismo al servicio de Dios.



Lord Jesus, you have challenged us with your holy words in sacred scripture: That the one who "seeks to save his life will lose it;" That the one who "loses his life for your sake will save it for all eternity;" That the "greatest among us is the one who serves the rest;" That it is "harder for a rich man to enter heaven than for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle;" That our "true treasure is in heaven."

Lord, you have given us your generous promises: That you treasure greatly the sacrificial spirit of the widow’s mite; That you will reward with hundredfold harvest those who sow in the rich soil of faith; That you will not be outdone in generosity; That you will not give us burdens that we cannot bear. We thank you, above all, for the joy-filled gift of faith and the inspirational witness of generous saints of ages past.

Lord, give us the strength and the faith to respond to your challenging words. We ask you to help us to be responsible stewards of your gifts. We ask you to bless us with the courage, generosity, and selflessness to help us multiply your gifts among us for the glory of your name. Amen