

# SAINT JOSEPH

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 2-3, 2023

3720 E Colbert Road  
Colbert, WA 99005

[www.stjosephcolbert.org](http://www.stjosephcolbert.org)  
509-466-4991

**"BUT ABOUT THAT DAY OR HOUR NO ONE KNOWS,  
NOT EVEN THE ANGELS IN HEAVEN, NOR THE  
SON, BUT ONLY THE FATHER. BE ON GUARD! BE  
ALERT! YOU DO NOT KNOW WHEN THAT TIME  
WILL COME.  
MARK 13:32-33**

Today's Gospel reminds us that Advent is about more than the celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. Advent is also about preparing ourselves for Christ's return. Like the disciples and the faithful in Mark's community, we must stay alert and watchful. Our faithfulness to God, through the good times as well as the difficult times, shows us to be ready for the coming of the Son of Man.

### Parish Staff

Rev. Thomas K. Connolly, Pastor  
Joe Schroeder, Deacon  
Jeannie Saccomanno, Office Manager  
Kristina Hittson, Director, Religious Ed.  
Bill Ryan, Facilities Manager  
Sydney Wilson, Youth Minister  
Mary Green, Admin. Assistant

### Parish Council

Bob Pedersen, Chair | Peggy Ellingson  
Michael Grieshaber | David Kingma  
Ellen Stoner | Beth Torchia

### Finance Council

Loretta Barrett | Ric Gaunt  
Jeff Lesser | Jim Novello | Richard Vann  
Joyce Woodard

The Knights of Columbus will accept donations on December 9-10, and host a Brunch after Mass on Sunday, Dec. 10 to raise funds for Andrew Kelly, Spokane Seminarian. Tickets are available before and after Mass this Sunday. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door on December 10.



***"Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples.  
Preach the gospel to all people."***

## Parish Calendar

### Sunday, December 3

Community Outreach Bake sale & Raffle

Food Sunday

Religious Education 11:15 AM

Cursillo 12:30 PM

Youth Group 6:00 PM

### Tuesday, December 5

Daily Mass 8:30 AM

Parish Council 6:00 PM

### Wednesday, December 6

Daily Mass 8:30 AM

Quilting & Needlework Group 9:00 AM

The Vine 6:00 PM

### Thursday, December 7

Women's Guild Prayer Shawl Circle 10:00 AM

K of C Business Meeting 6:30 PM

### Friday, December 8

Share the Word (bible study) 9:00 AM

**Mass of the Immaculate Conception 6:00 PM**

### Saturday, December 9

Men's Fellowship & Breakfast 7:00 AM

Women's Guild Health & Wellness 8:30 AM

Secular Franciscan Celebration 10:00 AM

Christmas Choir Practice 1:30 - 2:30 PM (Church)

### Sunday, December 10

K of C Seminary Breakfast 11:00 AM

Faith in Action Committee Meeting 11:15

Religious Education Class 11:15 AM

Saint Nicholas arrives!

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

<b>Sun, Dec 24</b>	St. Mary Presentation	3:30 PM
	St. Joseph	5:30 PM
	St. Joseph	8:00 PM
	St. Mary Presentation	Midnight
<b>Mon, Dec 25</b>	St. Mary Presentation	8:00 AM
	St. Joseph	10:00 AM

## Tree of Sharing

The Tree of Sharing is in the lobby, and tags are available for check out. Please take a tag and help us spread the love of God as we celebrate the miracle of the birth of His Son.

### SEASON OF ADVENT

On December 2, we celebrate the first Sunday of Advent. It marks the beginning the liturgical year. Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming and also to the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas. The final days of Advent, December 17-24, focus particularly on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord (Christmas).

Advent devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season. Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent.

The purple candles symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and goods works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.

The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead.



INCOME	Budget/week	Actual/week
Envelopes	\$ 3,250.00	\$ 2,800.00
Plate	\$ 577.00	\$ 381.00
Online gifts	\$ 1,481.00	\$ 1,730.00
Children's Fund		13.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,183.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,911.00</b>

**December 2-3, 2023**

**First Sunday of Advent**

## Path to the Pantry

More clients and families were served on the Monday evening before Thanksgiving than on any other day in the history of the North County Food Pantry. As a distribution site for Tom's Turkey Drive, we gave away 250 turkey dinners to neighbors in Elk, Chattaroy and Spokane. Many volunteers made the process go smoothly. Special thanks to John G. who provided transportation from Second Harvest earlier in the day. Riverside HS honor students assembled the turkey dinners (turkey, stuffing, potatoes, milk, rolls, veggies and cranberries). The RHS Girls Varsity Basketball team loaded groceries in hundreds of cars as they passed through our drive-through. Thanks to SCOPE volunteers for directing traffic at Country Church of the Open Bible. Thanks to Joe, Carolyn and Megan for assembling extra grocery supplies beyond what Tom's Turkey Drive had collected for distribution that night. Our regular volunteers are the foundation of the Food Pantry, and this month we would like to highlight a few key people:

- Brothers **Ryder and Rowdy** are homeschooled students and long-time volunteers on Mondays;
- Married couples **Shelley and Don** are invaluable Monday volunteers, as are Bon and Bernie on Wednesdays. These couples routinely handle a wide variety of tasks at the Pantry;
- **Karen** responded to our appeal in the Elk Sentinel for a Wednesday cook so a hot meal can be offered to clients and volunteers
- **Jack and Julie** rotate responsibilities of picking up surplus bakery goods from the Caritas Food Bank in Spokane;
- Last but NOT least, **Sandy and Joe** lead the North County Food Pantry and take care of reporting, inventory, supplier relations, volunteer oversight, and building and equipment repair and maintenance. They lead with integrity and passion. All who serve with them appreciate their leadership and commitment.

Our community is also extraordinarily supportive of our efforts to help our neighbors in need. Here are a few examples of the support we have received recently:

- Nancy provided a dozen homeless kits that include toiletries, and warm socks and gloves;
- A local quilting group donated nearly 100 hand sewn Christmas stockings for children in our area;
- The Knights of Columbus from St. Joe's Parish made a significant cash donation to underwrite utility bills and equipment maintenance.
- Watson's Market and the two local Dollar Stores regularly donate food near expiration, offering variety to our inventory;
- Several women donated hand knit scarves and hats that are greatly appreciated as we enter the cold winter months.

The North County Food Pantry is blessed by the outpouring of support from our community and beyond. You can be assured that we will continue to be good stewards of all monetary and in-kind gifts we receive. We are an IRS recognized tax exempt non-profit and hold ourselves to the highest standards of integrity.

## Extraordinary Ministers

December 9-10, 2023

**Saturday** - V. Mullen; P. Ellingson

**Sunday** - S. Charleboix; M.B. Charleboix;  
L. Harrison; B. Pedersen

## Winter Book Sale

"The Faith in Action Ministry's winter book sale is scheduled for January 27-28. If you have gently used books you'd like to donate, we'd appreciate them.

Please put them in the hallway to the left of the dining room.

Thank you so much." Peggy Ellingson



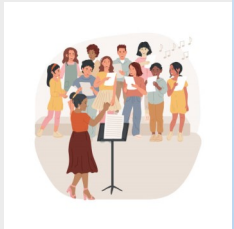
## Music Ministry for Christmas

**Children** - if you would like to sing

Christmas Carols prior to the 5:30 PM Mass on Christmas Eve, and "Silent Night" with the choir following Communion, please join

Marie for practice on Saturday, December 9

from 1:30 - 2:30 PM in the church. We will also practice on December 16 at 1:30 PM if we need an additional practice with the Carpenter's group.



**Teenagers & Adults** - If you would like to sing with the choir for one of the Christmas Masses, please stop by and talk with a member of the choir after Mass this weekend. You can also contact Marie at [marieomurray@comcast.net](mailto:marieomurray@comcast.net)

*Welcome!*

*We want to extend a warm welcome to all new parishioners.*

*Please pick up a registration form in the lobby and return it to the office.*

*Or you can register on the parish*

*website: <https://stjosephcolbert.org/registration>*

*Please call the office for assistance.*

## Mass Intentions

*Saturday, December 2 - St. Joseph's Parishioners*

*Sunday, December 3 - Paul Hittson (bday)*

*Tuesday, December 5 - Nick McDonough (bday)*

*Wednesday, December 6 - Dominick Rahn (bday)*

*Saturday, December 9 - St. Joseph's Parishioners*





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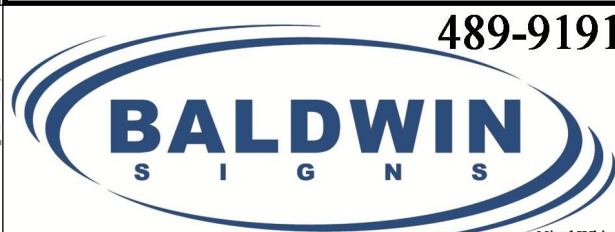
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Parishioner



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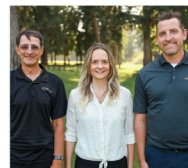
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