

Immaculate Conception, Oroville WA

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www.okvalleycatholicparishes.org



January 19, 2020

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6

Resp. Psalm: Psalms 40: 2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10

2nd Reading: First Corinthians 1: 1-3

Gospel: John 1: 29-34

PASTOR

Rev. Luta Nsubuga
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MASS SCHEDULE:

Sunday Mass: 12:30pm
(English)
Sunday Mass: 2:00pm
(Spanish)

SACRAMENTS:

Baptism: Call the Office
to register your child to
be baptized or call the
Pastor.

Confessions:

By appointment.

Quinceañera: Call the
Office or the Pastor for
more information.

Matrimony: By advance
arrangements of at least
six months.

Anointing of the Sick: At
Mass, seasonally as an-
nounced, and individually
of need. Call the Pastor.

**Communion to the shut
in:** As requested. Call the
Pastor.

THE LAMB OF GOD

We just finished celebrating the joyful and extraordinary season of Christmas. Today we start what the Church calls "ordinary time," in other words, a long series of Sundays in which we will recall the public life of Jesus, we will listen to his teaching, his parables, the story of his cures and miracles. We will follow his life from the Baptism he received in the Jordan until the start of his Passion. **Jesus will become our teacher, showing us how to think and live as children of God.**

Sisters and brothers,

To encourage us to start knowing Jesus better, John the Baptist asks us a fundamental question, "Do you know Jesus well? Do you know who he is?" And he himself tells us a secret, "I didn't know him."

1. **Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.** It's hard for us to understand these words, but for the Israelites it was very simple, since every year they used to recall the episode of the flight from Egypt, in which every family made a mark on the door of their homes with the blood of the lamb they were eating. And so year after year, during the celebration of Passover, parents would tell children about the night of liberation. Jesus also ate the lamb with his Apostles, but at this new Passover, Jesus is the one to offer himself as the true lamb that sheds his blood for all, to obtain God's pardon and make us children of God.

2. **Why does John not speak about "sins," but rather "the sin" of the world?** Because it refers to a reality that goes beyond what each of us does. He is speaking about evil itself, what we would call "original sin." When a child is born, he doesn't enter a clean world, but one that is wounded by the presence of evil, that will affect him in one way or other. None of us is free of this wound; we all suffer from it. There is an evil that tarnishes the existence of the world. Sin is basically darkness, shadows, the denial of the truth. It is a trap, hypocrisy, falsehood, and it leads to egotism, lack of love.

3. **The most frequent sin in our Christian life is the sin of omission.** As baptized faithful, we have all been called to be light of the world, and we do almost nothing. Nevertheless, we urgently need to give good example in our Christian life to those who have chosen the path of darkness in our times. Jesus' fight against the sin of the world is love.

Today St John the Baptist appears not only as the precursor who prepares the ways of the Lord, but also the one who gives testimony of the Messiah, and who will one day give his life to defend the values of the Gospel. We should make known the good news of salvation in word and deed, starting with those who are closest to us, our family, our neighbors, our colleagues at work. Amen

Father Luta

CATECHISM CLASSES

Catechism classes will be held this Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 6pm. Classes for parents will be held at the same time, to enrich your knowledge about our faith. Be sure to come!

YOUTH GROUP

There will be Youth Group this Monday, Jan. 20 at 6:30pm. I wish to invite all youth from Middle School and High School to come. The purpose and goal of our youth group is to help the students grow in knowledge and grow in their relationship with God. This is done with Bible study, teachings of the Church, prayer, fun activities and snacks. I wish to ask the parents to bring your youth so that they may learn more about their faith and to grow in their relationship with God.

-Father Luta

CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE 2020

The Diocese of Spokane Catholic Youth Conference continues to experience great growth. This year's goal is to serve over 400 youth and have youth participating from every parish. This year's theme "REMAIN" drawn from Jesus' own words, "remain in me, as I remain in you...as the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love." These words from the Gospel of John exude all to experience the love of the Father, and to do whatever it takes to remain in that love. All young people desire to experience this love. I would like to invite all youths in our parish to this amazing retreat, to help transform their lives and immerse them deeply anchored in their faith. The retreat is for students from 9th grade to 12th grade. I also need volunteers to help as chaperons. We are also seeking for people who can sponsor a student for this retreat. The cost is \$105 per student. Thank you so much for your support. May God bless You

ACA UPDATE

As of January 16, our church has pledged \$6365.01. We have reached 55% our goal. Be sure to have your ACA envelopes turned in to help us reach our goal.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY

Sign-ups will be held for the next few Sundays to all church parishioners that are drawn to serve in this ministry, which consists of lectors, eucharistic ministers, ushers and altar servers. Look for the sign-up sheet at the back of the church. Training will begin on the week of Jan. 26 and a specific date will be given as soon as possible. Pray that you may hear Gods words to see if this is a service that you may do for the Lord.

BULLETIN UPDATE

You can now find our bulletin, as well as all upcoming events, on our church website: okvalleycatholicparishes.org.

If you are gone for a weekend, or wish to check up on the latest updates for our church, you won't miss anything!

**Reading for next Sunday January 26th
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Isaiah 8: 23-9:3

Resp. Psalm: Psalms 27: 1, 4, 13-14

2nd Reading: First Corinthians 1: 10-13, 17

Gospel: Matthew 4: 12-23

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TODAY

Everyone is welcome to attend the Parish Council meeting held today at 3:30pm, after the Spanish Mass. The main topic is the church maintenance projects and final decisions on the cross and sign out front, for our church. Come to share your input and show your support.

MARCH FOR LIFE

A pro-life march will be held on Wednesday, January 22, beginning at 12:00pm. Meet at the Civic League Park in Omak. For more information please call Al or Judy Bosco at 826-2736. Thank you and God bless all the participants.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

#2270 Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception.

From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person—among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life.

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you.

My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately wrought in the depths of the earth.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy birthday to Armida Goeden on Jan. 25. Her family wishes her "less gray hairs, more sanity, and many blessings from God to live as long as possible!"

WINTER SNOW SHOVEL AT CHURCH

As we get more snow I ask for your help to shovel the snow, especially-Saturdays. A snow shovel and salt by the doors. Thank you.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Jan. 19-St. Fabian

Jan. 20-St. Sebastian

Jan. 21-St. Agnes

Jan. 22-Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

Jan. 23-St. Vincent

Jan. 24-St. Francis de Sales

Jan. 25-The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

