

# Only Six Months Until Christmas!

Paige Byrne Shortal

Yesterday the Church celebrated another Nativity—the birth of Jesus’ cousin John, as in John the Baptist, the Prophet, the Forerunner. But before all that, John is the miracle baby – a child born of elderly Zechariah and Elizabeth who, until now, have lived with the “disgrace” of barrenness.

The Scripture says that when the Angel Gabriel, that Announcer of Miracle Babies, told Zechariah he was to have a son, Zechariah, no doubt thinking of his wife of advancing years and his own white hair, said, in effect, “I don’t think so.” His doubt rendered him mute. If you think about it, this is what doubt does. Doubt stifles our joy with suspicion, curbs our celebration with caution, strangles our proclamation of the Good News with, “Hold on just a minute, let’s be realistic, you can’t really expect me to believe that!”

Zechariah had just heard the answer to his prayers. As a couple they had certainly prayed for children and their childlessness was one of the great sorrows of their long life together. But when heart’s desire is finally realized, sometimes we don’t believe it.

We pray and pray for the Messiah to come and he says, “Here I am!” and we don’t believe him. We pray and pray for



peace or for love or for fulfillment or for the chance to make a difference in this world and God says, “OK, here’s what you can do!” and we ignore him.

Sometimes heart’s desire is disguised as losing a job or not getting the promotion, passing the test, winning the race. Sometimes what we really want is contained within a “No” from God and it is then that we must have the courage to say “Yes” to God’s “No” because hidden in that “No” is the “Yes!” we’ve been waiting for.

When the unexpected happens, even the unwelcome unexpected, we should be listening hard for the messenger’s voice. A miracle birth is about to take place – maybe inside you. †

*Sometimes when our heart’s desire is finally realized, we don’t believe it.*

“Lord, What Shall I Do?”  
Gary Lauenstein, CSsR,

After working with the Redemptorist novices of North America, I wish every Catholic young person had the opportunity to make a lay novitiate—six months of learning about the spiritual life and methods of prayer, and reading the great classic writings of the Catholic tradition. They would learn about themselves by looking at their family background and their relationships and, especially, by writing a spiritual autobiography about their relationship with Christ throughout their lives.

Fortunately, much of what can be accomplished in a novitiate can also be accomplished through a program of regular spiritual direction. For a young person looking to discover what God really wants of him or her, a year-long program of weekly meetings with a spiritual director is a step in the right direction. Just be sure to start with the right question: “Lord, what do you want me to do?” †



*Powerful God, we ask for your protection and for the courage to face the trials of this life as disciples of your Son, our Lord Jesus. We pray always in his name. Amen.*

The Redemptorists

## WEEKDAY READINGS

June 26–July 1

**Monday, Weekday:**  
Gn 12:1–9 / Mt 7:1–5

**Tuesday, Weekday:**  
Gn 13:2, 5–18 / Mt 7:6, 12–14

**Wednesday, St. Irenaeus:**  
Gn 15:1–12, 17–18 / Mt 7:15–20

**Thursday, Sts. Peter and Paul:**  
Acts 12:1–11 / 2 Tm 4:6–8, 17–18 / Mt 16:13–19

**Friday, Weekday:**  
Gn 17:1, 9–10, 15–22 / Mt 8:1–4

**Saturday, Weekday:**  
Gn 18:1–15 / Mt 8:5–17

Bringing Home  
the Word 

June 25, 2023

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# Bringing Home the Word

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)  
June 25, 2023

## Fear Not!

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Easier said than done! There is so much to be afraid of today: war, the loss of life and the resulting devastation, unemployment and poverty, illness and the pain and diminishment, the threat of ecological collapse, to say nothing of personal anxiety and trauma. The readings for this Sunday all speak of the hardships that loom over every life.

But these hardships are not the last word. Jeremiah ends his announcement of gloom on a positive note: “Praise the Lord, / For he has rescued the life of the poor / from the power of the evildoers!”

## Sunday Readings

**Jeremiah 20:10–13**

The Lord is with me, like a mighty champion: my persecutors will stumble, they will not prevail.

**Romans 5:12–15**

If by that one person’s transgression the many died, how much more did the grace of God...overflow.

**Matthew 10:26–33**

[Jesus said,] “Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna.”

(Jeremiah 20:13). The psalm of lament picks up the same message: “the Lord hears the poor” (Psalm 69:34). Saint Paul insists that sin and death don’t win: “... How much more did the grace of God... overflow for the many” (Romans 5:15). Caught in the throes of misfortune, people cry out—but God responds.

It is in the Gospel that the reassurance of God’s care unfolds. The struggles described there are real, but they will not last. The imagery employed to characterize God’s care is picturesque and extraordinarily tender. If God is attentive to the lowly sparrows, how much more will God be attentive to us? Even more personally, God knows us so well that the very hairs on our head are counted. The admonition here is clear: Never fear! If catastrophes threaten, don’t be afraid! Even if they engulf you or carry you away, don’t be afraid. It is only temporary. God is always there, attentive to our needs, so fear not! †

*Caught in the throes of misfortune, people cry out—but God responds.*



## A Word from Pope Francis

Besides [sending us out] as “sheep in the midst of wolves,” the Lord...sends us out as sentinels in the midst of people who do not want to be woken from their worldly lethargy.... [I]f we proclaim the Words of the Gospel, this is bothersome and they will look at us unkindly.

ANGELUS, JUNE 25, 2017



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- When you are frightened, can you pray for trust in God’s loving care?
- What might you do to change, even slightly, what frightens you?



## Parish of St. Vincent De Paul

"We as a community rooted in the Catholic faith seek to imitate Christ's  
Examples of love and service to others and spread the light of our faith to others."

Parish phone: 509-234-2262 June 25, 2023 website: [stvincentconnell.org](http://stvincentconnell.org)

Fr. Lutakome Deo Nsubuga

Deacon Arturo Biebrich parish phone: 509-222-9223 after 5 pm only

### 12th Sunday Ordinary Time

Mass June 25, 2023

Lector: Olivia Grassl-Kniveton

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:**

Mike R. & Wally G.

**Greeters & Presentation of Gift**

Larry & Jaeniffer Kaiser

**Altar Servers:**

Adrian & Emmett

### 13th Sunday Ordinary Time

Mass July 2, 2023

Lector: Stacy Kniveton

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:**

María G. Marv G. Deacon Arturo

**Greeters & Presentation of Gift**

Jeff & Andrea Shawver

**Alter Servers:**

Giselle & Aubriel

### Pope's Prayer intentions:

For the abolition of torture;

We pray that the international community may commit in a  
concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and  
guarantee support to victims and their families.

### Mass Schedule

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. @ St. Paul's in Eltopia

10:30 a.m. @ St. Vincent's (English)

12:00 p.m. @ St. Vincent's (Spanish)

Saturday: 7:00 p.m. @ San Juan Diego (Spanish)

Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. Adoration @ St. Vincent's

8:30 a.m. Mass @ St. Vincent's

Confessions: Wednesdays 6:30 pm @ St. Vincent's

Friday 4:30 pm @ San Juan Diego

**Church Secretary:** Elida Fernández - [secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com](mailto:secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com)

Tues, Weds. Thurs 12:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Elida can be reached at 509-318-0917; 12 pm – 3:30 pm on Tues. Weds. Thurs.

**Prayer Chain:** Call Carolyn Nordhus @ 509-234-5972

**Breezeway Calendar:** If you have any parish events or meetings that you would like  
on the all-parish calendar that is posted in the breezeway please contact  
Maria Goade @ 539-5354 [wmgoade73@gmail.com](mailto:wmgoade73@gmail.com)

**Weekly Bulletin:** Please email Elida Fernández [secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com](mailto:secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com) by  
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS for information to be included in the upcoming Sunday  
bulletin. Elida can be reached at 509-318-0917

**Website:** To add or send information, pictures or news to the website please  
email Jaeniffer Kaiser @ [jaeniffer2002@hotmail.com](mailto:jaeniffer2002@hotmail.com)

**LIKE our Facebook** page to get updated posts and information about our parish. You can also  
see photos of all the activities that have been happening. If you want to post church happenings on  
Facebook, please email Onna Pollock at [olpollock@yahoo.com](mailto:olpollock@yahoo.com)

### UPCOMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDAR

#### Altar Flowers

July – Guadalupanas

August – Altar Society

#### NO CONFESSIONS

This Wednesday

@ St. Vincent Parish

#### Confession Schedule

@ St. Pat's –Pasco

Tuesday – Friday

5 pm – 6 pm

@ Sacred Heart- Othello

Wed. @ 5 pm

#### Connell Food Bank

Banco de Comida

Seniors: Tuesdays

3<sup>rd</sup> Edad- Tues. / Martes

June 27th

10:00 am – 11:30 am

General Public:

El público en general:

Wednesdays / Miércoles

June 28th

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

### Thank You for Your Generous Contributions

May 14, 2023

May 21, 2023

10:30 am - 1636.00

Bilingual- \$1460.00

12:00 pm – \$2871.71

12:00 pm – no Mass

Basin City – \$976.36

Basin City – \$1515.00

### HOG RAFFLE

#### BY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Tickets sold on Sundays after Mass

\$10 per ticket / \$50 per 6 tickets.

#### Registration for all Religious Ed

Registration began Tues. June 13<sup>th</sup>

All registration will be handled in the  
parish office with the secretary.

Any questions, please speak with

Enrique López – Coordinator Rel. Ed.

Elida Fernández – Parish Secretary

### ST. VINCENT PARISH PICNIC

Sunday July 16 12:30 – 1:30 BBQ

1:30 – 2:30 Games

**CHURCH PROVIDES:**

**HAMBURGERS / HOTDOGS**

**BUNS / CONDIMENTS**

**PAPER PRODUCTS / DRINKS**

**DESSERT / ICE CREAM CONES**

**PLEASE BRING**

**IF YOUR LAST NAME BEGINS WITH:**

**A-H: LARGE SALAD**

**I-P: PASTA SALAD**

**Q-Z: CHIPS & FRUIT**

**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN**

**LAWN CHAIRS, BLANKETS**

**See everyone at Pioneer Park after the**

**Bilingual Mass on July 16<sup>th</sup>.**

### FR. GUS'S SCHEDULE FOR 2 WEEKS:

June 25, 2023 – July 9, 2023

**Mon. June 26:**

Fr. Gus @ Spokane

**Fr. Gus is moving to Pasco this week,**

**there is NO adoration, daily Mass or**

**confessions this week.**

**Tues. June 27:**

No Confessions @ Eltopia

No Mass @ Eltopia

**Wed. June 28:**

No Adoration / Mass @ Connell

No Confessions @ Connell

**Thurs. June 29:**

No Adoration / Mass @ Eltopia

**Fri. June 30:**

8:00 am Mass @ Prison

No confessions @ Basin City

**Sat. July 1:**

7:00 pm Mass @ Basin City

**Sun. July 2: Mass**

8:00 am Mass @ Eltopia

10:30 am Mass @ Connell

12:00 pm Mass @ Connell

**Please Keep Fr. Gus in Our Prayers.**

**Mon. July 3:**

**Tues. July 4:**

**Wed. July 5:**

**Thurs. July 6:**

**Fri. July 7:**

**Sat. July 8:**

7:00 pm Mass @ Basin City

**Sun. July 9: Mass**

8:00 am Mass @ Eltopia

10:30 am Mass @ Connell

12:00 pm Mass @ Connell