



Assumption | Our Lady of the Lake | St. Bridget | St. Catherine of Siena

OUR PARISHES



ASSUMPTION

6201 33rd Avenue NE
Seattle, WA 98115
(206) 522-7674
assumptionseattle.com



OUR LADY OF THE LAKE

8900 35th Avenue NE
Seattle, WA 98115
(206) 523-6776
ollparishseattle.org



ST. BRIDGET

4900 NE 50th Street
Seattle, WA 98105
(206) 523-8787
stbridgetchurch.org



ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

814 NE 85th Street
Seattle, WA 98115
(206) 524-8800
stcatherineparish.net

DECEMBER 22 - 25, 2024 | THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF
ADVENT | CHRISTMAS EVE | CHRISTMAS DAY



The Nativity of the Lord



Assumption Catholic Church

(206) 522-7674

MASS TIMES

Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 9:00am | Sunday at 9:00am
Reconciliation: Friday at 9:30am

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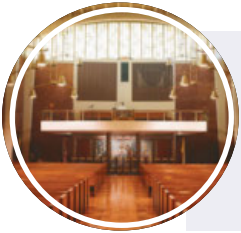
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FACILITIES SUPERVISOR

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CUSTODIAN

Kenny Kahaloa



Our Lady of the Lake

(206) 523-6776

MASS TIMES

Wednesday & Thursday at 9:00am | Saturday at 5:00pm
Sunday at 10:30am | Reconciliation: Saturday at 4:00pm

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St. Bridget Church

(206) 523-8787

MASS TIMES

Monday & Friday at 9:00am | Wednesday at 6:30pm | Sunday at 9:00am
Reconciliation: Wednesday at 5:30pm

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PAS. ASST. MUSIC & CONFIRMAT.

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PAS. ASST. ADULT FAITH FORM. & LITURGIES

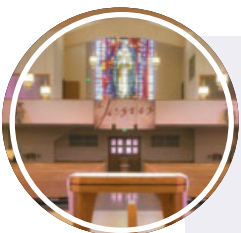
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St. Catherine of Siena Church

(206) 524-8800

MASS TIMES

Tuesday & Thursday at 9:00am | Saturday at 5:00pm
Sunday at 10:30am | Reconciliation: Saturday at 4:00pm

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03 | GET TO KNOW US

NE Seattle Catholic Community



NE Seattle Catholic Community All-Parish Family Clergy & Staff

PASTOR

Fr. William Heric
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PAROCHIAL VICAR

Fr. Duc Nguyen
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A REFLECTION BY FR. HERIC

Dear Friends in Christ,

This week begins the annual celebration of the birth of our **Savior, Jesus Christ**. It is another new beginning in our ongoing engagement with one of the core mysteries of our faith, that "God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but may have eternal life." (John 3:16) We celebrate the incarnation of God's love and peace in the person of Jesus, and through us his body the church, to everyone, everywhere, especially to those most troubled in our world near and far.



Growing up in the 1960s, I became an observer of **the Vietnam War**, where newscasts would daily report the number of casualties on all sides of the conflict. It was tragically several hundred a day. Each December 23-26, the sides would agree to what was called the "**Christmas ceasefire**," where all fighting and killing would stop until, sadly, they resumed a few days later. Call me naive, but I used to wonder why the ceasefire, named after the Prince of Peace, couldn't inspire an end to the war. It finally did in 1975, which led to, among other things, several waves of Vietnamese immigrants to the United States, including our own Fr. Duc Nguyen.

For all our differences and present-day conflicts, the church and the various cultures that make up our society must gather around a desire within every human heart, proclaimed by the angels at the birth of Christ: **Peace on the earth, goodwill toward all.** (Lk 2:14) Let it be...and let it begin with you and me!

A warm word of welcome to all who have joined us in our NE Seattle Catholic Community of parishes. You bless us with your presence and are always welcome to join us! A special word of welcome to **Fr. Paul Heric**, aka "Fr. Heric the Younger," who is helping us with some of our Christmas Masses.

On behalf of Fr. Duc, myself, and all our parish staff, we wish you a very merry and blessed Christmas and a happy New Year!

Blessings of Christ's peace and joy!

Fr. William Heric, Pastor

Holy Mary Mother of God...pray for us!

St. Bridget of Kildare...pray for us!

St. Catherine of Siena...pray for us!

Live Jesus in our hearts...forever!

A Gospel Reflection: Fourth Sunday in Advent

Luke 1:39-45

Mary's visit to Elizabeth is a beautiful moment of faith, joy, and divine recognition. Moved by love and the prompting of the Spirit, Mary sets out with haste, carrying the presence of Christ to Elizabeth's home. Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, immediately recognizes Mary's unique role in God's plan, proclaiming her blessed among women and acknowledging the divine child she bears.

The leaping of John in Elizabeth's womb signifies the profound joy and hope that accompany God's promises, even before they are fully realized. Mary's unwavering faith, trusting completely in God's word, reminds us of the importance of believing in His plan even in uncertainty.

This encounter between Mary and Elizabeth invites us to seek God's presence in our relationships, encouraging and celebrating His work in our lives and in the lives of others. It is a call to build a community of love, trust, and faith, united by the joy of God's promises fulfilled.

Mass Intentions

Our Mass celebrants will remember the following Intentions during the celebration of the Eucharist:

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23

9:00am | For the Parish † - AP & STB

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

9:00am | For the Parish † - STC

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

9:00am | For the Parish † - AP & OLL

6:30pm | For the Parish † - STB

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

9:00am | For the Parish † - OLL & STC

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

9:00am | For the Parish † - AP & STB

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

5:00pm | For the Parish † - OLL & STC

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

9:00am | For the Parish † - AP & STB

10:30am | For the parish † - OLL & STC



Readings for the week of December 22, 2024

Sunday:

Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/
Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Monday:

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10
and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Tuesday:

Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/
Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

Wednesday:

Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29
(2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or
1:18-25 *Night:* Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12,
13 (Lk 2:11)/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/
Lk 2:15-20 *Day:* Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/
Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/Jn 1:1-18
or 1:1-5, 9-14

Thursday:

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6
and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Friday:

1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97: 1-2, 5-6, 11-12/
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Saturday:

1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8/
Mt 2:13-18

Next Sunday:

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10
(see 5a)/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Prayer Corner

Please pray for those who are ill:

Molly Anton
(Cousin of Pat Lass)

Rose Buckingham

Ryan Corr
(Son of Pat and Jean)

Lorene Davidson

Fr. Oliver Duggan

Robert Earhart

John Ernest

Linda Fredericks

Mary Gibson

Greg Lambert

Kay LaPorte

Lily LaPorte

Daisy Lu

Jim McFarland
Mary Moore
Patrick Mulvihill
Bryan Perez Ramos
Marianne Roulet
Fr. Tim Sauer
Catherine Scott



05 | COMMUNITY LIFE

NE Seattle Catholic Community

Get Involved in Our Ministries!

Book Club

@ASSUMPTION

Join us on Tuesday, January 21st at 7:00 PM in the Cabrini Room for a lively discussion on *How to Winter* by Kari Leibowitz. Explore practical insights and strategies to embrace the colder months with a positive mindset. All are welcome—bring a friend and your favorite winter-inspired beverage!

Bible Study

TUESDAY @9:30AM - OLL

TUESDAY @ 6:30PM - STC

Looking to grow in faith and connect with others? Join us for a welcoming time of reflection and discussion. Whether you're new to Scripture or experienced, there's always something to discover. Come as you are—we'd love to have you with us!

Finding Peace During Advent & Lent

Offered by The Social Justice Ministry of the NECC

The season of Advent is filled with preparation and holiday busyness. It is easy to lose focus on the calm of Advent as we await the Prince of Peace. During December, we feature voices from our NE Parish Family that tell us how moments of peace come to them.

~ I feel peace when I see my kids volunteering to provide for others. Anon.

~ Peace comes to me when the last guest has gone, the dishes are done and I turn off the lights, thanking God for this raucous family. Mary Kay

Coffee Hour Help Needed

SUNDAYS @9:00AM - AP & STB

SUNDAYS @10:30AM - OLL & STC

Help us foster community by volunteering for Coffee Hour after Mass. It's a fun way to connect, serve, and share hospitality with others. We need friendly faces to set up, serve, and clean up. If you're interested, please reach out to your parish office.

Young Adult Group

TBD

We're thrilled to announce the start of a new Young Adult Group for those aged 21-39! This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with peers, grow in faith, and build lasting friendships. Whether you're single, married, or somewhere in between, all are welcome! For more details, please contact Gabriela at [seattle.gabriela@gmail.com](mailto:gabriela@gmail.com) or your parish office. Let's grow together!

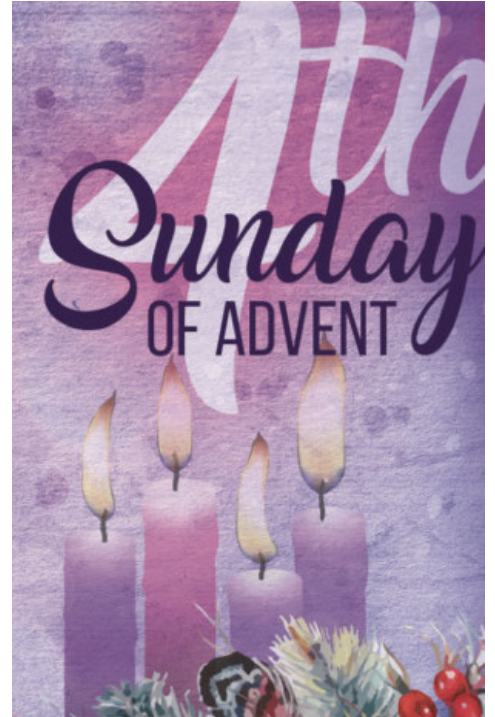


~ When I remember Mary during the busy Advent season, I can feel peace. Anon.

How do YOU feel or experience peace during Advent?

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. Ephesians 4:3

Offered by The Social Justice Ministry of the NE Catholic Community.



Phoebe Circle, Please Join

Since May of 2023, our group has been meeting to lift up the voices of women in our church by providing reflections at Mass and highlighting women's roles in our church. St. Phoebe, a deacon in the early church, is our inspiration. We spend time in prayer, reflection, and fellowship and would love to have you join us. Our next regular meeting will be on January 7th at 7 pm in Jubilee Hall and will continue on the first Tuesday of the month after that. If you have questions or would like to join our group, please email Liz Jackman at elizabeth.ann.jackman@gmail.com.

Welcome!

FAQs For New and Returning Catholics

Are you considering coming back to Mass after a long time away or stepping into church for the first time in years? We know it can feel a bit intimidating, but we're here to make it easy. Whether it's been a few months, years, or even decades, you're welcome here—no questions asked. Below, we've answered some common concerns to help you feel at home.

WILL THE PRIEST ASK ME WHERE I'VE BEEN ALL THESE YEARS?

No! You won't be interrogated or made to feel uncomfortable. The focus is on welcoming you back and helping you feel at ease. We're just happy you're here.

I'VE BEEN OUT OF MASS SO LONG, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.

Don't worry! Many people feel the same way. You can follow along with others or simply observe. You'll get the hang of it over time, and no one will be watching or judging.

HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO DRESS?

Come as you are. Some people dress up, and others dress casually. The important thing is that you're here.

CAN I EAT BEFOREHAND

It's fine to eat before Mass. If you're planning to receive Communion, traditional practice asks for a one-hour fast, but this is not a requirement for everyone.

CAN I TAKE COFFEE INTO THE CHURCH

We ask that food and drinks, including coffee, stay outside the church to maintain reverence in the sacred space. However, some churches may have designated gathering areas for coffee before or after Mass.

WILL I HAVE TO GO TO CONFESSION?

Confession is encouraged but not required to attend Mass. If you'd like to receive Communion and haven't been to confession in a while, the priest can guide you, but no pressure!

CAN I TAKE COMMUNION?

All baptized Catholics who have made their first communion are welcome to receive communion. If you do not feel comfortable or are not Roman Catholic, we are so very glad you are with us. We invite you to come forward, simply cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing, so that you might be in spiritual communion with us.



OCIA/OCIC

JOURNEY OF FAITH: WELCOMING OUR NEW CATECHUMENS AND CANDIDATE

We recently celebrated a joyful milestone in our parish community with the **Rite of Acceptance**, officially welcoming 18 catechumens and a candidate into the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults and Children (OCIA/OCIC). These individuals, guided by the Holy Spirit, have taken the first steps in their journey of discernment and preparation to fully enter the Catholic faith. It was a moving moment as they expressed their desire to grow closer to God and embrace a life enriched by the sacraments, prayer, and community.

Are you or someone you know feeling called to explore the Catholic faith? OCIA/OCIC offers a welcoming journey to deepen your faith and prepare for full participation in the Church. Whether unbaptized, baptized in another tradition, or seeking full initiation, this is your opportunity to grow closer to Christ.

If you've been longing for something more, take this as your invitation! Discover the beauty of the Catholic faith with a supportive community by your side. For more information or to begin your journey, contact **Alex Chopyak - alex@stbridgetchurch.org**. We can't wait to welcome you!

Why Belonging to a Parish Matters

Registering with a parish means joining a spiritual family where you can grow in faith, receive pastoral care, and find opportunities to serve. It connects you to a supportive community, keeps you informed about parish life, and helps sustain the Church's mission.

Visit your home parish website to register today and become part of our vibrant faith community!

Assumption



OLL



St. Bridget



St. Catherine



07 | GROWING YOUR FAITH

NE Seattle Catholic Community

Finding Your Place in Our NE Seattle Catholic Community

NEW HERE?

Are you new to our parish? Welcome! Whether you've recently joined or have been considering becoming a part of our vibrant Catholic community, we are so glad you're here. Being new can feel overwhelming, but you're not alone—we are here to walk with you as you discover your place among us.

Our NE Seattle Catholic Community is part of a four-parish family that includes **Assumption, Our Lady of the Lake, St. Bridget, and St. Catherine of Siena**.

Together, we strive to grow in faith, build relationships, and serve our neighbors. With so many opportunities to get involved, there is truly something for everyone here.

Grow your Faith

Your spiritual journey is at the heart of our community. We offer engaging Bible Studies that welcome people of all ages and levels of experience, as well as Children's Church programs that inspire the youngest members of our parish family. For those who feel called to serve during Mass, consider becoming an Altar Server, a Eucharistic Minister, or a Lector. These roles are beautiful ways to

actively participate in worship and bring the liturgy to life.

Connect and Build Community

Faith flourishes when shared with others. Our new Young Adults group offers meaningful connections for those seeking fellowship and faith-sharing in this unique stage of life. Looking for a little adventure? Our Hiking Group combines the beauty of God's creation with opportunities for fun and friendship. We offer a large variety of ministries to connect you to others.

Help Others

Faith in action is central to our mission. Join us in serving the unhoused through outreach programs that provide food, clothing, and compassion to our neighbors in need. Whether you feel called to organize, volunteer, or simply offer your support, your contributions make a real impact.

Be Seen

Our community is a place where everyone is valued, known, and loved. No matter where you are in your faith journey or what your interests are, there is a place for you here. Whether you're looking

to participate in social events, small groups, or ministries, you'll find plenty of opportunities to be seen and to see Christ in others.

Take the Next Step

We invite you to explore these opportunities and discover how you can get involved. Whether it's through growing your faith, connecting with others, serving the community, or simply showing up, you'll find your place here. For more information, visit our website, stop by the parish office, or reach out to any of our ministry leaders after Mass.

You belong here. Welcome to **Assumption, Our Lady of the Lake, St. Bridget, and St. Catherine of Siena**—together, our NE Seattle Catholic Community can't wait to see how you'll make it even brighter!



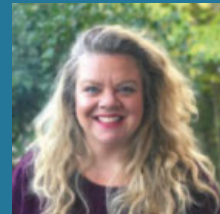
Staff Spotlight

MEET TORRIE SMITH, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Meet Torrie Smith, our powerhouse Director of Operations! Torrie has been an integral part of our community for years, serving as the PAA at Our Lady of the Lake for almost eight years before transitioning into her new role this past July.

Since stepping into this position, Torrie has been a force to be reckoned with, ensuring our parish family thrives. From spearheading facility updates across our campuses to onboarding new employees and streamlining operations for our NE Seattle Catholic community, Torrie truly knows how to get things done.

We're incredibly grateful for Torrie's dedication and leadership—she's setting a fantastic foundation for the future of our parish family!



Serving Our Neighbors in Need - 2024

ASSUMPTION & ST. BRIDGET, OUR LADY OF THE LAKE AND ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CONFERENCES

The St. Vincent de Paul Conferences in our new parish family have been actively serving our neighbors-in-need throughout the year. Thanksgiving and Christmas contributions from parishioners enabled us to provide for nearly 100 families in our four-parish group. This is a genuine outpouring of love for our neighbors and a faithful prayer of thanks for what we have been given.

We were also able to help with the ongoing and varied needs of our neighbors; a few are highlighted in these brief sketches:

- A family with a child being treated at Children's Hospital, who asked for winter clothes and shoes for their son.
- An older neighbor who, in addition to asking for food, told us her birthday was coming up and that she wanted to get something to wear. We were able to help her with a Goodwill gift card.
- A neighbor who asked for a bed and a couch. One of our conference members asked around among friends, found a good couch, and had it delivered to the neighbor's home. The neighbor was happy with the couch and asked us to cancel the bed order.
- A neighbor with a large back rent bill that the \$400 we could offer was not enough to offset. He decided to sell his car to pay the entire rent and asked us to use the \$400 to help someone else.

How You Can Help:

- + Please consider a monetary donation through your home parish's website or weekly collections at Mass.
- + Food pantry donations can be dropped off per your home parish's instructions.
- + If you'd like to volunteer as a SVdP member, please consult your home parish's website to identify the leader for your conference.

Serving our Neighbors in Need - 2024

Combined Conference Assistance from October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024:

Neighbor Contacts: 1,256

Total People Helped: 3,469



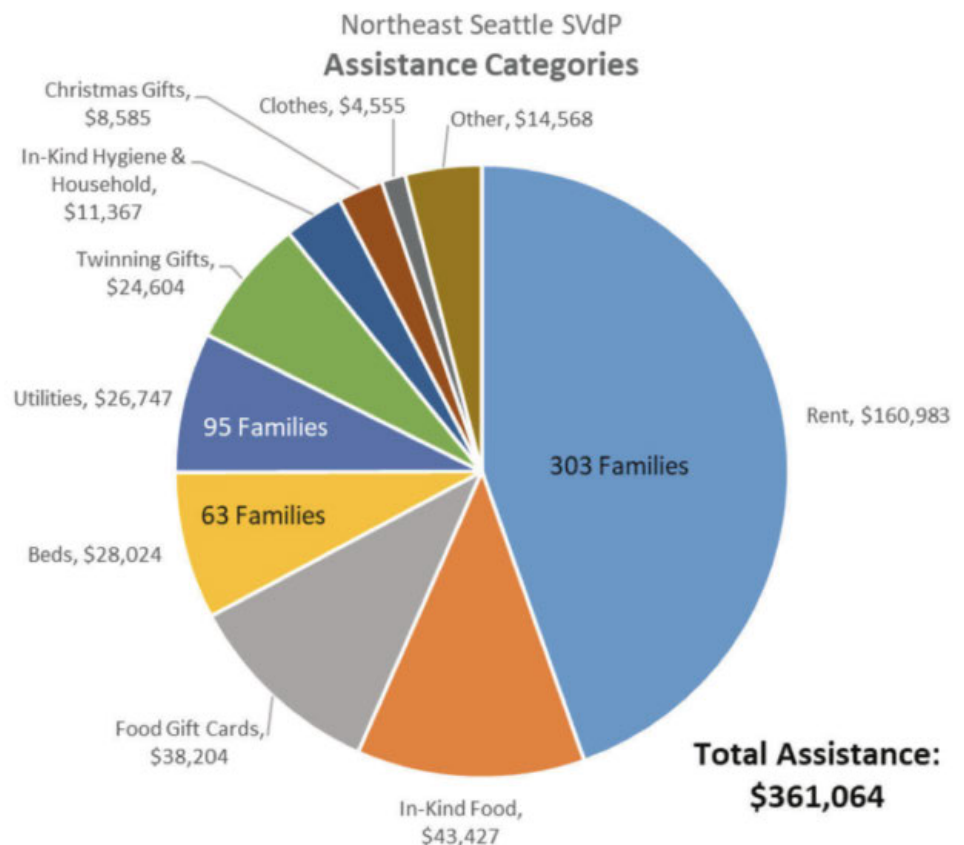
SVDP Needs

ALL PARISH

Support our community! Donate non-perishable food for SVDP at any church location. Check The Weekly Word for specific items needed. Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you for caring for our neighbors by stocking our pantry.

Note: Please do not donate food that is past the "use by" date as we cannot give this to neighbors.



09 | ENCOUNTERING THE DIVINE

NE Seattle Catholic Community

The Power and Beauty of Praying the Rosary

THE ROLE OF MARY IN THE ROSARY

The rosary is one of the most cherished prayers in the Catholic tradition, a spiritual practice that has withstood the test of time and remains a source of deep solace and connection to God. Whether you are a lifelong devotee or new to the practice, the rosary offers a unique opportunity to center your heart, reflect on the mysteries of Christ's life, and find peace amid the chaos of daily living.

A Pathway to Reflection and Grace

At its core, the rosary is much more than a sequence of prayers. It's a meditative journey through the life of Jesus and the loving presence of Mary. Each decade invites us to pause, reflect, and deepen our relationship with God. As we pray the Hail Marys, our hearts align with Mary's own, as she points us toward her Son. Through the mysteries—Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious, and Luminous—we come face-to-face with the beauty and challenges of salvation history.

The rhythmic repetition of the prayers provides a soothing cadence that can calm our minds and open our souls. In a world that is often

overwhelming, the rosary serves as an anchor, helping us to focus on God's presence and promises.

A Prayer for All Seasons

The rosary is a prayer for everyone. You can pray it alone, allowing for a quiet and personal moment of reflection. It can also be prayed with others, creating a powerful sense of community and shared faith. It's a prayer that meets you where you are—whether you're seeking comfort, offering thanksgiving, or interceding for the needs of others.

No matter your walk of life, the rosary is accessible. It doesn't require fancy words or deep theological understanding. All it asks is a willing heart and a few moments of your day. It's a way to invite Mary's guidance into your life and allow her maternal care to lead you closer to Christ.

Join Us in Prayer

If you've ever wondered about the power of the rosary, there's no better time to experience it for yourself. Here in our NE Seattle Catholic Community, we have several opportunities to come together in prayer:

- **Wednesdays at 10:00 AM at Our Lady of the Lake**
- **Wednesdays at 5:30 PM at St. Bridget**
- **Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30 AM at St. Catherine**

Whether you're seasoned in praying the rosary or trying it for the first time, you are welcome to join us. These gatherings offer a chance to connect with others, deepen your faith, and experience the strength and peace that come from this treasured devotion.

Let's come together and allow the rosary to illuminate our hearts and lives with the love of Christ and His Blessed Mother. We look forward to praying with you!



Adoration

WHAT IS ADORATION IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

Adoration is a time of prayer and reflection in the presence of Jesus Christ, truly present in the Eucharist. The Blessed Sacrament is displayed in a sacred vessel called a monstrance, inviting us to encounter Christ in a personal and peaceful way. Whether through silent prayer, reading Scripture, or simply sitting quietly, Adoration offers an opportunity to grow in faith and deepen your relationship with the Lord.

Join Us!

We invite you to experience the peace and beauty of Adoration every **Monday from 3:00 PM to 10:00 PM at St. Bridget Church**. Come for a few moments or stay as long as you can. Spend time with Jesus—He is waiting for you!

OUTREACH & UPCOMING EVENTS | 10

December 22-25, 2024 | The Fourth Sunday of Advent | Christmas Eve | Christmas Day

Tent City 4 Support Needed

Jan., Feb., March, 2025

All Parish

The NE Seattle Catholic churches provide dinner for 70 homeless adults at Tent City 4 in Lake City on the first Sunday of each month. Join us in supporting the first meals of 2025 on **Sun., Jan. 5, Feb. 2, and Mar. 2.**

Sign up by scanning the QR code or going to the link: <https://tinyurl.com/TentCity4-Meal-Signup> to bring a dish (meat, side, salad, or dessert) and deliver it to Tent City near Seattle Mennonite Church by 6 PM. Families can also sponsor a full meal by emailing tc4@sharewheel.org and selecting a date <https://www.sharewheel.org/tent-city-4>.



TENT CITY 4 IN LAKE CITY
Now you can help

Approximately
70
ADULTS & FAMILIES

SIGN UP TO HELP PREPARE AND DELIVER MEALS
JAN. 5, FEB. 2, MARCH 2, 2025!

<https://tinyurl.com/TentCity4-Meal-Signup>
OR CALL THE OLL PARISH OFFICE AT (206) 523-6776 OR SCAN THE QR CODE

JOIN US IN SUPPORTING TENT CITY 4
Monthly Supper for Homeless Families

The four NE Seattle Catholic parishes in our parish family have committed to providing dinner to 70 homeless adults and children at Tent City 4 in Lake City on the first Sunday of the month in 2025. The next date is Sun., Jan. 5, followed by Feb. 2, and March 2. Simply deliver a disposable container of meat, side dish, salad, or dessert to Tent City near the Seattle Mennonite Church at 6 PM. To donate cash or other needed supplies, go to the Tent City 4 website: [ShareWheel.org/tent-city-4](https://www.sharewheel.org/tent-city-4). Let's be super generous and fill up all the slots quickly!

About Tent City 4
Tent City 4, managed by SHARE/WHEEL, offers temporary housing for up to 100 homeless individuals and families. It is a self-managed, sober, and nonviolent community with 24/7 security, daily litter patrols, and trash removal.

3212 NE 125TH ST - SEATTLE - NEAR THE SEATTLE MENNONITE CHURCH IN LAKE CITY - UNTIL MAY 2025



Baptism Prep

We're here to help

Parents of infants and children under 7, we would love to help you prepare for and celebrate your child's baptism. Expecting? It is never too early to plan!

Please contact Debra Ricard for more information:
dricard@neseattlecatholic.org

Esperanza Summer 2025

KICK OFF MEETING

Mark your calendars! Tell the current high school sophomores and juniors in your lives that the Esperanza 2025 Summer Service Trip kick off meeting is **Saturday January 11th @ 6:00PM in Victoria Hall, aka, the St Catherine gym.**

The trip to Tijuana takes place July 27 - August 2nd. We will discuss the details of the trip and plan our community building and fundraising.

For questions, contact Katie Fleming kjfleming1239@gmail.com or 206-354-5161.

To learn more about the work we will be doing check out www.EsperanzaInt.org

What is the Partners in the Gospel?

**A New Path Forward for
Western WA Catholics**
**ASSUMPTION | OLL | ST. BRIDGET
| ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA**

On July 1, 2024, the Archdiocese of Seattle undertook a significant transformation, restructuring its 136 parishes into 60 parish families, along with eight independent parishes. Each parish family is led by a pastor or pastoral coordinator, with many also having a parochial vicar to assist. Over the next three years, these parish families will work together to form a single canonical parish while reimagining how to best serve their communities.

Partners in the Gospel represents the next phase of the Archdiocese's strategic pastoral planning. This initiative is designed to revitalize and strengthen the local Catholic Church by grouping parishes into families of



two or more. Through collaboration, pastors, leaders, and parishioners within these families will determine how to unite as one parish and fulfill the Church's mission.

Why is Partners in the Gospel Needed?

The Church today faces challenges that impact parish life, including shifting demographics, limited resources, and the need to adapt to changing times. Partners in the Gospel addresses these realities by fostering vibrant, sustainable, and mission-driven parish communities. This effort ensures the Archdiocese of Seattle can remain a thriving, united Church into the future. Please visit <https://archseattle.org/partners/> for more information.

11 | COMMUNITY LIFE

NE Seattle Catholic Community

Movie Night Benefit!

Cabrini: A Story of Faith and Courage

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Mark your calendars to come to OLL Jubilee Hall on **Sunday, January 12, 2:30 - 5:30 PM**, to enjoy a showing of the film, "Cabrini." Admission is free. A free will offering will be taken up to support the Rivera Family. Refreshments will be served.



Holiday Office Closure Notice

DECEMBER 24 - 27

All parish offices will be closed from **Tuesday, December 24, through Friday, December 27**. Regular office hours will resume on Monday, December 30. Additionally, the parish office will be closed on **Wednesday, January 1**, in observance of New Year's Day. Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful and blessed Christmas and New Year!

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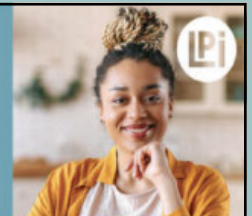
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