



SACRED HEART PARISH

Third Sunday of Advent
December 13, 2015



Advent Reconciliation

Prepare your hearts for the Christmas Feasts by joining your fellow parishioners for our Advent Reconciliation Service.

We will have several priests available for individual confessions.

December 15th, Tuesday, 7:00 pm

COME IN AND REST A WHILE!

Just a reminder that our church doors are now open through the work-week from 7:30 am until 4:00 pm. Please know that you are always welcome to come and pray in our beautiful parish home.

This Christmas season your support brings **HOPE & DIGNITY** to our brothers & sisters in need. In 2014, 113,417 meals were served, 2899 seniors assisted, 700 families provided household goods, 433 families avoided homelessness, 3369 counseling hours provided...and so much more. Over 70,000 individuals served each year.

A gift to the **Catholic Charities Christmas Collection** matters. Donation brochures are available in the back of the church. Gifts may be mailed to: PO Box 2253, Spokane, WA 99210-2253 or made online at www.CatholicCharitiesSpokane.org.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES CHRISTMAS COLLECTION
Providing Help. Restoring Hope. Saving Lives.

Providing Help, Restoring Hope, Saving Lives

Single? Catholic?

Join Catholic Singles Mingle on Sunday, Dec. 20, @ 5:00 at St. Joseph Church in Otis Orchards in the reception hall for Potluck/Christmas Party/Gift Exchange. Bring dish to share along with a wrapped present (\$5 to \$10.). RSVP required at (509) 226-1380 or www.meetup.com/Catholic-Singles-Mingle.



Mass Intentions This Week

SAT, Dec 12- 5:00 p.m. People of the Parish
SUN, Dec 13- 10:00 a.m. +Richard Treloar by Patrick & Joan Freuen

WEEKDAY MASSES—7:30 A.M.

TUES, Dec 15 +Bob Lamp by Shirley Birchak & Joan Flaherty
WEDS, Dec 16 +Bobby Wilks by Mike & Mary Alward
THURS, Dec 17 +Rev. Emery Blanchard by Irene Dufort
FRI, Dec 18 +Mike Wirth by Joan Flaherty

Is there illness or special needs in your family? Our community prayer chain looks forward to praying for you. Send your request to Judy Felgenhauer, jfelgen@comcast.net.

Adult Faith Sharing Group

We meet every Sunday at 8:45 a.m. in the downstairs classroom at the north end of the Parish Center.



Our Parish Sacrificial Offerings This Week:

Envelope & Plate Offering: \$ 4,463.00
Outreach: \$ 25.00
Children: \$ 1.06



In order to meet our 2015-16 budget, an average weekly collection of \$5,713.00 is needed. Thank you so much!

NEW TO SACRED HEART PARISH? WELCOME! We look forward to getting to know you! Please return this form to the parish office or e-mail the information to: shparish@qwestoffice.net.

Name: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Home Tel: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____

CHRISTMAS SEASON LITURGIES

Mark your calendars now for the upcoming Christmas feasts and celebrations at Sacred Heart Parish:



- December 15, 7:00 pm: Advent Reconciliation Service
(including First Reconciliation for the parish children)
- December 24 4:00 pm, Family Mass
8:00 pm, Christmas Vigil Mass
(Incense will be used at the 8:00 pm liturgy.)
- December 25 10:00 am, Christmas Morning Mass
- December 26 5:00 pm, Holy Family Sunday Mass
- December 27 10:00 am, Holy Family Sunday Mass
- December 31 7:00 pm, Solemnity of Mary Mass
- January 1 10:00 am, Solemnity of Mary Mass

An Evening with St. Nick

Please join our parish communities at Cataldo Catholic School's **An Evening with St. Nick** event in the school gym on **Monday, December 21st at 5:30 pm.**

Come sit at one of our "gathering tables" to string garland and put together ornaments to decorate our community tree which will be placed by Catholic Charities after our event. Help the children make cards to be delivered to the Veteran's Home or just sit and relax while you enjoy a cup of Christmas tea or hot cocoa.



The young and young-at-heart will enjoy Santa's arrival, lighting of our tree and reading of **'Twas the Night Before Christmas** as we remember that many of our American customs all began with St. Nicholas whose faithfulness and devotion led to extraordinary acts of kindness and generosity.



Rediscover Your Marriage

Retrouvaille simply means "rediscovery". The program offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. Retrouvaille is not a spiritual retreat, not a sensitivity group, not a seminar, not a social gathering. Retrouvaille is for any couple who would like to rediscover their marriage and improve communication.

For confidential information or to register for the February 12-14, 2016 Spokane weekend call (800) 470-2230 or visit the web site at www.Retrouvaille.org.



Southside Catholic Youth Ministry

Join us for upcoming events!

All events will take place in the Youth Room at St. Augustine's Parish building unless otherwise noted.

- December 13—Senior High Night 7:00-8:15 PM
- December 19-- Christmas Bureau, 9:00-12:00 or 12:00-3:00 (or both!)
RSVP to Paul by December 12
- December 20 —Christmas Break NO YOUTH GROUP
- For more information, please contact **Paul Macias** at pmacias@dioceseofspokane.org or 509-251-5818

A Word from Father...

Dear Friends,

We are now well into the Advent season and its signs, sounds, and even its smells (I love the pitchy aroma of the evergreen wreath!) have settled into our spiritual consciousness and lead us to prayerful expectation of the great feast to come, the Lord's Nativity.



Among the "sounds of the season" is the great old hymn, *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*. More than any other, at least to me, it is THE song of Advent-time. What most people don't know is that it actually has a deep history going back probably to the sixth century; actually it is a fairly modern version of what in liturgical circles are called the "**O Antiphons**".

The O Antiphons are a series of brief acclamations prayed before and after the praying of the Magnificat in Vespers, the Church's Evening Prayer. They begin on December 17th, nine days before Christmas and besides being set to extraordinarily beautiful chant melodies, capture the growing hope and expectation of the people of God as they await God's saving initiative. This is the series:

December 17: O Sapientia (O Wisdom)

December 18: O Adonai (O Lord)

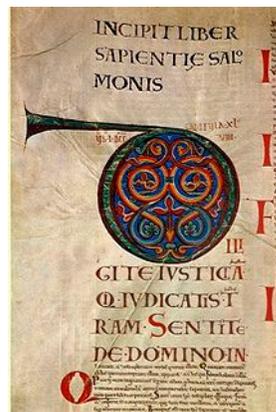
December 19: O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse)

December 20: O Clavis David (O Key of David)

December 21: O Oriens (O Dayspring)

December 22: O Rex Gentium (O King of the nations)

December 23: O Emmanuel (O With Us is God)



Each actual *O Antiphon* is, of course, longer than just the title for the Lord. For example, the first one, *O Sapientia*, continues:

O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High, reaching from one end to the other, mightily and sweetly ordering all things: Come and teach us the way of prudence!

(The image to the left is an medieval illumination of the *O Sapientia* antiphon).

The final *O Antiphon* and the most important of them all is: *O Emmanuel*, the hope of the nations and their Saviour: *Come and save us, O Lord our God.*

As if in answer to our appeal to God to come to us under each of these titles, the first letter of each *O Antiphon* when lined up in reverse order spells back the Latin phrase, "*Ero Cras*" which translates: "*Tomorrow, I will be there!*"

Let us continue our pilgrimage through these Advent days, and especially the in the more intense days marked by the *O Antiphons* beginning on December 17th, with our heads high, our eyes open, and our hearts prepared for in answer to our pleas, the Lord responds:

Ero Cras! Tomorrow, I will be there!

Fr. Kevin