

Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Bellingham, WA.

First Sunday Of Advent

At the beginning of this new liturgical year, Jesus reminds us to "Be Watchful! Be alert!" The Latin that is used is "*videte*" and "*vigilate*." In our present time, we usually connect these words with the word "*vigilante*." I don't know about you, but "*vigilante*" has a distasteful connotation to it. It relates a watchfulness for dangerous or harmful things. As necessary as this watchfulness is for the preservation of life, this is not the meaning that Jesus wishes to emphasize. Jesus wants us to watch for the good that is coming. To miss this good is the dangerous part.

As much as we all dislike the word "*vigilante*," our lives are preoccupied with it. There is much talk and writing about the dooms and glooms of our present time. Human interactions are riddled with "*vigilante*" attitudes. We notice the dangers and the flaws in one another more than not. Jesus wants to remind us to look for the good and the virtues that are around us. To miss the good is not only dangerous, but truly sad.

Fr. Qui-Thac Nguyen



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will begin Friday, December 5, after the 12:10 p.m. Mass, and will end with Benediction on Saturday, November 6, at 8:25 a.m. in the Winter Chapel. Mass will follow at 8:30 a.m. in the Church.

"Our communal worship at Mass must go together with our personal worship of Jesus in Eucharistic adoration in order that our love may be complete." (Pope John Paul II, Redeemer of Man)

The Stewardship of St. Paul

"[The Lord] said to me. *'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'*" St. Paul 2 Cor 12:9

Here is the good news! No matter how imperfect we are, God is able to put us to good use!

God gave Paul the weakness of physical pain, given as a gift to help Paul rely totally on Him and not on his own capability. Paul's gift of weakness made him strong!

So it can be with our own weaknesses. We know God desires that we live our lives as Disciples of Christ - as true Christian Stewards.

Let us praise the Lord for our weakness and trust Him continually as we embrace Stewardship as our *way of life!*

Carmelite Institute of Spirituality

There will be a Day of Recollection on: December 13, 2008 and January 24, 2009.

The Presenter is Fr. Colm Stone OCD. Location 27008 78th Avenue NW. Stanwood.

Time: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Suggested donation is \$15-20. Bring a sack lunch. Coffee and tea provided. Any questions, please call 360-629-4032.



Our pro-life work is not only a matter of telling the truth about abortion; it's also a matter of working to change public policy so the laws of our country will never allow the killing of innocent human life again.

Catholic Men's Group

Come and grow in your faith as a Catholic man of God. A new men's group is forming geared toward men ages 25-45. A first meeting is scheduled for Dec. 10th at 7:30 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Library. (St. Augustine Room). Snacks will be provided. Regularly scheduled meetings will be held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month beginning in January. Contact Tim Clark for more information 393-4074.

Friends of Debra Black

Friends of Debra Black have organized a dinner and auction fundraiser to be held on Friday, December 5 at 5:00 p.m. in Shaughnessy Hall. Proceeds will help with her medical expenses. For more information please contact Pete and Vickie Pilch at 671-0427, or Barbara Haddad at 734-4225. Thank you for your help and support.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: Marriage Encounter is the most successful and dynamic marriage enrichment experience in the world today! Upcoming weekend dates are March 27-29 and June 19-21, 2009. For more information and registration, please call Mike and Kay Gougeon, 671-6955.

2009 Sunday Missals

The 2009 Sunday Missals are available for purchase in the Parish Office for \$3.00 each.

Bellingham Food Bank

Thank you to all the parishioners who donated to the Bellingham Food Bank. Between Oct. 27-Nov. 16; 112 pounds of food was delivered to the Food Bank to help the poor in our community.

November 29 & November 30

First Sunday Of Advent

Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2b-7, 1 Cor 1:3-9, Gospel: (Mark 13:33-37)

Nov. 30	8:30 a.m. Mass	Church
Sun.	9:45 a.m. Coffee Hour	Parish Hall
	Advent Wreath Making	Parish Hall
	11:00 a.m. Mass	Church
	12:15 p.m. Bible Study	St. Augustine
	6:00 p.m. SALT	Upper Room/Assumption

Gospel: (Matthew 8:5-11)

Dec. 1	No Mass	
Mon.	7:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul	St. Nicholas
	7:00 p.m. EDGE	Assumption Gym

Gospel: (Luke 10:21-24)

Dec. 2	12:10 p.m. Lectio Divina	Winter Chapel
Tues.	1:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry	St. Nicholas
	5:15 p.m. Reconciliation	Church
	6:00 p.m. Mass (Geraldine Walsh) (+)	Church
	7:00 p.m. Theology of the Body	Parish Hall

Francis Xavier, priest, Gospel:(Matthew 15:29-37)

Dec. 3	11:15 a.m. Reconciliation	Church
Wed.	12:10 p.m. Mass Fr. Richard Roach S.J. (+)	Church
	7:00 p.m. 8:30-Choir Practice	Church
	7:00 p.m. Pax Christi	St. Augustine

John of Damascus, priest, doctor, Gospel: (Matt 7:21, 24-27)

Dec. 4	10:00 a.m. Parish Nurse	Parish Center
Thurs.	11:15 a.m. Reconciliation	Church
	12:10 p.m. Mass (Ruth Montag) (+)	Church
	7:00 p.m. Theology of the Body	Parish Hall

Gospel: (Matthew 9:27-31)

Dec. 5	11:15 a.m. Reconciliation	Church
Fri.	12:10 p.m. Mass (Mark Schmitt) (+)	Church
	1:00 p.m. Adoration	Winter Chapel
	1:10 p.m. First Friday Luncheon	Parish Hall

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11, 2 Peter 3:8-14, Gospel: (Mark 1:1-8)

Dec. 6	8:30 a.m. Mass	Winter Chapel
Sat.	3:30 p.m. Reconciliation	Church
	5:00 p.m. Mass	Church
	7:00 p.m. Christmas Music Program	Church

The

Second Sunday Of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11, 2 Peter 3:8-14, Gospel: (Mark 1:1-8)

Dec. 7	8:30 a.m. Mass	Church
Sun.	9:45 a.m. RE/First Rec./First Comm.	Parish Center
	9:45 a.m. Mexico Pancake Breakfast	Parish Hall
	11:00 a.m. Mass	Church
	12:00 p.m. Mexico Pancake Breakfast	Parish Hall
	12:15 p.m. Bible Study	St. Augustine
	6:00 p.m. SALT	Upper Room/Assumption

Assumption Catholic School News

"The Velveteen Rabbit": December 4, 7:00 p.m., Bellingham Theatre Guild's production of "The Velveteen Rabbit." Come see five of our students perform and support our school. Tickets are available at the school office.

Registration for 2008-09: Call Assumption Catholic school (733-6133) for a tour and a meeting with the principal.

School Office Hours: 7:30-3:30 Monday - Friday.

Lots of Thank-Yous this weekend as we move into the Advent Season.

Thank you to all Liturgical Ministers for your service at the Most Holy Mass. We believe as Catholics that the Eucharist is the Source and Summit of our lives as Catholics. The sacrifices you make to serve our community is received with joy. This weekend we acknowledge your service and commission you as we enter a new liturgical year.

Thank you to Religious Education Catechists and Parents. We are not meeting in classes this weekend, but please do come to the Parish Hall for wreath making between the 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Masses.

Thank you to Zachary, Joseph, and Peter Adams and their parents, Tim and Bridget for leading the charge in changing out the old Breaking Bread Hymnals with the new. Thanks also to Dick Winchip, Tim Clark, and Alain Salomon. And we can't forget our youngest volunteer, Hannah Clark who boxed many of the old Hymnals with great dedication! For all others who pitched in, thank you! You made a big job unfold quickly!

Thank you to all who brought greens for our wreath making. In particular, thank you to Doug Campbell for bringing such beautiful and plentiful boughs for this weekend!

Book Drive: The book drive organized by Danny Gibson, Assumption parishioner, for his Eagle Scout project is underway. He is working with the local nonprofit "Books to Prisoners," collecting books written in, or that teach, the Spanish language. A donation bin will be located in the vestibule through December 14. If you have any questions about this project, Danny can be contacted at (360) 733-0291.

Sacred Heart's Stewardship Gift Corner

November 22 & 23, 2008

Envelopes (158)	\$	5,627.15
Visitors	\$	516.35
Children (1)	\$	1.00
Total Sunday Income	\$	6,144.50
Weekly Budget Need	\$	8,097.11
Holy Day	\$	35.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	230.00
Building & Grounds	\$	32.00
Assumption School	\$	10.00

2009 Stewardship Update

Thank you to all who have responded to God's call by returning your Stewardship time, talent and treasure commitment cards. We are able to plan next year's programs based on your commitment pledge. For all those who are prayerfully considering their commitment, cards may be returned with the Sunday collection or mailed to the Parish Office.