

Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Bellingham, WA.

Fourth Sunday Of Advent

Smile, Jesus loves you! I saw a young woman wearing this t-shirt the last time I was in Barnes & Noble. As we celebrate the birth of Christ at Christmas, we all have a reason to smile: Jesus is Emmanuel, God is with us! You may not agree with this exhortation for all sorts of reasons. It may be that the world is less than the ideal. You may be suffering from an illness. Your spouse, a child, or a relative is estranged from you. You are depressed. I know, there are countless reasons not to smile. The main challenge of life is to move beyond our vision of the world to God's vision. At Christmas, we get a glimpse of our world from God's perspective.

There are a number of places that I would visit at the drop of a hat: California and Edmonds where my nieces and nephew live, St. Martin monastery, my parents home and my friends homes. Why do I like these places so much? Because I find the people at these places beautiful. If I did not love these people, I would never even think about visiting these places. At Christmas, God chooses not only to visit, but make our world His home. There's a reason why God does this. Yes, the world is less than perfect, but it's good enough for God to choose it as His dwelling place. Is it good enough for me? We could choose to see the world through our eyes or God's eyes. We could cry or we could smile. The choice is ours. It's up to us. :o) Fr. Qui-Thac Nguyen



Christmas Mass Schedule Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. Children's Mass
9:00 p.m. Vigil Mass
Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

8:30 a.m. Mass
11:00 a.m. Mass

Parish Office Hours/Christmas & New Year

The Parish Office will close at Noon Thursday,
December 24th

And will reopen Monday, January 4th

Fr. Qui-Thac and the parish staff wish you all a
Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year

Thank You! The Family and Friends of Bryan Marriott thank the Bellingham Police Department, Medic One, Persons who called 911, Community Crisis Care, Families & Friends of Violent Crime Victims, and the Faith Communities of Sacred Heart & Assumption Parishes and Westford Funeral Home Staff. The loving, compassion, caring and support during this time of notification and burial of our son Bryan fills us with heartfelt gratitude and thankfulness for your care and support. While we all continue grieving the loss of Bryan, together may we be a community of compassion and love for each other. This moment reminds us that *Love Overcomes Violent Energy* and together we can continue to maintain a safe and peaceful community. Thank you for all that you are. We see you differently today. *Peace be with you.* Pamela and Richard Wilson and Family.

Thank you to all those who participated in reaching out to members of our community who are homebound or suffering through the activity of Caroling. May God's abundant blessings and peace reign in your hearts this Christmastide!

Mass of Thanksgiving for the life of Martin Luther King Jr.: The Office of Vicar for Clergy and the African American Catholic Community of the Archdiocese of Seattle cordially invite the parishioners of Sacred Heart to the Mass in Thanksgiving for the Life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and in Celebration for the Presence of African American Catholics in the Archdiocese of Seattle. The Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Brunett on Saturday, January 9, 2010, 5:30 p.m. at St. James Cathedral. A reception to follow after Mass in the Isaac Orr Conference Hall.

Young Catholics of Bellingham: We are a group of young Catholics that invites anyone in and around ages 23-40 to join us for some fellowship in our shared faith. We meet from 7-8:30 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. We gather at Sacred Heart's Parish Center and will often move from there to another close-by location in Fairhaven. Call Janel Sislow at (509)-301-6004 for more information and to be added to the e-mail list.

Marriage Encounter: Married couples: do you want to give a gift that keeps on giving? Register for the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend; it's the best gift you'll ever give to each other and your marriage! The next weekend is in Seattle, February 26-28. For more information call Kay and Mike Gougeon 671-6955.



"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us," St. John's Gospel states. Perhaps if we could look at each unborn child as a word from God, we would be less likely to destroy those children who each have a unique message to share with the world.

December 19 & December 20

Sunday December 20th

8:30 a.m. **Mass** Church
 9:45 a.m. RE & First Rec./First Comm. Parish Center
 9:45 a.m. Coffee Hour Hall
 11:00 a.m. **Mass** Church
 1:00 p.m. **Vietnamese Mass** Church
 6:00 p.m. NO SALT

Monday November 21st

6:30 p.m. 11:00 a.m. Choir practice Church
 7:00 p.m. NO EDGE

Tuesday December 22nd

12:10 p.m. Adoration Church
 4:00 p.m. Kid's Pageant Rehearsal Church
 5:00 p.m. Reconciliation Church
 5:00 p.m. Kid's choir Rehearsal Church
 6:00 p.m. **Mass** Chapel
 7:00 p.m. RCIA Chapel

Wednesday December 23rd

11:15 a.m. Reconciliation Church
 12:10 p.m. **Mass** Chapel
 4:00 p.m. Kid's Pageant Rehearsal Church
 5:00 p.m. Kid's Choir Rehearsal Church
 7:00 p.m. 8:30 a.m. Choir Practice Church
 7:30 p.m. Catholic Men's Group St. Augustine

Christmas Eve/Office Closed at Noon

Thursday December 24th

5:00 p.m. **Children's Mass** Church
 9:00 p.m. **Vigil Mass** Church
 12:00 a.m. **Midnight Mass** Church

Christmas Day/Office Closed

Friday December 25th

8:30 a.m. **Mass** Church
 11:00 a.m. **Mass** Church

Saturday December 26th

3:30 p.m. Reconciliation Church
 5:00 p.m. **Mass** Church

Sunday December 27th

8:30 a.m. **Mass** Church
 11:00 a.m. **Mass** Church
 6:00 p.m. No SALT

Mass Intentions This Week

December 22 Bryan Marriott (+)
 December 23 Margery A. Randle (+)

Weekly Readings

Fourth Sunday of Advent Dec. 20

Micah 5:1-4a; Heb 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

Dec. 21 Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Luke 1:39-45

Dec. 22 1 Sm 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56

Dec. 23 Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66

Dec. 24 Isa 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25;
 Matthew 1:1-25

Dec. 25 Isa 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; John 1:1-18

Dec. 26 Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Dec. 27

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28; Sir 3:2-6, 12-14;
 Luke 2:41-52

Faith Formation & Liturgy
LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR SOLEMNITY OF Christmas and Mary, Mother of God are posted on-line (www.sacredheartbellingham.org) and in the back of church. Thank you for your loving service.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MASS

Children's Christmas Choir and Gospel Story happen on Christmas Eve at the 5 pm Mass. Parts are chosen and Music is distributed on Sunday, December 20th [TODAY!] from 9:45a-10:45 in the Parish Library. All Parish Children K-8 are invited to participate.

Gospel Story rehearses Dec 22 & 23, 4-5 p.m. in the Church. Christmas Choir rehearses Dec. 22 & 23, 5-6 p.m. in the Church. Gospel Story and Choir serve on Dec. 24th at the 5 p.m. Children's Christmas Mass.

READINGS FOR THE CHRISTMAS LITURGY MASSES

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

Isaiah 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25

Midnight Mass

Isaiah 9:1-6; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14

Christmas Morning Mass/8:30 a.m.

Isaiah 62:11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20

Christmas Day Mass/ 11:00 a.m.

Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18

Assumption School News

733-6133

Attention Parents: Believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about enrollment for fall 2010! Enrollment information for new families is mailed in January. Space fills up very quickly—especially our pre-school and kindergarten programs, Contact the school (Jennifer Rick, 733-6133, Ext. 38) to add your name to the enrollment inquiry mailing list.

Sacred Heart's Stewardship Report December 12 & December 13

Ordinary Income

Envelopes (181)	\$ 11,687.94
Visitors	\$ 449.65
Children (0)	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
	\$ 12,137.59

Weekly Budget Need \$ 8,232.00

2009/2010 Fiscal Year

Budget to date: \$ 197,568.00
 Actual to date: \$ 199,713.66

Holyday \$ 528.85

St. Vincent de Paul \$ 375.00

Building & Grounds \$ 102.00

