

Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Bellingham, WA.

At the beginning of the new year, God wants to speak to His people through His ministers:

The LORD bless you and keep you!

The LORD let His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!

The LORD look upon you kindly and give you peace!

The first blessing includes two things: a blessing and a protection. God wants to protect us from all dangers, especially the greatest danger of them all: succumbing to the temptation of doing evil. There is nothing worse than this! At the beginning of the year, we ask God to preserve us from sin and live a beautiful life worthy of our vocation. In the second blessing, the Hebrew word literally asks God to smile upon us. True blessing is when God looks upon us and smiles, very much like the smile of a mother or father in love with their baby. If God smiles upon us what else do we need?

In the third blessing, we ask God for the gift of peace at the beginning of this new year. Today is also the World Day of Peace. The term peace in the Hebrew language not only signifies the absence of conflict, but also an abundance of good. It is the peace that comes when we actualize our fraternal relationship with one another and with God. This peace will allow for us to live out our vocation in serenity and joy. It is a triple blessing from God that is essential to life. To live life to the full, we need to develop our relationship with God. This new year will be great and joyful only if we live it in a profound relationship with God. Without this relationship, all other relationships will go astray, bringing about conflicts and difficulties of every kind. With this relationship with God, all other relationships find their right orientation and bring forth true love that result in joy and peace. God gives us today, the gift of Mary. Mary blesses and protects us, smiles upon us, and brings us peace. It is precisely through Mary that we receive Jesus. Happy New Year to you and your family!

To Jesus through Mary, Fr. Qui-Thac Nguyen

The Church celebrates the mysteries of Christmas until January 10th. On behalf of Fr. Qui-Thac, Deacon Larry Gorman and the parish staff we wish you and your families a most blessed and joyous Christmas season.

The Parish Office is closed
And will reopen January 5, 2010

Please Note
RE resumes January 10th

First Friday Adoration starts January 1st at 11:00 a.m. and continues until Benediction in the Winter Chapel Saturday, January 2nd at 8:20 a.m., followed by Holy Mass at 8:30 a.m., in the Church.

Thank You: We would like to thank all of you for your prayers and thoughts regarding our daughter Monica Anne Fetty. After nine months of chemotherapy, Monica has been declared free of cancer. She will remain on a maintenance dose of chemotherapy indefinitely. Our prayers have been answered. Thanks to all of you! Chuck and Maryanna Farrell.

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.

A Faith Sharing Retreat For Women: At the Palisades Retreat Center, February 5-7, 2010. (Learning To Dance In The Rain.) Often we see apparent obstacles on our path and we come up with some very good reasons and "excuses" for not moving forward. We have a tendency to wait for just the right time and right circumstances which, in fact, may never come. So, unfortunately, we let our opportunities and life pass us by. But God is the one leading and calling us forward, despite all obstacles, despite the rain. Since God is the one in charge, and nothing is impossible with God, we need to trust God more and keep moving forward, learning to "Dance in the Rain." Retreat Directors: Rev. John Fuchs, S.J. and Pam McCauley, MPA. For more information, call 206-748-7991 or go to www.SeattleArch.org/Palisades.

Annual meeting offers inspiration and friendship: Interfaith Coalition's annual meeting provides an opportunity to hear first hand how the coalition's programs, which we support and participate in, make a difference to homeless families and people unable to pay for needed health care. Plan to attend the meeting with friends on Wednesday, Jan. 27, at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, 2600 Lakeway Dr. in Bellingham, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Following the meeting will be a time for fellowship and refreshments.



A vision for the future: "By seeking holiness and using the gifts God has given us to accomplish His will in our lives, we are contributing mightily to that kingdom we all long for, where there will be no more crying or pain or death. Certainly no abortion. No euthanasia. No assisted suicide. No deep freezing of embryos as though they were merchandise. And no destruction of human life in the name of science." Cardinal Justin Rigali, 1/12/2008

Dec. 26 & Dec. 27 and Jan. 2 & Jan. 3

Sunday December 27th		
8:30 a.m. Mass		Church
9:45 a.m. No RE		
11:00 a.m. Mass		Church
6:00 p.m. NO SALT		
Monday December 28th/Office Closed		
7:00 p.m. NO EDGE		
Tuesday December 29th/Office Closed		
6:00 p.m. No Mass		
Wednesday December 30th/Office Closed		
12:10 p.m. Funeral Mass		Church
Thursday December 31st/Office Closed		
5:00 p.m. Reconciliation		Church
6:00 p.m. Vigil Mass (Mary Mother of God)		Church
Friday January 1st/Office Closed		
10:00 a.m. Mass (Mary Mother of God)		Church
11:00 a.m. Adoration		Winter Chapel
Saturday January 2nd		
8:20 a.m. Benediction		Winter Chapel
8:30 a.m. Mass		Church
3:30 p.m. Reconciliation		Church
5:00 p.m. Mass		Church
Sunday January 3rd		
8:30 a.m. Mass		Church
9:45 a.m. NO RE		
11:00 a.m. Mass		Church
1:00 p.m. Vietnamese Mass		Church
6:00 p.m. NO SALT		
Monday January 4th/Office Closed		
7:00 p.m. NO EDGE		
Tuesday January 5th		
12:10 p.m. Adoration		Church
1:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry		St. Nicholas
5:00 p.m. Reconciliation		Church
6:00 p.m. Mass		Church
7:00 p.m. SHALOM Mom's Group		St. Nicholas
7:00 p.m. Young Catholics' Group		Parish Center
7:00 p.m. RCIA		Winter Chapel
Wednesday January 6th		
11:15 a.m. Reconciliation		Church
12:10 p.m. Mass		Church
7:00 p.m. 8:30 a.m. Choir practice		Church
Thursday January 7th		
10:00 a.m. Parish Nurse		St. Clare
11:15 a.m. Reconciliation		Church
12:10 p.m. Mass		Church
Friday January 8th		
5:00 p.m. Reconciliation		Church
6:00 p.m. Mass		Church
Saturday January 9th		
8:30 a.m. Mass		Winter Chapel
3:30 p.m. Reconciliation		Church
5:00 p.m. Mass		Church
Sunday January 10th		
8:30 a.m. Mass		Church
9:45 a.m. Coffee Hour		Hall
9:45 a.m. RE & Fir. Rec./Fir. Comm.		Parish Center
10:00 a.m. Bible Study		St. Clare
11:00 a.m. Mass		Church
6:00 p.m. SALT		Upper Rm./Assumption

ADULT FAITH FORMATION — II TUESDAY
Sister Miriam James is our speaker for Tuesday,
January 12, 7-9 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Her talk will be the
MASS: Transforming Your Life!

LITURGY NOTES

**The Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
December 27, 2009**

“The family is the privileged setting where every person learns to give and receive love...The family is an intermediate institution between individuals and society, and nothing can completely take its place... The family is a necessary good for people, an indispensable foundation for society and a great and lifelong treasure for couples. It is a unique good for children, who are meant to be the fruit of the love, of the total and generous self-giving of their parents.... The family is also a school which enables men and women to grow to the full measure of their humanity... O God, who in the Holy Family left us a perfect model of family life lived in faith and obedience to your will, help us to be examples of faith and love for your commandments.” *(Pope Benedict XVI)*

Epiphany ... January 3, 2009

Why do they do the Proclamation of the Date of Easter on the Feast of the Epiphany? This practice dates from the time when calendars were not readily available. It was necessary to make known the date of Easter in advance, since many celebrations of the liturgical year depend on its date. The Epiphany proclamation still has relevance and value today. It is a reminder of the centrality of the resurrection of the Lord in the liturgical year and the importance of the great mysteries of faith which are celebrated each year. [Sacramentary Supplement, pp. 47-50]

Note: RE starts Sunday, January 10th.

Mass Intentions

January 5 Rod Young (+)
January 6 Linh Hon Mary (+)
January 7 Linh Hon Joseph (+)
January 8 Linh Hon Thomas (+)

**Sacred Heart's Stewardship Report
December 19 & December 20**



Ordinary Income

Envelopes (185)	\$ 7,713.25
Visitors	\$ 647.64
Children (0)	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
	\$ 8,360.89

Weekly Budget Need \$ 8,232.00

2009/2010 Fiscal Year

Budget to date: \$ 205,800.00
Actual to date: \$ 208,074.55

St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 155.00
Building & Grounds	\$ 5.00
Assumption School	\$ 19.00