

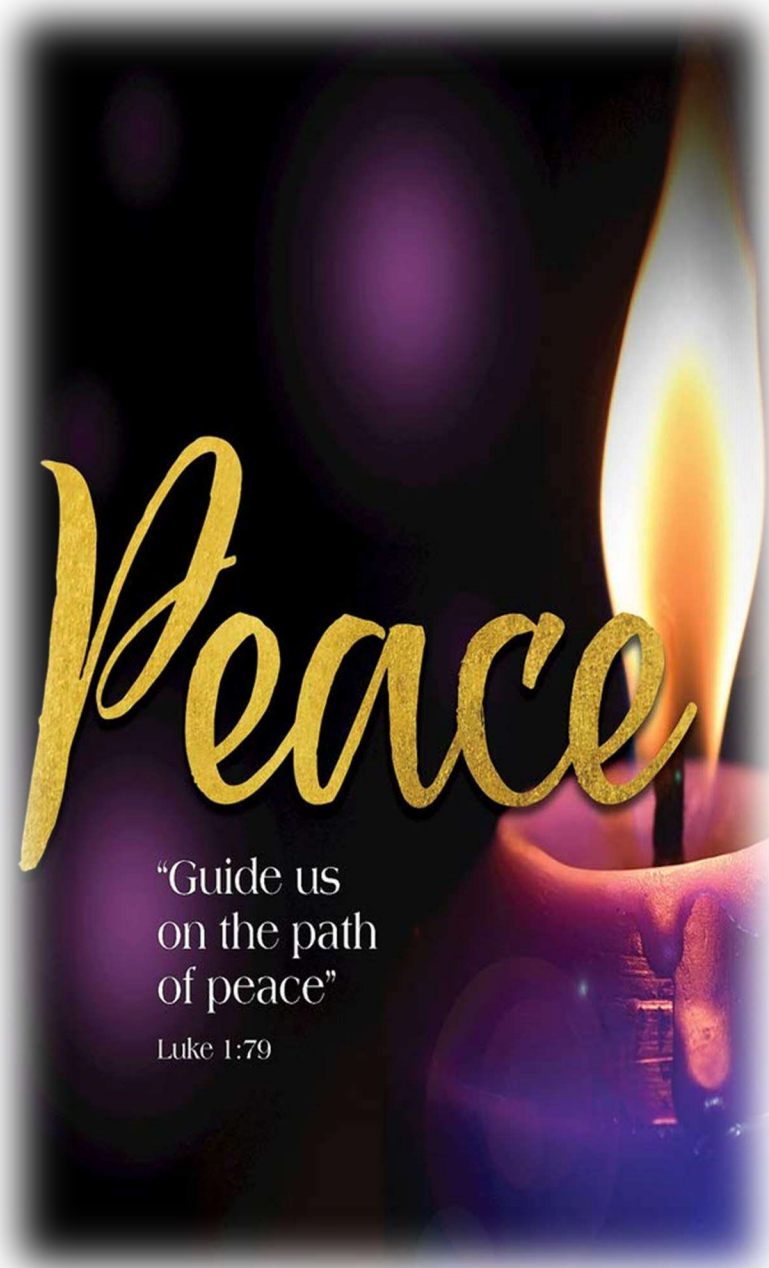
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# Holy Family Catholic Church

December 10th 2023

The Second Sunday of Advent



"Guide us  
on the path  
of peace"

Luke 1:79

My Parish is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am. It will be holy, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will be prayerful, if I pray. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will bring others into worship, if I invite and bring them in. It will be a place of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, of compassion, charity, and mercy, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things. Therefore, with the help of God, I now dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my parish to be.

## Parish Office Hours

**Parish Office**  
917 Chestnut St.  
Clarkston, WA 99403  
509-758-6102

**Office Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
8:30am - 4:00pm

**Youth & Family  
Life Center**  
1102 Chestnut St.  
Clarkston, WA 99403

**Confessions**  
Wednesdays  
After Mass  
Saturday  
3:00pm—3:30 pm



**Contact us**

**Pastor**

Rev. Jeff Core: jacore@dioceseofspokane.org

**Pastoral Assistant**

Danielle Paris: dparis@dioceseofspokane.org

**Bookkeeper**

Sheri Sargent: ssargent@dioceseofspokane.org

**Website:** hfparish.com

**Office Email:** holyfamily@dioceseofspokane.org

*Special Monthly Collections  
For December*

- Holy Family School Foundation,
- Building Maintenance Fund,
- Holy Family School,
- Christmas Collection.

*If you have your weekly/monthly donations automatically taken out of your bank account, here is a list of the "special collections" you may not know of. **Thank you.***

**Second Advent Candle/Sunday: Peace**

*"May we be in this world a ray of that light which shone forth from Bethlehem, bringing joy and peace to the hearts of all men and women." – Pope Francis*

The second candle on the Advent wreath represents Peace. Like the first candle, it is also purple. Often called the "Bethlehem Candle," the second Advent candle reminds us of Mary and Joseph's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before Mary gave birth to Jesus. Building on the meaning of the Prophecy Candle, this second candle recalls that after all of the division, destruction, and dispersion of the kingdom in the Old Testament, there might finally be peace on Earth – Jesus is coming, and so is his Kingdom of Peace. As we read in the quote from Pope Francis, this light of peace shone forth from Bethlehem for all the world. This Advent, light the second candle on Sunday, December 10, 2023.

<https://hallow.com/blog/advent-candles-and-advent-wreaths/>

**Social Concerns Committee  
Advent Bag Schedule**

Please return the bags to the SOUTH ANNEX each week.

Thank you for your donations.

**2nd Week of Advent - Asotin Co. Food Bank**

**3rd Week of Advent - YWCA**

**4th Week of Advent - Life Choices**

**Stewardship: A Way of Life!**

**Talent:**

Thank you Mrs. Queeny Ravanera for working with the Holy Family School kids and the wonderful Christmas

Concert.

**Treasure:**

The collection for the week of 12/3/2023

Actual \$6,983

**Daily Mass Schedule and Mass Intentions**

Saturday	12/9/2023	4:00pm	Mark Keller
Sunday	12/10/2023	9:00am	People of Holy Family
Monday	12/11/2023	8:00am	Malcolm J. McRae Sr. †
Tuesday	12/12/2023	— — —	No Mass
Wednesday	12/13/2023	8:30am	Greg Buratto †
Thursday	12/14/2023	8:00am	Terry Smith †
Friday	12/15/2023	8:00am	Harold & Marie Tuschoff †
Saturday	12/16/2023	4:00pm	People of Holy Family
Sunday	12-17-2023	9:00am	Dale Flerchinger

**Prayer Blanket Ministry -**  
This ministry is to provide hope, comfort and healing. It is a unique way of reaching out to the community in a very simple and tangible way. A prayer blanket can be seen as a symbolic "hug" from God. Spreading the message of God's mercy, love and compassion. If you would like a prayer blanket please stop by the parish office during office hours.

**Christmas Idea...**

**December 10th 2023 Readings**

First Reading : Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11      Psalm 85:9-14      Second Reading 2 Peter 3:8-14

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:1-8

**Holy Family Catholic School**

1002 Chestnut Street

Phone: 509-758-6621

Web Page: [holyfamilyclarkston.com](http://holyfamilyclarkston.com)

School Principal: Sheri Gehring

Email: [sgehring@holyfamilyclarkston.com](mailto:sgehring@holyfamilyclarkston.com)

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram!

What a week! The joy of Christmas has been spreading. Thank you for coming to our music program on Wednesday evening, it was wonderful to see our families together and witness the talent of our students. A huge thank you to all who worked extremely hard to make it happen, especially Mrs. Ravanera, our staff, volunteers, and students.

Next week we celebrate December & January birthdays after our Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. mass, please join us for this celebration. There will be a brunch to follow back at the school. All are welcome at mass; kindly remember if you are unfamiliar with Catholic traditions, please no hats or drinks in the church for Eucharistic celebration. If you have not received the Catholic sacraments, you are always welcome to come forward for a blessing at communion. We ask that you cross your arms over your chest so the Extraordinary Minister knows to give you a blessing. We love when our school community families join us!

If you ordered SCRIP, it has been ordered and we will let you know next week when it arrives. Thank you for using our SCRIP gift card program, we appreciate it!

Sunday begins the second week of Advent. Click the link for a prayer and reflection for busy households. I pray for each of your families to find peace this Advent season as you prepare your heart for Jesus. <https://thecatholicspirit.com/holy-days/advent/advent-week-2-prayer-reflection-busy-households/>

**Important Dates:**

Wed 12/13 – Dec & Jan birthday brunch (4th hosting) following 8:30 a.m. mass (by 8th)

Fri 12/15 – Early Release for Christmas Break, 11:30 a.m.; NO Extended Care

12/15-1/2 – Christmas Break; office & Ext Care are closed

1/18 – Blood Drive for STEM grant, HF parish hall, 1:30-6 p.m.

**4TH GRADE AND THEIR  
ADVENT WREATH**



Our Mission: Holy Family School is a faith-filled community dedicated to the moral development of students who live to serve Christ. Our staff and parents strive to educate the whole child in academic excellence, a deep appreciation of the Catholic faith, spiritual growth and nurture socially responsible members of society in a safe learning environment.

**Volunteers needed:**

Crossing Guard duty in front of school 7:40-8 a.m. (M-F)

Lunch recess duty 11:15 a.m.-12:05 p.m.

**Donations needed:**

Stamps

Ziplock baggies (all sizes)

Clorox wipes

*It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope.  
Pope Benedict XVI*

***This week's topic at OCIA will be "The Catholic Conscience"***

If you or someone you know are interested in joining the Catholic Church, our OCIA program has started in the church hall at 11:00am after coffee and donuts. Please join us!

Catholic Daughters and Knights of Columbus will be having their Christmas Dinner Monday, December 11th in the Holy Family Church Hall. 6:00PM is social hour, and 6:30 PM is dinner. We will be having the Holy Family Choir as entertainment. Knights of Columbus will bring the meat and Catholic Daughters are to bring side dishes (including dessert).

*The Catholic Daughters will be having their Cookie Sale December 16th and 17th after Mass. Cookie plates will be \$10/plate, \$5/small plate.*



**PRAYER REQUEST**

**Week 1**

Bob Sheppard  
Dona McCann  
Joan Sperry  
Caleb Parry  
Stapleton Family  
Pat Williams  
Erica Pena  
Sue Buratto  
Russ Bashore  
Nick Menegas  
Linda Entel  
Betty Eggleston  
Jo Caetano  
Nancy DiMeo  
Kelly Evans  
Evelyn Nanik  
Liz Samayoa

**Week 2**

Pat & Melva Boyle  
Sheila McDougall  
Wessels Family  
Dave Massaro  
Carol Stegner  
Kauffman Family  
Michael Cheek  
Yvonne Pecora  
Dick Jacobs  
Lisa Carey  
Tina Flerchinger  
Vivian Piatt  
Gayle Williams  
Mike B  
Mary Gocke  
Zach Paris  
Kathy Dobbs  
Reid Wagner

**Week 3**

Sherry Domaskin  
Marty & Chierie  
Nelson & Family  
Mary Ellen Hill  
Caitlyn Graves  
Christian Morgan  
Verla Day  
Thelma Fales  
Melanie Stellmon  
Joel Babino  
Jo & Leonard Castle  
Bill Dahmen  
Tim Wanta  
Lisa Heath  
Renee Ellis  
Blake Piekma

**Week 4**

Tom & JoAnn Harvey  
Eileen Jeffreys  
Irene Cicrich  
Don Brooks  
Mike & Ann Elsensohn  
Gus Fontaine  
Joy Nye  
Donna Miles  
MaryAnn Robertson  
Keela Carter  
Vivian France  
Courtney & Adeline  
Paterson  
Gene Breeding  
Theresa Swartz  
Richard Fanning

*Please contact Cheryl Fuqua at 758-6936, Linda Wolf at 751-2370 or the parish office at 758-6102 or email to [dparis@dioceseofspokane.org](mailto:dparis@dioceseofspokane.org) if you would like someone to be added.*

**Things TO DO And NOT DO at Mass. These are not rules that will get you banished from the Church, but things that are mostly common sense –**

- Fast before Mass.** It is required that one fasts for at least 1 hour before receiving Holy Communion. The only exceptions are medicine, water or unless someone is ill and needs to eat sooner.
  - Never chew gum in church!** It breaks your fast, it's rude and it's distracting!
  - Cross yourself with Holy Water on entering and leaving the church.** This is a reminder of our Baptism, which made us members of Christ's Church.
  - Dress modestly and appropriately.** As Catholics we believe that God comes down to meet us at every Mass. Won't you dress well to meet a king? That said remember that the mass is not a fashion show. And Christmas and Easter masses are not Milan Fashion week. Dress in a way that gives witness to your faith.
  - Show up at least a few minutes early and try coming as close to the altar as possible. If you can't be on time, then sit in the back so you don't disturb others.
  - Respect the worship. Stand during the gospel reading and other set time during worship. Kneel at the consecration. It is part of worship. The only exceptions are for the sick, people with knee problems, aged and those with infants. If you can't kneel occupy a pew that does not obstruct the view of the Lord from those who do kneel.
  - Bow before receiving Holy Communion. Remember that you are before your Lord, show your respect with a profound bow from the hip.
  - Do not leave early unless there is an urgent issue. We should stay to the end of the recession and the hymn that accompanies it, if there is one. Remember who left the last supper early (Judas). We should show respect for God, for the priest and our fellow worshippers.
- <https://catholicconvert.com/etiquette-at-mass-reasonable-dos-and-donts-for-polite-and-proper-worship/>

***This week at Holy Family...***

**Sunday, December 10th:**

- Mass 9:00am
- Knights of Columbus Breakfast after Mass
- OCIA 11:00am in the **Parish Office**

**Monday, December 11th:**

- Mass 8:00am
- Ladies Group 8:45am
- Catholic Daughters and Knights of Columbus Christmas Dinner 6pm Social, 6:30pm Dinner & Music from HFS Choir

**Tuesday, December 12th:**

- No Mass

**Wednesday, December 13th:**

- Mass 8:30am
- Sacrament Class 4:00pm

**Thursday, December 14th:**

- Mass 8:00am

**Friday, December 15th:**

- Mass 8:00am

**Saturday, December 16th:**

- Confessions 3:00pm
- Mass 4:00pm

**Sunday, December 17th:**

- Mass 9:00am
- Coffee & Donuts
- OCIA 11:00am in the Parish Hall

***Advertiser of the Week***

**Edward Jones**

[www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com)

**Scott Arnone, Christian Leer, Trevor Arnone  
Patrick Crusier, Brady Arnone**

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*Proud Parishioners & Supporters of Holy Family Parish and School.*

*Let prayer be the key of the morning  
and the bolt of the evening.  
Matthew Henry*



- Reconciliation at Holy Family: Every Wednesday after Mass & Saturday at 3:00pm.
- Communal Reconciliation and Advent Penance Service on December 20th at 6:30pm at All Saints Catholic Church in Lewiston.

**HAVE YOU MOVED?**

**OR HAVE YOU RECENTLY CHANGED YOUR PHONE NUMBER?**

Don't forget to let the parish office know. It is all too common that you might be waiting for a call or important information from our office and we are calling or mailing it to the wrong place! Take a moment and drop your new information in the collection basket or stop by the parish office!

**Ministries Schedule**

Ministries for	Reader	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Altar Servers	Ushers
<b>Saturday December 16th 4:00pm</b>	Linda Kazda	Pat Petty	Addy Aceveda Ella Miller	Leonard Babino Ron Flerchinger Jerry Hume John Zeller
<b>Sunday December 17th 9:00am</b>	James Browitt Joan Baune	Kerri Bailey	Anna Eggleston Ashley Eggleston	Ernie Aguilar Brian Babino Ron Gosselin Steve Nuxoll

# Letter from Father

10 December 2023  
2nd Sunday of Advent  
Jesus is Coming!

Greetings,

I've seen a great many bumper stickers during the course of my life. Many of them I find hilarious, some are puzzling, others proclaim the political stance of the car's owner, and some are just plain offensive. There is one that I have seen a number of times that I at first found mildly funny but, given time for reflection, it is more worrying to my pastoral mind. The bumper sticker reads, "Jesus Is Coming, look busy!" This statement, while humorous on its surface, also betrays a certain cynicism as to how people approach the living out of their faith and how they view Jesus Christ as our Savior and Redeemer. This statement touches on the functional attitude of many Catholics these days. To intellectually acknowledge the coming of Christ is one thing; to live as though you believe it is something else again.

A recent survey revealed a "deaf ear to biblical mandates" currently afflicting many who claim to claim to believe what is written in the Bible. The survey found that the Bible is being reduced to the status of an icon with little value in millions of American homes. The survey further concluded that America is moving from a Christian nation to a spiritually diverse society with an, "I'm not religious, I'm spiritual" trend. The survey found that 80% incorrectly think that the Bible includes the statement, "God helps those who help themselves, that only 50% of adults know the Book of Jonah is in the Bible, and, perhaps most worrying, to 10% of respondents, Joan of Arc is believed to have been the wife of Noah.

This biblical illiteracy comes as no surprise when our young people are not being taught the basic values that enable them to understand what God is talking about when matters such as truth, honesty, humility, moral decency, and respect for others are being considered. Young people of past days were taught that these things mattered. As a result, America became what it is today. Also, I might add, those bygone generations may not have been computer literate, but in things that contributed to a spiritually well-rounded life, their education was superior.

A major contributor to this issue is the "ME" syndrome. Several times in the survey, references were made to what people themselves judge to be relevant. Inevitably, this translates into more for self in the here and now. In short, people are simply looking in the wrong direction. They would like to fashion a God that is more horizontally conceived. All of this business of "looking up and bowing down" places a great strain on people obsessed with their self-esteem.

Jesus has come to us in the flesh for the sole purpose of our salvation. He is coming again to bring with Him to the heavenly kingdom those who are faithful to the Gospel which He left us to follow. It is not enough for us to "look busy" during His impending arrival. We must actually be busy with the work of the Gospel, the work of Holy Mother Church, and the work of Her Sacraments. We must engage in an ethic of integrity to Jesus Christ and not merely in a surface demonstration of what we think He wants us to do and be. We must be fully committed to the promises made when we were received into the Mystical Body of Christ at our Baptism, allow the Holy Spirit to work within us to honor the commitment we accepted when we participated in the Sacrament of Confirmation, and to honor His unending sacrifice, the fruit of which we receive when we receive Him in sacrament, in His Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Eucharist.

Our Church, our nation, and the world need Christians, especially Catholics to live authentic lives in the Gospel and the Sacraments. We don't need more people who pay elaborate lip-service to Christ's instructions but then live as they wish to outside of the weekly gathering at their church. The world can see the Christians who are only looking busy. They are easy to spot. But the world can also easily discern those Christians who are actually busy with the work of the Kingdom of Heaven. We must be the latter and pray for the former.

Adveniat regnum tuum!

Blessing,

Fr Jeff Core

## The Meaning of the Four Advent Candles

During Advent and Christmas, festively decorated evergreen wreaths hang in windows and on doors everywhere. In many homes and churches, it's also common to see special wreaths lying on tables or ledges, adorned with four candles (usually three purple and one pink). This familiar symbol of the season is the Advent wreath.

Traditionally, the Advent wreath is a circle of evergreen branches. It is often decorated with berries and pinecones. Both the evergreen branches and the circular shape symbolize the passing of time and eternal life. The shape of the wreath, with no beginning or end, reflects the complete and endless love that Jesus has for us. During the Advent season, we eagerly anticipate his coming and the promise of eternal life in heaven with him.

### The Four Advent Candles

As a Christian tradition, the wreath holds the four Advent candles. The candles represent Jesus coming as the light in darkness. One candle is lit each Sunday until all four candles are lit. As Christmas draws nearer, each candle brings a little more light into the darkness. Sometimes a white candle is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to symbolize that Jesus is with us. This can be referred to as the "Christ candle."

Each of the candles lit before Christmas represent an aspect of preparation during the season of Advent:

### The First Week of Advent: December 3rd

Pray the Advent wreath prayer for week one

Candle Name: the Prophecy Candle

The First Week of Advent Represents: Hope

Candle Color: Purple

Purple is the primary color associated with Advent. Within the Catholic Church it symbolizes penance, preparation, and sacrifice. During the first week of Advent we remember the Old Testament prophets who foretold of Jesus' coming with hope and anticipation.

### The Second Week of Advent: December 10th

Candle Name: the Bethlehem Candle

The Second Week of Advent Represents: Peace and Preparation

Candle Color: Purple

During this second week of Advent, we reflect on our lives and work on becoming better-versions-of-ourselves in preparation for Jesus' coming. We remember the journey Joseph and Mary took from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

### The Third Week of Advent: December 17th

Pray the Advent wreath prayer for week three

Candle Name: the Shepherd's Candle

The Third Week of Advent Represents: Joy

Candle Color: Pink

This third candle is pink and symbolizes rejoicing. During the third week of Advent we are filled with joy for the near arrival of Jesus on Christmas day. This Sunday is often called "Gaudete Sunday" as we reflect on the joy the shepherd's felt at the birth of Jesus.

### The Fourth Week of Advent: December 24th

Pray the Advent wreath prayer for week four

Candle Name: the Angel's Candle

The Fourth Week of Advent Represents: Love

Candle Color: Purple

During this final week of Advent we rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of his Son. We reflect on the good news of God's love brought to us from the angel Gabriel.

<https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/advent/advent-candles.html>