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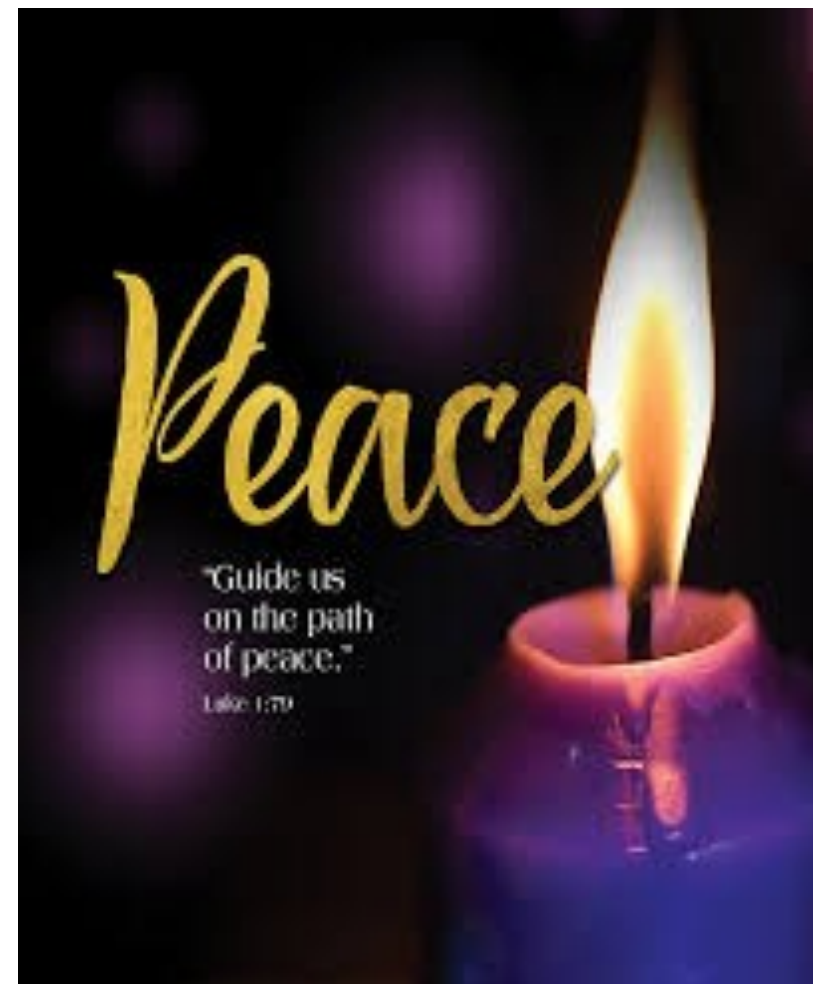
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Holy Family Catholic Church

December 8, 2024 The Second Sunday of Advent

917 Chestnut St. Clarkston, WA 99403 · 509-758-6102



God of power and mercy
open our hearts in welcome.
Remove the things that hinder us
from receiving Christ with joy
so that we may share his wisdom
and become one with him when he
comes in glory,
for he lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

Daily Mass Schedule and Mass Intentions

Saturday	12/07/24	4:00pm	People of Holy Family	
Sunday	12/08/24	9:00am	Ed & Irene Keller †	
Monday	12/09/24		The Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary	
		8:30am	Walt & Lenora Cooney	6:00pm Souls in Purgatory
Tuesday	12/10/24	—	No Mass	
Wednesday	12/11/24	8:00am	Malcolm J. McRae Sr. †	
Thursday	12/12/24	8:00am	Gary Dobbs †	
Friday	12/13/24	8:00am	Virginia Hoffinan †	
Saturday	12/14/24	4:00pm	Dr. Mark Baldeck †	
Sunday	12/15/24	9:00am	People of Holy Family	

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

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

Ministries Schedule

If you are scheduled and not able to fill your Ministry please request a Substitute on the MSP App. Also, make sure you know when you are scheduled. Thank you!

Ministries for	Altar Servers	Reader	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Ushers
Monday December 9th Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary 8:30am	<h2>Holy Family School Children</h2>			
Monday December 9th 6:00pm	Ella Miller NOT FILLED	Cindy Nightingale	Bob Uptagrafft	
Saturday December 14th 4:00pm	Ella Miller NOT FILLED	Brian Shinn	Lynette Ausman	Leonard Babino Jerry Hume Gene Kasper John Zeller
Sunday December 15th 9:00am	Bailey Blaydes Charlotte France	Kathy Dobbs Cindy Nightingale	Evan Dagen	Ernie Aguilar Mark Flerchinger Steve Nuxoll Thomas Stapleton

Sunday, December 8th:

- Mass 9:00am
- Coffee & Donuts
- Sacrament Prep Class 10:30am
- OCIA 11:00am



Monday, December 9th:

**Holy Day of Obligation,
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

- Mass 8:30am
- Mass 6:00pm
- Ladies Prayer Group 8:45am

Tuesday, December 10th:

- No Mass

Wednesday, December 11th:

- Mass 8:30am
- Holy Hour and Confessions
- Holy Family School Christmas Program 6:00pm

Thursday, December 12th:

- Mass 8:00am
- Mass at St. Joseph Hospital Chapel 12:30pm
- Holy Hour 7:00pm

Friday, December 13th:

- Mass 8:00am

Saturday, December 14th:

- Confessions 3:00pm
- Mass 4:00pm
- Wine & Cheese
- Catholic Daughter Christmas Cookie Sale

Sunday, December 15th:

- Mass 9:00am
- Knights of Columbus Breakfast
- Catholic Daughter Christmas Cookie Sale
- Sacrament Prep Class 10:30am
- OCIA 11:00am

Nota Bene

As the Advent Season begins and Christmas approaches, there are several events occurring at Holy Family Church, especially in Fr. Root Memorial Hall. Please be sure that your group checks with the parish office before coming to the church or hall for an unscheduled gathering or event. If you would like to check for availability, call Danielle during regular office hours. This will help ensure that events do not overlap or conflict.

Thank you,

Fr Jeff Core



Fulfill your Advent Obligation at All Saints Catholic Church. Join us for Advent Reconciliation Service on December 18th at 6:30pm.

Holy Family Catholic School

1002 Chestnut Street
Phone: 509-758-6621
Web Page: holyfamilyclarkston.com

School Principal: Sheri Gehring
Email: sgehring@holyfamilyclarkston.com
Follow us on Facebook and Instagram!

"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you." – St. Teresa of Calcutta

Our students are learning about the meaning of Advent and how they can bring the light of Christ into their homes and communities. They are participating in special Advent activities, including lighting the Advent wreath, preparing for the Christmas program, and helping those in need.

We invite our parish family to join us in prayer and reflection as we journey together toward the joy of Christmas. May this season be filled with faith, peace, and the love of Christ for you and your loved ones. Join us for our Christmas Program (Preschool-8th grade) on December 11th at 6 p.m. in the Church.

Blessings,

Mrs. Sheri Gehring, Principal

Upcoming Events

- 12/11 - Christmas Program & Play - Pre-8th grade, HF Church, 6 p.m.
- 12/13 - 6th Grade Culinary Arts with Fr. Jeff
- 12/14 - Holy Family School Choir sings at Mass 4:00pm
- 12/18 - December/January Birthday Brunch after 8:30am Mass
- 12/20 - Early Release for Christmas Break
- 12/23- 1/6 - Christmas Break



Middle School learning about Eucharistic Miracles



November Crusaders of the Month

Donations Needed:

- Stamps (Regular & Postcard)
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*Serving as disciples, nourished by Christ,
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**Things You Need to Know About the Immaculate Conception
Holy Day of Obligation is December 9th, Mass will be at 8:30am and 6:00pm**

1. Who does the Immaculate Conception refer to?

There's a popular idea that it refers to Jesus' conception by the Virgin Mary. It doesn't. Instead, it refers to the special way in which the Virgin Mary herself was conceived. This conception was not virginal. (That is, she had a human father as well as a human mother.) But it was special and unique in another way. . .

2. What is the Immaculate Conception?

The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains it this way:
490 To become the mother of the Savior, Mary "was enriched by God with gifts appropriate to such a role." The angel Gabriel at the moment of the annunciation salutes her as "full of grace". In fact, in order for Mary to be able to give the free assent of her faith to the announcement of her vocation, it was necessary that she be wholly borne by God's grace.
491 Through the centuries the Church has become ever more aware that Mary, "full of grace" through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception. That is what the dogma of the Immaculate Conception confesses, as Pope Pius IX proclaimed in 1854:

3. Does this mean Mary never sinned?

Yes. Because of the way redemption was applied to Mary at the moment of her conception, she not only was protected from contracting original sin but also personal sin. The Catechism explains:
493 The Fathers of the Eastern tradition call the Mother of God "the All-Holy" (Panagia), and celebrate her as "free from any stain of sin, as though fashioned by the Holy Spirit and formed as a new creature". **By the grace of God Mary remained free of every personal sin her whole life long.** "Let it be done to me according to your word. . ."

4. Was it necessary for God to make Mary immaculate at her conception so that she could be Jesus' mother?

No. The Church only speaks of the Immaculate Conception as something that was "fitting," something that made Mary a "fit habitation" (i.e., suitable dwelling) for the Son of God, not something that was *necessary*. Thus in preparing to define the dogma, Pope Pius IX stated:
And hence they [the Church Fathers] affirmed that the Blessed Virgin was, through grace, entirely free from every stain of sin, and from all corruption of body, soul and mind; that she was always united with God and joined to him by an eternal covenant; that she was never in darkness but always in light; and that, therefore, she was entirely a **fit habitation for Christ**, not because of the state of her body, but because of her original grace. . . .

For it was certainly **not fitting** that this vessel of election should be wounded by the common injuries, since she, differing so much from the others, had only nature in common with them, not sin. In fact, it was **quite fitting** that, as the Only-Begotten has a Father in heaven, whom the Seraphim extol as thrice holy, so he should have a Mother on earth who would never be without the splendor of holiness [*Ineffabilis Deus*].

<https://www.ncregister.com/blog/8-things-you-need-to-know-about-the-immaculate-conception-bv90a7nm>

The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin.

Stewardship: A Way of Life!

Treasure:
The collection for the week of 12/01/2024
Actual: \$9,289

Special Monthly Collections

December - Holy Family School Foundation, Building Maintenance Fund, Holy Family School, Christmas
*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.***

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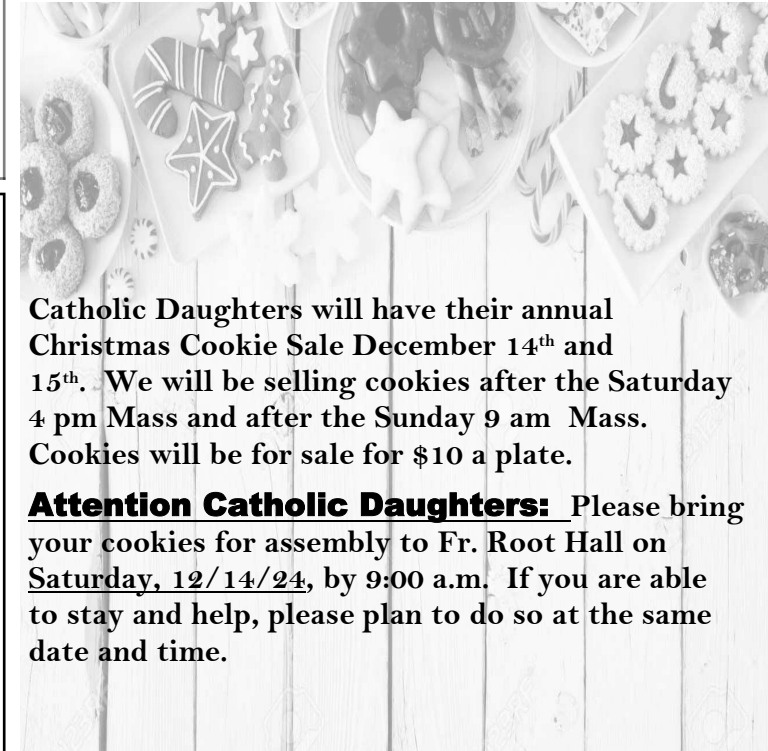


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SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Advent Bag Schedule
Please return the bags to the SOUTH ANNEX each week.

Thank you for your donations.
3rd Week of Advent - Asotin Co. Food Bank
4th Week of Advent - Life Choices



Catholic Daughters will have their annual Christmas Cookie Sale December 14th and 15th. We will be selling cookies after the Saturday 4 pm Mass and after the Sunday 9 am Mass. Cookies will be for sale for \$10 a plate.
Attention Catholic Daughters: Please bring your cookies for assembly to Fr. Root Hall on **Saturday, 12/14/24, by 9:00 a.m.** If you are able to stay and help, please plan to do so at the same date and time.

<i>Prayer Requests</i>		Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Week 1		Melva Boyle Sheila McDougall Wessels Family Dave Massaro	Marty & Chierie Nelson & Family Mary Ellen Hill Christian Morgan Verla Day Thelma Fales Melanie Stellmon Val Godwin Mary Lou Scharnhorst Marv Kinzer Kathy Ross Ronald Cooney Don Tuschoff Shannon Tuschoff Ellen Boatman Meredith Janelle Williams Lou Fanning Mel Witters Dee Johnson	Tom & JoAnn Harvey Irene Cicrich Don Brooks Mike & Ann Elsensohn Joy Nye Keela Carter Gene Breeding Richard Fanning Larry & Patty Dwyer & Family Joan Anderson Charlie Hill Garrett Dobbs Brighton & Emery Schumacher Ginny Kaufman Doreen Isaac Brenda Irvin Gayne Bafus Gary & Betty Riebe Amy Phillips Emily Segebartt Mary Kay Frayer Brown Charlie Sprayberry
Bob Sheppard Dona McCann Pat Williams Erica Pena Sue Buratto Russ Bashore Linda Entel Betty Eggleston Joe & Marjorie Caetano Nancy DiMeo Evelyn Nanik Liz Samayoa Dan Grassel Eileen Jeffreys Donna Heimgartner Joan Baune Donna Jongeward	Kauffman Family Stapleton Family Michael Cheek Yvonne Pecora Dick Jacobs Lisa Carey Tina Flerchinger Vivian Piatt Mike B Mary Gocke Zach Paris Janeen Smith John & Viola Keller & Family Kathy Renggli Libby Camron Anne Anderson Sandy Wanta			

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 if you would like someone to be added.

Letter from Father

8 December 2024
2nd Sunday of Advent
Obligation or Opportunity?

Greetings,

I come from a large Catholic family and so I have received a number of calls, texts, and emails from family members this week: cousins, an uncle, my brother, and even my dad asked the ever important question, burning in the minds of Catholics everywhere...“So, do we have to go to Mass on Monday or what?”

Every year we observe 8 December, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This day is and has been a Holy Day of Obligation for several centuries. We observe this holy day as it is the day that Mary was conceived without sin in her mother’s womb in order to ultimately become the perfect vessel for the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. It is a beautiful reflection on her perfection as a woman and mother and an opportunity to give thanks for her, full of grace and blessed among women.

It has been the case for many, many years that if the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary fell on a Sunday, it was translated to Monday, the 9th and the obligation was abrogated. Usually, if a Holy Day of Obligation falls on a Sunday of Ordinary Time, it replaces that Sunday and the Sunday obligation fulfills the obligation to attend Mass for that Solemnity. If a Holy Day of Obligation falls on a Saturday or Monday in Ordinary Time, the obligation is abrogated for the Faithful and the Sunday obligation fulfills the obligation for the Solemnity. The Solemnity is still celebrated on its proper day but the obligation does not come into play.

This year, the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith has issued the instruction that, because the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, should it fall on a Sunday, will always fall on a Sunday of Advent, AND Sundays of Advent cannot be replaced for another Solemnity, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be observed on Monday, 9 December AND the obligation is still attached.

So, the answer to my family’s question (and maybe yours) is “Yes, you have to go to Mass on Monday”. But, FEAR NOT! I bring good tidings of great joy! Holy Family will have Mass at 8:30 AM with Holy Family School and Mass at 6:00 PM. This is a beautiful opportunity for us to once again give thanks to God for His goodness to us in the person of the Blessed Mother. I find it is better to see these celebrations as opportunities instead of obligations as we should always be thankful for the freedom to pray and worship our God as we wish and to take a solemn moment at the start of a hectic secular Christmas season to remember who made us in His great love and mercy for joy in the light of His Son’s birth.

Blessings,

Fr Jeff Core

Advent – Week Two

Humility Prepares the Way for Christ

“A voice of one crying out in the desert. Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.” Luke 3:4

On this, the Second Sunday of Advent, we are given the person of St. John the Baptist to ponder. What a gift he is! Jesus Himself stated that “among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist” (Matthew 11:11). What a compliment!

What is it that made John so great? We can point to two things in particular. The first has to do with his calling and the second has to do with his virtue.

First of all, John was great because he was the transition from the Old Testament Prophets to the New Testament. He was the bridge that prepared for the new life to come. His unique mission makes him truly great.

But John was great not only because of his unique calling, he was also great because of the virtue he had in his life. And it is this gift that is worth pondering for our own inspiration more than any other.

The particular virtue that John had was that of humility. He saw himself as nothing other than a “voice of one crying out in the desert.” And the Word he spoke was Jesus.

John acknowledged that he was not even worthy to stoop down and untie the sandal straps of Jesus (Mark 1:7). He was praised by many and followed by many and yet he continuously said of Jesus that “He must increase and I must decrease” (John 3:30). John was not in it for praise and honor; rather, his mission was to point everyone to the Savior of the World. He could have sought the honor and praise of many and he would have certainly received it. They may have even made him king. But John was more than willing to fulfill his mission and then submit himself to the cruel sword of his executioner. His humility was such that he was focused only on Jesus and desired only to point to Him.

Reflect, today, upon this humility in your own life. Do you tend to point to yourself or to Christ? Do you seek the praise of others or do you humbly point all praise and glory to God? Humility is the path that St. John the Baptist took and it’s the path we must strive for each and every day.

Lord, thank You for the gift of St. John the Baptist. May his witness of humility inspire me in my Christian walk. Help me, Lord, to always point others to You rather than to myself. Jesus, I trust in You.

<https://mycatholic.life/books/catholic-daily-reflections-series/advent-and-christmas-reflections/advent-week-two/>

Christmas Connection & Community Dinner

Join us this year on December 21st at the Nez Perce County Fair Building from 10:30am to 4:30pm.

To register a family for Christmas Connection, you must come in person to St. Vincent de Paul in Clarkston between November 25th – December 13th. Must bring identification for every person you are registering and bring proof of residency (utility or phone bill). If you are disabled/homebound contact Sharon at 758-7061 to make arrangements.

If you would like to *make a donation* to this year’s Christmas Connection please mail them to:

Christmas Connection

%St. Vincent de Paul

604 2nd Street

Clarkston, WA 99403