

St. John the Evangelist

8701 NE 119th St.
Vancouver, WA 98662
360-573-3325
office@stjohnvancouver.org
www.stjohnvancouver.org
Office Hours:
Mon-Fri, 9:00 am — 4:00 pm
Facebook: "stjohnvancouver"

St. Vincent de Paul Helpline:
(360) 573-7199



Sacred Heart

1603 N Parkway Ave,
Battle Ground, WA 98604
Mailing Address:
PO Box 38
Battle Ground, WA 98604
(360) 687-4515
info@sacredheartbg.org
www.sacredheartbg.org
Office Hours:
Mon-Fri, 9:00 am — 1:30 pm
Facebook: "Sacred Heart Parish"
Instagram: Sacredheartbg

St. Joseph the Worker

200 West Jones,
Yacolt, WA 98675
Mailing Address:
PO Box 38
Battle Ground, WA 98604

St. Vincent de Paul Helpline:
(360) 576-0122



St. Philip

430 Bozarth Ave.
Woodland, WA 98674
Mailing Address:
PO Box 2169
Woodland, WA 98674
(360) 225-8308
churchoffice@stphilipwoodland.com
www.stphilipwoodland.com
Office Hours:
Monday, 12 — 4:30 pm
Tues-Fri, 9:30 am — 4:30 pm

St. Mary of Guadalupe

1520 North 65th Ave.
Ridgefield, WA 98642
Mailing Address:
PO Box 2169
Woodland, WA 98674

St. Vincent de Paul Helpline:
PO Box 1150 Woodland, WA 98674
(360) 841-8734

Parish Family 44

A Roman Catholic Parish

Archdiocese of Seattle

www.archseattle.org

Pastor: Fr. Temo Ramirez

Parochial Vicars: Fr. Vu Tran

Fr. Nicholas Kayongo

Deacons: Adolfo Carbajal,
Steve Reeves, Jack Roscoe

December 28, 2025



THE HOLY FAMILY

"Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt." - Mt 2:14

"José se levantó, tomó de noche al niño y a su madre, y se retiró a Egipto". - Mt 2,14

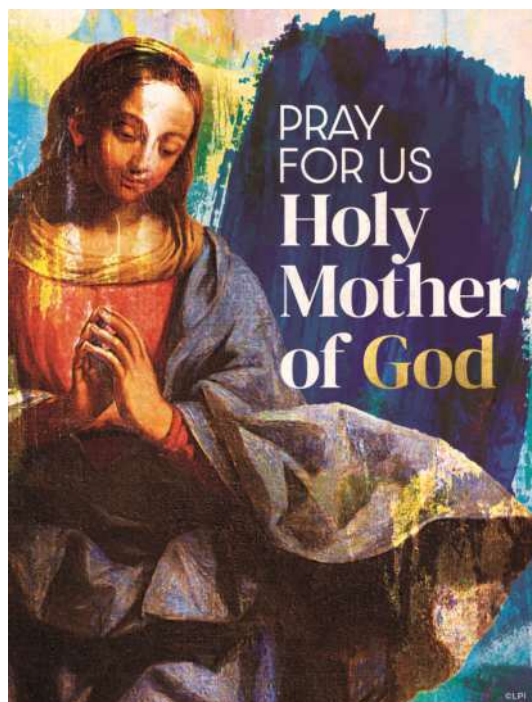


PASTOR'S LETTER

THE NEW YEAR AND MARY, MOTHER OF GOD AND QUEEN OF PEACE

Just after celebrating Christmas, the Church concludes the Octave of Christmas by honoring Mary under her greatest title, Mother of God. All her dignities and prerogatives depend on the fact of her divine Motherhood. The Catechism of the Catholic Church, in paragraph 509, teaches us: "Mary is truly 'Mother of God' because she is the mother of the eternal Son of God made man, who is God himself." The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, is a holy day of obligation and is celebrated every January 1st in her honor. It is a feast that leads us to the heart of the mystery of the Christian faith: the Son of God, born of Mary, assumed our humanity to redeem us. This title, proclaimed at the Council of Ephesus in the year 431, not only highlights Mary's divine motherhood, but also underlines her essential role in the plan of salvation. The figure of Mary is an example of complete trust in God. At the beginning of a new year, her fiat, her generous "Yes" to the divine plan, inspires us to live with hope and openness to the future, trusting in God's providence. Just as Mary treasured and pondered everything in her heart, we too are called to reflect on the challenges and blessings that the past year has bestowed upon us, and to embark on the journey of the new year with renewed faith. The celebration of January 1st also coincides with the World Day of Peace, instituted by Saint Paul VI in 1967. On this day, the Pope offers a message of hope and commitment to peace, reminding us that it is the fruit of justice, mutual respect, and solidarity. The figure of Mary, Queen of Peace, encourages us to build bridges and to be instruments of reconciliation in our communities. In a world marked by conflict and division, the beginning of the civil year challenges us to work for peace, starting in our own hearts and our families. The Virgin Mary, Mother of all, invites us to live as brothers and sisters, building a future where unity and love reign. On New Year's Day, Christians begin by focusing their gaze on Mary. The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, is the first Marian feast we find in the Western Church. We see the Virgin Mary as the first believer, the one who always reveals and makes Jesus visible. Today, she shows him to us as the "God who saves," and invites us to take this path that is constantly beginning anew. In these first days of the New Year, what do I think would be needed for me to also be "Happy"? What uncertainties, worries, anxieties... persist? Do I reflect on them in my heart, do I bring them to prayer? A week after Christmas, do I continue to contemplate his Mystery, do I continue to meditate in my heart on what the Birth of the Son of God means for me, for everyone?

Mary draws life from the everyday, discovers the presence of God hidden in the ordinary. And by letting events settle; by meditating on them, she discovers the clues to her salvation along which God himself leads us. We leave one year behind and face a new one, unexpected, but one we want to fill with hope. To do so, we must be simple and humble, to receive the grace and providence of God the Father. We place ourselves under the protection of the Virgin Mary, we turn to her maternal intercession so that God may grant humanity a blessed year, a year of peace. Let us keep in mind the words of Pope Francis in his message for the 58th World Day of Peace in 2025: "May it be a year in which peace grows. That real and lasting peace, which does not stop at the objections of contracts or at the tables of human compromises. Let us seek true peace, which is given by God to an unarmed heart: a heart that does not insist on calculating what is mine and what is yours; a heart that dispels selfishness in the readiness to go out and meet others; a heart that does not hesitate to recognize itself as indebted to God and is therefore willing to forgive the debts that oppress our neighbor; A heart that overcomes discouragement about the future with the hope that every person is a blessing to this world. May this beginning of the year be a time to entrust ourselves to Mary, asking her to intercede for us and guide us on the path of peace, faith, and hope. Like her, let us trust that God can make all things new and renew our world with his infinite love."



SOURCE: fmcrazon.org-parroquiapatriarcasanjose.com-catholic.net-ewtn.com-vatican.va

The Feast of the Holy Family Jesus Mary & Joseph

Mt 2:13 - 15, 19 - 23

“Listen and trust, following Gods quiet direction”

The Feast of the Holy Family ~ Stewardship

“As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” Joshua 24:15

As we continue to celebrate the joy and mystery of Christmas, the Church invites us this Sunday to honor the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. In these days when the miracle of Christ's birth still echoes in our hearts, the Holy Family stands before us as a living model of surrender, generosity, and faithful stewardship.



Christmas proclaims the greatest gift ever given:

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son” (John 3:16).

In the Incarnation, God offers us His very self. This is the foundation of Christian stewardship receiving all as gift and returning all in gratitude.

Mary and Joseph show us that true stewardship begins in the home. Scripture tells us that they “did everything according to the law of the Lord” (Luke 2:39), offering their time, their gifts, and even their future to God's plan. Their quiet faithfulness encourages us to look at our own lives and ask how we might better offer our Time, Talent, and Treasure to the Lord.

Stewardship of Time

Time is our most precious gift, one that cannot be replaced. Saint Paul reminds us:

“Be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord” (1 Corinthians 15:58).

We live this out when we spend time in prayer as a family, attend Mass together, visit the lonely, or simply pause to listen with love. The Holy Family teaches us that holiness grows in the small, daily moments we dedicate to God.

Stewardship of Talent

God has given each of us unique gifts. Saint Peter writes,

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another” (1 Peter 4:10).

In Nazareth, Jesus grew in wisdom and strength, surrounded by Mary's tenderness and Joseph's craftsmanship. Their home reminds us that our gifts whether teaching, cooking, organizing, repairing, singing, or comforting are meant to build up our families and our parish community.

Stewardship of Treasure

Even the wise men expressed worship through generous giving:

“They opened their treasures and offered him gifts” (Matthew 2:11).

Our financial blessings, whether great or small, become powerful instruments of love when shared. Supporting our parish, assisting families in need, and giving to charitable works continue the generosity of Bethlehem.

As we reflect on this feast, we are reminded that stewardship is not a program it is a way of life. It is the daily choice to let Christ be at the center of our homes, just as He was at the center of the Holy Family.

May the example of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph inspire us to deeper gratitude, more generous hearts, and a renewed commitment to offering our Time, Talent, and Treasure to the glory of God.

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, pray for us and guide our homes.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

● SH Sacred Heart

Wed. (12/31) 4:00 pm: Souls in Purgatory
 Friday (1/2) 9:00 pm: for Healing
 Sat. (1/3) 5:00 pm: Ronald Cordes
 Sunday (12/28) 8:30 am: Patrick Lyon
 10:30 am: Angelina Andres+

◆ SJW St. Joseph the Worker

Sunday (12/28) 12:30 pm: Santiago Salunat+

▲ SP St. Philip

Wed. (12/31) NO MASS
 Thurs. (1/1) 9:00 am: Loretta & Tom Spiering / Jim McKay
 Friday (1/2) NO MASS
 1st Sat. (1/3) NO MASS
 Sunday (1/4) 8:30 am: Jeff Lyan
 1:00 pm (Spanish): Char & Frances Patnode

◆ SM St. Mary of Guadalupe

Wed. (12/31) NO MASS:
 Thurs. (1/1) 6:00 pm (Bilingual): Katie Hiss
 Sunday (1/4) 10:30 am: Bob Lip+

■ SJE St. John the Evangelist

Monday (12/29) 9:00 am: (RIP) Rafael Ortiz
 7:00 pm: (RIP) Enrique Lopez; (SPI) Manuel Ponce, Luz Romero
 Tues. (12/30) 9:00 am: Souls in Purgatory
 Wed. (12/31) 5:00 pm: Pro Populo
 7:00 pm: (Spanish) Pro Populo
 Thurs. (1/1) 9:00 am: Pro Populo
 12:00 pm (Bilingual) Pro Populo
 5:00 pm: (Spanish) Pro Populo
 Friday (1/2) 9:00 am: (RIP) Carmen Cabrera, David Cabrera
 Sat. (1/3) 5:00 pm: (RIP) Orlando Zelaya, Carmen & David Cabrera
 Sunday (1/4) 9:00 am: (RIP) Carmen & David Cabrera
 11:00 am: (Spanish) (SPI) Jaime y Antonia Blas, Luis, Bianca, Camila, Ky Blas
 5:00 pm: (Spanish) (SPI) Jaime & Brenda Blas

CONFESSION

● SH Sacred Heart

Saturday (1/3) 3:30 pm-4:40 pm

▲ SP St. Philip

Wednesday (12/31) NO Confession
 Friday (1/2) NO Confession
 1st Saturday (1/3) 8:30 am & 9:30 am

◆ SM St. Mary of Guadalupe

Wednesday (12/31) NO Confession
 Thursday (1/1) NO Confession

■ SJE St. the Evangelist

Monday (12/29) 6:00 pm
 Saturday (1/3) 3:30 pm-4:45 pm

PRAYER AND DEVOTIONS

● SH Sacred Heart

Wednesday (12/31) NO MORNING MASS
 1st Friday (1/2) 9:30 am: Anointing of the Sick

◆ SJW St. Joseph the Worker

▲ SP St. Philip

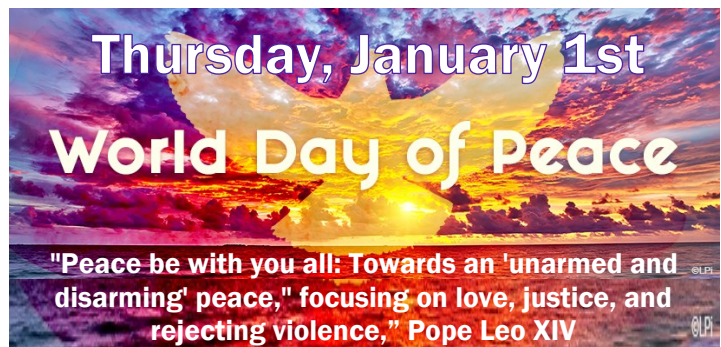
Wednesday (12/31) NO MORNING MASS
 1st Friday (1/2) NO MORNING MASS

◆ SM St. Mary of Guadalupe

Sunday (1/4) 7:00 pm: Charismatic Prayer Group

■ SJE St. John the Evangelist

Monday (12/29) 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm: Adoration
 Friday (1/2) 10:00 am Sacred Heart Holy Sacrament of Adoration; Healing Prayer
 8:00 pm Children's Nocturnal Adoration
 9:00 pm to 6:00 am: Women's Nocturnal Adoration



HOLIDAY HOURS

Family 44 Parish Offices of St. Philip, St. John and Sacred Heart will be closed December 22nd through January 3rd. We wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Bob Clark, Scott Clark, Lynn Hainley, Faye Lister, Jeff Rice, Mike Speilman, Al Strickfaden, Anne Flynn, Ellen Olson, Geroge & Carmen Brandreth, Ron Marquez, Arlan Byrd, Carolyn Carpio, Adam Wingfield, Maura M., Steve Flynn, Kari Groshell, Donna Reeder, Bob Sabol, Carolyn Mackes, Joni Concannon, Manuel Juscefh Maciel, Linda Pope, Gibson, Jaxon Pacheco, Amber Naramore, Ruby Duncan, Sean Knowles, Marie Vallentyne, Thomas MacDonald, Shirley Keller, Don Mass, Tony Giovingo, JoAnn Heichel, Patrick McIntire, Butch and Margaret Martin, Olivia Branch, Jack Otokichy, Flor Carrillero Baltazar, Mary Jo Piazza, Ron Hertz

Those who are sick and unable to join us today, the men and women in our Armed Forces, and all the faithful departed, especially Francine Carpio Scott+.

Names will be kept on the list for two months. To add or remove a name to our prayer list, please contact Garri Linardos in the Sacred Heart office. (360) 687-4515, or email g.linardos@sacredheartbg.org

STAFF

ST. JOHN STAFF

(360) 573-3325

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Adult Faith Formation and Liturgy

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SACRED HEART AND

ST. JOSEPH STAFF

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Bookkeeper

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Doug Moschetti

Facilities Manager

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ST. PHILIP AND

ST. MARY STAFF

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Pastoral Assist/Administration

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Sylvia Moreno, Ext. 4 (habla Español)

Bilingual Administrative Assistant

Hilda Morales, (habla Español)

Liaison for Hispanic Ministry

Eveline Mahoney, Ext. 3

Bookkeeper

EVENTS

SH Sacred Heart

Monday-Friday (12/29-1/2)

Parish Office Closed

SJW St. Joseph the Worker

SP St. Philip

Monday-Friday (12/29-1/2)

Parish Office Closed

Monday-(12/29) 6:30 pm

No Class OCIA (Spanish)

Tuesday (12/30) 6-8:00 pm

Choir Practice, Church (Spanish)

Wednesday(12/31) 6:00 pm

NO CLASS (Jr./Sr. High Youth Group)

Thursday (1/1) 5:30 am

NO CLASS (OCIA Youth/Children Class)

Sunday (1/4) 11:00 am

NO CLASS Elementary Faith Formation, Hall

SM St. Mary of Guadalupe

Sunday (1/4) 9:00 am

Elementary Faith Formation, in the Hall

10:30 am

Feed My Lambs Collection

SJE St. John the Evangelist

Monday-Friday (12/29-1/2)

Parish Office Closed

Wed, 12/31 6:30 pm

Renewed in The Holy Spirit, Fireside Room

Friday, 1/2 6:00 pm

Knights of Columbus Monthly Council Meeting ,

Fireside Room

7:00 pm

Youth Bible Study (Middle School), Room K

7:30 pm

Young Adults Q & A, Fireside Room

Saturday, 1/3

+++++

Sunday, 1/4

10:00 am

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast, Vogel Hall

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

A Holy Day of Obligation Mass Schedule

Wednesday, December 31st

Sacred Heart 4:00 pm English

St. John 5:00 pm English

St. John 7:00 pm Spanish

Thursday, January 1st

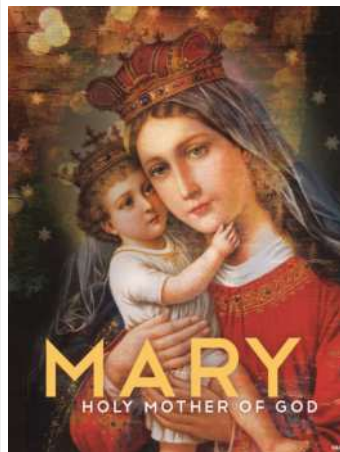
St. Philip 9:00 am English

St. John 9:00 am English

St. John 12:00 pm Bilingual

St. John 5:00 pm Spanish

St. Mary 6:00 pm Bilingual



HOLIDAY HOURS

Family 44 Parish Offices of St. Philip, St. John and Sacred Heart will be closed December 22nd through January 3rd. We wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year.

Bulletin Articles

Following are submittal timelines for any news or announcement your group or ministry wants published in an upcoming bulletin. You can submit your articles to your parish office, or to Garri Linardos at g.linardos@sacredheartbg.org * note early due dates

January 11 bulletin: submittals due to parish office by Dec 29*

January 18 bulletin: submittals due to parish office by Jan 5*



**“The path of Jesus is magnanimity,
generosity, the giving of oneself
without measure.”**

–Pope Francis

Thinking about a year-end gift to Family 44? (St. John the Evangelist, St. Philip, St. Mary of Guadalupe, Sacred Heart Church or St. Joseph the Worker Mission) Here’s what you need to know:

We appreciate you!

More than 30 percent of all charitable donations are made in the month of December. We’re honored that you’re considering a gift to our Parish Family.

Christmas office hours

Our offices will be closed December 23rd through January 3rd.

IRA charitable donations

You may be able to avoid paying tax by making a charitable distribution straight from your account to one of the churches in Family 44. Lisa Ripp (lisar@stphilipwoodland.com) at St. Philip, Contact Garri Linardos (g.linardos@sacredheartbg.org) at Sacred Heart, or Lori Jimerson at St. John (paa@stjohnvancouver.org).

You can donate online, right up until 11:59 PM on December 31!

You can make a gift from the comfort of your own home! You can donate to online on our parish websites. You can donate right up to the last second of 2025 and have it applied to your 2025 tax year. Donations received in January will be applied to your 2026 pledge.

If you itemize your deductions

The Adjusted Gross Income limitation for charitable contributions is 100%. You can deduct your cash or cash-equivalent contributions from your entire income.

If you don’t itemize your deductions

You are able to claim a charitable deduction of **up to \$300** if filing on your own, or **up to \$600** if filing jointly with your spouse.

EVENTS

Women's Retreat

The Holy Spirit

Sign-up will begin
the weekend after Christmas
at the Welcome Desk after all Masses at
St. John the Evangelist

Open to all women ... Come without cost

(Bring your own brown bag lunch)
Presentation in English

Saturday
January 10, 2026
9:30-2:00 pm

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
8701 NE 119th Street
Vancouver, WA 98661

Agenda

Registration ... 9:30 am
Morning Session ... 10-11:30 am
Lunch (your own) ... 11:30-12:30 pm
Afternoon Session ... 12:30- 2:00 pm

Topic Presenters:

Geralyn Ballo
Sister Anne Marie Warren
(Our Lady of Peace Retreat House, Beaverton)

Sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas

HUELLAS MIGRANTES PRESENTS
LA PASTORELA
THE SHEEP OF BETHLEHEM



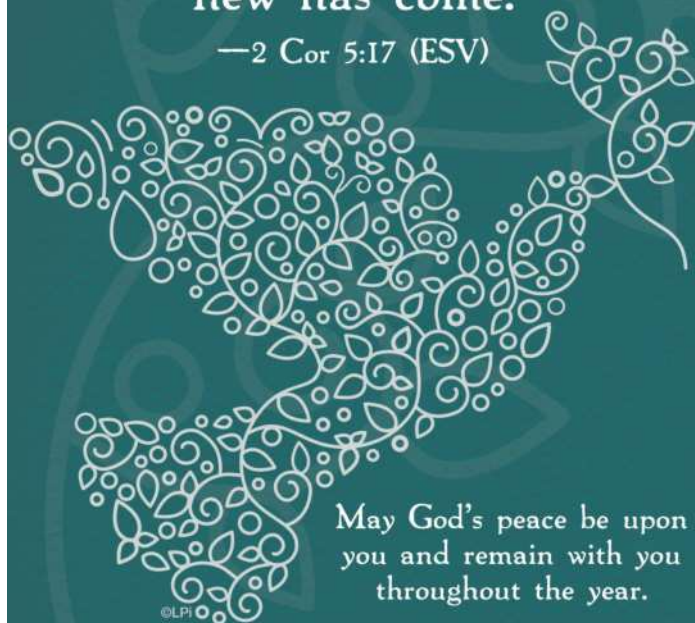
A story of unity, understanding, and
resilience that will lead you to
reflect and, undoubtedly, to
understand the true meaning of
Christmas.



ST. PHILLIP/WOODLAND, WA:
DECEMBER 28TH 2:00 PM
HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH/PORTLAND
JANUARY 4TH 1:30 PM

Therefore, if anyone is in
Christ, he is a new
creation. The old has
passed away; behold, the
new has come.

—2 Cor 5:17 (ESV)



May God's peace be upon
you and remain with you
throughout the year.

PILGRIMAGE OPPORTUNITIES

Holy Land Pilgrimage - October 2026

The tour provider will be hosting a zoom session to share details of the trip and to answer all of your questions: **Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 6 PM**
Contact Sacred Heart Parish Office for a [meeting link](#).
Registration is already open! You can sign up and see trip details at: <https://schaefertravel.com/2026 Holy Land>.

I don't know about you, but I dream about living the Christmas story, traveling to Israel and seeing-feeling-experiencing all of the events in our Savior's life that we have only read-heard about! I imagine it will be overwhelming

Camino de Santiago - A walking pilgrimage - September 2026

This info session will be in person.

Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at 6 PM at St. Joseph Parish in Vancouver

Ffolks that walked the Camino with Fr. Kyle will be at the meeting to talk about their experience. Fr. Kyle and Angela will be on site to address your questions about this next trip. You can get a preview by looking at our [Camino Photo Gallery](#).

Angela will make a brief mention at this meeting of the Fatima-Lourdes-Barcelona trip in 2027.



Angela Schaefer
Travel Advisor
schaefertravel88@gmail.com
schaefertravel.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

● **Sacred Heart KofC Padre Pio Council 7117 update**

Father Nick attended an Ordination and Retreat in Uganda, presenting the Chalice in memory of Jamie Anderson to newly ordained Fr Victor. Father Nick concelebrated at Fr. Victor's first Mass using the Chalice. Father Nick also presented Fr. Victor with 50 rosaries made by John Valencourt and they will be distributed to children in the neighboring villages.



● **Save the Date: February 21st**

Mark your calendars. **The Crab or Steak Feed** is soon approaching. As food prices go up, we will keep ticket price reasonable in order for our community to gather and have a nice evening.



OUTREACH

■ **St. John the Evangelist THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**



A heartfelt *thank you* to everyone who so generously supported this year's Giving Tree. Because of your kindness, many families facing difficult times will experience the joy and hope of Christmas in a special way. Your thoughtful gifts, given with such love and compassion, shine as a beautiful witness to Christ's light in our parish community.

Thank you for helping brighten a child's Christmas and for embodying the true spirit of giving. May God bless you abundantly for your generosity.

◆ **St. Mary OUTPOST Ministry Update**

We are adding a monthly Dinner at the Outpost starting January 25th. We will be doing signups before and after mass on Jan. 4th and Jan 11th. Please stop by the table for more information about this wonderful ministry.

OUTPOST Ministry ACTIVITIES:

JANUARY 25 DINNER FOR THE OUTPOST

JANUARY 28-31 Prepare OUTPOST LUNCHES

● **Sacred Heart Meal Train**

If you are in need of meal delivery or would like to volunteer to provide meals please contact Shirley Howard howardkska@gmail.com



■ **St. John the Evangelist Prepares Service Dates and Hours**

- 2nd Sunday of the month– Diaper distribution from 12:30 pm
- 4th weekend of the month–Baby & Infant store open after all weekend Masses

We are currently in need of diapers sizes 5, 6, 7, and baby wipes. Donations can be dropped in the Narthex. We appreciate your support!

For more information on ways you can support this ministry, or to schedule an appointment to obtain diapers and other items at no cost, please contact Marina Diaz at 360-521-4981. Please remember, we only accept baby and infant clothing donations, NO adult clothing

FAITH FORMATION

● Sacred Heart CGS Faith Formation

Please enjoy the winter break. Classes resume Tuesday and Wednesday, January 6th & 7th.

● Sacred Heart Sunday, Jan. 11, 6-8 pm Q & A with Fr. Nick



This newly formed youth group (for grades 9-12) meets on the second Sunday of the month, October through June, from 6pm to 8pm.

▲ St. Philip ~

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Session Dates; January 11 & 25; February 8 & 22; The Rite of Election: February 24th, March 8 & 22. Easter Vigil on April 4. We meet immediately following the 8:30 AM Mass at St. Philip in Woodland, in the church. All are welcome! Inquirers into the Catholic Faith or Catholics who want a refresher.

OCIA -Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

(Spanish) Are you or someone you know considering becoming a Catholic? There will be no class on December 28. Classes will resume on January 4! We will have classes in Spanish to explore the Catholic Faith on **Mondays**, 6:30-8:30 pm. Email us at: churchoffice@stphilipwoodland.com

OCIA - for Children / Youth

It's a special faith journey for children aged 7-17 who want to receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.) **Thursday, NO CLASS December 25th & Jan. 1st, 2026 next session: January 8th, @5:30pm in the Parish Hall.** if you know someone who is interested and have questions, please call the church office: (360) 225-8308. Email us at: churchoffice@stphilipwoodland.com

Elementary Faith Formation ~ 1st through 5th grade

Enjoy your winter break. There are no classes from December 21 to January 11. Classes are on Sunday from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Sunday, in the Parish Hall.

Jr./Sr. High School Faith Formation~ 6th - 12th Grade

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! There will be no classes on December 25 and 28. Classes will resume on January 8! Classes are held on Wednesday evenings from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the parish hall.

◆ St. Mary of Guadalupe Elementary Faith Formation ~ K – 5th Grade

Christmas break from December 21 to 28. Classes resume on January 4. Merry Christmas! Classes are on Sundays from 9:00 to 10:15.

◆ St. Mary of Guadalupe Youth Group ~ 6th to 12th grade

The next class will resume on January 4. May everyone have a blessed Christmas and a happy New Year! Classes are held every first and third Sunday. In the evening from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the parish hall. Youth Mass is on the third Sunday of the month at 10:30 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

● Red Cross Blood Drives:

Sacred Heart

Our next Red Cross blood drive will be on Monday, **January 5th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.** Go to RedCrossBlood.Org and schedule your appointment today. Look for the Sacred Heart link on January 5th. Ask a friend to donate at the same time. You can support each other and do twice as much good.

● Sacred Heart Book Club

We are taking a break in January and will resume on February 3 with "A Song for Nagasaki" by Paul Glynn, for our Lenten reading.

▲ St. Philip Women's Group

The monthly Women's Group will not be meeting in December. Our Lady of Guadalupe, Pray for us. The next meeting will be **Friday, January 9, 6-8 PM** in St. Philip Hall. Please join us for a potluck meal and time of prayer and fellowship with the women of our parish.

■ St. John the Evangelist Faith Sharing Group

Faith Sharing Group will resume meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 6 at 9:45am in the Fireside Room.

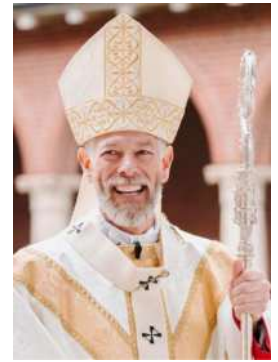
Reflection on the Consecration to the Sacred Heart

by Archbishop Alexander K. Sample, Chairman of the Committee for Religious Liberty

On November 11, the bishops of the United States voted to consecrate this nation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The consecration will take place in 2026 to celebrate America's semiquincentennial, that is, the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. What does this mean? Why consecrate the nation to the Sacred Heart?

Devotion to the Sacred Heart has developed over the centuries following the experiences of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque and the apparitions she witnessed in the seventeenth century. Popes have lauded the practice of consecration of the self, home, and even whole nations to the Sacred Heart.¹ In his encyclical instituting the Solemnity of Christ the King, Pope Pius XI, drawing on the teaching of Pope Leo XIII,² commended the "pious custom" of consecrating the nation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus as a way to recognize the kingship of Christ.³ By celebrating this important national anniversary with this devotion, we have the opportunity to encourage all Catholics to honor our Lord and to "infuse the spirit of the Gospel into various communities and departments of life."⁴

With his encyclical, *Dilexit Nos*, Pope Francis brought devotion to the Sacred Heart to the forefront of our contemporary Catholic life and culture. He noted: "In contemplating the pierced heart of the Lord, who 'took our infirmities and bore our diseases,' we too are inspired to be more attentive to the sufferings and needs of others and confirmed in our efforts to share in his work of liberation as instruments for the spread of his love. As we meditate on Christ's self-offering for the sake of all, we are naturally led to ask why we too should not be ready to give our lives for others."⁵ In *Dilexi Te*, Pope Leo invited us to contemplate Christ's love, which moves us out on our mission to attend to our sisters and brothers suffering in the world today, particularly in our care for poor and vulnerable people. As we reflect with gratitude on the blessings God has bestowed on our country, our devotion to the Sacred Heart demands that we consider how we might foster truth, justice, and charity in American life. We are called to bring our faith into the actions we take and the lives we lead in our communities. We celebrate the ways the Church has contributed to a more just world, and we invite all in our society to see the face of Christ reflected in each sister and brother. We welcome God's "kingdom of justice, fraternity and solidarity,"⁶ remembering that "God has a special place in his heart for those who are discriminated against and oppressed, and he asks us, his Church, to make a decisive and radical choice in favor of the weakest."⁷ This anniversary and consecration will be a great opportunity to promote the beautiful devotion to the Sacred Heart and to encourage the laity to offer their lives in service to God and their country.



Novena for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus: January 14th-22nd, ending on the day of the USCCB's day of prayer for the same. Look for the Novena booklet in you church vestibule.

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St. Joseph	34	3	9%
St. John	1989	165	12%
St. Mary	267	47	18%
St. Philip	399	36	9%



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Elisabeth Patnode

In August, I began serving as a missionary with SPIRITUS Ministries, helping young people encounter Christ in a deeper way. Through retreat ministry, prayer, discipleship, and parish youth ministry, our team is dedicated to inspiring faith in Catholic youth. Please keep my teammates and I in your prayers!



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