



COLUMBIA RIVER CATHOLIC

HOLY REDEEMER | ST. THOMAS AQUINAS | OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA

November 23, 2025

Our Lord Jesus Christ

King of the Universe

November 30, 2025

The First Sunday of Advent

WELCOME!

Welcome to Columbia River Catholic where we Glorify God and Sanctify Souls. We hope you will join us in our pursuit of an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. We would love to have you register in one of our three faith communities that can be found at the bottom of this page. If you are not already a Catholic Christian, or you are but have been away from the Church for a while, we'd love to help you become a Catholic or return to the fold. Again, just contact one of the communities at the bottom of this page to start or resume your journey.

Enjoy this bulletin. We hope that you will take the time to read through it. It contains very important information about our faith and opportunities to grow in it, and opportunities to journey together in this Catholic community.

CLERGY

- Fr. Thomas Nathe, Pastor
- Fr. Bala Nagineni, Vicar
- Fr. Clifford Martin, Retired Priest
- Holy Cross Priests
- Deacon Scott Aikin



*The Altar of Christ the King in Döbling Carmelite Church, Vienna
by architect Richard Jordan and artist Ludwig Schadler*

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH | VANCOUVER

360-885-7780

Office Hrs: Mon - Fri 9am-4pm
17010 NE 9th Street
Vancouver, WA 98684

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH | CAMAS

360-834-2126

Office Hrs: Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm
324 NE Oak Street
Camas, WA 98607

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA MISSION | STEVENSON

509-427-8478

Office Hrs: Call for appointment
725 SW Rock Creek Drive
Stevenson, WA 98648

Holy Redeemer Parish, Vancouver

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
11/24	11/25	11/26	11/27	11/28	11/29	11/30
Mass 8:30am	Mass 8:30am 11:00am Funeral Mass Christopher Hepworth	Mass 8:30am 11:00am Funeral Mass Anita Harisch	Mass Thanksgiving Day 8:30am	Mass 8:30am 23 hr. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9:00am Chaplet of Divine Mercy 3:00pm Confessions 3:30-5:00pm	Mass 8:30am Confessions 9:15am-10:30am 2:30-4:15pm Mass 4:30pm	Confessions 7:30-8:15am 10:00-10:45am Mass 8:30am 11:00am

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Camas

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
11/24	11/25	11/26	11/27	11/28	11/29	11/30
		Confessions 5:00-5:45pm Mass 6:00pm	Mass Thanksgiving Day 11:00am	Mass 6:00pm	Confessions 4:00-4:45pm Mass 5:00pm	Confessions 7:30am - 8:15am Mass 8:30am

Our Lady Star of the Sea Mission, Stevenson

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
11/24	11/25	11/26	11/27	11/28	11/29	11/30
		Eucharistic Adoration and Rosary 6:00pm-7:00pm	Mass Thanksgiving Day 8:30am			Confessions 10:45-11:15am Mass 11:30am

Open to exploring or learning more about the Catholic Faith?

Consider joining the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults or OCIA.

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults, or OCIA is a formal process of communal initiation of new members into the Catholic Church, as well as a welcome back program for returning Catholics, and further instruction for practicing Catholics who want to know more about the beauty of our faith. Please reach out to us, we want to help!

Holy Redeemer and St. Thomas Aquinas Parishes—Contact Mark MacKenzie at markm@holyredeemervanc.org

Our Lady, Star of the Sea Mission, in Stevenson—Contact Abby Coates at abby@stthomascamas.org

Holy Redeemer Parish, Vancouver

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
12/1	12/2	12/3	12/4	12/5	12/6	12/7
Mass 8:30am	Mass 8:30am	Mass 8:30am	Mass 8:30am	Mass 8:30am 23 hr. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9:00am Chaplet of Divine Mercy 3:00pm Confessions 3:30-5:00pm	Mass 8:30am Confessions 9:15am-10:30am 2:30-4:15pm Mass 4:30pm	Confessions 7:30-8:15am 10:00-10:45am Mass 8:30am 11:00am

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Camas

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Our Lady Star of the Sea Mission, Stevenson

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
12/1	12/2	12/3	12/4	12/5	12/6	12/7
		Eucharistic Adoration and Rosary 6:00pm-7:00pm		Adoration 9:30am 1st Friday Mass 10:30am Confessions 11:00am		Confessions 10:45-11:15am Mass 11:30am

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Partners in the Gospel

Jesus Christ: Yesterday, Today, and Forever ~

This pastor's column will run for two Sundays in row.

Over the past couple of weekends all three communities in our parish family, Columbia River Catholic, have had townhall gatherings exploring the same questions of "who are we?" I wasn't at any of them, yet the feedback I got was that those seven town hall gatherings varied in tone and answers from a love fest to court room. The compiled results of those seven gatherings and this stage of our journey will be published in a future bulletin and sent to the Archdiocese of Seattle.

A takeaway for me from those town hall gatherings is that a number of parishioners don't understand the why, what, and how of Partners in the Gospel. Perhaps that is because I wrote three pastor's columns on "Partners" in 2023 & 2024 for Holy Redeemer before becoming the pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas and Star of the Sea. That's three pastor's columns, as well as multiple Mass announcements and explanations from the ambo at Holy Redeemer, that newer parishioners as well as St. Thomas and Star of the Sea parishioners did not see or hear. So, I want to apprise or reappraise everyone of the what, why, and how of Partners in the Gospel.

In my own words, Partners in the Gospel is a multi-year process that the Archdiocese of Seattle (Church in Western Washington) is using to consolidate priests and parishes. For the past thirty-five years, dioceses throughout the country have done or are doing something similar. Thirty other dioceses across the United States are currently restructuring due to declines in priests and lay participation. Here is a link to a story I saw last week about the Archdiocese of Detroit announcing that they will be starting their own process of consolidation

<https://www.detroitcatholic.com/news/archdiocese-of-detroit-announces-two-year-restructuring-to-involve-every-parish>.

The What

Partners in the Gospel began in 2022 when the Archdiocese of Seattle hired a consulting firm that has experience with diocesan consolidations. That firm, *Partners Edge*, created our process of consolidation that we call Partners in the Gospel. Partners was rolled out to the priests of the Archdiocese of Seattle in 2022 and to everyone else in 2023. In that year, all the clergy and laity across the Archdiocese's 168 parishes and missions, discerned together who those 168 communities would be partnered with to form the 60 new parish families that the Archdiocese has today. Why 60 and not another

number? Because 60 is the most optimistic number of parishes that the Archdiocese could staff with priests who are capable of pastoring, as well as supporting priests (vicars). That, as well as 60 being a number spread across Western Washington that could reach Catholics everywhere and consolidate the human and material resources enough to carry on the mission of the Church going into the future.

The Why

Over the past 60 years the trend line for religious practice in this country has been going down. People attending religious services or even identifying with a religion has fallen dramatically during that time. In 2019, 1500 Protestant churches closed – and that was before Covid. In addition to that, 30% of Protestant churches in America never reopened after the Covid shutdown. In the early 1960's *at least* 67% of Catholics attended Mass on any given Sunday. That number *is less than 10% today*. We all have Catholic family members who no longer attend Mass. In most families the majority of Catholics don't attend Mass. Every category of religious practice has seen steep decline. Mass attendance, baptisms, confessions, confirmations, marriages in the Church, ordinations to the priesthood, etc., have seen huge declines. Here's a shocker: 67% of parishes and missions in Western Washington aren't meeting their budget through ordinary income. Yet the Church in Western Washington is still structured and largely functioning as if its' 1965 not 2025, with roughly the same number of parishes and missions today as then, with half as many parish priests, and far less participation. For over 50 years, the status quo has been failing the Church in Western Washington, and it must change.

Question: I can understand why parishes in decline need to change but why do we? Why are parishes with good Mass attendance, financing, and content parishioners having to participate in this Archdiocesan consolidation?

Answer: Because we all share the same limited pool of priests. Without priests there are no Masses, no Confessions, no Confirmation, no Last Rites. Without priests who are capable of pastoring there are no parishes. Jesus Christ established the Church on 12 priests, not laymen, not parishes, but priests. Without them, the Church ceases to exist.

The numbers tell the story. Today the Archdiocese of Seattle has 168 parishes and missions being served by 143 assigned priests. At the current ordination rate of two priests per year, in 15 years we'll have 93 priests for 168 parishes and missions. Wait, it gets worse. As of 2028, we'll begin to ordain

Partners in the Gospel

one priest every other year, meaning that in 15 years we won't have 93 priests to serve 168 parishes and missions. We will have 81. Here's a sobering statistic, in the past year the Archdiocese of Seattle buried 22 priests and ordained one.

Priests are human beings. Priests cannot bi-locate. Priests can break too, especially pastors. I am on the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council. Last week we met and the ten pastors in the room were allowed to speak freely about how they were doing (which was a first). It isn't good. They expressed how the current situation is not sustainable for them. If the status quo doesn't significantly change, pastors could begin to resign or worse. Big changes are needed so that priests can be sane, healthy, present to their people, and an attractive option for young men to consider a vocation to be one.

Question: Can't we bring in more priests from foreign countries?

Answer: Not more than we already have, and the number of foreign priests is going to decline. We have to prepare for fewer foreign priests, not the same number we have now, let alone more. Vocations in foreign countries like India are falling, and in many countries where our foreign priests come from, there are as many or more Catholics per priest than there are in this country. It isn't fair to have priests come from another country where they themselves have a priest shortage. Furthermore, experience has taught us (with a few exceptions) that foreign priests do not inevitably make effective pastors. They may be wonderful priests, holier than me, doing more good than me, with a higher place waiting for them in heaven than what's waiting for me; but in the complexity of modern American pastoring they are simply out of their league. Pastoring in this country is about a lot more than being present to people. Modern pastoring requires administrative talent, organizational talent, decision making talent, relational talent, and technical skills. In short, modern pastoring is as complicated as being a regional manager of a multi-site company. Most Americans can't handle that, let alone a foreigner without competency in computers, communication, accounting, personal management, staff and customer expectations. A majority of the priests serving in the Archdiocese of Seattle are not pastors either because they are not yet ready or because they never will be.

The How

Here is a simple breakdown of how we have been and continue to implement Partners in the Gospel.

1. In 2023 parishioners and clergy across the Archdiocese of

Seattle gave feedback on the best combinations of regional parishes and missions to be clustered together. These would be called "parish families" and share clergy.

2. In July 2024, priests were assigned and parish families formed.
3. In 2025 parish family advisory councils were formed and parish families discerned "who are we."
4. In 2026 parish families will discern "who do we want to become" and "how do we get there." Two more sets of town hall gatherings.
5. In 2027 parish families will discern new names and all 168 parishes and missions in the AD will be canonically suppressed (closed) and reestablished as 60 new parishes with their new names.

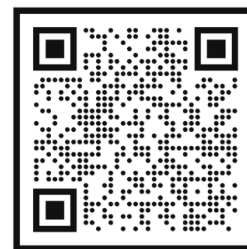
The Outcome

This is as much as we know at this time. I repeat – this is as much as we know at this time. There are no preset expectations or assumptions about what ministry in the new parish will look like. I do have a hope though that when this is all said and done, that priests, parish communities, and the laity will all have a healthy and sustainable faith life and future. Thank you for your patience, prayers, and understanding as we navigate this uncharted territory together.

Please check out the Archdiocese of Seattle's webpage on Partners in the Gospel for way more information. It can be found here

<https://archseattle.org/partners/>

or by scanning the QR code here.



May Almighty God Bless You,

Fr. Thomas Nathe

Holy Redeemer Parish, Vancouver



Holy Redeemer Church

Website: holyredeemervan.org

Phone: 360-885-7780

Email: office@holyredeemervan.org

Parish Office Hours

9am-4pm Monday-Friday

17010 NE 9th Street

Vancouver, WA 98684



Daily Mass Intentions

11/24 Elizabeth Wolf†
11/25 Manuel Garibaldi†
11/26 Mattea Elliot†
11/27 Joy Elliot and Family
11/28 Earl and Mary Brosius†
11/29 Roger Holdreith†
12/01 Theresa Johnston†
12/02 Clare Krill
12/03 Su Moran
12/04 Erwin Warren†
12/05 Christine Bolger†
12/06 Ellen J. Trainor†

Prayer Requests

Jerry Ackert+, Spencer Adams, Joseph Aflague, Rick Benjamin, Charlene Bragg, Greg Cesar, Ruby Duncan, Ryker Erickson †, Carol Greenet, Tim Greenet, Ed Gillis, Lillian Henry, Christopher Hepworth†, Jim Hudson, Evelyn Huebner†, Jamie Kohler†, John Kessenger+, Kristen Morris, Teresa Poissant+, Ron Prill, Mary Santiago, Damon Schleichert†, Quentin Smith, Ivana Tarabochia, William Wear+, Jim Williamst, Elizabeth Wolf†

Thank you for your generosity!

Contributions	11/9-11/15
Stewardship	\$ 37,187
St. Vincent de Paul:	\$ 1,076

Special This Week

Thanksgiving Holiday: Parish Offices Closed

Nov 27-28

The Parish Office will be closed for Thanksgiving on Thursday and Friday, Nov 27-28 so that parish staff can enjoy the holiday with their families.

The Giving Tree

Beginning on Thanksgiving, look for the Giving Tree in the Narthex of the church. The Giving Tree supports Prepares, St. Vincent de Paul and Birthright. Please take an ornament, submit your prayer request online, and return your gift unwrapped no later than Sunday, December 14. Volunteers are needed to help with the gifts after each Mass. If you can help, contact Christie Soanka at 360-921-5537 or kalani66@yahoo.com.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Nov 25 | 10am-4pm

The quarterly Red Cross Blood Drive organized by the Holy Redeemer Knights of Columbus is scheduled for Tuesday, November 25 from 11am-4:30pm. The drive takes place in the Holy Redeemer Parish Center. Sign up at the Red Cross website redcrossblood.org and search for Blood Drives in the zip-code 98684.

St. Vincent de Paul Vancouver Toy Drive

Dec 17 | 10am-4pm

St. Vincent de Paul is holding its annual drive through Toy Drive at St. Joseph Catholic Church from 10am-4pm on Wednesday, Dec 17th. Drop off NEW unwrapped toys that will be distributed through the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas program.

Coming Up

Nov 27 Thanksgiving Holiday ~ Parish Offices Closed

Nov 28 Thanksgiving Holiday ~ Parish Offices Closed

Recurring Meetings

American Heritage Girls: Mondays 4:30pm | Nov 24, Dec 1

Bible Study with Littles: Tuesdays 9:30am | On hiatus: resumes Dec 30

Cenacle of St. Joseph : 3rd Tuesdays, 9:30am | Dec 16

Choir, Children & Youth: Wednesdays 5:00pm | Dec 3, Dec 10

Choir, Adult: Thursdays 7:00pm | Dec 4, Dec 11

Direction of Our Times : 2nd Tuesday (monthly): Dec 9

Fidelis and Fraternus: Wednesdays 6:00pm | Dec 3, Dec 10

Holy Face of Jesus Devotion: 4th Tuesdays 9:15am | Nov 25, Dec 23

Homeschool Co-Op: Fridays 10:30am | Dec 5, Dec 12

Millions of Monicas: Mondays 6:00pm | Nov 24, Dec 1

MMP Cenacle: Mondays 9:15 am | Nov 24, Dec 1

MMP Cenacle: Thursdays 9:15am | Dec 4, Dec 11

MMP Cenacle: Saturdays 9:15am | Nov 29, Dec 6

OCIA: Tuesdays 6:00pm | Dec 2, Dec 9

Spanish Endow: Thursdays 6:30pm | Dec 4, Dec 11

Troops of St. George: Mondays 6:30pm | Dec 1, Dec 15

Young Adult Bible Study: Friday 6:30pm | Dec 5, Dec 12

Holy Redeemer Faith Formation

For a complete listing of opportunities and upcoming events, visit holyredeemervan.org or call the parish office M-F 9am-4pm.



Congrats Confirmandi!

On November 22, 2025 about 60 people recieved the sacrament of Confirmation! Congratulations to all who received this wonderful sacrament!

Please continue to keep the newly confirmed in your prayers!



**MEN
OF
FAITH**

**SATURDAY DEC 6
9:15AM**

**PARISH CENTER
HOLY REDEEMER CAMPUS**

**LEARN
MORE
HERE!** >>>



23

**Hour Adoration
of the
Blessed Sacrament**

Holy Redeemer Catholic Church
9:00am Fridays to 8:00am Saturdays

Stop in during office hours Friday 9-4pm
(code entry after office hours)



**Scan to sign
up for a
weekly
Holy Hour**



**FAMILY GAUDETE
SUNDAY
CELEBRATION!**

December 14, 2025

*FOLLOWING THE
11AM MASS*

HOLY REDEEMER CAMPUS

**Games, crafts, card
making for the
homebound,
caroling, and
visits from
special
saintly guests!**

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Camas



St. Thomas Aquinas Church

Website: stthomascamas.org

Phone: 360-834-2126

Email: office@stthomascamas.org

Parish Office Hours

9am-4pm Monday -Thursday

324 NE Oak Street

Camas, WA 98607



stthomascamas.org

Daily Mass intentions

11/26 Emma Schmid† & Patty Flores (bday)

11/27 Marisol Inés Twyman (birthday)

11/28 Doris Hoffman† & Blaine Mulder

12/3 Angela Elam

12/4 Guy Varsek

12/5 Julian Pascual Benumea (birthday)

Prayer Requests

Patricia Mingus (healing), Jack Mahoney (healing), Mary Hevlihy†, Lydia Wikeer (healing), Sally Gordon (healing), Elenor Collins, Patty Lovell, Kitty Quirke, Emily O'Neil, Andrea Nelson (surgery), Anne Catherine Firth†, Charles Farrell†, Eve Moore (recovery), and please continue to pray for all those on the prayer chain.

Send new prayer requests to:

stthomasprayers@stthomascamas.org

Thank you for your generosity!	
Contributions	11/9-11/15
Stewardship	\$ 13,953
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 1,242

Special This Week

St. Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Giving Tree

Beginning this weekend, please take a tag from the "giving tree" in the back of the church to help someone in our community have a wonderful Christmas. Be sure to return wrapped gifts (with the tag!) to the box by the St. Thomas statue by Dec. 13th. (There are a variety of items requested with three separate tags for each recipient: two "needs" and one "want").

Thanksgiving Meal Distribution Update

Help us share Thanksgiving meals with our local community. As we adapt our traditional plans to better comply with local permitting requirements, this year will be a bit different. We are collaborating with Black Bear Diner and Chuck's Produce to prepare the meals. In general, most meals will be prepared and delivered on Wednesday, the day before Thanksgiving. A smaller number (~50-100 meals) are expected to be delivered on Thanksgiving Day, when drivers will be asked to caravan to Chuck's Produce after the 11am Mass to pickup meals for delivery. To help with these local deliveries, or to provide financial support, please use the QR code on the next page. Checks may be made payable to "Knights of Columbus Fr. Blanchet Council 2999" (for collection at Mass or at the parish office). We are unable to accept food donations this year.

Thanksgiving Day Mass at 11:00am

Reminder: as in past years, our weekday Mass on Thanksgiving Day will be celebrated at a special time. Join us at 11am to give thanks as a community. 8:30am Masses will be celebrated at OL Star of the Sea & Holy Redeemer. There will be no 6pm Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas on Thanksgiving Day.

Coming Up

Nov 27 Thanksgiving Day Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas, 11am

Nov 29 Advent begins at sunset

Dec 6 St. Nicholas Celebration, 6pm, STA Parish Hall

Dec 8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Masses at 8:30am & 6pm

Dec 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration, 6pm Mass + Fiesta

Recurring Meetings

Aquinas Guild: 1st Wednesdays 10am fireside | Dec 3, Jan 7

Catholic Daughters: 1st Mondays 5pm fireside (not Jul-Aug) | Dec 1, Jan 5

Cor Men's Group: Saturdays 8am fireside | Nov 22, Nov 29, Dec 6

Discipleship Gathering: 3rd Tuesdays 7pm church | Dec 16, Jan 20

Drama Group: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays 6:00pm fireside | Nov 25, Dec 9

Faith Formation (PreK-12): Sundays 9:45am AC | Nov 23, Dec 7

Faith & Family Parents: Periodic Sundays 9:45am fireside | Dec 7, Jan 11

Grief Support: 1st Mondays 10:00am Parish Office | Dec 1, Jan 5

Knights of Columbus: 1st Wednesdays 7pm fireside | Dec 3, Jan 7

OCIA (Christian Initiation): Tuesdays 6pm Holy Redeemer | Dec 2, Dec 9

Parish Playgroup: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 10am AC | Dec 2, Dec 16

Parish Potluck: 2nd Tuesdays 5pm hall (except summer) | Dec 9, Jan 13

Prayer Shawl Ministry: 1st Saturdays 9:30am | Dec 6, Jan 10

St. Vincent de Paul: 1st Wednesdays 1pm fireside | Dec 3, Jan 7

Young Adult Bible Study: Fridays 6:30pm Holy Redeemer | Dec 5

Youth Group Socials: monthly 6pm (not summer) | Dec 12, Jan 17, Feb 7

St. Thomas Aquinas Evangelization

For a complete listing of opportunities and upcoming events, visit stthomascamas.org and read the weekly parish email.



See the insert in this bulletin listing special events for
The Advent and Christmas Seasons 2025

SVdP Giving Tree	St. Nicholas Celebration
Camas Tree Lighting	Family <i>Gaudete</i> Celebration
Immaculate Conception Masses	Teen & Family Caroling
OL Guadalupe Celebration	Children's Christmas Program
<i>Simbang Gabi</i> Celebration	CRC Choir Concert at Grotto
CRC Penance Service	CRC Christmas Masses

Put the insert on your 'fridge and mark your calendars!



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL GIVING TREE

Starting November 22nd

Please choose a tag from
St. Vincent de Paul giving tree
located in the vestibule.

Please purchase the gift, wrap it,
place the tag on the gift, then
return the gift to the box near our
St. Thomas Aquinas Statue by

Saturday, December 13th

Thank you for your generosity!

Questions?

Contact Anita at 360-833-8786



Thanksgiving Meals



Help us share Thanksgiving meals
with our local community!

UPDATE: Most meals will be prepared and
delivered on Wednesday, Nov. 26.

A smaller number of meals will be delivered
on Thanksgiving Day. Drivers will be asked to
caravan to Chuck's Produce after 11am Mass
to pickup meals for delivery.

To help with deliveries or to
provide financial support,
please use this QR Code:



We are unable to accept food donations this
year.

Coordinated by your local
Knights of Columbus Council

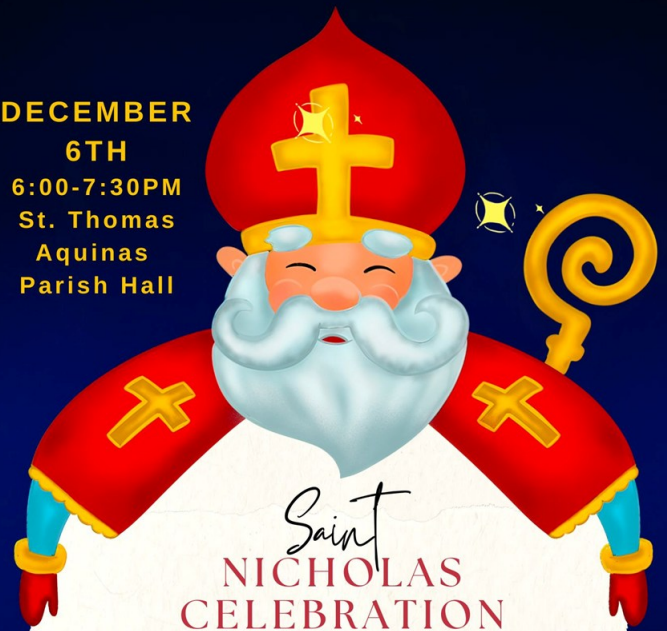


Town Hall Meetings: Give Your Input Online

If you missed our town hall meetings on Nov 8-9, then please
provide your input online via this QR code or the link on the
parish website. We want to hear from all parishioners as we
continue our methodical, multi-phased effort to
envision and determine how our parish family
can become a single parish that can best glorify
God and sanctify souls throughout our local area.



**DECEMBER
6TH
6:00-7:30PM
St. Thomas
Aquinas
Parish Hall**



Saint
**NICHOLAS
CELEBRATION**

For children & families:
Come meet St. Nicholas and learn
about traditions from around the
world. Enjoy plenty of treats,
games and activities!

**Musical Performance by the
CRC Preschool & Kindergarten**

Our Lady Star of the Sea Mission, Stevenson



Our Lady Star of the Sea

Webpage: stthomascamas.org/our-lady-star-of-the-sea

Phone: 509-427-8478

Email: office@stthomascamas.org

Office Hrs: Please call for an appointment

725 SW Rock Creek Dr
Stevenson, WA 98648

Staff: Tony & Abby Coates
abby@stthomascamas.org
509-427-0010



Sunday Mass Intention

11/23 Pro populo

11/30 Pro populo

Prayer Requests

Sharon Vance, Deanna (surgery), Meghan Mac-Rhyann, Judy Krieger (special intention), Trudy Wilson, Connie B., Lolah Bliss (healing after car accident), Tim & Ashley (made it safe), Emily Cook, Angela Tovar, Jayden, our Catechumens, and please continue to pray for all those on the parish prayer chain.

Send prayer requests to:
Abby Coates 509-427-0010

Thank you for your generosity!	
Contributions	11/9-11/15
Stewardship	\$ 1,324

Special This Week

Advent

Beginning the Church's new liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of **preparation** that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth at Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas. (USCCB)

Soup for Souls on Sunday Evenings

Please help us feed the hungry! At Our Lady Star of the Sea, we'd like to reach out with love and warmth by starting a new ministry called **Soup for Souls**. Starting December 7th, we plan to host a one-night community soup supper each Sunday evening, 5:00-6:30, offering two types of soup with bread to anyone in need or simply seeking fellowship. If you feel called to be part of this beautiful ministry — whether by helping serve, cook, or simply offering your time — please sign up or speak with Deby Brown or Abby Coates after Mass.

Dec. 7 - Blessing Bags

Blessing Bags will be ready for each parishioner to take after Mass on December 7th. If you come across someone that needs a little help or is begging for money, you can hand them a blessing bag. Each bag will have some warm winter essentials and a small Catholic sacramental to give them hope. Thank you for bringing so many needed supplies for our Blessing Bags!

Coming Up

Nov 27 Thanksgiving Day Mass, 8:30am with Fr. Bala

Nov 29 Advent begins at sunset

Dec 8 Immaculate Conception (holy day of obligation) Mass at 12:00pm

Ministers

Celebrant:

Sacristan:

EMHC (cups):

Lector:

Ushers:

Counters:

Coffee Hosts:

Sunday, Nov 23

Fr. Bala

Joseph

Joseph & Monica

Pete

Laura & Amy

Greg & Ed

Darice & Jill

Sunday, Nov 30

Fr. Bala

Dick

Dick & Chris C.

Tom P.

Jim & Debbie

Greg & Elaine

Salvie, Anna & Chris

Sunday, Dec 7

Fr. Nathe

Tony

Tony & Jim

Tom P.

Chris & Elaine

Kitty & Lexie

Matt, Dick, Steve

Catholic School Options

Columbia River Catholic Parish Family provides per-pupil assistance for active parishioners who enroll their children in grades K-8 at local Catholic Schools. This allows families to receive discounted tuition rates.

- Columbia River Catholic Preschool & Kindergarten
lauren@stthomascamas.org
- Regina Caeli Academy Homeschool Hybrid, Pre-K - HS
admissions@rcahybrid.org
- Our Lady of Lourdes School Pre-K—8th Grade
www.lourdesvan.org
- St. Joseph Catholic School Pre-K—8th Grade
www.stjoevanschool.org/
- Seton Catholic College Prep High School
<https://www.setonhigh.org/>

Thanksgiving Holiday Offices Closures

Nov 27-Nov 28

On Thursday November 27 and Friday November 28 all parish offices of Columbia River Catholic and the CRC Preschool and Kindergarten will be closed in observance of the holiday so our staff can celebrate Thanksgiving with their families. On behalf of all the staff of Columbia River Catholic, we will be praying that you and your loved ones have a Happy Thanksgiving. Regular office hours will resume on Monday, December 1st.



Thanksgiving Day Prayer

Lord, we thank you
for the goodness of our people
and for the spirit of justice
that fills this nation.

We thank you for the beauty and fullness of the
land and the challenge of the cities.

We thank you for our work and our rest,
for one another, and for our homes.

We thank you, Lord:
accept our thanksgiving on this day.
We pray and give thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Source: 2025 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website

Red Cross Blood Drive

Nov 25

The quarterly Red Cross Blood Drive organized by the Holy Redeemer Knights of Columbus is scheduled for Tuesday November 25th from 11am-4:30pm. The drive takes place in the Holy Redeemer Parish Center. Sign up at the Red Cross website redcrossblood.org and search for Blood Drives in the zip-code 98684.

St. Nicholas Celebration

Dec 6 | 6:00-7:30pm

The Columbia River Catholic Preschool and Kindergarten invite you to join in this year's St. Nicholas Celebration at the St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Hall. This popular family event includes treats, games and activities. See the description on page 9 for more details.



Men of Faith

Dec 6

All men are invited to attend the next Men of Faith meeting on Saturday, December 6th in the Holy Redeemer Parish Center immediately after the 8:30am Mass at Holy Redeemer. The meeting includes a hearty breakfast, prayer and faith-filled presentations. There is no fee and no need to register ~ just show up!

St. Vincent de Paul of Vancouver Toy Drive

Dec 17 | 10am-4pm

St. Vincent de Paul Vancouver is holding its annual drive through Toy Drive at St. Joseph Catholic Church from 10am-4pm on Wednesday Dec 17th. Drop off NEW unwrapped toys that will be distributed through the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas program.

Catholic Career Opportunity ~ Parish Family #43

Parish Family #43 is seeking a full-time Coordinator for Evangelization and Ministries. This position will help envision, plan, and execute events to foster greater social cohesion and connection between the five churches, work especially with the faith formation staff to provide training and formation for our catechists, help our existing ministries to use ministry and facility scheduling software, and more. The ideal candidate will have experience with social media, recruiting new volunteers, and working with lay and ordained ministers. Please visit stroselongview.com for more information.

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