



COLUMBIA RIVER CATHOLIC

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

December 21, 2025

The Fourth 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 Nagineeni, Vicar
- Fr. Clifford Martin, Retired Priest
- Holy Cross Priests
- Deacon Scott Aikin



*"The Journey to Bethlehem Mosaic", 1320
From the Byzantine/Palaeologan Renaissance*

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
12/22	12/23	12/24	12/25	12/26	12/27	12/28
Mass 8:30am	Mass 8:30am Advent Penance Service 6:00pm	Daily Mass 8:30am CHRISTMAS EVE Masses 4:00pm 7:00pm	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD Mass 10:00am	Mass 8:30am 23 hr. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9:00am Chaplet of Divine Mercy 3:00pm Confessions 3:30-4:30pm	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
12/22	12/23	12/24	12/25	12/26	12/27	12/28
		CHRISTMAS EVE Confessions 4:00-4:45pm Mass 5:00pm	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD Mass 8:30am 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
12/22	12/23	12/24	12/25	12/26	12/27	12/28
		CHRISTMAS EVE Eucharistic Adoration and Rosary 6:00pm-7:00pm	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD Mass 12:00pm			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

Journey to Bethlehem

Jesus Christ: Yesterday, Today, and Forever ~

Two thousand years ago in the first Advent, the week before Jesus' birth, the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph would have been traveling from Nazareth to Bethlehem. What was it like reaching Bethlehem and settling into the cave? Fortunately, in the visions of Blessed Anne Catherine Emmerich we have an idea. Blessed Anne was the greatest visionary on the Life of Jesus the Church has ever known. She passed away in 1823. You can find all of her visions from Angelico Press, much of them are free online as well. In this pastor's column I share some of what she saw concerning the Holy Family's travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem. In my Christmas pastor's column, I'll share some of what she saw of the birth of Jesus. Both accounts are highly abridged due to a lack of space. Enjoy.

May Our Lord Bless You,



Fr. Thomas Nathe

Taken from The Life of Christ by Blessed Anne Catherine Emmerich

An angel appeared to Joseph and said that he should set out at once with Mary for Bethlehem, as it was there that her Child was to be born. The angel told him, moreover, that he should provide himself with a few necessities, but no laces nor embroidered covers, and he mentioned all the other things he was to take. Joseph was very much surprised. He was told also that, besides the ass upon which Mary was to ride, he was to take with him a little she-ass of one year which had not yet foaled. This little animal they were to let run at large, and then follow the road it would take.

I saw Joseph and Mary in their house at Nazareth; Anne [mother of Mary] too was present. Joseph informed them of the commands he had received, and they began to prepare for the journey. Anne was very much troubled about it. The Blessed Virgin had had all along an interior admonition that she should bring forth her child in Bethlehem; but in her humility she had kept silence. She knew it, also, from the Prophecies. She had all the Prophecies referring to the birth of the Messiah in her little closet at Nazareth; she read them very often and prayed for their fulfillment. She had received them from her teachers at the Temple, and by the same holy women had been instructed upon them. Her prayer was al-

ways for the coming of the Messiah. From those Prophecies she knew that the Savior would be born in Bethlehem, therefore she lovingly submitted to the Divine Will and began her journey. It was a very painful one for her, since at that season it was cold among the mountains. Mary had an inexpressible feeling that henceforth she must and could be only poor. She could possess no exterior goods, for she had all in herself. She knew that she was to be the Mother of the Son of God. She knew and she felt that, as by a woman sin had entered into the world, so now by a woman the Expiation was to be born. It was under the influence of this feeling that she had exclaimed: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord!" I understood, likewise, that Jesus was conceived of the Holy Ghost about the hour of midnight, and about midnight should be born.

The Arrival in Bethlehem

Mary and Joseph went around by the north and approached Bethlehem on the west. A short distance outside the city, about a quarter of an hour's walk brought them to a large building surrounded by courtyards and smaller houses. There were trees in front of it, and all sorts of people encamped in tents around it. This house was once the paternal home of Joseph, and ages before it had been the family mansion of David. It was at this period used as the custom house of the Roman taxes.

Joseph still had in the city a brother, who was an innkeeper. He was not his own brother, but a step-brother. Joseph did not go near him. Joseph had had five brothers, three full-brothers and two step--brothers. Joseph was five and forty years old. He was thirty years and, I think, three months older than Mary. He was thin, had a fair complexion, prominent cheekbones tinged with red, a high, open forehead, and a brownish beard.

Joseph went straight into the custom house, for all newcomers had to present themselves there and obtain a ticket for entrance at the city gate. Joseph went up to a large room in an upper story, where he was interrogated, who he was, etc., and his questioners examined long rolls of writing, numbers of which were hanging on the walls. They unrolled them and read to him his ancestry, also that of Mary. Joseph knew not before that through Joachim, Mary had descended in a straight line from David. He told the official that he possessed no real estate, that he lived by his trade and the assistance of his wife's parents. Mary also was summoned to appear before the clerk, but not upstairs. She was interrogated in a passage on the first floor, and nothing was read to her. Only those that had no establishments, that possessed no estates, had to report at their birthplace [for the census].

Journey to Bethlehem

Joseph then went with Mary into Bethlehem on whose outskirts the houses stood scattered, and into the heart of the city. At the different streets they met, he left Mary and the ass standing while he went up and down in search of an inn. Mary often had to wait long before Joseph, anxious and troubled, returned. Nowhere did he find room; everywhere was he sent away. And now it began to grow dark. Joseph at last proposed going to the other side of the city, where they would surely find lodgings. They proceeded down a street, which was more of a country road than a regular street, for the houses stood scattered along the hills, and at the end of it reached a low, level space, or field. Here stood a very beautiful tree with a smooth trunk, its branches spreading out like a roof. Joseph led Mary and the beast under it, and there left them to go again in quest of an inn. He went from house to house, his friends, of whom he had spoken to Mary, unwilling to recognize him. Once during his quest, he returned to Mary, who was waiting under the tree. He wept, and she consoled him. He started afresh on his search. But whenever he brought forward the approaching delivery of his wife as a pressing reason for receiving hospitality, he was dismissed still more quickly.

Meantime it had grown dark. Mary was standing under the tree. The ass was nearby, its head turned toward the tree, at the foot of which Joseph had made a seat for Mary with the baggage. Crowds were hurrying to and fro in Bethlehem, and many of the passersby gazed curiously at Mary, as one naturally does on seeing a person standing a long time in the dark. Ah, they little dreamed that the Savior was so near! Mary was so patient, so tranquil, so full of hope. Ah, she had indeed long to wait! At last she sat down, her hands crossed on her breast, her head lowered. After a long time, Joseph returned in great dejection. I saw that he was shedding tears and, because he had failed again to find an inn, he hesitated to approach. But suddenly he bethought him of a cave outside Bethlehem used as a storing place by the shepherds when they brought their cattle to the city. Joseph had often withdrawn thither to conceal himself from his brothers and to pray. It was very likely to be deserted at that season or, if any shepherds did come, it would be easy to make friends with them. He and Mary might there find shelter for awhile, and after a little rest he would go out again on his search.

At last, they reached a hill, in this hill was the cave or vault spoken of by Joseph. Joseph opened the light wicker door and, as they entered, the she-ass ran to meet them. She had left them near Joseph's paternal house, and had run around the city to this cave. She frolicked around and leaped gaily about them, so that Mary said: "Behold! It is surely God's will that we should be here." But Joseph was worried and, in se-

cret, a little ashamed, because he had so often alluded to the good reception they would meet in Bethlehem. There was a projection above the door under which he stood the ass, and then proceeded to arrange a seat for Mary. It was quite dark, about eight o'clock when they reached this place. Joseph struck a light and went into the cave. The entrance was very narrow. Joseph cleared it out and prepared as much space in the back part as would afford room for a couch and seat for Mary, who had seated herself on a rug with her bundle for a support. The ass was then brought in, and Joseph fastened a lamp on the wall. He went also to the city where he procured some little dishes, a bundle of other things, and I think, some fruit.

When Joseph returned, he brought with him a small bundle of slender sticks beautifully bound up with reeds, and a box with a handle in which were glowing coals. These he poured out at the entrance of the cave to make a fire. He next brought the water bottle, which he had filled at the rivulet, and prepared some food. After they had eaten and Mary had lain down to rest upon her rush couch over which was spread a cover, Joseph began to prepare his own resting place at the entrance of the cave [Saint Joseph never slept in the same space as the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary]. When this was done, he went again into the city. Previously to setting out, he had stopped up all the openings of the cave, in order to keep out the air. Then for the first time, I saw the Blessed Virgin on her knees in prayer, after which she lay down upon the carpet on her side, her head resting on her arm, her bundle serving for a pillow. Joseph had enclosed by curtains his own sleeping place. The rest of the passage, from the recess to the entrance, he cut off by hangings, and there had a kind of storeroom.

Where Mary reposed before the birth of the Child and where I beheld her elevated above the ground at the moment of her delivery, there was a similar seat of stone. The spot in which the Crib stood was a deep recess, or side vault. Near it was a second entrance into the cave, which was in the ridge of a hill that ran toward the city. Besides the real Crib Cave, there were in the same hill, but lying somewhat deeper, two other caves, in one of which the Blessed Virgin often remained hidden.

The birth of Jesus to be continued with the Christmas Pastor's Column . . .

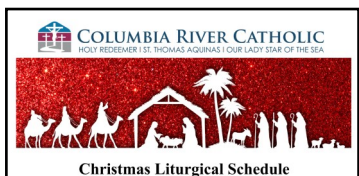
Catholic School Options

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/>

Christmas Liturgical Schedule

Please note the insert in this bulletin for the Christmas Liturgical Schedule for all three CRC campuses (Holy Redeemer, St. Thomas Aquinas and Our Lady Star of the Sea) of Columbia River Catholic. You can



also download the flyer on the Columbia River Catholic website at columbiarivercatholic.org, or scan the QR code to go directly to the webpage.



Christmas and New Years Office Closures

Dec 24-Dec 26 and Jan 1

Please note that all Parish Offices of Columbia River Catholic (Holy Redeemer, St. Thomas Aquinas and Our Lady Star of the Sea) will be closed the following days so our staff can celebrate the Holy Days with their families: HOLY DAY/HOLIDAY CLOSURES:

- Wednesday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve
- Thursday, Dec. 25: Christmas Day
- Friday, Dec. 26
- Thursday, Jan. 1: Feast of the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Advent Penance Service

Tuesday, Dec 23

This Advent we are again blessed to hold an Advent Penance Service with multiple priests to hear confession. Columbia River Catholic will be hosting this year's Advent Penance Service at Holy Redeemer on Tuesday, December 23rd at 6pm. Multiple priests will be on hand hearing confessions. There will be no scheduled Confessions on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

Save the Date: CRC Choirs Concert at the Grotto

Dec 26

Save the date for Friday, December 26th at 7pm when the combined choirs of Columbia River Catholic will be the featured choir at The National Sanctuary of our Sorrowful Mother ("The Grotto") in Portland. This is a beautiful way to celebrate Christmas with a selection of sacred music in the Chapel at the Grotto. For the complete seasonal choir concert list and to order tickets see thegrotto.org/Christmas/choir-schedule.

Columbia River Catholic is Hiring!

Columbia River Catholic is now accepting applications for a full time (30-40 hrs per week) Maintenance Assistant to serve at the Holy Redeemer, St. Thomas Aquinas campuses and periodically at Our Lady Star of the Sea Mission. A full job description, requirements and benefits package information can be found on the Columbia River Catholic website at columbiarivercatholic.org, or contact Don Anderson, Parish Administrator at dona@holyredeemervanc.org.

Other Catholic Job Opportunities: Parish 45

Parish Family 45 — St. Joseph • Our Lady of Lourdes • The Proto-Cathedral of St. James the Greater — is accepting applications for a full-time Executive Asst. to Pastor, PA for Music, and Director of Pastoral Ministry. For full job descriptions and compensation packages or to apply, please see the Parish 45 website www.parishfamily45.org.

- **Executive Assistant to the Pastor** provides high-level administrative and confidential support to the Pastor and pastoral leadership team. This person will be serving as a key liaison among clergy, staff and parishioners.
- **Pastoral Assistant for Music** will provide musical liturgical leadership across three churches and collaborate with parish schools.
- **Director of Pastoral Ministry** will serve as a key member of the Parish Family Leadership Team. This position collaborates closely with the Pastor to provide vision, direction, and coordination for all pastoral ministries across three churches and two schools.

Christmas Cards for Sr. Ines

One of our parishioners pursuing religious life, Sr. Ines, is a cloistered Carmelite in Coeur d'Alene ID. During most of the year she has limited ability to receive correspondence. At Christmas, the sisters are allowed as many Christmas Cards and notes as are sent. If you would like to send Sr. Ines a card this Christmas to wish her blessings, send your correspondence to

Sr. Ines of the Infant Jesus

c/o Carmel of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

3069 W. Presley Rd. | Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814.

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

12/22 Carol Mahoney†
12/23 Brian Debolt†
12/24 Coletta Brandst†
12/26 Legion of Mary
12/27 Andrewe Nguyen†

Prayer Requests

Jerry Ackert+, Spencer Adams, Joseph Aflague, Charlene Bragg, Coletta Brandst†, Greg Cesar, Stan Crull, Ruby Duncan, Ryker Erickson †, Carol Greene†, Tim Greene†, Ed Gillis, Anita Hanisch†, Lillian Henry, Christopher Hepworth†, Jim Hudson, Evelyn Huebner†, Kaiona Lynn Kaainoa, Jamie Kohler†, John Kessinger†, Kristen Morris, Annalisa Patton†, Teresa Poissant+, Ron Prill, Carol Quintero, Mary Santiago, Damon Schleichert†, Quentin Smith, Ivana Tarabochia, William Wear+, Jim Williamst†, Elizabeth Wolf†

Thank you for your generosity!

Contributions	12/14-12/20
Stewardship	\$ 54,377
St. Vincent de Paul:	\$ 931

Special This Week

Reminder of Parish Office Hours

Week of December 22

This week the Parish Office will be open Monday and Tuesday (Dec 22 and Dec 23) from 9am-4pm and closed Wednesday through Friday (Dec 24, Dec 25 and Dec 26) so that our staff can celebrate the Nativity of the Lord with their families. The Parish Offices will reopen Monday, Dec. 29th.

Knights of Columbus Treats after Masses

Dec 21

This month the Knights will be providing a special treat of donuts and coffee in lieu of their traditional breakfast after Sunday Masses.

The Giving Tree

A huge thank you to all of you for your great generosity in providing 795 gifts for those in need in our community. The gifts were distributed this past week. A special thank you to all of this year's volunteers. It is so wonderful to see the openheartedness of our parish family and we know all of our recipients greatly appreciate your kindness.

CRC Choirs Concert at the Grotto

Dec 26 | 7:00pm

Save the date for Friday, December 26th when the combined choirs of Columbia River Catholic will be the featured choir at the Grotto in Portland. For the seasonal choir concert list and to order tickets see the Grotto website at thegrotto.org/Christmas/choir-schedule.

Coming Up

Dec 23 Advent Penance Service
Dec 24 Christmas Eve
Dec 25 Christmas, The Nativity of Our Lord, Holy Day of Obligation
Jan 1 Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of God

Recurring Meetings

American Heritage Girls: Mondays 4:30pm | Resumes Jan 5
Bible Study with Littles: Tuesdays 9:30am | On hiatus: resumes Dec 30
Cenacle of St. Joseph : 3rd Tuesdays, 9:30am | Jan 20
Choir, Children & Youth: Wednesdays 5:00pm | Jan 7, Jan 14
Choir, Adult: Thursdays 7:00pm | Jan 8, Jan 15
Direction of Our Times : 2nd Tuesday (monthly): Jan 13
Fidelis and Fraternus: Wednesdays 6:00pm | Jan 7, Jan 14
Holy Face of Jesus Devotion: 4th Tuesdays 9:15am | Dec 23
Homeschool Co-Op: Fridays 10:30am | Jan 2, Jan 9
Millions of Monicas: Mondays 6:00pm | Dec 22, Dec 29
MMP Cenacle: Mondays 9:15 am | Dec 22, Dec 29
MMP Cenacle: Thursdays 9:15am | Jan 1, Jan 8
MMP Cenacle: Saturdays 9:15am | Dec 27, Jan 3
OCIA: Tuesdays 6:00pm | Jan 6, Jan 13
Spanish Endow: Thursdays 6:30pm | Jan 8, Jan 15
Troops of St. George: Mondays 6:30pm | Resumes Jan 5
Young Adult Bible Study: Friday 6:30pm | Jan 2

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.

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SR. INES!

Sr. Ines is a parishioner discerning a vocation as a cloistered Carmelite nun. She entered the convent in 2024, and her correspondence is usually very limited. For Christmas, the sisters are able to receive as many letters and notes as they are sent! She'd love to hear from you!



WELL WISHES, ENCOURAGEMENT IN HER VOCATION, AND PRAYER REQUESTS ARE ALL ENCOURAGED!

MAILING ADDRESS:

Sr. Ines of the Infant Jesus
c/o Carmel of Jesus Mary and Joseph
3069 W. Presley Road
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Prayer Groups

Marian Movement:

Three groups available to join on Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. All groups meet at 9am in the Choir Practice Room.



Anne, a Lay Apostle:

Anne, the author of *The Volumes*, received a message to have a prayer group meeting once a month. Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month at 9:00am in the Choir Practice Room.



St. Joseph Cenacle:

Members offer a weekly holy hour of prayers for our priests and will meet as a group on the third Tuesday of the month at 9:30am in the parish center. Contact Sandra Koceja by email at iteadioseph2020@gmail.com



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



Exodus

Magnify

Exodus 90 for Men Magnify 90 for Women

Join Fr. Nathe in 90 days of asceticism
and prayer to grow in virtue and a
deeper relationship with God.

Starts January 5

To sign up, scan the QR
code or visit
holyredeemervan.org



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



Daily Mass intentions

12/24 *Pro populo* (for all parishioners)

12/25 *Pro populo*

12/26 Michael Glee Johnson† (First Anniversary of Loss)
Jacob Hernandez†

Prayer Requests

David Ritter (recovery from surgery), Bill Wallace (surgery), Ken Dean (recovery), Dana Logan-Schmidt (healing), Patricia Mingus (healing), Jack Mahoney (healing), Mary Hevlihy†, Lydia Wikeer (healing), Sally Gordon (healing), Elenor Collins, Patty Lovell, 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	12/14-12/20
Stewardship	\$ 14,431
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 4,300

Special This Week

Coffee Hour Caroling | Sunday, December 21, 9:30am

Parish Hall during CDA Coffee Hour

The *Be Not Afraid* Prayer Group will be joined by other talented parishioners to lead us in a joyful session of sing-along caroling after the 8:30am Mass.

Parish Office Hours | Week of Dec 22-26

This week, the Parish Office will be open Monday and Tuesday (Dec 22 and Dec 23) from 9am-4pm and closed Wednesday through Friday (Dec 24, 25 and 26). The Parish Offices will reopen Monday, Dec 29.

Advent Penance Service | Tuesday, Dec 23, 6pm, Holy Redeemer

This year's Advent Penance Service for our Columbia River Catholic Parish Family will again have multiple priests on hand hearing confessions.

Christmas Masses

Please see the insert in this bulletin (and the summary on the next page) for the Christmas Liturgical Schedule for all three CRC campuses.

CRC Choirs Perform at The Grotto | Friday, Dec 26, 7pm

The combined choirs of Columbia River Catholic will perform at The Grotto's annual Christmas Festival of Lights in Portland. For the complete choir schedule and to order tickets visit: thegrotto.org/Christmas/choir-schedule.

Christmas Flowers

We welcome donations of poinsettias to decorate the church for the Christmas season. Please leave them in the library during office hours until December 22nd. White poinsettias are preferred, but we know those are harder to find, so red ones are welcome as well! Thank you!

Coming Up

Dec 23 CRC Advent Penance Service, 6pm, Holy Redeemer

Dec 25 Christmas! See next page (or website) for Mass times

Dec 26 CRC Choirs Perform at The Grotto Christmas Festival of Lights, 7pm

Jan 1 Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God (holy day of obligation)

Recurring Meetings

Aquinas Guild: 1st Wednesdays (not Jan) 10am Fireside | Feb 4, Mar 4

Catholic Daughters: 1st Mondays 5pm Fireside (not Jul-Aug) | Jan 5, Feb 2

Cor Men's Group: Saturdays 8am Fireside | Dec 20, Dec 27, Jan 3

Discipleship Gathering: 3rd Tuesdays 7pm church | Jan 20, Feb 17

Drama Group: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays 6:00pm Fireside | Jan 13, Jan 27

Faith Formation (PreK-12): Sundays 9:45am AC | Jan 11, Jan 25

Faith & Family Parents: Periodic Sundays 9:45am Fireside | Jan 11, Feb 8

Grief Support: 1st Mondays 10:00am Parish Office | Jan 5, Feb 2

Knights of Columbus: 1st Wednesdays 7pm Fireside | Jan 7, Feb 4

OCIA (Christian Initiation): Tuesdays 6pm Holy Redeemer | Jan 6, Jan 13

Parish Playgroup: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 10am AC | Jan 6, Jan 20

Parish Potluck: 2nd Tuesdays 5pm hall (except summer) | Jan 13, Feb 3

Prayer Shawl Ministry: 1st Saturdays 9:30am | Jan 10, Feb 7

St. Vincent de Paul: 1st Wednesdays 1pm Fireside | Jan 7, Feb 4

Young Adult Bible Study: Fridays 6:30pm Holy Redeemer | Jan 9, Jan 16

Youth Group Events: Monthly 6pm (not summer) | Jan 10, 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.

Holy Days of Obligation Mass Times at Columbia River Catholic Churches

Christmas: Dec 25

Mary, Holy Mother of God: Jan 1

St. Thomas Aquinas

Dec 24: 5pm

Dec 25: 8:30am, 11am

Jan 1: 8:30am, 6pm



Holy Redeemer

Dec 24: 4pm, 7pm

Dec 25: 10am

**Jan 1: 8:30am, 11am,
7pm**

OL Star of the Sea

Dec 25: 12pm

Jan 1: 12pm

New Bible Study: *Introduction to Matthew*

Wednesdays, 9:30am, January 7, 14, 21, 28, Parish Hall

The new (liturgical) year will now take our Gospel readings primarily from the Gospel According to St. Matthew. Join Ted Meany for a four-part series as an orientation to Matthew, reviewing the structure and themes that make this Gospel unique, including key passages such as the Sermon on the Mount and Peter's Confession.



Handouts will be provided; no book required. Bibles will be available; bring your favorite Bible if you wish.

Send RSVP or questions to ted@stthomascamas.org.

Triumph of the Heart:

The Passion of St. Maximilian Kolbe

Our youth and young adults invite the entire parish to join them for this special screening of a powerful movie about the heroic life of St. Maximilian Kolbe in the parish hall.

Saturday, January 17, after 5pm Mass



**Exodus 90 & Magnify
90 Begin January 5th!**



90 days of powerful asceticism can free us from bad habits and strengthen virtuous ones. Use this QR code to learn more and sign up. This is the year!

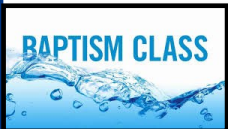
Free 2026 Calendar for You!

A big thank you to the Law Office of Carolyn Simms for our 2026 liturgical calendars. Pickup a free 2026 Calendar from the back of the church or in the parish office with beautiful images of churches around the world and holy days listed throughout the year.

Sunday Morning Faith Formation Christmas Break

Faith Formation will resume January 11th at 9:45am, with sessions for PreK-12th Grade and the Faith & Family Parent series on Covenant. Enjoy your time off and say your prayers!

Baptism Class | Jan 17, 9:30 - 11:30am, Fireside Room



For parents and godparents: use this QR Code to sign up and receive a link to videos you will need to watch before the class.



Questions? Contact amy@stthomascamas.org.

KC Woodcuts: Firewood available

KC Firewood is now available to parishioners for personal use as well as for anyone in need. Please scan this QR code and the KCs will arrange to pick-up or drop-off as needed.



Young Adult Faith Vision Board Night | Sat, Jan 3, 6pm

Join us in the Sacred Heart Building at Holy Redeemer to set goals for your spiritual life in the New Year.

Cor Men's Group | Every Saturday, 8am, STA Fireside
Join us for fellowship, refreshments, reflection on the Sunday Gospel, and a discussion to encourage each other this week.

Youth Group Social

Saturday, Jan. 10, 2:45pm-4:30pm, Big Al's Vancouver

Youth Group activities are open to youth in Grades 6-12. This off-site event is capped at 24 participants. Use the QR code to RSVP and complete a permission form by Thur, Jan 8. Please plan to arrive before 3pm start time to check in and get your bowling shoes. Look for updates from Laura.Cram@hotmail.com.



St. Thomas Aquinas Feast Day Dinner

GET YOUR TICKETS ONLINE NOW FOR

Saturday, January 24th, 2026, 6pm

- Dinner, friends, entertainment, & door prizes!
- For all ages: limited childcare upon request.
- Youth game room for older children available.
- Tickets online via QR code; only 100 seats available
- Pay online or at the door. Hall dinner, dessert, and beverages: \$10. Youth room and dinner: \$5.
- Able to help? Contact office@stthomascamas.org



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

12/21 Pro Populo

Prayer Requests

James Hickey (surgery), Judy Hegewald (healing), The Joy Family (moving), Sharon Vance, Deanna (surgery), Meghan MacRhyann, Judy Krieger (special intention), Trudy Wilson, Connie Buttaccio, 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	12/14-12/20
Stewardship	\$ 1,770

Special This Week

Special Events for the Fourth Sunday of Advent:

Christmas Pageant | Sunday, Dec. 21, after Mass, church
Enjoy our children's acting skills as they recreate the first Christmas.

Christmas Potluck | Sunday, Dec. 21, after the Pageant, social hall
Then share your favorite dish as we enter the final days of Advent.

Christmas Caroling | Sunday, Dec. 21, meet at church at 4pm
Let's make this our biggest caroling night yet! Bundle up in your coats and hats as we go door-to-door singing Christmas carols. Afterward, warm up with delicious hot soup at our Soup for Souls. Fun for the whole family.

Soup for Souls | December Sundays, 5pm, Social Hall

Bible Study Sign-ups

Bible study will begin this January. We will continue our Bible Study by moving on to Second Corinthians. Sign-ups will be posted on main bulletin board in Social Hall. The time and date will be announced at a later time.

Christmas Poinsettias

Please leave donated poinsettias in the St. Gabriel Room the week of Christmas.

Capital Campaign

Star of the Sea has kicked off a capital campaign to replenish our savings account. Fr. Nathe announced this a few Sundays back when he was here, and a letter to this effect has been mailed to everyone that is in Star of the Sea's database. If you haven't yet read that letter, please do so this week and prayerfully respond. If you didn't get the letter, there is a special card in the pew and the letter explaining the capital campaign that can be found online next to our Dec. 14 Bulletin. Access all our recent bulletins and inserts online at: <https://www.stthomascamas.org/sos-bulletins>.

Christmas Mass

Christmas Mass will be at 12:00 (noon) with Fr. Bala

Coming Up

Dec 21 Christmas Pageant, Potluck, Caroling, and Soup for Souls
Dec 23 CRC Advent Penance Service, 6pm, Holy Redeemer
Dec 25 **Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas), Mass at 12 noon**
Dec 26 CRC Choirs Perform at The Grotto Christmas Festival of Lights, 7pm
Jan 1 Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God, Mass at 12 noon

Minister Schedule

	Sun, Dec 21	Thu, Dec 25	Sun, Dec 28
Celebrant:	Fr. Nathe	Fr. Bala	Fr. Bala
Sacristan:	Joseph	Joseph	Dick A.
EMHC (cups):	Joseph & Monica	Monica & Joseph	Chris & Tony
Lector:	Tom P.	Katie L.	Chris B.
Ushers:	Gina & Laura	Gina & Abby	Amy & Gina
Counters:	Kitty & Salvie	NA	Greg & Elaine
Coffee Hosts:	Potluck	No coffee hour	Darice & Jill

Contact Information



COLUMBIA RIVER CATHOLIC
www.columbiarivercatholic.org

Parish Offices' Phone Numbers & Hours:

- Holy Redeemer Parish | 360-885-7780
Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm
- St Thomas Aquinas Parish | 360-834-2126
Monday-Thursday: 9am-4pm
- Our Lady Star of the Sea Mission | 509-427-8478
Please call for appointment

CLERGY

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

BECOMING CATHOLIC? RETURNING CATHOLIC?

For anyone exploring the Catholic Faith, whether already Baptized or not, contact markm@holyredeemervanc.org
360-885-7780

MASS INTENTIONS

Please contact your local parish office to request a Mass intention.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Don Anderson | dona@holyredeemervanc.org
360-885-7780

TITHING AND FINANCIAL GIFTS

Kevin Greenlee | keving@holyredeemervanc.org
360-924-0860

SPECIAL EVENTS

Ted Meany | ted@stthomascamas.org
360-834-2126

BAPTISMS

Amy Parent | amy@stthomascamas.org
360-541-9152

FIRST CONFESSION AND FIRST COMMUNION

Annie Cooper | Anniec@holyredeemervanc.org
360-541-9147

CONFIRMATION

Denice Twyman | denice@stthomascamas.org
360-541-9154

MARRIAGE

Mark MacKenzie | markm@holyredeemervanc.org
360-541-9148

RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS

Contact your Parish Office to arrange an appointment with the Pastor

FAITH FORMATION: PRE-K THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL

Katelyn Greenlee | katelyng@holyredeemervanc.org
360-541-9145

FAITH FORMATION: ADULT

Mark MacKenzie | markm@holyredeemervanc.org
360-541-9148

HOMEBOUND VISITS

Please contact your local parish office to arrange a visit to the sick, homebound, or other individual due to infirmity.

FUNERALS

Contact the Parish Office where the family is registered.

MATERIAL ASSISTANCE FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Vancouver | 360-694-5388
Camas & Washougal | 360-834-2126, option #4

COLUMBIA RIVER CATHOLIC PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN

Lauren White | lauren@stthomascamas.org
360-953-5842

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS: LOCAL RESOURCES

See Pg. 5 for a list of local Catholic School options for students
Preschool through High School

Thank you to our sponsors for their generous support



Join Our Upcoming Trips

Sep 2026 Another Camino!
Oct 2026 Holy Land
May 2027 Fatima, Lourdes, Barcelona
Schaefertravel.com/Pilgrimages

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