

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

*Inspired by the Holy Spirit, We Live the Good News of Christ
Through Worship, Community, and Stewardship*

820 18th Ave. Seattle, WA 98122

www.icseattle.org

Parish Family with: St. James Cathedral and Christ Our Hope

November 23, 2025

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



Reading 1: 2 Samuel 5:1-3

Responsorial Psalm 122: 1-2, 3-4, 4-5

*“Let us go rejoicing to the house of the
Lord”*

Reading 2: Colossians 1:12-20

Gospel: Luke 23:35-43

A Note from Father Gary

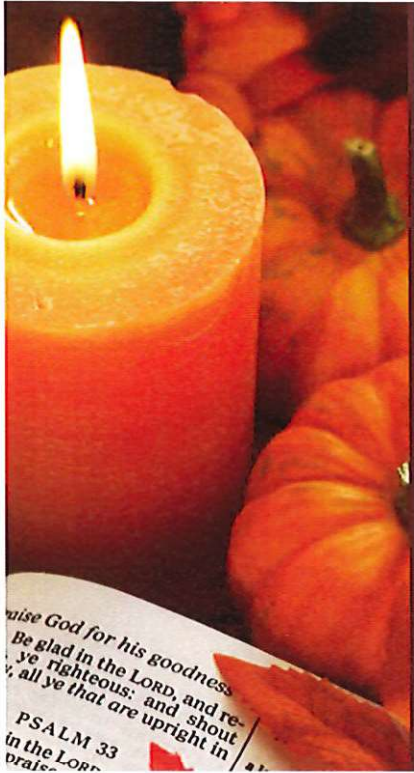
After prayerful discernment, and after consulting with our Liturgy Committee and our Pastoral Council, as well as our Parish Family Vision Council and our Parish Family Leadership Team, and after discussion with those who regularly attend the 6:00pm Wednesday evening Mass, we have decided to discontinue that Mass. Celebrating a weekday Mass for four or five people every week, while meaningful to those who gather, is just not a good use of time for our priests who are already very stretched. We will continue to discuss the possibility of bringing back an evening Mass during the week in the future, if there is support for such a Mass by parishioners. This coming Wednesday, November 26, will be the last Wednesday evening Mass.

Pray for our Parishioners

For the eternal repost of the soul of Norberta Hillard, Cayetano Altomia. Sergia Orbe Altomia, Eladio Altomia, Nicolasa A. Guardiario, Gloria A. Buendia, Lydia A. Viloria, Elizar Abella Mendoza, and Salud Abella Mendoza. All deceased members of the Legion of Mary. **Healing Prayers** for Leala Holden, Rita Wheeler Barquet, Marya Castellano, John Bergstrom, Sharon Pitre-Williams, Dolores Sibonga, June Lombard-Allen and Se'Vera Dowe.

Please contact the parish office at 206-322-5970 or bulletin@icseattle.org to add a parishioner's name or your family's name to our to our weekly prayer's list.

Deepening Our Faith



Loving and gracious God,

On this Thanksgiving Day, we pause to remember that every gift we have comes from You..Fill our hearts with true gratitude for Your blessings—for the gift of faith, for the love of family and friends, and for the many ways You provide for our needs.

Deepen our faith, Lord,

that we may recognize Your presence in both joyful moments and in the challenges that draw us closer to You. Teach us to trust. Your guiding hand and to respond with generosity, compassion, and love.

As we gather at our tables,

may we also remember those who are lonely, hungry, or in need. Stir our hearts to serve them with Christ-like kindness, so that our gratitude may overflow into acts of mercy.

May Your peace rest upon our homes,

and may Your grace strengthen our parish community. We thank You, Lord, for Your unending goodness, and we ask that You continue to lead us closer to Your Sacred Heart.

Amen.

With Grateful Hearts, We Thank You

As we reflect on the many blessings within our parish, we extend our sincere gratitude to **all our ministries, parish groups, volunteers, parishioners, and parish family**, as well as the wider **community** who support our mission throughout the year.

Your generous service, prayer, and dedication bring life to our parish and strengthen the spirit of communion among us. Whether you serve quietly behind the scenes or lead in visible ways, your contributions help us grow in faith, hope, and love.

Thank you for sharing your time, talents, and hearts.

May God continue to bless each of you for the beautiful ways you build up our Church.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING



Honoring Faithful Service in Our Archdiocese

The Archdiocese of Seattle recently recognized two religious sisters and 20 lay leaders with prestigious papal awards for their outstanding service to the mission of the Catholic Church in Western Washington. More than 200 people gathered at St. James Cathedral on November 16 for the Conferral of Ecclesiastical Honors, celebrated by Archbishop Paul D. Etienne, Auxiliary Bishop Frank Schuster, and Father Gary Lazzeroni.

“Giving thanks is at the heart of stewardship,” said Archbishop Etienne as he welcomed those gathered. “This is our reason for gathering today, to recognize these men and women who have served the archdiocese so generously in recent years... all service is a response to God’s love. Service is a response to grace. It is not a burden. The Church teaches that thanksgiving transforms duty into joy.”

Among the honors presented was the **Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice** (“For Church and Pope”), the highest papal medal given to laypeople, clergy, and religious who have shown exceptional dedication to advancing the mission of the Church. Established by Pope Leo XIII in 1898, this medal recognizes extraordinary leadership, generosity, and service to the Catholic community.

Celebrating Our Parish Honoree: Ms. Se’Vera Dowe

We are proud to share that one of this year’s honorees is a beloved member of our own parish community — **Ms. Se’Vera Dowe**.



At 81, Ms. Dowe continues to be a tireless advocate for the Black Catholic community. Appointed in 2008 as chair of the Black Catholic Advisory Circle, she has strengthened its mission to educate, empower, and evangelize Black Catholics across the archdiocese. Her leadership includes launching the BCAC’s first newsletter, expanding community outreach, developing programs celebrating African Catholic traditions, and fostering partnerships to support vocations and educational opportunities for Black and African American youth.

We give thanks for Ms. Dowe’s faithful service and congratulate her on receiving this well-deserved papal honor.

May her example inspire all of us to serve with joy, gratitude, and love for God and neighbor.

For more information, visit Northwest Catholic: Papal Honors Conferred on 22 Local Leaders.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL - Christmas Giving Tree - The Giving Tree is a long standing tradition at Immaculate Conception sponsored by our St. Vincent de Paul conference. Gifts and donations support families in our community, who are struggling, with food and gifts for children. **This year's Giving Tree will be up starting Sunday, November 23.** Tags will be on the tree with gift information, we ask that wrapped gifts, with tag attached, be **returned by Sunday, December 14.** Our SVDP conference can also accept monetary donations, checks should be made payable to SVDP - ICC Conference. If you are interested in volunteering please contact: Lori Chisholm-Cook at 206-854-0498 or lori.chisholm@gmail.com.

2026 Mardi Gras - *Save the Date* Friday, February 13th, 2026

So start looking for your masks, beads and fans! More to come in the weeks. If you'd like to be part of the Planning Team, please see Deacon Joseph Connor or Toni Hall.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHP

Hospitality - Need sponsor for the 3rd Sunday. We are looking for **individuals, families, groups of friends, or ministries** to sponsor our **Sunday Fellowship** on the following dates: **Jan 4, Jan 18, Feb 15, and March 15.** This is a beautiful opportunity to build community by offering light hospitality after Mass. If you're interested or would like more information, please contact the parish office at office@icseattle.org or call **206-322-5970**.

Earth Stewardship and Fellowship Update - Immaculate parishioners are doing their part to be good stewards of our planet. We are almost 100% accurate when sorting Trash into Compost, Clean Recycle, and Garbage at Fellowship after Mass. As we continue to reduce waste, we ask that parishioners do not donate bottles of water or non-compostable dishes and cutlery. Thank you!

Thank you for helping us grow in fellowship and faith!

ADVENT BLOOD DRIVE - St. James Cathedral is running another virtual drive **from Sunday Nov 30 to Sunday Dec 14** to help Bloodworks Northwest restore supplies, please give blood at ANY Bloodworks NW location during this timeframe. When you arrive to donate, provide the code SJC so we can track our impact. Register at this link <https://donate.bloodworksnw.org/donor/schedules/geo/> to give back to others in need during this season of Advent!

ADVENT REFLECTION SERIES - Christ Our Hope Church. This will be a small group four-week reflection for member of our parish family (Christ Our Hope, Immaculate Conception, and St James Cathedral). There will be four 60 minute small group sessions of prayer and reflection, focused on Scripture and readings from Pope Leo XIV. We will meet on Wednesdays from 11:00 am -12:00 pm, beginning Wednesday, December 3rd. For more information, please contact Deanna Tighe at dtighe@christourhopeseattle.org or by calling 206-554-1224. Help us prepare both individually and as communities for the great feast of Christmas.

Britten's Saint Nicolas, Opus 7's Holiday Tradition Returns to St. James Cathedral - Sunday, December 7 at 7:30PM - 9PM. Tickets on sale now (See bulletin board)

Upcoming Events

Nov 23 (Sun), 11AM Mass
Nov 27 (Thu) - 9:30AM

St. Vincent de Paul - Food drive and giving tree will be up with gift tags
Thanksgiving Mass at **St. James Cathedral Only**.

ICC Rectory Office - Nov 26, office will be Closed Early & will be Closed on Nov 27 & 28.

Nov 29 (Sat) - 6:00PM
Nov 30 (Sun) - 11AM Mass

1st day of 9 days Novena of Blessed Virgin Mary at **ICC** (see flyer)
Youth Mass and 1st day of Advent

Dec 6 (Sat) - 8AM - 2:30PM
Dec 7 (Sun) - 7:30PM

Mass to Honor Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of the Americas in the Jubilee Year begins at **Immaculate Conception** (see flyer)
Britten's *Saint Nicolas* - Opus 7's Holiday Tradition returns to **St. James Cathedral** (see flyer)

Dec 8 (Mon) - 6PM Mass only
Dec 13 (Sat) - 11AM - 12:30PM
Dec 13 (Sat) - 2PM-3:30PM
Dec 14 (Sun) - 11AM Mass

Feast of the Immaculate Conception at **Immaculate Conception**
Simbang Gabi Mass in the Jubilee Year at **St. James Cathedral**
Advent Penance at **Immaculate Conception**

Dec 20 (Sat) - 9AM - 12PM

Feast of the Immaculate Conception Multicultural Celebration & Reception at **Immaculate Conception** (see flyer)

Dec 20 (Sat) - 2PM - 3:30PM
Dec 21 (Sun) - 11AM Mass

Beautification of Immaculate - Volunteers needed, sign-up sheet on the back table. Bring your bucket and rags (or see Fred Verzosa)
Advent Penance at **St. James Cathedral**
Simbang Gabi Mass - Parol Processions at **Immaculate Conception**

Remembering

A Royal Celebration of Life
Honoring Our Beloved

Norberta Hilliard

September 13, 1941 - October 18, 2025

Saturday, November 29 at 12:00PM
Memorial Service, reception to follow
All are welcome to attend

Immaculate Conception Church
820 18th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98122



Job Opening

Volunteer Coordinator - Immaculate Conception is looking for a Volunteer Coordinator is responsible for recruiting, training and managing volunteers with the church, ensuring their effective participation in various ministries and events. The Volunteer Coordinator implements all volunteer programs, fosters a culture of volunteerism and ensures the church's mission is carried out through volunteer efforts. Please contact Alice Davis at paa@icseattle.org for questions. For full job description, please visit www.archseattle.org/careers.

Receptionist - Christ Our Hope is seeking a Parish Receptionist to join our team. This part-time position (24 hours per week) plays a vital role in creating a welcoming and hospitable environment for our parishioners and visitors. The ideal candidate will have a friendly and professional demeanor, providing excellent hospitality and support to all who visit or call the parish office. We especially welcome candidates who are bilingual in English and Spanish, as this role includes assisting our 5 p.m. Spanish-speaking community by answering calls and providing support as needed. If you are interested—or know someone who may be a great fit—please contact Deanna Tighe at dtighe@christourhopeseattle.org for the full job description and salary information.

MASS SCHEDULE:

6:00 PM WEDNESDAYS Rectory Chapel

11:00 AM SUNDAYS (10:30 Holy Rosary)

Also live streamed at

<https://www.facebook.com/ImmaculateConceptionSeattle>

8:00 AM SUNDAYS – Eritrean Community

Pastor – The Very Reverend Gary F. Lazzeroni

Parochial Vicars – Rev. Francis Thumbi &

Rev. Sylvester Chanda

Pastor Emeritus - Very Reverend Michael G. Ryan

Deacon Joseph Connor deacon@icseattle.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Hrs: M-F 9 AM to 3 PM or By Appointment.

Please call (206) 322-5970

Alice Davis x602 paa@icseattle.org

Pastoral Assistant for Administration and Facilities

Grace Neri x601 office@icseattle.org

Administrative Assistant

Pastoral Council Chair Maria Batayola, Connor Trapp,
Deacon Joe Connor, Fred Verzosa, Marisa Harvey, and
Sharon Pitre-Williams.

Finance Council Chair Jane Powers jpowers@ewingandclark.com

Stewardship:

Caring for Our Church and Community

Year-to-Date Collection Stewardship of Treasure Report

As of 11.16.2024 - \$62,231.72

As of 11.16.2025 - \$49,339.29

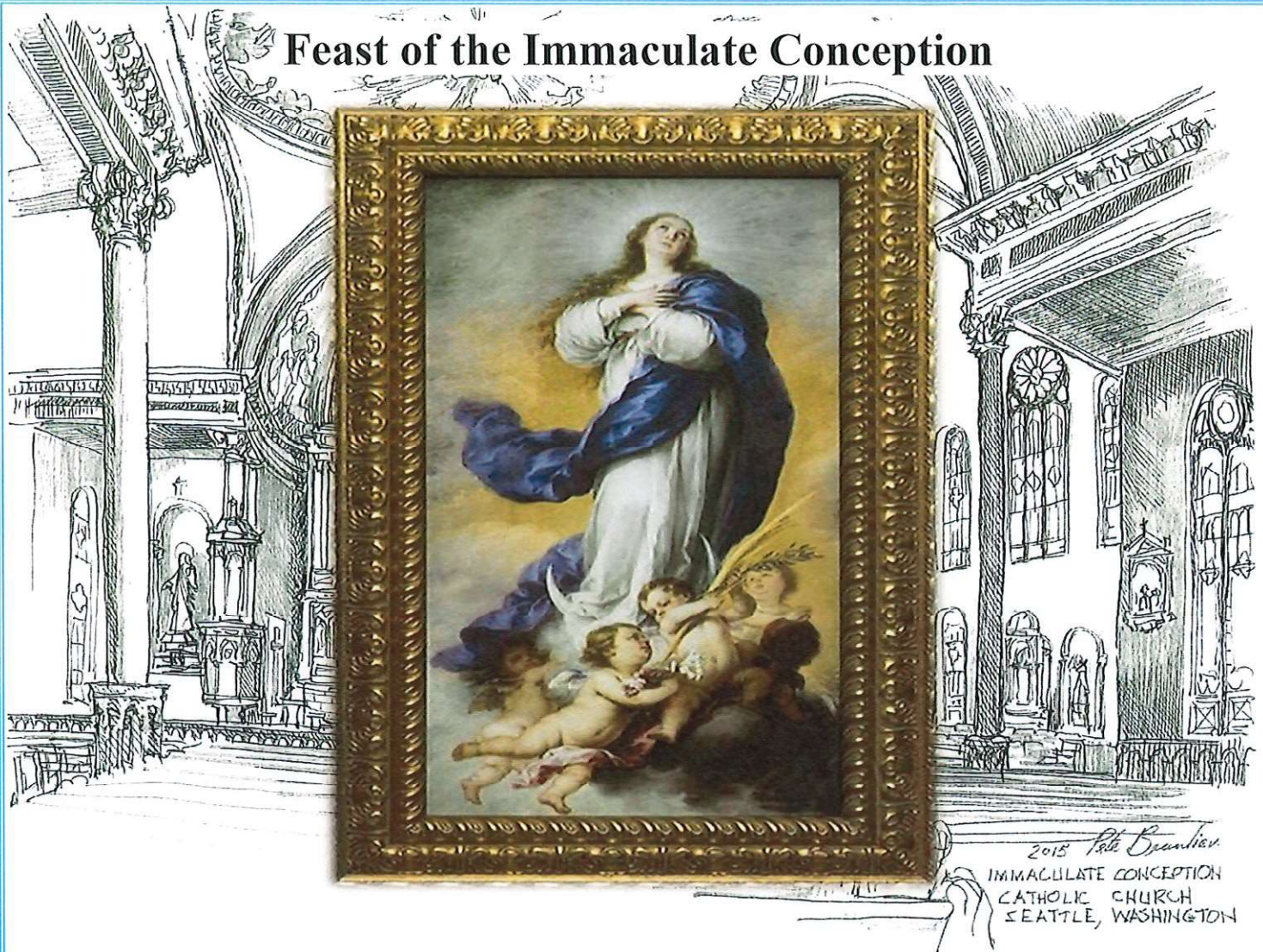
Blessings and Thank you!

REPORTING ABUSE

Helpline 800-446-7762 helpline@seattlarch.org
protectandheal.seattlearchdiocese.org. Report any suspicion of abuse by any church personnel to the local law enforcement. Call the Helpline if you know of sexual abuse or misconduct by a member of the clergy, an employee, or volunteer of the Archdiocese of Seattle. The Archdiocese of Seattle has a longstanding commitment to transparency, accountability, and assistance to persons sexually abused by clergy or anyone working on behalf of the church. **For children's safety and victim assistance see**

<https://preventionusccb.org/resources>

Feast of the Immaculate Conception



Join Us for the Celebrations of the Feast of Immaculate Conception

Novena Celebration - Nine (9) days of prayer and devotion

Begins on Saturday, November 29 at 6PM

Continues through December 7

In-person at Immaculate Conception Church

Feast Day Mass

Monday, December 8th at 6PM

Feast Celebration

Sunday, December 14th after 11AM Mass

Multicultural Celebration and Reception

Immaculate Conception Church

820 – 18th Avenue, Seattle, WA

For more information: Contact Fred Verzosa at 206-953-3954



Misa en honor a
Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
en el Año Jubilar

Mass to honor
Our Lady of Guadalupe
in the Jubilee Year



Mass to Honor Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of the Americas in the Jubilee Year

Join us for the 31st Celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on **Saturday, December 6** for holy hour, rosary, Mañanitas, procession and Mass at St. James Cathedral led by Bishop Eusebio Elizondo.

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe honors the Virgin Mary, who appeared to an Aztec peasant, Juan Diego, for the first time on a hill called Tepeyac on Dec. 9, 1531, in Mexico City. Mary told the Christian convert, in his native language of Nahuatl, that she wanted a church built in her honor on the site of her apparition.

Our Lady of Guadalupe was declared Patroness of the Americas in 1945 by Pope Pius XII, and her Feast Day was elevated to an obligatory memorial by Pope John Paul II in 1999. She is also the Patroness of the Philippines.

Program starts at Immaculate Conception, Seattle

8-9 am – Holy Hour
9-9:45 am – Rosary
9:45-10:00 am Mañanitas

Procession

10:15-11:30 am

Mass at St. James Cathedral, Seattle

12:10pm

Reception

1:30pm following Mass in the Cathedral Hall



ADVENT 2025 ANTICIPATION



Archdiocese
of Seattle

This Advent, use this guide to help you and your family anticipate and prepare for the coming of Jesus.

Advent Family Traditions

Advent, the liturgical season before Christmas, is a great opportunity for families to enjoy joyful, faith-based traditions that keep the focus of the season on the anticipation of Jesus. This isn't easy when retailers start Christmas the day after Halloween. Even if you didn't grow up with many Advent traditions, are there one or two traditions on this list that you can try this year?

Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is rich with the symbolism of the season: four candles for the four weeks of Advent and the flames representing the light of Christ to come. The lighting of each candle is an opportunity for the family to gather in prayer and read the daily scripture or reflection from an Advent book. Try turning off the lights and sing a song like, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" or "Light the Advent Candle" as the candles are lit.

Advent Calendar

The point of an Advent calendar is to inspire hopeful anticipation of the coming of Jesus and to emphasize the spirit of waiting over the spirit of receiving. Although the chocolate and Lego calendars are fun, try a faith inspired Advent calendar this year, which are easy to purchase online. Many have daily scripture quotes from Advent to keep you in the Advent frame of mind.

For more resources, an Advent reflection guide, and other inspiration, go to [archseattle.org/advent](https://www.archseattle.org/advent).



Christmas Anticipation Prayer

Also known as the St. Andrew Christmas Novena (not a typical 9-day novena), this beautiful, short daily prayer is traditionally prayed 15 times a day during Advent, starting on the Feast of St. Andrew on November 30. But for most busy families, praying it together once a day is a win. The words of the prayer are a reminder of the humble and historical event of the incarnation. Try saying the prayer after lighting the Advent wreath or as part of your prayers before dinner.

Straw for Baby Jesus

This tradition is when you put out a "manger" (a small cardboard box will do) and a bowl of "straw" in a common area (such as the kitchen table), and the idea is to create a full bed of straw for baby Jesus by Christmas Eve by adding a piece of straw when a good deed or small sacrifice is done for Jesus. Everyone can participate, even parents! On Christmas Eve, you lay baby Jesus (or a doll to symbolize) on the (hopefully) full bed of straw and sing "Away in a Manger" or "Silent Night."

Blessings for the Advent Wreath, Nativity set and Christmas Tree

You can find blessings for the Advent Wreath, Nativity set and Christmas Tree in many Catholic prayer books or online (such as archseattle.org/advent). Taking a moment to pause and pray a blessing is a great way to reflect on the meaning of these traditions. These blessings invite us to enjoy them with intention and gratitude.

Jesse Tree

This tradition traces salvation history from the Old Testament through the birth of Christ. Much like the Advent calendar but more involved with longer daily readings and song, it's a daily activity rich with symbolism and a great way for all ages to participate.

Decorating in stages

Instead of putting up all the Christmas decorations the morning after Thanksgiving, consider putting them up in stages to emphasize the season of waiting for the light of Christ. This will help put more focus on your Advent traditions. One idea is to wait to light and decorate the Christmas tree until Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent. Remember, the Christmas season starts on Christmas and lasts all the way through the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord in January.

"O" Antiphons

The "O" Antiphons are beautiful, short chants used at vespers (evening prayers) for the last seven days of Advent from December 18–24, each starting with "O" and each highlighting a title for the Messiah (O Wisdom, O Lord,...), which increases the anticipation of Christ's coming. You can add these to your evening prayers around the Advent wreath or in front of the Nativity set.

St. Andrew Christmas Novena

Traditionally prayed November 30 to Christmas Eve.

Hail and blessed
be the hour and
moment in which
the Son of God
was born of the
most pure Virgin
Mary, at midnight,
in Bethlehem, in
the piercing cold.
In that hour
vouchsafe, I
beseech Thee, O
my God, to hear my
prayer and grant my
desires through the
merits of Our Savior
Jesus Christ, and of
His Blessed Mother.
Amen

For more resources, an
Advent reflection guide,
and other inspiration, go
to archseattle.org/advent.





OPUS7.ORG

Opus 7
VOCAL ENSEMBLE

SUNDAY
DEC 7
7:30PM

Britten's *Saint Nicolas*

OPUS 7'S HOLIDAY TRADITION RETURNS TO ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL!

OPUS 7 VOCAL ENSEMBLE

LOREN W. PONTÉN FOUNDER & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

CHAD DEMARIS TENOR

ST. JAMES YOUTH MUSIC PROGRAM

STACEY SUNDE DIRECTOR

BELLEVUE HIGH SCHOOL CHOIRS

ANDREW JACOBSON DIRECTOR

OPUS 7 CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

DENISE DILLENBECK CONCERTMASTER & SOLOIST

JOSEPH ADAM & MATT WILKINS PIANO

CHRISTOPHER STROH ORGAN

ANTHONY KIM BOY NICOLAS



Drawing by M. Laughlin

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Parish Family of St. James Cathedral, Immaculate Conception, and Christ Our Hope



ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL 804 9th Avenue, Seattle

Wednesday, December 24 **Christmas Eve**
4:30pm MASS
9:00pm *Carol Service*
10:00pm MASS

Thursday, December 25 **Christmas Day**
MASSES 8:00am, 10:00am, Noon, 5:30pm
Solemn Vespers at 4:00pm



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION 820 18th Avenue, Seattle

Wednesday, December 24 **Christmas Eve**
5:00pm MASS

Thursday, December 25 **Christmas Day**
11:00am MASS



CHRIST OUR HOPE 1902 2nd Avenue, Seattle

Wednesday, December 24 **Christmas Eve**
5:00pm MASS

Thursday, December 25 **Christmas Day**
9:00am MASS

