



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

January 18, 2026

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Reading 1: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

Responsorial Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10
"Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will."

Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Gospel: John 1:29-34

Pray for our Parishioners

Healing Prayers for Larry Drake, Bobby Ignacio and Mely Andrade.

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 weekly prayer's list.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

ONE PARISH FAMILY WITH ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL & CHRIST OUR HOPE

January 18, 2026

Dear Friends,

Last week Pope Leo XIV announced that he was beginning a new series of talks at his Wednesday General Audience that will focus on the documents of the Second Vatican Council. He said, that the teachings of Vatican II are still “the guiding star” the Catholic Church is meant to follow.

Historians often tell us that it takes one hundred years before the teachings of a Church Council fully take hold and are implemented. We are sixty years into that implementation period for Vatican II, and the Holy Father sees this as an opportune time to re-visit the teachings, the actual documents that emerged from the Council.

There are many aspects of church life that we take for granted that are the result of the teachings of the Council. The most obvious one is the changes that were made in the liturgy that called for more active and conscious participation by all the faithful. But another change that has touched the lives of Catholics almost as much is the opening up of the Word of God, the scriptures. In both the liturgy and formation in Catholic life, there has been a return to the scriptures as the foundational revelation of God.

There are so many more opportunities for us to explore the Bible than there were sixty years ago. In the liturgy itself we are exposed to a breadth and depth of the scriptures that was not part of our communal life before the Council. And now we read large portions of the Bible during the liturgical year.

Pope Leo’s intention for this month of January is for all of us to take time praying with the Word of God: “Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.”

There are many ways to take time to pray with the scriptures. I find that the easiest way to do that is to set aside time each day to pray with the scriptures for the Mass. Quiet and personal reflection, asking the Lord to reveal to us what he wants us to hear from him today is a rich way to apply the scriptures to our daily lives. And doing this reflection before going to Mass will enrich our hearing and taking in the Word of God at Mass. May all of us take advantage of the rich treasure which is the Word of God. Here is the Pope’s prayer for this month that further expands on his intention for praying with the Word of God:

“Lord Jesus, living Word of the Father, in You we find the light that guides our steps. We know that the human heart lives restless, hungry for meaning, and only your Gospel can give it peace and fullness. Teach us to listen to you each day in the Scriptures, to let ourselves be challenged by your voice, and to discern our decisions from the closeness to your Heart. May your Word be nourishment in weariness, hope in darkness, and strength in our communities. Lord, may your Word never be absent from our lips or from our hearts—the Word that makes us sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, disciples and missionaries of your Kingdom. Make us a Church that prays with the Word, that is built upon it and shares it with joy, so that in every person the hope of a new world may be born again. May our faith grow in the encounter with you through your Word, moving us from the heart to reach out to others, to serve the most vulnerable, to forgive, build bridges, and proclaim life. Amen.”

Let us make this prayer our own this month.

Peace,



Fr. Gary Lazzeroni
Pastor



+ January 14, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Like many of you, I take time at the start of the new year to reflect on the previous year and pray about priorities for the future — not just for myself as your archbishop, but for the archdiocese as well. I take my ministry as your archbishop very seriously. While it can be challenging at times, I am grateful and honored to serve God and you in this way.

This past year has been full — full of grace, of joy, of stress, of hardship, of laughter and many other emotions. I remain incredibly grateful to our priests, deacons and women religious, our staff, lay leaders and volunteers who selflessly serve the people of God. Our Church is not one of buildings and historic artifacts — rather, together we make up the mystical Body of Christ, living our faith in the world each day.

There are clear signs that God is blessing our efforts of proclaiming Christ and forming more disciples to serve in his name. Here is an overview of a few major initiatives from this past year.

Year in Review

- **Jubilee year:** Pope Francis called the universal Church to a special year of prayer with the theme Pilgrims of Hope. People around the world traveled on pilgrimages to grow deeper in their faith. Locally, five locations were designated as pilgrimage sites for people to participate in the Jubilee. Additionally, I led a group on a pilgrimage to visit the shrines of France. We experienced many graces, and I am sure the pilgrimage will bear good fruit for the whole Archdiocese. I also felt renewed in my own episcopal ministry and strengthened in my personal spiritual journey.
- **175th anniversary and Season of Service:** This year we celebrated the 175th anniversary of the Archdiocese of Seattle, which gave us the opportunity to honor the intrepid men and women who built this archdiocese. From the traveling bishops and early chapels to the first hospitals, orphanages and schools set up by Mother Joseph to the parishes and many ministries we have today, we are blessed with flourishing ministries and deep faith here in Western Washington.

As part of this anniversary celebration, we hosted a Season of Service with an audacious goal of serving others for 175,000 hours. We quickly surpassed that goal with more than 317,000 hours of service! What a blessing to see our vibrant Church in action caring for others and for our common home.

- **New branding:** As we celebrate the past, we also look to the future. It is no secret that faith is lived at the local level, and many people do not realize how much ministry and service we support at much broader levels. Through research, we learned that many people are unaware of the Archdiocese of Seattle and what we do. People do not understand our shared Catholic mission or associate many of our ministries with the Archdiocese of Seattle. To help address this, we launched a new brand anchored on the idea that we reflect Christ's radical love through our daily work advancing the care and concern for all God's children and creation. This is a renewed focus for us working in the Archdiocese of Seattle in how we live our faith in this "workplace" and how we interact with others.
- **Partners in the Gospel:** As Archdiocesan staff, pastors, pastoral leaders and parishioners collaborate together, we continue the hard work of renewing our local Church and planning for our future. The Holy Spirit is active and alive guiding our efforts. Parish families marked one year and began One Parish Planning, setting up Parish Family Leadership Teams and Advisory Councils responsible for shepherding the Partners in the Gospel process.

This Partners in the Gospel process is our highest priority this year. Creating a strong faith community in the new parish family, celebrating the sacraments, proclaiming God's Word and practicing charity in all its forms — this is what we are called to do amid today's world and realities. The world changes, but Christ and his Church are always one and the same through the ages. But in every age, we must be sensitive to how the Holy Spirit seeks to form us into the Body of Christ in specific places and concrete situations — and those are the changing realities we are facing.

I encourage everyone to participate in the parish family consultation sessions that will take place over the next few years. Conversations may be difficult, but respectful, prayerful listening and dialogue provide the opportunity to rethink this present moment — to think about the larger Catholic community and the capacity of our resources, human and spiritual. We will need to let go of some of our own desires and comforts to courageously embrace a new way of fulfilling the Church's mission. In the coming year, we will be asked to set aside our personal desires and listen attentively to the voice of the Holy Spirit. In the process, we will discover God's dream for us and make that dream our new reality!

- **Leadership changes:** This year, we lost our beloved Pope Francis. His ministry was very influential for me, and I am grateful for his poignant encyclicals and his constant reminder to remember the poor, the vulnerable and to care for our common home. I am also so grateful for Pope Leo and his YES to this leadership role. Having an American pope that speaks English (and several other languages!), celebrates public Mass regularly and is healthy enough to travel the world and engage directly with others — from foreign leaders to youth groups — is exciting. He is breathing new life into the papacy and giving hope and healing to many.

Locally, I appointed Jilma Meneses as the new president and chief executive officer of Catholic Community Services. She brings a wealth of experience from her time as the secretary for the WA Department of Social and Health Services and her previous role as CEO

of Catholic Charities of San Francisco. She will oversee CCS, which is the state's largest provider of social services, directly assisting more than 100,000 local individuals and families in our region. I am grateful for her leadership and have great confidence in her role as a leader.

- **Attorney general:** Last year, we had two different issues in play with the state's attorney general — one of which was resolved and one that is still active.
 - *Active issue:* In 2023, the Attorney General subpoenaed records under the Charitable Trust Act. Our stance is that while we remain committed to accountability and healing for victim survivors, the AG's request for more than 80 years of receipts from all our parishes and schools as a way to protect children in the future is unreasonable. A King County Superior Court judge ruled that the attorney general did not have legal authority for this subpoena. The attorney general appealed this decision, and both sides in September presented their arguments. We are currently waiting for the judges' response, which we expect sometime this spring.
 - *Resolved issue:* The bishops of the state sued Washington state over an unconstitutional clergy reporting law that was set to take effect in late July. The federal court ruled in favor of the bishops, finding that the law was unconstitutional. The end result is that the State cannot compel Catholic priests to violate the sacred seal of confession, thus preserving First Amendment rights for all religious organizations. We support the desire to protect children and vulnerable people, and Catholic priests are already required to report abuse — with the very narrow exemption to protect the sacrament of confession. You can read the [news release here](#).

Other things to note:

When writing a year-in-review, it's impossible to capture everything. Here are just a few other items of note:

- The bishops of Washington state launched an in-depth Native American Boarding Schools and Cemeteries Research Study of all the archival records related to Catholic boarding schools and their cemeteries in the region and shared the results directly with all the tribes in our state, continuing the journey of healing. You can read more about the research and the [findings here](#).
- Our Immigrant and Refugee ministry worked overtime helping parishes, schools and immigrants navigate the changing landscape. The team quickly pivoted efforts to offer tools, training and guidance for immigrants and their families.
- Our Pastoral Care and Outreach team launched a new First Responders Ministry, and our Mental Health Ministry continues to train peer mentors in our suicide prevention program.
- Each of our more than 60 ministries continues to serve and bring the love of Christ to others.

Looking Ahead: It's all about love

Psalm 31 says quite simply: "Let me rejoice and be glad in your love."

Love is the singular definition of God, and it is the manner in which Jesus summarized the commandments: "Love God with all your heart and your neighbor as yourself." This is my greatest hope for us this year, that our encounter with Jesus will draw us deeper into his love and quicken our hearts with greater love for him in return.

In his inaugural homily, Pope Leo XIV declared that the Church's true authority is rooted in charity, not power or propaganda. He emphasized that Christians must love as Jesus loved — through self-giving and service rather than domination. He quoted St. Vincent de Paul: "Let us love God, but let it be with the strength of our arms and the sweat of our brows."

This means love must be embodied in concrete actions, especially toward the poor and marginalized.

This is how we are called to reflect Christ's radical love.

My vision

My vision for this next year is for all of us to focus on our personal relationship with Jesus. How do we open ourselves up to the love that he is pouring out for us — so that we can then share his love with others? How can we ensure we are all a reflection of Christ's radical love in the world today? What are we doing to share his love with the poor, the vulnerable, those who are different from us, those who have fallen away from the Church, those in our family with whom we don't see eye to eye?

In June, on the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the United States Conference of Bishops will consecrate the country to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, an opportunity for many to learn about this beautiful devotion and see how it can transform our lives. His divine heart was so passionate with love for us that it was unable to contain the flames of its burning charity. Let us ask for the grace to no longer remain indifferent to this ineffable love. Rather, may the love of Christ conquer us and impel all that we do.

My prayer for you

This is my prayer for you: that you slow down to pause and reflect; that you see the beauty of your life and feel immense gratitude for the gifts God has bestowed on you; and that you find meaningful ways to reflect Christ's radical love in the world today. That is my hope and prayer for you.

Thank you for living out your faith and for helping others encounter Christ through their interactions with you. Please know of my continued prayers for you and I humbly ask for your prayers as well. As always, I remain,

In the Heart of Christ,



Most Rev. Paul D. Etienne, DD, STL
Archbishop of Seattle

The Life of Our Community

BIBLE STUDY - REGISTER NOW Winter Session 5 Weeks, February 2-March 2 (Mondays)

6:00-7:30pm. This session's study is *No Greater Love: A Biblical walk through Christ's Passion*. We will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary. Every step of the way, Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death. Experience a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love for you—grow closer to Jesus than you ever have before.



Sign-up sheet and Flyer are available on the back table of the church or simply scan the QR Code. All are welcome! If able, a \$25 contribution is asked to offset cost of materials.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHP Hospitality - Need sponsor for the 3rd Sundays. We are looking for **individuals, families, groups of friends, or ministries** to sponsor our **Sunday Fellowship** on the following dates:

March 15, April 19, May 17 and June 14. 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**.

HONORING THE MLK SERVICE PROJECT 2026 *Supporting the Matt Talbot Center* - In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy of service, our parish is supporting the Matt Talbot Center, a long-standing Seattle program dedicated to recovery, healing, and accompaniment for individuals experiencing homelessness, addiction, and other life-disrupting challenges. We will be collection the following items: **Toiletries (toothpaste, deodorant, soap, wipes, shampoo, etc.), Socks, Warm hats and Gloves**. Please bring on **Sunday, January 18th, 2026**. For questions: contact Mari Hamper at mari.hamper@gmail.com or Denise Pavageau at denise0024@comcast.net

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL - Diaper Drive on January 25

The first will be **January 25th, 2026**. Your donation of diapers or pull-ups will support families in need. Drop-off diapers before or after Mass at Immaculate Conception on January 25th. Future diaper drives will be in April, July, and October.

CAMPAIGN FOR YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS – GROWING TOGETHER, ROOTED IN FAITH

Join the Campaign for Youth and Young Adults and discover how you can support youth and young adults across the Archdiocese of Seattle as they grow in faith and discipleship. Through Youth Ministry, Young Adult Ministry, and CYO Camps, this campaign builds faith-filled communities, offers leadership opportunities, encourages service, and creates meaningful encounters with Christ. Join us at **St. James Cathedral on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, from 5:00–7:00 pm for dinner and conversation. RSVP by January 20 to youthcampaign@seattlearch.org**. Learn more at archseattle.org/campaignforyouth.

MEET OUR NEW STAFF

Shanita Stewart-Burrell, Volunteer Coordinator



Please join us in warmly welcoming **Shanita Stewart-Burrell**, our new Volunteer Coordinator! Shanita brings experience in volunteer coordination, community outreach, and program support. She also runs a small nonprofit focused on youth and families, giving her valuable hands-on experience working with volunteers. Shanita is excited to support and strengthen the important work of our parish community. Be sure to say hello and offer her a warm welcome when you see her!

Upcoming Events

Jan 18 (Sun)	11:00AM	Matt Talbot Center Toiletries Collection Day
Jan 19 (Mon)		ICC Rectory Office Closed
Jan 19 (Mon)	11:00AM	2026 Martin Luther King Jr. Mass at Seattle University, St. Ignatius Chapel
Jan 25 (Sun)	11:00AM	The Feast of Baby Jesus (Santo Nino)
Jan 25 (Sun)	11:00AM	St. Vincent de Paul Diaper Drive
Jan 31 (Sat)	10:30AM	The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick at Immaculate Conception Church
Feb 2 (Mon)	6:00PM	Bible Study Winter 2026
Feb 13 (Fri)	5:30PM	Immaculate Conception's Annual Fundraising Event - Mardi Gras (see flyer)
Feb 15 (Sun)	5:30PM	Confirmation Day at St. James Cathedral

Lenten Seasons Begins

Feb 18 (Wed)	6:00PM	Ash Wednesday Mass at Immaculate Conception
Feb 20 (Fri)	6:00PM	Station of the Cross & Soup Supper begins until March 28

MASS SCHEDULE:

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 Appt. - 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 1.12.2025 - \$89,550.72

As of 1.11.2026 - \$76,906.30

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>

SENYOR SANTO NINYO

(Holy Infant Jesus)

Celebration

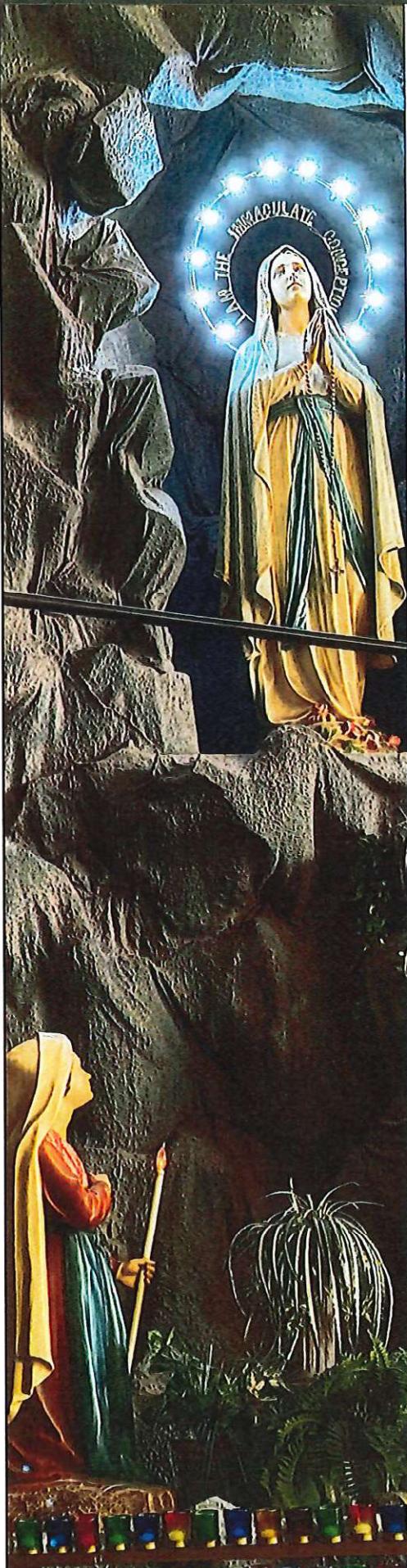


January 25, 2026 - Sunday

10:30 AM - Rosary
Procession & Blessing of Statues
(*Bring your Santo Nino statues)

11:00 AM - Mass
Reception to follow in the Church Hall

Immaculate Conception Church
820 – 18th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98122



Communal Celebration of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Saturday, January 31, 2026 | 10:30am
Father Gary F. Lazzeroni, presider

Immaculate Conception Church
820 18th Avenue, Seattle

In observance of the World Day of Prayer for the Sick, we gather as a family of parishes for the communal celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. We will conclude our Mass with a procession to Immaculate Conception's Lourdes Grotto, which has been a place of prayer and hope for generations.

What is the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick?

The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is one of the seven sacraments of the Catholic Church. Like the sacrament of reconciliation (confession), it is a sacrament of healing. Our understanding of this sacrament has changed with time. In the early Church it was seen as a sacrament of healing, but later it came to be known as "Extreme Unction" – literally, "last anointing" – and was not administered until death was imminent. With the reforms of the Second Vatican Council, the Church has returned to the more ancient practice with regard to this sacrament.

Who can receive this sacrament?

Catholics, both children and adults, who are *seriously ill, facing surgery, or experiencing the weakness that comes with old age* should seek this sacrament. Those with serious, chronic mental or physical illness may also receive the anointing of the sick.

What happens during the Rite of Anointing?

The Rite of Anointing will be celebrated in the context of a special Mass on Saturday, January 31 at 10:30am. After the homily, the Liturgy of Anointing begins. The priest leads a litany in which all pray for the healing and forgiveness of the sick person, as well as for doctors, nurses, and caregivers. Then, in silence, the priest lays his hands on the head of the sick person, an ancient gesture of prayer that is used in connection with many of the sacraments, especially the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Holy Orders.

After the laying on of hands, each sick person is anointed with the Oil of the Sick (pure olive oil, blessed each year by the Archbishop at the Chrism Mass). The sick person is anointed on the forehead and then on the hands, and simple words accompany the anointing: "Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up." A concluding prayer follows, and then the Liturgy of the Eucharist continues as usual.

No RSVP is required.

Information, Corinna Laughlin, clauthlin@stjames-cathedral.org.



Immaculate Conception Church

820 18th Avenue Seattle, Washington
206-322-5970 ~ office@icseattle.org ~ www.icseattle.org

MARDI GRAS

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING EVENT

Bring your
Mask, beads,
and fans

Be ready for
a night of
fun!!!



FRIDAY
13TH

February
5:30 pm - 10 pm

JEAN MORAN HALL
FREE PARKING

MORE INFORMATION

Enjoy a delicious Southern dinner, dancing,
raffle, dessert auction and the Sig and Jane
Haugland Money Jar. No host bar.

TICKETS

Adults - \$30
Youth (15 & Under) - \$15



Contact: Toni Hall - tonira@comcast.net OR
Brenda Mirasol-Stallings bmstallings@comcast.net
www.icseattle.com/mardi-gras



Join us for the
2026
MARTIN
LUTHER
KING JR.
MASS

***Mass starts at 11am, followed by a talk, "Power that is moral
is essential for justice and equality"***

January 19, 2026
Seattle University, St. Ignatius Chapel

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Sharon Spence-Wilcox



MASS PRESIDER
Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, M.Sp.S.

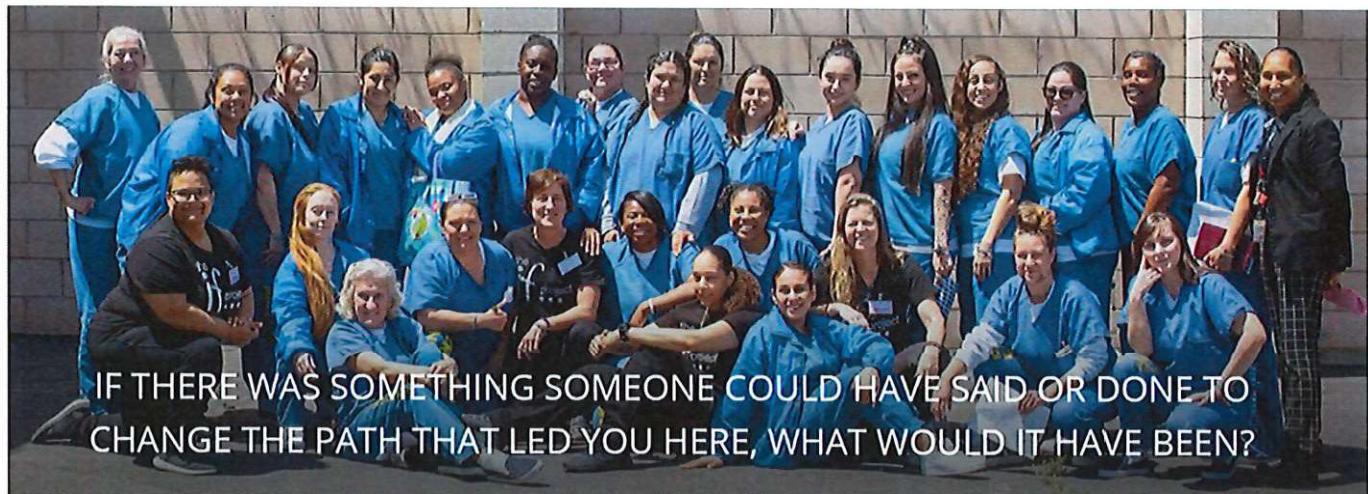


Scan here for all
the details



**Archdiocese
of Seattle**

Local social justice in action: Stopping the cycle of incarceration



*We invite you to experience how the “IF Project,”
started by a Seattle police detective,
dismantles the cycle of incarceration.*

**Thursday, January 22 - 7:00 - 9:30 PM
St Bridget Parish Hall
4900 NE 50th St, Seattle**

We will view a documentary on the IF Project and meet the
IF Project's founder and current director -
All are welcome! (Recommended for high school age and above.)

Reservations are appreciated for planning purposes:

Use QR code or <https://forms.gle/CoSy5ANWrGMR6Sry9>



Questions? nescc.socialjustice@gmail.com
theifproject.org/

Watch the trailer of the Documentary:
link: <https://vimeo.com/162596857>

HOSTED BY THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL*

LOVE THY NEIGHBOR

A CATHOLIC MATCHMAKING EVENT

- CHRIST OUR HOPE - ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL - IMMACULATE CONCEPTION -



ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL - CATHEDRAL HALL



SATURDAY FEBRUARY 14

6:30-8:30PM

scan the QR
code to rsvp:



for questions about the event,
please contact Maxine at
maxinemartin411@gmail.com

Emergency Relief Fund

Historic flooding across Western Washington is causing widespread damage and forcing evacuations throughout the Skagit and Snoqualmie valleys as well as other parts of the region. In response, the Archdiocese of Seattle opened the **Emergency Relief Fund**, which provides immediate financial assistance to parishes and schools during an emergency or disaster. Gifts to the Emergency Relief Fund will support flood-related needs and will also be available in the future for other local emergency or disaster relief efforts.

As Catholics, we are called to accompany those in need. Your gift today will bring hope, relief, and the love of Christ to communities impacted by this disaster.

Please consider donating today: <https://archseattle.org/flood/>



Please Do Not Take
Property of
Immaculate Conception Church
820 18th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98122
(206) 322-5970