

ST. BRENDAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

DECEMBER 25, 2022



MERRY CHRISTMAS

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Pastor

Very Rev. Nicholas Wichert | ext. 2647
frwichert@saintbrendan.org

**Pastoral Assistant for Administration
Pastoral Assistant for Evangelization**

Brigette Blair | ext. 2645
evangelization@saintbrendan.org

Bookkeeper

Mary Deitch | 2642
bookkeeper@saintbrendan.org

Children & Family Ministry

Priscilla Finch | ext. 2648
childfamilyministry@saintbrendan.org

Director of Music | RCIA Coordinator

Mary Sims | ext. 2649
marys@saintbrendan.org
directorofmusic@saintbrendan.org

Facilities Supervisor

Josh Stutzman | ext. 2650
facilitiesupervisor@saintbrendan.org

Pastoral Secretary | Receptionist

Lupita Silva Ocampo
receptionist@saintbrendan.org

Youth Ministry (Sr. High)

Margaret Deleon | ext. 2644
youthminister@saintbrendan.org

School Principal

Catherine Shumate
catherines@school.saintbrendan.org

**School Office Manager
Development Director**

Christen Lambert
ChristenI@school.saintbrendan.org

School Secretary

Karyn Murnane
secretary@school.saintbrendan.org

Data Clerk

Ermina Swager
ermina@saintbrendan.org

**To submit a bulletin request, please
email bulletin@saintbrendan.org**

Merry Christmas!!! I am always very excited for Christmas! Especially after my recent trip to the Holy Land! (More on that below!) I was recently spending time with friends and they thought that Christmas ended with Christmas Day. It has become engrained in their minds with the shopping season, advertisements and Christmas movies, that Christmas time begins after Thanksgiving and ends on Christmas Day. Nope! That time is called Advent, it is a preparation for Jesus coming at Christmas.

Christmas only begins on Christmas Day and continues until the Baptism of the Lord, which is the 3rd Sunday after Christmas. The 12 days of Christmas takes us to the feast day of the Epiphany, but we are still really in the Christmas season until the Baptism of the Lord. So keep up your decorations and start having Christmas parties, because the season is just beginning!

I have just returned a couple of weeks ago from a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with 40 other pilgrims, most of whom were people from our parish here at St. Brendan. As pilgrims visiting the holy places where our Lord Jesus was conceived, born, walked, talked, taught, performed miracles, healed the sick, raised the dead, laid down His life out of love for you and me, and then rose victorious over sin and death, we celebrated Mass at many of the Holy sites. At each of those places we celebrated Mass using readings from the scriptures describing what happened in that place. (It is a permission given to visiting pilgrims). It is as if we were there in the moment in some ways.

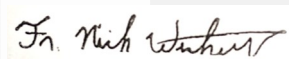
This was true also of the Church of the Nativity, built over the place where Jesus was born. There we celebrated Mass in the very place where St. Jerome first translated the bible from Hebrew and Greek into Latin in the 4th Century. He went to the place where Jesus was born in order to accomplish that enormous work. I know why he did it there!

Because it is a glorious place to be!!! There is something about that place in Bethlehem! It is a place that is sanctified by the presence of our newborn baby King! God Himself, who broke into our world, coming among us as one of us, in order to ultimately lay down His life for the forgiveness of our sins! Returning there was like a homecoming for me. I studied there in Bethlehem for a month when I was in the seminary and prayed every day my holy hour as close as I possibly could to the place where Jesus was born! I did the same thing on this trip for the days we were in Bethlehem.

And yet, you know what I learned there? That we have the same gift come to us every day of the year, right here in our own backyard! Jesus, our God, comes among us every time that we attend Mass. If we really believed that, nothing could keep us away from the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass! The Mass isn't about being entertaining, nor worse yet, being entertained. It seems so unlike anything else we do on earth because it is our participation in the heavenly worship of God. It is the place we go to praise and thank God for this great gift that He has given us in the way He has laid out for us that we are to praise and thank Him. It isn't about hearing our favorite song or hymn on Christmas because as much as the Mass is a gift to us, the Mass is not about us. To be sure it is about being in community. But gathering as a community, as a part of God's family, to worship God who has given us life and every good thing we have in our lives.

That brings us all the way back to this celebration of Christmas. The greatest gift God could give us, is His very self to come among us and fight a battle for us that we could not win on our own. Now we can win, as long as we align ourselves with our baby King, our Eucharistic King. Not just today, but every day. It's time for us to reengage in the fight if we haven't been. There are plenty in our world today who are losing the fight again because many have abandoned God and been led astray and many Christians have stood by and allowed the evil of sin to be manipulated and portrayed as good. Today we must choose to allow God to be reborn in us and in our world!

In the peace of Christ,



Fr. Wichert

WELCOME TO ST. BRENDAN PARISH AND OUR MANY MINISTRIES

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Servers, youth in Grades 3 and up, serve at Masses and special liturgies. • **Environment Ministers** areas of worship preparation of flowers and plants, sacristy help, and seasonal planning. • **Extraordinary Ministers** during Liturgy serve the Sacred Host and Blood at Mass. • **Hospitality Ministers (Ushers)** offer a welcoming presence at liturgies by serving the needs of the assembly. • **Music Ministers** provide music for our Masses. • **Sacristans** prepare the church for liturgies and serve as a resource to other liturgical ministers.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

24-hour Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place on first Fridays following 8:30AM Mass. Monday through Thursday Adoration is from 1PM - 6PM. Other Fridays are after the 8:30AM Mass until 6PM. • **Eucharistic Ministers to the Sick** visit people in their homes, at hospitals, and in other local care facilities.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Newcomers' Socials helps newly registered parishioners get to know their new community. • **Parish/School Picnic** is a late summer parish/school community event featuring food, fun and entertainment. • **Young-at-Heart Seniors Group** provides a variety of activities for senior adults of the parish. • **Soup Night**, Fridays during Lent, features a simple soup supper followed by Stations of the Cross. Money that would otherwise be spent on a meal is donated to Operation Rice Bowl, a Catholic Relief Services program. • **Wedding Anniversaries** annually honors couples in the parish who have been married 25, 50, and 60 plus years with special recognition at a Mass and reception. • **Faith in Grief Ministry** classes are held to support those who have lost a loved one.

PEACE & JUSTICE

Malawi Mission provides financial assistance for our Sister Parish, St. Joseph, Namalaka. • **Diaper Bag Project** volunteers make and fill diaper bags for needy and homeless newborn babies through the Nurse-Family Partnership of Seattle and King County Public Health. • **Giving Tree** gives parishioners the opportunity to make Christmas more joyful for needy children and adults by working with local agencies to provide gifts. • **Respect Life Committee** attempts to raise awareness regarding all life issues including abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide, and capital punishment. • **Serving Our Savior (SOS)** responds to the homeless by supporting a variety of shelters and missions in the Seattle area through food and a weekly hot meal program. • **St. Vincent de Paul Society** is made up of parishioners who are directly involved in reaching out to the poor and needy in our local community, providing assistance with food, clothing, shelter, and utilities.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Baptism of Infants and Young Children is celebrated following liturgies with children of practicing parish households following parent preparation sessions. • **Christian Initiation (RCIC)** for unbaptized children interested in initiation as Catholic Christians. Opportunities for inquiry, discernment, and understanding of our Catholic faith and traditions. • **Elementary Faith Formation "Disciples Club"** for children in Grades 1 to 5 is offered on Wednesday evenings during the school year. • **First Reconciliation/First Eucharist:** Children and families meet throughout the year to prepare children 2nd grade and older celebrate these sacraments following at least one full year of faith formation through Disciples Club or St. Brendan School. • **Vacation Bible Camp** is an annual camp that takes place during the month of July. For children preschool through Grade 5. Grade 6 and older are helpers.

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

Christian Initiation (RCIA) for teens interested in initiation as Catholic Christians. Opportunities for inquiry, discernment, and understanding of our Catholic faith and traditions. • **Confirmation (Youth)** assists baptized Catholics who are at least 13 years of age in deepening their understanding and acceptance of our Catholic faith and discerning readiness for this initiation sacrament.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Adult Enrichment offers various opportunities for catechesis and formation throughout the year. • **Christian Initiation (RCIA)** for adults interested in initiation as Catholic Christians. Opportunities for inquiry, discernment, and understanding of our Catholic faith and traditions. • **Confirmation (Adult)** is for Catholic adults interested in celebrating this Sacrament of Initiation. • **Marriage Preparation** is provided to parish couples seeking marriage; the process takes about six months. • **Scripture Sharing** groups meet weekly to read, study, and pray the Scriptures. • **Men's Group, "Barbecue, Beer & Brothers,"** is an opportunity for men to enjoy friends, fellowship, and fun with other men from the parish. • **Women's Group** is an opportunity for women to enjoy friends, fellowship and fun with other wonderful women from the parish.

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Bulk Mailing Volunteers assist in preparing mailings for all parish organizations throughout the year. • **Bulletin Volunteers** assemble the weekly newsletter. • **Facility/Scheduling** is required for use of any parish facility by any parish organization for any meeting or event. • **Kitchen Coordinator/Committee** assures the organization, cleanliness, and coffee supply inventory of our two parish kitchens in the church and gym. • **Activity Bus Drivers** are needed to operate our new vehicle on field trips for youth, school children, and Young at Heart seniors, as well as for our SOS meal program. Drivers must be qualified and go through training. • **Rentals** of parish facilities by parishioners and non-profit organizations is permitted depending upon availability. Rental fees, damage deposits, certificates of insurance, and proof of non-profit status are required.

ST. BRENDAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

10100 NE 192nd Street, Bothell, Washington 98011

www.saintbrendan.org / 425-483-9400

VERY REV. NICHOLAS WICHERT, PASTOR



Mission Statement

We, the St. Brendan Catholic community, are called to:

- Celebrate through Word and Sacrament;
- Be formed as disciples and go forth as apostles;
- Reach out to all with love and respect

In order to make visible the reign of God by transforming our world.

Sunday Eucharist Schedule

Sat.: 5:00 pm | Sun.: 8:00 am and 10:00 am
Domingo: 12:00 pm (Misa en Español)

Weekly Mass Schedule

Mon., Wed., Thur., Fri., and Sat.: 8:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and Sat.: 7:45–8:15 am
Saturday: 2:30pm–4:00 pm

Parish Office

Hours: Monday to Friday—9:15am-12pm; 12:30pm-4:30pm

P: (425) 483-9400 | **F:** (425) 486-9735 | **W:** saintbrendan.org

10051 NE 195th Street Bothell, WA 98011-2931

School Office

Hours: Monday to Friday— 8:00am to 4:00pm

P: (425) 483-8300 | **F:** (425) 483-2839 | **W:** school.saintbrendan.org

10049 NE 195th Street Bothell, WA 98011-2931