

ST. BRENDAN

Catholic Church

Merry Christmas



December 25, 2019

A Message from our Pastor

ST. BRENDAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor

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

Pastoral Assistant for Administration

Kerri Foust | ext. 2642
kerrif@saintbrendan.org

Youth Ministry

Margaret DeLeon (Jr./Sr. High)
youthminister@saintbrendan.org
ext.2644

Children & Family Ministry

Andrea King | ext. 2648
andreak@saintbrendan.org

Junior High Coordinator

Mary Sims | ext. 2649
marys@saintbrendan.org

RCIA (Christian Initiation of Adults)

Mary Sims | ext. 2649
marys@saintbrendan.org

Facilities Supervisor

Frank Fewel | ext. 2650
frankf@saintbrendan.org

Pastoral Secretary/Receptionist

Christy Avila
christya@saintbrendan.org

Music Director

Victoria Solenberger | ext. 2645
directorofmusic@saintbrendan.org

Office Assistant

Diane Moran | ext. 2646
officeassistant@saintbrendan.org

School Principal

Catherine Shumate
catherines@school.saintbrendan.org

School Office Manager/ Development Director

Christen Lambert
Christenl@school.saintbrendan.org

School Secretary

Karyn Murnane
secretary@school.saintbrendan.org

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

Dear Parishioners,

Merry Christmas to all of you and to all of those who are visiting with us this year! I pray that this Christmas Season, is filled with the joy of Jesus coming among us to bring us salvation! I pray this great news of Jesus coming refreshes you and enlivens your faith in God's great love for you! I was wondering earlier today... 'I wonder what Jesus' first words were?' Then I wondered what would have been His first words to me if I would have lived in the time the Lord Jesus came to this earth. What would have been the first words the Lord spoke to you, had you walked the earth while He did? The answer is quite simple. Whatever the words themselves would have been, whether they were words to challenge us, or encourage us, or words of healing, the meaning all would have been the same. 'I love you and I desire what is best for you!' Once we realize it is true that God loves us, it can make all the difference in the world. Even beyond that, it can make a difference into eternal life. He loves you more intimately than the person who is closest to you in life.

As we receive love, it changes who we are. As human beings, when we receive authentic love, it helps us to grow in confidence, to open ourselves up to someone, to give of ourselves to them, to love them in return. On the face of the earth, there is no more authentic love than God's love for you. That love should change and impact our lives. We only need to open ourselves to that love, to receive that love. The more we open ourselves to God's love the more He teaches us how to love and to love authentically. God chose to humble Himself out of love for us and to come among us 2000 years ago at Christmas, to save us from our slavery to sin. Love is a choice! Jesus teaches us love is a choice both on Christmas as He humbled Himself to come among us and as He chose to lay down His life for us! How we choose to love God in return matters. People will say in our world today that they believe in God, or love God, but they want to love God on their own terms, which often is contrary to what God calls us to. That is what sin is, not loving authentically as God teaches us to love. Which then isn't really love. A saint is only a sinner who recognizes they need repentance and God's mercy. In humility they realize they are still learning how to love and need God's grace and guidance to accomplish that.

When someone thinks the 'rules' of our faith are an imposition to our humanity or a limit to our freedom it is like saying that the rules of the road are a danger to our safety. There are rules of the road so all of us on the road can be safe. It is when we dismiss those rules of the road that we put ourselves and others in danger. The same is true when it comes to our spiritual life and the Lord's call to love Him, as well as our neighbor as ourselves. God has given us the rules of how to love that we might be free to love authentically. Authentic love is different in many ways from a false kind of love that our society often pushes.

*Someone once challenged a priest: "If God is everywhere? Why do I need to go to Church?" His response: "The whole atmosphere is filled with water, but when you need a drink you have to go to a fountain or well." The Mass is where we receive a drink of water, God's grace, in order to be spiritually healthy and have life. It is where we go to receive God's love and give thanks to Him for that love. We can't go more than a week without water if we desire to be healthy. Christmas is the spring of our hope for that life-giving water that we receive in the Mass! It was in Jesus coming among us that hope dawned on humanity! Today we celebrate that hope! Today we celebrate with joy as we give our worship to God who is the source of our hope, our freedom, our life, and our love! It is in living out our faith, especially in participating in the Mass, which is the source and summit of our faith, that we are sustained in God's life-giving love! We receive God who is love in Holy Communion as we come to Mass! We receive Emmanuel, God with us! He comes to be with His people at every Mass. As we receive the Lord in Holy Communion may we grow into the love God calls us to. May we understand in the depths of our soul the message of God's love for us as we participate in this great celebration of God's love, Christmas! **Merry Christmas!***

Fr. Nick Wichert

Welcome to St. Brendan Parish and our Many Ministries

Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers, youth in grades 6 and up, serve at Masses and special liturgies.

Environment areas of worship preparation-flowers and plants, sacristy help, and seasonal planning.

Eucharistic Ministers during Liturgy serve the Eucharistic bread and wine at Mass.

Hospitality Ministers (Ushers) offer a welcoming presence at liturgies by serving the needs of the assembly.

Music Ministers provide musical leadership in contemporary (5:00, 8:00), traditional (10:00), and Spanish (12 noon) styles.

Sacristans prepare the church for liturgies and serve as a resource to other liturgical ministers.

Spiritual Life

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place on first Fridays following 8:30 am Mass.

Eucharistic Ministers to the Sick visit people in their homes, at hospitals, and in other local care facilities.

Community Development

After Mass Socials provide hospitality and refreshments after the Sunday morning liturgies and, once a month, after the Saturday Vigil Mass. **Newcomers' Socials** helps newly registered parishioners get to know their new community.

Parish Picnic is a fall parish community event featuring food, fun and entertainment. **Young at Heart Seniors** 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 supply donations 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 at weekend liturgies with children of practicing parish households following parent preparation sessions. **Christian Initiation (RCIA)** 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 1-5 is offered on Wednesday evenings during the school year. **Preschool Faith Formation "Little Disciples"** for preschoolers 3-K years of age gathers at the 10:00 am Sunday Mass.

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-Annual camp takes place during the month of July. For children preschool through 5th grades. 6th grade 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 16 years of age in deepening their understanding and acceptance of our Catholic faith and discerning readiness for this initiation sacrament.

Junior and Senior High Faith Formation offers a safe place for youth to build community, experience Christ, and participate in the life of the parish. **Youth Ministry Adult Volunteers** work directly or indirectly with the youth of our parish through youth nights, socials, retreats, fundraisers and as drivers.

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Enrichment offers various opportunities for catechesis and formation throughout the year. **Annulment Advocates** assist divorced individuals in the process of applying for an annulment. **Christian Initiation (RCIA)** for adults interested in initiation as Catholic Christians. Opportunities for inquiry, discernment, and understanding of our Catholic faith and traditions. **Returning Catholics** is a process for Catholics who have been away from active participation in the church. **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 and Brothers" is an opportunity for men to enjoy friends, fellowship, and fun with other men from the parish. **Women's Group, "Sipping Soul Sisters"** 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
www.saintbrendan.org

Fr. Nicholas Wichert, Pastor

Sunday Eucharist Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 and 10:00 am

Domingo: 12:00 Noon Misa en Español

Weekday Schedule Mass

Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat.: 8:30 am

Thursday: 6:00 pm Misa en Español

Sacrament of Reconciliation

7:45 am Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.

7:45 am & 3:00 pm Saturday

School Office

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00am-4:00pm

Phone: (425) 483-8300

Fax: (425) 483-2839

Address: 10049 NE 195th Street
Bothell, WA 98011-2931

Parish Office

Hours: Mon-Fri 9:15am-noon; 1:00-4:30pm

Phone: (425) 483-9400

Fax: (425) 486-9735

Address: 10051 NE 195th Street
Bothell, WA 98011-2931

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.

Misión

Nosotros, la comunidad católica de San Brendan estamos llamados a:

- Celebrar a través de la Palabra y Sacramento;
- Ser formados como discípulos y seguir adelante como apóstoles;
- Llegar a todos con amor y respeto

Todo esto para hacer visible el reino de Dios transformando nuestro mundo.