

# ST. BRENDAN

*Catholic Church*



*December 25, 2020*

*Merry Christmas!*

## *A Message from our Pastor*

### **ST. BRENDAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

#### **Pastor**

Rev. Nicholas Wichert | ext. 2647  
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#### **Pastoral Assistant for Administration**

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#### **Pastoral Assistant for Evangelization**

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#### **Youth Ministry (Sr. High)**

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youthminister@saintbrendan.org

#### **Children & Family Ministry**

Rosa Connolly | ext. 2648  
childfamilyministry@saintbrendan.org

#### **Director of Music Ministry &**

#### **RCIA Coordinator**

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

#### **Facilities Supervisor**

Isaac Anderson | ext. 2650  
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#### **Pastoral Secretary/Receptionist**

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#### **Office Assistant**

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#### **School Principal**

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#### **School Secretary**

Karyn Murnane  
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*Merry Christmas everyone!!!*

I love this quote from St. Paul. I find it to be motivating, to make me want to stand up and live in the Lord, and allow Him to live in me, with a renewed zeal, every time I read it.

"What can separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8: 35, 37-39).

The only way we are going to be able to overcome the struggles of our world, to attain the peace we seek, the healing we desire, and receive the protection our frail humanity needs, is if we return to the Lord as a whole. That conversion starts with you and me turning our own hearts over to the Lord, not just receiving God's love, but also loving God. It begins by allowing the Lord Jesus to be born again in us this Christmas!

Even with all the struggles which have happened in this year, I have also witnessed incredible growth in many people. It all comes down to choices in how we approach the situations in which we find ourselves. As a character in one of my favorite movies says, "You either get busy living or you get busy dying". As Christians we are destined for life through our baptism, but do we live into that life or have we begun to separate ourselves from God and therefore begun dying a spiritual death? As St. Paul said above, nothing can separate us from the love of God. We "conquer overwhelmingly through Him". We cannot conquer if we don't live through Him. Nothing can separate us from the love of God, except ourselves, our own choice not to love the God who loves us infinitely, but who doesn't force us to remain in His love for all eternity if we choose not to live into it in this life.

I have witnessed a great number of people making decisions to grow in their faith and in life during these extremely trying times. I have heard heroic stories, heard of people taking up hobbies they never would have taken up before the lockdowns began. I have seen families walking together, taking pictures together. I have heard how people have re-centered their life on the Lord, allowing Him to be born again in them. I have also seen and heard of the struggles, but I have seen firm resolve to stand united together in faith, to help those who are most in need and to persevere in a life of faith.

As St. Paul says to us "if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live" (Romans 8:13). In all that has been going on over this past year, it is a great reminder of the imperfections of this life, of the frailty of this life, but also that we are made for something more. We are made for God, to know Him, to love Him and to serve Him, and ultimately to be in union with Him for all eternity.

As we enter into this Christmas Season (which begins December 25 and doesn't end until the Baptism of the Lord on January 10) we are reminded of a daily decision that we make. We can live today in such a way as to allow God's Divine life to be born in us and to grow within us, or not. That choice is ours. If we allow the Divine life of God to be born again in us, then we will conquer overwhelmingly over creatures, height and depth, powers, present and future things, over anguish, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, the sword, over fallen principalities and angels, the difficulties of life and even over death! All because God loved us enough to come among us at Christmas so many years ago!

In the peace of Christ,

*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** lead the singing of chant and hymnody at the 5:00, 8:00 and 10:00, and Spanish Noon Masses.

**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 Sister Parish** provides funding for our school feed program (about 2500 kids), supporting various projects that the parishes determine together in addition to providing prayer and sharing our faith in everything we do.

**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 rites 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 1-5 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**- 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 13 years of age in deepening their understanding and acceptance of our Catholic faith and discerning readiness for this Sacrament of Initiation. **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. **Confirmation (Adult)** is for Catholic adults interested in celebrating this Sacrament of Initiation. **Evangelization Coordinator** collaborates with the Pastor in implementing the mission of the parish to build up parish evangelization programs that will strengthen the faith of the faithful and works to spread the light of Christ to those who do not yet believe in the Lord Jesus. **Returning Catholics** is a process for Catholics who have been away from active participation in the church. **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. **Activity Bus Drivers** are needed to operate our 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 192<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Bothell, Washington  
[www.saintbrendan.org](http://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 Mass Schedule**

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

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

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

7:45 am & 2:30 pm Saturday

## **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

## **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

## **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.