

WELCOME TO SAINT BRENDAN & SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA PARISH FAMILY

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

"Abraham replied, 'My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented. Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours.'

The rich man said, 'Then I beg you, father, send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.'

But Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.'

He said, 'Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

Then Abraham said, 'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.'" — Luke 16:25-31



SAINT BRENDAN PARISH | STB



SUNDAY MASS

- Saturday Vigil | 5PM
- Sunday | 8AM | 10AM* | 12PM* (Misa en Español)
- * LIVESTREAM ON FACEBOOK

DAILY MASS Monday, Wednesday - Saturday | 8:30AM

ADORATION

- Monday - Thursday | 1:00PM to 6:00PM
- Friday | 9:30AM to 6:00PM
- First Friday | 9:30AM to FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION at 7:30AM*
- *WITH ROSARY FOLLOWED BY BENEDICTION

CONFESSION

- Monday, Wednesday - Saturday | 7:45AM - 8:15AM
- Saturdays | 2:30PM - 4:00PM

"Help me to journey beyond the familiar and into the unknown. Give me the faith to leave old ways and break fresh ground with You" —ST. BRENDAN, THE NAVIGATOR

SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA PARISH | STOC



SUNDAY MASS

- Saturday Vigil | 5PM
- Sunday | 9AM | 11AM | 5PM

DAILY MASS - Tuesday to Friday | 9AM

ADORATION

- Tuesday - Friday | 8:30AM (Prior to Daily Mass)
- Benediction just before 9AM Mass

CONFESSION

- Saturday | 3PM to 4:30PM
- Other: By Appointment.

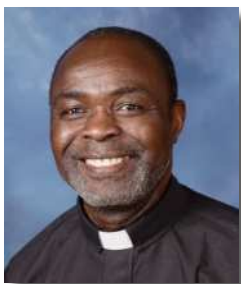
"Do small things with great love"—SAINT MOTHER TERESA

PARISH DIRECTORY



PASTOR

Rev. Nicholas Wichert
frwichert@saintbrendan.org
425-483-9400, Ext 2647
frwichert@saintteresa.org
425-806-8096, Ext. 3103



PAROCHIAL VICAR

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frpeter@saintbrendan.org
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425-806-8096, Ext 3107

DEACONS

- Dcn. Leon Garcia-Martinez | deaconleon@saintbrendan.org
- Dcn. Armando Medina | deaconarmando@saintbrendan.org

ST. BRENDAN PARISH (STB)

Monday - Friday | 9:15AM-Noon • 12:30PM-4PM

- **Church** - 10100 NE 192nd St, Bothell, WA 98011-2931
- **Office** - 10051 NE 195th St., Bothell, WA 98011-2931
- 425-483-9400 | www.saintbrendan.org

Pastoral Assistant for Administration

Pastoral Assistant for Evangelization

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Children & Family Ministry • OCIA Coordinator

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Confirmation

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Receptionist | Lupita Silva Ocampo | receptionist@saintbrendan.org

Liturgical Minister Schedule • Bulletin

Ermina Swager | ermina@saintbrendan.org • bulletin@saintbrendan.org

ST. BRENDAN PARISH SCHOOL

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday | 8AM to 4PM
Wednesday | 8AM to 3PM

- 10049 NE 195th St., Bothell, WA 98011
- 425-483-8300 | www.school.saintbrendan.org

School Principal | Catherine Shumate | catherines@school.saintbrendan.org

Admissions Director | Karah Burgess | karahb@school.saintbrendan.org

Advancement Director | Kerry Engle | kerrye@school.saintbrendan.org

School Secretary | Karyn Murnane | secretary@school.saintbrendan.org

ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA PARISH (STOC)

Monday - Friday | 9:30AM - 3PM

- 17856 NE Woodinville Duvall Rd, Woodinville WA 98077
- 425-806-8096 | www.saintteresa.org

Parish Assistant for Administration

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Confirmation • Youth Ministry

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OCIA Coordinator • Adult Catechesis

Mark Sizemore | childfamilyministry@saintbrendan.org

Director of Music | John Dobson | music@saintteresa.org

MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

To arrange for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick or to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact the Parish Office. For after hours emergency care you may also call the Eastside Deanery Pastoral Care Ministry at 425-655-3200.

MINISTERIO PARA LOS ENFERMOS

Para hacer arreglos para el Sacramento de la Unción de los Enfermos o para recibir la Santa Comunión en casa, por favor contacte la Oficina de la Parroquia.

FUNERAL MASSES AND BURIAL RITES

To arrange for a funeral Mass, please contact the Parish Office, or ask the funeral director to do so.

MISAS PARA FUNERALES Y RITOS DE ENTIERRO

Para hacer arreglos para Misa para funeral, por favor contacte la Oficina de la Parroquia, o pregunte al director de los servicios funerarios.

PARISH NEWSFLASH

If you would like to receive the weekly St. Teresa Newsflash over email, please let us know at admin@saintteresa.org.

To submit a bulletin announcement:

- Due Thursday a week before the target weekend.
- St. Brendan > bulletin@saintbrendan.org
- St. Teresa > admin@saintteresa.org

To submit a Mass announcement or Mass intentions:

- St. Brendan > receptionist@saintbrendan.org
- St. Teresa > admin@saintteresa.org

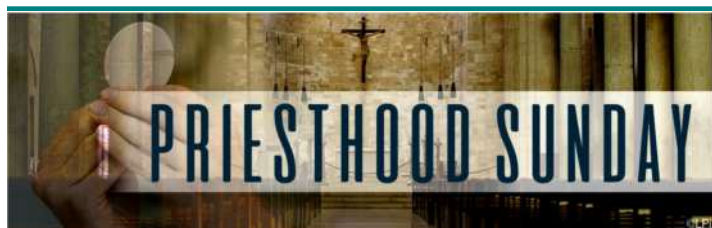
COVER ART

Title: *The Parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man*

Artist: Workshop of Domenico Fetti, 1618/1628

Source: [National Gallery of Art](http://NationalGallery.org).

UPCOMING EVENTS



Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests.
Through them we experience your presence in the sacraments.

Help our priests to be strong in their vocation.
Set their souls on fire with love for your people.

Grant them the wisdom, understanding,
and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.
Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom.

Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel.
Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to
become instruments of your divine grace.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our
Eternal Priest. Amen.

FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN (DISCIPLES CLUB)

In today's world, Faith Formation for our children is critical.

All Children in the 1st grade through 6th grade, who are not attending Catholic School should be enrolled in a faith formation class such as St. Brendan's Disciples Club.

Communion Preparation is a two-year program, so all 1st graders should be enrolled in year 1, if they want to receive 1st Communion in 2nd Grade. **All Children, regardless of grade must complete 2 years of 1st Communion prep.** Children who have received 1st Communion should be enrolled in continuing education until they are 13 and receive Confirmation.

Our children are the future of the church, please keep them growing in the faith. **Classes are every Wednesday evening at 6PM in St. Brendan School.**

Registration forms are in the church narthex, click on the link: <https://archseattle.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/5804/responses/new>, OR use the QR Code >>>.



Questions? Contact Mark Sizemore, Pastoral Assistant for Child and Family Ministries at childfamilyministry@saintbrendan.org or at 425-483-9400 (ext. 2648).

- **APOLOGETICS MINISTRY** - Sunday, SEP. 28 • 4PM to 5:30PM • St. Brendan Narthex.
- **MOMS GROUP** - Wednesday, OCT. 1 • 9:30AM • St. Brendan.
- **BLESSING OF ANIMALS** - Fri./Sat., OCT. 3 & 4 • See below.
- **LIFE CHAIN** - Sunday, OCT. 5 • 1:30PM • Pg. 5.
- **JASON EVERT EVENT** - Sunday, OCT. 26 • 4PM • Pg. 6

APOLOGETICS MINISTRY

Learning and Explaining the Faith

Join us **THIS Sunday, SEP. 28 from 4PM to 5:30PM in the St. Brendan Narthex.** If you're not able to make it, here are the future Sunday meetings: OCT. 26 • NOV. 23 • DEC. 21.



PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL

Thank you to all who attended the Spring Listening Sessions where the focus was on the question, 'Who are we?'. The Advisory Council is looking forward to sharing the responses in the coming weeks. The next round of Listening Sessions will be held next month where we will be focusing on "Who do we want to become?" We encourage all parishioners to attend one of the two sessions being offered – Please mark your calendars for:

- **OCT. 8, Wednesday, 6:30PM at St. Teresa of Calcutta.**
- **OCT. 18, Saturday, 9:30AM at St. Brendan.**

BLESSING OF ANIMALS

The feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals is **OCT. 4.**

At 3:15PM this Friday, OCT. 3, join us for a blessing of pets on the grassy area in front of the **St. Brendan Church.** This is a parish-sponsored event and school families are welcome to participate.

If you are interested in bringing your pet(s) to participate, a parent or guardian should be waiting with the pet(s) on the grassy area by 2:55 PM. For parish school students who will meet their parents at the blessing, please email your child's teacher with permission to be walked over to the church after school. Only students who have sent an email to the teacher will be escorted to the grassy area at 2:55 p.m. Please park in the church parking lot. Pets are not permitted inside the church or school buildings. Thank you for picking up anything that your pets may leave behind.

If you're unable to attend, there will be another opportunity the next day, **Saturday, OCT. 4 at 9:30AM.** We are looking forward to celebrating St. Francis of Assisi!



PRAYER AND READINGS

READINGS OF THE WEEK

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

PRAISE THE LORD, MY SOUL! (PSALM 146)

Sunday: Am 6:1a, 4-7 • Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1b) • 1 Tm 6:11-16 • Lk 16:19-31

Monday: Dn 7:9-10,13,14 or Rv 12:7-12ab • Ps 138:1-2abcde, 3-5 • Jn 1:47-51

Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23 • Ps 87:1b-7 • Lk 9:51-56

Wednesday: Neh 2:1-8 • Ps 137:1-6 • Lk 9:57-62

Thursday: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12 • Ps 19:8-11 • Mt 18:1-5, 10

Friday: Bar 1:15-22 • Ps 79:1b-5, 8, 9 • Lk 10:13-16

Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29 • Ps 69:33-37 • Lk 10:17-24

LET US PRAY FOR . . .

The Sick

God of all goodness, Look with mercy on all who suffer any kind of infirmity, sickness or injury, that they may be comforted. Let your hand of healing and protection be upon them. When they are fearful, ease their fear and anxieties. When they are afraid, give them strength and courage. When they feel alone, send them someone to listen and to care. When they are confused, provide reassurance and direction. When they are in pain, ease their suffering. When they despair, give them hope. May they experience your healing presence in the comfort of a caregiver's calm gaze and tender touch. We ask this in your holy name. Amen.

Fidela (Dely) Aguilar • Colleen Danforth • Howard Danforth • Joan Dedman • Fr. Jay De Folco • MaryLynn Gardner • DeeDee Hall • Tom Hook • Norman Hradec • Thomas Leslie • Kathy Lindquist • Greg Munter • Bill Nash • Arline Prib • Noemi Vazquez • Sarah Watson • David Weller • Jenna Wohlwend.

The Deceased

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Patrick Barnes • Juan Garcia • Josiah Herzog • Marissa Herzog • Wayne Kaske • Amy Kasprzyk • Julia Mathewson.

**"BUT YOU, MAN OF GOD,
PURSUE RIGHTEOUSNESS, DEVOTION, LOVE,
PATIENCE, AND GENTLENESS "** —1 TM 6:11

O Sacrament Most Holy

O Sacrament Divine

All Praise and

All Thanksgiving

Be Every Moment Thine



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, September 28

STB

8:00AM + Tom Heestand

10:00AM For Saint Brendan Parish

12:00PM + Victor Barrientos

STOC

9:00AM For Saint Teresa Parish

11:00AM For Saint Teresa Parish

Monday, September 29

STB - Jean Heestand

STOC - NO MASS

Tuesday, September 30

STB - NO MASS

STOC - 9:00AM + Joseph Case

Wednesday, October 1

STB - 8:30AM Ignacio Silva

STOC - 9:00AM + Christopher Weber & Catherine Freeman Weber

Thursday, October 2

STB - 8:30AM + Francis McMonigle

STOC - 9:00AM + Ethel Sims

Friday, October 3

STB - 8:30AM + Linda Brown

STOC - 9:00AM + Andrew & Monica Lee

Saturday, October 4

STB

8:30AM + Tom Heestand

5:00PM + Genina Ghirga

STOC - 5:00PM For Saint Teresa Parish

To submit a Mass intention, contact the parish office at the following email address.

- St. Brendan - receptionist@saintbrendan.org
- St. Teresa of Calcutta - admin@saintteresa.org

+ = deceased.

BE PART OF THE PLANNING AND EXECUTION OF A VERY SPECIAL EVENT

MAY 16, 2026 – Meydenbauer Center in Bellevue – THE ASCEND EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL, supported by the Eastside parishes of Archdiocese of Seattle, will offer Catholics a full day of Sacramental opportunities including Confession and Holy Mass, Adoration, Outdoor procession, Rosary, and great speakers (Chris Stefanick, Tim Gray, Andy & Sarah Swafford) and music (Floriani, Marie Miller).

We need more volunteers for our organizing committees, which are: Liturgy, Food & Beverage, Marketing & Communications, Logistics & Operations, Emergency & Security, Event Execution, and Youth Engagement. Please attend an informational and update meeting on **Monday, SEP. 22, from 6PM to 8PM in the St. Brendan School Gym**. If you have questions or if you want to participate, please call Julie or Mike Rice at 425.806.0774.

FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS, TEENS, & CHILDREN

The Faith Formation Programs for Adults, Teens and Children are starting up again in mid-September.

The **Disciples Club Program** is for all children in Grades 1st - 6th. • The **Confirmation and OCIC Programs** are for teens and young adults ages 13 through 17 years old. • The **OCIA Program** is for adults 18 and older, who wish to become Catholic and Catholic adults seeking Sacraments.

Registrations for all programs have begun. Watch the registration forms and posters in the church and in the coming weekly bulletins. *Let's all work together to have great participation in these important education programs.* Questions? Please contact Mark Sizemore at 425-483-9400 (ext. 2648) childfamilyministry@saintbrendan.org.



OCIA



OCIA (ESPAÑOL)



OCIC



LIFE CHAIN

Join us on **Sunday, OCT. 5 from 1:30PM to 3PM**. We will hold signs and pray for an end to abortion along **Bothell Everett Highway**. **Meet at McMenamins on the corner across from Cafe Ladro**.

Life Chain is a peaceful, powerful, and prayerful event. We will provide the signs. Hope to see you there! Families welcome! We all need to do our part to end abortion. This is a good start! For more information contact Colleen Danforth at rdhcoll@aol.com

BOOK STUDY / SMALL GROUP SHARING

RETURN: HOW TO DRAW YOUR CHILD BACK TO THE CHURCH BY BRANDON VOGT

Start Date: Tuesday, September 30
Time: 1:00PM -2:30PM

Place: St. Brendan Church Library

Length of study: Approx. 15 weeks

The statistics are troubling: 6.5 people leave the Catholic Church for every one that joins, and 50% of young people who were raised Catholic are no longer Catholic today. Few things are more painful for us than the longing for our children to come home to the church. *What are the top 5 reasons they leave the church?*

We need to understand the real reasons why people drift away and in this book Brandon demolishes the myths and presents his game plan to bring them home. He gives us support, sound tools, and practical answers. He lays out a prayerful and practical step by step plan for helping the lost sheep come back.

Join us as we read this book aloud together week to week, discuss what we read, and share thoughts, experience, and hope in a small group setting. No homework required!

Books will be on sale for \$20 at the first meeting.

It's not too late to register - join us at the first meeting. Call Anne Chapman at 206-234-5849 for more information.



PARISH NEWS

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

For those in pain and in sorrow, GOD be their comfort.
For caretakers and medical staff, GOD give them grace.
Surround those afflicted with YOUR love, care, and mercy. YOU who are our healing and hope. AMEN.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS (KofC) CORNER (Council 6686)

- **September Knight of the Month:** Ben Anstey
- **September Family of the Month:** Bobby and Roxanne Buendia
- The first Pancake Breakfast of the Fraternal year takes place **today, SEP. 28 in the St. Brendan Narthex, after the 8AM and 10AM Masses.**
- All Knights are invited to attend the next Planning Meeting on **Thursday, SEP. 25, at 7PM at the Bothell Rental Hall.**
- Come and join like-minded men of the parish for the next episode of the *Into the Breach* video series led by Tom Gray. The gathering takes place in **Lower Brendan House on Saturday OCT. 4, at 7AM.**
- The next Knights of Columbus Blood Drive takes place at the Bothell Rental Hall on Wednesday, OCT. 15, from 9:30AM to 3:30PM. You can register at the Bloodworks NW website to make your reservation; https://donate.bloodworksnw.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/85917
- Are you looking for some inspirational reading? Check out the *Building the Domestic Church* kiosk located next to the drinking fountain in the St. Brendan narthex.
- One of the benefits of being a Knight is access to Fraternal Benefit Events. Webinars are available **every night at 7PM** at www.kofcpacific/fbn (English) and www.kofcpacific/fbe (Spanish). The council will receive credit towards the Founders award by your watching the webcast, completing the survey at the conclusion and, notifying Grand Knight Joe Osmialowski joe.osmialowski@yahoo.com so that the activity can be reported.
- What does it mean to be a Knight? It means a life of faith in action, a life of boldness in brotherhood, a life worth living. Join 2 million Catholic men on a mission. To learn more, go to kofc.org or look for a Knight in a blue vest or contact Grand Knight Joe Osmialowski at 248-343-9021.

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Please Pray For These Expecting Mothers: Taryn Beard-Killeri • Kay Bodmer Grasseschi • Megan Carlin • Madeline Castro Dempsey • Allison Danforth Reisinger • Dalia Davis Elledge • Eustorgia Felipe • Alexis Fuller • Robbi Ann Gray (Buendia) • Lauren Green • Mildred Hranek • Rhianna Kofmehl • Avika Nash • Shelby Teter • MaryKate White Benshoof.

Congratulations to: Andrew & Jaycee ARPIN on the birth of their daughter, Eliana Theodosia. • Kevin & Sandra BARNETT on the birth of their son, Patrick Sheen • Matt & Melissa (White) HARROW on the birth of their son, Gunnar David • Mac & Katy STALEY on the birth of their daughter, Mona Maureen • Pete and Colette (Lambert) TREPERINAS on the birth of their son, George Pete. We ask that God bless you and bring you much joy as you raise your little one. If you are expecting a baby and would like your church family to pray for you, please contact Colleen Danforth at rdhcoll@aol.com.

JASON EVERT - DOUBLE FEATURE EVENT

Catholic author and international chastity speaker, Jason Evert will be at **St. Brendan Church on Sunday, OCT. 26 from 4PM to 8PM.** This is a double feature event combining *Purified* and *Gender & the Theology of Your Body* into a retreat event. Dinner will be provided. Keep an eye out for more details coming soon.



Happier marriages take time and work. We, Marriage Encounter, can help married couples take time and lead them in work to enjoy happier marriages. We also encourage them to be more involved in their parish. They can return to your parish as a greater sign and example for your young people and their children. Children deserve parents who love each other. Children are harmed when their parents live lives that lead to divorce.

Live better lives of love. Your spouse deserves it, also your children deserve it. **Join the Marriage Encounter Weekend in Everett, WA at the Hampton Inn NOV. 14-16, 2025.** Sign up at <http://www.wvme.org>. scroll down to Everett weekend and fill in your information. WELCOME to the Weekend.



ST. BRENDAN OVERNIGHT ADORATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Second Saturday of the Month:

- Women's Overnight Adoration—7PM to 6AM (Sunday)

Third Saturday of the Month:

- Children/Teen's Evening Adoration—6:30PM to 8:30PM
- Men's Overnight Adoration—8:30PM to 6AM (Sunday)

Segundo sábado del mes:

- Adoración nocturna de las mujeres—7PM a 6AM (domingo)

Tercer sábado del mes:

- Adoración nocturna de los niños/adolescentes—6:30PM a 8:30PM
- Adoración nocturna de los hombres—8:30PM a 6:00AM (domingo)

STB - EL GRUPO DE ORACION VEN A MI (STB - COME TO ME PRAYER GROUP)

El Grupo de Oracion Ven a Mi en español los invita todos los **viernes de 7pm a 9pm** a reflexionar la palabra de Dios, a Orar y Alabar a Dios, hay Evangelización de Jóvenes y Niños. Nos reunimos dentro de la Parroquia.

Vengan a mi y yo los aliviare. —Mateo 11:28

BECOMING ONE WITH JESUS THROUGH MARY LEGION OF MARY RETREAT

To grow in union with Jesus by journeying with Mary, allowing the Holy Spirit to transform our hearts and guide our healing.



Date: October 24 - 26, 2025

Retreat Master: Fr. Michael Barry

Place: Black Diamond Camp
19830 SE 328th PL, Auburn, 98092

Contact: Sr. Claudia Dickinson
claudiad169@gmail.com
206-427-3413

Fee: \$25 deposit to secure your spot.

EVANGELIZATION

By Brigette Blair

CHRIS STEFANICK (YouTube)

- [Why God Keeps You Waiting](#) (and how that prepares you for greatness)
- [How the Cross Rewrites Today's Headlines](#) | Charlie Kirk Assassination, 9/11, Arena Zerutska
- [A Response to Charlie Kirk's Assassination](#)

FORMED

- [Restless Heart: The Confessions of Augustine](#)
- [Pier Giorgio Frassati: If I Didn't Have Love](#)
- [Kenny: The True Story of Msgr. Ken Leone](#)
- [The Violinist: Stories of Solanus Casey](#)

BISHOP BARRON SUNDAY SERMON (YouTube)

- [The Use—and Abuse—of Power](#)
- [Christ, and Him Crucified](#)
- [Does God Punish Us](#)

ASCENSION PRESENTS

- [Fr. Mike on the Charlie Kirk Shooting & The Real Cause of Violence](#)
- [Called to Heal the Brokenhearted w/ Fr. Mike Schmitz and Fr. John Riccardo](#)
- [Called to Form the Young w/ Fr. Mike Schmitz and Coach Lou Holtz "Offer it Up": How Far Is Too Far?](#)

FR. MIKE SCHMITZ HOMILIES

- ["Mini-Mediators" | 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time](#)
- ["Words Fail" | Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross](#)
- ["Begin. Or begin again." | 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time](#)
- ["Ordinary People" | 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time](#)

THE CATHOLIC PARENT—FORMED

FOR KIDS—FORMED

- [Carlo Acutis: God's Influencer](#)
- [God's Princesses](#)
- [Zack and Yalla](#)
- [Brother Francis \(English & Español\)](#)
- [Littlest Saints](#)
- [The Wonderful World of Benjamin Cello](#)
- [Christine in Action](#)
- [Drawing Closer to God](#)
- [Laugh and Grow Bible for Kids](#)
- [Chalk and Block: What Every Child Needs to Know About God](#)
- [Catholic All Year at Home with Kendra Tierney](#)

GROWING IN FAITH

WHY DOES GOD ALLOW HELL?

By Zoltan Abraham

Both the Old and New Testaments discuss poverty extensively. One question that arises with regard to this topic is what causes poverty in the first place. An examination of the question shows us several potential causes.

One is systemic oppression, where people are born or forced into a life of poverty, where there is no social mobility, no opportunity to advance. Another potential cause is environmental factors, like fundamentally adverse conditions in nature, which make the production of basic necessities deeply challenging. At the same time, poverty can also be caused by cultural assumptions that prevent people from working toward a better life, like a sense of fatalism dictating that no better future is possible. Another potential cause is personal misfortune, such as illness or family tragedies. Finally, poverty can be caused by bad personal decisions, which can destroy a person's economic situation and can cut off the ability to move forward financially.

The Old Testament has various categories of books, among which is Prophetic Literature, containing the writings of the prophets of Israel, and Wisdom Literature, which presents extensive instructions for day-to-day living. In addressing the question of poverty, Prophetic Literature tends to deal with oppressive socio-economic systems that make and keep people poor. The prophets challenge such systems in no uncertain terms. By contrast, Wisdom Literature tends to focus on personal choice, exhorting people to avoid the sort of mistakes that can plunge someone into a life of poverty.

The Gospels also challenge systemic oppression, especially on the part of those who are in the position of being shepherds of the people. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus critiques the contemporary leaders of Israel, who used their position to live well, while keeping others down. The Torah, the law that the Israelites received from God through Moses, mandated care for one another in society. But many of the leaders did not fulfill the law and instead maintained socio-economic systems that kept people down, allowing the leaders to live well at the expense of the people they were supposed to be caring for.

Many of the ordinary people at the time of Jesus followed his teachings. Among the Israelites, it was mostly the leaders who rejected him. In the parable, the rich man's family does not accept the teachings of Moses and the prophets, nor would they be willing to accept the testimony of someone who came back from the dead. The point would not have been lost on the leaders at the time of Jesus. They themselves did not accept the teachings of Moses and the prophets pointing toward Jesus, nor did they accept the testimony of the Apostles when Jesus resurrected from the dead. The leaders of Israel at the

time of Jesus would have understood that the parable was specifically critiquing them.

Having said that, the parable is directed at all of us as well, offering many crucial teachings. To begin, the parable shows the reality of the afterlife. We do not go out of existence when we die, but we continue to live for eternity. The parable also shows the reality of Hell. As the Church teaches, when we die, we will experience one of three possible states. One is Heaven, which is eternal union with God. The second is Purgatory, which is a state of being saved, but still needing some purification before we can enter Heaven.

The third is Hell, which is the state of being completely cut off from God. Going to Hell is the consequence of one's sinful actions in this life. Our day-to-day actions have eternal consequences, for good or for ill. What we do every day matters - matters eternally. As the parable shows, Heaven and Hell are eternal states. Once in Heaven, we will never leave. But likewise those who go to Hell can never exit Hell either. Therefore, we need to take our everyday choices extremely seriously.

But, the objection goes, if God is all good and all loving, why does he allow Hell to exist? Wouldn't God want all people to go to Heaven? The answer is rooted in love. God is love and he created the world out of love in order to share his love with us. Love presupposes free will. For love to be meaningful, love has to be freely chosen and reciprocated. If God just forced us to accept his love and to love him back, we would not be experiencing his love. We would be nothing more than robots programmed for a task. There would be no relationship.

Thus, God's offer of love to us also entails giving us free will. But free will includes a fundamental risk. When God gives us freedom, the freedom to accept his love, he also takes the risk that some of the beings he has created will reject his love. God's love is our only true fulfillment, our eternal satisfaction and complete joy. And yet, some individuals will use their free will to reject God's love and cast themselves into eternal sorrow and suffering.

God will respect their free will and not force them to do otherwise. In order for love to be meaningful, the foundation of free will must remain, even the choice of some souls to go to Hell. Thus, paradoxically, Hell is a necessary byproduct of love, of the freedom to be able to choose love meaningfully. Let us, therefore, use our free will to accept and reciprocate God's love and thereby choose eternal joy and fulfillment with God in Heaven.

If you would like to read more of Zoltan's writings, you can find them at www.zoltanabraham.com.



Would you and your daughter love her to have a community of friends that builds on her FAITH experience through SERVICE and FUN?

Our American Heritage Girls Troop (meeting at Holy Family in Kirkland) is open to new members! American Heritage Girls is a Christ-centered character development program for girls ages 5-18, dedicated to its mission of building women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country.

During our troop meetings, we have fun while working on badges, socializing, praying and building a beautiful Catholic community. Together we learn new outdoor skills, complete service projects, and celebrate many Feast days.

If you are interested in learning more please visit americanheritagegirls.org and use the "find a troop" function to contact us. We would love to meet your daughter and family!



PREPARES MINISTRY AT ST. BRENDAN AND ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

Supports families in need by providing diapers and clothing for children from birth to school age. We are located in the **lower Brendan House** and are open on **Tuesdays from 9AM to 11AM**.

If you are in a housing or food crisis or in need of other immediate assistance, please call the State of Washington Services at 2-1-1 for help—it's FREE; they are open 24/7 and multilingual. **If you would like to make a financial donation to PREPARES, please write St. Teresa Prepares on the check.** Please contact Lori Wirtz (loriwirtz@gmail.com) with any questions. Thank you for your support!

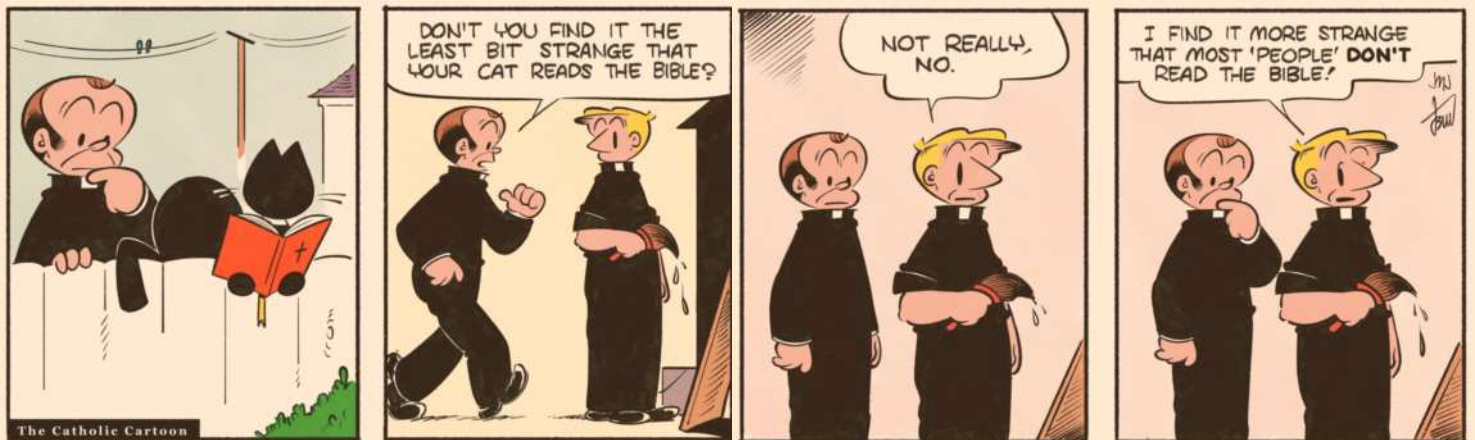
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• OCT. 27TH	• JAN. 12TH
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• DEC. 1	• FEB. 23RD
• DEC. 8TH	• MAR. 2ND
• DEC. 15TH	• MAR. 9TH
	• MAR. 16TH
	• MAR. 23RD
	• APRIL 13TH
	• APRIL 20TH
	• APRIL 27TH
	• MAY 4TH
	• MAY 16TH - EUCHARISTIC EVENT
	• MAY 18TH - REHERSAL

Register Here

CONFIRMATION MASS (TBD)

Questions? Contact Andrew Duncan at andrew@saintteresa.org

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

Question: Apart from the Resurrection, what is the only miracle mentioned by all four Gospels?

Answer: The miracle of the loaves and fishes

CYO SPOTLIGHT

Hey, Parents - did you know that your children are eligible and welcome to participate in all St. Brendan CYO sports programs simply by being registered parishioners? For more information on CYO and the programs offered at St. Brendan, please reach out to Ena Demeter at ena322@yahoo.com.

CYO BASKETBALL

4TH - 8TH GRADE BASKETBALL - Registration is NOW open! Games will begin NOV. 8TH. All players and coaches must register using the *Team Sideline* (www.teamsideline.com/sites/seattlecyo/current-programs)

KINDERGARTEN - 3RD GRADE BASKETBALL - Registration opens in October! Games will begin January and will operate through YMCA.

To enroll players and volunteer coaches for 4th - 8th Grade:

1. Visit [Team Sideline](http://www.teamsideline.com).
2. Select the green *Enroll* box, next to the basketball image.
3. Complete the prompts to enroll your student(s) and make payment.

PRACTICE TIMES - Team practice schedules have not yet been determined. As teams form and coaches are identified, additional communication will follow.

QUESTIONS? Please reach out to our school CYO Basketball Coordinator Krista Torrey (kristatorrey@gmail.com).

ONLINE PARISHIONER STEWARDSHIP PLEDGES & ONLINE GIVING

Every person's finances and family situation is different. Jesus makes it clear that it matters not how much one gives, but that it is planned, calculated, at least some-what sacrificial (see Luke 24:1-4), and not simply from what is "leftover" at the end of the month.

We propose the tithe (10%) as the ideal every family can consider working towards. This means taking steps to give 5% to one's parish and 5% to other charities, or causes you have personal passion for.

You can give online at parish.saintbrendan.org (STB) or at <https://pushpay.com/g/saintteresacalcutta> (STOC) or scan the following QR codes with your phone's camera, It's quick, secure, convenient, and easy. Your support helps sustain our parish family. If you need help with online giving, please call the Parish Office at 425-483-9400 (STB) or 425-806-8096 (STOC)

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