

WELCOME TO
**SAINT BRENDAN & SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA
PARISH FAMILY**
2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 7, 2025



Brothers and Sisters:

Whatever was written previously was written for our instruction, that by endurance and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus, that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I say that Christ became a minister of the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, to confirm the promises to the patriarchs, but so that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.

As it is written:

Therefore, I will praise you among the Gentiles and sing praises to your name.

— Romans 15:4-9

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 | 1PM to 6PM • Friday | 9:30AM to 6PM
- 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 - 4PM

"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.

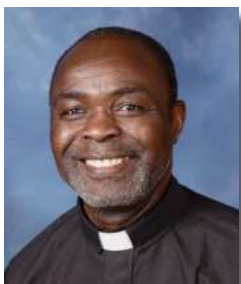
"Do small things with great love"—SAINT MOTHER TERESA

PARISH DIRECTORY



PASTOR

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



PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Peter Adoko-Enchill
frpeter@saintbrendan.org
frpeter@saintteresa.org
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

Brigette Blair | ext. 2645 | bridgetteb@saintbrendan.org

Bookkeeper | Mary Deitch | ext. 2642 | bookkeeper@saintbrendan.org

Children & Family Ministry • OCIA Coordinator

Mark Sizemore | ext. 2648 | childfamilyministry@saintbrendan.org

Confirmation

Margaret Deleon | ext. 2644 | youthminister@saintbrendan.org

Director of Music | John Dobson | directorofmusic@saintbrendan.org

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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

COVER ART

ARTIST: [KaLisa Veer, Nov. 17, 2021](#)

SOURCE: <https://unsplash.com/@kalisaveer>

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

Zoltan Abraham | Ext. 3105 | zoltan@saintteresa.org

Administrative Assistant

Audrey Kozel | audrey@saintteresa.org

First Communion • Children's Catechesis

Analaura Rodriguez | Ext 3101 | analaura@saintteresa.org

Confirmation • Youth Ministry

Andrew Duncan | Ext. 3102 | andrew@saintteresa.org

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 Anointing of the Sick, call the Ministry of Pastoral Care of the Eastern Deanery at 425-655-3200.

To arrange for Holy Communion for the sick or homebound, call the parish office.

MINISTERIO PARA LOS ENFERMOS Y LAS PERSONAS CONFINADAS EN CASA

Para concertar el Sacramento de la Unción de los Enfermos, llame al Ministerio de Atención Pastoral del Decanato Oriental al 425-655-3200.

Para concertar la Sagrada Comunión para los enfermos o las personas confinadas en casa, llame a la oficina parroquial.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS



- **SOLEMNITY OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY** (*Holy Day of Obligation*) > **MASS TIMES** -
 ▶ St. Brendan: 9AM w/School Community • **6PM** (bilingual).
 ▶ St. Teresa: 9AM and 7PM.
- **COAT & BLANKET DRIVE** - NOW through DEC. 14 • Drop-offs are at the parish narthex and parish school. • Pg. 9
- **GIVING TREE** - Going on NOW • Pg. 5 for full details.
- **YOUNG AT HEART SENIORS** - Trip to Bellevue Festival of the Nativity • DEC. 10 • **RSVP by DEC. 7.** • See pg. 5.
- **HEART TO HEART PACKETS** - On Sale weekend of DEC. 6/7 • St. Brendan Narthex. • Pg. 6.
- **BLOCK ROSARY** - Info at all Masses • St. Brendan Narthex • weekends of DEC. 6/7 & 20/21 • Pg. 6
- **STORY TIME** - Sunday, DEC. 7 • St. Brendan • After the 10AM Mass • Next Column.
- **FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE** - Friday, DEC. 12 • St. Brendan • Rosary 6:30PM • Mass at 7PM • Mananitas 8PM.
- **WOMEN'S FIAT90 Informational Meeting** - Saturday, DEC. 13 • 9:30AM • Lower Brendan House. • Pg. 5 for details.
- **WOMEN'S GROUP—TREAT EXCHANGE** - Monday, DEC. 15 • 6:30PM • St. Teresa • See Pg. 6.
- **MOMS GROUP** - Wednesday, DEC. 17 • 9:30AM • St. Brendan Nursery • Pg. 6.
- **SIMBANG GABI** - Saturday, DEC. 20 • St. Brendan - 5PM Vigil Mass - Reception afterwards. • Pg. 5.

Meydenbauer Center • Bellevue, WA
May 16, 2026

ASCEND
EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Get the details and stay updated at:
AscendEucharisticRevival.church

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Scan here to get alerts on registration!

STORY TIME

Mrs. Abraham is hosting Story Time in the St. Brendan Nursery on the first Sunday of each month after the 10AM Mass. All children are welcome to come and listen. The next Story Time is next Sunday, DEC. 7.



CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY CHOIR

Love to sing Christmas Carols? Come join the Family Christmas Choir for the 4PM Christmas Eve Mass! **Ages 13 to 99** (younger children are welcome to sing with the Children's choir at this same Mass)

This is a beautiful way to become more involved in the liturgy, make Christmas memories, and grow in fellowship at **St. Teresa**. Join us for the following practices:

- Wednesdays, DEC. 10 & 17 at 7PM until 9:00PM.
- Saturday, DEC. 20 at 10AM until Noon.

Questions? Please contact Kerri Masse at pkmasse@hotmail.com or 425-941-6294

Saint Teresa of Calcutta Parish

All elementary aged children in the parish are invited to participate in the

Children Christmas Choir

24 | 4:00
Dec. | pm

Rehearsals: Wednesdays, Dec. 3, 10 and 17 at 6:00 pm, and Saturday, Dec. 20 from 9:00 to 10:30 am

Questions? analaura@saintteresa.org



Register here



PRAYER AND READINGS

READINGS OF THE WEEK

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 7, 2025

**JUSTICE SHALL FLOURISH IN HIS TIME,
AND FULLNESS OF PEACE FOR EVER.** (PSALM 72)

Sunday: Is 11:1-10 • Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 • Rom 15:4-9 • Mt 3:1-12

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20 • Ps 98:1-4 • Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 • Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11 • Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13 • Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31 • Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10 • Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20 • Ps 145:1, 9-13ab • Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab • Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 • Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 • Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19 • Mt 17:9a, 10-13

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.

Cynthia Alvarado • Joan Dedman • Sean Gallacher • MaryLynn Gardner • Norman Hradec • Gary Lobdell • Selmia Rivera • Sarah Watson • Shirley Wichert.

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.

Harriet DeBroeck • Jorge Arturo Gomez Hernandez • Rocio Robles Ornelas • Lucia Santoyo • Irene Trulson • Theresa Wood

"THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD SHALL REST UPON HIM:

**A SPIRIT OF WISDOM AND OF UNDERSTANDING,
A SPIRIT OF COUNSEL AND OF STRENGTH, A SPIRIT OF
KNOWLEDGE AND OF FEAR OF THE LORD."** —ISA 11:2



O SACRAMENT MOST HOLY
O SACRAMENT DIVINE
ALL PRAISE AND
ALL THANKSGIVING
BE EVERY MOMENT THINE

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 7

STB

8:00AM Brigette Blair
10:00AM + Adalberto Musso
12:00PM + Elbia Serrano

STOC

9:00AM For Saint Teresa Parish
11:00AM For Saint Teresa Parish

Monday, December 8

STB - 9:00 Immaculate Conception Mass
STOC - NO MASS

Tuesday, December 9

STB - NO MASS
STOC - 9:00AM Dawn Edmonson

Wednesday, December 10

STB - 8:30AM + Estrellita Merza
STOC - 9:00AM NO Mass

Thursday, December 11

STB - 8:30AM NO MASS
STOC - 9:00AM + Carmela Gonzalez

Friday, December 12

STB - 8:30AM Fr. Wichert
STOC - 9:00AM + Andrew & Monica Lee

Saturday, December 13

STB

8:30AM Cathy Galvan
5:00PM Samantha Deitch

STOC - 5:00PM For Saint Teresa Parish

+ = deceased.

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

PHOTO REMINDER

If you brought a framed photo of your deceased loved one(s) for All Souls' Day, please pick them up from the table in the narthex. Thank you.

WOMEN'S GROUP - TREAT EXCHANGE

Greetings from the Women of St. Brendan and St. Teresa!



Join us for our second annual Women's Group Treat Exchange on **Monday, December 15 at 6:30PM at St. Teresa Social Hall.**



Please bring 2 dozen treats to share AND your recipe — think cookies, fudge, rice Krispie treats, etc.



The women's group core team will provide drinks and non-sugary snacks.

Need a ride from St. Brendan to St. Teresa (and back)? Please contact Ermina Swager by **Friday, DEC. 12** at ermina@saintbrendan.org OR leave your contact info by calling 425.483.9400 (St. Brendan Parish Office). Bring your friend, mom, sister, aunt, or grandma! **No membership—all women are welcome.** Looking forward to spending the third week of Advent with you ladies!

YOUNG AT HEART SENIORS

The creche displays that we've seen at St Jude's in Redmond over the years have always been so impressive. This year we will be heading further south to participate in the **Bellevue Festival of the Nativity, featuring over 500 creches from all over the world.** This should really be amazing, especially with the 150 Christmas trees present to enhance the holiday ambience. There will even be a life-sized replica of the inn at Bethlehem for us to view.



We will not be able view the creches until after 1PM, so we'll be lunching at the Piroshky Bakery at Crossroads beforehand. **Please meet in the St Brendan narthex at 11AM on Wednesday, DEC. 10. Contact Donna (206-335-4469) by Sunday, DEC. 7,** to reserve a seat on the bus & at the restaurant table.

FIAT90

Ladies! You are invited to an informational meeting about FIAT90 on **Saturday, DEC. 13 at 9:30AM in Lower Brendan House.** This year we begin on Monday January 5, 2026 and end on Easter. It is an excellent way to detach yourself from things of the world, grow closer to God and make some great friends. Bring all your questions and concerns. We make suffering fun is the motto from past groups. If you have any questions, please contact Brigitte Blair at brigitteb@saintbrendan.org.

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

ST. BRENDAN PARISH

NOV. 12 - DEC. 14

CONTACT - Kerrie Mayans - kerrie@mayansfamily.com

ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

NOV. 21 - DEC. 15

CONTACT - Sally Skinner - 425.830.7500

CHOOSE A TAG OR TWO FROM THE TREE AND SPREAD SOME GOOD WILL THIS SEASON!

BRING YOUR UNWRAPPED GIFT WITH YOUR TAG ATTACHED TO THE TREE NO LATER THAN THE END DATES ABOVE.

WE REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT! THE GIVING TREE BENEFITS MANY LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS PREPARES, ST VINCENT DE PAUL, SEATTLE SEAFARERS, YOUTH CARE, KINSHIP NAVIGATOR, DIAPER BAG PROJECT AND MANY, MANY MORE!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

SIMBANG GABI

Commissioning at St. James Cathedral on Saturday, DEC. 13 at 10 AM - Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Christmas tradition and consists of a series of nine dawn Masses on the days leading up to Christmas. It begins on December 16 and ends at midnight on the 24th of December, when a midnight Mass is held.

At St. Brendan, Simbang Gabi will be celebrated on Saturday, DEC. 20 during the 5PM Vigil Mass, followed by a reception at the narthex. All are welcome. If you have Parol (traditional Filipino star lantern) bring it and during the Mass Father will bless it.

PARISH NEWS

HEART-TO-HEART PACKETS

St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVdP) Heart to Heart packets for those in need will be available for purchase the **weekend of December 6/7 in the St. Brendan Narthex after all Masses**. Cost is \$5, which includes: a \$5 McDonald's gift card, a \$10 SVdP Store coupon, a list of resources, and a prayer card. Any questions please call Jeri Molloy (425-485-5108).

WHAT IS BLOCK ROSARY?

It is a Catholic devotion that involves praying the rosary as a family and moving a statue of the Virgin Mary from home to home. The Block Rosary aims to bring the families together and encourages everyone, young and old, to pray daily for their own intentions and for the community.



There will be a table in the **St. Brendan narthex** to sign up and for additional information on the **weekends of DEC. 6/7 and DEC. 20/21**. Call or text Christina Plantilla (425-486-3376) if you have questions.

MOMS GROUP

We meet **every Wednesday at 9:30AM** in the **St. Brendan nursery**. Our next meeting is **Wednesday, DEC. 17**. All children are welcome up to 10 years of age. Please bring any toys or snacks your child may need. You can email stbmomsgroup25@gmail.com with questions or for more information.

ST BRENDAN GARDENS

A big **THANK YOU** to all who have worked on the church grounds during this year. Whether you were involved in the big projects (e.g., spring cleanup/mulching, summer work in upper parking lot, fall leaf cleanup) or the routine gardening type work (weeding, planting, pruning), whether you devoted hours of manual labor or just a few, whether you adopted a specific area to care for or helped wherever there was an apparent need — *all was very much appreciated*.



Besides the actual work with plants and dirt, thanks is extended to the volunteers who watered plants not covered by the sprinklers, to those who helped with the fundraiser Plant/Bake Sale, and, of course, the women who purchased, prepared, and served food at the work parties. *May God bless you all abundantly.*

March 2026 will be our usual pre-Easter cleanup plus when you'll have the opportunity to choose an area of the church gardens to lavish with TLC during the next year. Circle the weekend of **May 2/3, 2026: date of our annual fundraiser Plant & Bake Sale**.

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Please Pray For These Expecting Mothers: Kim Anderson • Taryn Beard-Killeri • Kay Bodmer Grasseschi • Megan Carlin • Claire Cook • Dalia Davis Elledge • Eustorgia Felipe • Megan Fryover • Alexis Fuller • Lauren Green • Taylor Haug • Mildred Hranek • Rhianna Kofmehl • Yohaly Lucas • Laurn Manning • Avika Nash • Bethany Nicasio • Michaela Sheehan • Shelby Teter • Alex Tolossa • MaryKate White Benshoof.

Congratulations to: Colin & Madeline DEMPSEY on the birth of their son, Gabriel Francisco • Cody & Rebecca HARBURN on the birth of their daughter, Faelynn Irene • Rhianna and Nick KOFMEL on the birth of their son, Giovanni William • Andy & Hailey SCHOCK on the birth of their daughter, Caroline Reilly. 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.



NOVEMBER'S CHILD OF THE MONTH - EMMA

NUESTROS PEQUENOS HERMANOS (NPH)
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Emma was born on November 25, 2021 and came to NPH's Casa Santa Ana in October 2024 along with her sister and two brothers due to a situation of abandonment.



Since her arrival, Emma has been attending preschool at NPH, where she has begun to integrate into school life positively. She is a cheerful girl who is very attached to her siblings, especially her sister, with whom she has a strong emotional bond. Emma is benefitting from the safe and stable environment at NPH which supports her development leading to her future well-being.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORNER (Council 6686)

- **DECEMBER Family of the month:** Jay & Amie Dorney
- **DECEMBER Knight of the Month:** Oscar Lopez
- *The Cookies in a Jar* sale is taking place on the **weekend of DEC. 6/7 in the St. Brendan Narthex**, after every Mass. They make great Christmas gifts. Get yours before they are gone.
- The next Blood Drive is scheduled for **Tuesday DEC. 17**, at the **Bothell Rental Hall**. Your gift of blood saves lives. You can book a time at the [BloodWorks NW website](https://www.bloodworks-nw.org).

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 Espanol los invita todos los **viernes de 7pm a 9pm** a reflexionar la palabra de Dios, a Orar y Alabar a Dios, hay Evangelizacion de Jovenes y Niños. Nos reunimos dentro de la Parroquia.

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

SEATTLE YOUNG ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 13th at 7PM, join over 300 of Seattle Young Adults in the Catholic community, aged 21 - 39, at St. Alphonsus Family Center. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres, drinks, live music, and dancing. This year we have a special feature: a short dance instruction by Seattle Catholic Dance Crew, and closing down the night with a live DJ. Formal attire (women: cocktail dress to full length gowns; men: suit, tie, dress pants)

Register at <https://www.frassatiseattle.org/upcomingevents/seattle-young-adult-christmas-formal> to get the best pricing. Volunteers welcome!



EVANGELIZATION

By Brigette Blair

CHRIS STEFANICK (YouTube)

- The Headline That Changes Your Life | Advent Reflection
- A World-Class Rock Drummer on Finding Jesus & Seeking Excellence | Michael Miley of Rival Sons
- Sr. Marilyn's Father Was Murdered—How She Found Forgiveness and a Vocation
- Afraid To Talk About Jesus? Do It Anyway!

FORMED

- How to Advent
- What Catholics Believe About Advent: Preparing Your Heart for Christ - Formed
- Formed Daily Reflections
- Practicing Catholic Podcast

BISHOP BARRON SUNDAY SERMON (YouTube)

- The Season of Sacred Waiting
- The Marks of Spiritual Leadership
- The Old World Has Been Shaken

ASCENSION PRESENTS

- 4 Steps to Prepare for the BEST Christmas (w/ Fr. Mark-Mary Ames)
- Maybe I Should Have Said Something... (w/ Fr. Mike Schmitz)
- The 4 Reasons Why Young People Leave The Catholic Church w/ Fr. Mike Schmitz
- You Cannot Love God Without Doing This (w/ Fr. Mark-Mary Ames)

FR. MIKE SCHMITZ HOMILIES

- "Waiting Well: Engaged" | The First Sunday of Advent
- "In The Light" | 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
- "Meant to Be" | Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

THE CATHOLIC PARENT—FORMED

FOR KIDS—FORMED

- Awesome Animals & Mini Me - Formed
- God's Knights
- God's Princesses
- Zack and Yalla
- Brother Francis (English & Español)
- Littlest Saints
- The Wonderful World of Benjamin Cello

GROWING IN FAITH

THE WARNING AGAINST COMPLACENCY

By Zoltan Abraham

The Old Testament period was a long and elaborate preparation for the coming of Christ, who is God Incarnate. John the Baptist was a transitional figure between the Old and the New Testaments. He spoke with the language and style of the prophets of old, preparing the way for Jesus, just before Jesus would start his ministry. What is more, the synoptic Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke depict John the Baptist as Elijah, one of the greatest of the Old Testament prophets, who was prophesied to return before the coming of the Messiah. By connecting John with the role of Elijah, the Gospel writers indicate that the prophecy has been fulfilled and everything is ready for the arrival of the Messiah.

As we see from the Gospel reading for this Sunday, John the Baptist was preaching repentance, warning of dire consequences for those who do not do so. Sometimes commentators draw a contrast between the preaching of John and the teachings of Christ, suggesting that Christ was much softer and more conciliatory. However, Christ too used strong words at times when he spoke about sin and our need to repent.

But, we might ask, why such strong words? Didn't Jesus come to show us forgiveness? Why would Jesus want to condemn us? The answer is that sin is self-destructive. God always loves us infinitely and is always ready to give us his forgiveness and his grace. But when we sin and fail to repent, we turn away from the love that God is offering us.

When we persist in sin, we hurt ourselves and put ourselves outside of God's grace. God respects our free-will and will not force his love upon us. But God never stops calling us back to him. That is why Christ and John the Baptist too speak so uncompromisingly about our need for repentance, so that we can become open to the love of God in our lives.

In the Gospel passage for this Sunday, John the Baptist also highlights the danger of complacency. Many of the religious leaders of the time thought that their ethnic pedigree and their positions in the community would guarantee them a place in God's kingdom. But John tells them that none of that matters if their hearts are not pure, if they are not seeking to love God and to love with God's love.

John's message is a challenge for us as well. We too might fall into the trap of a complacent frame of mind, thinking that going through the motions is enough. But we must be careful. We could be doing things that are objectively good, but which we undertake without truly seeking God. Our hearts must always be centered on God so that we do not become like the religious leaders whom John chastises in the passage.

We also see in the passage that many are baptized as a part of their repentance. The baptism ritual in question was not yet the baptism that Jesus would give to the Church. The baptism of



John was a ritual that symbolized inner cleansing through the immersion of the person in water. In contrast, the Sacrament of Baptism established by Christ is not merely symbolic. Sacramental baptism cleanses our souls, washes away our sins, and causes us to be born anew.

Unlike the baptism of John, sacramental baptism cannot be repeated. However, if we fall into sin after our baptism, we can be cleansed through the Sacrament of Penance, which is also known as Reconciliation or Confession. Throughout Advent we have many extra opportunities to take advantage of the Sacrament of Penance. (Please see our Advent calendar for more information.) Let us make a goal to go to Confession at least once during the season of Advent so as to be cleansed spiritually as we prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth and as we continue to await the Second Coming of Christ.

The First Reading for this Sunday, taken from the Book of Isaiah, gives us an intimation of the new world order that Christ will establish at the end of the world. God had created a perfect world, but human sin caused creation to be marred. When Christ returns, he will remake the world, eliminating the strife, suffering, and death that characterizes much of nature today. The New Jerusalem, as the new world Christ will create is described in the Bible, will be a place of complete contentment, perfect peace, boundless joy, and infinite love. That is the heavenly home Christ has promised us. Let us keep our eyes on this beautiful vision during the Advent time of preparation. Let us do all we can to open our hearts to the love of Christ so we can be with him in Heaven for all eternity.

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

St. Brendan's Annual Coat & Blanket Drive
November 12 - December 14

Collecting new or gently used coats/blankets & new socks/underwear.

Three Drop-Off Locations:

- St. Brendan Narthex
- St. Teresa Narthex
- St. Brendan School Office.

Questions? Please contact Chrissy Mandley (christinemandley@gmail.com).

HOMEBOUND MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Thank you to all of you for your continued help in bringing our Lord to our sick and homebound parishioners.

If you have borrowed a Communion pyx from St. Brendan, please return it as soon as you are done. We have many ministers throughout the week who need to borrow one for the hospital, their homes, or health care centers. If none is available, then other ministers cannot carry out their ministry. We appreciate you taking the Blessed Sacrament to our parishioners and returning these small vessels on your way home.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

We need your help again! Our pantry that we share with St. Teresa parish is running low on food and cleaning supplies. We are also preparing meals for Thanksgiving and Christmas for our neighbors. Please donate some of the following items in the hamper in the Narthex at either church: We also have a family that needs a used clothes dryer if you know of one. Thank you for your generosity, ~Margie Inghram, 425-486-8953

NEED: Canned fruit • canned chicken or tuna • peanut butter • jam/jelly • saltine crackers • spaghetti sauce • noodles • canned pumpkin • evaporated milk • brown sugar • gravy mix • cranberry sauce • dressing mix • green beans • shampoo • bar soap • laundry soap • dish soap • toilet paper.

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! **NEED:** Diapers: Size - 4T and 5T • Diaper Wipes

PARISH FAMILY OUTREACH AND SERVICE

Fairwind - Brittany Park | John McGuinness | johnmcg@gmail.com

Kids of the World | Ken Fabrizio | kenfabrizio4@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus

- STB - Joe Osmialowski | 248-343-9021
- STOC - Joe Bussman | bussman5@msn.com

Ministry to the Homebound

- STB - Contact receptionist@saintbrendan.org
- STOC - Contact admin@saintteresa.org

Prepares (Pregnancy Support) | Lori Wirtz - loriwirtz@gmail.com

Respect Life | Colleen Danforth - rdhcoll@aol.com

St. Vincent de Paul

- STB - Margie Inghram | 425-486-8953
- STOC - Marion Scichilone | bpgourmet@yahoo.com



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 at St. Brendan or St. Teresa? For more information on CYO and the programs offered at St. Brendan, please reach out to Ena Demeter at ena322@yahoo.com.

CYO BASKETBALL

Kindergarten – 3rd Grade Basketball registration is OPEN

Follow the steps **CLOSELY** to register:

1. Visit Seattle CYO Website: <https://www.teamsideline.com/sites/seattlecyo/current-programs>
2. Select the red Enroll box, next to the basketball image.
3. Select '4-8 Basketball 2025-2026' from the dropdown menu in the Program field.
4. Under the Offering field, select 'St. Brendan K-3rd Grade.'
5. Continue to complete registration & pay.

K-3rd B-ball Fees (2025-26)

Standard - NOV. 7 to 14 = \$145. | **Late** - NOV. 15 to 21 = \$155

Coaches & Assistants please register on the Team Sideline website above as a Volunteer.

Practice Schedules for Kindergarten – 3rd Grade will be available soon. Practices are typically 1x/week, are held after school is out, and will begin in early December. Games begin in January.

? Questions? Contact CYO Basketball Coordinator Krista Torrey, kristatorrey@gmail.com.

♥ Financial Assistance is available to help with registration fees, please contact CYOad@saintbrendan.org for details.



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TUITION ASSISTANCE

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The mission of St. Brendan Catholic School, in partnership with parents and our parish community, embraces a Catholic Identity centered on the Eucharist to empower our students to act as Disciples of Christ, use their God-given gifts in service to the Church and community, and achieve academic excellence.

*All families seeking tuition assistance must apply.
Application open: October 1st-December 31st*

Any and all families that will be seeking tuition assistance for the 2026-2027 school year must apply through their FACTS account. Families need to reapply each year to qualify for tuition assistance.

Applications are now available and will close on December 31st.

To apply online, visit <https://online.factsmtg.com/signin/4C41Z>

TAKE THE

next step

Accepting Applications

IN YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE



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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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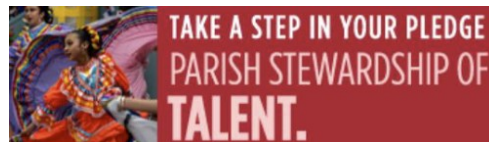
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