

WELCOME TO
**SAINT BRENDAN & SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA
PARISH FAMILY**
4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 21, 2025

LOVE



This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit.

Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly.

Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said,

"Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."

When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. — MATTHEW 1:18-24

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 | **NO ADORATION DEC. 24, 25, 26.**

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

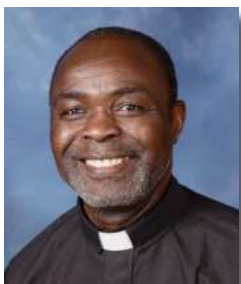
Please check the ADVENT CALENDAR for extended Confession times, revised Mass times, and parish office schedules.

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

Facilities Supervisor

Josh Stutzman | ext. 2650 | facilitiesupervisor@saintbrendan.org

Office Assistant | Christy Avila | ext. 2677 | christya@saintbrendan.org

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

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

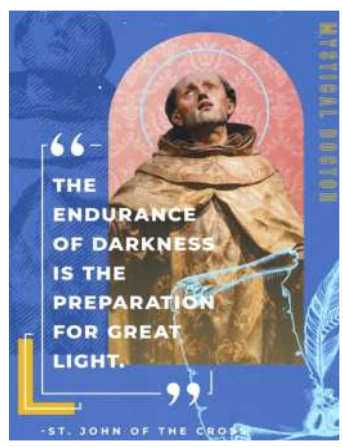
If you would like to receive the weekly St. Teresa Newsflash over email, please let us know at admin@saintteresa.org.

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



HAPPY 5TH DIACONATE ANNIVERSARY

On December 19, 2020, St. Brendan received two great gifts. **Deacon Leon Garcia** and **Deacon Armando Medina** said yes to God and were ordained to the permanent Diaconate. We are blessed to have both of these deacons and are grateful for all that they do. We thank God for the sacrifices their families have made by sharing them with our community.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL MINISTRY AND SERVICE TO CHRIST.

- **ADVENT CALENDAR** - Available in the narthex.
- **BLOCK ROSARY** - Info at all Masses • St. Brendan Narthex • weekends of DEC. 20/21 • Pg. 5.
- **PARISH OFFICE CLOSED** - Tuesday to Friday, DEC. 23 to 26 and Thursday, JAN. 1.
- **FULCRUM TUITION ASSISTANCE** - Applications due DEC. 31 • See pg. 10 for link and other details.
- **MEN'S INTO THE BREACH** - Saturday, JAN. 3 • 7AM • Lower Brendan House • Pg. 6.
- **FIAT90 & EXODUS90** - Begin Monday, JAN. 5 for both parishes.
- **FIAT90 MEETING** - Saturday, JAN. 10 • 9:30AM • Lower Brendan House. Pg. 7 for details.
- **PANCAKE BREAKFAST** - By Knights of Columbus • Sunday, JAN 25 • After the 8AM/10AM Mass • St. Brendan Narthex. • Pg. 6.
- **SCHOLARSHIPS** - See Pg. 6 for full details on two opportunities.

WEDNESDAY , DECEMBER 24TH, CHRISTMAS EVE

- CHRISTMAS CAROLS (30 minutes before Christmas Eve Masses):
⇒ St. Brendan > 4:30PM • 7:30PM • 11:30PM
⇒ St. Teresa > 3:30PM • 6:30PM • 11:30PM
- MASS TIMES:
⇒ St. Brendan > 5PM • 8PM • MIDNIGHT
⇒ St. Teresa > 4PM • 7PM • MIDNIGHT

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25TH, CHRISTMAS DAY

- MASS TIMES:
- ⇒ St. Brendan > 9AM • 11:30AM (Spanish)
 - ⇒ St. Teresa > 10AM (Caroling at 9:30AM)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST, NEW YEAR'S EVE

- MASS TIMES:
⇒ St. Brendan > 6PM Vigil (Spanish)
⇒ St. Teresa > 7PM
- ADORATION: St. Brendan > 7:30PM to MIDNIGHT.

JANUARY 1ST, SOLEMNITY OF MARY (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)

- MASS TIMES:
⇒ St. Brendan > 9AM • 6PM
⇒ St. Teresa > 9AM



PARISH FAMILY TAX REMINDER

Our Annual Reminder about your Taxes:

- **Donations received (or postmarked) by December 31st** will be recorded on your 2025 parish giving report.
 - Online Giving donations made by you **on or before December 31st** will also be recorded on your 2025 giving report.
 - Please consider an end-of-year donation to the parish family/school or one of the many Catholic charities. See page 11 for ways to give.
- We often hear from parishioners who want to know how their donations of Time, Talent, and Treasure are making a difference in the lives of others. Your giving of TIME (In prayer, worship, etc.), TALENT (service to others), and TREASURE (money or other material items) made a difference in:
- Prayer for others (Adoration, Rosary, Stations, etc.).
 - Our Children's Faith Education.
 - Volunteer labor to improve the grounds and facilities or help our community.
 - The parish family's PREPARES • St. Vincent de Paul, SOS, Shoulder-to-Shoulder, Giving Tree, Diaper Bag Project, etc.
 - Support of Sister Parish, St. Joseph Namalaka, Malawi.

Your giving is helping to make our parish and our community a better place! A grateful thanks to you, our faithful parishioners, for blessing the parish this year as together we continue in these challenging times to do the work of Christ. Please keep our Parish and School Community in your prayers.

PRAYER AND READINGS

READINGS OF THE WEEK

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT | DECEMBER 21, 2025

LET THE LORD ENTER. HE IS THE KING OF GLORY. (PSALM 24)

Sunday: Is 7:10-14 • Ps 24:1-6 • Rom 1:1-7 • Mt 1:18-24

Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28 • 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd • Lk 1:46-56

Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 • Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14 • Lk 1:57-66

Wednesday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 • Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 • Lk 1:67-79

Thursday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5 • Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a) • Acts 13:16-17, 22-25 • Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 > **Night:** Is 9:1-6 • Ps 96:1-3, 11-13 • Ti 2:11-14 • Lk 2:1-14 > **Dawn:** Is 62:11-12 • Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12 • Ti 3:4-7 • Lk 2:15-20 > **Day:** Is 52:7-10 • Ps 98:1-6 • Heb 1:1-6 • Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14.

Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 • Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17 • Mt 10:17-2

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:1-4 • Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 • Jn 20:1a, 2-8.

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

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 • Jaimie Rivera • Irene Trulson

“GRACE TO YOU AND PEACE FROM
**GOD OUR FATHER AND THE
LORD JESUS CHRIST.**” —ROM 1:7

O SACRAMENT MOST HOLY

O SACRAMENT DIVINE

ALL PRAISE AND

ALL THANKSGIVING

BE EVERY MOMENT THINE



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 21

STB

8:00AM + Eleazar Mesheha

10:00AM For Saint Brendan Parish

12:00PM + Eugenia Gutierrez de Henao

STOC

9:00AM For Saint Teresa Parish

11:00AM For Saint Teresa Parish

Monday, December 22

STB - 8:30AM Christina Corwin

STOC - NO MASS

Tuesday, December 23

STB - NO MASS

STOC - 9:00AM + Walter Erbe

Wednesday, December 24

STB - 5PM | 8PM | 12AM

STOC - 4PM | 7PM | 12AM For Saint Teresa Parish

Thursday, December 25

STB - 9AM | 11:30AM

STOC - 10:00AM For Saint Teresa Parish

Friday, December 26

STB - 8:30AM NO Mass Intention

STOC - 9:00AM Julie Abraham

Saturday, December 27

STB

8:30AM NO Mass Intention

5:00PM + Gordon Hail

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

Meydenbauer Center • Bellevue, WA
May 16, 2026

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



ASCEND

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

In Him, We Rise.

This moment is a time to refresh and renew our hearts in hope and ignite a deeper love for the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. We are called to become a beacon of Christ's love for humanity in our struggling world.

Mark your calendars for **May 16, 2026** and join us in drawing deeper into the mystery of Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist.



FEATURING



Chris
Stefanick



Dr. Tim
Gray



Dr. Andrew
& Sarah
Swafford



Deacon
Charlie
Echeverry



Mass with
Archbishop
Etienne



Floriani



Marie
Miller

Get the details and stay updated at:

AscendEucharisticRevival.church

Scan here to
get alerts on
registration!



PARISH NEWS

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 • Lauryn Manning • Avika Nash • Bethany Nicasio • Michaela Sheehan • Shelby Teter • Alex Tolossa • MaryKate White Benshoof.

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.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORNER (Council 6686)

• **DECEMBER Family of the month:** Jay & Amie Dorney

- **DECEMBER Knight of the Month:** Oscar Lopez
- Scholarship applications for post-secondary education are available in the kiosks located in the narthex and the rear of the church. **Two scholarships of \$2,000 each will be awarded.**
- Men of the parish, you are invited to attend the next *'Into the Breach'* video presentation and discussion which will take place on **Saturday, JAN 3, at 7AM in Lower Brendan House.**
- *The Annual Baby Bottle Campaign* in support of Life kicks off on the **weekend of JAN. 3-4.** Take a Baby Bottle and make a donation to this worthy cause. All money raised benefits Next Step Pregnancy Services in Lynnwood. Bottles are **due back at on JAN. 25,** Pancake Breakfast Sunday.

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL FROM THE BOTHELL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 6686.

- 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.

APPEAL for SERVING OUR SAVIOR (SOS)

For over 20 years, St. Brendan's **Serving Our Savior or SOS** has made a tremendous impact in both our immediate and surrounding communities. Currently we make 150 meals for 5 different shelters every Thursday, benefiting children rescued off the streets, women being kept from abusive partners, and unhoused families. Unfortunately, as we all know, food costs have increased a lot, and while we try very hard to be good stewards, we are currently spending more than we receive in donations.

If you have not given to SOS, please consider giving even \$5. You can do this by writing a check and putting SOS in the memo line, placing a check or cash in the green monthly envelopes, or increasing your current gift. If you are a current donor- THANK YOU for supporting this ministry!

'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.' — MATTHEW 25:40

Richard Pizzo Honorary Scholarship

Offered by the Knights of Columbus; Redmond, WA. Council #8102

Application Deadline: January 31, 2026

Award: \$5,000 per student attending an accredited U.S. University or Trade School

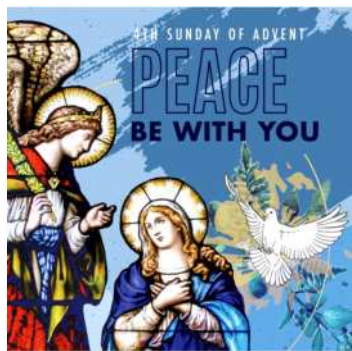
About the Scholarship

- Three scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors based on community involvement, academic achievement and financial need
- Scholarship is renewable for one additional year
- Scholarship covers tuition only and will be paid directly to the University or Trade school
- Open to all high school seniors who live in Redmond, WA. and the surrounding communities
- Awardees will be notified by March 31, 2026

Requirements

- Fully completed Knights of Columbus scholarship application
- High school transcripts and activity form
- Proof of community involvement
- Letter of recommendation (from a non-family member)
- Essay 300-350 words
- Proof of financial need (Pell Grant application or other relevant documents; if claiming financial need)

The application form, complete qualification criteria, and information on the program are available by contacting Vinod Nazareth; Email: v29nazareth@gmail.com



EVANGELIZATION

By Brigette Blair

CHRIS STEFANICK (YouTube)

- Expert Tips on How to Love Yourself | Dr. Peter Malinoski
- Lose the Distractions This Advent | Sunday Reflection
- Marriage Truth Bombs with Christopher West | Advice on Pain, Healing, and Joy

FORMED

- Sleigh Ride: Christmas in the Last Frontier - Formed
- Nicholas: The Boy Who Became Santa - Formed
- What Catholics Believe About Advent: Preparing Your Heart for Christ
- How to Advent
- Formed Daily Reflections
- Practicing Catholic Podcast

BISHOP BARRON SUNDAY SERMON (YouTube)

- The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit
- The Season of Sacred Waiting
- The Marks of Spiritual Leadership

ASCENSION PRESENTS

- Is God's Timing Really Perfect?
- 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

FR. MIKE SCHMITZ HOMILIES

- "Waiting Well: Trust His Timing" | The 2nd Sunday of Advent
- "Waiting Well: Engaged" | The 1st 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
- God's Knights
- God's Princesses
- Zack and Yalla
- Brother Francis (English & Español)
- Littlest Saints
- The Wonderful World of Benjamin Cello

FIAT90



The first official FIAT90 meeting will be **Saturday, JAN. 10 at 9:30AM in Lower Brendan.** Even if you are not quite committed, please come and ask your questions! For FIAT90 please contact Brigette Blair. More information coming on Exodus 90 soon!

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

PRAYER FOR MIRACLES

Dear **GOD**,

YOU are in the miracle business. I still believe that **YOU** can move mountains and separate seas. Break into every unknown and astound us with **YOUR** goodness and grace. **AMEN.**

GROWING IN FAITH

OUR LADY ALWAYS POINTS TO CHRIST

By Zoltan Abraham

The dogmas of the Catholic Church are teachings that the Church has declared definitively. These teachings are to be held by all the faithful as a part of being Catholic. Most dogmas have been declared by Ecumenical Councils, which are the gathering of all bishops, with the approval of the Pope, but some dogmas have been declared by the Pope himself directly.

Over the centuries, the Church has established four dogmas about the Virgin Mary: 1) Mary's Divine Motherhood, which makes her the Mother of God, 2) Mary's Immaculate Conception, meaning that she was conceived without original sin, 3) Mary's Perpetual Virginity, having remained a virgin before, during, and after the birth of Christ, and 4) Mary's Assumption into Heaven body and soul at the completion of her earthly life.

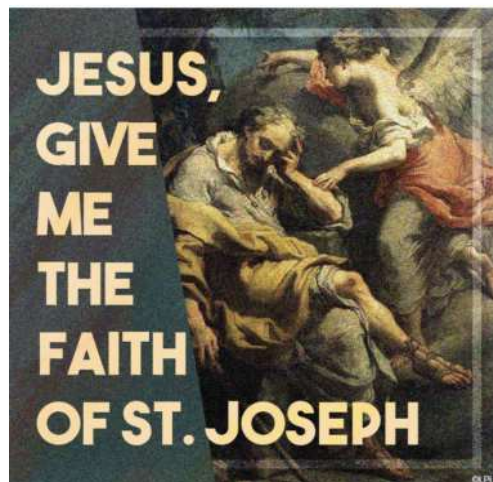
All Catholic teachings about the Virgin Mary serve to reinforce teachings about Christ. This Sunday's Gospel reading relates to the dogma of Mary's Perpetual Virginity. The teaching that Mary remained a virgin during her whole life reinforces the divine origin of Christ. There can be no confusion as to who Christ's father was. There can be no suggestion that Christ was conceived through regular human means.

In the Gospel reading for this Sunday, we see that Joseph finds out that Mary is pregnant, knowing that he is not the father. The penalty for a young woman who became pregnant out of wedlock in their cultural context was quite severe. She was to be taken to the edge of the village and stoned to death, which is a form of execution whereby people throw rocks at a person until he or she is dead. Given the tight-knit communities of the time, the stoning would not be done by strangers but by the relatives, friends, and neighbors of the person in question.

When Mary agrees to become the Mother of God, she knows that she is taking a huge risk. She could be accused of immoral behavior by her community and could be stoned to death as a result. But she trusts in God completely.

Joseph, for his part, has a choice to make. He could expose Mary to the community, in which case she would be killed in a horrible way. Instead, he plans to separate from her quietly. We don't know what he was thinking as he was making his decision. Did he believe her to be guilty? Did he feel betrayed but then forgave her and refused to exact the punishment that he would have inflicted in her?

Or perhaps Joseph knew exactly what Mary's situation was, that she was the Mother of God, and perhaps he considered himself unworthy to be the foster father of God Incarnate. Whatever the case, Joseph trusted. Once he heard God's plan for him through the angel, he submitted and trusted in how God's plan would unfold.



Interestingly, there are no words attributed to Joseph in the Bible. However, the angel tells Joseph to name the child Jesus, which of course he does. So the text implies that Joseph spoke the name of Jesus to Mary and the others in their circle. Thus, Joseph has one word, one message for us through the Scriptures - the holy name of Jesus.

The Wisdom Literature of the Bible, which provides advice on wholesome living, speaks about the importance of moderating our speech. The biblical wisdom is that the fewer words we speak, the better, because the less we speak, the less likely it is for us to fall into foolish, ill-advised, or sinful speech. I must confess that this maxim is a bit of a personal challenge for me because, as anyone who knows me can attest, I love to talk. But regardless of how much we talk, let us be like Joseph. Let's make sure that our words always point to Jesus. Let us pray that those who hear us speak will be drawn closer to Jesus as a result.

Much like Joseph, the entirety of the Old Testament points toward Jesus. The Second Reading, the passage from Isaiah prophesying the coming of the Messiah is a very clear example. But it's not just the obvious passages that anticipate Christ. All of the Old Testament does. We can understand the Old Testament fully only through the lens of Jesus.

Just as our words should be like Joseph, always pointing toward Christ, our lives should also resemble the Old Testament in pointing toward him at all times. As we near the end of the Advent season and draw close to Christmas, let us examine how fully our lives are oriented toward Christ. As others see into our lives, will they be encouraged to welcome Christ into theirs this Christmas?

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



ST. BRENDAN CYO VOLLEYBALL

Join us for the upcoming CYO Volleyball season! Registration is now open for all students in grades 4th-8th.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Our 4th-grade teams are Co-ed!

KEY DATES & SCHEDULE

- Practices Begin: In January - Held 1-2x a week at St. Brendan Gym.
- Season Opener: February 21st.

\$ REGISTRATION FEES

We encourage families to register early to take advantage of discounted pricing.

REGISTRATION TIER	DATES ACTIVE	FEE
▶ STANDARD	12/13/25 - 01/03/26	\$110
▶ LATE	01/04/26 - 02/07/26	\$125

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - Financial assistance is available to help with registration fees. We want everyone to play! Please contact CYOad@saintbrendan.org for details.

HOW TO REGISTER - All registrations must be completed online through Team Sideline.

1. Go to Seattle CYO Website: <https://www.teamsideline.com/sites/seattlecyo/home>.
2. Select the red 'Enroll' box, next to the volleyball image.
3. Select '4-8 Volleyball 2026-Winter | 2026' from the dropdown menu in the Program field.
4. Then, under the Offering field, select 'St. Brendan 4th - 8th Grade Volleyball 2026'.
5. Complete registration steps.

WE NEED COACHES! Want to help guide our young athletes? We are actively looking for Coaches and Assistants for the upcoming season. Please register as a volunteer on the main registration website.

QUESTIONS? Contact CYO Volleyball Coordinator Linda Huynh, (lthuyh120@gmail.com).

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 - Dennis Hammonds | dennishammonds45@gmail.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

ROSARY MAKING MINISTRY



The Rosary Making Ministry will have its first meeting of the new year on **Thursday, JAN. 15 in the St. Teresa of Calcutta Commons Room**. We meet **every third Thursday of the month at 10AM** through May (except December). Join us and learn how to make rosaries.



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.

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

Thank you for your continued support!

ST. BRENDAN SCHOOL CORNER



Dear Parish Community,

Dear

As we celebrate the birth of our Savior, I want to extend my heartfelt wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year to each of you. This season reminds us of the joy, hope, and love that Christ brings into our lives, and I am deeply grateful to be part of such a faith-filled and generous community.

Thank you for your unwavering support throughout the year. Your prayers, contributions, and commitment to Catholic education make a profound difference in the lives of our students and families. Together, we continue to nurture faith, inspire learning, and build a strong foundation for the future.

May the peace of Christ fill your hearts and homes this Christmas and always.

With gratitude and blessings,

Mrs. Shumate

Principal, St. Brendan Catholic School



TUITION ASSISTANCE

ACCESSIBLE CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOR ALL WHO SEEK IT

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.factsmgmt.com/signin/4C41Z>

ST. BRENDAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 25TH

11:00 AM- 2:00 PM



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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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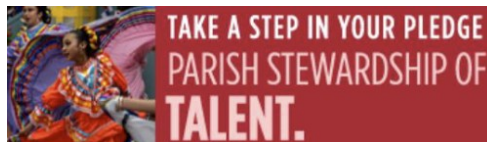
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