

WELCOME TO SAINT BRENDAN & SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA PARISH FAMILY

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH
DECEMBER 28, 2025



When Herod had died, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said,

“Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.”

He rose, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel.

But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go back there.

And because he had been warned in a dream, he departed for the region of Galilee.

He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled,

He shall be called a Nazorean. - Mt 2:19-23

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 | [.SEE PG 3 FOR ADORATION HOURS.](#)

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.

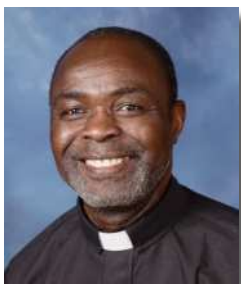
"Do small things with great love"—SAINT MOTHER TERESA

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 3104

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

Brigitte Blair | ext. 2645 | bridgeteb@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: Holy Family by Leopold Kupelwieser

SOURCE: <https://www.dreamstime.com/stock-image-holy-family-vienna-church-image22276571>

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 MARY (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31, NEW YEAR'S EVE

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

THURSDAY JAN. 1, MASS TIMES:

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

- NO ADORATION at St. Brendan.

- **FULCRUM TUITION ASSISTANCE** - Applications due DEC. 31 • See pg. 10 for link and other details.
- **PARISH OFFICES CLOSED** - Thursday, JAN. 1.
- **FIRST FRIDAY 24-HOUR ADORATION - JAN. 2** • St. Brendan - See pg. 5 for list of times adorers needed.
- **MEN'S INTO THE BREACH** - Saturday, JAN. 3 • 7AM • Lower Brendan House • Pg. 6.
- **FIAT90** - Final informational meeting - Saturday, JAN. 3 • 9:30AM • Lower Brendan House.
- **STORY TIME** - With Mrs. Abraham. • Sunday, JAN. 4 • St. Brendan - Pg. 6
- **FIAT90 & EXODUS90** - Begin Monday, JAN. 5 for both parishes.
- **FIAT90** - Saturday, JAN. 10 • 9:30AM • Lower Brendan House. Pg. 7 for details.
- **BBQ & BROTHERS** - Thursday, JAN. 15 • 6PM • St. Brendan.
- **APOLOGETICS** - Sunday, JAN. 18 • 4PM • St. Brendan.
- **PANCAKE BREAKFAST** - By Knights of Columbus • Sunday, JAN 25 • After the 8AM/10AM Mass • St. Brendan Narthex. • Pg. 6.

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, benefitting 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

PRAYER TO THE HOLY FAMILY



JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH, in you we contemplate the splendour of true love; to you we turn with trust.

HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic churches.

HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division; may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.

HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan.

JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH, Graciously hear our prayer. **Amen.**

(Pope Francis, Amoris Laetitia, 325)

FLOOD RELIEF 2025

We have all been saddened by the recent flooding in Western Washington and the devastation for local families and businesses. As a parish family, we will be looking for opportunities where we can help physically with the cleanup and rebuilding efforts, which will take quite some time and will most likely take place in the New Year. If you feel moved to act now, here is a list of organizations to consider.

- Archdiocese of Seattle - Emergency Relief Fund: archseattle.org/flood/ - Accepts funds.
- Support CCS Disaster Relief | Catholic Community Services of Western Washington - ccsww.org/funds/support-ccs-disaster-relief/ - Accepts funds.
- SKAGIT Disaster Relief Fund: skagitcf.org/disaster-relief.html - Accepts funds.

PRAYER AND READINGS

READINGS OF THE WEEK

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH DECEMBER 28, 2025

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO FEAR THE LORD AND WALK IN HIS WAYS. (PSALM 128)

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 • Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 • Ps 128:1-5 • Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11 • Ps 96:1-2ab-3, 5b-6 • Lk 2:22-35

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17 • Ps 96:7-8ab, 9-10 • Lk 2:36-40

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21 • Ps 96:1-2, 11-13 • Jn 1:1-18

Thursday: Nm 6:22-27 • Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 • Gal 4:4-7 • Lk 2:16-21

Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28 • Ps 98:1-2, 3abcd-4 • Jn 1:19-28

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6 • Ps 98:1, 3cd-6 • Jn 1:29-34

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.

Drew Chapman • Joan Dedman • John Espedal • Toby Fine • Sean Gallacher • Norman Hradec • Bill Nash • Alexandra Marie Rocio-Hays • Barbara Schielmann • 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.

Dao Dang • MaryLynn Gardner • Elvira Flores • Faith Johnson • Dale Lorang • Eric Moss • Venus Pettersen • Jaimie Rivera • Christopher Spicher • Peggy Walsh

“AND WHATEVER YOU DO, IN WORD OR IN DEED,
DO EVERYTHING IN THE NAME OF THE LORD
JESUS, GIVING THANKS TO GOD THE
FATHER THROUGH HIM.” —COL 3:17

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



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 28

STB

8:00AM +Maria de Jesus Fernández

10:00AM +Faith Johnson

12:00PM For Saint Brendan Parish

STOC

9:00AM For Saint Teresa Parish

11:00AM For Saint Teresa Parish

Monday, December 29

STB - 8:30AM Rose Anderson

STOC - NO MASS

Tuesday, December 30

STB - NO MASS

STOC - 9:00AM +Reg Hanosh, Frank & Dorothea Hanosh

Wednesday, December 31

STB - 8:30AM Dominic & Jenn Anderson

STOC - 7PM Jackie de Imus

Thursday, January 1

STB - 9AM | 6PM NO Mass Intentions

STOC - 9AM NO Mass Intentions

Friday, January 2

STB - 8:30AM + Benito Go

STOC - 9:00AM + Katherine Hendrix

Saturday, January 3

STB

8:30AM Mildred Prevost

5:00PM For Saint Brendan Parish

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

NOTE OF GRATITUDE GIVING TREE | COAT & BLANKET DRIVE

Because of your incredible generosity:

- You filled the pantries with supplies for **Prepares, Next Step, Diaper Bag Project** and **Seattle Seafarers**.
- You gave over \$3400 in donations to different programs at our **sister parish** in Malawi.
- You stocked **Noel House** with dozens of blankets, laundry detergent, and lots of small gift cards that women can use for a hot cup of coffee or lunch.
- You filled every wish for **Kinship Navigator** so that every child in the 20 families supported will receive at least one gift. We were also able to provide those families with some extra gift cards to help out with the expense of raising children that are not your own.
- You filled many wishes from families being supported by the **St. Vincent de Paul Society**.
- You provided over 100 gifts for kids at **The Maltby Food Bank**.
- You provided over 60 pairs of shoes for **Detention Youth Ministry** and provided over 300 coats, over 100 blankets, over 200 pairs of socks or underwear packages and over 100 toys for other area shelters.
- You gave over 100 donations to **Kids of the World** and **Echo Glen Children Center**.
- You provided many gift cards for the **Wounded Warrior Project, Avondale Transitional Housing, and Sarvey Wildlife Center**.

A special shout out to **Kerrie Mayans, Sally Skinner, Desiree Engel, Chrissy Mandley, and their hardworking team of volunteers** for making this all happen!!



**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED OUR
PARISH FAMILY DURING THIS ADVENT SEASON.
YOUR GENEROSITY WILL MAKE THIS SEASON
A LITTLE BRIGHTER.**



BBQ & BROTHERS

Our parish family's men's group will take a break for the Christmas season. If you missed us last month, we hope you can join us when we resume on **Thursday, JAN. 15**.

**GOD'S BLESSINGS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY THIS
CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR.**

YOUNG-AT-HEART SENIORS

Interested in playing Chicken Foot dominoes? Quirkle? Phase 10? Scrabble? Some other game?

Come to **St Brendan's narthex on Wednesday, JAN. 21, around 10AM**, for a couple hours of playing games and enjoying one another's company, followed by a potluck lunch. Please contact Donna (206-335-4469) if you have any questions.

WOMEN'S GROUP

Thank you to all who joined us last week for our *Annual Treat Exchange*. The delicious baked sweets and savory dishes were thoroughly enjoyed. We will be taking a short break in January and resume on **Thursday, FEB. 12**, with guest speaker, Fr. Wichert! We hope you can join us then.

**LORD, UNITE OUR HEARTS IN LOVE, UNDERSTANDING,
AND PEACE THIS CHRISTMAS.**

PARISH NEWS

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, JAN. 4.**



RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Please Pray For These Expecting Mothers: Kim Anderson • Hannah Bockel • Megan Carlin • Claire Cook • Megan Fryover • 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.

Congratulations to: Michael & Dalia ELLEDGE on the birth of their daughter, Flora Nona. • Jose & Eustorgia FELIPE on the birth of their son, Emmanuel. • David & Alexis FULLER on the birth of their son, Jackson Reid. • Kay & Danny GRASSESCHI on the birth of their son, Dillon Thomas. • Danny & Taryn KILLERI on the birth of their son, Cosimo Takeo Thaddeus. 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.
- The next Business/Planning Meeting is on **Thursday, JAN. 8 at 7PM at the Bothell Rental Hall.**
- 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.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL FROM
THE BOTHELL KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS, COUNCIL 6686**

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



JAN. 2 - FIRST FRIDAY 24-HOUR ADORATION

Spend time in the true presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Start after the 8:30AM Friday Mass, continue through the whole night, and finish the following day, Saturday, before the 8:30AM Mass, with benediction. These are the hours we need people to be with the Lord for every first Friday :

11am to Noon • Noon to 1 pm • 1PM to 2PM • 2PM to 3PM • 3PM to 4PM • 5PM to 6PM • 8PM to 9PM • 10PM to 11PM.

If you have questions or would like to sign up, call/text Christina 425-486-3376

FIAT90



Join us on **Saturday, JAN. 3, at 9:30AM in the Lower Brendan House** for the final information meeting. Bring any questions you may have.

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

EVANGELIZATION

By Brigette Blair

CHRIS STEFANICK (YOUTUBE)

- [How Your Life Impacts 80,000 People | The Gift of Influence with Tommy Spaulding](#)
- [The Secret to Building What Actually Lasts | Advent Reflection](#)
- [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](#)
- [Nicholas: The Boy Who Became Santa](#)
- [What Catholics Believe About Advent: Preparing Your Heart for Christ](#)
- [How to Advent](#)
- [Formed Daily Reflections](#)
- [Practicing Catholic Podcast](#)

BISHOP BARRON SUNDAY SERMON (YOUTUBE)

- [Are You Willing to Surrender to God?](#)
- [Waiting in Action](#)
- [The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit](#)
- [The Season of Sacred Waiting](#)

ASCENSION PRESENTS

- [The BEST and WORST Christmas Songs \(w/ Fr. Mike Schmitz\)](#)
- [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: Praise While We Wait" | The Third Sunday of Advent](#)
- ["Waiting Well: Trust His Timing" | The 2nd Sunday of Advent](#)
- ["Waiting Well: Engaged" | The 1st Sunday of Advent](#)

The Catholic Parent - FORMED

FOR KIDS—FORMED

- [The Story of Christmas | Benjamin Cello Christmas Special](#)
- [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](#)

GROWING IN FAITH

ALL HAPPY FAMILIES ARE LIKE THE HOLY TRINITY

By Zoltan Abraham

One of the most controversial topics in New Testament interpretation today is St. Paul's statement, found in the long form of this Sunday's Second Reading, "*Wives, be subordinate to your husbands, as is proper in the Lord*" (Colossians 3:18). Many would prefer not to discuss the passage at all. Oftentimes the short form of the reading is used at Mass to exclude this line. But precisely because the passage is so controversial, we should talk about it.

Discussions of the passage often neglect the context. The next line reads, "*Husbands, love your wives*" (Colossians 3:19). In our contemporary culture, the word "love" has been greatly weakened and has often been reduced to little more than being nice. But the New Testament concept of love is much more substantial. To love means to act in a Christ-like manner. Christ showed love by giving himself fully, even at the cost of his own life.

Indeed, in the parallel passage to this one from his Letter to the Ephesians, St. Paul writes: "*Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the church and handed himself over for her*" (Ephesians 5:25). How did Christ love the Church? He did so to the point of allowing himself to be crucified for her. In the Pauline vision, the central image of the ideal husband is that of Christ submitting even to crucifixion. So if we are going to talk about a wife being submissive to her husband, we should also discuss the husband loving his wife even to the point of being willing to be crucified for her. That would give us a more complete picture.

In contemporary Western culture, the Pauline vision of marriage has often been dismissed as irrelevant or, on the flip side, has often been interpreted as a sort of caveman caricature, giving license to men to be domineering tyrants over their wives. But St. Paul's vision of marriage is that of mutual sacrificial self-giving for each other, where each is seeking the good of the other.

The Second Reading for this Sunday also touches on the relationship between children and their fathers. The biblical concept of authority is that those in leadership over others should exercise their power for the benefit of those whom they lead. Thus, authority should never be self-serving or self-reverential, but should always be about pouring out ourselves for others. Thus, the Pope, who is the leader and spiritual father of the whole church, is referred to as the Servant of the Servants of God.

In the Gospel Reading for this Sunday, we see St. Joseph engaged in self-giving leadership. When Jesus, his foster son, is threatened, Joseph flees with his family, evading the soldiers to seek shelter in a foreign land, Egypt. There he has to start a whole new life, overcoming cultural and linguistic barriers in order to provide for them. When Herod dies and the threat is removed, Joseph moves the family back to the Holy Land, finding a spot that is outside of the reach of Herod's successor. (On a side note, today, pilgrims can visit the neighborhood in Cairo where the Holy Family is believed to have resided during their sojourn in Egypt.)

If Joseph had been a sinful man, he might not have gone through all this hardship to protect his family. He might well have traded Jesus for comfort and safety for himself. But Joseph was holy and he recognized that authority confers responsibility. For him to love and care for Jesus and Mary meant that he had to upend his own life completely in order to serve them, protect them, and provide for

them. Those of us who have been entrusted with the care of others should reflect on how well our actions mirror those of Joseph. Do we compromise the well-being of those entrusted to us for the sake of our comfort and ease? Or are we willing to give of ourselves even at great personal cost for the benefit of those we are meant to serve through leadership?

As we reflect on the nature of true love, the primary image for us is the Holy Trinity. God is love - infinite, boundless, eternal love. Love is never solitary. Love requires an exchange, a dynamic of self-giving. Thus, in the Holy Trinity, there are Three Persons, who, as our faith teaches us, are fully one and yet still distinct - the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Father is the One Who Loves, the Son is the Beloved who receives the love of the Father, and the Holy Spirit is the love dynamic between the two. God by his very nature is eternally, infinitely self-giving love. Thus, to be like God, we are to give of ourselves sacrificially.

Leo Tolstoy famously said at the start of his novel Anna Karenina that "*All happy families are alike; each unhappy family is unhappy in its own way.*" Happy families are happy because they are like the Holy Family, which mirrored the boundless self-giving love of the Holy Trinity. Trinitarian self-giving love is at the heart of a happy family home. Happy families, furthermore, are at the heart of a healthy, well-functioning society. Thus, for society to thrive, the foundation must be eternal, boundless self-giving Trinitarian love.

As we seek to emulate the self-sacrificial love of Christ, one caution is needed with regard to romantic relationships. When it comes to romance, true self-sacrificial love will only work when it goes both ways. If one person gives and gives and the other only takes, the relationship becomes abusive. As the saying goes, it takes two to tango. For a romantic relationship to be healthy, both sides need to pour themselves out sacrificially.

Reflecting on the feast of the Holy Family this Sunday, we should also remember that the concept of family at the time of Jesus, as in many cultures still today, entailed an extended network of family members. In Western culture today, we tend to think of family as the nuclear family, consisting of just the parents and any children they might have. But traditionally, a family has been seen as a clan of a large group of family members whose lives are deeply interwoven.

When Joseph and the Virgin Mary traveled to Bethlehem for the census, they had to leave their extended family behind. They had to go alone again when they fled to Egypt with Jesus. But when they were back in Galilee, they were surrounded by extended family, which we see glimpses of in different parts of the Gospels. As we seek to emulate the Holy Family on this feast day, let us remember the traditional view of family. If we are not in touch with our extended families, we should seek out those connections, as much as possible.

But perhaps we do not have extended family anywhere near to us or any who are still alive. Or perhaps connection with them is not possible for a variety of reasons. If that is the case, we should also remember what Jesus said about the Church. As Christians, we are to be family for each other. We are to love each other as if we were blood relations. We are to give of ourselves for each other sacrificially as we would for our birth family.

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

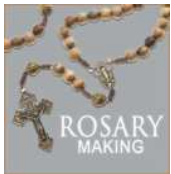
Prepares (Pregnancy Support) | Lori Wirtz - loriwirtz@gmail.com

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!



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.

St. Brendan CYO is proud to announce the addition of a beautiful **new crucifix** and **CYO prayer banner** to our school gym - this marks an important milestone for CYO Athletics and reflects thoughtful feedback provided by the families of our athletes. These very visible symbols reflect our **commitment to weaving our Catholic identity**



into every part of student life, including athletics and beautifully express our desire to keep Christ at the center of our sports programs. We hope that the new additions help to inspire anyone who enters St. Brendan's gym to play with purpose, gratitude, and faith.

ST. BRENDAN CYO VOLLEYBALL

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

4TH - 8TH GRADE



REGISTRATION FEE IS \$110

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/SEATTLECYO/HOME TO ENROLL >>>

COACHES AND ASSISTANT COACHES NEEDED!

PLEASE CONTACT CYO VOLLEYBALL

COORDINATOR LINDA HUYNH

LTHUYNH120@GMAIL.COM FOR ANY QUESTIONS.

ST. BRENDAN SCHOOL CORNER

ST. BRENDAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL



23

Average
K THROUGH 8TH
GRADE CLASS SIZE



59

Years
OF ACADEMIC
EXCELLENCE



8

Average
SERVICE PROJECTS
A YEAR

243 STUDENTS
PRESCHOOL- 8TH
2025-2026

1 CLASS PER GRADE (K THROUGH 8TH)
MAX 28 STUDENTS

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- ★ ENGAGED PARENT COMMUNITY
- ★ BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE
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THE ST. BRENDAN DIFFERENCE.

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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.factsmgt.com/signin/4C41Z>

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Preschool through 8th Grade

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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 somewhat 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)

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.

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.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

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<p>Colonial Optical, LLC 12911 120th Ave. N.E. Suite C-80 - Kirkland (425) 821-1820 www.colonialoptics.com Parishioner owned & operated</p>	<p>Dr. Michelle J. Ament Cosmetic and General Dentist Use Code "Smile Bright" for FREE Whitening BothellFamilyDentistry.com 425-486-2787</p>	<p>DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NEED A NEWSLETTER?</p> <p>Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.</p> <p>Visit Ipicommunities.com</p>	
<p>Regiment Pest Control REGIMENT SERVICES, INC. 425-424-2280 regimentpest@hotmail.com www.regimentpestcontrol.com Serving St. Teresa since 2019</p>	<p>KAUFERS Religious Supplies SEATTLE - (206) 622-3100 5201 4th Avenue South Seattle, WA 98108 SPOKANE - (509) 326-7070 907 West Boone Avenue Spokane, WA 99201 kaufers.shop</p>	<p>OUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER</p>  <p>Scan to contact us!</p>	
<p>ESHG Evergreen Speech and Hearing Clinic When was the last time you and your loved ones had a hearing checkup? Contact us for a FREE consultation to learn how we can transform your hearing! REDMOND, KIRKLAND, BELLEVUE Call 425-882-4347 Visit everhear.com for more information</p>	<p>THERE'S NO ONE WAY TO RETIRE. <i>But, there's one place to do it best.</i> FAIRWINDS Live with purpose and joy! Woodinville 425-484-8436 Independent & Assisted Living FairwindsBrittanyPark.com LEISURE CARE</p>		

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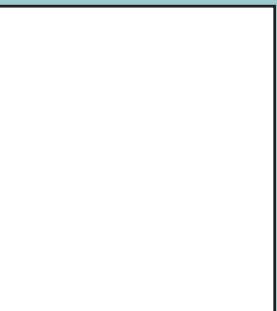
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