

WELCOME TO
SAINT BRENDAN & SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA
PARISH FAMILY
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 19, 2026

Jesus proposed another parable to the crowds, saying:

"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off. When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well.

The slaves of the householder came to him and said, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where have the weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.'

His slaves said to him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, "First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn."'" -Mt 13:24-30



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*

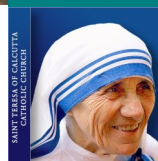
*WITH ROSARY FOLLOWED BY BENEDICTION |

CONFESSION

- Monday, Wednesday - Saturday | 7:45AM - 8:15AM
- Saturday | 2:30PM - 4PM or By Appointment.

"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

DAILY MASS - Tuesday to Friday | 9AM |

SEE DAILY MASS TIME CHANGE ON PAGE 3.

ADORATION

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

CONFESSION

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

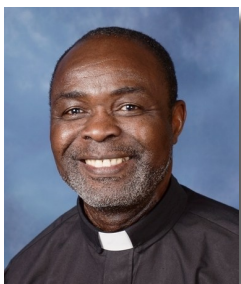
"Do small things with great love"—SAINT MOTHER TERESA

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

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 De Leon | 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

TITLE: *The Parable of the Weeds*, 1622 | **ARTIST** - Domencio Fetti

SOURCE - commons.wikimedia.org

ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA PARISH (STOC)

Monday - Friday | 9:30AM - 3PM

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

Parish Assistant for Administration

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:

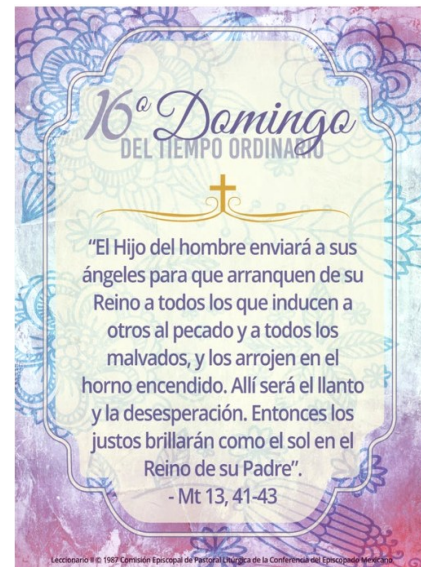
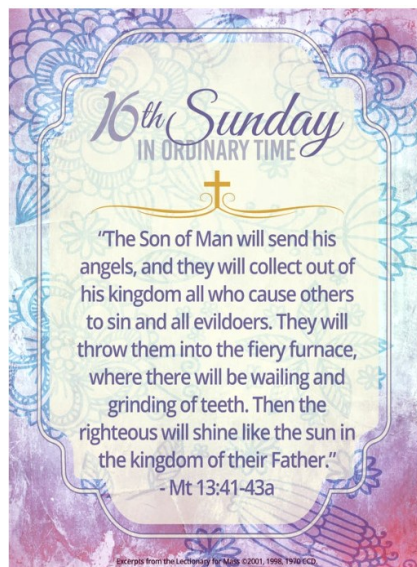
- St. Brendan > receptionist@saintbrendan.org
- St. Teresa > admin@saintteresa.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **MOMS GROUP** - Wednesday, JUL. 22 • AUG. 5
9:30AM • St. Brendan. • Below.
- **STORY TIME WITH MRS. ABRAHAM** - Sunday,
AUG. 2 • After the 10AM Mass • St. Brendan.
- **CYO Registrations OPEN** – Soccer • Cross
Country • Volunteer Opportunities • Pg. 9.

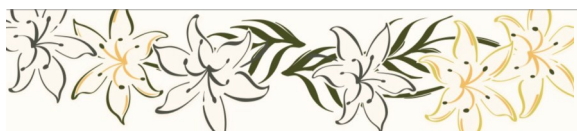
SAVE THE DATES

- **PARISH FAMILY & SCHOOL PICNIC** - AUG. 23 •
See below for more information.
- **PARISH FAMILY FESTIVAL** - St. Teresa • In
September • Stay tuned for details.
- **PARISH/SCHOOL MARINERS GAME** - SEP. 6 •
See page 10 for ticket info.
- **ANNUAL CHARITY ST. BRENDAN SCHOOL GOLF
TOURNAMENT** - SEP. 19 • Pg. 10.



THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASS TIMES

This week's parish family daily Mass will be at St. Brendan at 8:30AM on Monday, Wednesday through Saturday,



MOMS GROUP

Guided by Mary, we aim to be a space where mothers can find connection and community with other mothers as they seek to grow in their relationship with God and deepen their faith.

We meet every other Wednesdays at **9:30AM** in the **St. Brendan nursery**. Our next meetings are **Wednesday, JUL. 22 and AUG. 5**. 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.

FORMED

Provides the very best Catholic content from more than 60 organizations to help you explore your faith anywhere. Supporting thousands of movies, children's

programs, eBooks, audio, parish programs, and studies direct to your browser, mobile, or connected device. To sign up for your free account:

1. Go to - <https://formed.org/signup>
2. Input parish > St. Brendan.
3. Choose > 10051 NE 195th St, Bothell, WA.
4. Add your name and email address to set up the free account.

INDEPENDENCE DAY
250 YEARS
1776 - 2026

St. Teresa & St. Brendan
**PARISH FAMILY & SCHOOL
PICNIC**

SUNDAY 23 AUGUST | **AFTER THE 10AM MASS**

FAMILY • FRIENDS • FOODS • GAMES • FUN
St. Brendan Baseball Field

MANY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

PRAYER AND READINGS

READINGS OF THE WEEK

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 19, 2026

LORD, YOU ARE GOOD AND FORGIVING. (Ps 86)

Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19 • Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 • Rom 8:26-27 • Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

Monday: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8 • Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23 • Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20 • Ps 85:2-8 • Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17 • Ps 63:2-6, 8-9 • Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Thursday: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13 • Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-11 • Mt 13:10-17

Friday: Jer 3:14-17 • Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 • Mt 13:18-23

Saturday: 2 Cor 4:7-15 • Ps 126:1bc-2abcd, 3-6 • Mt 20:20-28

LET US PRAY FOR . . .

The Sick

All praise and glory is yours, Lord our God, for you have called us to serve you in love. Bless them so that they may bear this illness in union with your Son's obedient suffering. Restore them to health, and lead them to glory. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Elizabeth Adoko • Freddy Alley • Juan Avila • Sheila Barnes • Harrison Carlin • Joan Dedman • Samantha Deitch • Tim Dickison • Don Galloway • Luz Gutierrez • Hannah Joy Haug • Dan Heidrich • Norman Hradec • Patricia Hutchison • Anne Marie • Michelle Martinez • Dianne Osmialowski • Auggie Stutzman • Jerald Uy • Marilyn Wakefield • 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.

Steven Engel • Patrick Guentert • Regina Malloy Shriver • Olga Obdulia Costilla • George Pittenger • Ron Runyon • Freddy Weller • Bob Stevenson • Shirley Wichert

AND **THE ONE** WHO SEARCHES HEARTS
KNOWS WHAT IS THE INTENTION OF THE
SPIRIT, BECAUSE **HE** INTERCEDES FOR THE
HOLY ONES ACCORDING TO **GOD'S WILL.**

(ROM 8:27)

O Sacrament Most Holy

O Sacrament Divine

All Praise and

All Thanksgiving

Be Every Moment Thine



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, July 19

STB

8:00AM Dianne Osmialowski

10:00AM + Pat Howell

12:00PM + Jose Ruiz

STOC

9:00AM Kathryn Jensen

11:00AM Saint Teresa Parish

Monday, July 20

STB - 8:30AM Toyo Erickson

STOC - NO MASS

Tuesday, July 21

STB - NO MASS

STOC - 9:00AM NO MASS

Wednesday, July 22

STB - 8:30AM + Toby Fine

STOC - 9:00AM NO MASS

Thursday, July 23

STB - 8:30AM + Robby Osborn

STOC - 9:00AM NO MASS

Friday, July 24

STB - 8:30AM + Fidela (Dely) Aguilar

STOC - 9:00AM NO MASS

Saturday, July 25

STB

8:30AM Norma Estoy

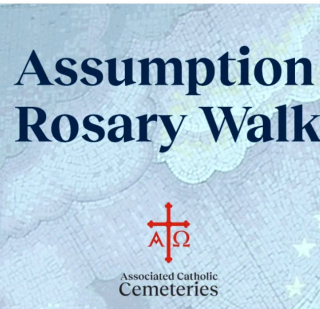
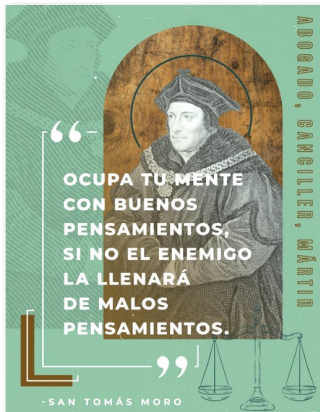
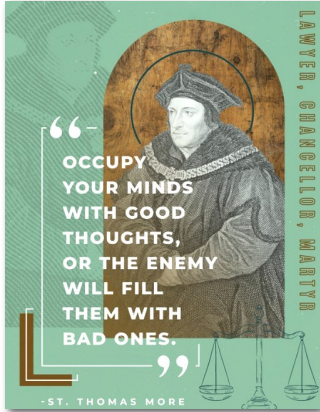
5:00PM + Armando Medina Saldivar

STOC - 5:00PM Camillo Lim

+ = 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



ASSUMPTION ROSARY WALK AT HOLYROOD

Wednesday • AUG. 12 • 11AM to 12:15PM

Holyrood Catholic Cemetery
205 NE 205th Street, Shoreline, WA 98155

All Catholics are invited to join us at Holyrood Cemetery for a Rosary Walk in honor of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. **Bring your rosary as Fr. Wichert leads us through the grounds to pray for loved ones.** Rosary walks are beautiful, reverent, guided walks through the cemetery where participants pray the Rosary together, stopping briefly at designated points (stations) for each decade.

A Rosary walk through the cemetery's sacred ground emphasizes peace and contemplation, hope in the Resurrection, and reminds us that a cemetery is a place of active prayer, not just burials and rest.

The Rosary Walk should take about 60 – 75 minutes and is free to attend. Just bring your Rosary and meet us in front of the Chapel Mausoleum. For any questions, please contact Alana Niemi, Outreach Office Manager for Associated Catholic Cemeteries at lanan@mycatholiccemetery.org.



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 Sunday, AUG. 2. Join her in September at St. Teresa!



VOLUNTEER NEEDED

St. Brendan Bus Ministry is seeking volunteer bus drivers for the Saturday 5PM and Sunday 10AM Mass routes. Our ministry currently provides transportation for residents of several senior living communities in Bothell, helping them attend Mass each week.

All volunteers must be pre-approved and current with Safe Environment requirements through the Archdiocese of Seattle. For more information or to apply, please contact Brigitte Blair at (425) 483-9400 ext. 2645 or email brigitteb@saintbrendan.org.



A TOTAL GIFT: A HOMESCHOOL MOTHER RETREAT

You are invited to a half-day retreat that focuses on St. Ignatius's form of silent interior prayer. We will turn our mind and heart toward God to allow him to reveal His vision for our school year.

Saturday, July 25, 2026

9:00 a.m - 2:00 p.m

Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church

Cost: \$20 (suggested donation)

Scan for event website & to register

atotalgift.com



Schedule

Mass
Breakfast
Rosary
Silent Prayer & Reflection
Guest Speaker
Adoration

Do you want your homeschool to be a total gift of yourself to God and to your family?

A "Total Gift" school year means seeing your school year as an opportunity to glorify Him, grow in relationship with Him, and reflect His love to others.

PARISH NEWS

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRIES

Please Pray For These Expecting Mothers: Sydney Covello • Erin Dolenc • Sarah Hill • Taylor Lockman • Lauryn Manning • Scareth Meija • Meron • Elizabeth Nguyen • Joy Stanley • Chrissy White Cuda

Congratulations to: Alex & Hannah Galvan BOCKEL on the birth of their daughter, Alannah Rose • Ryan & Lauren GREEN on the birth of their son, Callahan Howard • Tim & Jennifer MCVICKER on the birth of their daughter, Lucille Joan. 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.

CALL FOR

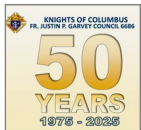
VOLUNTEERS



The Serving Our Savior Program (SOS) needs some help picking up donations from grocery stores and bringing them to the church. Do you need community hours? Do you have a couple of hours on Wednesday mornings and/or afternoons, or Thursday mornings?

If you do and want to help bring food to those who need it, please contact Bill Nash at 206.999.7767.

What you do for the least of these, you do for Him.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORNER (Council 6686)

- **July Knight of the Month** – Peter Stephen
- **July Family of the Month** – Gary & Cecilia Shumate
- **The next Planning Meeting is Thursday, JUL. 30 at 7PM at the Bothell Rental Hall**
- Are you looking for a place to host a wedding reception, shower, birthday, graduation party or some other event? Look no further. The Bothell Rental Hall is a great place to hold any event. Contact Cindy Roeter at 425-418-3185 for availability.
- 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.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. Lawrence of Brindisi



At first glance, perhaps the most remarkable quality of Lawrence of Brindisi is his outstanding gift of languages. In addition to a thorough knowledge of his native Italian, he had complete reading and speaking ability in Latin, Hebrew, Greek, German, Bohemian, Spanish, and French.

Lawrence was born on July 22, 1559, and died exactly 60 years later on his birthday in 1619. His parents William and Elizabeth Russo

gave him the name of Julius Caesar, Caesare in Italian. After the early death of his parents, he was educated by his uncle at the College of St. Mark in Venice.

When he was just 16, he entered the Capuchin Franciscan Order in Venice and received the name of Lawrence of Brindisi. He completed his studies of philosophy and theology at the University of Padua and was ordained a priest at 23.

With his facility for languages Lawrence of Brindisi was able to study the Bible in its original texts. At the request of Pope Clement VIII, he spent much time preaching to the Jews in Italy. So excellent was his knowledge of Hebrew, the rabbis felt sure he was a Jew who had become a Christian.

Lawrence's sensitivity to the needs of people—a character trait perhaps unexpected in such a talented scholar—began to surface. He was elected major superior of the Capuchin Franciscan province of Tuscany at the age of 31. He had the combination of brilliance, human compassion, and administrative skill needed to carry out his duties. In rapid succession he was promoted by his fellow Capuchins and was elected minister general of the Capuchins in 1602. In this position he was responsible for great growth and geographical expansion of the Order.

Lawrence of Brindisi was appointed papal emissary and peacemaker, a job which took him to a number of foreign countries. An effort to achieve peace in his native kingdom of Naples took him on a journey to Lisbon to visit the king of Spain. Serious illness in Lisbon took his life in 1619.

In 1956, the Capuchins completed a 15-volume edition of Lawrence's writings. Eleven of these 15 contain his sermons, each of which relies chiefly on scriptural quotations to illustrate his teaching.

St. Lawrence, Pray for Us.

PATRON SAINT OF: Brewers • Cooks • Librarians • Brindisi, Italy.

FEAST DAY: JULY 21

Source: Franciscanmedia.org



LEGION OF MARY

OUR LADY OF HUMILITY AUXILIARY MEMBER

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, AUG. 29, Information forthcoming.

What is an Auxiliary member? An auxiliary member of the Legion of Mary is the spiritual or "praying wing" of the Catholic lay apostolate. Because they cannot assume the duties of active members, they support the Legion's apostolic work by offering daily prayers. To be an auxiliary member, one must make a few daily commitments:

- **The Rosary:** Praying the five decades of the Rosary every day.
- **Legion Prayers:** Reciting the daily prayers found in the Legion prayer leaflet known as the Tessera. These include invocations to the Holy Spirit, the Catena (the Magnificat), and concluding prayers.

ADORATION - ST. BRENDAN CHAPEL

Come and spend an hour with Jesus in the St. Brendan Adoration Chapel. We need two or three people on the following days:

Monday 2PM to 3PM • 3PM to 4PM • 4PM to 5PM • 5PM to 6PM.
Tuesday 1PM to 2PM • 2PM to 3PM • 3PM to 4PM • 5PM to 6PM
Wednesday 1PM to 2PM • 3PM to 4PM | **Thursday** 3PM to 4PM • 4PM to 5PM • 5PM to 6PM | **Thursday** 4PM to 5PM | **Friday** 11am to Noon • Noon to 1PM • 1PM to 2PM • 2PM to 3PM • 3PM to 4PM • 4PM to 5PM. | **Saturday** 12AM to 1AM • 1AM to 2AM • 4AM to 5AM • 6AM to 7AM.

Adoration is seen as a way of life that provides, spiritual protection and nourishment. If you'd like to sign up or have questions, please contact Christina Plantilla at 425-486-3376.

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)

EVANGELIZATION

By Brigette Blair

Chris Stefanick

- [The Tricky Temptation Nobody Talks About \(It's Not What You Think\)](#)
- [He Had 800 Million Views... Then Got Banned for Talking About Jesus](#)
- [One of the Most Brilliant Minds in History Said THIS Before He Died](#)
- [Feminism Robbed Women of This — Here's How to Get It Back](#)
- [A 7-Year-Old's Heroism Will Convict You](#)
- [What Escaping a Cult Taught Me About God | Interview with Ex-Jehovah's Witness Dr. Cary](#)

FORMED

- [Lectio: God](#)
- [The Art of Living](#)
- [Jesus Thirsts: The Miracle of the Eucharist](#)
- [Practicing Catholic Podcast](#)
- [Does God Send People to Hell? The Truth About Mercy](#)
- [The Heart of Prayer](#)

Bishop Barron Sunday Sermon

- [Let the Word of God Take Root in You - Bishop Barron's Sunday Sermon](#)
- [Your King Shall Come to You](#)
- [Be Attached to God Alone](#)

Ascension Presents

- [What Matters More Than Success | Fr. Mike Schmitz](#)
- [Priest vs. Sister \(Who Knows the Faith Better?\)](#)
- [Train Your Heart to Trust | Fr. Mike Schmitz](#)
- [How to Fit the Liturgy of the Hours into Your Busy Day](#)
- [Why the Sisters of Life Wear This](#)
- [The Differences Between Men and Women | Fr. Mike Schmitz](#)
- [How to Correct Someone Without Hurting Them | Fr. Mike Schmitz](#)

Fr. Mike Schmitz Homilies

- ["No Bad Days" | 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time](#)
- ["Citizens, Not Subjects" | 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time](#)
- ["Intentional Limitation" | 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time](#)
- ["The Moment of Moments" | 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time](#)

The Catholic Parent - [The Catholic Parent](#) - FORMED

For Kids

- [Chime Travelers](#) • [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

THE TIME THAT IS ALLOTTED TO US

By Zoltan Abraham

The Parable of the Wheat and Weeds, as the first parable from the Gospel Reading for today is often called, deals with age-old questions: Why does God allow moral evil to persist in society? Why doesn't God just remove all evildoers from the world? Or why doesn't he make all people act with goodness? A great deal has been written on this subject throughout Christian history.

At the heart of the answer is free-will. God is love and he made the world out of love in order to share his love with us. For us to be able to experience his love in a meaningful way, we have to have free-will. Otherwise, we would be just like robots programmed to respond in a certain way. By creating free-will, God takes a risk, because there is always the danger that we will abuse our freedom and turn against his love. But God loves us so much that he accepts this risk so that we might be able to experience his love.

The moral brokenness that is present in society is the result of human beings abusing their free-will. God permits human beings to use their free-will for good or for ill until the Final Judgment at the end of the world, following the Second Coming of Christ, when he will refashion the whole order of the universe. After the Final Judgment, those who had chosen God's love will live with him in Heaven for all eternity in infinite joy, and those who had rejected his love will be separated from him from all eternity, suffering the torment of being without the only reality that can fulfill the desires of the human heart.

However, as history unfolds, God does not just stand by and observe, leaving humanity to its own devices. That would be the Deist and, to some extent, the humanist perspective. Instead, God is very much involved in the history of the world and in our day-to-day lives, always giving us the grace to help us to use our free-will for good. But the choice is ours. It is for us to choose to cooperate with God's grace. He will never force us. We have until the end of our lives to embrace the grace that God is seeking to give to us. Our free-will continues until the moment of our death. After that point, the choice we have made becomes locked in and we are each judged individually. The individual judgment of the dead becomes public at the Final Judgment at the end of the world. Those who are still alive at that time are judged as the world ends.

Our goal in life as Christians is to open our lives to God's love more and more each day, each hour, each moment. The fullness of God's love comes to us through the sacraments and the other prayers and practices of the Church. Our culture encourages us to achieve and it is good to seek to reach some goals in life. But at the end of our lives, no achievement will be meaningful if we have not accepted God's offer of love. That is what we must focus on first and foremost.

Furthermore, if we truly accept God's love, we will also want to share his love with others. His love will flow through us so that others can experience his love through our behavior. We will also want to share with others the Good News of Christ with all those in our lives, so that they too can embrace the infinite love that God seeks to give to each of us.

But, we might wonder, what can we truly accomplish through our limited abilities in this life? Aren't our efforts just a drop in the ocean? That's where the Parable of the Mustard Seed and the Parable of the Yeast from the Gospel Reading for this Sunday

comes into focus. God knows that, in the larger scheme of things, we can only achieve a little. That is all he asks of us. Not that we do little, but that we offer all that we can, even if it is little. God then will bless our efforts and bring about great things through them.

The early disciples were not great public figures or esteemed scholars or wealthy movers and shakers of society. They came from humble circumstances and had no formal training for spreading the Gospel. But they gave all of themselves and God worked wonders through them. The small ragtag group of disciples set out to convert the whole world. The mighty Roman Empire tried to eradicate them from the face of the earth more than once. But instead, Rome, the capital of the empire, became the center of the Church.

God took the yeast that was the first disciples and transformed the world through them. He took the mustard seed that was the early Church and grew a magnificent tree from it. Such is the power of God's grace. Today, as we look around at society and see a great deal of decay, we should bear in mind all that God has already accomplished in history. True, in the Western World, the faith is under sever attack. Human sinfulness has marred or torn down much of the good that has been built up over centuries. We might wonder how we can possibly turn the tide. But our task is simple. We must give of ourselves all that we can, and God will do the rest. God's magnificent plan will come to fruition in the fullness of time.

As always, we should remember that we do not succeed through our own strength. At the same time, God will not force us to act rightly either. He gives us the grace that we need to act well, but it is for us to make the choice to accept his grace. The Second Reading in particular reflects on how the Holy Spirit helps us to pray. We cannot pray adequately through our own efforts, so we should ask the Holy Spirit to guide our prayer, to pray through us, so that our prayer is united with the will of God.

In all things, we need to ask for God to help us. We should never try to go it alone. This message in particular might be hard to hear for Americans, especially American professionals living in the Pacific Northwest, where the culture values a sense of rugged individualism and self-reliance. But spiritual self-reliance is, simply put, spiritual suicide. Without God, we can do nothing. But, as St. Paul put it, we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. (Philippians 4:13)

The Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament, from where the First Reading for this Sunday is taken, elaborates on the need for God's grace in great detail. The Old Testament texts can be divided into three main categories: The Historical Books, the Prophetic Books, and Wisdom Literature, which includes Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Sirach, and Wisdom, from where this Sunday's reading is taken. To use a very Prophetic Books comment on the overall structures of humanity and Wisdom Literature focuses on how to live our individual lives well.

At the heart of Wisdom Literature is the principle that all of our actions need to be grounded in God's Wisdom. Any action that is not will lead to ruin. God's Wisdom, as described in the Old Testament, anticipates our fuller understanding of the Holy Trinity today. The Wisdom of God is the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, Christ himself, who has come among us as one of us. Thus, true wisdom is to be grounded in Christ, to live in Christ, to let the love of Christ live in us and flow out through us to the world.

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 | den-nishammonds45@gmail.com

Ministry to the Homebound

- Bothell Health Care | Cogir of Bothell Memory Care - STB - Anne Chapman 206-234-5849
- All others - 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

Serving Our Savior (SOS) | Priscilla Finch - cilfinch@hotmail

St. Vincent de Paul

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

SERVING OUR SAVIOR (S.O.S.) SOUP KITCHEN MINISTRY

Many thanks for the continued generous donations to fill our pantry. Below are what is still needed.

NEED: Canned tuna • canned cream of chicken soup.

Please only donate unexpired goods in their original packaging.



OUR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL is in need of the following items.

Desperately need: Paper towels • toilet paper • canned fruit (e.g., peaches, pears, fruit cocktail, etc.) • Mac 'n' Cheese (*Kraft* is favorite) • laundry detergent • cooking oil • dishwashing liquid (*Dawn* is recommended as it can be used for other purposes).

Can always use: Toothpaste • under-arm deodorant • shampoo • bar soap (*Dial* or other anti-bacterial bath soaps) • cleaning supplies such as spray cleaner (*409*, *Windex*, *Clorox* and others) • sponges • furniture polish, • jams and jellies • packaged meals (e.g., chili, rice pilaf and other rice dishes, potato dishes, stuff you mix with hamburger or other proteins) • mixes for baking (corn bread is always a good one, but occasionally we get a request for cake mix/frosting for a family birthday) • *Bisquick* or similar baking mix • single meal-sized boxes of rice (e.g., *Minute Rice* or *Uncle Ben's*). **We appreciate your generous 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 either St. Brendan or St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish Family? Financial Assistance is available to help with registration fees, please contact CYOad@saintbrendan.org for details. For more information on CYO and the programs offered at St. Brendan, please reach out to Ena Demeter at cyosecretary@saintbrendan.org.

ST. BRENDAN CYO SOCCER – REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Calling all **soccer families!** It's time to lace up your cleats. **St. Brendan CYO Soccer registration is officially open** for students in **Pre-K through 8th grade!**

Don't wait—early registration is encouraged! Fees increase with late sign-ups, so secure your spot today.

Exciting News for the Season Ahead! We're thrilled to share that **brand-new goals** have been added—making this season even better for all our athletes!

Volunteer Coaches Needed Our program thrives because of our amazing volunteers! If you're interested in coaching this fall, please **sign up by the end of June**. Early commitments help ensure every team has the support it needs.

Questions? We're here to help! Contact **Rob Flajole, Soccer Coordinator** - cyosoccer@saintbrendan.org

Join us for a fun, active, and rewarding season—we can't wait to see you on the pitch!

ST. BRENDAN CROSS COUNTRY

Registration is Now Open!

Calling all students in Grades K–8! Runners of every age and ability level are welcome to join. Whether your child is brand new to running or already loves to race — there's a place for everyone on the team!

• **Early-Bird Registration:** Through August 29th | \$55 per runner

• **Late Registration:** Through September 8th | \$75 per runner

Get Involved — We Need Coaches! We're looking for **volunteer coaches** to help lead practices and make this season a success.

Join Us for a Great Season! Be part of a fun, supportive experience focused on: Fitness • Teamwork • School Spirit

Questions or Interested in Coaching? Contact: Meg Koury (cycrosscountry@saintbrendan.org) Cross Country Coordinator

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Saturday, November 14, 2026

SAVE THE DATE: ST BRENDAN HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR 2026

This year's Holiday Craft Fair will be held Saturday, November 14, 2026. Vendor applications for the 2026 Holiday Craft Fair are now being accepted (due date May 29, 2026).

The Holiday Craft Fair is our largest community event featuring 100+ small business craft vendors, our beloved bake sale, photos with Santa, and MORE!

Questions about the Craft Fair or to request an application please reach out at CraftFair@school.saintbrendan.org

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:

- St. Brendan Parish (STB) - parish.saintbrendan.org
- St. Teresa of Calcutta (STOC) - <https://pushpay.com/g/saintteresacalcutta>
- OR can the 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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