

December Reflection: Preparing the Way

“Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the wilderness the paths of our God”

Isaias 40:3

The Liturgical Year begins again as always with the penitential season of Advent. Yet for many of us the penitential aspect of the season becomes lost in the flurry of secular activities that lead up to the wondrous and beautiful birth of Our Lord on Christmas. Sometimes the only reminders we have are the violet vestments and the Advent liturgy which omits the Gloria; while the Propers help us to see and understand the need to prepare our souls for the spiritual birth of Christ in our hearts.

Dom Prosper Gueranger, in *The Liturgical Year*, explains a bit of history surrounding Advent, and how the season has evolved through the centuries. It seems in the Western Church Advent was the not the *strict* penitential season we see in Lent. At one point the season began on the Feast of St. Martin of Tours (Nov. 11), with days of fasting and abstinence required only on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Known as “St. Martin’s Lent”, off and on for many centuries this restriction applied only to clergy and monastic communities, although some bishops would bind the laity as well.

Later, the season was reduced to the four weeks before Christmas we currently observe, and the days of fasting and abstinence gradually disappeared. Sadly, efforts by such men as Pope Urban V, St. Charles Borromeo, and Pope Benedict XIV to revive in some way these acts of penance and sacrifice among the religious and the laity were neither successful long-term nor universally, and now only in the Orthodox Churches are these means of mortification still observed today.

The bottomline is that we should all make efforts to “make straight the way of the Lord” to sanctify our souls in preparation to receive the Christ Child when he comes even if the Church does not formally require it.

WELCOME



Our Lady of Fatima Church welcomes our visitors!
New to Tradition or not, please stay after Mass
and enjoy coffee and socializing!



Joining our community is easy! Please fill out a registration card and put it in the designated box in the hall near the Epistle side door.

December 2023

Our Lady of Fatima

13400 NE 28th Street



A Chapel of the SSPX

Vancouver, WA 98682



Pastor:

- Fr. Rami Madanat
- E-mail: SSPXOLFpastor@gmail.com

Mass Times: Check webpage for updates

- Sundays: 8 am Low & 10:30 Sung High
- Saturdays: 9 am
- 1st Fridays: Holy Hour 6pm, Mass 7pm

Confessions:

- 30-45 minutes before all Masses
- **Rosary 30 min before all Masses**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

- 1st Friday at 6pm
- 1st Saturday after Mass

Baptisms, Extreme Unction & Sick Calls:

- Arrange with the Coordinators

Holy Matrimony:

- Arrange with Pastor 6 months prior

Coordinators:

- Joseph & Agatha DeBartolo
- E-mail: OLoFCoords@gmail.com
- Cell phone: 360-852-5343
- Church: 360-254-7994

Website: sspxolf.org

Other contact information:

- **Prayer Chain:**
OLOFPrayerChain@gmail.com
- **Chapel Treasurer:**
OLOFVanTreasurer@gmail.com

- **Holy Name Society:**

OLOFHNS@gmail.com

- **St. Anthony’s Outreach**

OLOFO Outreach@gmail.com

Priory: St. Thomas Becket RCC

25269 E. Bolton Road, Veneta, OR
97487 Phone # 541-935-8608

Priory - Fr. Shane Pezzutti FSSPX



Announcements at a Glance



St. Andrew Christmas Novena: The Christmas Novena begins Nov 30. Prayer and formula on pg. 3.

Fr. Kimball, Fr. Pezzutti, and Fr. Loop: Fr. Kimball will be here Dec. 8-10. A great opportunity to take advantage of additional Masses and Confession! Fr. Pezzutti's Prior Visit is Dec.16-17 and Fr. Loop will be here Dec 30-Jan 1, while Fr. Madanat is on retreat.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception: A traditional holy day of obligation.

Masses at 9 am and 7 pm.

Annual Altar Society Bake Sale Fundraiser: Dec 8-10. Please help support the OLF Altar Society's major fundraising event. No need to be a Altar Society member to contribute food items to sell and all are encouraged to buy! See flyers in the church hall/contact Susie at jmarvinjr@hotmail.com.

OLF Advent Clean-Up: Saturday, Dec. 9 the All-Parish Advent Work Day and Christmas Clean-Up begins after Mass and quick breakfast. Please plan to stay and help organize and prepare the chapel for the Christmas Season. Lunch provided. See Monique Dodge if you have any questions.

Catechism Classes: Father's monthly session of teaching the Adult Catechism class will be Dec 17th and will be in the church hall and taught by our prior, Fr. Pezzutti.

★ No catechism Dec 24 & 31. Classes resume after the Epiphany on Jan 7.

Christmas Stipends: Please note the special second collection on Sun., Dec. 17 for our three priests. Please be as generous as you can: our priests give and sacrifice a great deal as they bring us the Mass and the Sacraments.

Advent and Christmastide Schedule of Events:

- ★ Posada Celebration, Dec. 17. See pg. 5 or Yolanda Garcia/Julia Diaz for details
- ★ Ember Days, Dec 20, 22, 23 (Traditional days of fast & abstinence)
- ★ Christmas Caroling, Dec. 24, 11:15 pm followed by Midnight Mass
- ★ Low Mass Dec. 25 at 10:30 am (just one daytime Christmas Mass)
- ★ ACSS Pizza and Activity Dec. 26. Details forthcoming
- ★ Indulged Te Deum of Thanksgiving prayer sung after Sunday Masses (see pg 5)
- ★ DeBartolo Annual New Year's Eve Party, Dec. 31. 6:30-12:30 everyone is invited
- ★ Jan. 1, 2024, Holy Day of Obligation, Octave of the Nativity.

Second Call: The OLF Annual Talent Show and Potluck is on January 7, 2024.

Entry forms are on the piano. Deadline Dec. 31. Questions? Contact Lynne Pearson

Prayers for Those in Need

In your kindness, please add to your daily prayers those of our chapel who serve our communities and nation, as well as their families. Remember those struggling with chronic illness, family, or financial problems.

Use this QR code to make contributions. Please indicate earmark for: Capital Campaign tithing bookstore purchase or donation for coffee/donuts.



A Note About Confession

Fr. Kimball's visits each month offer us another opportunity for confessions, especially for those who live a distance from OLF. All other weeks, however, if you live nearby please try alternate times (Fri/Sat)

Remember Fr. Alphonsus' teachings on

the **4 C's of a good Confession:**

Be Clear, Complete,
Concise, and Contrite



Wishing all of the Our Lady of Fatima community a blessed and beautiful Christmas Season



Eucharistic Crusaders

Contact Catherine Haslebacher at cathasle09@gmail.com

Crusaders offered their work in October for "Grace of a good death"

Tallies for October 2023: Treasure Sheets turned: 13

Masses: 93	Holy Communion: 82	Visits to Our Lord: 52
Sacrifices: 726	Spiritual Communion: 122	Good Examples: 307
Daily Offerings: 433	Decades of Rosary: 1683	15 Mins of Silence: 131

December Dedication is for all our Benefactors

Renovation Update

We now have a proper confessional! On another note, on Aggie's recent trek to Nova Scotia she ventured to her childhood parish church which has been deconsecrated and the building and property will be up for sale. Never one to let an opportunity pass, she secured for OLF a baptismal font, pulpit, Stations of the Cross, various sacristy items, and two podiums earmarked for classroom use. Christmas came early for our chapel! God is certainly good!

Capital Campaign Fund Raisers

Remaining on pledges: \$83,118; Donations: \$653,809*;

(*Donations amount does NOT include the \$200,000 realized from the sale of the Portland property)

Our next project is a beautiful *security* fence for the front of the church and new main entry doors. This project needs funding! Please consider offering additional donations for this *necessary* project! Donations can always be deposited in the "pledge and donation" box in the church hall.

Church Donations (Excludes Capital Campaign)

<u>2023 Donations</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>September</u>
First Collections	\$ 13,052	\$ 13,948
Mother of Lu	\$ 753	\$ 889
Building Fund	\$ 2,532	\$ 6,432
Priory (STB)	\$ 1,292	\$ 691

Average Sunday attendance for October was 281. Thank you for your support & generosity!

Follow the Money

The weekly 1st collection is earmarked for OLF expenses to do business, like utilities, general upkeep, etc... 2nd collections are earmarked for the following:

- 1st Sunday: Mothers of Lu, to support those in vocation from our chapel that we are praying for each month.
- 2nd Sunday: District quarterly collection Dec 10th for Foreign Missions
- 3rd Sunday: Christmas collection for monetary gifts for our three priests.
- 4th Sunday: HNS collection for the building fund.
- 5th Sunday: St. Thomas Becket Priory collection.

Focus on Groups: Prayer Crusade for Priests

The Prayer Crusade for Priests is a work of the SSPX in the U.S. for the sanctification and perseverance of priests, and for priestly vocations. It is composed of lay Catholics banded together in a united effort of prayer and penance for priests. (from the SSPX website)

What does this mean, exactly? Laity who join the PCP commit each day to saying a general prayer for priests, but are also given the name of a particular priest for whom they pray. They offer daily a decade of the Rosary for priests and religious vocations, as well as offer a daily oblation.

On the first Thursday of the month a special holy hour is offered (either at home or, preferably before the Blessed Sacrament).

The PCP is open to individuals and families. The PCP group at OLF has been active for more than 25 years. These generous souls pray for our priests' spiritual and physical welfare; to persevere them in their vocation; to protect them from harm and scandal; and especially that they receive the graces they need to grow in holiness and their ability to sanctify the hearts of their faithful.

Our priests and religious do so much for us, and sacrifice much for us. They don't need a gift of socks or other mundane articles from us as much as they need our prayers. The Prayer Crusade for Priests is a worthwhile and much needed apostolate who could use many more members. If you are interested in joining or have other questions, please see Sean Delaney or check it out at:

<https://sspx.org/en/prayer-crusade-priests>

St. Andrew Christmas Novena

Recited 15 times each day from the Feast of St. Andrew (Nov 30) until Christmas, this Advent novena is more than 100 years old. Its origins are unknown, but "some" believe it came from Ireland.



*Hail and blessed be the hour and moment
when the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary,
at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold.
In that hour, vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God,
to hear my prayer and grant my desires
through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ,
and of His blessed Mother. Amen*





Archconfraternity St. Stephen's Schedule

Contact Nicholas Williams ASAP if you need to switch your duty

Masses	Extra/Fri	Sat 9am	Sun 8am	Sun 10:30 am
Dec 1-3	Fri 7pm Pearson	Wisniewski Webson	Miles Open	Andrew, Nathan, Tommy, Casey, Bryton Jackson, Conner, Maxxis, Jameson
Dec 8		Fri - 9am Casey,	Fri - 7pm >>>	Henry W, Tommy, Theo, Nathan, Connor Oliver, Johnny P, William, Johnny D
Dec 9-10	Sat 8am Webster	Pearson	Miles Jackson	Tommy, Andrew, Casey, Sully, Connor Jameson, George, Mark, Johnny P
Dec 16-17		Pearson	Nathan Bryton	Andrew, Theo, Tommy, Sully, Jameson Henry, George, James, Oliver
Dec 23-24		Webster	Miles M Henry D	Casey, Nathan, Henry, Theo, Sully Connor, Jameson, Maxxis, Mark
Dec 25	Mon 10:30am Kevin Cleary		Midnight Mass >>>	Henry, Tommy, Theo, Nathan, Bryton, Connor, Jameson, Mark, Johnny P
Dec 26-27	Tues 10:30am Andrew D	Wed 6am Mr. Delaney		
Dec 30-31		Sat Dec 30 6pm Pearson	Nathan Jackson	Tommy, Theo, Andrew, Casey, Connor Edward, Henry, William, Johnny D
Jan 1			New Years Time TBD	Casey, Henry, Theo, Tommy, Andrew Henry G, George, Maxxis, Oliver



OLF Hospitality Committee

Contact Fatima Vianney at fatimarosevianney@yahoo.com to volunteer

Sundays	Set Up	Clean Up
1st	Marion Wheeler	Theresa Greninger
2nd	Anna Dunphy	Monique Dodge
3rd	Kateri Wisniewski	Susie Marvin
4th	Krissy Alonzo	Valerie Weinhart
5th	Pauline Meyerhofer	Sherry O'Neil



A Word About Stipends

As a matter of justice, our priests should be compensated for activities performed outside of bringing the Mass to us. Here are recommendations.

- ❖ Mass offering: \$20 (include intentions with payment and mail/give to priest or give to servers/ushers who will make sure Father gets it)
- ❖ Sick Calls: \$25
- ❖ Baptisms: \$25-\$50; server stipend optional
- ❖ Funerals and Weddings: \$100; \$10-\$20 to each server
- ❖ Organist: \$50. Choir: No stipend recommendation

To reiterate, these are *recommendations only and not required, but appreciated*. Certainly be as generous as you are able to our priests and their helpers!

Priest's Pantry

Contact Susie Marvin at jmarvinjr@hotmail.com

Week	Sunday Brunch	Sat before the Sun 2 meals: Brunch & Supper
Dec 1-3	Justina Causseaux	Sally Webster
Dec 8-10	Luciann Meyerhofer	Baby Wolfe
Dec 16-17	Fatima Vianney	Kristi Hamilton
Dec 23-24	Kate Brehm	Kristi Hamilton
Dec 30-31	Susie Marvin	Baby Wolfe
	Back-up B. Wolfe/S. Schenauer	1st Friday's Supper Lynne Pearson



Church Cleaning Schedule	
<i>We NEED more volunteers even if it's just 1-2 times/year</i> Please contact Monique Dodge at monique.dodge06@gmail.com	
Nov 27-Dec 2	Von Walthers/Hamilton
Dec 4-9	Advent All-Parish Workday
Dec 11-16	Causeaux/Alonzo
Dec 18-23	OPEN
Dec 25-30	Pearson



Before Mass Rosary Leaders		
Contact Jay Marvin at jmarvinjr@hotmail.com		
Sundays	8am Mass	10:30am Mass
1st	David Mullen	Michael Wisniewski
2nd	Michael McBee	Jay Marvin
3rd (HNS Sun)	Tim Cleary	Zach Brehm
4th	Aaron Meyerhofer	Shane Meyerhofer
5th	Joe Wisniewski	Joe Haslebacher

Recommended Reading for December from

OLF's Librarian Tim Cleary

Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Dec 8: Rev. M.J. Scheeben, **Mariology, Vol 1 Part II**, *Christological Foundations of Mariology. pp 61-132.* (from the 1880s).

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Dec 12: Francis Parkinson Keyes, **The Grace of Guadalupe** 1940.

St. Lucy, Dec 13: St. Alphonsus de Liguori, **Victories of the Martyrs** 1776. Pages 152-155.

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Dec 22: Lucille Papin Borden, **Francesca Cabrini: Without Stuff or Script** 1945 (St. Frances Xavier Cabrini is the the first canonized saint from the United States!)

Celebrate Posada with St. Martha's Guild!

St. Martha's Guild is busy this time of year bringing Catholic culture activities to OLF! New this year is **Posada**, which originated in colonial Mexico. Traditionally a 9-day event, it reenacts Mary and Joseph's travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem and their search for shelter (posada) before the birth of Christ. St. Martha's Guild, under the direction of Yolanda Garcia and Julia Diaz, is putting together its own version of Posada on Sunday, Dec. 17 after the second Mass. Bring a potluck dish - Mexican flavor preferred. Pinata & fun! Come! Enjoy the Fiesta!



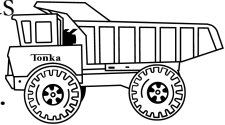
Special Mass in Thanksgiving for our blessings in 2023



The Te Deum is a solemn hymn of praise and thanksgiving to God, and usually ends the procession on the Feast of Corpus Christi. The Church, however, gives a plenary indulgence (under usual conditions) to those who attend the sung Te Deum at the end of the year in order to give thanks to God for the blessings received during the whole year...and the OLF community has much for which to be grateful! This will be prayed after both Masses, Sunday, Dec. 31, and can be found on pg. 32 of the *Rosary, Benediction, and Devotions* booklet.



Remember our Parish Mission last year? Most of us will readily recall the yellow Lamborghini and the Tonka truck, but how many of us remember our...



Mission Resolutions?

As the year new Liturgical Year has begun, and the secular new year looms ahead, this might be a good time for us to find that Mission Resolution paper we completed and get to work on those **Predominant Faults** we all have.

As a reminder and a nudge, the best ways to overcome our Predominant Faults are to resolve to keep busy, always strive to please God, work to improve our efforts to make self-sacrifices, and acquire patience.

The great news is OLF offers many ways for us to do all these in one effort by becoming part of one of the OLF Groups, so it makes sense to take advantage of these opportunities God is providing for us.

Consult the group chart near the restroom bulletin board & find your niche! Or talk with Aggie and she will help you find it.

Our Lady of Fatima Masses & Activities for December, 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Sunday in Octave of Christmas</i> Mass 8am & 10:30am Fr. Loop No Catechism Classes 2nd Collection for Priory - STB Dec 31	Feast of the Circumcision <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i> Mass Time TBD Fr. Loop Jan 1		Adult & Children Catechism Classes Every Sunday 9:15-10am	Confessions 45 min & Rosary 30 min before all Masses	1st Friday Holy Hour 6-7pm Exposition & Confessions Mass 7pm Dec 1	1st Saturday Mass 9am & Benediction HNS, 1st Sat Groups, 10:30-12pm 2
1st Sunday of Advent Mass 8am & 10:30am 1st Sun Blessing of Articles Mother of Lu Prayers & 2nd Collection ACSS & LF 12:30-1:30pm 3	4	5	6	PCP 6:30-7:30pm 7	Feast of the Immaculate Conception <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i> Mass 8am & 7pm Fr. K & Fr. M 8	Mass 8am & 9am Fr. Kimball & Fr. Madanat Advent Work Day 10-2 9
2nd Sunday of Advent Mass 8am & 10:30am Fr. Kimball & Fr. Madanat 2nd Collection for District (Foreign Missions) 10	11	Our Lady of Guadalupe 12	Ladies BookClub at 6:30pm Off-site discussions on "The Sword in the Stone" 13	14	15	Mass 9am 3rd Order Meeting 10:30 - noon 16
<i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i> Mass 8am & 10:30am HNS Sunday Special 2nd collection for our priests. Father's Catechism in Hall 9:15-10am Fr. Pezzutti Posada Celebration 17	18	19	Ember Wednesday 20	21	Ember Friday 22	Mass 9am Ember Saturday 23
<i>4th Sunday of Advent</i> Mass 8am & 10:30am 2nd Collection - Building Fund No Catechism Classes Christmas Caroling 11:15 pm before Midnight Mass 24	"Nativity of Our Lord 2 Public Masses Midnight Mass & 10:30am 25	Feast of St. Stephen Mass 10:30am ACSS Pizza & Activity 26	Feast of St. John Mass 6am Fr M PDX 9am 27.	Feast of Holy Innocents 28	29	Mass 6pm Fr. Loop 30