

# Weekly Bulletin

**ST JOSEPH, LYNDEN AND ST PETER, DEMING**

**December 14, 2025 – *Third Sunday of Advent***

*Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.*  
-Matthew 28:19-20

**Part of the Whatcom Catholic Churches:** For comprehensive information regarding all Catholic Churches in Whatcom County, including priest schedules, Mass times and locations, please visit [whatcomcatholic.org](http://whatcomcatholic.org).

New staff page launched on Whatcom Catholic Website: Be sure to visit [www.whatcomcatholic.org/staff](http://www.whatcomcatholic.org/staff) to look at the staff directory for the entire county. This streamlined directory will allow those across the county to get in contact with parish staff and the contact information for parish offices.

## **Pastor's Note**

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Please visit: [frmoore.com/category/pastors-note/](http://frmoore.com/category/pastors-note/) for this week's Pastor note.

## **Archdiocesan News**

### **Mass for the Closing of the Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope**

Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup> 10 am

St. James Cathedral

Join Archbishop Etienne for the close of the local observance of the Jubilee Year 2025 at St. James Cathedral in Seattle. Join in person or watch by livestream on Facebook, Vimeo or Archdiocese of Seattle – YouTube

### **Archbishop Etienne's 2025 Advent Message: Build a dwelling place for the Lord**

Please view the video below

<https://archseattle.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=43fc28da81c0c27a6b0cd8944&id=835b70ec89&e=e774c7cafb>

### **Valentines Day Retreat for Parents**

February 13-15, 2026

Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center

Parents, join us! Take some time to rest and restore this February at Three in One: A Valentine's Day Retreat for Parents from February 13 – 15, 2026 at the Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center. Parents will leave this retreat restored, encouraged, and more able to experience peace and hope amid the joys and challenges of family life. All parents are invited, including single parents and parents of young and grown children. The cost is \$350 per couple. Click here to register. For questions, please contact Rebecca Burdullis at [Rebecca.Burdullis@seattlearch.org](mailto:Rebecca.Burdullis@seattlearch.org).

## **Parish News**

### **Office Closed**

In observation of the Christmas Holiday, the parish office will be closed on Wednesday December 24<sup>th</sup> through Friday January 2<sup>st</sup>. Have a Blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### **Office Closures and Mass Cancelation due to Inclement weather in Whatcom Catholic:**

If a Mass is cancelled within Whatcom County due to a weather-related issue, the following communication structure will be implemented:

- Cancellation will be emailed to registered parishioners of the location
- Banner will be posted on the Whatcom Catholic Website
- Mass will be removed from the Whatcom Catholic website
- Individual parish websites will update with the ability of the location manager

*Parish offices are relying on more digital communication to communicate with parishioners. If you haven't received an email from your parish office, please contact them to update your contact information.*

Whatcom Catholic does its best to review local, state, and federal guidance along with local reports to make calls on when mass will be cancelled. It is never a call that can be made easily, but we want to ensure the parishioners and the priests' safety. Parish staff are in close contact with the priests, volunteers, and others to ensure that an appropriate and safe decision is made. Locations that have priests living in residence will not have Mass cancelled, as the priests will be able to walk to Mass.

County-wide office closures will follow that of Assumption catholic school, as the school serves the entire county. However, due to the wide variety of weather conditions across the county, individual offices may close and will communicate this closure on their website and through an email to parishioners. Directors of Faith Formation will contact parents if classes are impacted. Parish staff will also contact those affected by parish-sponsored programmatic activities, sacraments, or celebrations cancellations.

If you have any questions in regard to this policy, feel free to reach out to the Regional Director of Operations, Olivia Phillips, or contact your church's location manager.

### **Coffee Hour**

Please contact Marilyn Wyss at (360) 961-1168 or [wyssm@outlook.com](mailto:wyssm@outlook.com).

### **Faith Formation – St Joseph, Lynden**

There will be no faith formation classes on December 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, and January 1<sup>st</sup>. Classes will resume on January 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

### **Filipino Advent Tradition: Simbang Gabi**

December 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM Mass

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Ferndale

You are all invited to the **Filipino Simbang-Gabi** celebration. This is an important Filipino Advent tradition that offers a chance to gather and reflect as we prepare for Christmas. After the Mass, please join us in the Parish Hall for a reception with traditional Filipino dishes. This is a great opportunity to enjoy good food and connect with others. Everyone is welcome at both the Mass and the reception. We look forward to sharing this special celebration with you.

### **Texting Availability for Some Whatcom Catholic Staff**

Whatcom Catholic is proud to announce that we will be piloting texting to certain staff of the county. We will begin piloting it with Hispanic ministry and faith formation. Please look carefully on what direct line numbers are available for texting. We hope that this will help further streamline communication. Staff will monitor their phones during normal operating hours. Phone numbers available for text will be annotated on the Whatcom Catholic website. In 2026 faith formation staff at Sacred Heart and St. Joseph Lynden will be onboarded.

#### **Regional:**

Liliana Marshall, Executive Assistant for Clergy: 253-356-5522

Olivia Phillips, Regional Director of Operations: 253-356-5529

#### **Assumption:**

Claudia Maeda, Registrar: 253-356-5516

#### **St. Joseph Ferndale:**

Jill Sawicki, Director of Faith Formation: 360-745-1645

Dawn Zimmerman, Faith Formation Assistant: 360-523-9633

### **Marriage Preparation**

Holy Matrimony is a beautiful gift given by God and elevated by Christ to the dignity of a sacrament for the baptized. Choosing to undertake this blessed adventure is a witness of love for the world. Marriage preparation includes formation classes, paperwork, and liturgy planning, through which parish staff will assist couples. We are happy to answer any questions regarding marriage and specific situations. We also assist Catholic couples who were married civilly outside the church to co-validate their marriage in a sacramental ceremony. Please contact Anna at least 6 months before the date you hope to be married. **Contact:** Anna Wittmershaus [anna@assumption.org](mailto:anna@assumption.org) 360-594-5791

### **Marriage Preparation Mentor Program**

We are always seeking more mentors to support our engaged couples through marriage preparation. Married individuals or couples can mentor engaged couples by facilitating pre-marriage classes or providing one-on-one support. To learn more please **contact:** Anna Wittmershaus [anna@assumption.org](mailto:anna@assumption.org)

### **Coracle Men's Group**

Saturdays from 7:30-9am

Stafford room at Assumption Church

Led by Deacon Dale Pollard, meets Saturdays from 7:30-9am in the Stafford room at Assumption Church, with Adoration from 7:45-8:15. We are an intentional group of men spurring each other on through deeper discipleship and transformation. The name "Coracle" comes from the hide-covered boat St Brendan used to sail to parts unknown to share the Gospel.

### **Saint Vincent de Paul**

Saint Vincent de Paul in Whatcom Catholic is a ministerial outreach to the poor of Whatcom County. Working at Sacred Heart Church and Hope House, we meet with and talk to members of our community who come to us for assistance. Our ministry is conducted by dedicated volunteers who see the face of Christ in the poor and strive to meet their needs. We can help the poor because of the kind generosity of our parishioners, whose continued support we greatly appreciate and encourage. If you would like to join our ministry and become a Vincentian, please contact us at 360-734-2722.

**Whatcom Catholic Safety committee launched:**

Across Whatcom County the Director of Facilities and the Director of Operations and Location Managers have worked to establish ministerial heads for the safety committee. The committee met in October to discuss the parameters of the ministry. The county wide safety committee will meet quarterly with the DOO and the DOF to discuss procedures and policies. The safety protocol was created in tandem with the preexisting safety committee procedures at Assumption and also consultation with former Sheriff Bill Elfo. Volunteers will work to create safe and secure atmosphere at Mass and also be ready to assist when the needs arise for medical or other emergencies. If you are interested in assisting, please reach out to your safety ministry head.

The safety committee heads are looking for those who have first aid experience or are first responders, those who want to help serve their community, those happy to check doors and points of entry on their way to work or want to ensure that the Eucharist is consumed.

Individual ministerial heads will arrange schedules and coordinate training with volunteers.

<b>Head Name:</b>	<b>Location:</b>	<b>Email:</b>
Mike Shannon	Sacred Heart	<a href="mailto:mikeshannon2002@yahoo.com">mikeshannon2002@yahoo.com</a>
Eduardo Olguien	Assumption (Spanish)	<a href="mailto:olguined62@gmail.com">olguined62@gmail.com</a>
John Admunson	Assumption	<a href="mailto:jhasmund@comcast.net">jhasmund@comcast.net</a>
Steve Malpezzi	St. Joseph, Ferndale	<a href="mailto:smalpezzi@comcast.net">smalpezzi@comcast.net</a>
Bill Heller	St. Anne	<a href="mailto:mjh@nym.hush.com">mjh@nym.hush.com</a>
Clarence Bob	St. Joachim	<a href="mailto:gracevbob@msn.com">gracevbob@msn.com</a>
Paul Rasavage	St. Peter	<a href="mailto:prasavage@comcast.net">prasavage@comcast.net</a>
None	St. Joseph, Lynden	Currently in need of ministry head, if interested contact Lorena Duarte

**Christmas Mass Schedules**

**Christmas Eve**

**Wednesday, December 24, 2025**

3:00 pm – Sacred Heart

3:00 pm – St Joseph, Ferndale

3:00 pm – St Anne, Blaine

3:00 pm – St Peter Deming

6:00 pm – Assumption

6:00 pm – St Joseph, Ferndale (Spanish)

6:00 pm – St Joachim, Lummi

6:00 pm – St Joseph, Lyden

9:00 pm – Sacred Heart

## Christmas Day

Thursday, December 25, 2025

Midnight—Assumption

9:00 am – Sacred Heart

10:00 am – St Joseph, Ferndale

10:00 am – St Joseph, Lynden

10:00 am – Assumption

## **School News**

### **Assumption School Auction**

When: Saturday, March 7, 2026

Where: Bellingham Golf & Country Club

Save the Date Growing Great Kids Auction and Gala

### **ACS Christmas Program**

All are welcome to join us on Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm for a night of singing as the 8<sup>th</sup> graders perform the story of the Nativity. Doors to the church will open at 6:40pm. Admission is free.

### **School on Christmas Break**

The staff, teachers, and students will be on break for two weeks: December 22<sup>nd</sup> to January 3rd. The office will open again on January 5th. We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas!

## **Affiliated Organizations**

### **Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

Unwrap the gifts in your marriage on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter.

It is a weekend for married Christian couples who value their relationship and desire a richer, fuller life together. Sign up today to attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on February 13-15, 2026, LaQuinta Inn, Tacoma, WA. Early registration is highly recommended. Please contact Jeff and Sandy Corneil 360-903-2321. For more information and other dates please visit our website at: <https://wwme.org>

## **Upcoming**

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### ***Sunday, December 14– Third Sunday of Advent***

- St Peter – 8:00 am to 8:15am Confession
- St Peter – 8:30 am Mass
- St Joseph – 11 am Mass
- St Joseph - 5pm Spanish Rosary
- St Joseph – 7pm-9pm Youth Group

**Monday, December 15**

- St Peter – 9am Mass

**Tuesday, December 16**

- St Joseph – 9-11am Morning prayer group

**Wednesday, December 17**

- St Joseph – 5pm Confession
- St Joseph – 6pm Spanish Mass
- St Joseph – 6:30pm-7:30pm Faith Formation Classes

**Thursday, December 18**

- St Joseph – 10:30am Funeral Mass – Pascual H. Zapien
- St Joseph – 11:30am Patriotic Rosary
- St Joseph – 6:30pm-7:30pm Faith Formation Classes
- St Peter – 3pm-5pm Social Action

**Friday, December 19**

- St Joseph – 9am Mass
- St Joseph – 2pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

**Saturday December 20**

- St Joseph - 11 am Little Giants
- St Joseph - 4pm Confessions
- St Joseph – 5pm Mass
- St Joseph – 6pm Spanish Rosary
- St Joseph – 7pm Spanish Mass

**Sunday, December 21– Fourth Sunday of Advent**

- St Peter – 8:00 am to 8:15am Confession
- St Peter – 8:30 am Mass
- St Joseph – 11 am Mass
- St Joseph – 12:30pm – 2pm OCIA classes
- St Joseph – 5pm Spanish Rosary
- St Joseph – 7pm-9pm Youth Group

