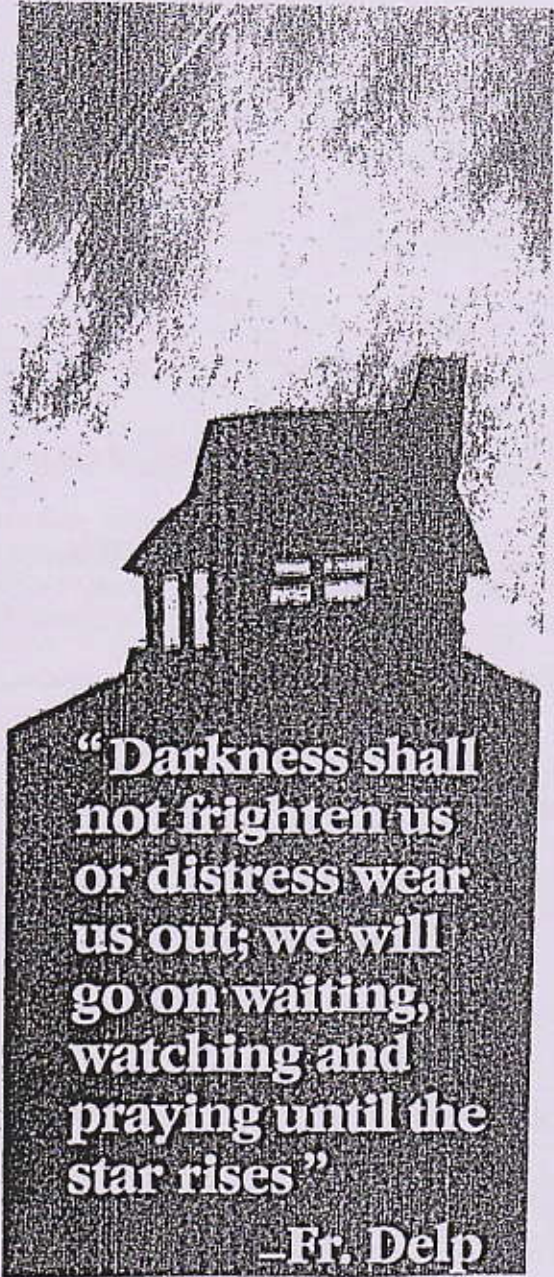


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**“Darkness shall  
not frighten us  
or distress wear  
us out; we will  
go on waiting,  
watching and  
praying until the  
star rises”**

**-Fr. Delp**

Written in prison as a member  
of the German Resistance  
Advent 1944

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 6, 2009**



## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



Thursday,	December 24, Christmas Eve	Family Mass	4:00 PM
Thursday,	December 24, Christmas Eve	Carols	9:30 PM
Thursday,	December 24, Christmas Eve	Vigil Mass	10:00 PM
Friday,	December 25, Christmas Day	Mass	10:00 AM

**ON SUNDAYS OF ADVENT** we will begin with our blessing and lighting of the Advent wreath. Please come early for this liturgy.

**THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION** is Tuesday, December 8. Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 A.M. and 7:00 PM.

**MEMORIAL POINSETTIAS** - You may remember a loved one in a special way by making a donation in their name for the purchase of a Christmas poinsettia for the altar. The names of those memorialized will be published. Forms are in the back of the church. Suggested donation is \$10.00.

**RETIREMENT FOR THE RELIGIOUS** - Next weekend there will be a second collection for Retirement for the Religious.

**PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY.** Please get your pictures in as soon as possible for the parish directory. Photos are taken after any mass. For questions or comments call or email Mark Myers at ([mark@StElizabethPortland.net](mailto:mark@StElizabethPortland.net), or 503-244-3555).

**ANGEL TREE.** Gift tags for Angel Tree are available this weekend. Please remember to bring the gifts for the child you sponsor to St. Elizabeth **BEFORE** Dec. 16. They will be delivered to the children's homes on Dec.19.

**ST. ELIZABETH CHOIR** - Remaining rehearsals for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be held from 7:00 PM to 8:25 PM on **Thurs.** 12/10; Tues. 12/15, and Tues. 12/22 (last rehearsal)

**CHRISTMAS TREE BENEFIT SALE** - L'Arche Nehalem, a faith based community, is proud to announce their 20th Annual Christmas Tree Sale. All proceeds go directly to L'Arche homes, where people with development disabilities live in community. Caregivers share life with the residents, providing them with a nurturing environment. Tree sale locations are 44th and Hancock and 82nd and Burnside. For details visit website <http://www.larche-portland.org/tree-sale.htm>

### **RECONCILIATION SERVICES-**

December 9 7:00 PM  
 December 12 11:00 AM  
 December 22 7:00 PM

St. Cyril, 9210 SW Fifth St., Wilsonville  
 Sacred Heart, SE 11th Avenue and Center Street, Portland  
 Our Lady of the Lake, 8th and A Avenue, Lake Oswego



If the Lord wishes to live in us His self-emptying, His kenosis, it is not likely that He will tolerate in us the fullness and self-congratulation of collective arrogance. Upon whom will His Spirit rest but upon the humble and the poor? This does not mean that occasional or even widespread pride may validly cast doubts upon the truth of the Church: but it does mean that the strength and holiness of the Church are not, at that moment, where they are supposed and claimed to be. Indeed, it may happen that the best Christians are among those who think themselves for some reason or other bad Christians. This, too, may be part of the mystery of Advent, and it can remind us of Christ's way, as recorded in the Gospels: He came most readily and most willingly to those who had most need of Him, that is to the unfortunate, the sinful, the destitute-- those who were "empty."

The Advent mystery is then a mystery of emptiness, of poverty, of limitation. It must be so. Otherwise it could not be a mystery of hope. The Advent mystery is a mystery of beginning, but it is also the mystery of an end. The fullness of time is the end of all that was not yet fullness. It is the completion of all that was still incomplete, all that was still partial. It is the fulfillment in oneness of all that was fragmentary.

The Advent mystery in our own lives is the beginning of the end of all, in us, that is not yet Christ. It is the beginning of the end of unreality. And that is surely a cause of joy! But unfortunately we cling to our unreality, we prefer the part to the whole, we continue to be fragments, we do not want to be "one man in Christ."

(Thomas Merton, *Seasons of Celebration*, Farrar, Straud & Giroux, 1965, pp. 94-95)

### LITURGICAL READINGS

Today: *2nd Sunday of Advent* Baruch 5:1-9/ Psalm 126/ Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11/ Luke 3:1-6

Monday: Isaiah 35:1-10/ Psalm 85/ Luke 5:17-26

Tuesday: *The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary* Genesis 3:

Wednesday: Isaiah 40:25-31/ Psalm 103/ Matthew 11:28-30

Thursday: Isaiah 41:13-20/ Psalm 145/ Matthew 11:11-15

Friday: Isaiah 48:17-19/ Psalm 1/ Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday: *Our Lady of Guadalupe* Zechariah 2:14-17/ Judith 13:18bcde, 19/

Luke 1:26-38

Next Sunday: *3rd Sunday of Advent* Zephaniah 3:14-18a/ Isaiah 12:2-6/ Philippians 4:4-7/

Luke 3:10-18

**COLLECTION FOR THANKSGIVING:** \$304.00 (To be given to Simple Supper)

**COLLECTION FOR LAST SUNDAY:** \$3,704.00

**CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT:** \$140.00 Thank you.

### HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

9:00 AM: Karl and Barb Wetzel 11:00 AM: The Nisbet Family

If you cannot fulfill your assignment, please make sure you find a substitute. Thank you.

## ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY PARISH

4112 SW 6th Avenue Drive

Portland, OR 97239

(503)222-2168 \* FAX (503)274-2438 \* [www.stelizabethportland.net](http://www.stelizabethportland.net)

### SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 8:30 a.m.

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Reconciliation: Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

Baptism and Anointing of the Sick: Please call the parish office.

Marriage: Six months' notice required.

### PARISH STAFF

Rev. James M. Kolb, C.S.P., Administrator

Joan Enright, Secretary - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Monday-Friday

Interested in joining St. Elizabeth Parish? Give us a call. 503-222-2168

### **FAMILY FAITH SHARING QUESTIONS**

#### **Luke 3:1-6**

God spoke to a man named John who was living in the desert. After hearing God's word, John went around the whole area of Jordan telling people to turn away from sin and prepare a path for Jesus to come into their hearts.

Sin is like a roadblock on our path to God and can keep us from fully inviting Jesus into our hearts. Fortunately, we have a loving and merciful God who offers us forgiveness and healing from sin.

*What are some things that are in the way of our path to God? What would you like Jesus to forgive in you? Who can you offer forgiveness to?*

*Go to a parish penance service as a family this Advent!*