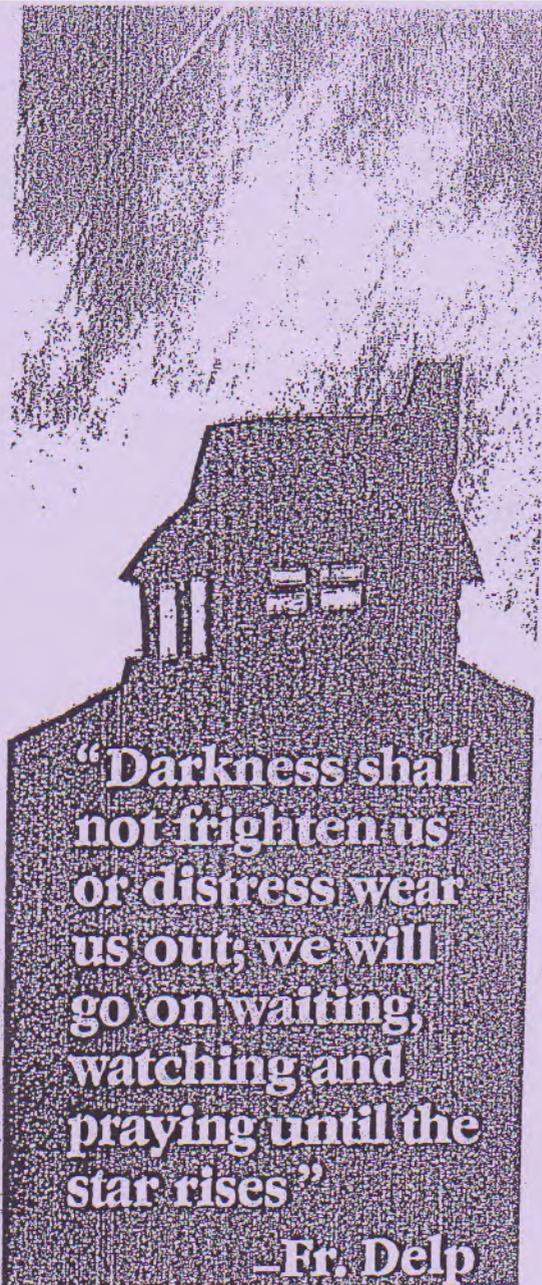


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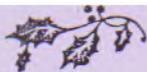


**“Darkness shall
not frighten us
or distress wear
us out; we will
go on waiting,
watching and
praying until the
star rises”**

-Fr. Delp

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

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 4, 2011**



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



Saturday	December 24	Christmas Eve	Family Mass	4:00 PM
Saturday	December 24	Christmas Eve	Carols	9:30 PM
Saturday	December 24	Christmas Eve	Vigil Mass	10:00 PM
Sunday	December 25	Christmas Day	Mass	10:00 AM

THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION is Thursday, December 8. Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 AM and 7:00 PM.

ANGEL TREE TAGS ARE HERE! The Angel Tree program benefits children who have a parent incarcerated in an Oregon prison. An Angel Tree gift is given to a child on behalf of that parent. If you take a gift tag, please give your name and phone number to Gina, Bernie, or Vance at the table in the back of the church and return your **wrapped gift with the tag attached to St. Elizabeth no later than Wednesday, December 14.** If you have questions, please call Gina Bainbridge at 503-244-5196.

THE RETIREMENT FUND FOR THE RELIGIOUS collection will be taken up next weekend.

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.

THANK YOU TO THE WARE FAMILY for providing our beautiful Advent wreath, in continuing the tradition of their mother, Jean, who decorated our church for many years.

Dear Fr. Jim and St. Elizabeth Parishioners,

Thank you for your abundant gifts and donations to our Traveling Crib. Your generosity has filled our shelves and we have a "tower of diapers" to share with our new moms. We are grateful for your commitment to new families and our programs.

Robin, Shawn, Emily, Laura B. Laura M. and Gisela

RECONCILIATION SERVICES - There are many opportunities for people to go to Confession.

Multiple confessors are available.

Tues., Dec. 13	7:00 PM	St. Cyril's	910 SW 5th St., Wilsonville
Thur., Dec. 15	7:00 PM	St. Clare's	8535 SW 19th Avenue, Portland
Mon., Dec. 19	7:00 PM	St. Francis	15651 SW Oregon St., Sherwood
Tues., Dec. 20	7:00 PM	Our Lady of the Lake	8th and A Ave., Lake Oswego
Tues., Dec. 20	7:00 PM	St. Anthony	9905 SW McKenzie St., Tigard

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND

9:00 AM: Mary Hulme

11:00 AM: Julie and Lee Steiner

Today's readings proclaim the great promise of Advent: the Lord will come. The message is double-edged. It offers both threat and comfort. The Second Letter of Peter foresees a terrible holocaust. When the Lord comes, the earth will be swallowed up in fire. Deutero-Isaiah envisions a glorious return from exile. When the Lord comes, the earth will be renewed. John the Baptist holds the key to the paradox. When the Lord comes, he will pour out upon the earth the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

In the purifying fire of conversion the world as we have known it in its sin passes away; from the ashes of its evil emerge the new heavens and the new earth, the promised kingdom of God. We are right to anticipate its coming with joy and yet with dread. We are the world to be transformed in the fire of the Spirit.

Yet the Lord whom we anticipate has already come among us. The power of the Spirit has been unleashed upon the world. The waters of baptism are being poured out. The work of transformation is at hand. It commits us both to exile and to promise. We must continually leave behind the former earth, the former society, the former self marked by sin, dear though they may in their familiarity. We must continually look forward to the kingdom "where the justice of God will reside: as it comes into being to fulfill our every hope.

It is uncomfortable to be an Advent people, caught between a world that is dying and a world being born. Yet we may not stand idle between history and promise. We have work to do. There are valleys of want to be filled in, mountains of injustice to be brought low. We have a highway to build for our God through the wilderness of our hearts and our societies. To us it is given to make ready the new heavens and the new earth so that the message of the Lord's coming may indeed be good news to all the world.

LITURGICAL READINGS

Today: 2nd Sunday of Advent. Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11, Psalm 85/ 2 Peter 3:8-14/
Mark 1:1-8

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

Tuesday: St. Nicholas. Isaiah 40:1-11/ Psalm 96/ Matthew 18:12-14

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

Thursday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Genesis 3:9-15,20/
Psalm 98/ Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12/ Luke 1:26-38

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

Saturday: Sirach 48:1-4,9-11/ Psalm 80/ Matthew 17:9a,10-13

Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent. Isaiah 61:1-2a,10-11/ (Ps) Luke 1:46-50,53-54/
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24/ John 1:6-8,19-28

COLLECTION FOR LAST SUNDAY: \$7,675.26 **THANKSGIVING:** \$543.00 Thank you for your generosity..

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY PARISH

4112 SW 6th Avenue Drive

Portland, OR 97239

(503)222-2168 * FAX (503)274-2438 * 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.

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., Pastor

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

Second Sunday of Advent

Mark 1:1-8

On this Second Sunday of Advent, we hear a passage from the beginning of Mark's Gospel. These verses remind us of Isaiah's prophecy, which tells about the coming of the Messiah and is found in the Hebrew Testament. This text provides a rich and very colorful description of John the Baptist and his ministry, telling us how he baptized people in the Jordan River and told them about the "Mighty One" who was yet to come! It is a reminder to us of our commitment to our own baptism, that wonderful sacrament through which we were welcomed into our faith community.

Advent is a great time to recommit ourselves and our families to practicing our faith. Remember St. Nicholas Day is just around the corner. Take time to learn what this great saint actually did to earn the place of honor in this season of preparation.

How can we prepare our home (and heart!) so that each of us can be ready for the presence of Jesus in our life?