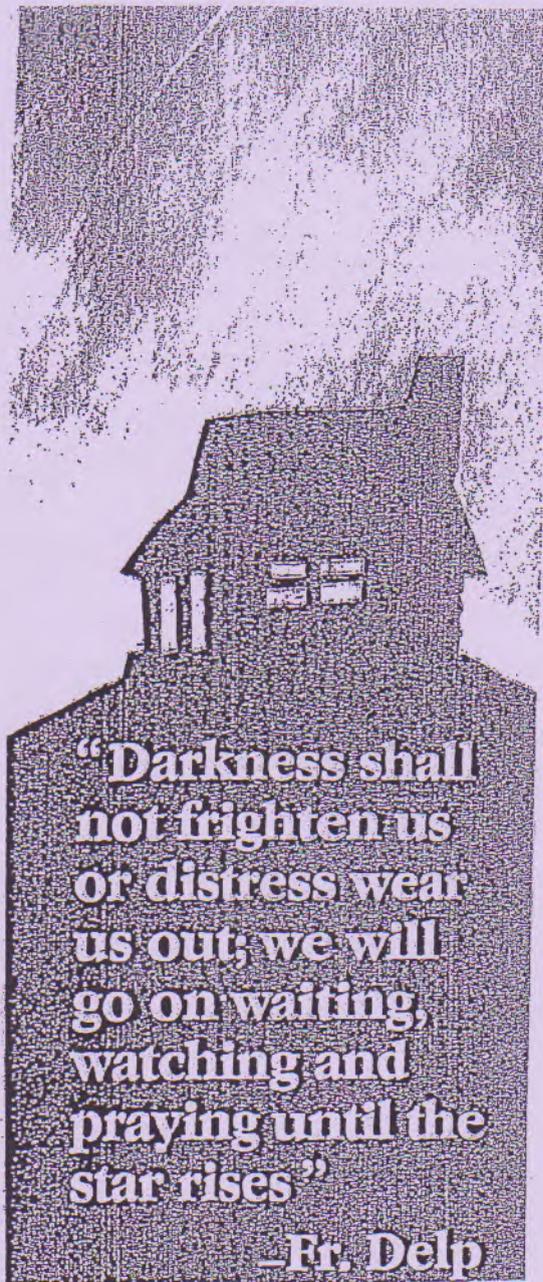


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**“Darkness shall
not frighten us
or distress wear
us out; we will
go on waiting,
watching and
praying until the
star rises”**

-Fr. Delp

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

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 9, 2012**



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



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

Please post on your refrigerator or bulletin board!

PLEASE COME EARLY ON THE SUNDAYS OF ADVENT for the lighting of the Advent Wreath, so we can begin Mass on time.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR THE RELIGIOUS –Show your thanks for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to this week's collection for the *Retirement Fund for Religious*.

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 the person at the Angel Tree table in the back of the church and **return your wrapped gift with the tag attached to St. Elizabeth no later than Sunday, December 16th**. If you have questions, or can help with sorting gifts or delivering them on December 22nd, please call Gina Bainbridge @ 503-244-5196.

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 once again our beautiful Advent wreath, in continuing the tradition of their mother, Jean, who decorated our church for many years.

Dear St. Elizabeth Parishioners,

Thank you for your generosity with the Travelling Crib. The clothing, diapers and bath items came at the perfect time. We are always blessed by your outpouring of gifts.

Blessings this Advent season,

Catholic Charities Pregnancy Support Staff

ALL GRADE SCHOOL CHILDREN who are participating in the music at the 4:00 PM Family Mass on Christmas Eve will meet at the "Little House" at 10:00 AM on Sunday, December 16 and Sunday, December 23 for practice.

Today's gospel deals with the Baptist, that herald of an extraordinary event. The evangelist reports John's cry raised in the desert. He describes his mission to us: to prepare the way, to make straight the road. After a long silence during which there have been no more signs or prophets, God speaks anew. The echo of his voice rumbles across the solitudes announcing a decisive turning point in the history of the world. In an ultimate intervention which fulfills and overflows the ancient hopes, God will come.

But how? Will he show his presence like a meteor leaving a fiery trail across the lower regions of the atmosphere before pursuing its course through the starry night? Will we only catch a glimpse, in the space of a flash of lightning, and then fall once again into the darkness which covers the world? No, for this Word which erupts into time changes all human history: "All flesh shall see the salvation of God." But to see him we must first die to ourselves in conversion. That is John's message.

It is in the midst of the discordant voices of history that God makes himself heard. By its life of justice, the community of believers ceaselessly sounds forth the invitation to humanity's new exodus.

LITURGICAL READINGS

Today:	<u>Second Sunday of Advent.</u> 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:	Isaiah 40:1-11/ Psalm 96/ Matthew 18:12-14
Wednesday:	<u>Our Lady of Guadalupe.</u> Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/ Judith 13:18bcde, 19/ Luke 1:39-47
Thursday:	<u>St. Lucy.</u> Isaiah 41:13-20/ Psalm 145/ Matthew 11:11-15
Friday:	<u>St. John of the Cross.</u> Isaiah 48:17-19/ Psalm 1/ Matthew 11:16-19
Saturday:	Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11/ Psalm 80/ Matthew 17:10-13
Next Sunday:	<u>Third Sunday of Advent.</u> Zephaniah 3:14-18a/ Isaiah 12:2-6/ Philippians 4:4-7/ Luke 3:10-18

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES:

Tuesday	December 18	Our Lady of the Lake, 790 A Ave., Lake Oswego, 7:00 P.M.
Wednesday	December 19	St. Philip Neri, 2408 SE 16 th Avenue, 7:00 P.M.

COLLECTION FOR LAST SUNDAY: \$5,168.90

SIMPLE SUPPER: \$556.76 Thank you.

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

10:00 AM: Mary and Dick Adkisson 11:00 AM: Dave and Marge Hartmann

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

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

Luke 3:3-6

John the Baptist's proclamation to prepare the way of the Lord is filled with urgency and concern over readiness to face the glory of God. In this time of preparation, when our calendars fill with social engagements and much needs to be done before Christmas, we can identify with John's joyful urgency. At the same time, John's cry in the desert offers a moment of transcendence: what we are preparing for is the coming of the Lord, who brings justice, wholeness, and right relationship with God. As we approach Christmas, the coming of the Lord grounds our hearts in the joy of preparing his way, even amidst the busyness of our lives.

