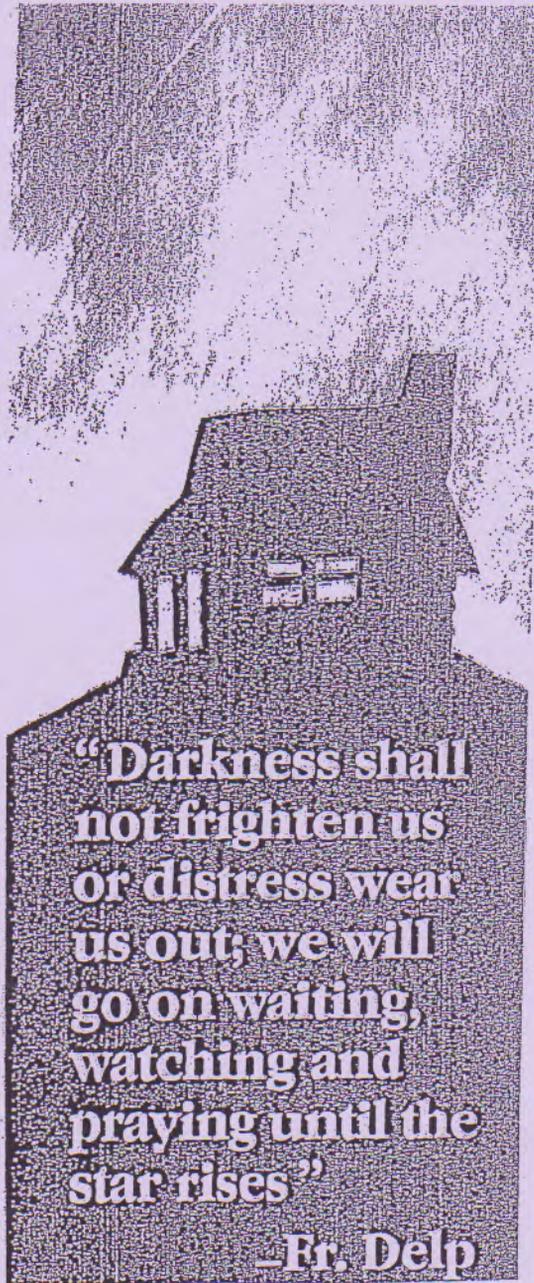


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**“Darkness shall  
not frighten us  
or distress wear  
us out; we will  
go on waiting,  
watching and  
praying until the  
star rises”**

**-Fr. Delp**

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 8, 2013



## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



Tuesday	December 24, Christmas Eve	Family Mass	4:00 PM
Tuesday	December 24, Christmas Eve	Carols	9:30 PM
Tuesday	December 24, Christmas Eve	Vigil Mass	10:00 PM
Wednesday	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.

**THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY** will be celebrated Monday, December 9 at 8:30 AM and 7:00 PM.

**ANGEL TREE TAGS** are available this weekend, Please do not take a tag until you have signed in with the person at the Angel Tree table. Return your wrapped gift with the tag attached to St. Elizabeth's no later than Sunday, December 15. If you have questions or can help with sorting gifts on Dec. 18 or delivering them on December 21, please call Gina Bainbridge at 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. Forms are in the back of the church. Suggested donation is \$10.00.

*Dear Fr. Jim and Parishioners,*

*Thank you for your amazing generosity in filling the Traveling Crib (Twice!) For the first time in months our shelves are full of diapers and clothes for us to share. We are grateful for your annual support to our Pregnancy Support program.*

*Blessings,*

*Catholic Charities Pregnancy Support Staff*

**ADVENT PRAYER AND DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS** are available in the back of the church. Please take only what you will use.

**ALL GRADE SCHOOL CHILDREN** who would like to participate in the music at the 4:00 PM Family Mass on Christmas Eve are invited to meet at the "Little House" at 10:15 AM this Sunday, Dec. 8 and next Sunday, Dec. 15 for practice. Call Laurel Freeborg at 503-287-5376 if you have questions.

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

**READERS** – Your new workbooks are available in the chapel. Please sign for and take your copy.

At the time of John's ministry there were in the desert religious groups who multiplied purification rites. John, however, preached a unique baptism before the judgment, and that baptism was a baptism of repentance. With a prophetic insight, he sees the axe which already strikes at the foundations of the entire world.

John announces that with the coming of the kingdom, a crisis is very near, a crisis which we will only be able to face through penance, the fruit of conversion. Is he not Elijah who has come back for the conversion of all things by the fire? Among his hearers we find men of importance who will bring upon Jesus suffering and pain. John foresees them burning as straw after the harvest. But as the "Voice" of the Messiah he considers himself unworthy of preceding Jesus. His baptism is only of water, not of the Spirit.

We acknowledge our uneasiness before this hard and pure prophet. We must recognize that the God who is both awesome and merciful manifests His power both in the clap of thunder and in the gentle breeze.

The Baptist's message calls Jew and Christian to the realization that we come under God's judgment by living in God's love. "For stern as death is love . . . its flames are a blazing fire" (Song of Songs 8:6). The Baptist keeps us from taking lightly God's love for us. His gospel is an Advent text which forces us to look toward the appearance of the King, who from this day until the last day, separates the chaff from the wheat.

### LITURGICAL READINGS

- Today: Second Sunday of Advent. Isaiah 11:1-10/ Psalm 72/ Romans 15:4-9/  
Matthew 3:1-12
- Monday: 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
- Tuesday: Isaiah 40:1-11/ Psalm 96/ Matthew 18:12-14
- Wednesday: Isaiah 40:25-31/ Psalm 103/ Matthew 11:28-30
- Thursday: Our Lady of Guadalupe. Zechariah 2:14-17/ Judith 13:18bc, 19/ Luke 1:26-38
- Friday: Saint Lucy, virgin, martyr. Isaiah 48:17-19/ Psalm 1/ Matthew 11:16-19
- Saturday: Saint John of the Cross, priest, doctor of the Church. Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11/  
Psalm 80/ Matthew 17:9a, 10-13
- Next Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent. Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10/ Psalm 146/ James 5:7-10/  
Matthew 11:2-11

**HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:** 4:00 PM: Maryann Pierleoni

9:00 AM: Karl and Barbara Wetzel

11:00 AM: Robert and Kelley Bloch

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

**COLLECTION FOR LAST SUNDAY:** \$4,124.50

**THANKSGIVING:** \$445.00 Thank you.

**ADIDAS 50% DISCOUNT** – Once again we have been invited to receive the employee discount at the adidas village store, 5060 N. Greely, through Dec. 16. For access you must bring a completed form with you. Forms are available in the back of the Church.

**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., 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

Matthew 3:1-4

As a prophet, Saint John the Baptist was needed to understand both his world and God's call to the people. Today's passage is replete with warnings and reminders to honor God's covenant more intentionally. As baptized Christians, to some extent we all share in a prophetic mission, bringing our faith and culture into dialogue each day as we live in the world.

