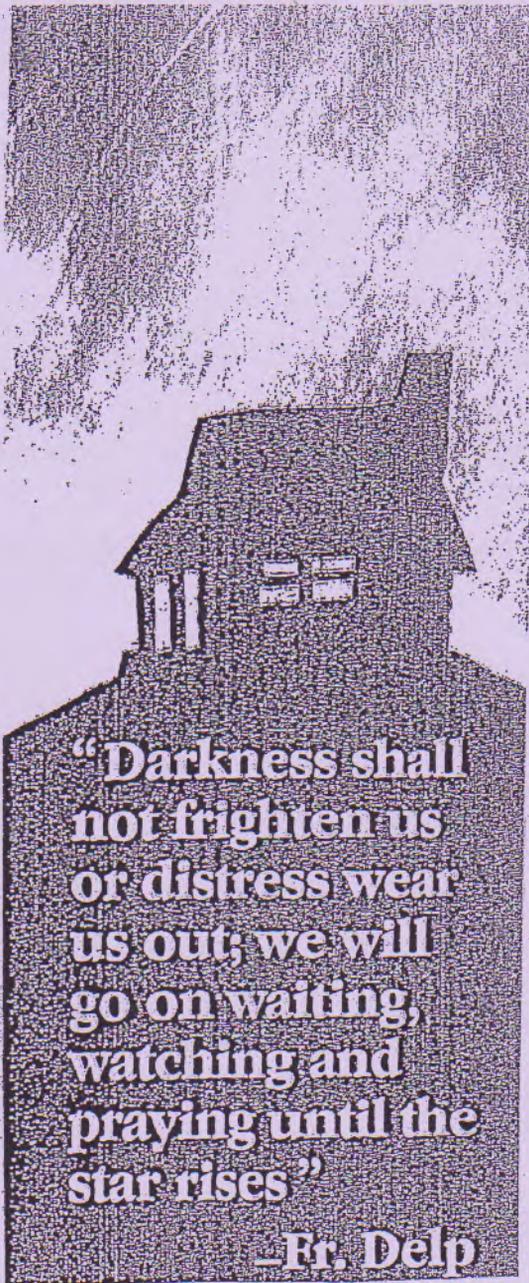


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Written in prison as a member
of the German Resistance
Advent 1944

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 7, 2014



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



Wednesday	December 24, Christmas Eve	Family Mass	4:00 PM
Wednesday	December 24, Christmas Eve	Carols	9:30 PM
Wednesday	December 24, Christmas Eve	Vigil Mass	10:00 PM
Thursday	December 24, 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 8 at 8:30 AM and 7:00 PM.

GIVE THANKS FOR RELIGIOUS. A parishioner writes, "We thank God today and every day for every religious sister who taught us in school, not only our ABC's, but also to love God." Share your gratitude for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next week's collection for the *Retirement Fund for Religious*.

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. Gifts are to be wrapped with the tag affixed to the wrapping and returned to St. Elizabeth's by next Sunday, December 14th. We are still in need of helpers for sorting, driving and delivering gifts to the children. If you can help, please call Gina Bainbridge at 503-244-5196.

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 on the Third and Fourth Sundays of Advent, December 14th and 21st, for practice. We need parent volunteers to sit in to help with the rehearsal. Call Laurel Freebrog at 503-287-5376 if you have questions.

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.

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

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

COLLECTION FOR LAST SUNDAY: \$3,309.90

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT TO DATE: \$3,047.00

Thank you for your generosity!

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 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 be 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:	<u>Second Sunday of Advent.</u> Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11/ Psalm 85/ 2 Peter 3:8-14/ Mark 1:1-8
Monday:	<u>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.</u> 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 28-30
Thursday:	Isaiah 41:13-20/ Psalm 145/ Matthew 11:11-15
Friday:	<u>Our Lady of Guadalupe.</u> Zechariah 2:14-17/ (Psalm) Judith 13:18bc, 19/ Luke 1:26-38
Saturday:	<u>Saint Lucy, virgin, martyr.</u> Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11/ Psalm 80/ Matthew 17:9a, 10-13/
Next Sunday:	<u>Third Sunday of Advent.</u> Isaiah 61:1-2a/ Psalm) Luke 1:46-50, 53-54/ 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24/ John 1:6-8, 19-28

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

4:00 PM: Maryann Pierleoni

9:00 AM: Pam and Arly Dunham 11:00 AM: The Nisbet Family

Please come early. 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

Today's Gospel suggests that there was frenzied excitement among the people to listen to John's prophecy, to reform their lives, and to be baptized in the River Jordan. At the same time, John was a bit of an outcast—he lived apart in the desert, he dressed in coarse clothing, and he ate bugs. He made a difference because he was willing to challenge the status quo and to be seen as a countersign. Advent is a time for us to ask whether our faith makes a difference in the world. Do we appear to the world as full of conviction for the coming of God's Kingdom, or are we content merely to fit in?

