

# St. Joseph Parish, Colbert

## This Sunday, Dec 25 Feast of the Nativity of the Lord

10:00 AM Mass for Christmas Day

## Monday, Dec 26

Parish Office closed for holiday



## Tuesday, Dec 27

Parish Office closed

8:00 am Daily Mass

9:30 am Avalon Nursing Home Mass

10:30 am Northpointe Nursing Home Mass

## Wednesday, Dec 28

Parish Office closed

8:00 am Daily Mass

9:00 am Quilt Charmers

6:00 pm Mid-Week Mass

No RCIA / Symbolon

No Middle School Youth Group



## Thursday, Dec 29

Parish Office closed

8:00 am Daily Mass

2:00 pm Hope House Meal Prep

7:00 pm Knights' Officers & Directors Meeting

## Friday, Dec 30

9:00 am Mass

9:30 am Share the Word



## Saturday, Dec 31

8:30 am Aerobics

4:30 pm Reconciliation

5:30 pm Vigil Mass for Solemnity of Mary

## Next Sunday, Jan 1 Feast of the Solemnity of Mary

8:30 am Mass for Solemnity of Mary

No Religious Ed Classes for Grades K-5

11:00 am Mass for Solemnity of Mary

## Next Monday, Jan 2

Parish Office closed for holiday

*"God's sign is the baby in need of help and in poverty. Exactly the same sign has been given to us.... God's sign is simplicity.... God's sign is that he makes himself small for us. This is how he reigns. He does not come with power and outward splendor. He comes as a baby – defenseless and in need of our help. He does not want to overwhelm us with his strength. He takes away our fear of his greatness. He asks for our love: so he makes himself a child. He wants nothing other from us than our love, through which we spontaneously learn to enter into his feelings, his thoughts, and his will – we learn to live with and to practice with him that humility of renunciation that belongs to the very essence of love. God made himself small so that we could understand him, welcome him, and love him.... Christmas has become the Feast of gifts in imitation of God who has given himself to us. Let us allow our heart, our soul, and our mind to be touched by this fact!"*

Pope Benedict XVI

December 25, 2016

## Knights of Columbus



Becoming a Knight of Columbus can transform your life to support your parish, give back to your community, and grow in your faith. Contact Grand Knight Mike Kerschen at 991-6633 for more information.

Thur, Dec 29 Officers & Directors Meeting at 7:00 PM

Thur, Jan 5 Council Dinner Meeting at 6:30 PM

## No Religious Education or Youth Group

Please be aware that there will be no Religious Education classes for Kindergarten through Grade 5 on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Classes will resume on January 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:55 AM.

Youth Group meetings for Middle School and High School will also not be held during the holidays. Altius Middle School Youth Group will resume on Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. High School Youth Group will meet again on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Enjoy your break from school!



## Bite 2 Go

Last weekend, following all the Masses, members of the Social Justice Ministry were in the gathering space collecting money for the *Bite 2 Go* program of Second Harvest Food Bank. As a parish we have "adopted" 10 children at Midway Elementary to provide them with a packet of food to keep them fed over the weekends. Many times the best and most plentiful food some kids receive comes from programs like *Bite 2 Go*. The team had hoped to raise enough money to meet the costs for a one year commitment to those 10 kids. We are happy to report that they collected 150% of their goal! Thank you to everyone who chipped in. Your generosity will make an immediate impact on children right here in our own area. Thank you!!



## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Beginning in January our practice of having Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament once a month will move from the first Friday of each month to the first Wednesday. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in the monstrance beginning right after the 8:00 AM Mass and will run until 5:30 PM. If you are able, please stop by during the day and spend some time in prayer in the presence of the Lord. Everyone is welcome, stay as long as you like!

## Community Outreach Service Project

In February members of the Women's Guild will get together to weave plastic mats for the homeless. To that end, they need as many plastic grocery bags as they can get. There is a collection bin (blue recycling bin) in the vestibule at the front of the church. They can use any kind of plastic shopping bags. No garbage bags, please! Thank you for help with this worthy project.

Nativity of the Lord

## Women's Guild



The Women's Guild welcomes and includes ALL parish women, in its membership, and all women are invited to join in our social events, fundraising activities, outreach projects and Circle groups. Attending Women's Guild socials is a great way to meet other parish women and learn about all the Guild's activities.

•Health and Fitness Circle Sat mornings at 8:30 AM  
Join us for aerobics!

Book Circle Wed, Jan 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM  
*The Faith Club: A Muslim, A Christian, A Jew - Three Women Searching for Understanding*  
by Ranya Idliby

If you are interested in the Women's Guild, please contact either Sue Kerschen at 464-2984 or Denise Pilgeram at 238-6940.

## Catholic Men's Conference

### Heart's on Fire

Men, you are invited to attend the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Hearts on Fire Catholic Men's Conference entitled *Into the Breach*. The conference is set for Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at St Thomas More beginning at 8:00 AM and concluding with Mass at 4:30 PM with Bishop Thomas Daly as the celebrant. Hear some of the nation's most dynamic Catholic speakers addressing some of the most challenging issues facing Catholic men in the modern world. If you are interested in attending, there is a large group from St Joseph Parish who are planning to attend. Call Deacon Jim Kestell at 466-6110 to sign up!



## Guatemala Book Sale

The Guatemala Book Sale is scheduled for January 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have any books you would like to donate to the sale, kindly leave them in the bin below the Guatemalan bulletin board in the gathering space. All proceeds from the book sale are used to support our Mayan brothers and sisters in Guatemala. Thank you!



## Prayer Shawl Ministry

Several members of the parish gather on a regular basis to work on prayer shawls, which are then given to those in need of prayer and comfort. If you knit or crochet and would like to participate, please feel free to join the next meeting on Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Call Jewel Smalley at 464206 for more information.



## Catholic Charities Collection

Bishop Thomas Daly writes, "Catholic Charities is the Catholic way of proclaiming our fundamental belief that God has taken on our flesh and is recognizable and present in those who are the least in our midst... With Pope Francis we will say to the world that the poor are not invisible, nor forgotten. We must know them, accompany them, care for them, ease their way."

When you receive your Catholic Charities Christmas Collection mailing from the bishop's office, please prayerfully consider a generous gift to support the work of Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Spokane. Thank you!

## Youth Ministry

### Alive Apologetics

Apologetics is the discipline of defending one's faith. This program is designed to develop, increase, and expand understanding and the living out of one's faith. Apologetics will be starting up again after the holidays. Join us on Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

### Altius—Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

For 6<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> Graders: designed as a bridge from the RE K-5 program to the more diverse High School programs. Focusing on understanding the Mass and the sacraments, with a strong emphasis on hands-on projects. Altius will be on break through the holidays. Mark your calendars now for the next meeting on Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. See you there!

### High School Youth Group—Sundays at 7:00 PM.

For 9<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> Graders: focuses on evangelization and proclaiming the salvation in Jesus Christ and our response in faith. We will continue our discussion on our relationship with Christ. We will be taking a break for the holidays. We will meet again on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Join us!!

## Muchas Gracias

During October, members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry as well as the Craft & Hobby Circle of the Women's Guild, along with friends, were busy knitting and crocheting over 150 hats for the Mayan children and young adults in Guatemala. Over the Thanksgiving holiday the hats were all packed and sent to Guatemala with a family from Pasco. Sister Marie, the Director of the medical clinics in Guatemala was kind enough to distribute the hats to the children for us. Last week Sister Marie called to say that while driving into one of the communities that had received the hats, she witnessed a parade of children walking to school with their heads covered by their brightly colored hats! Sister went on to report that the children were waving and yelling "Muchas Gracias!" On behalf of all the children, Sister Marie wanted to thank the parishioners of St Joseph for all you do throughout the year in support of families in Guatemala.



On behalf of the Social Justice Ministry here at St Joseph we thank you as well, for all of your generous support throughout the years. Merry Christmas!

## The Star Will Bring You Here to Me...



If you are interested to read about *The Huron Carol* of which inspired our Christmas celebrations here at St Joseph Parish, you can find the story on the home page of our parish website: stjosephcolbert.org. Enjoy!



Catholic Charities  
Spokane