

# OUR LADY OF THE LAKE CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE EPIPHANY
OF THE LORD
JANUARY 7, 2024

Love God. Love Others. Make Disciples of Jesus Christ.

## Whom Do You Seek?

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."

Matthew 2:1-2

appy New Year. As we enter 2024, full of hope for new life but mindful of all the challenges that we face in our world and personal lives, our liturgy this Sunday places us back in Bethlehem and following the Magi in their search for the Christ. These seekers from the East give us reason to ask a critical question: whom do we seek? Our culture and social media

give us many personalities, opportunities, and diversions to "follow" but *whom* will we choose to seek in this coming year?

The act of seeking is an ancient spiritual practice and, in many ways, describes an openness to learn and discover. We will hear early seekers approach John the Baptist and ask: "Are you the Christ?" (Luke 3:15) Later, John sends two of his disciples to Jesus to ask: "Are you the One who is to come, or shall we wait for another?" (Luke 7:19)

In an age when we can ask our "smart phone" or ChatGPT any question and instantly get an answer and information, we may

have unintentionally disconnected our desire or ability to ponder deep, spiritual questions through prayer, discipline, and/or silence. Sometimes in spiritually seeking or pondering we must simply *love the question*—knowing the answer may only come in God's time.

## The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The Magi followed a star and were led to Bethlehem to encounter Our Lord. Through Confirmation, we have been given the gifts of the Holy Spirit, especially wisdom, understanding, and counsel (prudence) to help us discern our spiritual path to follow Jesus. Perhaps our best understanding might be that the Holy Spirit is guiding us, as individuals and as a Church, as we navigate the troubled waters of our current world.

This weekend, we will celebrate several adult Confirmations of individuals who have been preparing to pro-

fess our faith through study and discernment. Their efforts, and those of the teens preparing for Confirmation this spring, help to renew us as a parish community in seeking the movements of the Holy Spirit in our midst. What is God asking of us? How should be respond individually and as a parish?

We have prayed through Advent and now Christmastide to *Be not afraid, but to Behold the Lamb of God* in our midst. (Isaiah 40:9,10) What spiritual practices will you embrace in the new year to spend time with Our Lord in prayer, seeking direction for your life?

Sometimes seeking requires

sitting still. We are fortunate to have our church open each day for silent prayer with the Eucharist, and every First Friday with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. In the words of St. Paul: "The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:4-7).



—Tom Tomaszek, Pastoral Associate

#### THIS WEEK

Saturday, January 6

7:00am DOGS Men's Group - Naz. 7:30am Mercy Teams Sandwich Making - PH

8:00am CYO Basketball Games - Gym

8:30am Mass 9:15am Reconciliation

10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry - PH:Carp.

4:00pm Choir Practice - PH:Carp

Sunday, January 7

8:00am Music Ensemble Rehearsal - PH:Carp

8:30am Hospitality After Mass - PH

9:00am Mass

10:15am Life Kids & First Sacraments - OLL Sch.

10:15am Middle School Ministry - Naz.

11:15am Mass

12:15pm Confirmation Session - Naz. 7:00pm AA Recovery in Motion - Naz.

**Monday, January 8** 

9:00am Mass

9:30am Bible Timeline - PH

10:00am Awakening Faith - Parish Library

10:00am Centering Prayer - Naz.

1:00pm Take-Down of Christmas Decor 4:00pm CYO Basketball Practice - Gym 6:00pm Knights Monthly Council Mtg - PH 7:00pm Men's God Shots Recovery Grp. - Naz.

7:00pm Boy Scout Mtg. - PH:Carp

**Tuesday, January 9** 

8:30am Mass

11:30am Senior Potluck Luncheon - PH 2:00pm Liturgy Staff Meeting - Beth. 4:00pm CYO Basketball Practice - Gym 4:30pm ACTS Women Retreat Team - Naz.

6:00pm Mass

7:00pm Faith Group Boone - Beth.

7:00pm Liturgy Committee Meeting - Naz.

Wednesday, January 10

6:30am Mass

8:30am Mass

9:30am Vatican II - Naz.

9:30am Leadership Meeting - Beth. 11:00am Charismatic Prayer Group - Lib. 4:00pm CYO Basketball Practice - Gym 6:30pm OLL Choir Rehearsal - PH:Carp

6:30pm OCIA - Lib.

6:30pm Vatican II - Beth.

7:00pm AA OMAR - PH

Thursday, January 11

6:30am Mass

8:30am Mass

9:00am Walking with Purpose - Naz. 10:00am Faith Formation Mtg. - Beth. 4:00pm CYO Basketball Practice - Gym

4:45pm AA Consults - Lib.

5:30pm AA CIR Women's God Shots - Lib. 6:30pm Walking with Purpose - PH:Carp. 7:00pm Facilities & Dev. Mtg. - School Library

7:00pm AA OMAR Meeting - Naz.

Friday, January 12

8:30am Mass 9:30am Christian Mothers Fellowship - Beth.

11:00am Funeral - Clint Huffman

4:00pm CYO Basketball Practice - Gym

8:00pm AA 4th Dimension Meeting - Naz.

Saturday, January 13

7:00am DOGS Men's Group - Naz.

8:00am CYO Basketball Games - Gym

8:30am Mass

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9:15am Reconciliation

Second Sat. Sisterhood - PH 9:30am

11:30am Funeral - Joseph Dunn

4:00pm Choir Practice

5:00pm Mass

Sunday, January 14

7:30am Mass

8:00am Music Ensemble Rehearsal - PH:Carp

8:30am Hospitality After Mass - PH

8:30am K of C Breakfast - PH

9:00am Mass

9:15am Children's Liturgy of the Word - PH:Carp

10:15am Middle School Ministry -Naz.

11:15am Mass

12:30pm Int'l Cath. Deaf Assoc. (ICDA) Mtg. - PH

12:30pm High School Ministry - Parish Lib. 7:00pm Recovery in Motion AA - Naz.

**ABBREVIATIONS KEY:** 

Naz. - Nazareth Room N.J. - New Jerusalem Beth. - Bethlehem Room

Lib. - Parish Library

PH - Parish Hall (Sections: Front,

Middle, Carpet) Sch. - School Kit. - Kitchen

## **Nursery Closed** January 21

(Due to the OLL School Open House.)

## Wine & Cheese Social Saturday Jan. 13 after 5pm Mass



## **Knights Breakfast** Sunday Jan. 14 8-11am



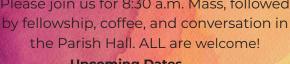
## Awakening Faith: A Group for Returning and **Searching Catholics**



Have you considered returning to the Catholic Church or developing for the first time a more active practice of your Catholic Faith? Your faith may have been passed down to you by your parents or relatives. Maybe you

even attended Catholic schools. Did your faith development stop once you reached adulthood? Truly connecting to your Catholic faith often brings a renewed appreciation of being Catholic. Our Awakening Faith group will meet in the Parish Center - accross the courtyard from the Church on Tuesdays at 7pm starting January 16th. Contact Margaret Jamieson: 503-635-2915, or maggieandmargaret@gmail.com

# Second Saturday Sisterhood Please join us for 8:30 a.m. Mass, followed



**Upcoming Dates** January 13 February 10

**JANUARY 7. 2024** 

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### Our "Spirit of Giving" Season

A Big Thanks to all of you who helped make this year's St. Vin-

cent de Paul "Spirit of Giving Season" a great success. Both the school and Knights of Columbus were a tremendous help for which we are very appreciative.

Our Advent Food Drive portion of our Spirit of Giving resulted in the collection of over 900 pounds of canned food. This is in addition to what you donated in creating the Thanksgiving and Christmas boxes. The Thanksgiving program resulted in 130 food boxes being delivered to St. Peters Catholic Church for distribution to families in SE Portland.

Our recent Christmas box program had 140 families requesting assistance and our Parishioners answered All the members of Our Lady of the Lake St. Vincent the call with the food boxes. Thank you to the Shawl

Ministry who put together the Christmas candy bags.

Your financial donations helped purchase \$25 gift cards for 130 families at Thanksgiving and \$50 gift cards for 140 families at Christmas. They could use them to purchase a turkey or other dinner items of their choice.

According to a November 2023 article by Oregon Food Bank, 1,000,000 people in Oregon and SW Washington will seek out food assistance this year. We are grateful for the Food and Financial assistance Our Lady of the Lake Parishioners provide to our St. Vincent de Paul Conference so we can continue to assist those in need whether it is food, rent or utilities for our Lake Oswego families. We want to make sure that no family in our area goes hungry.

de Paul Chapter wish all a Blessed New Years!





THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

#### **CHILD & FAMILY FAITH FORMATION**



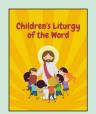
## **Nursery Open Today (Closed 1/21)**

Available during the 9am and 11:15am Masses for children ages 6 months–3 years. No registration required. Contact Krista Bryant at kristab@ollparish.com for info.



## Life Kids, Middle School and First Sacrament Classes Resume Today

Happy New Year, and welcome back!



## Children's Liturgy of the Word

This program is offered Sundays during the 9am Mass. Children sing songs, pray together, and learn the gospel. Contact Melissa Hanifan at melissah@ollparish.com for more information.



## The Feast of the Epiphany

Today we celebrate the Epiphany. It is also called the Feast of the Three Kings. The three kings (or wise men) brought gifts to Jesus after he was born. They were scientists from the East who had studied the

stars, the sun, and the planets. They had heard about Jesus coming to save the world, and so they looked for a sign in the sky. When the brightest star appeared, the kings knew they had to follow it. Like the three kings, we also need to follow the light of Jesus and bring him our gifts, our hearts.



## Blessing Your Home on the Feast of the Epiphany

An Epiphany custom is to bless your home, using chalk to write 20 + C + M + B + 24 above your main doorway. The number of the New Year, 2024, is split at the beginning and the end. C, M, and B are the initials of Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, the traditional names of the three Magi. The initials also represent the

Latin *Christus mansionem benedicat*, which means "May Christ bless this house." To bless your home, gather your family and sing "We Three Kings of Orient Are." Then read Matthew 2:1-12. As you write the numbers on the doorway to your home, pray: "May Christ bless this house." Envelopes with chalk and these instructions are available for you to take home today. You'll find them in baskets at the entrances/exits to the church.

#### Prayer after Communion on Epiphany

Go before us with heavenly light, O Lord, always and everywhere, that we may perceive with clear sight and revere with true affection the mystery in which you have willed us to participate. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

### **Family Faith Events**



Happy New Year! The remaining Family Faith Events will be held on Sundays from 10-11am.

1/21 Knights Free Throw Shooting
Event at 2pm

**2/11** Family Lenten Event

**3/31** Easter Sunday - Family Easter Egg Hunt

**5/12** End of the Year Celebration





## Coming Soon: Announcing Seasons of Hope!

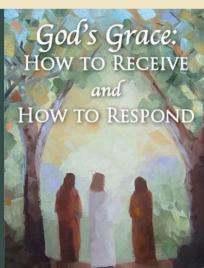
A program for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. The program will run from January 23–April 23, 2024. We will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month from 9:30–11:30am. Watch the bulletin for further details.

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## OLL PARISH MEN'S RETREAT

At Mt. Angel Abbey Guesthouse January 26 - 28, 2024

- Time for silence, personal prayer on the peaceful Abbey grounds, liturgical prayer with the monks, meals and social time with other retreatants, interspersed with six inspiring reflections.
- Check in starts Friday at 3pm. Retreat begins with Vespers at 5:15pm and concludes with Sunday Midday Prayer.
- The retreat fee of \$350
   provides all lodging, meals
   and retreat materials. Retreat
   fee assistance available
   upon request.





Retreat Master, Joel Kibler, is Superior of the Brotherhood of the People of Praise, the Catholic religious community of priests, laymen, married couples and singles of which Bishop Peter Smith and Fr. Charles Wood are members.

Information and online registration at ollparish.com/retreats.

## **Giving Tree Thanks**

Thank you for your generous support of the Advent Giving Tree this year. Car loads of cold weather gear (including 35 sleeping bags), thermals, coats, etc. were delivered weekly to First Christian Church, the Father's Heart, and Rose Haven Day Shelter for Women and Children. Many items went out to some cold, wet people on the very day they arrived. \$1980 in gift cards were distributed to 17 of Martha Mercado's Latino working poor families, and \$285 to Catholic Charities.

The Mother and Child Center, new to the Giving Tree this year, received 16 new car seats, 8 pack 'n plays, 5 strollers, as well as bundles of baby and toddler clothing, baby carriers, blankets, crib sheets, bottles, diapers, etc. The Mother and Child staff were overwhelmed with gratitude for each delivery. Your collective generosity brought hope and comfort to many of Portland's most vulnerable this Christmas season.



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#### Sack Lunch Meals of Mercy

Our Adopt-a-Mission teams deliver an average of 1,200 sack lunches each week to eight missions. We collect sack lunches

and sandwiches during our Drive-Thru Drop-Off held twice a month. Donate sack lunches containing granola bar, chips, Capri Sun fruit punch, apple sauce cup, or PB&J sandwiches. Visit the parish website for pledge sheets and details for the next Drop-Off on **January 14**.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday Street Ministry to the Unsheltered

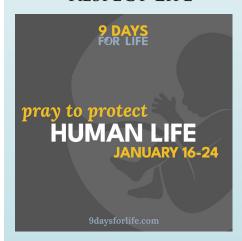
Every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday we share love, socks, and clothing items, a hot breakfast and a sack lunch. Smoothies, water, and hygiene kits are handed out. This is a great hands-on service opportunity for all ages. Our guests look forward to the time we spend and the love we share. To sign up for **January 27<sup>th</sup>** Street Ministry, visit <u>ollparish.com/serve-others</u> and click on Mercy Teams. **Sock Donations:** We welcome donations of new white socks during our drop-offs, or place them in Mercy Teams' space in the parish hall. For more info, contact Michael Backus at mercyteams@ollministry.com or 503-708-9503.

Thank you to Katelyn Alderson for designing our bulletin for the last 4 months while Ann Barba was on maternity leave. Congratulations to the Barba family on the

birth of Veronica, in August. Please email all bulletin requests to annb@ ollparish.com 10 days prior to publish date.



#### RESPECT LIFE



## Celebrate Life at the Life Gala Saturday February 17, 2024

You are cordially invited to join us for a night of celebration, inspiration, and a powerful call to action at the Life Gala hosted by the Archdiocese of Portland. This special evening, featuring insightful speakers Abby Johnson and the Sisters of Life, is dedicated to embracing and cherishing life in all its forms, spotlighting local initiatives, and uniting our community in a shared commitment to uphold the sanctity of life. Please go to archdpdx.org/lifegala for more information or call Sharon at 503-313-3689

Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual Respect Life Novena 9 Days for Life, Tuesday, January 16–Wednesday, January 24. Get daily intentions, brief reflections, and more by email or text message. Sign up at 9daysforlife.com! "Let us pray together for children threatened by the termination of pregnancy and also for people at the end of their lives," -Pope Francis



Join a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Weekend February 16-18 in Portland. If you are suffering after abortion, experience a Rachel's Vineyard healing weekend sponsored by Project Aurora. Call or text Karen 541-350-8126 or email Info@project-aurora.org.for more information.

Pregnancy Help: To help pregnant moms in our own community, please go to: https://www.ollparish.com/love-others/#Respect-Life click on "Pregnancy Services" or call Sharon at 503-313-3689.

**Stand for Life:** Please consider praying at local abortion clinics Thursdays, Fridays or Saturdays. Call Sharon at 503-313-3689 for details.

### <u>Upcoming Events in Our</u> Archdiocese

#### 1/13 Pro-Life Rosary at

Planned Parenthood, 14601 SE Division Street, Portland at 10:30 AM. There will be an interdenominational prayer service following the rosary. Parking is available at St. Joseph the Worker, 2310 SE 148th Avenue If questions, call Jerry 503-260-8995.

#### 1/20 West Coast Walk for Life:

20th Annual Walk for Life West Coast begins at Civic Center Plaza San Francisco. For details, go to walkforlifewc.com.

1/22 USCCB's Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children



Single or Couples
Junior Seniors!
Sr. Seniors!
WELCOME
It's a Tuesday
Luncheon Social!

Who brings what?

Last names A–H: main dish Last names I–P: salad Last names Q–Z: dessert

Potluck occurs on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, 11:30–1:30pm in the Parish Hall.



Start with one of these amazing podcasts: "Bible in a Year" or "Catechism in a Year"

Parishioners who have done these cannot say enough good about how it has fostered a love of Scripture in them, or, with the Catechism, has broadened their understanding of the beauty and depth of their Catholic Faith.

Pick one and let it help you to fulfill your goal to grow in your faith and your love of God.

#### Bible in a Year

https://ascensionpress.com/ pages/biy-registration

#### Catechism in a Year

https://ascensionpress.com/ pages/catechisminayear

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#### **Parish Office Hours**

Mon.-Fri. 9am-4:30pm Located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the OLL Parish Center.

Phone: 503-636-7687

#### **Weekend Mass** Schedule

Sat. 5:00pm Sun. 7:30am, 9am, 11:15am

#### **Daily Mass Schedule**

Mon.-Sat. - 8:30am Tues. - 6:00pm Wed. & Thurs. 6:30am

#### **Church Open Hours**

For quiet prayer Mon. - Fri. 9:30am - 4:30pm

#### **Church Location**

790 A Avenue Lake Oswego, OR 97034

#### **Mailing Address**

650 A Avenue Lake Oswego, OR 97034

#### Reconciliation

Saturday 9:15 - 10:30am and by appointment

## **Eucharistic Adoration**

First Fridays 9:15am-8pm

#### Baptism, Marriage, **Anointing of the Sick**

Contact the office

#### **Bulletin Insert Deadline**

Thursday at 12pm (1 ½ weeks before) Email submissions to annb@ollparish.com.

## **Mass Intentions**

January 6-14, 2024

#### Saturday, January 6

8:30am † Emmett Thornton

5:00pm + Stephen Morriss

#### Sunday, January 7

7:30am Int. For the Parishioners

9:00am Int. Barbara Rizzatti (Living)

Kazi Alwakeel 11:15am

#### Monday, January 8

9:00am † Clarice Donnelly

#### Tuesday, January 9

8:30am † Kevin Reeb

6:00pm † Shannon Dailey

#### Wednesday, January 10

6:30am + Souls in Purgatory

8:30am Int. Jerry and Cindy Monroe

(Living)

#### Thursday, January 11

+ 6:30am Kevin Gilroy

8:30am t Amel Naman

#### Friday, January 12

8:30am Int. Margaret Jamieson (Living)

#### Saturday, January 13

8:30am Int. Sharon Mlinar (Living)

5:00pm † Don Johnson

#### Sunday, January 14

7:30am Int. For the Parishioners

9:00am Domenico Brunetti

Clarence and Marian Feltes 11:15am

To view the Mass Intentions Calendar or request an intention online, visit ollparish.com/intentions.

#### **OLL Parish Staff**

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frjohn@ ollparish.com



Fr. Charles Zach Parochial Vicar frcharlesz@ ollparish.com

**Tom Tomaszek** Pastoral Associate &

Dir. Music & Liturgy tomt@ ollparish.com





Dcn. Kevin Welch deaconkevin@ ollparish.com

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Kimi Tomaszek Sacred Heart Cemetery Coord. cemetery@ ollparish.com



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