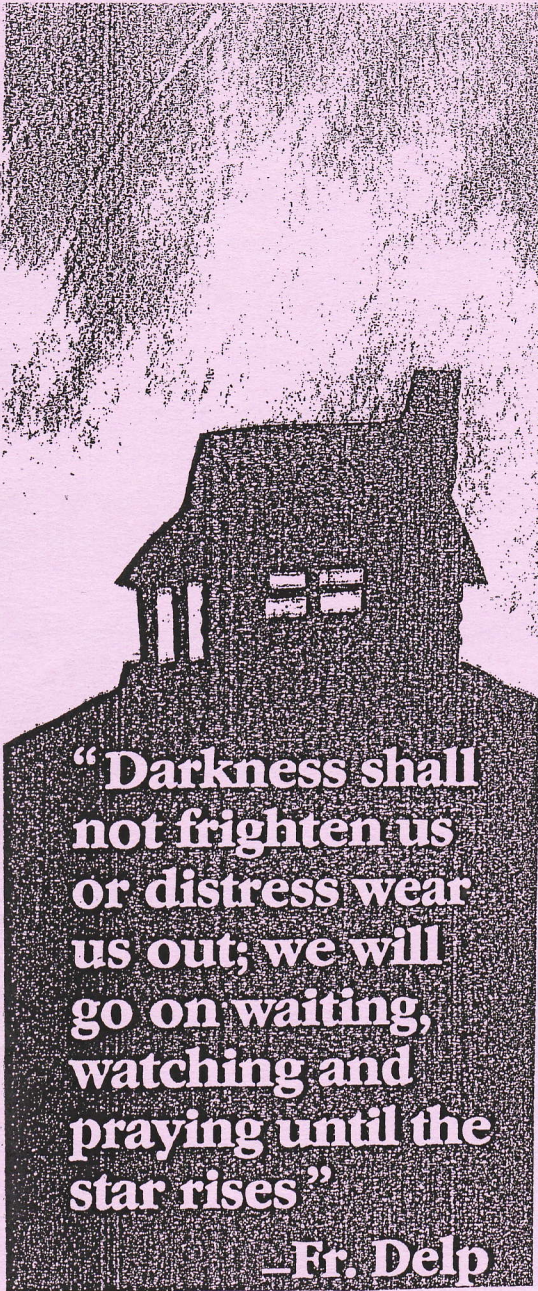


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Written in prison a member  
of the German Resistance  
Advent 1944

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
December 9, 2007





## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



Monday, December 24, Christmas Eve	Family Mass	4:00 P.M.
Monday, December 24, Christmas Eve	Vigil Mass	10:00 P.M.
	Carols	9:30 P.M.
Tuesday, December 25, Christmas Day	Mass	10:00 A.M.

**A JOYFUL WELCOME** to the newest member of the Christian community, **Payten Olivia Roth**, who will be baptized this Saturday. We offer our prayers and best wishes to her parents, **Michael and Theresa Delapaz**.

**RETIREMENT FOR THE RELIGIOUS** - This weekend there will be a second collection for Retirement for the Religious. Please be generous.

**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 o the church. Suggested donation is \$10.00.

**AT HOME WITH THE WORD - 2008 - *Sunday Scriptures and Scripture Insights***  
Again this year we offer these books to help you better understand the scripture readings for the year. They are available for \$8.00.

**CHRISTMAS COOKIES** are needed for our special dinner for Transition Projects on December 16. If you can help, please bring your cookies to the St. Elizabeth kitchen on December 15 or by noon on December 16. Our guests really appreciate them!

**UNDY SUNDAY STRIKES AGAIN!** We are having a 2-weekend-only drive this weekend and next to help our neighbors in need. Baskets are out for socks and underwear. We hope to take them to the Transition Projects dinner on December 16.

**ALL CHILDREN ARE INVITED** to make an ornament to bring to the Christmas Eve Family Mass at 4:00 PM where they may participate in our seven-year tradition of hanging their ornaments on our Christmas tree at the Offertory.

### **RECONCILIATION:**

Wednesday, December 12  
Tuesday, December 18

7:00 PM St. Philip Neri, 2408 SE 16th, Portland  
7:00 PM Our Lady of the Lake, 8th and "A" Avenue, Lake Oswego



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 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: Isaiah 11:1-10/ Psalm 72/ Romans 15:4-9/ Matthew 3:1-12

Monday: Isaiah 35:1-10/ Psalm 85/ Luke 5:177-26

Tuesday: Isaiah 40:1-11/ Psalm 96/ Matthew 18:12-14

Wednesday: *Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe* -

Zechariah 2:14-17/ Psalm 45/ Luke 1:26-38

Thursday: Isaiah 41:13-20/ Psalm 145/ Matthew 11:11-15

Friday: Isaiah 48:17-19/ Psalm 1/ Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11/ Psalm 80/ Matthew 17:9A, 10-13

Next Sunday: Isaiah 35:1-6A, 10/ Psalm 146/ James 5:7-10/

Matthew 11:2-11



**COLLECTION FOR LAST SUNDAY:** \$3,960.51

**SIMPLE SUPPER:** \$455.04

**CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT:** \$80.00

Thank you.

**HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:**

9:00 a.m.: Marila and Greg Kaminski

11:00 a.m.: Maura and Diarmuid O'Scannlain

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

### SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 pm  
Sunday: 9:00 am and 11:00 am  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 8:30 am

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Reconciliation: Saturday at 3:00 pm  
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., Administrator  
Joan Enright, Secretary - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, Monday-Friday

Interested in joining St. Elizabeth Parish? Give us a call. 503-222-2168

The Gospel of Matthew reveals a tension between Christians and the synagogue. It dates from approximately 80 AD and contains nearly all of Mark's Gospel. Matthew also includes material from Luke and John, but this Gospel has its own unique information about Jesus. It begins with introductory material in chapters 1-4

and continues with five distinct sections: 1) the sermon on the mount (in chapters 5-7); 2) information on discipleship (in chapter 10); 3) parables (chapter 13); 4) information on church order (18); and 5) the end of the world (chapter 24). In

Matthew we encounter the Christ of faith and of history. The scribe of this Gospel wrote for the early Jewish community and the text is filled with images of patriarchy, Jewish heritage, ancestry, genealogy, and numerous quotations from the Hebrew Bible. Matthew presents the Beatitudes as the "barometer by which commitment to Christ is to be judged."

