

By day and by night, and through every season, you watch over us, Lord.

We praise you for this Advent wreath.
It is the evergreen crown
of your royal people,
and it shines with the promise
of eternal victory.

By the light of this wreath
we shall wait in patience
for your Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ,
who comforts our fears
and brings hope to the world.

All glory be yours now and forever. Amen.

NOVEMBER 29, 2009

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY CHURCH

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve Friday, December 25, Christmas Day Family Mass Carols Vigil Mass Mass

4:00 PM 9:30 PM 10:00 PM 10:00 AM

8TH ANNUAL ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS/ ST. NICHOLAS DAY CELEBRATION



Please come early for this liturgy.

This Friday evening, December 4 at 6:00 PM.
The Advent of Our God, a service of carols and readings for the season of Advent will be celebrated followed by a potluck supper and the appearance of St. Nicholas himself. Sign-up sheets for the potluck and helpers are in the back of the church. We especially need helpers for Friday morning.

ON SUNDAYS OF ADVENT we will begin with our blessing and lighting of the Advent wreath.

FOOD SUNDAY - Next Sunday is Food Sunday. Please bring some non-perishable food for the Immaculate Heart Parish food bank to help feed the hungry.

SIMPLE SUPPER COLLECTION will be taken up next Sunday for the support of our two monthly dinners on Burnside. Baskets for your free will offering are at the entrances to the church.

PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY. Please get your pictures in as soon as possible for the parish directory. Photos are taken after any mass. You may send a digital photo via email (photos@stelizabethportland.net), or drop off a photograph for us to scan and return. We want photos that clearly show your faces. There will be a memorial page in the directory, so please send in pictures of deceased parishioners. We are selling small business card-sized ads in the parish directory to offset some of the cost. For questions or comments call or email Mark Myers at (mark@StElizabethPortland.net, or 503-244-3555).

ANGEL TREE. Gift tags for Angel Tree will be available next weekend, Dec. 5 and 6. Through the Angel Tree program you may sponsor a child by giving the child a gift on behalf of an incarcerated parent serving time in an Oregon prison. Gifts are to be brought to St. Elizabeth **BEFORE** Dec. 16. They will be delivered to the children's homes on Dec.19.

A PENANCE SERVICE-will be held at St. Clare Church, 8535 SW 19th Ave., on Dec. 1 at7:00 PM.

Advent opens with the proclamation of its perennial promise: the Lord will come. We enter into the season of paradox, when we celebrate the long vigil we are keeping in preparation for the one who has already come.

The first Christian community lived the tension between the two comings of the Lord: that of his earthly ministry and that of his return at the end of time. In preparation for this Parousia of the Son of Man, which they believed to be imminent, they felt a necessity to establish themselves firmly in a holiness beyond reproach. But the Christians whom Luke addresses begin to witness the growth of a new awareness. Although Jesus is always present in the community and he comes for each person at the moment of death, the final coming is not yet. The wait is longer than anticipated.

Therefore the attitude demanded of the faithful is one of permanent vigilance: to be ready for anything, to refuse the evil committed in darkness, to stay awake through unceasing prayer. Just as the Eucharist has as its goal to proclaim the death of the Lord "until he comes" (1 Corinthians 11:26), so also do vigilance and prayer open us to the coming of the reign of God. They call us to stand up and raise our heads by giving us the task of putting a name on human expectation.

LITURGICAL READINGS

Today: First Sunday of Advent Jeremiah 33:14-16/ Psalm 25/

1 Thessalonians 3:12 through 4:2/ Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Monday: Romans 10:9-18/ Psalm 19/ Matthew 4:18-22

Tuesday: Isaiah 11:1-10/ Psalm 72/ Luke 10:21-24 Wednesday: Isaiah 25:6-10a/ Psalm 23/ Matthew 15:29-37

Thursday: Isaiah 26:1-6/ Psalm 118/ Matthew 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Isaiah 29:17-24/ Psalm 27/ Matthew 9:27-31

Saturday: Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26/ Psalm 147/ Matthew 9:35 - 10:1, 5a, 6-8 Next Sunday: Baruch 5:1-9/ Psalm 126/ Philippians1:4-6, 8-11/ Luke 3:1-6

COLLECTION FOR LAST SUNDAY: \$4,652.25

CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT: \$902.00 Thank you.

ST. ELIZABETH CHOIR - Rehearsals for our St. Nicholas celebration, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day are held at 7:00 PM to 8:25 PM. Remaining rehearsal dates are Tues. 12/1; Thurs. 12/10; Tues. 12/15, and Tues. 12/22 (last rehearsal)

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

4:00 PM: Patricia Krajick and Kelly Britz

9:00 AM: Maryla and Greg Kaminski 11:00 AM: Honor Denney and Joan Enright. If you cannot

fulfill your assignment, please make sure you find a substitute. Thank you.



ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY PARISH

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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., Administrator 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

FAMILY FAITH SHARING QUESTIONS

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Today's Gospel talks about the return of Jesus at the end of time. When some people see the signs of Jesus' return they will be afraid. But faithful believers have nothing to fear! Don't spend your time worrying, instead, continue to pray and behave in ways that are pleasing to God.

What are some things that can make our lives more pleasing to God?

What are some behaviors that we need to change?

How can we make more time in our lives to pray?

What are some simple things we can do for others?