

Holy Rosary Edmonds

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 24, 2021

Mass

Mon-Thurs, Sat 8am
Tues 5:30pm
Fri 8:30am (School)
Vigil Sat 5pm
Sunday:
8am
9:30am
11:15am

Mass Livestream

(See website)

Sunday Vigil, Sat 5pm
Recording may be
watched at any time.

Confession

Mon-Sat 7:30-50am
Tues 5-5:20pm
Sat 4:15-4:50pm

Parish Office

630 7th Ave. North,
Edmonds, WA 98020
Phone (425)778-3122
Parish Offices Open by
Appointment Only

Parish Website

HolyRosaryEdmonds.org

Parish School

Phone (425)778-3197
hrsedmonds.org

A Letter from Fr. Vincent

Dear Parishioners,

This coming week on January 25th we will be celebrating the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul. St. Paul, a devote Jew, was persecuting Christians; he was even responsible for some of their deaths. On his way to persecuting more Christians, he was literally knocked off his horse by a flash of light and was blinded. He heard the voice of Jesus: "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" "Who are you, sir?" he replied. And Jesus said to him, "I am Jesus the Nazarene whom you are persecuting." St. Paul was then given instructions to go see a man, whose name was Ananias, who would guide him and heal him. Ananias restored his sight and laid his hands upon him and filled him with the Holy Spirit. We know the rest of the story... St. Paul became the apostle and preacher to the Gentiles who went to Rome where he was martyred for the Faith.

The Conversion of St. Paul is instructive for us in three points:

1. First, no matter where we've been or what we've done God wants to use us as his instruments. Conversion like St. Paul's is going from a life working against God to working for Him, from persecuting Him to honoring Him and respecting Him in the way we behave and treat other people. St. Paul went from persecuting and torturing people to bringing them to Christ.
2. The second point of conversion is the encounter with Christ, to hear His voice. Perhaps the conversion will not be as dramatic as St. Paul's, but in any case, we need to come to a place like St. Paul where we can hear the voice of Christ. St. Paul was sent to seek further instruction. We hear the voice of Christ and seek further instruction in Scripture, the liturgy, and the teachings of the Church. In this way, we learn to be a disciple and to carry Christ to others.
3. Conversion can take place in front of the Lord's presence in the Blessed Sacrament. Many people and saints have discovered that spending time in front of the Blessed Sacrament in adoration has been a source of ongoing conversion. Here before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament we hear the voice of Christ, just being silent, reflecting and listening to our lives and what is going on in and around us. In reality, we should always be in the process of conversion, of more deeply orientating our lives to Christ, striving to be a more faithful disciple. Our new Adoration Chapel is an excellent place to discover this ongoing conversion, a place where it can most certainly happen. Come open and ready and you will be surprised what can and will happen. Consider signing up today to be an adorer in our new Adoration Chapel, just contact Sara at the front office.

In Christ,



Upcoming Events

Jan 23-24:
Adoration Sign-Up
After Masses

9 DAYS FOR LIFE

Thursday, January 21 – Friday, January 29, 2021

Pray one Our Father, 3 Hail Mary's, and one Glory Be each day with the daily intentions and reflections listed below. The full novena, including daily suggested actions and additional information can be found at www.9daysforlife.com.

DAY FOUR: May expectant fathers lovingly support the mothers of their children in welcoming new life.

Reflection: Fatherhood has its origins in God, who chose to reveal Himself to us as Our Father, sending his only Son for the sake of our salvation. Fathers therefore have a special role “in revealing and in reliving on earth the very fatherhood of God” (*Familiaris consortio* 25). Fathers are called to exhibit “generous responsibility for the life conceived under the heart of the mother” (*FC* 25). They are uniquely entrusted with the protection and defense of both mother and child and, in this way, in safeguarding the sanctity of human life. As evidenced in our world today, the role of the father “is of unique and irreplaceable importance” (*FC* 25). Often women choose abortion because they do not have the support of the child’s father, or— even worse—the father of the child pressures her to make the decision to abort. At the same time, it is important to acknowledge with compassion that men can also be overwhelmed by an unexpected pregnancy and that society increasingly tells them that they should have no say in their children’s lives. In the face of these false messages, we pray that expectant fathers will find courage in the example of Saint Joseph—who embraced the role of father amid difficult circumstances—and offer loving, life-affirming support to the mothers of their children.

DAY FIVE: May each person suffering from the loss of a child through abortion find hope and healing in Christ.

Reflection: After more than four decades of legalized abortion, many children’s lives have been ended, and many parents and family members suffer that loss—often in silence. Yet God’s greatest desire is to forgive. No matter how far we have each strayed from His side, He says to us, “Don’t be afraid. Draw close to my heart.” Be assured that it is never too late to seek God’s forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Consider the parable of the Prodigal Son. After repenting of sinning against his father, he returns from far away to seek forgiveness and work as a servant. But the father sees him approaching, runs to warmly embrace him, and hosts a banquet to celebrate his return. So, too, does God welcome all of His repentant children, no matter how serious the sin. Let us turn confidently to Our Lord, Who is love and mercy.

DAY SIX: May expectant mothers choosing adoption receive grace and support in embracing this loving option.

Reflection: Mothers placing their children for adoption often face many challenges along the way. One of the greatest obstacles can be inaccurately perceiving adoption as abandonment. But mothers who make an adoption plan for their children are not abandoning their children. Rather, they are exemplifying the sacrificial love of Christ on the Cross in choosing to do what is best for their children, even at great cost to themselves. Like Christ, they pour out their bodies and souls for the sake of another. The Letter to the Hebrews reminds us that, in the face of fears and trials, we can “hold fast to the hope that lies before us. This we have as an anchor of the soul, sure and firm” (Heb 6:18-19). We pray that each expectant mother choosing adoption will be filled with “the peace of God that surpasses all understanding” (Phil 4:7) as she makes a loving choice for her child. Let us all cling fast to the anchor of hope, for we have received “a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, ‘Abba, Father!’” (Rom 8:15).

DAY SEVEN: May all who support or participate in abortion experience a conversion of heart to seek and receive the Lord's boundless mercy.

Reflection: When God fashioned the human person in His own image and likeness, He destined us for eternal life with Him. Yet because of the sin of our first parents, death entered the world. The book of Genesis recounts the first occasion in which a person takes the life of another, as Cain violently kills his brother Abel. This instance of brother rising up against brother "at the very dawn of history is thus a sad witness of how evil spreads with amazing speed" (*Evangelium vitae* 8). From the time of creation, disregard for human life has continued to spread. When we, like Cain, allow sin to find a place in our hearts, we become blinded to the truth. Sometimes this blindness might be so deep that we fail to recognize the undeniable humanity of unborn children. We may even tragically believe the lie that abortion is an act of compassion. But we know that "life, especially human life, belongs only to God: for this reason whoever attacks human life, in some way attacks God himself" (*EV* 9). Let us pray that all who support abortion will encounter the transforming love of the Father and, with repentant hearts, seek His mercy.

DAY EIGHT: May civic leaders work for the protection of all human life, in every stage and circumstance.

Reflection: The Declaration of Independence boldly affirms that first among our inalienable rights is the right to life, given to us by the Creator. Yet despite being so solemnly proclaimed, the right to life is today threatened and often denied, particularly at the moments when life is most fragile. Our laws should—first and foremost—protect life. But "our highest Court does not recognize children in their mothers' wombs as persons and claims that abortion is a constitutional right. Further, many political leaders work actively to increase access to abortion. Some falsely describe it as health care and even as a basic human right" (*Priorities at the Polls*). Laws and policies that legalize or promote an intrinsic evil like abortion violate the virtue of justice. Those who work as public officials and civic leaders have a duty to serve the common good, and therefore have a profound obligation to safeguard this most fundamental right to life. Through our own prayer, witness, and civic participation, we can encourage our leaders to truly answer their call to protect the rights of all people. For "there can be no true democracy without a recognition of every person's dignity and without respect for his or her rights" (*Evangelium vitae* 101).

DAY NINE: May all who defend life find strength and renewal in the Holy Spirit.

Reflection: God has carefully, tenderly created every person in His own image and likeness, to be in a loving relationship with Himself. From each tiny child knit within a mother's womb, to every person approaching death, all are loved perfectly and completely by God: "It is therefore a service of love which we are all committed to ensure to our neighbor, that his or her life may be always defended and promoted, *especially when it is weak or threatened* [emphasis added]" (*Evangelium vitae* 77). In a world in which those who are most vulnerable are so often overlooked and disregarded, Christ calls us to embrace and uphold the unconditional dignity of every human life. In answering this call, we help to build "a new culture of life, the fruit of the culture of truth and of love" (*EV* 77). May the Holy Spirit continually renew us as we strive to faithfully defend God's gift of life.

Mass Intentions

Mon 1/25 Ed MacMillian †
Tues 1/26 Ronald MacMillian †
5:30pm Connie Hevely †
Weds 1/27 Jim Little †
Thurs 1/28 Marie & Emmet
Palm †
Fri 1/29 Rome Perez †
Sat 1/30 Jim House †

Faithful Departed

Jeannette Wood
Claudette Chomos

Prayer Intentions

Contact the Parish Office
to have special
intentions printed here.



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Contact Sr. Moira at:
smoira@msn.com.

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