

Merry Christmas

St. Barbara
Catholic Church

32416 6th Avenue, Black Diamond,
WA 98010
www.stbarbarachurch.org
Phone: 360-886-2229
Email: office@stbarbarachurch.org
Pastor: Rev. David Rogerson

From the Pastor

There are those who bemoan the commercialization and secularization of Christmas. They go to war against Christmas trees, Santas, glimmering lights, and presents. Our long Catholic tradition is not to war against so much as to confer a deeper spiritual significance. The Bible begins and ends with trees, the trees of life and the knowledge of good and evil. Christmas trees are a reminder that our salvation was won on the wood of the cross. Santa is based on the sainted Nicholas, known for his generosity and care of those in need. Glimmering lights are a clear link to Christ our light so desperately needed in the darker time of year. And presents are forever linked to the great gifts of faith, hope, and love. As a Christmas card greeting reminds us: "This Christmas, I wish you Jesus." On the inside it read: "Isn't it nice to have everything!" Let us take comfort in this spiritual significance of Christmas and, where appropriate, share it with others.

Christmas Blessings,

Fr. Dave



A huge thank you to all of the volunteers who have been so dedicated. We couldn't do it without you!

Kareen & Zbig Kasprzyk, Melinda Johnson, Peng Alarcon, Jill Clayton, Melanie Babyak, Jane McNassar, Stephen Healy, Janie Edelman, Tony Stevenson, Jacquelyn Stevenson, Nick Popper, Matthew Metschan, Arnav Nomula, Adarsh Nomula, Colin Hotchkiss, Lucy Lynch, Gary & Debbie Reed, Susan & Chris Peterson, Teresa Culver, Gary Habenicht, Debbie Suver, Tony Bennett, Cory Schneider, Nate Chilman, Mary Peterson, Mary Pachek, the Metschan Family and all of our altar servers

Thank you to those who brought poinsettias to decorate our Church this Christmas!

Let us Pray

For the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of our brothers and sisters in Christ, especially:

The Baker Family, Debbie & Terry Lane, Hal & Carol Shakerley, Joan Garner, Kristen McTighe, Kiersten Emmett, John Mergens, Michele Kosteckly, Margarethe Halliday, Tim Carstens, Jon Brumbach Sr., Ralph Mitchell, Mike Utley, Lee & Carol Ann Bossom, Bill Mitchell, Bernie Schneider, Fred Hawkins, Kenneth Horn, Susan Horn-Nickelson, Frank Millet & all those listed in the St. Barbara prayer book

Please call the Parish Office to have a name added to the bulletin prayer list.

Visit our website: www.stbarbarachurch.org to join the St. Barbara Prayer Groopit, an online forum for prayer.

St. Barbara Parish Office

Phone: 360-886-2229

Email: office@stbarbarachurch.org

Office Hours: Temporarily Closed

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Don't forget about our parish as you plan your end of the year giving! Donations must be received by December 31 to count toward your 2020 tax filing.

Thank you for your generous support of our parish!

1. Use our Online Giving system: visit www.stbarbarachurch.org/giving to access our Online Giving system. Online Giving is secure and user friendly. You can give one time gifts or set-up recurring weekly, bi-weekly or monthly gifts.
2. Text your gift amount to: 360-215-2890
3. Bring your cash or check donations to Mass or mail donations directly to the Parish Office: St. Barbara, PO Box 189, Black Diamond, WA 98010

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God is on Friday, January 1. Mass will be at 9am in the Main Church. Registration is on our website: www.stbarbarachurch.org.

Reconciliation will be on Saturday, January 2 from 4-4:30pm in the Church.



See Father Dave's Nativity collection like never before! Visit www.stbarbarachurch.org/nativities to learn about where some of Father Dave's favorite pieces come from and hear some of the theology behind them. The traditional Nativity scene is represented in so many interesting ways across different cultures.

Engage with your faith through ministry



Faith Formation PreK–Grade 5

Our Faith Formation program is focused on helping children grow in faith and love for God. PreK–Grade 1 is typically held on Sunday mornings during the 10am Mass. Grades 2-5 would typically meet for class on Wednesday evenings. Children in 2nd Grade prepare for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have taken a family oriented approach. Families are provided with supplies for at home learning and growing in faith as well as weekly activities and online videos to supplement their learning. Registration is available online, forms are also available in the narthex of the Church. Interested in finding out more? Contact Sara Hotchkiss at re@stbarbarachurch.org.

Faith Formation Grades 6-12 & Confirmation Preparation

Our Grade 6-12 program focuses on helping students build their faith by studying the liturgy and history of the Catholic Church, the Sacraments, the lives of the saints, and more. All classes begin in September and end in May. Catholicism 101 is the beginning of the journey and is held on Sunday evenings. Confirmation 2 is the final stage of Confirmation preparation and is held on Tuesday evenings. This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the students are attending classes via Zoom. Interested in finding out more? Contact Valerie Winston Healy at vwh@stbarbarachurch.org.



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Are you an adult 18 years or older interested in finding out more about the Catholic faith? Are you missing one or more of your sacraments? Are you looking to be married in the Catholic Church and need to refresh your faith? Do you simply want to learn more about the faith you already practice? RCIA is for you. RCIA is a journey of faith exploring the Catholic Church, the

important aspects of our Catholic faith, and our personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Interested in finding out more? Contact Valerie Winston Healy at vwh@stbarbarachurch.org.

Catholic Stuff

Faith formation is a life-long endeavor. Our faith, like any essential area of our life, needs attention and refreshment. Join us as we grow together exploring the richness of the Catholic faith. Catholic Stuff is interactive and geared toward helping Catholics enter more deeply into their relationship with God. Various Catholic topics are covered, examples include: Church teachings, beliefs, traditions, sacraments, saints, prayer, liturgy and history. This year, Catholic Stuff has moved online! Email Valerie Winston Healy at vwh@stbarbarachurch.org for access to all of our content!

Knights of Columbus

Calling all men ages 18 and older! Get involved in your faith and make a meaningful difference in your community by becoming a Knight. The Knights have still been hard at work despite the pandemic. They have teamed up with the Black Diamond Community Center to collect non-perishable food items in the bin in front of the Church. Consider buying some extra staples next time you are shopping—items can be left in the bin any time! The Knights also held a very successful Coats for Kids drive to provide kids with a warm coat this winter. Visit www.kofc11736.org to participate in our Vocations program and help our new seminarian: Brody Stewart. For more information about the Knights of Columbus, contact Tony Stevenson, Grand Knight at anthony.stevenson@comcast.net.



Community Meals

Our Wednesday Community Meals program has been hard at work serving those in need in our community. This program has traditionally been instrumental in providing a hot meal and social interaction for community members. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have temporarily transitioned to TO-GO meals. Community members drive up between 5 and 6:30pm on Wednesday evenings for a free hot meal in a TO-GO container. Thank you to all of our volunteers who make this wonderful ministry possible.

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