

DECEMBER 20, 2020 — FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH (ICC)

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ST. JOHN MARY VIANNEY MISSION (SJV)

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DARRINGTON, WA 98241
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Phone: (360) 435-8565 Fax: (360) 435-9732

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PARISH OFFICES ARE OPEN

Monday—Thursday 9:30 a.m. —4:30 p.m.

FRIDAY 9:30 a.m.— noon

Mass times ICC: Saturday 5:00 p.m.

ICC: Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

SJV: 12 noon

You must have a reservation for Masses on Saturday/Sunday.

Daily Mass is Tuesday—Friday and is online only

Mass is Happening but You Must Register!

You must register to attend one of the Masses (see above) at ICC by calling the office at 360-435-8565 Monday-Thursday from 9:30 to 4:30 p.m.

- ◆ You must wear a facemask.
- ◆ No one is admitted after the Mass starts .
- ◆ You must enter through the front door.

Mass at **St. John Vianney** is at **12 noon on Sunday**.
At this time you do not need a reservation.



**ALL ACTIVITIES POSTPONED
UNTIL THE END OF
THIS YEAR**

Looking Ahead...



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

(reservations required)

Thursday, Dec. 24th, 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. (ICC)

Christmas Mass 8 p.m. (SJV)

Friday, December 25th, 9 am & 10:30 a.m. (ICC)

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS SCHEDULE

(reservations required)

Friday, January 1st, 10 a.m. (ICC)

Volunteers Reminder for Christmas Dinner

If you volunteered food for the Christmas dinner, please remember to drop it off in the church kitchen this week. If you offered to help in the kitchen, please check your schedule. If you have questions, please contact Mary Chesney at mchesney47@gmail.com or 360-435-4752. .

GIVING TREE THANK YOU!

Many, many thanks to all who donated gifts, gift cards, and money to our Giving Tree project. The response was amazing! The gifts were so thoughtfully done. . . And clever! The time and effort you put into these gifts is so gratefully appreciated.

Another kindness was putting your gift into a festive bag. That made our wrapping so much easier as we had fewer gifts to wrap. This may be a request for next year.

We ended up with 31 families (including 79 children), a few coming in at the last minute. However, because of your generosity, we had enough gift cards, toys, and money to buy presents for them also.

If you need a receipt for tax purposes for your 2020 tax return, please check with Barb in the office.

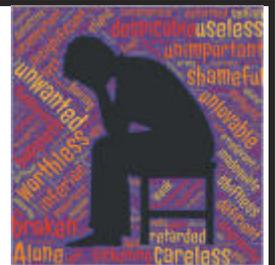


**OUR PARISH'S
GIVING TREE**



DEPRESSED or SUICIDAL?

text 741741 The Crisis Text Line, FREE to Anyone in the US. A crisis worker will text back and continue texting. www.crisistextline.org



Because of the holidays our stewardship of treasure will be published in next Sunday's bulletin.



BROWNIE MIX NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS

We hope to provide 500 boxes of brownie mix for the Arlington food bank for Christmas distribution. Put your boxes of brownie mix in the Food Bank box in the vestibule of the church.

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH GROUP

Beginning January 10th, First Sacraments class will be held every Sunday after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. They will meet in the upstairs hall as usual.

January 3rd will feature a family activity — blessing your house for the new year. Kits will be available.



Are You Waiting?

Does the world realize that it is waiting? As we go about all of the busyness of our lives and entertain our distractions, there are many holes and gaps in our lives that need to be filled. We are always wanting more, but not really sure what that “more” needs to be. Fulfillment, happiness, contentment, and true satisfaction are fleeting occurrences and often come to us in illusive ways. The world does not realize any more today than it did over 2000 years ago that it is waiting for a Savior. We need a Savior. We need to see and embrace the God who has broken into history and become one with us. It is this union of God and man that sets us on a straight path, orders our relationships, establishes proper focus and goals, and tells us whose kingdom we really are meant to serve. The world does not know how truly lost it is. Do you realize how lost you are and that the One you need most is among us and within your grasp?

What is the difference between apostles and disciples

When we look at the gospel accounts of the life of Jesus, we see two special titles applied to his followers: apostles and disciples. At first glance, we might think that these two words are interchangeable, but when we look at what each one means, we quickly see that the evangelists were using them very specifically. When we look more closely, we see that while Jesus had many disciples, the group of apostles was much more limited and referred to Jesus’ closest collaborators.

The word apostle essentially means “one who is sent forth” or, as we might think of it today, “an ambassador.” The group of apostles — sometimes called the Twelve — included those twelve men who formed Jesus’ inner circle (see Mark 3:13-14; Luke 6:12-13). It was this group that received the gift of the Holy Spirit and who were sent out by Jesus with the special mission of forgiving sins on that first Easter Sunday (see John 20:19-23). In time, the Catholic Tradition also recognize Saint Paul and Saint Barnabas as apostles, recognizing that they also shared the mandate of going out in the Lord’s name to pray, to bless, and to preach. In 2016, during the Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis raised the liturgical celebration of Saint Mary Magdalene to the rank of feast, recognizing that she also received a special mandate to proclaim the good news of Jesus’ resurrection to the Eleven, becoming the “apostle to the apostles.” In a particular way, the bishops continue the mission of the apostles in our own time.



When we think of the word disciple, we see that it has a very different meaning. Rather than referring to those who were sent out to carry on the mission of Jesus, disciple literally means “student” or, more specially, an “apprentice learner.” The task of the disciple is to learn and integrate into their lives the teachings, values, and way of life of their master teacher. Although a disciple might be called on to explain or represent aspects of their life, in light of the teachings they receive from this master teacher, Christian discipleship is ultimately about living our lives with faith and integrity, guided by the life and mission of Jesus, our Master Teacher. The call to discipleship is the common vocation of all Christians.



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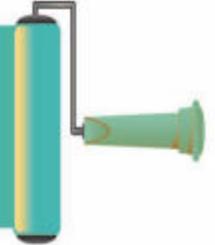
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