

When Jesus does not speak in eloquent sentences, but barks out imperative statements such as in our Gospel reading today, one can understand the urgency. There is no place for flowery language. "Be watchful! Be alert!" One has a sense that these should be written in bold or all caps! He tells the parable of the homeowner leaving his workers at home, with no knowledge of when he would return. Without phones and texts and travel schedules it could have meant the homeowner was returning sometime in the day, or sometime in the coming month or year. So Jesus is not telling us, "You have to behave for a little bit," but rather, "You must live your life and work like the homeowner is always here. You must always be prepared."

#### WATCH!

This author was very aware of the language of "master/ servant" in the Gospel today and is reading it and praying it in light of discussions on racism in recent months. Perhaps this goes with the last imperative at the end of the parable to "Watch!" This year has taught us to be alert in our actions such

#### **OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday - Friday 8:45 a.m. -12:00 p.m.; 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

# **Parish Staff**

**Rev. Greg Korenek, Pastor** Sr. Valerie Janecka, IWBS - Parish Secretary Janet Weaver, Bookkeeper Martha Nichols, PCL/Safe Environment Coordinator Tammy Fikac, PCL Thomas Santos & Tracie Tibiletti, Music Ministry

## **NEW PARISHIONERS WELCOME**

Registration forms online at <u>www.lourdesvictoria.org</u> or email: <u>ollvic@lourdesvictoria.org</u> as social distancing, masks, and sanitizing, as well as in our language and even our thoughts. Now how do we apply that to our spirituality, to our faith? For many, due to restrictions on numbers in church, singing, and choirs, this has meant learning to pray in a whole different way. The celebration of liturgy is the same as ever, with its focus always on the Word and the Eucharist, but for those in the pew, or still watching on livestream, the sense of active participation has taken on a very different meaning from how most of us have experienced liturgy in our lifetime. It feels like we have become spectators rather than participants. Perhaps this challenge can move us from complacency in our faith, to rediscover and relate to God in new ways, and call us to be even stronger in our personal faith. We must remain diligent. We must "watch." We must hope. We must love. We must pray.

Today's Readings: ls 63:16b–17, 19b, 64:2–7; Ps 80:2–3, 15–16, 18–19; 1 Cor 1:3–9; Mk 13:33–37

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#### MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil: Sunday: Daily (Mon-Sat): 4:00 p.m. 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m.

**CONFESSIONS:** 

Saturday 3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. Before daily Mass

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: First Friday - 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

BAPTISMAL INSTRUCTIONS: First Sunday of every month

#### **CHOIR PRACTICE:**

Wednesday Evening



SUNDAY - November 29 - First Sunday of Advent 7:30 am - Joseph Monroe † 10:00 am - Jerome & Edith Krenek †

MONDAY - November 30 8:00 am - Barbara Yanta +

**TUESDAY - December 1** 8:00 am - Mary Ruth Kainer **†** 

WEDNESDAY - December 2 8:00 am - Jimmy & David Hobbs, Carolyn Goldman **†** 

THURSDAY - December 3 8:00 am - Daniel N. Jalufka **†** 

FIRST FRIDAY - December 4 8:00 am - Rick Snow **†** 

FIRST SATURDAY - December 5 8:00 am - Gene Dove 4:00 pm - Clifton Lau **†** 

SUNDAY - December 6 - Second Sunday of Advent 7:30 am - Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Family 10:00 am - Albina & Clarence Bohuslav **†** 

# **READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday:	Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17;
	Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a;
•	Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6;
•	Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday:	Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14;
2	2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Piper Eloisa Lara, Bernice Drost, Mae Jean Willemin, Katrina Marbach, Hailey Vasquez, Lillian Kozielski, Patricia Pooley, Samuel William Bek, Matt Brown, Marvin Kucera, Milton Greeson, E. J. Bammert, Steve & Veronica Serrill, Michael Johnson, Bernita Korenek, Michael Krenek, John Correll, Cheryl Barker, Ruben & Frances Espino, Larry Vitek, Kathleen Edwards, Helen Schoener, Darren Mikulik, Tina Moya, Cole Ohrt, Ramona Perez, Jo Ann Hough, James Rung, Wade Shumbera, Frank & Gloria Wearden, Marjorie Anders, Joe Lara, Dolores Kilgore, Eunice Brosch, Frank Reyes, Jr., Carly Walker, Julius Belicek, Gerald Yankey, Ann Hagel

# **THIS WEEK**

**FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT Collection/Envelope:** Weekly Stewardship

WEDNESDAY - Choir Practice (6:00 pm)

FIRST FRIDAY - ADORATION - 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

FIRST SATURDAY - Confessions: 3:15 pm - 3:45 pm

FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT Collection/Envelope: Weekly Stewardship 2nd Collection: Building Repairs & Maintenance

#### NEXT WEEKEND - December 5/6, 2020



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of HOLY COMMUNION and

**Sat.** 4:00 pm - Standby **Sun.** 7:30 am - Standby **Sun.** 10:00 am - Standby Harvin Suggs Emily Yeary Carol Bludau

**LECTORS** 

#### ALTAR SERVERS:

Sat. 4:00 pm - James Record, Suzie Ryan Sun. 7:30 am - Kalynn & Kylie F. Sun. 10:00 am - Renee B., Cole W-J.

#### **USHERS/Door Monitors**:

Sat. 4:00 pm - John Novak, Norman Schoener Sun. 7:30 am - Kaden Fikac, Michael Fikac, Matt Warwas Sun. 10:00 am - Kaden Fikac, Michael Fikac, Matt Warwas

#### **Question of the Week** How can I give control over to God?

Donations are currently being accepted toward Christmas flowers to decorate our altars through the Christmas season. A contribution envelope is included in the envelope set for your convenience. The Christmas Flower Offering is a beautiful means of remembering those special to us during this holy season.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD)

Thank you for your generous support last week to the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! You have supported those on the margins living in poverty. In addition, 25 percent of funds collected remains in our diocese to fund local anti-poverty projects. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Visit <u>www.usecb.org/nationalcollections</u> and click "How to Give" on the left.

Weekly Offering Due to the early publication deadline of this bulletin, the weekly offertory count for the WEEKEND of November 21/22, 2020, will be printed in a future bulletin.



## FUNDRAISER UPDATE

A craft show and bake sale will be held on Saturday, December  $12^{th}$ , from 8:30 am -3:00 pm and on Sunday, December  $13^{th}$  from 8:00 am-12:00 pm. The raffle drawing will be on December 12th at 3:00 pm.

In addition, there will be 10 barbecued briskets for sale (...first come, first served!



Please, if you have any craft items or baked goods you would like to donate, bring them to the basement on Friday, December 11. Thank you. Diane Heller (550-7710)

Our major fundraiser are the raffle tickets. Lots of raffle tickets are available at the entrance of the Church or in the Rectory. There is no limit on how many you may buy or sell. Money and ticket stubs may be placed in an envelope (with your name written on the outside) and brought to the Rectory or placed in the collection basket. Thank you so much for all your donations and help!

# AN INVITATION TO ADVENT VESPERS

(Live streamed from Amor Meus Spirituality Center)

Despite the pandemic, Amor Meus Spirituality Center is still here for you. Please join us in a Virtual Advent Solemn Vespers at Incarnate Word Convent on the four Sundays of Advent at 5:00 pm – 5:45 pm. You can join us by "liking" our Facebook page at <u>http://</u> <u>www.facebook.com/iwbs.victoria</u> on Sundays, November 29, December 6, 13 and 20, 2020.

Solemn Vespers consists of chanting the psalms, singing the hymns and canticles with a brief talk based on the Advent Sunday Scripture readings.

Advent is a liturgical season of expectation, blending together a penitential spirit, preparation for the second and final coming of the Lord while joyfully getting ready to celebrate the birth of Christ. We joyfully invite you to celebrate these themes with us during the four Solemn Vespers.

The 2021 Our Lady of Lourdes Church calendars have arrived. Each parish family is entitled to a calendar. It is our hope that you display this beautiful calendar, depicting exquisite religious art, in a very prominent space in your home. May God bless you with many happy days during the upcoming year!

#### Nonprofit CARES Act Charitable Contribution Changes

On March 27, the president signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The \$2 trillion legislative package to combat the coronavirus pandemic brings much needed economic relief to employers, employees and individuals impacted by the COVID-19 virus. This legislation made several changes to charitable contribution limitation rules for individuals and corporations.

#### INDIVIDUALS

- Individuals who take the standard deduction on their tax return (non-itemizers) can contribute up to \$300 cash to most 501(c) (3) charitable organizations and claim a new "above-the-line" deduction on their 2020 taxes. Previously, there was no charitable contribution tax deduction available for taxpayers who did not itemize deductions.
- Individuals who itemize their deductions can deduct up t o 100% of their adjusted gross income (AGI) for cash contributions to most 501(c)(3) organizations for 2020. The deduction was previously capped at 60% of AGI for cash contributions.

# - EVENTS ALL AROUND -

#### The 10:00 am Sunday Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Church continues to be live-streamed on Facebook.

- Parishioners should take their temperatures before coming to Mass and should not attend if exhibiting any signs of sickness.
- Parishioners attending Mass are asked to wear a face mask, bandana, scarf, or other covering for the mouth and nose while on church grounds.
- Please follow all civil orders: <u>www.VictoriaTXOEM.org</u>

The popular Little Blue Book for Advent has arrived at OLL parish. A limited number is available for a free will offering.

Also, Little Books can be ordered directly from the website at <u>littlebooks.org</u>. They are available in paper and ebook formats. You can also get all the seasonal books on the Little Books app available for iOS and Android devices. To learn more about the app, go to <u>littlebooks.org/app</u>.

#### **Advent Angel Giving Tree**

Please consider helping the needy in Victoria by supporting the Gabriel Project and Bethlehem Maternity Home. Take an ornament(s) from the tree next to the altar and return your contribution with the angel attached.





#### Ladies of the Altar Society

The Christmas Party (catered meal) will be held on Monday, December 21, 2020, at 6:00 pm in the Church Hall. The member of the year, Elaine Mayer, will be honored also. Please bring a \$10.00 wrapped gift ~ bingo will be played. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by December 7<sup>th</sup> and call Lynette Mayer @ 361-578-9487 or Elaine Mayer @



**The Gabriel Project** invites you to become a Circle of Life donor by offering help, hope, and healing. **Bethlehem Maternity Home** is a ministry of the Gabriel Project of the Crossroads. It is Victoria's first-ever maternity home for preg-

nant homeless women. They are accepting onetime donations, as well as looking for ongoing support and annual sponsors and volunteers. More information may be obtained at <u>https://victoriagabielproject.org/maternity-home</u>.



# December

The Greatest Gift: God comes to us.

See December Family Info Sheet for fun activities!



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