

hh**Sacraments:**

Infant Baptism -- Parents need to contact the pastor regarding instruction/preparation. The sacrament will be scheduled when the parents and pastor are in agreement that the family is ready for this experience.

Initiation of Adults & Older Children (RCIA): Contact the parish.

Reconciliation: Saturday at 4:00pm at Nativity or by appointment (watch bulletin for special reconciliation services).

Matrimony -- Engaged couples need to contact the pastor at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date. They need to participate in a series of instructions. They should make no final decision regarding the wedding date until they and the pastor are in agreement that they are ready for this experience. **Please do not set a wedding date prior to contacting the pastor.**

Sacrament of the Sick and/or Communion for the Sick -- Either the parishioner or a relative should contact the pastor whenever the parishioner is sick and wishes to receive communion or the Sacrament of the Sick.

Confirmation: Adult & Youth; preparation is required. Please contact the parish.

Parish registration: Registration cards are in the vestibule of the church.

Mass Schedules:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm at Nativity

Sunday: 9:00am at Nativity; 11:15am at St. John's

Daily: Wednesday through Friday at 11:00am at Nativity

Holy Days: see bulletin

Rosary: ½ hour before Mass on Sundays

Day	Date	Time	Intention/Feast	Mass Readings
Sun	02/18	9:00am / 11:15am	1 st Sunday of Lent	Gn 9:8-15 / 1 Pt 3:18-22 / Mk 1:12-15
Mon	02/19	No Daily Mass	1 st Weekday of Lent	Lv 19:1-2,11-18 / Mt 25:31-46
Tues	02/20	No Daily Mass	1 st Weekday of Lent	Is 55:10-11 / Mt 6:7-15
Wed	02/21	11:00am (NBVM)	St. Peter Damian	Jon 3:1-10 / Lk 11:29-32
Thurs	02/22	11:00am (NBVM)	Chair of St. Peter	1 Pt 5:1-4 / Mt 16:13-19
Fri	02/23	11:00am (NBVM)	St. Polycarp	Ez 18:21-28 / Mt 5:20-26
Sat	02/24	No Daily Mass	1 st Weekday of Lent	Dt 26:16-19 / Mt 5:43-48
Sat	02/24	5:00pm NBVM	2 nd Sunday of Lent	Gn 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18 / Rom 8:31b-34 / Mk 9:2-10
Sun	02/25	9:00am / 11:15am	2 nd Sunday of Lent	Gn 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18 / Rom 8:31b-34 / Mk 9:2-10

Collection

Collection	NBVM	SJB
Budget per Week	[\$1,338.00]	[\$754.00]
5pm & 9am / 11:15am Sunday		
Building Fund		

Liturgical Ministers for – 02/24/18 to 02/25/18

	NBVM Vigil	NBVM Sunday	SJB Sunday
Server	Ron Haley	Hannah Hisey	Gracie, Christina, Pearl, Gabriel
Lector	Open	Connie Lucero	Tammy Saltmarsh
EME	Deacon Paul	Ron Haley	Tracy Points
Music	Paula	Paula & Jackie	Carol Fiel & “choir”
Hospitality	n/a	Please sign up	Breeden family

Bulletin: Announcements need to be received by Wednesday at 7pm for inclusion in that weekend’s bulletin. Items can be emailed to nbvm.sjb.bulletin@gmail.com or call Deacon Paul at 503-556-0511 or 503-396-8554.

"He is the one who rules the world with justice; he judges the people with equity." (Psalm 9:9)

Announcements

General:

Stations of the Cross are every Friday during Lent followed by a Lenten meal. NBVM at 6:30pm and SJB at 6:00pm.

Don’t forget the Archbishop’s Catholic Appeal.

Our Lenten Reconciliation service will be Wednesday, March 14, at Nativity at 6:30pm. Father Nicholas Marandu will assist Father Mark.

Nativity:

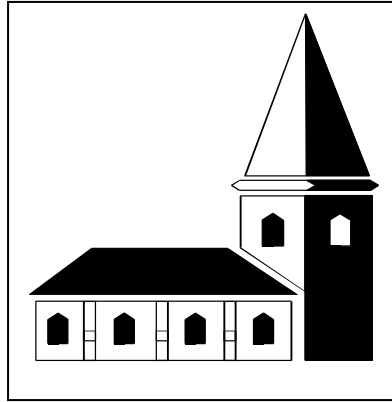
Please remember to sign-up to provide hospitality after Mass.

Bible Study: Every Wednesday at 6:30pm in the hall. All are welcome. You can join any time.

St. Johns:

TURNING POINT: Please remember to contribute to Turning Point when you can.

Ladies’ Bible Study & Reflection is on Thursdays. Adoration is at 9:45am in the Church. After Adoration, everyone meets at Kathy’s. If interested, call Kathy Reandeau at 503-728-3149.



Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

(East 2nd & "D" Street; Rainier)

St. John the Baptist

(100 SW High Street; Clatskanie)

Pastor: Father Mark Gikenyi

P.O. Box 340, Rainier, OR, 97048

mgikenyi@archdpdx.org

(503) 556-5641

Website: <http://www.nativityofbvm.org>

Bulletin email: nbvm.sjb.bulletin@gmail.com

1st Sunday of Lent

February 18, 2018

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The mission of Nativity of the B.V.M. is to know, love, and serve our Lord, by knowing and loving and serving His people, and by being open to our responsibility to all humanity.

NBVM Volunteer Staff

Rev. Mr. (Deacon) Paul Cramer (Permanent Deacon, Bulletin, Communications, Call To Protect) - (503) 556-0511

Linda Bailey (Business Administrator (NBVM & SJB) - (360) 560-3460 (klondikehill@msn.com) **Paula Cramer** (Assistant)

Connie Ramos (Chair of Pastoral Council) - (503) 556-1154; **Ron Haley** (Vice-Chair) (503) 556-2073

Tom Greer (Chair of Finance Council) - (503) 556-9571

Kay Hansen (Parish Office Assistant) - (503) 556-0071

Connie Lucero (503-556-2514) (Liturgy & Environment / RCIA-Rel. Ed. Coordinator)

Jewel Lee (Greeting Cards) - (701) 260-2857

Ron Haley / Paula Cramer (Sacristans/Altar Linens)

Jackie Schiedler (Music Coordinator) - (503) 556-9690

Theresa Jones (Music – when available) - (503) 556-9137

Paula & Deacon Paul Cramer (Scheduling Use of Parish Buildings) - (503) 556-0511

Estrella Brown (Funeral Arrangements/Hospitality) - (503) 728-0249

Iola Pfaff (Flowers for Summer Only) - (503) 556-3049

Russ Lenoir (Maintenance-when Available)

St. John the Baptist

The mission of St. John the Baptist Parish is to be an involved witness to the Gospel, so that each of us may develop more fully our potential for spiritual growth, as we nurture and expand our parish family and help the community around us experience the Lord.

SJB Volunteer Staff

Sandy Hartley (Chair of Pastoral Council) - (503) ***-****; **Suzie Breeden** (Vice-Chair) (503) 728-3045

Larry Reandeau (Chair of Finance Council) – (503) 728-3149

Gloryann Brace (Altar Linens & Covers) - (503) 455-2672

Tracy Points (Rel. Ed. / Youth Ministry Coordinator) - (503) 369-7441

Carol Sluder (Scheduling Use of Church Buildings / Greeting Cards) - (503) 728-3032

Bonnie Romer (Funeral Hospitality Coordinator) - (503) 728-2084

Anita & Gary Laing (Communications) - (503) 728-3991

Frank Taormina (Maintenance-when Available) - (503) 728-0306

As I crossed the great divide of puberty, I formed a vivid image of God. He was a grumpy old man with a frown on his face. Every time anyone tried to have a little fun, he'd shout "Thou shalt not!" But to really live and not just exist, you had to do the daring, "sinful" things. What the Bible calls "sin" is where the action is.

This is what I was taught in the movies I watched and the books I read. It's what I heard in the locker room and in the checkout line, from men and women, young and old. Everybody appeared to accept this as an unquestioned matter of fact. Behind this widespread perception lay a very successful propaganda campaign unparalleled in the history of humanity. In fact it goes back to the very beginnings of humanity. To the Garden.

Think of it for a minute. The triune God, completely sufficient in Himself and needing nothing, decides to create paradise out of chaos in an act of sheer generosity. He creates creatures of all shapes and sizes, and sets, as caretakers of them all, a couple created in God's own image and likeness, with intellect and will, freedom and responsibility.

Their assigned activity is to love one another intimately, to walk daily with God in the cool of the evening, and simply enjoy Paradise. Any duties? Sort of. They had to tend the garden, which was virtually maintenance-free since neither thorn nor thistle, drought nor Japanese beetle had as yet arrived on the scene. And there was one more thing—to avoid eating the fruit of a particular tree, since it would kill them. But how hard was that, given all the other luscious fruit available in the garden?

Then appears a slithering reptile who had given them absolutely nothing. But now he has the nerve to give them advice. "Did God say you'd die if you ate this fruit? Nonsense! He only said that because eating this fruit would make you his equal, and he can't bear that. You see, he created you to enslave you. He wants to keep you under his foot. He's keeping the best for himself. You listen to him and you'll be missing out on real life. You'll be losers forever."

Thus began the deceptive advertising campaign that lasts till this day, the glamorization of death. For that truly is what sin is about, and that's why God says "thou shall not." He is not a crabby prude, but a loving Father. He knows us better than we know ourselves and loves us better than we love ourselves. So he does what every parent does. "Don't touch the stove, you'll get burnt." "Don't play at the top of the stairs—you'll fall and break your neck."

Our first parents believed the liar instead of the Father. They fell and broke their relationship with God and shattered the innocent intimacy they had with one another. Their family fragmented as soon as it started with Cain killing Abel. Thorns and thistles appeared, Paradise was lost, and death came into the world.

Lent begins with the memory of how the first head of the human family buckled under the pressure of the lies. But more importantly, we remember too, how Jesus Christ, the new Adam, went another round with the deceiver and vanquished him through the power of the Word of God.

Our task during these forty days is to examine our lives in light of God's Word and see where we've allowed darkness to creep in, where we've taken the bait of the diabolical fisher of men. It's time to use the sword of the spirit to cut through his web of deception, to free ourselves from the net that holds us as prey.

That is why Lent is called a joyful season of freedom. The purple color of repentance is also the color of royalty—it's the time to recognize our true identity in Christ, time to claim our true birthright as free sons and daughters of a loving Father who happens to be the Almighty King of the Universe.

Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio (Crossroads Initiative / www.crossroadsinitiative.com)