



# DECEMBER 25, 2011 CHRISTMAS



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## MASS INTENTIONS

**Dec 7:30am & 5:30pm**

26 Leo & Nell Hogan, dec

Jack Lynch, dec

27 Lois Schaubel, dec

John Pak

28 Earle A. Chiles, dec

David Correa, dec

29 Poor Souls in Purgatory

Nicholas Wilkenson

30 Ray Fisher, dec

Children of St. Mary's Cathedral

31 Blanchet House

## Week of December 25

**Sunday:** *Christmas Day*

**Sunday:** *Feast of Mary, Mother of God*

## Financial Report for December 18

**Regular Households: 1050      Envelopes used: 218**

**Sunday Envelope Collection:      \$13,055**

**Loose Collection:      \$ 2,273**

**Immaculate Conception:      \$ 100**

**Christmas:      \$ 168**

**School Collection:      \$ 250**

**TOTAL PARISH:      \$15,846**

**Social Services: \$200**

**Retirement for Religious: \$220**

**Flowers for the Cathedral: \$1,229**

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## **CELEBRATION IN OUR PARISH THIS PAST WEEK**

*Baptism:*

Frances Larue Sweterlitsch

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## **SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JANUARY 1**

Numbers 6:22-27

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:16-21

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## **A WORD FROM THE PASTOR**

Some of my best stories come from my interaction with children (remember the old Art Linkletter show, *People are Funny*, and more recently, Bill Cosby's *Kids Say the Darndest Things?*). Recently, I visited the third grade, and I asked the kids, "Why did God become a baby?" One bright little girl raised her hand and said, "So he could be with us longer." Of course! If God came to us as an adult, he might only be with us for a short time. We want people that we love to stay with us for a long time!

But an even better answer to that question came a few years back when I was in another parish with a school. This time, it was second grade, and I asked the same question, "Why did God become a baby?" About 25 hands shot up, and I called upon a little boy who said, very matter-of-factly, "God became a baby so we wouldn't be afraid of him." I was speechless when I heard that response, and I marveled at the wisdom of this little theologian. It was a much better response than I could have given, even after 34 years of priesthood!

So we wouldn't be afraid of him. God could have come to earth in many different ways, as a great king, a political leader, a military officer, a Wall Street broker. But in every guise, there might have been reason for fear. So God chose to come to us as a baby.

I imagine a council in heaven, with God wondering how he can present himself so that people would not be afraid of him. He tried to win the love of his people by giving them great leaders, prophets, and kings. But nothing seemed to work. "They're still afraid of me," I can hear God saying. Then it hit: "I'll come as a baby."

Angels are then dispatched to Bethlehem, and the first thing they say to the shepherds is, "Do not be afraid (it's a baby!). I proclaim to you good news of great joy . . . for today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord!" God came as a baby so that our first response to him would be love.

May your Christmas be filled with the peace and joy of the newborn king. And remember: do not be afraid. God loves us!

*Father Patrick S. Brennan*

## LITURGIES

### *Feast of Mary, Mother of God*

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 31</b>	<b>5:30pm Vigil</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>January 1</b>	<b>7:30am 9am 11am 5:30pm</b>

### *Epiphany*

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>January 7</b>	<b>5:30pm Vigil</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>January 8</b>	<b>7:30am 9am 11am 5:30pm</b>

## THANK YOU!

With deep appreciation to the many who have contributed to Cathedral celebrations:

Parent Coordinators of the 3:30pm Family Mass.

Liturgical Ministers, Sacristans, Ushers, Greeters, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers at all the Masses.

Choir and Musicians.

The myriad of decorating angels who created a beautiful environment.

All who shared their Christmas through our Social Ministry by helping Cares Northwest, Central City Concern, Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program, residents of the Joyce Hotel, Blanchet House, The MacDonald's Center, neighborhood families in need, and NW Portland Ministry's Christmas dinner at Temple Beth.

Our parish staff & volunteers who went beyond the call of duty to lovingly coordinate, orchestrate, and direct our parish celebrations.

**THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL!**

## CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

**Open House:** Cathedral School will be holding our annual Open House on Thursday, January 26, 2012 from 5-8pm. Families are invited to come meet our staff and learn about our school. Children are welcome!

**Please Support Cathedral School** by placing an ad in our 2012 auction catalog or by being a sponsor of our auction. To place an ad, contact Lance Marrs at 503.701.5323 or at [marrsl@hasson.com](mailto:marrsl@hasson.com). For more information about sponsorship, please contact Joe Tennant, at 503.241.1255 or at [josetpacmar@aol.com](mailto:josetpacmar@aol.com).

**The Parish Office** will be closed Monday, December 26 and Monday, January 2.

## FAITH FORMATION

**Baptismal Preparation for Parents of Infants** The next session will be Thursday, January 26 at 7pm in the Cathedral Upper Center. Enter from NW 17th Street.

## STEWARDSHIP

**Charitable Gifts Year-End Cutoff:** According to the IRS, donors must deliver or mail checks on or by **December 31, 2011**. Checks that are mailed and postmarked by December 31 will be deductible for 2011, even if they are not received by the church until 2012. Donations collected at the Vigil Mass on December 31 will be deductible in 2011.

**Thank you** to those who have been using your parishioner numbers on your checks and envelopes. It expedites sorting and counting all the items from the collections. Don't know your number? Call the office and we will be happy to give it to you.

## SOCIAL SERVICES

**Beginning immediately**, those wishing to contribute to the outreach programs of St. Mary's Cathedral are requested to make checks or designate donations to "St. Mary's Cathedral Social Services". While we are an associate of St. Vincent DePaul, we do not solicit funds, nor do we deliver services, in their name. Please call the office if you have any questions.

## OTHER ITEM OF INTEREST

**Catholicism begins again in January:** St. Mary's Cathedral in collaboration with The Archdiocese of Portland will present the last five videos in this groundbreaking documentary film series, starting on January 12. After each episode Deacon Thomas Gornick will facilitate a discussion. Each episode stands on its own; so come for one or all five!

**Christmas Tree Recycling:** Boy Scout Troop 69 will be doing their annual tree recycling at St. Thomas More. You may drop your tree off Sunday, January 1 from Noon to 4pm; Saturday, January 7 from 9am to 4pm or Sunday, January 8 from 11am to 4pm for \$6. The Scouts will also pick up your tree for a \$10 fee (within 8 miles of St. Mary's Cathedral). To arrange pick up, please call Mark at 503.267.8564.

**Oregon Catholic Directory:** The 2012 Oregon Catholic Directory is now available at the parish office. Enclosed in each spiral bound book is a donation form and return envelope to help the publishers of the book cover their cost of production.

**ST. MARY'S  
CATHEDRAL  
OF THE  
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

MOST REV. JOHN G. VLADNY  
ARCHBISHOP OF PORTLAND

**PARISH OFFICE: 503-228-4397**

1716 NW Davis Street  
Portland, Oregon 97209-2120

Fax: 503-242-2568

Web site: [www.maryscathedral.com](http://www.maryscathedral.com)

Hours: 9am to Noon and 1pm to 5pm,  
Monday through Friday. At other times,  
phone messages will be relayed.

**PARISH STAFF:**

Rev. Patrick Brennan, Pastor  
Deacon Thomas Gornick  
Deacon Craig Casey  
Amy Biggs, School Principal  
Paulette Peynet, Director of RCIA  
Stephanie Fisher-Hunt, Director  
    Sunday School of Religion  
Julie Cettina, Bookkeeper  
Elizabeth Stephenson, Administrative Assistant  
Sr. Rita Vistica, Adult Education Coordinator  
Mary Jo Gornick, Receptionist  
Alex Chan, Receptionist  
Angela Westhoff-Johnson, Music Director  
Douglas Schneider, Organist  
Wade Wisler, Chair, Pastoral Council

**SOCIAL SERVICES OFFICE:**

Gail Burke Kingsley, 503-241-2521

**ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL PARISH SCHOOL:**

503-275-9370    Web site: [cathedral-or.org](http://cathedral-or.org)

Cathedral Parish participates with the Westside Perpetual Adoration Chapel located in the Lower Cathedral Center. Chapel hours are from 6am to 6pm. For more information, please call Craig Casey 503-246-9616.

**LITURGIES (MASSES):**

**SATURDAY VIGIL:**

5:30pm Congregational Singing

**SUNDAY MASSES:**

7:30am

9am Congregational Singing

11am Cathedral Choir

5:30pm Contemporary Ensemble

**DAILY MASSES:**

7:30am and 5:30pm

**BAPTISM: Infant & Adults:** Please contact the Parish Office.

**MARRIAGE:** Call the Parish Office. Preferably six months in advance from your wedding date.

**RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS):**

**SATURDAY:** 4-5:15pm.

Other times by appointment.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Celebrate this healing sacrament before your scheduled surgery or hospital stay. Call the Parish Office.

**NEW TO PARISH:** We extend a warm welcome to new parishioners. Registration forms are in the book racks by church entrance.

**BULLETIN NOTICES:** Must be submitted by 5pm Tuesday to the Parish Office or sent to: [office@maryscathedral.org](mailto:office@maryscathedral.org).

### **LITURGICAL MINISTERS - DEC 31 & JAN 1**

#### **Presiders:**

**Vigil** Fr. Patrick Brennan    **11:00** Fr. Patrick Brennan  
**7:30** Fr. Patrick Brennan  
**9:00** Fr. Patrick Brennan    **5:30** TBA

#### **Lectors:**

**Vigil** Michael McCarthy, Ginger McCarthy  
**7:30** Lee Gilbert  
**9:00** Hayden Thomas, Brad Zenger  
**11:00** Greg Carich, Sr. Connie Furseth  
**5:30** Subhuti Lichtman, Neville Mercado

#### **Cantors:**

**Vigil** TBA    **9:00:** TBA  
**11:00** Cathedral Choir  
**5:30** Contemporary Ensemble

#### **Greeters & Ushers:**

**Vigil** Joanne Unger, Ed Geisler  
**9:00** Mary & Richard Unger, Pat Walters, John Carlos,  
Brian Wolf  
**11:00** John Pigott, Sandy Simmons, Lorie Simmons,  
Chris O'Brien

#### **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

**Vigil** Damian D'Souza, Brian Kirkwood  
**7:30** Lee Gilbert, Jane Hoffman  
**9:00** Tim Craven, Steve Brophy, Ann Mephram,  
Helen Heller, Joe & Nikki Schafbuch  
**11:00** Donne Merriman, Eileen Vallone, Esneda Patton  
Vilma Gamolo, Ann Wehrley, Paul Dean  
**5:30** Diane Hood, Margaret Witt, Nathan Jimenez,  
Neill McAuliffe, Andrea Holzner, Amy Brown

#### **Altar Servers:**

**Vigil** Tully & Payton Bush, Emily Buchholz  
**7:30** Jack Clevenger  
**9:00** Declan O'Scannlain  
**11:00** Maria & Peter Bocci  
**5:30** Elise Jawed, Ian Milligan