

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, January 25, 2015

Fr. Marion Nguyen, OSB—Priest Administrator
Dorothy L Conklin—Pastoral Assistant for Administration
John H. Fahey—Pastoral Assistant for Liturgy
James Liberty—Pastoral Assistant for Faith Formation
Laurie Liberty—Pastoral Assistant for Youth Ministry
Andy Leech—Chair, Pastoral Council
George Kushner—Chair, Finance Council
John Chambers—Co-Chair Finance Council

Call 293-2101 to make an appointment.
admin@stmaryanacortes.org
Music@stmaryanacortes.org / liturgy@stmaryanacortes.org
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Tel: 360-293-2101 website: <http://www.stmaryanacortes.org>

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Tue	27	6 pm	Ljubica Spahi	INT
Wed	28	9 am	Glenn Watts	RIP
Thu	29	9 am	Glenn Watts	RIP
Fri	30	9 am	Stanley Stambuk	RIP
Sat	31	9 am	Elaine Lynch	RIP

PERPETUAL ADORATION—OPEN HOURS AVAILABLE

SUN	2 am & 11 pm	THUR	12- 4 am & 11pm
MON	2, 3 & 4 am	FRI	3 & 5 am; Noon & 7 pm
TUE	1, 2, & 4 am	SAT	9, & 11 pm
WED	4 am & 11 pm	Contact Sally 293-3222	

Catholic Schools Week

Please see schedule of events taking place at ICRS this week. Grandparents and seniors are invited to Thursday's luncheon. Please RSVP.

Monday, Jan 26 - Parent Appreciation Day. Parents eat lunch with their students. 1:00 Spelling Bee.

Tuesday, Jan 27 - Adoration at 10:30 to Thank God for all He has given us. Student Council thanks local police and fire fighters.

Wednesday, Jan 28 - Staff Appreciation Day.

Thursday, Jan 29 - Senior Appreciation Day - Mass at 10:30, followed by lunch. Seniors are invited. Please call the school to RSVP, 428-3912.

Friday, Jan 30 - Student Appreciation Day - Reptile Man Assembly and free dress.

Super Bowl Sunday, Feb 1 - ~~PTO Pancake Breakfast~~ CANCELED

The PTO Pancake Breakfast (Feb. 1) is canceled so that we can all cheer on the Seahawks. If you would still like to donate the PTO's effort to bring the Pacific Science Center Science Van to ICRS, you can drop off your donation at the school. Go HAWKS!

Gwen Rodrigues Principal—ICRS
(360) 428-3912 / Fax: (360) 424-8838

From Andy Leech—Pastoral Council Chair

St Mary Church welcomes new parishioners.

At the Masses this weekend and last, St. Mary Parish welcomed 17 new individuals to the congregation—singles, couples and a family with children. Patty Johnson has for a number of years conducted a ministry of welcome for new parishioners. Expanding on Patty's welcome, Fr. Marion will host a reception at the rectory for our newcomers on January 30th. When you meet a newcomer at church—please introduce yourself and continue the ministry of welcome. Thank you.

TAX FRAUD UPDATE FROM ARCHD. OF SEATTLE

Although we have not identified the specific source of the breach affecting the Archdiocese, we do know that members of our community have been the victims of a national tax fraud scheme. Indeed, approximately 5,900 individuals have informed us that they have had a fraudulent tax return filed in their name. We have confirmed that approximately 10% of those individuals **did not** provide us with a Social Security number in connection with a background check over the last nine (9) years, suggesting that there are some individuals whose information may have been compromised elsewhere. The Archdiocese has concluded its investigation, having explored the reasonable leads that we identified in our investigation. Although we have not found anything in our internal systems to suggest they were compromised, we still are committed to making sure that the responsible people are held accountable. As such, we continue to work cooperatively with law enforcement, and understand that they are continuing to investigate this incident as a high priority matter.

This type of crime is a national issue and has been escalating over the last several years. Recently, 60 Minutes did a story regarding this problem, and you can view that story on their website (<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/irs-scam-identity-tax-refund-fraud-60-minutes/>).

Many Archdiocesan volunteers and employees who's Social Security Numbers were submitted to our prior background check vendor for the purpose of having a background check have recently received an Identity Protection Personal Identification Numbers (IP PIN) from the IRS. These IP PINs help the IRS verify a taxpayer's identity and accept their electronic/paper filing, thus preventing someone else from using a stolen Social Security number to file a false return in the taxpayer's name. Accordingly, taxpayers who receive an IP PIN must use it to file their tax return. Here is a link to a sample copy of the CP01A letter that people may be receiving: http://www.irs.gov/pub/notices/cp01a_english.pdf FULL UPDATE AVAILABLE IN KIOSK.

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USCCB EVENTS ON MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

USCCB Speaker on Marriage and Family Life - Dr. Andrew Lichtenwalner will speak on "The Mystery and Vocation of the Family" on **Thursday, February 19, 2015**, at St. Monica Parish, Mercer Island, beginning at 7:00 pm. Dr. Lichtenwalner is the Executive Director of the Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). His presentation will include:

- USCCB initiatives on Marriage and Family Life
- The World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia, September 22-27

The two Synods on the Family

The event is free but we ask that you RSVP to

ocff@seattlearch.org or 206-382-4096 by Thursday, February 12th.

Pilgrimage Trip to World Meeting of Families - The next [World Meeting of Families](#) will be in the United States this September. The Archdiocese is organizing a pilgrimage to Philadelphia for the meeting which will include a Papal Mass. You won't want to miss this opportunity to participate in **Pope Francis' first visit to the U.S.** More information will be available soon. To be placed on the email list for details about this trip, send contact information to ocff@seattlearch.org.

To download the flyer for both of these events, visit [the Faith Formation Events page](#) <http://www.seattlearchdiocese.org/CFF/Resources.aspx>

Jim Thomas—Dir. Of Life, Justice & Peace & Family Life—
Archdiocese of Seattle (800) 950-4970

WSSC Advocacy Bulletin - The Washington State Catholic Conference has initiated a series of bulletins on opportunities for advocacy during the 2015 legislative session. These bulletins will provide updates and action alerts on a regular basis while the legislature is in session. The regular session started on January 12th and is scheduled for 105 days. It is quite possible that an additional 30-day session will be necessary to pass the budget. Based on Catholic teaching, the WSSC is actively engaged in many issues. WSSC's 2015 legislative [priorities](#) are listed in the following categories: Life, Budget, Catholic Schools, Children & Families, Criminal Justice, Economic Justice, Environment, Health Care, Housing and Long-Term Care.

You can make a difference by contacting your two State Representatives and your State Senator on issues impacting poor and vulnerable persons, including the unborn, children, the homeless, and those with mental illness. Timing is very important, so WSSC will provide resources for you to effectively contact your legislators as they are considering an issue. You can also sign up at www.thewssc.org to be on their mailing list.



Congratulations to

Ashley Hardesty and Jay Gruber who tied the knot this past Saturday, January 24th, 2015. *May they always avail themselves to the Grace of God when faced with life's challenges.*

Fr. Marion's Corner

ABORTION

January 22, 1973 was a sad day. 42 years ago, we legalized abortion and a total of 56,993,299 souls have been terminated and the count continues.

When the rich young man came to Jesus and asked him what must he do to gain eternal life, Jesus gave him the commandments. Interestingly, Jesus did not begin with the first commandment which is, "You shall not have strange gods before me." Neither did Jesus give the first commandment pertaining to people which is, "Honor your mother and father," but He begins with, "You shall not kill." Before we can love eternal life, we must love life. How can a Christian nation like ours not understand this simple commandment?

Even as I share with you one argument for life, you can imagine the emotions rising in the debate if another on the opposing side were present. Before we can reach those outside the Catholic faith, we should try first to convince those within the faith. Similar to other areas of life in which we disagree with another, we tend to listen to those we like but refuse to listen to those we do not like. This tendency points to a reality: when we strive to convince another, political correctness and truth correctness take the backseat to emotional correctness. What is our emotional disposition when we discuss/debate critical issues? Are we humble; are we gentle? Do we communicate humility, gentleness and patience? If not, why then are we surprised that the other will not listen to us? My hope is that we not only love life, but also love the person with whom we are striving to share our beliefs and convictions.

There is hope. Abortion has declined from since its peak in 1990 with 1.49 million to 730,322 in 2011. Nevertheless, we ought not to tolerate even one innocent life to be killed; there is still much work to be done. It takes me about an hour to write this reflection; in this time, approximately 137 children have been killed by abortion. Please join me in praying for an end to abortion and find practical means to move our nation to a time when our society become abortion-free. Holy Mary, Mother of all the Unborn, pray for us.

May God bless you and your family,
Fr. Marion