

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH - GIG HARBOR

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY, March 8

8:30 AM Mass (Benjamin Reyes, RIP)
9:30 AM Women's Bible Study
12:00 PM Respect Life Commission Meeting
6:30 PM Men's Prayer Group
7:00 PM RCIA/Inquiry Class

=====

TUESDAY, March 9

8:30 AM Eucharist Service
9:00 AM Contemplative Prayer
10:00 AM Spirituality Meeting
7:00 PM Lenten Penance Service (with confession)
7:00 PM Spirituality Meeting

=====

WEDNESDAY, March 10

8:30 AM Mass (Lynn Gordon, Family of Baby Adele, Special Intention)
9:30 AM Bible Study/What Catholics Believe
4:00 PM RE Classes, Grades 1-5
6:00 PM Baptism Preparation Class Session #2
6:30 PM Men's Bible Study
7:00 PM Landings
7:00 PM Bible Study

=====

THURSDAY, March 11

8:30 AM Mass (Bob Smith, Special Intention)
9:15 AM Benediction & Adoration to 6:30 pm
9:30 AM Spirituality Group
9:45 AM Legion of Mary
7:00 PM Middle School Youth Night
7:00 PM Prayer Group
7:00 PM Music Ministry

=====

FRIDAY, March 12

8:30 AM Mass (Deb MacCallum, Special Intention)
2:15 PM Stations of the Cross (School)
5:00 PM Soup & Bread
5:30 RCIA Family Lent Retreat
6:00 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet
7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

=====

SATURDAY March 13

8:00 AM Blood Drive
4:15 — 5:15 PM Reconciliation
5:30 PM Mass

=====

SUNDAY, March 14

8:30 AM Mass
9:45 AM RE Classes, grades K-5
11:00 AM RE Class Pre-K
11:00 AM CLOWN
11:00 AM Mass
12:30 PM Cenacle Prayer Group
3:00 PM First Communion Family Preparation Session #1
6:30 PM High School Youth Night

=====

Easter Choir...Our parish Easter Choir had a very successful first rehearsal last weekend. We could still use more male voices!!! The next rehearsal will be this Sunday, March 7, 2010 at 3:00 pm in the church. Most of the music is traditional SATB choral music. Choral experience is required. Music-reading ability is preferred. Contact Mark Petersen, 253-370-7811 or airtrafficcomposer@clearwire.net for more information.

Parish Finance News

	<u>Weekend of February 28, 2010</u>		<u>Year to Date</u>
Budget	\$14,400.00	Needed \$	504,000.00
Contributions	15,177.00	Actual	512,706.00
Difference		Plus	8,706.00
SNCEF	\$68,179.00		

A Year For Priests...

"The priest is called to be a father. What is a father? A father is a man who is used by God to bring life. The action of a man in bringing physical life is only the beginning of fatherhood. To bring a child into the world is a very small part, but the fullness of fatherhood is realized only when a father loves, forms, corrects, and leads his children. A father must be present and show tenderness and compassion to his children. He provides his children with food so they may grow and be strong. He provides for their education. He teaches them right from wrong, gives them a moral sense, brings them up in the love and fear of God. He prepares them for society and a world in which they in turn will do the same. That's the role of a man who physically fathers and then loves his children. The same duties are required of a priest as father of the faithful. God has chosen the priest as a spiritual father. The first call of the priest is to love the Church to whom he has committed his life. He is to love God in the Church. He is to be loyal to the Church. Then, as the father of the faith-family, he must teach and challenge his people. He must feed them with the word of God and the Bread of Life."
Sister Briege M. McKenna, O.S.C.



If you would like to read an amazing story of Sister Briege McKenna, O.S.C. and the power of the Eucharist, you'll find it as an insert in this week's bulletin. (When she was 24, Sister Briege was miraculously and instantaneously healed from rheumatoid arthritis during the celebration of the Eucharist and then given the gift of healing.)

My Dear Parishioners,

Thank you for your recent (and surprising) scroll that was presented to me, filled with your personal, hand written, loving expressions. The scroll is beautiful in the sense that it reminds me of the ancient scriptures. Your incredible words, re-affirms to me, your living faith. Thank you for accepting me as your humble priest, and loving me as your ordinary pastor. We are fellow pilgrims on the road to our Father's home in heaven, and I am grateful to share this journey with you. The realization for me in receiving this scroll upon my return from Cambodia, is how much we can accomplish whether in my absence or presence. Love from your pastor. Fr. Hung

=====

Kairos Prison Ministry Needs Cookies... Cookies are needed by March 17th, 2010 for the Kairos retreat at the Women's Correction Center at Purdy. Each day a dozen cookies are distributed to 800 residents for a total of 2400 dozen. Please help by calling Jackie Lermusik 253-858-8624 to volunteer to bake cookies.

=====

The Cambodia Mission Team will be selling items from Cambodia next weekend in the Parish Hall after all three Masses. Please come shop and talk to the team!

Lenten Soup Nights...

- **Friday, March 12th** (Clam Chowder/Hombach Family)
- **Friday, March 19th** (Clam Chowder/Scout Troup #212)
- **Friday, March 26th** (Potato/Betty Blondin)
- **Friday, April 2nd** (Minestrone/Dick Puryear)



A special thank you to Casey Shaffer and the St. Vincent de Paul Society who made the vegetable soup for Friday, February 19th.

Save the date... on Saturday, March 20th at 7:00 pm there will be a concert at St. Nicholas presented by TAJCI. For more information on this talented musician and vocalist you can go online at ldobelieve.com.

Guild Notice... Our Lady of Good Counsel will meet on Monday, March 15th for a luncheon at the Sunset Grill.

Help Wanted... Would you be willing to donate a salad or dessert for a parish funeral reception? With enough cooks on the list, donations should only be needed every 2 or 3 months. Please call **Barbara Patterson, 857-5209** or **Joyce Tovey, 884-3878** for more information or to add your name to the list to help with this wonderful and appreciated parish ministry.

The following information will be published all weekends of Lent:

CATHOLIC QUESTION FOR THE WEEK: TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE BASICS OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH. (ANSWERS OFTEN IN PARAPHRASE.)

**CCC # refers to Catechism of the Catholic Church. Also see the 1983 Code of Canon Law 1249-53.

Holy Mother Church follows the life of Christ in her liturgical seasons. CCC1163

Did you know that the liturgical season of Lent is a 40-day period, beginning Ash Wednesday, for penance, fasting and almsgiving, in preparation for Easter? USCC for Adults, P. 518

Did you know that Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence, and that all Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence? Catholic Source Book 1999, P. 80

Did you know that the law of abstinence (not eating meat) obliges those who are of the age of 14 and older? Catholic Source Book 1999, P. 80

Did you know that the law of fasting allows one full meal? Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal the other full meal. Nothing between meals is permitted with the exception of liquids – milk, juices. This law obliges those who are of the age of 18 to age of 59. NW Progress, Feb. 4, 2010

Did you know that the observance of these laws is a grave obligation? Proportionately grave inconvenience excuses from the laws of fast and abstinence. Catholic Source Book 1999, P. 80

Jesus said, "As long as they have the bridegroom with them they cannot fast. But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them and then they will fast on that day."

Children's Faith Formation... EASTER JOURNEY Is a special time for children and their families to journey through the events of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Morning! We continue this 20+ year tradition this year on Saturday, April 3rd from 9:30 to 11:30 am, followed by the Knights of Columbus Annual Easter Egg Hunt. If you would like to help with this event, please contact Cheryl Jones (cheryljones@centurytel.net: 851-9040).

Youth Ministry... Contact Danny Bailey at the Youth Office, 851-5035, dannybailey@centurytel.net if you have ideas or would like to assist in this ministry.

Middle School CROWD meets on Thursdays at 7:00-8:30 pm. This week continues our Saints series: Saint Maria Goretti. CROWD students...please bring canned food items each week for the St. Vincent de Paul pantry. Don't leave home empty handed!

High School Youth: Sundays 6:30-8:30 pm. March 7, "Show Your Style."

Confirmation: Our next class is March 7.

XLTL: March 14, 6:30-7:30. Hosted by Youth Ministry, XLT is a prayer service with Eucharistic adoration and music by the youth choir. Spend an hour with Jesus and friends!

15 Decade Rosary For Life... Please join us in church this Sunday, February 7th, 2010, to pray our monthly 15 Decade Rosary for Life **THIS SUNDAY**. We begin at 7:00 pm. You will enjoy this meditative time of prayer during this Lenten Season. For questions, call Linda 851-3624.

Spring Work Party... The annual parish campus spring work party will be on Saturday, March 20th from 8:00 am to Noon. If you can lend a hand with yard work, minor maintenance, repair, painting etc. please join us. Call Mark @ 851-9407 with any questions.

Respect Life Commission... will meet at Noon on Monday, March 8th, in room #3. Please bring your ideas for the months ahead. All interested persons are welcome to attend.

Share memories of priests.

We invite you to share your own warm memories or positive experiences with a particular priest who may have inspired your life in a special way. Please limit your stories to no more than 100 words, and email or drop them off in the parish office, parishoffice@centurytel.net. If you have questions, call Norrie Hart, 253-858-2107.

Save The Date! The Visitation Guild will be holding their annual Spring Luncheon & Card Party on Monday, April 26th, 2010 in the Parish Hall from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm.