

### **Thank You to the Parishioners of Verboort**

St. Vincent de Paul Conference of St. Anthony's would like thank all of you who participated in the food drive during the Thanksgiving Holiday. Your generous donations of 1377 pounds of food items and cash donations are greatly appreciated. During the month of November we served 248 households with a total of 1119 individuals to our local communities. We could not do what we do without your help. May God bless you.

### **Choir Practice**

Adult Choir 4-4:30pm. Children's choir practice 5-6pm. Caroling afterwards from 6-6:30pm.

### **Calling All... Angels, Shepherds, Three Kings, and Israelites**

We Need Your Help! This year we will be holding practice for the Children's Christmas vigil Mass on Sunday, December 17th after the 10 am Mass. If you would like to be a part of the Visitation Parish Children's Mass, please contact Lacy Wiley at 971-322-5778 or lacyjwiley@gmail.com or Emmy Kennedy at Kennedy.Emmy@gmail.com. We would like to continue to update our costumes. Please help us by donating costumes, fabric or even your time to sew new costumes. Thank you!

### **Please Be Aware**

We wanted you to let you know not to leave personal items in your vehicle unattended. Earlier this week during the School's Christmas program, a car was broken into and personal items were stolen.

### **2018 Contribution Envelopes**

The 2018 contribution envelopes are ready to be picked up at the entrance of church. If you don't have an assigned box and would like one, there are extras.



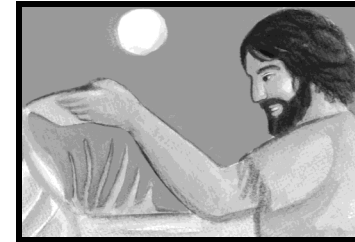
### **VISITATION SCHOOL NEWS**

**No School** - Christmas vacation from Monday, December 18 to Monday, January 1. School resumes on Tuesday, January 2, 2018.

**Visitation Catholic School Annual Appeal** - Visitation Catholic School's 12th Annual Appeal has started. We are hoping to raise \$15,000 to finance school operations and to aid families with needed tuition assistance. The Annual Appeal helps Visitation to continue its tradition of offering a strong academic foundation for all students. Donations can be dropped off at the school office or mailed to: Visitation Catholic School, 4189 NW Visitation Rd, Forest Grove, OR 97116.

**Thank You To Everyone For All Of Your Help On Santa's Workshop!** - We had another very successful year! It is a special gift to be able to watch all of the children come in and shop for their family members. Each child puts such thought and care into each decision. I hope you will treat these decisions with as much joy as they had picking them out when you open them on Christmas morning. I want to again say thank you to everyone who has helped throughout the year and throughout this past week. Thank you also to all of those who donated items.

Santa's Workshop would love to take those used Christmas Bags off your hands. Please consider saving them and dropping them off in the Convent Basement after the New Year! Merry Christmas!  
~Janelle Kelly



**A** man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. — Jn 1:6-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

## **DECEMBER 17, 2017 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

### **VISITATION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH - VERBOORT**

4285 NW Visitation Road  
Forest Grove, Oregon 97116

RECTORY: 503-357-3860

EMERGENCIES: 971-217-5335

PASTOR: Rev. Michael Vuky

EMAIL: [mvuky@yahoo.com](mailto:mvuky@yahoo.com)

Fr. Roberto & Fr. Juan Jose: 503-324-2492, Fax: 503-324-2493

**PRINCIPAL:** Carol Funk

PHONE: 503-357-6990x222

EMAIL: [cfunk@vcsknights.org](mailto:cfunk@vcsknights.org)

**SCHOOL OFFICE:** Lisa McMullen

PHONE: 503-357-6990

FAX: 503-359-0819

EMAIL: [secretary@vcsknights.org](mailto:secretary@vcsknights.org)

Web address: [www.vcsknights.org](http://www.vcsknights.org)

**CHURCH SECRETARY:** Donna Heesacker

EMAIL: [churchsecretary@vcsknights.org](mailto:churchsecretary@vcsknights.org)

**BOOKKEEPER:** Joyce Vanderzanden

PHONE: 503-357-6990

FAX: 503-359-0819

EMAIL: [bookkeeper@vcsknights.org](mailto:bookkeeper@vcsknights.org)

Web address: [www.verboort.org](http://www.verboort.org)

**MUSIC DIRECTORS:**

Sarah Crosby: 503-992-8215

Bethany Stewart: 503-705-5429

Parish Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday @ Noon

**BAPTISMS:** By appointment

**MARRIAGES:** By appointment, at least six months prior to marriage

**NEW FAMILIES:** Kindly register by calling the rectory

**MASS SCHEDULE:**

**Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm**

**Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:00 am**

**CONFESSIONS:**

**Saturday: 4-4:30 pm**

or by appointment

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Sunday	December	17	8:00 am	Norbert Peters † by Melvin & Marie Finegan
			10:00 am	For You and Your Intentions
Monday	December	18	8:00 am	Vera VanDyke † by Family & Friends
Tuesday	December	19	8:00 am	For the Living & Deceased Members of the Visitation Altar Society
Wednesday	December	20	8:00 am	Marlene VanDyke † by Joan Vandehey & Family
Thursday	December	21	8:00 am	Francis & June Noll † by Family
Friday	December	22	8:00 am	Art Coussens † by Joyce VanDyke
Saturday	December	23	5:00 pm	Sandy Marshall † by Marv & Carolyn Vanaken and Family

**Weekday Servers:**

December 18th-22nd: Volunteers

**December 9th & 10th**

**Your Gift to God**

Envelopes & Checks: \$4,066.00

Loose Collection: \$366.34

Ret. Fund for Religious: \$1,643.16

Building Fund for Capital: \$1,200.00



**Weekend Masses For December 23rd & 24th**

Mass times	5:00 PM - Saturday	8:00 AM - Sunday	10:00 AM - Sunday
Lectors	Byron Schmidlkofer	Rich Paris	Donna Vandehey
Eucharistic Host Minister	Paul Hepler	Mel Finegan	Cheryl Eckler
Eucharistic Cup Ministers	Donna Heesacker Scott Stewart	Lorna Vandecoevering Jennifer Finegan	Patty Vanderzanden Paul Heesacker
Ushers	Lawrence Peters Denis Giesbers	Tom Herinckx Gary Duyck	Nate Wessels Joe Wessels
Servers CB= Cross Bearer	Grayson Landon Sebastian Lohrer	Kyle Hughes Chris Carlson Carl Carlson <b>CB</b>	Grace Burke Jacob Burke Zach Burke <b>CB</b>
Music	Sarah Crosby Bethany Stewart	Karen Jackson	Leann Duyck

**From the Desk of Fr. Michael**

Chapters 7-9 (pages 143-205) focus upon how we complicate our lives with the many things that we are searching for that leaves us lost, confused, and empty. As a result, we do not have a sense of our mission and purpose in life. Finally, without purpose and direction, we tend to worry which creates this cycle. How do we break this cycle?

We need to simplify. When we are not juggling 10 things, we are able to have the clarity to realize what are actually the 3 or 5 things that are important. And we also are able to eliminate a few things to worry about too!

At the last High School Youth Group night, we were reflecting upon the life of St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis came from a noble family. He was a Knight in the Crusades that came home to a hero's welcome. He had all the comforts and wealth in his family's status and business. But he had a conversion of heart to focus upon being a Crusader and Knight for Christ.

He founded the Franciscan Order which devoted their lives to obedience, poverty, and chastity. While discussing these three vows, one of the teens asked if diocesan priests take the same vows. I shared with them that it is only 2 out of the 3 vows. The difference is that I do not profess poverty, rather simplicity. Naturally, the follow up question was what is the difference.

As I shared, my priest friend, Fr. Marion Nguyen, OSB, he belongs to the Benedictine order. For Christmas, if I purchased for him a gift such as a pair of black shoes. Upon receiving this gift, he would present it to the Abbot and allow the Abbot to decide which monk needed the new pair of black shoes more. Fr. Marion, like most if not all religious, in professing the vow of poverty, know that possession is understood not individually, but always for the overall good of the order.

If I received a pair of new black shoes, I could keep it as a personal gift to me. However, I would pause for a moment and ask myself, by possessing this, is it a necessity or rather excessive? The vow of simplicity frames all my possessions to the following, what are the things that I need to fulfill my ministry as a parish priest.

As I shared with the teens, if the Archbishop called me on Monday morning and instructed me that my skills, talents, and training is required for the people of Sacred Heart in Medford, out of obedience which is attentive listening to him and the Personnel Board that consults him, I trust that this is where the Holy Spirit is calling me to serve and I could back up all my belongings (all the items necessary for ministry) into my car and drive down.

The vow of obedience gives me the freedom and trust that my superiors will place me in situations to succeed in servitude. The vow of simplicity gives me the freedom to lessen material attachments that may give me second thoughts of where God wants me to be. And finally, the vow of chastity is the virtue that strengthens me to be committed to the choice I made to forgo wife and family. When the is simplicity, I hear and listen more better, I have less worries and anxieties in order to focus on my mission which brings me happiness, joy, and contentment.

Hopefully, the final three chapters of Matthew Kelly's thought provoking insights will help us to realize how to become our perfect selves especially the way God intended us to be.

Have a Blessed Advent!  
~Fr. Michael

### Sharing our Time, Talent, and Treasure Replacement School Campaign

Our current fundraising of donated cash and commitment is \$4,045,822. Thank you for your generosity. The Weston Matching Grant has been achieved and we have qualified for the \$100,000 grant match.

Please begin your donation commitments or if you would like to make a donation as the New Well just began drilling on December 5 and the Septic System will follow in January 2018.

Continuing to seek heavenly blessings and intercession, please join me in praying the Prayer of St. Michael the Archangel to ward off distractions that may keep us from completing the goal at hand.

Saint Michael the Archangel,  
defend us in battle.

Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray;  
and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host -  
by the Divine Power of God -

cast into hell, Satan and all the evil spirits,  
who roam throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.

### Advent Penance Services throughout the Vicariate

Tuesday, Dec. 19 at 7:00pm in Hillsboro (St. Matthew)

Additional Individual times during weekdays:

Monday and Friday 5:00-6:00pm St. Alexander in Cornelius

Wednesday 8:45-10:00am and 6:45-8:30pm St. Matthew in Hillsboro

### HS Youth Group

Sunday, Dec. 17 from noon to 2:30pm, Advent Service Project Christmas Caroling and Visiting homebound on a tractor pulled cart. Please meet at Visitation Parish hall and bring warm clothes. Pick up is at St. Francis church. Cookies and hot chocolate will be provided.

### RCIA

No meeting Wednesday, Dec. 20 and 27. Enjoy Christmas and New Year! We will meet on Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2018 from 6:00-7:00pm in the St. Francis of Assisi church basement, Roy. Fr. Michael will be discussing "Sacrament of Baptism".

### Religious Education

The next CCD Class for grades 1-5 will be on Monday, January 8th from 4-5 pm in the convent.

### Altar Society Poinsettias

The Altar Society will be ordering 25 poinsettias for Christmas. If you would like to purchase one as a memorial for a loved one, please send the order below to Margie Vandehey by December 18th. Her address is 36390 NW Long Rd., Cornelius OR 97113. The cost is \$15.00 each.

Ordered by \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

### **Masses For December 24th & 25th (Christmas Eve & Christmas Day)**

Mass Times	4:00 pm - Sunday	10:00 pm - Sunday	9 :00 am Monday
Lectors	Linda Oldenburg	Beth Heesacker	Nate Wessels
Eucharistic Host	Volunteers (3)	Paul Heesacker	Lorna Vandecoevering
Eucharistic Cup	No Precious Blood Distributed	Lee LaBonte Volunteer	Mel Finegan Volunteer
Ushers	Dave & Joe Heesacker	Gary & Jacob Freitas	Andy & James Duyck
Servers	Owen, Everett, and Thomas Finegan	Matthew LaBonte Volunteer	Robert, Daniel and Francis Duyck
Music	Children's Choir	Karen, Dave, Bryon, Lois, and Kathy	Kathy Juenemann

### Christmas Day

Christmas day is Monday, Dec. 25, which follows the Fourth Sunday of Advent. There have been some questions with regard to the obligations of these holy days.

There are two distinct obligations which must be met by attending two Masses. While two obligations must indeed be fulfilled by two Masses, it is not necessary that one of these Masses be a Mass of Fourth Sunday of Advent and the other be a Christmas (Eve/Night/Dawn/Day) Mass. One can fulfill the two obligations also by attending Christmas Eve Mass (or Night Mass if before midnight) on the Sunday and a Christmas Night/Dawn/Day Mass on the Monday from midnight onward.

It is not the liturgical celebration that matters but the fact of being at Mass. Obviously the separate celebration of the Fourth Sunday of Advent and the Nativity of the Lord would be the preferred observance. The participation at one Mass only will not fulfill both obligations.

— **Archdiocesan Office of Divine Worship**

### Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24

4:00pm Children's Christmas Eve Mass (Verboort)

5:00pm Children's Christmas Eve Mass (Roy)

8:00pm Christmas Eve Mass (North Plains)

10:00pm Christmas Midnight Mass (Verboort)

12:00am Christmas Midnight Mass (Roy)

December 25

9:00am Christmas Day Mass (Verboort, Roy, and North Plains)

### Priest Travel Dates

Fr. Roberto will be gone Dec. 18-29.

Fr. Juan Jose will be gone Dec. 26-Jan. 4.

### Parish Advent/Christmas Gift

Please feel free to take a free complimentary copy of Matthew Kelly's "Perfectly Yourself" for your family. Free books are located at the entrance of the church.