

Sharing our Time, Talent, and Treasure Replacement School Campaign

Our current fundraising of donated cash and commitment is \$4,046,862. 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.



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.





Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father." — Lk 1:30-32

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

**DECEMBER 24, 2017
FOURTH 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

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

PRINCIPAL: Carol Funk
PHONE: 503-357-6990x222
EMAIL: cfunk@vcsknights.org

SCHOOL OFFICE: Lisa McMullen
PHONE: 503-357-6990
FAX: 503-359-0819
EMAIL: secretary@vcsknights.org
Web address: www.vcsknights.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

CHURCH SECRETARY: Donna Heesacker
EMAIL: churchsecretary@vcsknights.org

BOOKKEEPER: Joyce Vanderzanden
PHONE: 503-357-6990
FAX: 503-359-0819
EMAIL: bookkeeper@vcsknights.org
Web address: www.verboort.org

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday: 4-4:30 pm
or by appointment

From the Desk of Fr. Michael

Every 9 or so years the liturgical calendar lines up to create what pastors refer to as the Holy and Sacred Trifecta, i.e., the 4th Sunday of Advent falls on December 24th which means shortly after the Sunday morning Masses, we gear up for the Christmas liturgies of Vigil/Midnight/Morning/Day. It is literally, a back to back to back of Masses beginning Saturday evening and concluding on Monday.

The first time as a priest that I experienced this gauntlet of Masses was my first year at St. Mary's in Eugene in which, my pastor, Fr. Mark Bachmeier, and I literally just sent up a cot in our parish offices to sleep and get rest in between the celebrations. As I face my second experience of the Holy and Sacred Trifecta, I am blessed with the assistance of Fr. Roberto, Fr. Juan Jose, and Fr. Jesus to make sure that load is manageable.

With that said, as we gather this weekend with family and friends and begin opening the various wrapped gifts expressing our generosity, love, and gratitude to one another, I recently stumbled upon an article that cited what happens to the gifts that are given to us.

The gifts that we receive either 1) get used frequently, 2) get stored away never to be seen, or 3) get recycled. For this reason, my I propose something for your consideration. Spiritually speaking, Christmas is celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. It is the wonderment of the miracle of life and the gift of what life brings us which is joy and love as well as the responsibilities, duties, and obligations attached to nurturing, forming and educating a child.

In other words, God's Christmas gift to the world is his son, Jesus. In this coming new year of 2018, what are we going to do with that great gift of Jesus? Are we going to invest our time, talent, and treasure in nurturing and caring for him to the point that he is seen in our daily actions in word, thought and deed? And thus, in that sharing, he is recycled and re-gifted to another who may not know who he is. Or are we going to just tuck him in a drawer to be forgotten until next year?

As we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, the light of the world, born in the city of David, Bethlehem this day, may the Christ-child be a gift to your and your family that is displayed in your life of faith and shared to the entire world.

Christmas Blessings to you and your family!

~Fr. Michael

Priest Travel Dates

Fr. Roberto will be gone Dec. 18-29.
Fr. Juan Jose will be gone Dec. 26-Jan. 4.

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**

A Huge Thank You to our Musicians!

December 24
4:00pm: Children’s Choir
10:00pm: Kathy Juenemann, Karen Jackson, Byron Nevis, Lois Bighill, & Dave Vanderzanden

December 25
9:00am: Kathy Juenemann, Nancy Hursh, Craig & Ruth Peterson

Christmas Mass Schedule for St. Edward, St. Francis, and Visitation

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)

December 25
12:00am Christmas Midnight Mass (Roy)
9:00am Christmas Day Mass (Verboort, Roy, and North Plains)

RCIA

No meeting Wednesday, Dec. 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”.

Choir Practice

No Choir practice this week. Have a Merry Christmas!

Religious Education

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday	December	24	8:00 am	Chris Lux † by Leo & Karen Duyck
			10:00 am	For You and Your Intentions
			4:00 pm	Pete & Irene Jansen † by Marv & Carolyn Vanaken
			10:00 pm	Mike Vandervelden † by Kenny Vandervelden
Monday	December	25	9:00 am	Art Coussens † by Melvin & Marie Finegan
Tuesday	December	26	8:00 am	Fr. Jim Crunican † by Dave & Donna Heesacker
Wednesday	December	27	8:00 am	Claudell Giesbers by Jean Groce
Thursday	December	28	8:00 am	The Holy Innocents by Parish
Friday	December	29	8:00 am	Johnny Vandehey † by Family & Friends
Saturday	December	30	5:00 pm	Happy Anniversary Edwin & Ethel Duyck † by Russ and Annette Evans

Weekday Mass Servers:
Dec. 26th-29th: Volunteers

**December 16th & 17th
Your Gift to God**
Envelopes & Checks: \$7,483.00
Loose Change: \$443.68
Ret. Fund for Religious: \$1,050.00
St. Vincent de Paul: \$80.00



Weekend Masses For December 30th & 31st

Mass times	5:00 PM –Saturday	8:00 AM - Sunday	10:00 AM - Sunday
Lectors	Chris Duyck	Joe Finegan	Beth Heesacker
Eucharistic Host Minister	Lee LaBonte	Lorna Vandecoevering	Genelle Duyck
Eucharistic Cup Ministers	Byron Schmidlkofer Christy Duyck	Mel Finegan Jennifer Finegan	Paul Heesacker Brenda Braxmeyer
Ushers	Dave Heesacker Terry Smith	Tom Herinckx Volunteer	Mike Duyck John Braxmeyer
Servers	Mary Crosby Nathan Crosby	Kara Finegan Owen Finegan Everett Finegan CB	Andrew Kloplic Lauren Kloplic Maddie Kloplic CB
Music	Bethany Stewart Sarah Crosby	Bethany Stewart Sarah Crosby	Adult Choir