

ST. CHARLES BORROMEEO PORTLAND



Calendar

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Today: **MASSES 8:30 AND 11 A.M.**

NO Faith Formation classes

Liturgy of the Word Children

Nursery open

NO Sunday Hospitality

decorating of the church 12:15 pm

Mon: **NO Communion Service 8 a.m.**

Christmas family mass 5 p.m. Caroling at 4:30 p.m.

Christmas vigil mass 10 p.m. Caroling at 9:30 p.m.

NO Altar Society Crafts

Tue **Mass at 10 a.m.** caroling at 9:30 am.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

office closed

Wed. **NO Mass or communion service**

Office closed

NO ball

AA mtg.– Rm 15b 6:30 pm.

Thurs. **NO Mass or communion service**

office closed

Share the Word– 8:45 am PC

Communion to the Sick 9:45 a.m. PC

No ball

Fri **NO Mass or communion service**

office closed

NO ball

AA mtg. Rm 15b 6:30 p.m.

Sat. **NO morning mass**

Reconciliation 4-4:30 p.m.

Vigil Mass 5 p.m.

Next Sunday

Holy Family

Masses 8:30 and 11 a.m.

NO FF classes

NO Liturgy of the Word for Children

NO Sunday Hospitality

Nursery open



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Mon Is 62:1-5 Ps 89 Acts 13:16-17, 22-25 Mt1:1-25

Tue MERRY CHRISTMAS

Is 52:7-10 Ps 98 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18

Wed Acts6:8-10;7:54-59 Ps 31 Mt 10:17-22

Thur Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97 Jn 20:1a,2-8

Fri: Jn 1:5-2:2 Ps 124 Mt 2:13-18

Sat: Jn 2:3-11 Ps 96 Lk 2:22:35

NEXT SUNDAY: Holy Family

Sir 3:2-7,12-14 Ps 128 Col 3:12-21 Mt 2:13-15,19-23

ST. VINCENT DEPAUL: During the past week (Dec 10-14) the St. Charles Conference of the St. Vincent dePaul Society made 25 food calls, 1 miscellaneous call and 1 utility call for a total of 112 people helped.

We need in our food room—cooking oil, sugar, toilet paper, eggs, and all foods are welcome. Thank you so much for your help!

Dear Parish Family:

Thank you for our journey of Advent together. We have asked ourselves “Whose birthday is it anyway?” and “What would Jesus want us to give him for his birthday?” Thank you for your example of prayerfulness and the spirit of generosity I see in your lives and for the special gatherings we had in our parish these Advent days. Thank you too for our weekend liturgies and your making the mass more and more an important part of your lives.

May we wonder in a new way at God’s reaching down from heaven to become one with us. That was an awesome moment in history, and life will never be the same for us and our human family. May we invite God to “pitch his tent” in our hearts anew and be new hope and peace for us.

If you are going to be away for Christmas, do take our love with you, and return safely. Those who are here, I look forward to our Christmas liturgies together. I hope you invite family members and friends to join us at St. Charles. Thank you to everyone who is leading us in prayer and song for the Christmas Masses.

Peace to you, Fr. JOHN

PRAYERS OF SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Sick: Bernadette Gruhler, Jill Barrowcliff, Betty Welch, Conchita and Lorena Campoy, Austin Schulz, Ron Mowlds, Shirley Lynch, Joseph Brandes, Marsha Gruhler, Chris Hodes, Bert and Cecilia Benson, Irene Sark, Frank Mosley, Ashley and Arianna Reich, Mildred and Dianne Carter, Bobby Berstler, Fr. EB Painter of the Madeleine Parish and Pat Kern.

Death: Dan White son in law of Jeanne Allen

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK:

Dec. 24– Chuck Metcalf– ill (5 pm)

Dec. 24– Robert Fromhart, deceased. (10 pm)

Dec. 25– Arlis Roberts deceased(10 am)

Dec 29– Clem Hoff, deceased

Dec 30– Altar Society living members 8:30 am

Dec 30– parishioners 11 am

HAPPY DECEMBER ANNIVERSARY TO: Dado and Evelyn Duran celebrating their 25th Anniversary this month.

BAPTISM PREPARATION: Sessions for families wishing to have their child baptized begin Tuesday evening January 15th. Preparation consists of 3 evening gatherings and culminates with Baptism during the 11 am mass on Sunday, Feb. 3rd. To register or for additional information, please contact Joan Winchester 503 281 6461 or email joanw@stcharlespdx.org.

HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY: Dec. 30, 2007: During the Holy Family, families will be sharing what place faith plays in their family life.

YOUTH CORNER: Thank you to all the youth group members who helped put up the Christmas trees in church last Sunday. Thank you to Karen for hosting the youth group Christmas party last Sunday, a fun time was had by all!
The High School Youth Group will be recycling trees the 2 weekends after Christmas. This fund raiser will help fund a weekend retreat at Mt. hood this winter. Thanks for all your support.



**DECEMBER 23, 2007
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT:

When we are in trouble and darkness, God comes to save us. Yet we doubt God's word and turn away, afraid to test God's faithfulness. In truth, we prefer to trust our own ability to save ourselves. But God's promise is given, regardless of our stubborn refusal to believe. God's name is *Emmanuel*, meaning "God is with us."

When the transcendent God touches our lives, we hear, "Do not be afraid!" God is with us to rescue us from a meaningless existence. God is with us to save us when we are lost and cannot find the way. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, God has become flesh in the womb of the virgin mother and in our lives. Because of God's mercy, we are called to proclaim this gospel. Because we belong to Christ we can speak God's word to a weary world: "Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!" We do not have to ask for a sign of God's presence. God is with us. "Let the Lord enter! He is king of glory!"

Has God's Son been born in my life? What have I done to spread the good news this Advent?

FAMILY FAITH SHARING: We encourage parents to reflect on these questions at home each week with their children and families. Start talking. Share your faith!

Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent. Joseph, like Mary, is visited by an angel. The angel tells Joseph not to worry, to take Mary into his home as his wife. Joseph is told Mary's baby will be a son, to name him Jesus, and that this child will save his people from their sins. Joseph believed the angel and followed his instructions.

How does Joseph first react when he learns Mary is pregnant? What does the angel tell Joseph? What do you think made Joseph ready to believe the angel? How is Jesus a gift to you? What gift of yourself will you give to others this Christmas?

CHRISTMAS, DEC. 25: How wonderful it would be if today's headlines declared: "PEACE!" There is peace in our cities! There is peace in the world! There is even peace in our hearts! The incredible news is that God has spoken words of peace throughout history. The prophet Isaiah announced, "Your God reigns," to all who strayed from the path of peace. John the Baptist testified to the light that broke forth to warm the dark and tumultuous world. But the most amazing news was that God's message of peace could be heard in an infant who had no words, Jesus, the "Word-made-flesh," who came to dwell with us and in us.

Today, God continues to speak in diverse ways: through creation, in our human experience, and through Scripture and prayer. Through the praise and worship of people of every nation, gender, race, and creed, we can hear God's words of peace and love. Those once voiceless announce the good news of salvation, "All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God."

Are my words life-giving? What good news can I share with someone today?

Jesus was laid in a manger, where the cattle ate. Jesus was nourishment by his life for the people of his time. In the Eucharist Jesus becomes food for the world. We eat his Body and drink is Blood, and we are to be nourishment for our brothers and sisters especially for the poor.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT

	each week	YTD
Sac. Giv. needed	5,712.00	142,800.00
Sac Giv.(12/16)	5,647.00	127,764.00
Shortfall	- 65.00	- 15,036.00

(after 24 weeks)

We need an average of \$5712 each weekend to meet the 2007-08 budgeted offertory income. We need an average of \$8381 each weekend to meet the 2007-08 total budgeted income. The additional \$2699 needed weekly comes from rentals, fundraisers, and other income.

Thank you for sharing your time, treasure and talents with your parish family as God's faithful stewards!

PRAYER CORNER FOR FAMILY MEMBERS SERVING IN IRAQ OR OTHER AREAS OF CONFLICT:

Michelle Sterling, Jason Ostrow , Kyle Vidan, Travis McGrann and Phillip Ballard

WHAT IS A SMALL CHURCH COMMUNITY? Small Church Communities (SCC's) are groups of 8-12 parishioners who gather regularly to reflect on their faith. They help to foster a more profound union with God and with others. The purpose of Small Church Communities is to pray together, share faith, learn and reach out in mission. These groups are seen by many as a renewing force in our church. Groups at St. Charles will be forming during Lent and some established groups will take new members. SCC's will use materials that focus on the upcoming Sunday Scriptures and were designed with our Archdiocese in mind.

Watch this bulletin for further details.

SIERRA LEONE ADVENT/CHRISTMAS OUTREACH: The blue barrel located in the hall near the parish office is for the items collected for our brothers and sisters in Sierra Leone. The people of this small African country are in need of basic items as they struggle to recover from war and poverty. The list of items needed is on the flyer located near the barrel. It includes underclothes, socks tooth brushes and toothpaste. Thank you for your generous support as we consider our response to global issues. We will collect items thru Jan. 6th.

EPIPHANY POTLUCK: "Quest for the Light" is on Feb. 5th, 5-7 pm. Enjoy a stress free end of the Christmas season. The Twelve Days of Christmas begin the evening of Christmas Day and end on Epiphany (January 6). Our celebration will be a simple but festive potluck with songs and entertainment. Sign up starting December 22, and let us know if you need a ride or can provide one — we want everyone to be able to attend.

THE PARISH OFFICE: will be closed the week after Christmas Dec. 26-Jan 2. Happy days off for our parish staff and thank you for their dedication to us. There will be no masses or communion services those days (except on the weekend of course and for Jan 1) Father John will be available for emergencies by contacting him at the parish office number to get his cell phone number.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Dec 24- Christmas family mass- 5 pm
Christmas night mass-10 pm
- Dec 25- MERRY CHRISTMAS
Christmas Day Mass 10 am
- Jan 1- Solemnity of Mary Mass at 11 am
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2008
- Jan 6- Epiphany potluck 5 pm