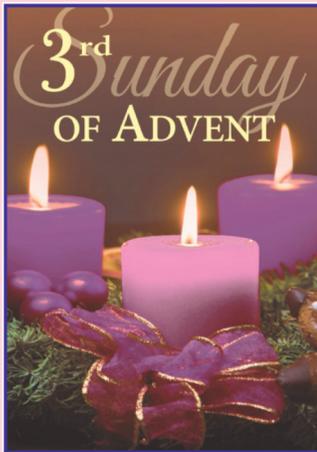


**December 16-17, 2017**  
**Welcome visitors!**

As the year comes to a close again, we are thankful for the many contributions in time, talent and treasure that St. Andrew's receives. Monetary donations received before 12:30 pm Saturday December 31, will be credited to your 2017 statement. Statements will be mailed mid-January. ACA payments are recorded by the Diocese of Yakima and you will receive a statement from them. Thank you again for your generosity.



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Dec 17: Christmas Breakfast by the KC  
Dec 18 Middle School Christmas Caroling 6:30 pm  
Dec. 31 St. Vincent's second collection  
Jan 2 Mass at Pacifica Senior Living  
Jan 6: First Saturday Mass at 9 am.

**ELEMENTARY AND YOUTH**

**Religious Education classes** for Elementary age children, Sundays at 10:15-11:05 a.m.  
**EDGE Middle School youth:** Mondays at 6:30 p.m. Please invite your friends. (classes canceled Dec 18-Jan 1)  
**Life-Teen High School/youth:** Sundays at 6:15 p.m. These sessions are mandatory for First Year Confirmation. (classes canceled Dec 17-Jan 1)  
**CHOSEN First Year Confirmation Preparation** every other Wednesday at 7 p.m. Next ones are on Dec 13.

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES**

**Faith Formation Online** in English or Spanish. Visit [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) and type our code 449536 to create your username and password.  
**SAYA:** St. Andrew's Young Adults-For adults in their 20s and 30s. Contact Rachel Hochstein at 360-325-6682  
**CENTERING PRAYER** Mondays at 5:15 pm in the meditation/cry room. Contact Karen at 962-9648.  
**Men's Fellowship / Study Group:** Mondays at 6:30 PM in the library. Contact Mark Hayden at 962-9005.  
**Our Mother of Perpetual Help** Tuesdays at 8:30 am  
**Pivotal Players in the History of Catholicism.** Tuesday 9am -library. Call Hugh Spall 925-2937 for more information.  
**Pro-Life Prayer**-Outside of Planned Parenthood on Kelleher property. Tuesdays-10:30 am - Larry & Bea Cates 857-2163  
**CRAFTS UNLIMITED** -Tuesdays 11 AM in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade room. Contact Carole Vondergeest 962-1551.  
**R.C.I.A.:** Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Thursdays at 6:30pm in the library. Call Scott Zimmerman 962-9661.  
**COMPASSION CORPS** Thursdays -7 PM at the couch/5th grade room. Contact Kelly Held (509) 304-4866  
**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade room 7 PM -4<sup>th</sup> Thursday. For more info. Contact Matt Fromherz 962-8472.  
**WIVES IN PRAYER** Fridays 9-11 AM at the parish library -Contact person: Emily Stickney 968-9195.

**RECONCILIATION SERVICES**  
**Monday December 18 at 6:30 pm ST ANDREW'S**  
**Tuesday December 19 at 6:30 pm Cle Elum**  
Take advantage of this great Sacrament of FORGIVENESS, a truly remarkable & important receiving of God's forgiveness!!

**CHRISTMAS MASSES**  
**SUNDAY DECEMBER 24**  
Children's Mass: 4:30 PM  
Vigil Mass: 10 PM  
**MONDAY DECEMBER 25**  
Christmas Mass at 9 English  
Christmas Mass at 12 Spanish.  
**SUNDAY DECEMBER 31: Feast of the Holy Family: Regular Sunday Mass**  
**MONDAY JANUARY 1st: MARY MOTHER OF GOD** (not a Holy Day of Obligation this year)  
Masses at 9 AM English and 11 AM Spanish.



Concerned about your financial future? Looking at retirement? Or just having a hard time making ends meet? Come and learn how to make it all work, and what you can do to take control of your money NO MATTER WHAT YOUR SITUATION. This 9 week financial class covers all the topics our parents should have taught us (budgeting, insurance, retirement, and more). Open to any age, singles or couples, and any financial situation. Not sure? Come to a preview class on Monday, January 8, at 6:30 pm, and ask any questions you might have. Classes start Monday, January 22, 6:30-8:00 pm (9 weeks). Cost is \$109 per couple (first 20 to sign up get \$50 off) Sign up here <http://www.fpu.com/1054642> Childcare available upon request  
*"This program help me and my husband become debt free just five years after receiving our degrees. We were over 50K in debt and over these five years our average income was only 35K a year. This program gave us the tools to control our money and made it work for us. We are so thankful for Financial Peace University"* Questions please contact Emily Ayers at: [e19fischer@gmail.com](mailto:e19fischer@gmail.com) or the web page for the class <http://www.fpu.com/1054642>



Dear Parishioners:

We have had a well-attended celebration for Our Lady of Guadalupe last Tuesday. After Christmas and Easter, this is the most important religious celebration in Mexico. A group from our parish practiced for a whole year so they could perform some traditional dances in honor of the Patroness of the Americas on December 12.

I want to thank Alena and her crew for the dinner they prepared and served on December 9 to acknowledge the volunteer work of our Religious Education teachers. Sarah Moore also did an appreciation dinner for her Confirmation teachers and helpers the previous week. Thank you Alena and Sarah! Our next bulletin will include three celebrations: Fourth Sunday of Advent, Christmas and New Year. If we get more advertisers for the back of our bulletin, we could have more pages to it. If you are interested in sponsoring it, please call Jaime Oviedo at 388-6362.

Next month we plan to form a parish pastoral council. The main goal of the council is to give advice to the pastor and develop strategies for the evangelization efforts of the parish. We will meet 9 times a year. If you or someone you know is interested in being part of this council, please contact me at [padredavid@hotmail.com](mailto:padredavid@hotmail.com). Please plan to attend our reconciliation service this Monday December 18 at 6:30 pm. Have a blessed last week of Advent.

Yours in Christ, *Fr. David Jimenez*

**ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL** It's still not too late to help our parish in reaching our goal of **\$39,417.00** and assisting our Bishop & Diocese in the ministry of the "greater Church", the Diocese of Yakima. Envelopes & pledge cards are in the vestibule pamphlet racks. **THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE ALREADY CLAIMED A SHARE IN THIS SPECIAL MINISTRY!!**

**THERE ARE FLOWER DONATION ENVELOPES** on the bulletin table if you would like to make a donation for Christmas flowers.

9<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**Annual Christmas Collection for Catholic Charities** Your generosity to the Christmas collection helps Catholic Charities reach out in your name. Catholic Charities serves people in need in your community – expectant mothers, families with young children, teen-agers, and the elderly and handicapped. Please give in the spirit of the season on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. For more information about the Catholic Charities network of services, visit [www.catholiccharitiescw.org](http://www.catholiccharitiescw.org).

**CHRISTMAS DECORATION.** Please help us decoration the church for Christmas on Saturday, Dec. 23 at 9 am. Trees and supplies will be brought in the church on Friday, December 22 at 6 pm.

**STEWARSHIP REFLECTION** Dec. 17, 2017

Our First Reading from the prophet Isaiah opens with “*The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor.*” The word “**Messiah**” means, “**anointed one.**” The word “anoint” literally means to rub or sprinkle on; apply an ointment. Most of us are baptized Catholics. That means that we, too, have been anointed. The question we must ask ourselves during this holy season of Advent is “What is going on inside of us?” There is a reference in this reading from Isaiah to seeds and growth (“*As the earth brings forth its plants, and a garden makes its growth spring up, so will the Lord God make justice and praise spring up before all nations.*”) None of us can make anything really grow; only God can do that. However, we can provide the right environment for growth. Have we put our hearts and minds in the right environment for faith?

Our Second Reading from St. Paul’s First Letter to the Thesalonians contains one of the oft-quoted lines from Paul: “**Pray without ceasing.**” Prayer is communication with God, and that is something we can do every minute of each day. Another basic tenet of the idea of stewardship is that we are thankful. Our prayers should first and foremost be prayers of gratitude. Our lives need to be a constant flowing communication with God. In response to questions, John the Baptist declares in the Gospel Reading, “*I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, ‘make straight the way of the Lord.’*” John the Baptist was there to prepare the way for the coming of the Messiah. That is where we are right now during this Advent, **our time of preparation.** It is time for us to pray, to be cleansed, and to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord, not just as an infant at Christmas, but throughout our lives. It is not too late; it is never too late. We need to do that, and now. *From: www.catholicsteward.com/blog*



**Caroling Caroling** At Hearthstone-EDGE students, family, and friends are invited to go caroling at Hearthstone on Monday Dec. 18 at 3:45. We will meet and leave from Hearthstone. Music books will be provided.

**Children's Hospital Service Project**-High school students are invited to help tie blankets and cards that will be donated to Seattle's Children Hospital. We are meeting Dec. 19 at 5 PM. If members of the community would like to help fleece fabric donations and card making supplies are appreciated! Sarah