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Melissa Abell (360) 885-7780, ext. 14

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**PASTORAL CONCERNS:**

**Baptisms:** Please prepare for infant/child baptism by contacting the office at ext. 15. For adult baptisms, see OCIA.

**Weddings:** Please call the office, ext. 16. Coordinate with Mark before setting date.

**Funerals:** Contact the office at ext. 14.

**OCIA (Becoming Catholic) and Learning About The Catholic Faith:**

Everyone is invited to learn more about the faith or seek to become a Catholic. Contact the parish office at ext. 16.

*Welcome to Holy Redeemer Parish*

**April 21, 2024**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

*Pastor Father Thomas Nathe*



**GLORIFY GOD AND SANCTIFY SOULS!**

Website: [www.holyredeemervan.org](http://www.holyredeemervan.org)

**Telephone:** (360) 885-7780

**Fax Number:** (360) 944-7560

**Address:** 17010 NE 9th Street  
Vancouver, WA 98684

**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm

**Church Open:** 7:30am - 4:00pm daily

**Mass Schedule:** Saturday Vigil 4:30pm

Sunday 8:30am and 11:00am

Monday-Saturday 8:30am

**Rosary:** Saturday 4:10pm

Sunday 8:10am and 10:40am

Monday - Saturday 8:10am

**Confessions:** Friday 4:00 - 5:15pm

Saturday 2:30 - 4:15pm

Sunday 7:45 - 8:15am and 10:00 - 10:45am

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Friday 9:00am - Saturday 8:00am

***Please remember Holy Redeemer Parish in your will.***

**WEEK OF 4/21/2024  
LITURGICAL SCHEDULE**

*Please join us 20 minutes prior to Mass to  
pray the Rosary.*

**Sunday:** 4/21

**4th Sunday of Easter**

**Mass:** 8:30am & 11:00am (Church)

Confession: 7:45-8:15am, 10:00-10:45am

**Monday:** 4/22

8:30am~Daily Mass *Tyler Wrenn*

**Tuesday:** 4/23

8:30am~Daily Mass *Brian Wrenn*

**Wednesday:** 4/24

8:30am~Daily Mass *Kenneth Homrich+*

**Thursday:** 4/25

8:30am~Daily Mass *Brad Belden+*

6:00pm~ Patriotic Rosary (Church)

**Friday:** 4/26

8:30am~Daily Mass *Michael Hoffman*

3:00pm~Chaplet of Divine Mercy (Church)

Confessions: 4:00pm-5:15pm

**Saturday:** 4/27

8:30am~Daily Mass *Marion Lind+*

Confessions: 2:30pm-4:15pm

**4:30pm ~ Saturday Vigil Mass (Church)**

**Sunday:** 4/28

**5th Sunday of Easter**

**Mass:** 8:30am & 11:00am (Church)

Confessions: 7:45-8:15am, 10:00-10:45am



**THE STONE  
THE BUILDERS  
REJECTED  
HAS  
BECOME THE  
CORNERSTONE.**

~ Psalm 118:22



**WEEK OF 4/21/2024  
MINISTRIES & MEETINGS**

**Sunday:** 4/21

**4th Sunday of Easter**

9:45am~ Pre K-5th Faith Formation (Parish Center & Annex)

*Knights Meals after Masses*

**Monday:** 4/22

9:00am ~ Monday Marian Movement (Choir Practice Room)

4:30pm~ AHG (Parish Center)

5:00pm~ Spanish Endow (Annex)

6:30pm~ Trail Life (Parish Center)

**Tuesday:** 4/23

10:00am~ Women's Bible Study with Littles (St. Clare Room)

6:00PM~ OCIA

**Wednesday:** 4/24

5:00pm~ Children's Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm)

6:00pm~ Fraternal & Fidelis

**Thursday:** 4/25

9:15am~ Marian Movement (Choir Room)

10:30am~ AM Bible Study –The Prophets (Parish Center)

6:00pm~ Patriotic Rosary (Church)

6:30pm ~ PM Bible Study—The Holy Spirit (Parish Center)

7:00pm~ Adult Choir Practice (Choir Room)

**Friday:** 4/26

9:30am~ Pre-K Religious Education Class (St. Francis)

10:30am~ Homeschool Co-Op meeting (Parish Center)

6:30pm~ Empty Nesters Bunco (Parish Center)

**Saturday:** 4/27

9:15am~ Sat. Marian Movement (Choir Room)

**Sunday:** 4/28

**5th Sunday of Easter**

9:45am~ Pre K-5th Faith Formation (Parish Center & Annex)



*Please Remember in your prayers:*

Ed Barbier+, Larry Bolton, Tim Brewer, Sherry Callaghan, Ramon Cano+, John Cothran, Natalie Cothran, Dan Coughlin+ and Mary Coughlin+, Bonnie Craig, Roger Cubacub, Marianne DeMuth+, Tina Marie Ellis+, Ramute Cumming, Robert Faust, Evelyn Ferma, Linda Fritz, Augustine Gnaneswarant+, Danny Harden, Emily and Joey Hart, Roman Hernandez, Denise Hertz+, Jamie Kohler, Gabriel Kantola, Joan Kelly, Rita Laurent, Laura Murray, John Palles+, Fran Plourd, Mary Quidachez, Kathy Rankin+, Michele & John Romano, Matthew Reynolds+ & Family, Catherine Scott, Jordan Smith+, Irene Snell, John Stewart, Peggy & Ed Uribe, Rolyne Weinmuller+

**Thank You  
For Your Generosity!**

<b>Income</b>	<b>04/08-04/14</b>
Sunday	\$ 24,219
St. Vincent de Paul:	\$ 380

## Pastor's Column

April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

### Blessings during Holy Communion

Jesus Christ: Yesterday, Today, and Forever ~

What is the last thing a priest does at the end of Mass? He gives a blessing and a farewell: “May Almighty God bless you, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Mass is ended, go in peace.” That should sound really familiar because the presiding priest does that at the end of every Mass. So why do people come forward during the Communion rite to receive a blessing when they are going to receive one at the end of Mass? Great question. Of course, this practice is so widespread that if I were not to do it during the Communion rite, people would think that I refused them or others a blessing. People wouldn't understand and would interpret it as me being mean. I know, because once in a while someone will not see the blessing I give in the Communion line and will falsely accuse me of being awful. Please read on.

Receiving blessings during the Communion rite got its start years ago in an attempt to make those who weren't receiving Holy Communion feel more welcomed. Yet, with all things that are added to the Mass without proper vetting and authorization, problems are sure to follow.

In 2008, Father Anthony Ward, the undersecretary of the Congregation for Divine Worship at the Vatican (the official liturgy office of the Catholic Church), sent out a letter in a response to a private query about blessings being given out during the Communion rite at Mass. In it, he reiterates the Church's teaching on the matter. Here I quote some (not all) of the relevant numbers in his response, and I add my own further insights.

#1. *The liturgical blessing of the Holy Mass is properly given to each and to all at the conclusion of the Mass, just a few moments subsequent to the distribution of Holy Communion.*

So, receiving a blessing during the Communion rite is not necessary. Everyone gets one at the end of Mass.

#2. *Lay people (non-clergy), within the context of Holy Mass, are unable to confer blessings. These blessings, rather, are the competence of the priest.*

Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, or EM's, are the people who give out Holy Communion during Mass but are not deacons, priests, or bishops. They should not give out blessings during Mass. At Holy Redeemer they say, “Jesus loves you.” Since five out of six Communion lines have an EM at the head of them, most people coming forward to receive a blessing are not getting one.

#3. *Furthermore, the laying on of a hand or hands — which has its own sacramental significance — by those distributing Holy Communion, in substitution for its reception, is to be explicitly discouraged.*

There is also the issue of hygiene: touching people's heads while touching the Consecrated Host that is going to go in people's mouths is a bad idea. Someone last weekend asked me why I didn't do that and was upset until I explained why I didn't.

#5. *In a similar way, for others who are not to be admitted to Holy Communion in accord with the norm of law, the Church's discipline has already made clear that they should not approach Holy Communion nor*

# GROWING IN HOLINESS

## NEW TO HOLY REDEEMER?

**Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00am-4:00pm**

Contact the Faith Formation Office to meet and discuss how we can work together to build God's Kingdom in East Vancouver! Sacramental needs? Education? Let us know how we can help. Contact Mark: 360.885.7780 ext. 16, or [markm@holyredeemervanc.org](mailto:markm@holyredeemervanc.org)

**OCIA (Becoming Catholic) and Learning About the Catholic Faith:** Contact Mark MacKenzie

## PRAYER GROUPS

**Marian Movement Groups:** The Marian Movement has three groups that meet on different days of the week. The first group (Monday), the second group (Thursday), and the third group (Saturday) meets in the choir practice room. All groups meet at 9:00am.

**Anne, a lay apostle:** Anne, the author of *The Volumes*, received a message to have a prayer group meeting once a month. The Lay Apostle prayer group holds their meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at 9:00am in the parish center. Contact Marilynne Belden at 503-701-2493.

## ADULTS

**Bible Study:** **NEW** The morning Bible study sessions are Thursday at 10:30am studying The Prophets in the parish center. Thursday Night Bible study started on April 4 and will end on May 16. We will watch and discuss a video series on the Holy Spirit.

**Men of Faith:** All men in the parish are invited to attend our monthly gatherings. We meet on the first Saturday of the month at 9:15am in the parish center. For more information contact Mark by email at [markm@holyredeemervanc.org](mailto:markm@holyredeemervanc.org)

**Women Growing in Faith:** All women in the parish are invited to attend our monthly talks. Our gatherings are on the second Saturdays of the month. For more information contact Judy at [judym@holyredeemervanc.org](mailto:judym@holyredeemervanc.org)

## PRESCHOOL

**St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Preschool** *Engaging the mind, body, and spirit of every child.*

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## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

### **Prek-8th Grade**

St. Joseph

<https://www.stjoevanschool.org/>

Our Lady of Lourdes

<https://lourdesvan.org/>

*Holy Redeemer Parish provides per-pupil assistance for active parishioners who enroll their children in grades K-8 at local Catholic Schools. This allows families to receive discounted tuition rates.*

### **High School**

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

<https://www.setonhigh.org/>

## HOME SCHOOLS

**Aquinas Learning** is a Catholic homeschooling curriculum and community for students PreK-12th grade. Our Vancouver center is a Catholic classical education mentoring program. [AquinasLearning.com](http://AquinasLearning.com)

**Regina Caeli Academy** is a private, independent, University-Style Hybrid® operating in the Catholic tradition.

Preschool - 12th grade students attend classes two days a week, and homeschool the remaining days following the plans provided by RCA. To learn more, contact us at [admissions@rcahybrid.org](mailto:admissions@rcahybrid.org) or 470.239.0259

**Internship:** Holy Redeemer is looking to hire a full-time, paid intern for summer 2024. This is a fantastic opportunity for a young adult man or woman 19 years and older seeking hands-on parish ministry experience. The summer internship will include assisting Faith Formation staff with the implementation of summer programming, conference support, ministry ownership, sacramental coordination experiences, communication, outreach, and behind the scenes clerical work. Spiritual development, support, and one-on-one mentorship will be an integral part of this program. Resume and cover letter recommended. Use the QR code to apply. Accepting applications through April 28th



*receive a blessing. This would include non-Catholics and those envisaged in canon 915 (i.e., those under the penalty of excommunication or interdict, and others who obstinately persist in manifest grave sin)."*

All people are welcomed and encouraged to attend Mass. Indeed, we should be inviting people to attend Mass, including non-Catholics, and Catholics who are not properly disposed to receive Holy Communion. Reception of Holy Communion is for Catholics who are properly disposed, meaning: 1) Catholics, 2) who have received their First Holy Communion, and 3) are in a state of grace (not aware of unforgiven mortal sin). If a person receives Holy Communion while violating any one of these three things, then they commit a grave sin at Mass (1 Cor. 11:27-30) — yikes!

If everyone is coming forward during the Communion rite, then those who are not properly disposed to receive Holy Communion naturally think they should too. Conversely, seeing others remain in their pews would communicate that it is okay for those not properly disposed to stay put too. Furthermore, if a person of good will is not able to receive Holy Communion at Mass, they can still seek communion with God and His grace during the Communion rite in their pew through what is known as “spiritual communion.” This would be a great time to get out the red Lumen Christi Missal in your pew and pray the prayer on the first page opposite the front cover for: 1) the day that you can receive Holy Communion, 2) to ask Our Lord to be received into your heart, and 3) to worship, adore, praise, and thank our loving God. Spiritual communion has great merit and is strongly encouraged.

Some people come forward for a blessing, yet due to confused body language, receive Holy Communion instead because they did not adequately indicate that they were only seeking a blessing. This is “grave matter,” and it affects both the one receiving Our Lord and the one giving Him out.

Down through the centuries, many people have joined the Church so that they could receive Holy Communion. Receiving a blessing during the Communion rite might satisfy some people enough to never actually take the steps to regularize their situation before God and the Church.

And finally, this. By extending the time for the communion rite, it adds unnecessary length to the Mass.

Most Mass goers don't read my pastor's columns, and everyone visits other parishes, or move to new ones all the time. So, it is not sensible or realistic of me to try to enforce a no-blessing policy during the Communion rite until the Pope or our Archbishop makes things clear beyond our parish boundaries. Therefore, I will graciously continue to give blessings during the Communion rite to anyone who approaches me for one. With that said, if you are inviting a non-Catholic, or a Catholic that is not in a state of grace, to attend Mass with you, then please talk to them *before* Mass about simply staying in the pew and praying during the Communion rite. This puts them at peace, not having to worry about what to do if they were to come forward.

A final reminder: if you or someone in your charge is coming forward for a blessing during the Communion rite, then their arms should be clearly crossed, or a finger clearly laid over the lips to prevent confusion.

In the True Presence of Our Eucharistic Lord,  


Fr. Thomas Nathe

# GROWING IN HOLINESS

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# SUMMER 2024

## SAVE THE DATES

Middle School Intensive: July 8-12

Ignite Your Torch Conference  
(High School):  
July 24-28

Vacation Bible School (PreK-5):  
August 5-9

Fidelis Camp (women 6th grade -adult):  
August 12-15

Fraternus Camp (men 6th-adult):  
August 15-18

LEARN MORE



[HOLYREDEEMERVAN.ORG/PARISH-EVENTS/SUMMER24](https://HOLYREDEEMERVAN.ORG/PARISH-EVENTS/SUMMER24)

## PARISH HAPPENINGS



### Career Opportunity

Holy Redeemer Parish is seeking to hire a full-time Supervisor of Facilities and Maintenance. In time this position may become regional to include St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Camas and Our Lady, Star of the Sea Mission, Stevenson.

The person in this role ensures the facilities of the campus are safe and well maintained. This is a full-time position with a competitive salary and benefits package. Access the full job description and online application on the Holy Redeemer website [www.holyredeemervan.org](http://www.holyredeemervan.org).

### "I Give Electronically" Cards during Collection

Thank you for using the "I Give Electronically" cards in the weekend Mass collection. We are replacing the existing cards with an updated version and new QR code and they will be back in the pews soon. Thank you for your online contributions and for your patience while we make the updates on the cards.

### Prepares

PREPARES provides pregnancy and parenting support services from pregnancy to the child's fifth birthday and is open to all. Volunteers are needed to assist with organizing the clothing closet, filling



## IN & BEYOND OUR PARISH

PREPARES bags and as family companions. Meetings are held every other month in the Annex on Saturday after morning Mass. For more information please contact Nancy Kern [prepares@hrvan.org](mailto:prepares@hrvan.org)

### Help with Hospitality

Hospitality after Sunday Masses, a wonderful opportunity for food and fellowship, has increased in popularity. Lately some Sundays the participation is exceeding the amount of food available. The Sunday Hospitality Committee would like to open up the opportunity for parishioners to provide hospitality food either periodically or on an ongoing basis. If you are interested, scan the QR code to access the Sign-Up Genius sign up form. If you are interested in joining the Hospitality Committee, please contact Jim Stipan at [jim@columbiafs.com](mailto:jim@columbiafs.com) or call 971-269-8776.



### Knights of Columbus Golf July 27th, 2024

The ever popular Annual Knights of Columbus Golf Tournament returns on Saturday July 27th at Fairway Village Golf Course, with a shotgun start at 8:00am. Mark your calendar and save the date for a great day of fellowship, golf, lunch, prizes and fun. Registrations will open in in May, with more details to come!



## IN & BEYOND OUR PARISH

### World Wide Marriage Encounter Sept. 13-15th

Jesus is the good shepherd and laid down his life for us that we may have new life. Give your marriage new life by attending a



Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on September 13-15, 2024 in Beaverton, Oregon. To apply or search other dates go to [rediscoverthespark.org](http://rediscoverthespark.org). For information about WWME call 503-704-0836 or by email at [reservations@rediscoverthespark.org](mailto:reservations@rediscoverthespark.org)

### Knights of Columbus

### Helping Hands Ministry

The Knights of Columbus Holy Redeemer Council has started a new apostolate called "Helping Hands" to help parishioners who need assistance with a variety of household odd-jobs that require some extra physical help. For more information or to request assistance, please send an e-mail with your need to [KofC12899@gmail.com](mailto:KofC12899@gmail.com) or call Don Anderson at the Parish Office (360)885-7780, Ext. 12.

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