

Weekly Bulletin

WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR ASSUMPTION PARISH IN BELLINGHAM, WA

MARCH 24, 2023

Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.

-Matthew 28:19-20

Pastor's Note

This week, I have spent much of my office time reading and responding to applications for the "Faith Community Scholarship" from our school families. Previously, Catholic families who attended Assumption Catholic School would receive an "in-parish" discount from their tuition, which was generally funded through the subsidies paid by the Whatcom County parishes. Next year, however, that discount is no longer automatic, nor does it have a set amount. Instead, with a renewed commitment to making sure that Catholic families are able to attend Catholic school, our approach going forward is to ask our families what they need to make Catholic school affordable for them, and then to have them apply to their parish for a scholarship for that amount. Some families need less than what was previously given to them and some families need more. With this system, the local pastors have the flexibility to be responsive to the needs of their families directly.

The road to this change has been two years in the making and involves a lot of other paradigm shifts. I have packaged together all of my communications about this change [here](#), if you would like all of the nitty-gritty details.

I wanted to bring this to your attention because these scholarships are funded by *you*. Yes, Assumption parishioners have helped fund Assumption School since its inception, and I think most of our parishioners know this is part of their Sunday giving. But, as supremely important as funding Catholic education is, funding an institution still feels like an abstract concept. Now, however, it is far more obvious that what you, our parishioners, are funding is individual students and families. *Our* families. When you go to Mass each weekend and see an Assumption School student sitting in front of you in the pews, you can assume that part of your weekly contribution has gone towards helping *that* student attend Catholic school.

Christianity is deeply relational, because our God himself is deeply relational. As I have been immersed in scholarships this week, that relationality has weighed heavily upon me. I want our students to know that it is individual parishioners in the pews who are helping them access a Catholic education, and I want our parishioners to know that they are the reason some of these students are even able to attend our school to begin with. A Christian community relies on each other, and these scholarships are a beautiful, concrete expression of that.

May the Lord bless you always,

F. Moore

Parish News

Annunciation Mass

Saturday, March 25th, at 9:00 am. You are welcome to join us to Mass.

Soup Supper Interviews

The next two Soup Suppers (March 24 & 31, 6:45 p.m.) will be a little bit different. During the presentation portion of the Soup Supper, Fr. Moore will be interviewing a couple that has recently converted or reverted to the faith. This is for two reasons: first, it is a good follow-up to the Parish Mission from last August when we learned to give testimonies about how Jesus has worked in our lives. Second, because it is important to celebrate the works and victories of Jesus in our community, and bringing someone to faith is one of the most obvious and powerful victories we get to see the Lord work in our midst. We hope you enjoy getting to know these couples! In addition to Parish Life and Socials and wonderful parish volunteers, our Youth under the direction of Daniel Prenosil will be helping with the Soup Supper this evening.

Rice Bowl collection

On Holy Thursday, we collect the Rice Bowls that were provided at the beginning of Lent. Please consider writing a check (with the memo "Rice Bowl") for the total amount of the coins you have collected in the box. You can drop the check in the collection basket. Our money counters and parish staff would be very grateful!

Kneeling Cushions

We have a beautiful kneeling cushion that is used by our altar server who rings the bells during the consecration. However, Fr. Moore would like to make it so that *all* of our altar servers kneel on that step during the Eucharistic Prayer. Does anyone know who made the original cushion? Is anyone able to make matching cushions for the rest of the servers? Please contact frmoore@assumption.org with answers.

Palm Sunday Procession

Next weekend is Palm Sunday. If you would like to participate in the long procession from the gym to the church, this form will only take place at the Saturday, 5:00 p.m. Mass. The Sunday Liturgies will use what's called "The Solemn Entrance" wherein the assembly gathers outside of the Cornwall doors. Email Dr. Mabalot if you have any questions: drmabalot@assumption.org

School News

Next Friday, March 31, 2023 is a busy day for our school as we finish up our Lenten journeys and prepare for a restful spring break.

- School Mass: Mrs. Thomas' 4th grade class will be leading the Mass at 8:15 am that day. Remember it is a dress uniform day. All parishioners are welcome.
- Prayer in Garden and Stations: Then the 6th and 7th grades will be leading our Prayer in the Garden and Stations of the Cross beginning at 2pm. All are welcome to join us.
- Lenten Soup Supper with the School families: Finally, ACS will host the Lenten Soup Supper at the Church of the Assumption on Friday, 3/31 starting at 6:40pm in the gym. Please join us for a community meal.

School is closed from April 3-7th. The office will be open again on April 10th.

Affiliated Organizations

Retrouvaille: Considering Separation or Divorce? Wait!

There is an alternative. Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has brought healing to tens of thousands of troubled marriages worldwide. Your situation may seem hopeless, but there is always hope, and you are not alone in your struggle. For confidential information about Retrouvaille, or to register for our upcoming program on April 14-16, 2023, call 206-706-2608 or go to www.helpourmarriage.org.

Upcoming

Events

- **Saturday, Mar. 25**
 - 9:00 am – Annunciation Mass
 - 12:15 pm – Community Meal (Gym)
- **Sunday, Mar. 26**
 - 9:00 am – Coffee Hour (Gym)
 - 11:00 am – Coffee Hour (Gym)
- **Monday, Mar. 27**
 - 2:00 pm – Charismatic Prayer Group (Stafford)
- **Wednesday, Mar. 29**
 - 10:30 am – Women’s Scripture Study (Stafford)
- **Friday, Mar. 31**
 - 1:30 pm - Grief Support (Stafford)
 - 4:00 pm – Reconciliation
 - 6:00 pm – Bilingual Stations of the Cross
 - 6:45 pm – Soup Supper (Gym)
- **Saturday, Apr. 1 (Palm Sunday)**
 - 4:00 pm – Rosary Prayer (Church)
- **Sunday, Apr. 2 (Palm Sunday)**

Mass Intentions

- **Saturday March 25**
 - 5:00 pm, Yvonne Henry, RIP
- **Sunday, March 26**
 - 8:00 am, Ted Mendoza, SI
 - 10:00 am, Ziels Family, SI
 - 12:30 pm, Pro Populo
- **Tuesday, March 28**
 - 5:30 pm, Alida Cacnio, RIP
- **Wednesday, March 29**
 - 7:15 am, Tanya Kerstiens Rowe, RIP
- **Thursday, March 30**
 - 7:15 am, Glenn Cline, RIP
- **Friday, March 31**
 - 8:15 am, Virginia Reilly, RIP