ADVENT SEASON &
CHRISTMAS
2016
AT SACRED HEART PARISH

ADVENT REFLECTION BOOKS AND SUNDAY MISSALS
Advent/Christmas Season Little Blue Book is free and 2017 St. Joseph Sunday Missal with the Sunday Readings, Order of Mass and other prayers is available for a suggested donation of $3.00. Both are available in the narthex and in the Parish Office.

ADVENT WORKSHOP
All parishioners are invited to the Advent Workshop on Sunday, November 27th, 9:45-10:45 AM in the Parish Hall. Activities for all ages including:
Advent Wreath Making
A Jesse Tree Scavenger Hunt
Creating Winter Care Packages for the Homeless
Creating an Advent Chain for your home.

Come Prepare Your Hearts and Homes for a Wonderful Advent Season!

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION
The individual celebration of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (Confession) is available at Sacred Heart on Wednesday mornings from 8:00-8:45 AM and on Saturday afternoons from 3:00-4:30 PM. Confessions are celebrated in the Reconciliation Chapel in the northwestern corner of the narthex (near the Liturgical Ministers Room); if the door is open you can enter. Contact Father Steve to make an appointment for a different time.
Our parish communal celebration of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (with individual confessions) will be Monday, December 19 at 7 pm.
Communal celebrations of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (with individual confessions) are also available at:
- St. Louise, Bellevue Wednesday, November 30 7:00 PM
- St. John Vianney, Kirkland Tuesday, December 6 7:00 PM
- Holy Family, Kirkland Wednesday, December 7 7:00 PM
- St. Jude, Redmond Monday, December 12 7:00 PM
- Saint Teresa, Woodinville Tuesday, December 13 7:00 PM
- Our Lady of Sorrows, Snoqualmie Wednesday, December 14 7:00 PM
- St. Brendan, Bothell Wednesday, December 14 7:00 PM
- St. Madeleine Sophie, Bellevue Wednesday, December 14 7:00 PM
- Mary Queen of Peace, Sammamish Saturday, December 17 10:00 AM

PRAISE AND WORSHIP
Young adults and young families are invited to an Evening of Praise and Worship on Thursday, December 1, 6:30-7:30 PM in the church to sing songs of praise and share their faith with one another. The music will be led by our parish Praise Band (musicians who wish to participate in the Praise Band can contact Jeff Kress at jkress@sacredheart.org or 425.450.3911). We will provide child care and food will be provided after the Praise and Worship (there will be an opportunity to receive special prayer as well).
SACRED HEART SCHOOL ADVENT – CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
Students in Sacred Heart Parish School in Kindergarten through 8th grade will perform in the Advent – Christmas Pageant on Monday, December 12th, at 6:00 PM in the Church. Please come and enjoy the spirit of Advent and Christmas!

SACRED HEART FAITH FORMATION CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
Preschool through 5th grade students in the Sunday Faith Formation program will lead a Posada, a Christmas festival originating in Latin America, that dramatizes the search of Joseph and Mary for lodging, for their Christmas Program this year on Sunday, December 18th, beginning at 9:45 AM in the school gym. All parishioners are invited to participate in this fun procession of story and song, ending with Piñatas and coffee & donuts for all. “In the name of heaven, Hear my plea for shelter. My poor wife is weary, Do not send us away. We cannot go on.”

SIMBANG GABI
Simbang Gabi is a Catholic Filipino custom which means “church in the Night”. In the barrios of the Philippines, stars are the lamps that guide the nighttime traveler. During the Advent and Christmas seasons, one will find parols (star lanterns) hanging from windows. The Catholic missionaries in the Philippines in the 16th century, conscious of the work schedule of the townspeople, began celebrating Mass early in the morning before farmers began their work in the fields and after the fishermen came in from their night’s work. This allowed the whole community to gather for Mass, catechesis, and fellowship. Parols lit their way to the church. The nine days of Masses embodied God’s desire to be human, and the Filipinos’ joy for that humanness. Our parish will celebrate Simbang Gabi on Saturday, December 17, at the 5:00 PM Mass followed by food provided by some of our Filipino parishioners. All parishioners are invited to a Lumpia making party Saturday afternoon at 3 PM in the new school kitchen. A guest chef will teach us the art of making Lumpia, a Filipino egg roll, that will be shared at the celebration after the 5 PM mass. To participate, please contact Carol Guenther at cguenther@sacredheart.org so we can plan accordingly.

PREPARING OUR CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS
Come and help prepare our church for Christmas on Thursday, December 22, from 7-9 PM and on Thursday, December 23, after the 8:45 AM Mass until 2 PM. Everyone is welcome to help; there will be a job for every skill level.

NEW CHRISTMAS CRECHE FIGURES
While Father Steve was in Rome on the pilgrimage, he spent some time with some parishioners looking for new figures for our parish crèche scene. They found a beautiful set in one of the shops near St. Peter’s, so Father Steve made the decision to purchase it for our parish as a memento of the Jubilee Year of Mercy. The crèche will be blessed by Pope Francis and will be shipped in time for our use this Christmas.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE
This year our parish will celebrate Christmas Eve Mass at 4:00 PM; the Children’s Choir will lead the music and will begin with music at 3:45 PM; Mass will begin with the blessing of the Christmas crèche; we will celebrate Mass at 7 PM and at 10 PM; the Sacred Heart Chorale will lead the music and will begin with Anthems and Carols at 9:30 PM; Mass will begin with the blessing of the Christmas Tree. Mass on Christmas Day will be at 10:00 with the Sacred Heart Chorale leading the music (with Anthems & Carols at 9:30 AM). All Masses will be held at Sacred Heart Church this year.