



St. Edward the Martyr Roman Catholic Church December 9, 2018

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

Monday—Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Reconciliation: Saturday 4:30 p.m.—5:00 p.m.
or by appointment

Christmas Symbols and the meaning behind them

Christmas is filled with symbols, many of which have lost their Christian symbolism in a secular world. We are going to explore some of the Christian meaning of Christmas symbols, for the next few weeks.

CHRIST CHILD: We celebrate the birth of Christ at Christmas, which means Christ's Mass (the Mass of Christ). Christ means "the anointed one." Jesus was God made flesh, come to earth so that we could understand how much God loves us and so that we would not be afraid to approach Him. Who could be afraid of an infant? The Infant Christ is a living symbol of the humility of God Who left the glory of heaven to come to earth in poverty and obscurity, showing us that we, too, are to be little and simple and to give our lives for others.

GIFTS: For many people, gifts define Christmas. They focus on the giving and receiving of gifts instead of on our greatest Gift Jesus Who gave Himself to us at Christmas. The wise men who brought their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to honor the infant King in Bethlehem's manger have inspired the concept of gift giving at Christmas. God also gives us the gifts of the Holy Spirit which help us to follow God's direction in our lives. The seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit are Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Knowledge, Piety, Fortitude, and Fear of the Lord (Awe of God's Greatness and Power).

FRUIT: People give fruit baskets as gifts. Cranberry sauce is part of many Christmas meals. At the turn of the last century, good children would receive their only orange of the year as a Christmas gift. As a Christmas symbol, fruit recalls the twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit. These Fruits result from the activity of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit in our lives. The twelve

Fruits of the Holy Spirit are: Charity (Love), Joy, Peace, Patience, Benignity (Kindness), Goodness, Long-Suffering (Patiently Bearing Suffering over a Long Period of Time), Mildness, Faith, Modesty, Contingency (Purity), Chastity.

CHRISTMAS TREE: Many pagan cultures worshipped evergreens, saw them as symbols of immortality, and used them to ward off evil spirits. In the early 700's, Saint Boniface, who converted the German people to Christianity, demolished the Oak of Thor, the mighty sacred tree worshipped by the Saxons. From its roots grew a fir tree which Boniface took as a sign of the Christian faith. In the 11th century, Paradise plays portrayed the tree of Paradise, decorated with red apples. During the 15th century, the faithful began to erect trees in their homes on December 24, the feast day of Adam and Eve. About the year 1500, inspired by a snow covered fir tree, a small tree was brought indoors and decorated with candles in honour of Christ's birth. By the 18th century, the custom of decorating a Christmas tree was well established in France, Germany, and Austria. Thus, the Christmas tree represents the original Tree of Paradise, the burning bush which spoke to Moses, the branch of Jesse from which Jesus was born, the life-giving tree of the cross of Christ, and the tree which St. John the Apostle saw in the Book of Revelations whose leaves have medicine for the people and which yields fruit each month for the healing of the nations. Because it is green year-round, the evergreen tree represents hope. Its needles and its narrow crest point upward, turning our thoughts to heaven. Because the tree is cut down and then erected again, it is a symbol of Christ's resurrection.



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Symbols will be continued next week

News You Can Use

- * Religious Education Classes this Sunday Dec 9 10:15 - 11:30
- * the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Wednesday, **December 12 –6:30pm Rosary – Mass immediately after** – followed by a Celebration in the Parish Hall, Pozole Tostadas and Bunuelos will be served.
- * Advent Penance Service - Dec 20th 6:30pm - St. Edward the Martyr, for your convenience area Penance services are listed below



Dec 11th	Tuesday	Prineville
Dec 13th	Thursday	Redmond
Dec 14th	Friday	La Pine
Dec 17th	Monday	Madras
Dec 18th	Tuesday	Bend
Dec 20th	Thursday	Sisters

Little Blue Books

For your daily Advent reflection are in the hall. Please be sure to pick yours up today! Advent begins this Sunday December 2. The glossy Blue Books are in Spanish.

Dec 2, 2018

Attendance: Vigil 42 / Sunday 105

Date	Weekly Offertory	Weekly Needed	Difference
Nov 11	\$2889	\$3000	\$(110)
Nov. 18	\$2999	\$3000	\$(1)
Nov. 25	\$2806	\$3000	\$(194)
Dec. 2	\$3937	\$3000	\$937

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:00 am Mass	8:00 Mass	8:00 am Mass	8:00 am Mass	8:00 am Mass	8:00 am Mass	5:30 p.m. Mass:
Pro Populo	For Heiman/Bergman†	For Phil Weigand†	Our lady of Guadeloupe 6:30 Rosary Mass immediately after Followed by a Celebration in the hall	For Junker/Ullyot†	For Eileen O'Brient†	
	Office 9:00 a.m.- noon	Office 9:00 a.m.- noon <small>All Bulletin items must be submitted. craigmay@ykw.net</small>		Office 9:00 a.m.- noon		

RE Schedule for 2018

Classes will be held on **Dec 9**, - from 10:15-11:30 and **Dec 16**, - with Father Joseph 10:15- 12:15 this is for RE students and parents. **Dec 23**, -Christmas Carols -After mass,during coffee and donuts.

If you are a visitor to our parish Welcome!
Thank you for joining us this weekend! Please be
sure to take time to enjoy St. Winefride's Garden.



Mark your Calendar!

Sunday,
Dec. 23rd

following Mass for Coffee, Donuts and
Carols with our RE kids!



*"God is no more in the clouds He is with us
and within us." Come let us celebrate...*

Christmas Mass Schedule:

- December 24, 2018 5:30 p.m.
- December 24, 2018 8:00 p.m.
- December 25, 2018 7:00 a.m.
- December 25, 2018 9:00 a.m.

Solemnity of Mary Mass Schedule

- December 31, 2018 5:30 p.m.
- January 1, 2019 10:00 a.m.

St. Edward the Martyr Roman Catholic Church
123 Trinity Way, Sisters | 541-549-9391 | stedwardsisters.org | Very Rev. Joseph Puthiyath CST, Pastor

You Can Help Your Marriage - Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on January 18-20 2019 call 1-503-225-9191 or visit www.helpourmarriage.org

MARRIED COUPLES

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

Take time for your marriage by attending the Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend on January 25th - 27th in Astoria, Oregon. For additional dates and locations go to our website www.wwme.org

K-5 Catholic Education

ST. THOMAS ACADEMY

REDMOND, OREGON

1720 NW 19TH ST REDMOND, OR
541-548-3785

St. Thomas Academy provides a safe community for students, focused on academic excellence infused with Catholic beliefs.

K-8 Catholic Education

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School
Bend, Oregon
541-382-4701

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School provides students a Christ centered community, educating the whole child through academic excellence and instilling the virtues that will guide them to be service minded leaders.

November Bible Challenge

- When Jacob left to meet Esau, how many times did he bow to the ground on the way? **7 33:3**
- What did God change Jacob's name to? **Israel 35:10**
- Who thought it was a good idea to save Joseph's life and instead sell him to the Ishmaelites? **Judah 37:26-27**
- Where did Jacob and his sons settle in Egypt?
The region of Goshen 47:5
- Where was Jacob buried?
in a cave in the field of Machpelah, facing Mamre 50:13

December Bible Challenge

- What are the names of the sons of Israel who, accompanied by their households, migrated with Jacob into Egypt? _____
- Where was Joseph when the other sons of Israel migrated into Egypt? _____
- What was the basket made of which hid Moses as a baby? _____
- Where did Moses go after he fled Egypt?

- What name means 'I am a stranger in a foreign land'? _____

Name _____
Contact Info _____

Please place entry in the Bible Challenge box in the narthex by 10:00 a.m. on the last Sunday of the month.

In this season of gift-giving, help improve a life by giving a donation to help a survivor of Human Trafficking. US Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking.
VISIT: sistersagainsttrafficking.org

Parish Office

123 Trinity Way P.O. Box 489
Sisters, OR 97759
Phone: 541-549-9391 Fax: 541-549-1057

Parish Staff

Rev. Joseph P. Thomas - Administrator
541-549-0751 **Cell Phone** 541-699-7922
Email: frptjoe@stedwardsisters.org

Parish email: stedward@bendbroadband.com

Bookkeeper and Administrative Assistant:

Nanci Reuter

Parish Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
9:00am to 12:00pm and as always by appointment.

Confessions by appointment

Church & Garden website:

www.stedwardsisters.org

Diocese website:

www.dioceseofbaker.org

Catholic Bishops website:

www.usccb.org

Bulletin Administrator

Craig May - craigmay@ykwc.net

Infant Baptism: Parents and godparents are required to take a preparation class. Please contact the parish office.

RCIA and Adult Confirmation: Adults and children are always welcome to learn more about the Catholic Church and prepare for full initiation. Call the parish office to learn more.

Marriage Preparation: At least six months in advance couples must arrange for pre-marriage instruction before setting the desired date. Contact the parish office for more information.

Communion to the Sick: Contact the parish office if you or a loved one is unable to attend Mass but wishes to receive Holy Communion.

Anointing of the Sick: Celebrate this healing sacrament before your scheduled surgery or hospital stay. Call the parish office.

Catholics, Come Home: If you or someone you know has been away from the Church and isn't sure how to come back, please contact the parish office.

Funeral Services: Please call the parish office at 541-549-9391.

Vocations: If you are interested in the priesthood or the religious life, please call Fr. Joseph Thomas

Saturday Music: If you are interested in being a part of this liturgical ministry, please call Anne Seile at 541-549-5702.

Sunday Music: Please join us for rehearsal every Wednesday at 6:30pm in the church, or speak with a choir member after Mass.

Send all bulletin announcements by Tuesday noon one week preceding the requested Sunday to stedward@bendbroadband.com.

Celebrate with FORMED Daily Reflections!

Formed "the Netflix for Catholics" Register at FORMED.ORG - Parishioner code: **VCHERN**
Unlimited access to the best ebooks, talks and videos in the church today.

In Person Help

by Dave Huni



Computer help and training
by your friendly guide to
the world of computers
(541) 633-8034
E-mail: inpersonhelp@gmail.com
<http://inpersonhelp.googlepages.com>



Immigration,
Estate Planning, Etc. **Sean M. Neary**

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220 S. Ash Street, Ste. 8 • Sisters, Oregon 97759
E-mail: don@blackbutte.com



Open
Daily at
11 am

RANCHO VIEJO

Mexican Restaurant & Cantina

Located in the heart of downtown Sisters.

Come try our delicious dishes, including some of the finest steak, pork, chicken, and seafood platters in Central Oregon.



150 E. Cascade Ave.
Sisters, OR 97759
541-549-3594