



ST. THOMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

4415 S. 140TH ST, TUKWILA, WA 98168

206.242.5501

WWW.SAINTTTHOMASTUKWILA.ORG

Under St. Thomas' patronage, our parish aspires to evangelize our world through the beauty of our Liturgical worship; the goodness of our lives empowered by the Holy Spirit and ordered towards holiness in community; and conforming our minds to the Truths of Scriptures and Tradition.

Second Sunday of Advent, December 5, 2021
Segundo Domingo de Adviento, 5 de Diciembre del 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A VOICE OF ONE CRYING OUT IN THE DESERT:

"PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD,

MAKE STRAIGHT HIS PATHS.

EVERY VALLEY SHALL BE FILLED

AND EVERY MOUNTAIN AND HILL SHALL BE MADE LOW."

—LUKE 3:4-5

Liturgy Schedule

Public Weekend Masses—In Church

Saturday: 5 PM English—Livestreamed

Sunday: 8:30 AM Spanish —Livestreamed

10:30 AM English—Livestreamed

Public Weekday Masses—In Church

Tuesday: 7 PM Spanish

Wednesday: 9 AM English

Thursday: 9 AM English

Friday: 9 AM English

1st Friday & Adoration: 8 AM-Adoration

8:30 AM-Rosary

9 AM-Mass

Adoration ends at 11 AM

All weekday Masses are also livestreamed

Adoration

Tuesday: 5 PM—6:45 PM

Friday: 9:30 AM—11 AM

Anointing of the Sick

First Friday of the month, or by appointment.

Confessions

Tuesday: 6 PM—6:45 PM

Friday: 9:30 AM—10:15 AM

Saturday: 4 PM—4:50 PM

Sunday: 7:30 AM—8:20 AM

Parish Office Hours

Monday—Thursday: 9 AM—2 PM

Friday: 9 AM—Noon

Saturday & Sunday: Closed

All major holidays: Closed



As we begin our Second Week of Advent, the Church reminds us what a wonderful privilege it is to make a way for the Lord. We are called at all times to give an account of the hope inside of us (c.f. 1 Peter 3:15).

The first reading from Baruch reminds us that God is always wanting to do a work of restoration. These words are very consoling for us who recognize just how divided our world is and how many conflicts of war, famine, and disease plague so many parts of the world. But we also recognize that countries who are prosperous materially have extreme poverty in other ways.

Jesus came to help us find our way back to the God and to one another. When we have fellowship and communion with Him, our lives are lived in a very different fashion. Advent is a wonderful time for us to rediscover this truth.

One commentary I read stated that God doesn't start these works of restoration with those who hold power but with the poor and meek. Luke situates this restoration as beginning in the desert. The desert is a place of purification and preparation throughout the Bible.

Luke is keen on reporting in detail the names of the persons who, at the time, controlled the different spheres of political and religious power. They plan and direct everything. Nevertheless, the decisive event of Jesus takes place outside the sphere of their influence and power without their becoming aware of or making decisions about anything.

That is the way what is essential in the world and in our lives always happens. It is how salvation and the grace of God enter human history. What is essential is not in the hands of those who hold power. Luke puts it tersely: «The Word of God came to John in the desert», not to Imperial Rome, nor to the sacred precincts of the temple in Jerusalem.

Nowhere else than in the desert can one hear the call of God to change the world. The desert is the realm of the truth, the place where one lives on essentials. There is no room for the superfluous. You cannot keep accumulating things that are not needed. Luxury and ostentation are inconceivable. It is crucial here to find the right way to live.

Pagola, J. A. (2012). *Following in the Footsteps of Jesus: Meditations on the Gospels for Year C*. (R. Luciani, Ed., V. de Souza, Trans.) (p. 27). Miami, FL: Convivium Press.

Advent is a time for us to focus on the things that really matter and not to allow ourselves to be lured away from the Lord by the empty things of the world that promise so much but deliver so little. We must live our lives in the right way.

May this Second Week of Advent be filled with opportunities to rediscover the joy of the Gospel and the call each of us has received to be a People of Hope.

*In Christ,
Fr. James Northrop
Pastor*

Parish Phone Directory

Parish Staff

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Finance Council

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Oren & Kathy Hadaller

Jadelyn Manuel

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Arturo Garcia Vazquez

Barbara Wu

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New to St. Thomas? Welcome! Learn more about our diverse and vibrant community by visiting our website at www.saintthomastukwila.org. Registration forms are online, in the narthex of the Church, and/or in the parish office. Please place all completed parish registration forms in the collection basket or mail it in.

Bulletin Notices: *The article deadline is 12 PM (Noon) on the Friday* a week before the weekend you wish it to appear (8 days in advance). Notices about parish events or items of interest to the parish are welcome, however posting cannot be guaranteed. Email bulletin articles/notices to mona@saintthomastukwila.org