



# ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL

1716 NW Davis St., Portland, OR 97209  
503-228-4397

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[www.maryscathedral.com](http://www.maryscathedral.com)

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Stephanie Fisher-Hunt, Director, Religious Education  
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Seung Min Oh, Organist  
Laszlo Lantos, Maintenance  
Anne Yoo, Chair, Pastoral Council  
Michael Carrano, Chair, Administrative Council  
Alan Sanchez, Knights of Columbus

**Cathedral School:** 503-275-9370  
Amy Biggs, Principal  
Susan Hatley, Administrative Assistant

## Liturgical Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass:  
5:30 PM Congregational Singing

Sunday Masses:  
7:30 AM  
9:00 AM Congregational Singing  
11:00 AM Cathedral Choir  
5:30 PM Contemporary Ensemble

Daily Masses:  
7:30 AM & 5:30 PM

Reconciliation (Confession):  
Saturday 4:00 PM-5:15 PM  
Other times by appointment.



# DECEMBER 24, 2017

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



### MASS INTENTIONS

**Dec 7:30am & 5:30pm**

- 25 *Christmas Day*
- 26 **Charles Donahe, dec**  
Luis Aponte, dec
- 27 **Bob Brady, dec**  
Anne Tierney Angel, dec
- 28 **Sr. Geralda Meskill**  
Earle A. Chiles, dec
- 29 **John Ryan, dec**  
Leo & Nell Hogan, dec
- 30 **Blanchet House**



### **A WORD FROM THE PASTOR**

So, what is Christmas all about? Linus knows, and many others do as well, including Charles Dickens. Recently, I reread his great classic, *A Christmas Carol*. The story is about Christmas, but it is also about *conversion*. Christmas invites us not only to celebrate the birth of Jesus, but also to imitate his life. One man, Scrooge, would learn this lesson the hard way.

Scrooge. The very name says it all: tight-fisted, miserly, a curmudgeon whose response to everything is “Bah! Humbug!” But Scrooge is no match for grace, which shows up on Christmas Eve in the form of four ghosts. The first of these ghosts is his old partner, Jacob Marley. Marley arrives dragging chains, and he warns Scrooge that he, too, will carry into eternity the chains he forged in life. But Marley also reminds Scrooge that he has time to change: “I am here tonight to warn you, that you have yet a chance and hope of escaping my fate.” Marley tells Scrooge that he will be visited by three spirits: the Ghost of Christmas Past, the Ghost of Christmas Present, and the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come.

The first ghost takes Scrooge back to his childhood and young adulthood and shows him, painfully, how he changed from a happy lad to a greedy miser—choosing gain over love. The second ghost shows Scrooge the present; in particular, the hard life of his clerk, Bob Cratchit, and his family. It is here that we meet Tiny Tim, the lame, youngest son of the Cratchit family. Though the family is desperately poor, they are happy—something unfathomable to Scrooge. At the same time, Scrooge begins to see the sufferings of the poor, and he must confront his own hard attitude. In seeing the Cratchit family, Scrooge’s heart begins to change.

The third ghost—the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come—takes Scrooge to a churchyard, where he sees his own grave. Passersby comment that “no tear was shed” at his passing. He also learns that Tiny Tim is dead. Shocked and saddened, Scrooge’s heart begins to melt, and he cries out, “Spirit! Hear me. I am not the man I was! I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year!” With that, the ghost disappears, and Scrooge wakes up. It is Christmas day.

The story concludes with the “new Scrooge,” a transformed man. Where he was miserly before, now he is magnanimous. Where he was irascible before, now he is filled with joy. Where he was a penny-pincher before, now he is indulgent. And where he didn’t care a wit about his life or anyone else’s before, now he is filled with compassion. Grace, and the spirit of Christmas, worked on Scrooge. And it can work on us as well.

Christ was born into the world over 2000 years ago. He is born again into the world when we show the same love he did. Like Scrooge, all of us are given a second chance, and it begins today. So, what is Christmas all about? “Today, in the city of Portland, a Savior is born to us, who is Christ the Lord.”

Msgr. Patrick S. Brennan

### Week of December 24

- Sunday: Christmas Eve Family Mass 4pm**  
**Christmas Eve Vigil Mass 6pm**  
**Midnight Mass, Lessons & Carols 11pm**
- Monday: Christmas Day Masses at 7:30, 9 and 11am**
- Tuesday: Office Closed**
- Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: Office closes at noon**

### Financial Report for December 17

<b>Regular Households: 800</b>	<b>Envelopes used: 117</b>		
	<b>E-Giving: 86</b>		
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>%Difference</u>
<b>Sunday Envelope:</b>	\$ 8,037		
<b>E-Giving:</b>	\$ 3,586		
<b>Loose Collection:</b>	\$ 3,321		
<b>Immaculate Conception:</b>	\$ 20		
<b>Christmas:</b>	\$ 320		
<b>Solemnity of Mary:</b>	\$ 85		
<b>TOTAL PARISH:</b>	\$15,369	\$16,394	-6%
<b>Fiscal Year to Date:</b>	\$346,828	\$377,062	-8%
<b>Social Services: \$275</b>	<b>School: \$15</b>		
<b>Christmas Flowers: \$50</b>			

*We are grateful for your contributions to Cathedral!*

### Have you signed up for Electronic Giving (E-Giving)?

If you are interested in E-Giving please visit our website at [maryscathedral.com](http://maryscathedral.com) and click on the Online Giving button.

## WORSHIP ✦ PRAYER ✦ FAITH FORMATION



**Christmas Mass Schedule:** *Christmas Eve:* 4pm (Family Mass), 6pm and Midnight. *Christmas Day:* 7:30am, 9am, 11am.; No 5:30pm Mass.

**Mass Obligations on Christmas and the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God:** This year, Christmas Eve is on a Sunday, and Christmas is on a Monday. This means that we will celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent on Sunday morning, December 24<sup>th</sup>; and that afternoon, we will celebrate Christmas. Inevitably, the question arises: if we attend Mass on Sunday afternoon, will we fulfill both the Sunday Mass obligation and the Christmas obligation (a two-for-one Mass)? While canonists and liturgists argue the question, the prevailing view is this: each obligation must be fulfilled with a separate Mass (no twofer).

The situation is a little different the following Sunday (December 31<sup>st</sup>), the Feast of the Holy Family, and Monday (January 1<sup>st</sup>), the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. Because the Solemnity (January 1<sup>st</sup>, New Year's Day) falls on a Monday, it is not a day of obligation. Therefore, the evening Mass of Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, will be the Feast of the Holy Family, not the vigil Mass for Mary, the Mother of God.

**Catholicism:** Join us every Monday beginning on January 8, in St. Joseph Hall at 6:45pm, for Bishop Robert Barron's 10 week video series, Catholicism. The film will begin at 7pm followed by a small group discussion. Light snacks will be provided. Enter from 17th Street.

## CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

**Cathedral School has openings** in Pre-Kindergarten, and First Grade for the 2017-2018 school year and we are now accepting applications for all grades for 2018-2019. Call 503.275.9370 for information or to schedule a tour. We hope to see you at our annual *Open House* for prospective families on Sunday, January 28, 2018 from 10am-12:30pm

## ✦✦✦ CELEBRATIONS IN OUR PARISH THIS PAST WEEK

**Baptism:**  
Liam Tat Lin

**Wedding:**  
Ryan Boone & Lauren Carroll

## *Christmas Eve: Nearing Midnight in New York*

The Christmas trees are almost sold  
And the ones that are left go cheap  
The children almost all over town  
Have almost gone to sleep.

The skyscraper lights on Christmas Eve  
Have almost all gone out  
There's very little traffic  
Almost no one about.

Our town's almost as quiet  
As Bethlehem must have been  
Before a sudden angel chorus  
Sang PEACE ON EARTH  
GOOD WILL TO MEN!

Our old Statue of Liberty  
Looks down almost with a smile  
As the Island of Manhattan  
Awaits the morning of the Child.

*Langston Hughes*



## OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

**The 2017 Church Calendars** will be available next week at all the Masses. They are generously donated by Riverview Abbey Funeral Home.

## STEWARDSHIP

### **Year End Tax Deductions—Did you know you can gift shares of appreciated stock to St. Mary's Cathedral?**

Although cash is always a welcome donation, a gift of stock can offer unique tax savings. By donating appreciated securities you have held more than a year, you may be able to take a tax deduction for the full market value and avoid the capital gains tax (consult your tax advisor). Cathedral website (<http://maryscathedral.com>) provides a form (Authorization for Transfer Gift of Securities) that can assist you. For more information, contact Jennifer Overbay in the parish office.

**Charitable Gifts Year-End Cutoff:** According to the IRS, donors must deliver or mail checks on or by **December 31, 2017**. Checks that are mailed and **postmarked** by December 31 will be deductible for 2017.

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS - DEC 30 & 31**

**Presiders:**

<b>Vigil</b>	Fr. Timothy Furlow	<b>11:00</b>	Msgr. Patrick Brennan
<b>7:30</b>	Fr. Timothy Furlow		
<b>9:00</b>	Msgr. Patrick Brennan	<b>5:30</b>	Fr. Timothy Furlow

**Lectors:**

<b>Vigil</b>	Betty Donnelly, Barbara Brainard
<b>7:30</b>	Katy Gregosky
<b>9:00</b>	Lloyd Heller, Hayden Thomas
<b>11:00</b>	Elizabeth Cushwa, John Pigott
<b>5:30</b>	Daniel Hseih, Jonathan Scrimenti

**Greeters & Ushers:**

<b>Vigil</b>	Thierry/ Mary Wuilloud
<b>9:00</b>	Longaker Family
<b>11:00</b>	Sr. Connie Furseth, Sandy Simmons, Chris O'Brien

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

<b>Vigil</b>	Ed Geisler, Janet Satterlee Greg Mozdy, Heidi Mordy, Suzie Santilli
<b>7:30</b>	Katy Gregosky, Jim Larkins, Jesse Alvarez
<b>9:00</b>	Patsy McKelligon, Mike McKelligon, TBA Kathryn Bowman, Helen Heller, TBA
<b>11:00</b>	Rick Ganji, Mary Ganji, Sue O'Donnell Joan Townsend, Marilyn Griffin, Dohky-J-Karchaei, Ann Wehrley
<b>5:30</b>	Jonathan Scrimenti, Kelsey McGinnis, Kathy Kelly Hector Nunez, Amy Brown, TBA

**Altar Servers:**

<b>Vigil</b>	Nathalie Ayotte, Katherine Ayotte, TBA
<b>7:30</b>	TBA, TBA
<b>9:00</b>	Irene Langer, Zuzi Langer, Chloe Langer
<b>11:00</b>	Noor Jawed, Mariam Jawed
<b>5:30</b>	Fernando Martinez, TBA, TBA

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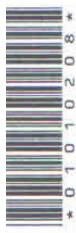
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