

Whatever you do,
do everything for the glory of God.

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL
The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 15, 2009

ORDER OF CELEBRATION FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Out of respect for the liturgy we are about to celebrate,

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELLULAR PHONES.

RITE OF RECEPTION INTO THE FULL COMMUNION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH (10:00)

PRELUDE

Our Father who art in heaven

Böhm

ENTRANCE

Your hands, O Lord, in days of old

MOZART



1. Your hands, O Lord, in days of old Were strong to heal and
2. And then your touch brought life and health, Gave speech, and strength, and
3. O be our might - y heal - er still, O Lord of life and

save; They tri - umphed o - ver pain and death, Fought
sight; And youth re - newed and health re - stored, Claimed
death; Re - store and strength - en, soothe and bless, With

dark - ness and the grave. To you they went, the
you, the Lord of light: And so, O Lord, be
your al - might - y breath: On hands that work and

blind, the mute, The pal - sied, and the lame, The lep - er
near to bless, Al - might - y now as then, In ev - 'ry
eyes that see, Your heal - ing wis - dom pour, That whole and

set a - part and shunned, The sick and those in shame.
street, in ev - 'ry home, In ev - 'ry trou - bled friend.
sick, and weak and strong, May praise you ev - er - more.

SPRINKLING RITE (10:00)

Vidi aquam

Schubert, adapted



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

PENITENTIAL RITE No. 273

German Mass

Schubert

GLORIA

Schubert



Glo - ry, glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his
Lord, Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly one, you a - lone

peo - ple on earth. Lord God, hea - ven - ly King, al - migh - ty God and
Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
are the Lord. You a - lone are the Most High, Je - - - sus

Fa - ther. We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you
sin of the world, have mer - cy on us, You are sea - ted at the right
Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit in the glo - ry of

for your glo - ry, we praise you for your glo - ry,
hand of the Fa - ther, re - ceive our pray'r, re - ceive our pray'r.
God the Fa - ther. A - - - men. A - - - men.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

READINGS No. 881

PSALM RESPONSE

Psalm 32

Proulx



Praise the Lord, my soul! Praise the Lord!

ALLELUIA

Murray



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOMILY

Father Michael G. Ryan (10:00)

Deacon David Olsen (all other Masses)

RITE OF RECEPTION INTO FULL COMMUNION (10:00)

CALLING OF THE CANDIDATES

CREED No. 238

ACT OF RECEPTION

CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION

LAYING ON OF HANDS

ANOINTING WITH CHRISM



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND THE GIFTS

(10:00)

There is a balm in Gilead

Dawson

SANCTUS

German Mass

Schubert

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, _____
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, _____
 heav - en and earth are full, _____ full _____ of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes _____ in the name of the Lord. _____ Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

German Mass

Schubert, adapted for St. James Cathedral

When we eat this bread, _____ when we drink this cup, _____
 we pro-claim your death _____ un - til you come in glo - ry.

AMEN

German Mass

Schubert

A - men, a - men, a - men, a - men, a - men. _____

AGNUS DEI

German Mass

Schubert



℞ 1, 2 Have mer - cy on _____ us.



℞ 3 Give _____ us _____ your peace.

COMMUNION

They ate, and were fully satisfied; the Lord gave them all that they desired; they were not deprived of their wants.

(10:00)

Dear Lord and Father

Parry

When you return to your place after receiving Holy Communion, please **KNEEL OR BE SEATED**. This is the norm for large assemblies in the Archdiocese of Seattle and we thank you for following our practice.

HYMN OF PRAISE

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds

ST. PETER



1. How good the name of Je - sus sounds To
2. It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole, And
3. Blest Name! the rock on which we build, Our
4. O Je - sus, Shep-herd, Guard - ian, Friend, Our



all be - liev - ing ears! It soothes our sor - rows,
calms the trou - bled mind; His man - na for each
shield and rest - ing place, Our nev - er - fail - ing
Proph - et, Priest and King, Our Lord, our Life, our



heals our wounds, And drives a - way our fears.
hun - gry soul, The lost and wear - y find.
com - fort, filled With bless - ings of his grace.
Way, our End, Ac - cept the praise we bring.

PROCESSION

Preludium in G Minor, BuxWV 149

Buxtehude

St. James Cathedral - Seattle

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL

The Most Reverend Alexander J. Brunett, Archbishop of Seattle

PASTOR

The Very Reverend Michael G. Ryan

IN RESIDENCE

The Reverend David A. Brant
The Reverend Thomas Marti, MM

PASTORAL ASSISTANT for ADMINISTRATION

Lawrence N. Brouse (206-382-4280)

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRIES

John Simpson (206-274-3173)

SOCIAL OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY

Patty Bowman, Director (206-382-4515)
Jennifer Ibach (206-654-4640)
Jim and Jill McAuliffe, Cathedral Kitchen (206-264-2091)
Deacon Joseph Curtis

LITURGY

Corinna Laughlin, Pastoral Assistant for Liturgy (206-622-3559)
Deacon David Olsen, Stephen Pace, Bryan Long, Brenda Bellamy,
Sacristans

MUSIC MINISTRY (206-382-4874)

Dr. James Savage, Director of Music
Joseph Adam, Organist (206-382-4597)
Clint Kraus, Associate Organist; Director of Youth Music
Stacey Sunde, Music Assistant
Ian Newhall, Coordinator of Special Projects

FAITH FORMATION

Helen Oesterle, Director/RCIA (206-382-4514)
TerryAnn Bowen, "Welcome Back" & Confirmation (206-382-2018)
Marianne Coté, Youth & Family Ministry (206-382-4512)
Lita McBride, Children's Faith Formation (206-654-4658)
Theresa Van de Ven, Administrative Assistant (206-219-5822)

MINISTRY TO IMMIGRANTS (206-382-4511)

Christopher J. Koehler, Director
Glenda Caldwell, ESL Tutoring
Jim Hodges, Citizenship
Cecilia Erin Walsh, Refugee Project Coordinator
Lupita Gonzalez, Community Mentors
Mali Main, Development Assistant

STEWARDSHIP and DEVELOPMENT

Maria Laughlin, Director (206-382-4284)

WEDDING COORDINATORS

Linda Carr, Bev Mauser (206-622-3559 ext. 3979)

PARISH OFFICE

Kay Kaiser, Executive Assistant (206-654-4650)
Marilyn Maddeford, Receptionist (206-622-3559)
Joan McDonnell, Marriage Tribunal Advocate (206-622-3559)
Sister Mary Slater, SNJM, Bookkeeper (206-622-3559 ext. 3974)

FACILITIES and GROUNDS

Dennis Morse, Facilities Manager (206-622-3559)

CELEBRATIONS of the SACRAMENTS

MASS

Sundays 8 - 10 - 12 & 5:30 pm
Weekdays 8:15 & 5:30 pm
Saturdays 8:15 & "Vigil" 5:30 pm

LITURGY OF THE HOURS Weekdays at 12:10 pm

VESPERS and BENEDICTION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

Sundays at 4:00 pm.

BAPTISM Communal celebrations are held monthly. A preparation program for parents and godparents is required. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

RECONCILIATION Saturdays, 4:00 - 5:00 pm. A communal celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated four times yearly in preparation for Christmas and Easter.

MARRIAGE A formal program of marriage preparation over a period of several months is required, however, registered parishioners may begin the scheduling process 14 months in advance.

ANOIDING of the SICK A communal celebration is held regularly. In other situations (anticipated surgery, emergency) please call the parish office.

ECUMENICAL PRAYER with music from Taizé, Fridays at 6:30 pm.

TOURS OF THE CATHEDRAL Groups of 6 or more may arrange a tour by calling Maria Laughlin, 206-382-4284

CATHEDRAL BOOKSTORE Open 11:00 am to 3:00 pm weekdays, after Masses on weekends. Call 206-382-4500 for information

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL PARISH

804 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104
Telephone: 206-622-3559 FAX: 206-622-5303
Website: www.stjames-cathedral.org
Emergency Number: 206-467-3049
Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

WELCOME: *If you are a visitor to the Cathedral, we want you to know how welcome you are – whether you have come from another part of the country, from across the world, or simply from another parish here in the Archdiocese. Thanks, in part, to the generosity of visitors like you, we are able to celebrate the Church's liturgy here in a fitting and beautiful way. We are also able to offer a wide range of services to needy people living in the central district of our city.*

FLOWERS IN THE CATHEDRAL are in memory of Jose Turla on the 12th anniversary of his death. The flowers were donated by his wife, Aurora.

PUTTING GOD FIRST You're invited to "put God first" this Lent by participating in a five-week retreat of study and faith sharing based on the U.S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*. Stop by coffee hour TODAY to meet some of our facilitators, review the materials, and learn more about this program. It's a great way to get to know some fellow parishioners and really celebrate Lent. *Information*, Maria Laughlin, 206-382-4284, mlaughter@stjames-cathedral.org.

SOUL SEARCHING: THE JOURNEY OF THOMAS MERTON Due to popular demand, a second showing of this award winning documentary is scheduled for Tuesday, February 17 from 1:00-2:00pm or 6:30-7:30pm in Cathedral Place, second floor. *Information*, Helen Oesterle, 206-382-4514, hoesterle@stjames-cathedral.org.

GREAT MUSIC FOR GREAT CATHEDRALS February 20 and 21, 8:00pm. This popular Seattle tradition returns with something new! Cathedral Resident Artists Stephen Stubbs, baroque lute and Maxine Eilander, baroque harp join the eight Cathedral choirs, 16-member Cathedral Brass, and three pipe organs in an evening of sound, light, movement, poetry and above all—MUSIC. Directed by James Savage. Jeff Robbins, lighting designer, Kitty Kavanaugh, scenic designs. Suggested donation \$25.00, students and seniors pay as able. Reserved passes available now at www.stjames-cathedral.org/music.

FINDING HOPE IN DIFFICULT ECONOMIC TIMES Are you facing unemployment, foreclosure, depletion of retirement funds or some other difficult situation OR are you supporting someone who is? Come for support, fellowship and sharing of ideas on Saturday, February 28 from 10:00-11:30am in Cathedral Place, second floor. *Information*, Helen Oesterle, 206-382-4514, hoesterle@stjames-cathedral.org.

PARISH REMEMBRANCE *Throughout the year because we are the Cathedral Church, we remember in prayer at Mass and Vespers each of the parishes and missions of the Archdiocese of Seattle on a Sunday near their feast day. This week we remember in prayer the parishes of St. Peter in Seattle and St. Peter Mission in Deming, Suquamish, and Tenino.*

FOUNDATIONS IN OUR CATHOLIC FAITH: THE PENTATEUCH Sunday, February 22, 1:30-5:30pm at St. Peter's Parish Hall. This Scripture course will focus on the first five books of the Bible. Through the stories of leading Biblical figures, participants will explore how the idea of a Covenant Community and our ability to have a personal relationship with God develops. This program is a wonderful opportunity to continue to grow as mature and well-informed Catholics. (Co-sponsored by St. James Cathedral and the South Seattle Deanery) *Information*, Helen Oesterle, 206-382-4514, hoesterle@stjames-cathedral.org

350TH 250TH 200TH 50TH Opus 7 Vocal Ensemble, a Cathedral Resident Ensemble, celebrates the anniversaries of Purcell, Handel, Mendelssohn and Villa-Lobos. Loren Pontén, director. Saturday, February 28, 8:00pm. *Information*, 206-782-2899 or www.opus7.org.

FINDING WORK... WITH GOD'S HELP! Our parish is offering a five-week series on the art of looking for work that is grounded in prayer and community. Whether you're recently unemployed or just thinking of making a switch, these sessions will help refine your job search strategy and outline concrete steps you can take to improve your visibility in the market. The sessions will be led by parishioner Darcey McAllister, a Human Resources professional, and will take place on Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 from 7:00-9:00pm in Cathedral Place, second floor. *Information*, Helen Oesterle, 206-382-4514, hoesterle@stjames-cathedral.org

CONFIRMATION CLASSES for adults and high school students 16 years and older begin Thursday, March 5, 6:30-8:30pm in Cathedral Place Room 411. Full sacramental initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist) is important for all practicing Catholics, and is particularly important for those who are considering getting married. *Information*, TerryAnn Bowen, tbowen@stjames-cathedral.org or 206-382-2018.

DOUBLE CHOIR TREASURES Friday, March 6, 8:15pm and Saturday, March 7, 8:00pm. Seattle Pro Musica, a Cathedral Resident Ensemble performs double choir masterworks by English composers. Chosen by Karen P. Thomas, director, for the glorious acoustics of St. James. *Information*, 206-781-2766, www.seattlepromusica.org.

DANIEL ROTH, ORGANIST Friday, March 13, 8:00pm. Widely acknowledged as one of the world's greatest organists and improvisors, the Titular Organist of St. Sulpice, Paris, makes his St. James debut on the Cathedral's magnificent organs. Suggested donation is \$15, with students and seniors paying as able. *Information*, 206-382-4874, www.stjames-cathedral.org/music.

THE NEW AMERICAN Share the journey of a new American, from the turmoil of the old country to the promise of America. This live performance combined

Sacred Steps

Sacramental Celebrations at St. James

MARRIED in the Cathedral on Friday, February 6 were *Gretchen Diekman* and *John Voxland*. Please pray for them as they begin their new life together.

BAPTIZED in the Cathedral on Saturday, February 7 were *Lucia Ahten*, *Benjamin James Courtney*, *Tristan Patrick Enjuto*, *Hank Cameron Ewing*, and *Alexei Johnny Gonzalez*. We welcome them into our family of faith.

with film and audio, traces the journey of an Irish immigrant. It includes the steamship passage of 1910, the path through Ellis Island, and working in the sweatshops of Manhattan. Stay for the post-performance discussion on Catholic Social Teaching and current immigration issues. Friday, March 13 at 7:00 pm in the Pastoral Outreach Center. Presented by Living Voices, St. James Cathedral Outreach Ministries and the ESL Program. *Information*, Christopher Koehler at 206-382-4511 or ckoehler@stjames-cathedral.org.

ST. JAMES ESL BOOK CLUB Join us on Tuesday, March 31 in the Pastoral Outreach Center to discuss *Jasmine* by Bharati Mukherjee. Acclaimed by the *Los Angeles Times Book Review* as "artful and arresting" and "breathtaking," the book tells the riveting story of a young woman's journey and transformation from rural India to Iowa. *Jasmine* is a quick read, and a thought-provoking story of what it means to be American. Now available in the Cathedral Bookstore. *Information*, Christopher Koehler, 206-382-4511, ckoehler@stjames-cathedral.org



THE YEAR OF ST. PAUL

Each week during the Year of St. Paul, watch this space in the bulletin for reflection questions that will lead us deeper into the writings and example of St. Paul. You are also invited to visit the Place of Prayer in the west aisle and on the website.

- "Do everything for the glory of God." St. Paul sums up the Christian life in these luminous words. How can we put these words into action in our daily lives—at work, around the dinner table, in our leisure hours?
- The Year of St. Paul is summed up in Paul's bold declaration in today's reading: "Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ." How have you come to know Paul better during this year of St. Paul? How can we imitate Paul?

Putting God First

A Lent Retreat for the Cathedral Parish

Five Week Plan

WEEK ONE The Call

Stewardship is part of discipleship. But Christian discipleship begins with vocation, the call to follow Jesus and imitate his way of life. In what ways is God calling me? To whom is God sending me?

WEEK TWO Jesus' Way

Jesus accomplishes his Father's will—paradoxically—by emptying himself completely. Do we “have among ourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Jesus Christ,” as St. Paul says? When in our lives have we experienced that self-emptying?

WEEK THREE Living as a Steward

God created us in “the divine image and likeness.” As part of this “resemblance” to God, we are called to share in his work of creation and redemption. Do we value the gift of life, of creation? When have we been able to share in the work of redemption, in joy or in suffering?

WEEK FOUR Stewards of the Church

Our participation in the building up of the Church takes different forms. But every Christian is called—in our own place and time—to spread the good news and to stand in solidarity with the poor, the oppressed, the suffering. In what ways do we live and preach the Gospel?

WEEK FIVE The Christian Steward

We conclude with a brief portrait of the Christian steward, drawn from the New Testament. In a special way, the Blessed Virgin is the model of Christian discipleship. In the end, what remains is the question: Do we also wish to be disciples of Jesus Christ?

Each Lent, St. James Cathedral offers many opportunities for prayer and reflection. This Lent, we're offering something more: an opportunity to gather in small groups with other parishioners to talk about faith and discipleship.



Putting God First is a five-week study of the U. S. Catholic Bishops' 1991 pastoral letter *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*. This important document was drafted by our own late beloved Thomas J. Murphy. Themes for each of the five weeks are outlined at the left.

We will gather as a group for prayer, then break into smaller groups for discussion of an assigned question. You'll find the small groups helpful in getting to know the members of your group. Smaller groups also tend to get deeper into the topic and to allow everyone to share equally.

Our hope is that the study of this document, and above all the stimulating discussions that result, will help renew your faith and your relationship to the Church and Jesus Christ. **Please consider participating this Lent!** Information, Maria Laughlin, 206-382-4284.

RSVP *Putting God First*

NAME(S) _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

I WILL ATTEND PUTTING GOD FIRST...

- ☐ Monday EVENINGS, 7-9pm, 2/23, 3/2, 3/9, 3/16, 3/23, Pastoral Outreach Center
- ☐ Wednesday EVENINGS, 7-9pm, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1, Fireside Room
- ☐ Saturday MORNINGS, 9-11am, 2/28, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28, Pastoral Outreach Center

Please drop this form in the offering basket today or return no later than **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20** to:
Maria Laughlin, St. James Cathedral, 804 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98104
You may also e-mail mllaughlin@stjames-cathedral.org or call 206-382-4284

A LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

St. Paul's Letter to the Romans



Tuesdays of Lent, 1-3pm & 7-9pm

Cathedral Place, Second Floor

We complete our two year review of the writings of St. Paul by studying his letter to the Romans--the most compelling and challenging of all his letters. All are welcome and no bible experience required! (You are encouraged to read the noted chapters ahead of time, if possible)

March 3 **Introduction; Humanity lost without the Gospel (1:1-3:20)**

March 10 **Salvation through Faith in Christ (3:21-5:21)**

March 17 **Salvation and the Christian Life (6:1-8:39)**

March 23 **Jews and Gentiles in God's Plan (9:1-11:36)**

March 30 **The Duties of Christians; Conclusion (12:1-16:27)**

Information, Helen Oesterle, 206-382-4514 hoesterle@stjames-cathedral.org

The New Atheism's Challenge to 21st-Century Religion

Thursday, March 5, 2009
7:00pm

Cathedral Place Hall
803 Terry Avenue, Seattle
Suggested donation \$10

Join a discussion about how Christians can present their faith in the face of "New Atheism" arguments, and explore contemporary challenges to faith emerging from Darwinian theory and the religious wars since 9/11.

FATHER MICHAEL RASCHKO, associate professor, and priest of the Archdiocese of Seattle, is a systematic theologian. Father Raschko teaches Christian Anthropology, Christology, hermeneutics, other courses in systematic theology, and part of the history sequence at Seattle University's School of Theology and Ministry (STM). He assists the pastor at Holy Rosary in Seattle and teaches throughout the Archdiocese of Seattle. Father Raschko is also the first recipient of the Robert J. and Mary H. Bertch Professorship of Catholic Systematic Theology at STM.



Catholic Social Principles and the Economic Crisis

More than 20 years ago, the U.S. Catholic bishops issued a landmark pastoral letter, "Economic Justice for All." In light of the current economic crisis and to enable us to participate in the political debates concerning the government's response to the crisis, we should keep in mind the principles of "Economic Justice for All."

- Every economic decision and institution must be judged in light of whether it protects or undermines the dignity of the human person.
- Human dignity can be realized and protected only in community. In our teaching, the human person is not only sacred but social. . . . The obligation to "love our neighbor" has an individual dimension, but it also requires a broader social commitment to the common good.
- All people have a right to participate in the economic life of society. Basic justice demands that people be assured a minimum level of participation in the economy.
- All members of society have a special obligation to the poor and vulnerable. From the Scriptures and church teaching, we learn that the justice of a society is tested by the treatment of the poor.
- Human rights are the minimum conditions for life in community. In Catholic teaching, human rights include not only civil and political rights but also economic rights.
- Society as a whole . . . has the moral responsibility to enhance human dignity and protect human rights.

In addition to these six principles, other important excerpts from the pastoral letter call us to reflect as we participate in the economy and the political process.

- The commandments to love God with all one's heart and to love one's neighbor as oneself are the heart and soul of Christian morality. (no. 64)
- Basic justice also calls for the establishment of a floor of material well-being on which all can stand. This is a duty of the whole of society and it creates particular obligations for those with greater resources. This duty calls into question extreme inequalities of income and consumption when so many lack basic necessities. Catholic social teaching does not maintain that a flat, arithmetical equality of income and wealth is a demand of justice, but it does challenge

Jim Thomas, M.A.

DIRECTOR OF ADULT FAITH FORMATION FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING AND FAMILY LIFE

Office of Catholic Faith Formation • ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE • 710 Ninth Avenue Seattle, WA 98104

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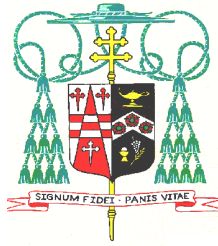
economic arrangements that leave large numbers of people impoverished. Further, it sees extreme inequality as a threat to the solidarity of the human community, for great disparities lead to deep social divisions and conflict. This means that all of us must examine our way of living in the light of the needs of the poor. Christian faith and the norms of justice impose distinct limits on what we consume and how we view material goods. (nos. 74-75)

- "Private property does not constitute for anyone an absolute or unconditional right. No one is justified in keeping for his exclusive use what he does not need, when others lack necessities." Pope John Paul II has referred to limits placed on ownership by the duty to serve the common good as a "social mortgage" on private property. (no. 115)
- The serious distortion of national economic priorities produced by massive national spending on defense must be remedied. . . . Moreover, the dedication of so much of the national budget to military purposes has been disastrous for the poor and vulnerable members of our won and other nations. The nation's spending priorities need to be revised in the interests of both justice and peace. (no. 320)

The following table is a snapshot comparison of key economic indicators that compare 1986 (when the U.S. Catholic bishops released their economic justice pastoral letter, "Economic Justice for All") with the most current data available (*FY2009 defense budget, Nov. 2008 unemployment, and 2007 figures for poverty, union membership and uninsured).

	1986	Current*
U.S. Population	240 million	304 million
Defense Budget	\$276 billion	\$711 billion
Unemployed	8 million	10.3 million
Unemployment Rate	7.0%	6.7%
Living in Poverty	33 million	37.3 million
Poverty Rate	13.6%	12.5%
Union Membership	17 million	15.7 million
Rate of Union Members	17.5%	12.1%
People Without Health Insurance	31 million	45.7 million
Rate of People Without Health Insurance	12.9%	15.3%

The complete text of "Economic Justice for All" is available on the following USCCB website:
<http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/international/EconomicJusticeforAll.pdf>.



**THE MOST REVEREND
Alexander J. Brunett
ARCHBISHOP OF SEATTLE**

February 15, 2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In recent years the City of Seattle, the State of Washington and the entire country have witnessed hundreds of thousands of people march in support of a comprehensive immigration reform. In the midst of immigrants' plea for a better life in pursuit of happiness and human dignity, the U.S. Bishops have raised their voice to call on Congress to do more than crack down on undocumented immigrants but fix an immigration system that, through their own admission, no longer works.

Congress has made repeated, ineffective attempts to address immigration reform, while the human tragedy and injustice done by an enforcement only approach is tearing at the very fabric of our society; ripping families apart, often ignoring the civil and human rights of migrant workers and their families, and at the same time disrupting the labor force and upsetting the economy.

In a September 2008 letter sent to President Bush and the Department of Homeland Security, we U.S. Bishops raised our voice for a moratorium on all Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids. The main reasons we support this stance is to bring about:

- New legislation that can encourage the undocumented to "come out of the shadows, to regularize their status upon satisfaction of reasonable criteria and, over time, pursue an option to become lawful permanent residents and eventually" U.S. citizens.
- A system of immigration for family reunification, revamped to significantly reduce waiting times, which now run many years for some categories of legal U.S. residents.

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- A system for “guest workers” to fill necessary jobs not accepted by others, that includes legal avenues for workers and their families who wish to remain in the country to do so.
- Border enforcement policies that respect individuals and protect human rights, while allowing the government to identify terrorists and dangerous criminals and prevent their entry.

Through the initiative of the recent 2007 Pastoral Plan for Hispanic Ministry, *From Guests to Hosts*, I have directed Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, my Vicar for Hispanic Ministry, to carry out a series of one day forums on the U.S. Bishops’ Justice for Immigrants Campaign during the months of March and April 2009. My hope is that through these series of forums we may offer an overall strategy intended to help form the awareness of Catholics throughout the Archdiocese concerning the plight of immigrants and the need for citizens to become involved in the political process as President Barack Obama and Congress once again consider a comprehensive reform of our nation’s immigration laws in the Fall of 2009.

In addition to inviting people to join the legislative networks offered by the U.S. Bishops’ Justice for Immigrants Campaign and the Washington State Catholic Conference, the forums will also inform people of the serious human rights violations at Detention Centers, such as the one in Tacoma.

In recent months, some of our parish communities with Hispanic ministry in the Olympic Deanery have experienced a dramatic drop in Sunday Mass attendance as Immigration and Customs Enforcement has increased activities in the region. It is my intention to meet with ICE and once again insist that they respect our immigrants’ constitutional and human right to “freedom of religion” and its practice.

I realize that some of our Catholic faithful may not be in agreement with many of these views. My concern and commitment to the message of the Gospel and Catholic Social Teaching impels me to speak even when it is unpopular and to do so in the hope of promoting an authentic solidarity within our Catholic identity.

With warmest regards and wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ 

Most Rev. Alex J. Brunett
Archbishop of Seattle