

# In Your Midst

A JOURNAL FOR ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL PARISH



*December 2007*

# In Your Midst

Vol. 12 No. 3 December 2007

*"I am in your midst as one who serves."*

*From the great oculus high above the altar of St. James Cathedral, these words of Jesus communicate His abiding presence among us. This inscription gave us the name for our Journal and continues to be our guiding inspiration.*

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Bridget, age 10



# Follow That Star!

*Well, you wonder how Jesus was born?  
Then read this story!*

*This fall, the children of our Children's Faith Formation programs took some time to imagine what it would be like to be an Evangelist, and to tell others about Jesus. Through words and pictures, they told the familiar Christmas story in their own way. The story begins long before the birth of Jesus, when Joachim and Anna, Mary's parents, hear some good news from an angel...*

**O**ne day there were two old people. Their names were Anna and Joachim. God was very good to them, except that Anna and Joachim were childless! This caused them a great sadness. Every day Joachim went to the hills to pray, while Anna was walking in the garden. She saw a nest with baby birds in it. She began to cry because she was childless. An angel appeared to her and said, "Anna, your prayers have been heard. You shall give birth to a daughter, and she shall be blessed throughout the world." When time passed, Mary grew up.

Solommon, age 9

*Mary's cousin, Elizabeth, and her husband Zechariah are longing to have a child, but they are growing old and Zechariah has lost hope.*

**Z**echariah belongs to the priestly division. His wife Elizabeth was a descendant of Aaron. They were both very old, and Elizabeth is unable to have a baby. Then while Zechariah was serving God he was chosen to visit the Temple. As he goes into the temple he meets an angel that tells him his wife shall have a son who is going to be a model to others, and bring them to the land of God. Zechariah didn't believe the angel so he said you shall be unable to speak until the baby is born.

James, age 12

The angel Gabriel tells good news to Zechariah. The angel told Zechariah that his wife Elizabeth will bear a child who will be named John. He is never to take wine or any fermented drink and John will be filled



*The Annunciation. Sophia, age 8*

with the Holy Spirit even from birth. Zechariah does not believe this story so he is unable to speak until the baby is born. The baby will bring goodness to the world.

Vincent, age 13

Back in the time when Herod was the king of Judea, there was a man named Zechariah. Zechariah was the husband of Elizabeth. Now Zechariah and his wife were both well along in age and Elizabeth was unable to have children. One day when Zechariah was in the temple an angel came to him, and told him that his wife was going to have a baby. Zechariah did not believe the angel, so the angel told him that "since you didn't believe me, you will not be able to speak until the time comes."

Megan, age 12



*Zechariah prays. Josh, age 12*



Ingrid, age 9

*When the time is right, the Angel Gabriel comes to Mary, the humble maiden of Nazareth, with some amazing news. What was Mary doing when the angel appeared? How did she feel?*

**L**ong ago there was a little girl. Her name is Mary. When Mary grew up, Gabriel came and told her, "Hail you are full of grace the Lord be with you blessed are you among women." Mary did not know what this meant. "How can this be?" she asked. "That is impossible!" The angel said, "God's Holy Spirit will come upon you, you shall give birth to a baby boy, his name will be Jesus, Son of the Most High, Son of God." "That can't be true," said Mary. "Nothing is impossible with God," said the angel. "Let all you say be true," said Mary, and then Gabriel left her.

Solommon, age 9

One day, Mary was sitting in her garden and was very surprised to see an angel named Gabriel right next to her. He said, "Do not worry about your baby. You shall name him Jesus." Mary was very stunned. Then he left.

Ingrid, age 9

One day Mary was washing dishes and Joseph sleeping, and an angel appeared to Mary and said, you will have a baby. Mary was surprised and said, I am not even married, that is impossible. No, it is not, it is God's command. Then let it happen!

Zacarra, age 9

One day Mary was working in the garden, but then an angel named Gabriel told Mary to give birth to the baby that is to be named Jesus. Mary was surprised. She said, "How can it be?" Gabriel said not to worry about anything because the Holy Spirit will do it. Then Mary said, "I am the servant of God, and will do it." With that, the angel left.

Uyen, age 8

While Mary was working in the garden, an angel named Gabriel flew down and told her that she was going to have a baby named Jesus, and Mary said, she was not married yet, and Gabriel told her that the Holy Spirit would help her. And she said yes! Gabriel was going to disappear so she looked at what he looked like. He wore a robe and had blond hair.

Anna, age 8½

One day Mary was sitting in her garden and she saw a reflection in the water. She looked up and saw an angel. Mary was very surprised and Mary asked, "What is your name?" "My name is Gabriel," in a very loud voice, then he said, "Do not worry, you shall marry Joseph and name the baby Jesus." And Mary said, "If that was God's will, then yes." And the angel disappeared, like you're blowing sand off your hand, and without a word, Gabriel vanished. And Mary looked back at the water, watching the frogs.



Julius, age 7

*Meanwhile, Joseph is worried. Is Mary telling the truth? How can he know for sure?*

**M**ary had a kid. Joseph left. He met an angel. The angel said it was okay to marry Mary because the baby was to be named Jesus which means God saves. So Joseph went back and married Mary.

Kai, age 8

Joseph was dreaming in the middle of the night. He had a weird dream. It was about an angel who told him, "you must marry Mary, she is pregnant now, do as you are told," said the angel. "How can this be?" asked Joseph. "She has been gifted by the Lord," said the angel. "Oh," said Joseph. "I will be watching," said

the angel. "Also, you should name him Jesus," said the angel. "I will do as I am told," said Joseph.

Noah, age 8

Joseph was getting married to Mary. It was an arranged marriage. He saw that Mary was with child when she came back from her Cousin Elizabeth. Joseph thought that Mary was cheating on him so he wanted to divorce her. The Angel Gabriel came to Joseph and said she was with child by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Nicholas, age 11

Jesus was born because Mary was engaged to Joseph and she was going to have a baby by God. Joseph was going to divorce quietly to Mary but an angel came to him and told him that the baby was named Jesus and he will save people from their sins. And the Lord's promise came true.

Lucia, age 11

Once there was a man named Joseph. He had a wife named Mary. He learned that she was pregnant even before they had lived together. Joseph was going to quietly divorce her. That night he had a dream in which an angel came to him and said: Mary has conceived by the Holy Spirit. She will have a son and you will name him Jesus. Do not divorce her.

Kate, age 11

*Mary and Joseph make the difficult journey to Bethlehem. What happens when they reach Bethlehem? How do they feel when they learn that all the inns are full?*

**H**oly Mary Mother of God and Joseph have to go to Bethlehem so that they can get their baby. He is born in a

stable in a cradle shaped manger because he is little and there are no more cribs. Holy Mary wrapped the baby in scraggly clothes. When the night became the angels fluttered down and told the shepherds there was good news because a baby was born. The Angel was in Bethlehem and wanted to tell all the people. The Shepherds went on and on trying to find their way to the star through the forest.

Eavan, age 4 ½



Kate, age 7



Isabelle, age 10

Mary heard she was going to have a baby and that they were going to be in danger. I think they felt very scared and worried because they knew nobody there and they didn't know where to stay.

Christina, age 9

Well, you wonder how Jesus was born, then read this story. When it was back in the A. D., the Romans took a new city. They issued that each man and woman would have to go to their home town to get registered. On the way, a man and woman named Joseph and Mary were engaged for marriage. While heading to their hometown, Mary was full with child. It wasn't no ordinary child. It was God's chosen Son, the Savior, who people were expecting to help them win wars, but this child was a man of peace.

Collins, age 10

Born in a manger—motels were full.

Hayley, age 11

When the time came for Jesus to be born, Joseph took Mary on a donkey to Bethlehem. They went to the inn. But there was no place but the stable and Mary gave birth to Jesus there.

Solommon, age 9

*A star shines in the sky over Bethlehem. The angels announce the birth of Jesus to the shepherds. What do angels look like? How would you feel if you saw one?*

**A**n angel came and told the shepherds to go to Bethlehem and see the baby Jesus who was born.

Michael, age 6



The shepherd saw this light. The light was an angel. The angel told him good news, that there was an infant named Jesus and he was Lord.

Anthony, age 6

The shepherd saw lightning. He was scared, but the light said, "Do not be afraid." The angel had good news. It was Jesus' birthday.

Nathaniel, age 6

The shepherd is in a field. He saw an angel and it was scary. The angel said he had good news about Jesus and the shepherd was happy.

Peter, age 6



Maria, age 10

*The shepherds were not the only ones who saw the star. Three wise men from far away followed the star all the way to Bethlehem. How did they get there? What did they see on the way?*

There were once some astronomers that saw a star that gave them a prediction into the future that the newborn baby of Mary will be the King of the Jews. They had to have a meeting with Mary.

Alden, age 9

The three wise men got off their camels and went to where Jesus was.

Bennett, age 6

The three wise men followed the star on camels to see baby Jesus.

Cameron, age 7

*Jesus is born! But Mary and Joseph's troubles are far from over. Herod is angry and afraid of losing his power. Warned in a dream, Joseph leads Mary and Jesus into Egypt.*

Quickly after the wise men left, an angel visited Joseph in a dream. "Take Mary and Jesus and go at once to Egypt. Herod's men are looking for Jesus. If they find Jesus, they will kill him. There is no time to lose."

Joseph woke up and told Mary what they had to do. They quickly packed up and left for Egypt.

They took a long trip through a cold desert. It was hard for them, but God was leading the way so they knew they were safe.

When they got to Egypt, they were very poor. They had no money or food.

When Herod figured out that the wise men tricked him, he was very mad. He ordered that every male child in and near Bethlehem under the age of two be killed. And his men obeyed. It was hard even for some of his men to handle, because it was so sad.

Soon after, Herod died.

An angel again visited Joseph in a dream. "Your worries are no more, you may return to Bethlehem," the angel said.

Eugenie, age 10

Joseph and Mary go to Egypt to get away from the death of Jesus. I think Joseph and Mary felt bittersweet because they are helping God, and bad because to do this they lose everything but family. Mary and Joseph hardly ate anything because they had hardly enough money to buy food, water, shelter. I think the

weather could have been very cold (sometimes), mostly lots of hot weather which might have been very dusty and thirsty. During the night when on their trip they



Molly, age 10



Bridget, age 10

slept on the ground and during the day Joseph walked the donkey and Mary rode on the donkey. I think all of this happened because this is how life is and sometimes it is that way.

Katie, age 10

Joseph is very loyal to Mary. Joseph, Mary, and Jesus probably were hot. Joseph and Mary probably were scared, worried, stressed, joy, hot. Maybe they dug to get water. The weather probably was muggy, hot, sandy, windy, and humid. The angel probably felt excited, nervous, and happy. Joseph and Mary probably went on a donkey. Joseph and Mary probably traveled by day, and a little bit of night.

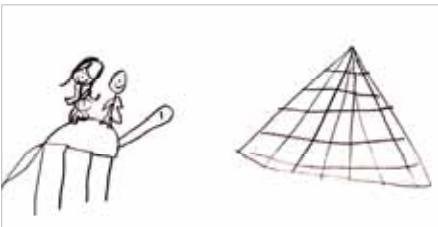
Bridget, age 10

I heard that before Jesus was born, King Herod was afraid to lose control. How did they get to Egypt? Animals, camels, donkeys, and sometimes walked.

Molly, age 10

When Joseph was asleep in his dream, he heard an angel say to him, "Leave and go to Egypt. Herod is going to kill Jesus." So when it was night, Joseph, Mary, and the baby Jesus went on a donkey to Egypt.

Maria, age 9



Celina, age 9

I heard about the story of the flight into Egypt. In the story, Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus fled the city. Mary, Joseph, and

Jesus felt worried and nervous about the news that Herod would kill every child under two years old. I think they would travel by donkeys or camels. Maybe they would eat scraps off the ground. I think they would drink water puddles, found in plants. I think they got there by walking and resting on the way.

Jess, age 9

As Mary and Joseph is sleeping, a holy angel appears in Joseph's dream. The holy angel warned Joseph to travel north into Egypt, and because of the dream, Joseph awoke. Joseph woke up Mary and told her



Herod gives orders to his soldiers. Karl, age 10

what the angel warned him about. Quietly, Mary, Joseph, and the baby Jesus traveled north into the lands of Egypt.

Timmy, age 9

*The youngest children wrote Christmas letters to Baby Jesus. What gift will you give to the child Jesus this year?*

**D**ear Baby Jesus, I will give you a hot ice cream to keep you warm. And also a new blanket. God, I love you! I hope I get to see you.

Shennet, age 5

Baby Jesus, when you grow up, I will give you a race car.

Diego, age 5

I love Jesus. I want to give you a teddy bear.

Ashley, age 5

Why did Jesus not have a bed like mine?

Jocelyn, age 5



Mae, age 8

# An Enduring Sign of Gratitude

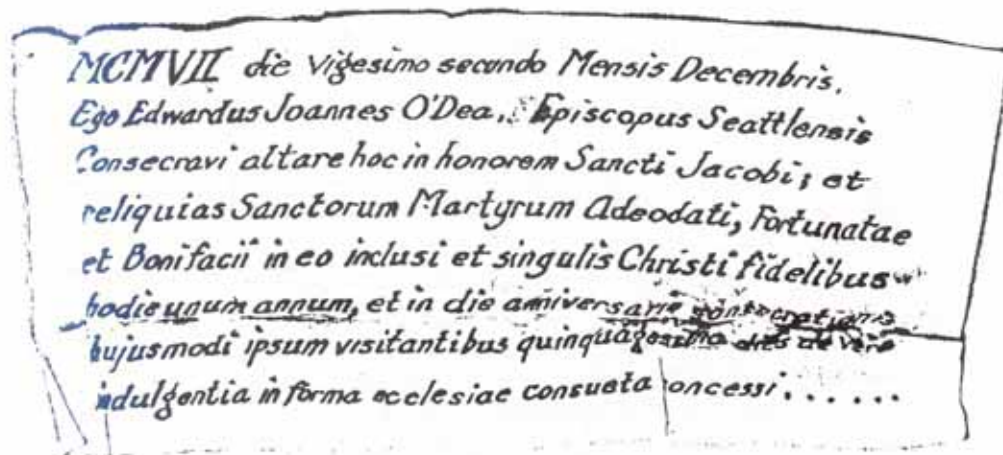
Father Michael G. Ryan

**I**t was the evening of Easter Sunday, April 3, 1994. The crowds had dispersed following the 5:30 Mass, and I got to witness a bit of Cathedral history. As soon as the sacristan locked the Cathedral doors—they wouldn't be opened again for 9 months—a small group of us from the Cathedral staff approached the high altar in the Cathedral's east apse. Our mission was to remove from the huge granite altar

table the relics which Bishop Edward O'Dea had sealed in place there some 87 years earlier. There was a reason for doing this, of course. The Cathedral was about to undergo a major renovation and restoration, and it would involve, among many other things, the building of a new altar at the central crossing of the building. The relics from the old altar needed to be rescued so they could later become part of the new altar.

Burying relics in or under altars may seem curious to some but the practice has long been part of our Catholic tradition. It goes back to the early days of the Church when many of the earliest churches were built over the tombs of martyrs. St. Peter's on the Vatican Hill is a good example; so is St. Paul's on Rome's Ostian Way. Over time, as churches came to be built all over the Roman empire and beyond, it became less and less possible to build them over the tombs of martyrs, but the tradition was carried on by making sure that a saint's relic (usually a piece of bone) was placed in the altar or beneath it.

On December 22, 1907, when Bishop O'Dea dedicated St. James Cathedral, he followed the tradition as we discovered on that Easter evening so many years later. When we gently chipped away some mortar in the center of the granite altar top, we found the relics safely sealed within a glass vial along with a piece of rolled-up parchment with a Latin inscription that read: *On the twenty-second day of December, 1907, I, Edward John O'Dea, Bishop of Seattle, consecrated this altar in honor*



Inscription found in 1994 in the original granite altar stone, or mensa, of the Cathedral. "1907 the 22nd day of the month of December. I, Edward John O'Dea, Bishop of Seattle..."

*of St. James and placed within it relics of the holy martyrs Adeodatus, Fortunata, and Boniface.*

We carefully removed the vial with the relics and stored them in the sacristy safe. Many months later, on November 11, when the renovation work was nearly completed except for the building of the altar, Archbishop Thomas Murphy placed the old relics and the inscription in a bronze box along with a new inscription in handsome calligraphy which reads as follows: *On the twenty-second day of December in the Year of Our Lord, 1994, I, Thomas J. Murphy, Archbishop of Seattle, in the presence of God's Holy People including Raymond G. Hunthausen and a number other brother bishops, priests, deacons, religious, and lay people, consecrated this altar in the Cathedral named in honor of St. James the Greater, Apostle. Prior to that, on the eleventh day of November, 1994, I placed beneath the altar the relics of Saints Adeodatus, Fortunata, and Boniface which had, on the twenty-second day of December, 1907, been placed in the Cathedral's original high altar by my predecessor of happy memory, Edward John O'Dea, and to those relics I added one of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini who, when in Seattle, prayed in this Cathedral. The consecration of a new altar in 1994 was necessitated by the major restoration of the Cathedral, carried out according to the norms of the Second Vatican Council.*

Then, with Cathedral staff and musicians chanting the Litany of the Saints, and construction workers looking on (in cleaner-than-usual overalls, and with hard hats removed!), Archbishop Murphy carefully set



the bronze box into a niche in the stone platform immediately below where the altar now stands and covered it with a white marble cap engraved with a cross. A keen eye can detect it through the openings on each of the altar's four sides.

That's the story of the Cathedral's altar relics. But you may wonder whatever happened to the huge granite altar or *mensa*. Wonder no longer. For the past thirteen years our friends at Northwest Marble in Bellevue have given it a home in their yard but this month it made its way back to St. James Cathedral where it has now been mounted in the Archbishop

Murphy Courtyard just above the source stone of the water feature. On Saturday evening, December 22, one-hundred years to the day after Bishop O'Dea consecrated it, Archbishop Alexander J. Brunett will bless it in its new home immediately following the 5:30 evening Mass. It looks just the way it did on that December day one-hundred years ago except for two things: the small cavity where the relics once rested has been neatly filled and patched, and on the great granite slab itself—the altar on which tens of thousands of Masses were celebrated in the Cathedral over 87 years—handsomely engraved in Roman letters is the following inscription:

THE MOST REVEREND  
EDWARD J O'DEA  
BISHOP OF SEATTLE  
DEDICATED THIS  
CATHEDRAL CHURCH  
AND OFFERED THE FIRST MASS  
ON THIS GREAT STONE  
WHICH WAS THE ALTAR  
OF THE CATHEDRAL  
22 DECEMBER 1907

AFTER THE SECOND  
VATICAN COUNCIL



The Archbishop Murphy Courtyard as it will appear with the *mensa* in place. On the *mensa* three key events in the life of the Cathedral are commemorated: its dedication, December 22, 1907; its rededication following restoration, December 22, 1994; and its centennial, December 22, 2007.

A NEW ALTAR WAS BUILT  
AND CONSECRATED  
BY THE MOST REVEREND  
THOMAS J MURPHY  
ARCHBISHOP OF SEATTLE  
22 DECEMBER 1994

IN THE CENTENNIAL YEAR  
OF ST JAMES CATHEDRAL  
THE MOST REVEREND  
ALEXANDER J BRUNETT  
ARCHBISHOP OF SEATTLE  
PLACED THIS STONE  
AS AN ENDURING SIGN  
OF GRATITUDE TO GOD  
WHO FOR ONE HUNDRED YEARS  
HAS BLESSED  
THIS HOUSE OF GOD  
THIS GATE OF HEAVEN  
22 DECEMBER 2007



# Our Centennial Celebration

*A Photo Essay*



**Images of our centennial celebration on July 25, 2007.** Top: more than 100 parishes participated in the great entrance procession. At left, Father William Gallagher, pastor 1974-1988; above, Father Ryan sprinkles the assembly. Below, left, Archbishop Brunett makes his entrance. Below, right, ecumenical and interfaith leaders joined in the celebration.





Top, left: David and Reeny Olsen arrange the banners created by participating parishes; right, Eucharist. Above, left, Father Ryan's remarks at the conclusion of the Mass. Above, right: St. James "the Greatest" led the procession. Below, left: hundreds inscribed their names on the Centennial scroll. Below, center: Father Ryan with Officer Kevin Smith in vintage Seattle Police uniform. Below, right—a reception on Terry Avenue following the Mass, complete with lemonade and strawberry shortcake! Photos on these pages by Mike Penney and Maria Laughlin.





# A Gathering with Family and Friends

## *Thanksgiving Dinner at the Cathedral Kitchen*

**I**t is the morning before Thanksgiving, and preparations for the big dinner in the Cathedral Kitchen are already well underway. Over at the Pastoral Outreach Center, four turkeys are roasting in the oven, while many more wait their turn on the counter. In Cathedral Hall, a group of volunteers has cheerfully undertaken the daunting task of preparing 50 pumpkin pies. Patrick stirs the pumpkin pie mix in a vast bowl, while Barry slices cubes of real butter for the dough. Sarah is at the electric mixer, and, at age 14, is already mastering the art of the flaky crust. Moira rolls out the dough, then hands it on to Kath and Gretchen, who place the crust in the pie tins, carefully crimping the edges. Kathleen fills the crusts with the finished pumpkin pie mix and slides them into a large rack, ready for baking. When asked for the recipe, they all laugh. "It's an old family secret," says one. "It's three parts care and two parts do as you are told!" adds another.

It is no wonder that the pie team works together so well—many of them have been doing this for four, five, and even ten years! They know the Kitchen really needs help, and, as Kath says, it is good for the guests at the Cathedral Kitchen to have a homemade pie.

On Thanksgiving morning, the early crew starts work at 7 a.m. By 1 p.m., there are more than a dozen volunteers at work in the Hall. In the kitchen, Mary and Griff, Roberta, and Rosemary are hard at work peeling one hundred pounds of potatoes. They have all been coming to the Kitchen on Thanksgiving for years. "It's a great way to be a disciple," says Rosemary. Mary and Griff add, "We really enjoy it. Our family is in Florida, and this is a nice way to be with family on Thanksgiving."

Donny is at the stove. A professional chef, Donny was not able to go back to Denver for Thanksgiving this year. It was his mother who told him, "You need to go volunteer somewhere!" So he called Jim and Jill McAuliffe and found his way to the Cathedral Kitchen for the first time, where he was promptly put to work making ten gallons of turkey gravy.

At the same time, another group of volunteers is beginning to set the tables. This is Judy's fifth year volunteering in the Kitchen. "It just seems like the

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**Corinna Laughlin** is the Pastoral Assistant for Liturgy at St. James Cathedral. To volunteer in the Cathedral Kitchen, please call Jim and Jill McAuliffe at 206-264-2091.



right thing to do," she says. "I am so blessed to be able to share a wonderful meal with family on Thanksgiving, and I want to be part of making that possible for others."

This is David and Reeny Olsen's first time serving Thanksgiving dinner in the Kitchen, though Reeny volunteers here regularly. "We've talked about it for years," David says, "and now with no kids at home, we have the freedom to make Thanksgiving a day of service."

The Cathedral Kitchen serves a hot meal every weekday, but Thanksgiving is special. More people come—about three hundred!—and to accommodate them all there are two seatings, at 4 and 5pm. More than 50 volunteers are involved in the preparation, cooking, serving, and of course the clean-up for this Thanksgiving meal. And they do more than just cook the food and set the tables. One volunteer, a professional musician, plays the piano during the meal, while others sit down and join the guests for dinner.





Top left: Sarah Ragen masters the fine art of the flaky crust. Top right: 600 pounds of beautiful turkey are baked to perfection. Below, left: the early afternoon crew peels 100 pounds of potatoes on Thanksgiving Day. Below, right: David Olsen helps out with setting the tables.

For Jim and Jill McAuliffe, Directors of the Cathedral Kitchen, it is all about sharing. There is the sharing that happens among the various food programs in the city, who coordinate their efforts to ensure that nothing goes to waste. There is the sharing that happens when people are moved to make donations—this Thanksgiving, the Kitchen received a gift of 1,200 pounds of turkey and a pallet of rice!

And even more important, there is the joy of a meal shared together. For many of the guests, Jill says, it isn't so much about the food; it's about the companionship they find in the family atmosphere of the Cathedral Kitchen. There are so many people living alone in the First Hill neighborhood—many of them elderly, and many of them painfully lonely. At the Kitchen, they find a safe place to meet other people, to talk and share ideas. Kathleen O'Hanlon, who directed the Kitchen for many years as part of the Catholic Worker group, came back to help this Thanksgiving Day. She observes, "Everyone is

permeated with images of what Thanksgiving is supposed to be—a gathering with family and friends, a wonderful meal. But that's not the reality for many people. For both volunteers and guests, coming here is a way to realize that vision, that gathering with family which is what everyone wants."

While the Cathedral Kitchen was able to accommodate all of their guests this Thanksgiving, three hundred strong, it was harder to accommodate all the volunteers. Jim and Jill had to turn away more than a dozen! "It's wonderful that people want to give back during the holidays," Jill says. "But I hope they'll volunteer another time, because people are hungry every day of the year."

Volunteer Reeny Olsen adds: "Every day is Thanksgiving at Cathedral Kitchen! Here the truth of God's bounty is reaffirmed daily in the people, the feast, and the sacred space. The place hums with joy and thanksgiving." ♦

# The Youth Music Program

*"It's about having fun and learning and praising God"*

**T**he St. James Youth Music Program includes not one, but four choirs—two training choirs, named in honor of St. Gregory and St. Cecilia, the Schola Cantorum, and Jubilate! Young Women's Ensemble. On Sunday, December 16, at 7:30pm, all four choirs come together for the traditional Advent service of Readings and Carols. The Youth Music Program, one young singer says, makes "me think about all the things that happen in Church. It's not just about praising God, it's having fun and learning AND praising God."

This past August, the summer Choir Camp was the biggest ever, with more than 80 campers, ages 6 to 16. At the conclusion of the week, they described their experience of the Youth Music Program.

"Camp has had an impact on my life because I learned to be more comfortable singing out loud. I now understand all of the effort, time, and practice that is put into the glorious music sung during Mass. Camp has made me appreciate music at church more, and has helped me discover the joy that comes with participating with our voices."

"I learned to take church music seriously. I learned that one person can make a voice difference in a choir. Church music can be very fun."

"This camp makes me feel different when I enter the Cathedral, that it makes me feel at home. I took several risks and that helps me to be a braver person."

"I wish this camp lasted the whole summer! It was a blast! Camp made me feel brave in front of friends. I made a ton of friends! *The Play of Daniel* made me realize if you are faithful then God will always protect and love you."



Children of the Schola Cantorum gather with Father Ryan, Clint Kraus, Director of Youth Music, and Stacey Sunde, Conductor, in the Cathedral Chapel, Christmas 2006

"This Choir Camp made me understand more about singing in church. I used to think that you would sing for fun, but now I know that it adds a lot more to a Mass."

"What this week has done for me is amazing! I now am able to sing beautifully (sort of) and I now have a greater knowledge of how to sing. I now am able to pray and sing with more feeling. I also have been very happy to have many friends here after a few days and taking my risk of singing by myself on the *Fiery Furnace* song, and how nobody teased me about the way I sang it because it wasn't the most beautiful."

"Choir Camp helped me to: learn how to read music; meet new people; sing with more clarity; learn new songs; be more confident with my voice; learn more about the Cathedral; think more about what the music means."

"While I was in Choir Camp, I learned that songs can be, in a way, prayers!"

"Camp has taught me to stand out when I'm singing. Also not to be shy when I'm singing. Camp has given me a reason to live!" ♦

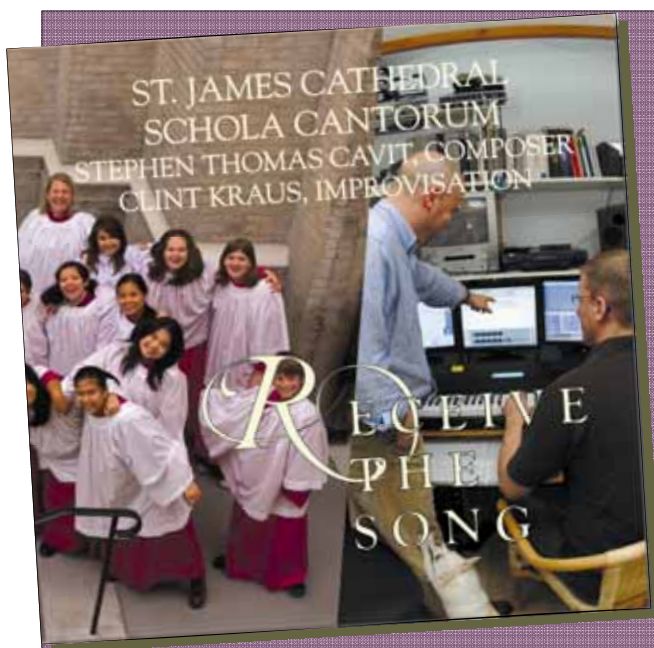
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**Maria Laughlin** is the Director of Stewardship and Development at St. James Cathedral.





Top: The Schola Cantorum Choir Camp presents the 12th-century *Play of Daniel*. Bottom left, Preparing for the procession with the palms on Palm Sunday, 2007. Bottom right, Stacey Sunde conducts the Schola Cantorum at Readings and Carols, December 2006. Photo, above right by Ailisa Newhall; all other photos by M. Laughlin.



## Receive the Song

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL SCHOLA CANTORUM  
CLINT KRAUS, DIRECTOR · STACEY SUNDE, CONDUCTOR

ALL-NEW CD FROM THE YOUTH MUSIC PROGRAM!  
*Children's voices singing traditional songs and ancient chants and recorded in the reverberant space of St. James Cathedral inspire two gifted professionals working in the confines of a 21st-century electronic studio. Film composer Stephen Thomas Cavit with organist and improviser, Clint Kraus, respond to the pure sound of the Schola Cantorum to create a musical blend of ancient and modern. Tracks include Christus Vincit · What wondrous love is this? · St. Patrick's Breastplate · The Lord is my Shepherd · Nostra Phalans · Were you there? · Chimwemwe*

*Available in the Cathedral Bookstore*



# The Pew Next to You

*Meet Jennifer, Humberto, Elena, Marco, & Diego Acevedo*

Jennifer and Humberto Acevedo have been parishioners at St. James Cathedral since the summer of 1994 when Sunday Masses were held at “St. Gym” in O’Dea High School during the renovation of the Cathedral. As a young couple new to Seattle—Jennifer was from the Midwest, Humberto from Mexico—they lived two blocks north of the Cathedral at the John Alden Apartments. They thought they would both be working downtown and liked the idea of an urban lifestyle and walking everywhere.

However, Humberto soon joined Microsoft in Redmond and walking from First Hill was out of the question! Commuting became a part of Humberto’s daily routine. As their family grew with the births of Diego, Marco and Elena, they moved to Bellevue, and until a year ago, were a typical Eastside family with an SUV for transportation.

When their SUV needed to be replaced, it prompted a radical decision. The family couldn’t agree on what type of car to get to replace their aging vehicle, and being of a determined nature, Jennifer suggested they try living *without* a car. And a year later, they are still committed to defying the “American way of life.”

Jennifer’s personal belief is that the petroleum industry has a less than honorable control on the economic and ecological aspects of transportation. While not everyone can function without a car, she believes that using less petroleum is a contribution to the greater good.

“You really have to have several prerequisites to make it work,” Jennifer said. “We live in downtown Bellevue near public transportation, taxi service and Flexcar availability. Many neighborhoods in King County do not have regular public transportation.”

Humberto takes a bus to his Redmond office. The children are bused to school. Humberto knew his commute would be easy while the burden of figuring all the other logistics for the family would fall to Jennifer, who does not work outside the home.

Jennifer admits it is not easy and careful planning is critical. She relies on five modes of transportation: walking, bicycling, public transportation and Flexcar. (Founded in 1999 as a partnership supported by King County and the City of Seattle, Flexcar launched its Seattle operation in 2000. Since that time Flexcar has



Jennifer and Humberto Acevedo with Elena, Marco, and Diego. Today, they got to St. James by Flexcar.

expanded down the West Coast and to the East Coast. Flexcar has won numerous awards and commendations for providing a service that reduces congestion, air pollution, energy use, increased use of public transit and contributes to sustainable communities. There is a monthly membership fee and either an hourly or day fee when using a Flexcar. The Seattle area standard rate is \$10 an hour or \$75 a day. The fees covers gas, insurance and upkeep of the vehicle.)

Grocery shopping for a family of five without a car takes a good deal of ingenuity. Jennifer buys non-perishable foods, cleaning supplies and paper products online and these are delivered to their home. Fruits, vegetables, bakery items, meats, seafood are bought at nearby stores and carried home.

One of the first benefits of their new lifestyle that Jennifer discovered was how much closer she and the

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**Joan McDonell** is a Marriage Tribunal Advocate at St. James Cathedral as well as a daily volunteer in the Cathedral Parish Office.



children became while walking to a bus stop or a neighborhood store and when riding on a bus. When she was driving, Jennifer's attention would be on the traffic. Now they talk to each other, interact with each other. The children have learned bus behavior and safety. Bus drivers are friendly and quickly recognize them and know where the family gets on and off.

They walk to the movies, library and several parks in downtown Bellevue. During the summer they take their fishing poles and walk to the Meydenbauer dock and hope for fish in Lake Washington. Another favorite is the city park in Kirkland, also on the lake. Sometimes when another child is with them they get a little halting conversation about "how much farther?" and "walking!?" Jennifer considers these moments a teaching opportunity.

And of course, not every day is full of sunshine. Jennifer has said when it is rainy and cold, it can be miserable. But they have found that when it is raining, it rarely is a continuous downpour and with umbrellas, slickers and rubber boots it's not that bad.

Early on in their car-free lifestyle, their kindergartner Elena asked her mother, "Why do we have to walk?" Mom's reply was, "Because we don't have wings to fly." Elena's response: "Oh, bummer."

They do more as a family at home with each other. Board games are big as are kitchen cooking classes from Jennifer. DVDs are in, TV is out. They are all asked to help around the home including raking leaves. Marco, the future CEO, often tries to up the going rate to at least \$10 an hour for his superior assistance. This month the Acevedos have the Advent Calendar out, have arranged the figures around the crèche (many times) and popped the Christmas tree out of its box in the attic.

I asked Jennifer how the children have responded during the past year to their green lifestyle. She answered that children readily accept what the family does. Jennifer sees the past year as a positive one for her family.

"They are physically stronger from the walking and biking. We do so many more things together here at home. It has been rewarding. Humberto has been amazed at the awesome responses he gets from his co-workers and friends."

Jennifer is working on building a blog as she gets quite a few requests from friends on how she has accomplished being a car-less family and giving back a little to Mother Earth. ♦

# *New Year's Eve Gala*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

11:00 o'clock pm

## *Bach for the New Year*

*The CATHEDRAL CANTOREI, our professional chamber choir, the CATHEDRAL SOLOISTS, ORGANISTS, and CATHEDRAL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA present a festive sane, safe, and sober new year's concert, Seattle's oldest classical New Year's Eve celebration.*

*Suggested donation \$25, students and seniors "pay as able" passes are available in person at the Music Office.*

[www.stjames-cathedral.org/music](http://www.stjames-cathedral.org/music)

## *Dinner & Dessert at the Cathedral*

*This New Year's Eve, you are invited to join a special dinner and dessert to benefit the Cathedral's mission of prayer and service on Seattle's First Hill. Your donation includes your pass to the New Year's Eve Gala Concert.*

**\$150 PER PERSON**

*COCKTAILS & DINNER*

**8:00pm—10:30pm**

*Pastoral Outreach Center*

*PRE-CONCERT LECTURE: A BIT ABOUT BACH*

**9:45pm**

*Perry Lorenzo, Seattle Opera*

*NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA CONCERT*

**11:00pm in the Cathedral**

*DESSERT WITH THE MUSICIANS*

*after the concert*

*Pastoral Outreach Center*

*Information, Maria Laughlin, 206-382-4284  
[mlaughlin@stjames-cathedral.org](mailto:mlaughlin@stjames-cathedral.org)*

# Cathedral Almanac

*Snapshots of life at St. James Cathedral, March-November, 2007*

## March

**10. The First Scrutiny of the Elect** was celebrated at the 5:30pm Mass. These powerful prayers over the Elect to be baptized at Easter engage the entire community in prayer and preparation for the great celebration our redemption at Easter.

**29. The Chrism Mass** was celebrated by Archbishop Brunett in the Cathedral. This beautiful liturgy gathers hundreds from across Western Washington for the blessing of the oils used in sacramental celebrations at Easter and throughout the coming year.

## April

**1. Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion.** We set out on the journey of Holy Week. The 10 o'clock Mass began in O'Dea Gym. More than 1,000 people processed with palms to the Cathedral for the

solemn celebration of the Lord's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. At the Noon Mass, the children of the Cathedral had a special procession of their own.

**5. Holy Thursday.** In his homily tonight, Father Ryan said: "Tonight we are on one of those high places where earth and heaven meet. This night is holy unlike any other. This is the night of the New Commandment. This is the night when Jesus is in our midst as 'one who serves.' This is the night when we become what we receive. This is the night when the impossible becomes possible, when we begin to love one another as He has loved us!"

**6. Good Friday.** At the Tre Ore service on Good Friday, we were privileged to welcome Father Ron Rolheiser, who preached on the Seven Last Words of Christ.

**8. Easter Sunday.** In his homily, Father Ryan said: "Easter completes what Christmas began. At Christmas, the Word of God embraced all that is human by taking on our flesh and becoming one of us. At Easter, God raises up to glory all that is human, charging it—charging us—with divinity. Let the poet complete the thought: 'In a flash, at a trumpet crash/I



Ordinations to the Priesthood, June 9, 2007

am all at once what Christ is, since he was what I am, and/ This Jack, joke, poor potsherd, patch, matchwood, immortal diamond—/Is immortal diamond.' Happy Easter!"

**12. Yom HaShoah.** As part of our celebration of our Centennial year, we were privileged to gather with our Jewish brothers and sisters to remember the Holocaust.

**20.** A special Mass was held in Memory of the victims of the **Virginia Tech Massacre**. Father Stephen Sundborg, SJ, president of Seattle University, preached on this occasion.

**27. The Student Recognition Ceremony** gathered hundreds of seventh graders from Catholic Schools across the Archdiocese to honor their achievements in academics, faith, and leadership.

**29.** Archbishop Brunett presided at our parish

celebration of the **Sacrament of Confirmation**.

## May

**6. Marian Celebration with Cathedral Children.**

Following the Noon Mass, Father Ryan and the children of the parish led the assembly in praying the rosary. The rosary concluded with the crowning of the image of Our Lady, Seat of Wisdom, in the Archbishop Murphy Courtyard.

**20.** Seventeen children received their First Holy Communion today.

**27. Pentecost.** A magnificent installation of red, orange, and gold banners helped us celebrate Pentecost—the birthday of the Church. Father Ryan said in his homily: "God is timeless... and the divine action, the divine energy unleashed in the Incarnation, or the Resurrection, or the Sending of the Spirit isn't locked in the past: it's ongoing, ever new. ...The Holy Spirit who burst forth upon the apostles in wind and fire on Pentecost is still fanning those flames, lighting those fires in our time. Pentecost may be history but Pentecost is also here and now!"



**30. O'Dea High School** celebrated its 82nd annual Baccalaureate Mass at St. James.

**31. Holy Names Academy** celebrated its Baccalaureate Mass at St. James today.

## June

### 9. Ordinations to the Priesthood.

Archbishop Brunett ordained our own parishioner, Gary Lazzeroni, and Mel Strazicich, to the priesthood.

**9.** Archbishop Brunett celebrated the Baccalaureate Mass for **Seattle University** on a very rainy afternoon.

**10. Corpus Christi.** After the 10 o'clock Mass, more than a thousand thronged the procession with the Blessed Sacrament around the block, giving honor to Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist.

**10. Father Gary Lazzeroni** offered his "First Mass" at the Noon Mass, surrounded by friends, family and his parish community.

**25.** On the tenth anniversary of the death of Archbishop Murphy, Archbishop Brunett offered **Mass in Memory of the Deceased Bishops** of the Archdiocese of Seattle.

## July

**25.** The unforgettable celebration of our **Cathedral Centennial** gathered over 1,300 people from across the Archdiocese of Seattle. See the album on pages 10-11 of this journal.

**29. Feast of St. James.** We celebrated the feast of our beloved patron with great solemnity—and a parish picnic. In his homily for the day, Father Ryan said: "Like James, we have been given a great deal: a call to follow, a friendship with the Master, some moments of special intimacy with him and, yes, a lifetime of perplexing struggles where the question marks often come more frequently than do the exclamation points. No matter. We are in good company—the company of James, the first apostle to give his life for Jesus. Names are important, and so are patron saints, and we've been given a great one!"

## August

**6-10. Choir Camp.** This year's Choir Camp was the biggest and best ever, with 80 (!) young people spending five exciting days at St. James Cathedral, learning about prayer, procession, and music. On Friday, they not only provided beautiful music at



Sister Anne and Sister Claudette celebrate their retirement, September 2007

Mass, but presented a medieval sung drama for the whole parish—the *Play of Daniel*. Read more about Choir Camp and the Youth Music Program on pages 14-15 of this journal.

## September

**16.** We celebrated the retirement of **Sister Anne Herkenrath**, snjm and **Sister Claudette Conrad**, snjm, who for twenty-five and twenty-four years, respectively, have been at the heart of everything that goes on at St. James.

We gave thanks to God for their extraordinary witness in our midst. God bless you, Sister Anne and Sister Claudette!

## October

**7. First Sunday Youth Celebration.** Children's Faith Formation classes began after their summer hiatus. Children, parents, and catechists received a special blessing at the Noon Mass.

**29. Archbishop Brunett** celebrated the tenth anniversary of his appointment as Archbishop of Seattle with a beautiful Mass gathering hundreds of priests and laity to celebrate. He concluded his homily with a prayer: "I thank you for joining me today, and I leave you with the prayer that we may always be inspired to stand tall in the light of the Resurrection; to seek out together the bright face of beauty in the lives of all we serve; to reach for the vision that will help us see the world through eyes of tenderness and to love all with an open-heartedness."

## November

**2.** The Cathedral Choir presented Mozart's matchless *Requiem* in the context of the solemn **Mass of All Souls**.

**16. Forest Ridge School of the Sacred Heart** celebrated its centennial with Mass at St. James Cathedral.

**17.** Twenty-one men from across Western Washington were ordained to the **permanent diaconate** today, including our own sacristan, David Olsen.

**22.** More than 500 attended the beautiful Mass of **Thanksgiving Day**. Father Ryan said: "Our desire to thank God is itself God's gift. How fitting, then, that we go now to the altar where our poor words of thanks and our expressions of gratitude will be transformed into divine words of thanks: Eucharist... It is right to give God thanks and praise!" ♦

# Image of the Divine

**T**his icon of Mary cradling the infant Jesus is known and loved throughout the world, by Christians of all denominations. The icon is known as the *Eleousa*, a Greek word meaning the Virgin of loving-kindness; she is also called Our Lady of Vladimir. The oldest known icon of the *Eleousa* is housed in the Tretjakow Gallery in Moscow, and dates from 1125. The Cathedral's icon of Our Lady of Vladimir was written by Joan Brand-Landkamer.

Icons are less like pictures than they are like windows, opening up on to the divine, and like all traditional icons, this one is meant not so much to be looked at as to be entered into.

We see the infant Jesus scrambling up on his mother's lap, reaching for her face, his little arms



Icon of the Virgin and Child. Joan Brand-Landkamer, Cathedral iconographer

embracing her neck, his eyes gazing up at her. Mary cradles him gently in her arms, with her eyes turned towards us. While the image has much to teach us about the intimate love between Mary and her son, there is more. In his recent book, *Ponder These Things*, Archbishop Rowan Williams of Canterbury finds in this icon an image of Christ and his church, of the relationship between us and our God. "It is as if [God] is not merely unashamed but positively shameless in his eagerness, longing to embrace and be embraced. It is not simply that God will deign not to mind our company: rather, he is passionate for it. The image of God's action we are presented with here is of a hungry love.... God cannot bear to be separated from us

because God cannot be parted from the divine action and the divine joy." ♦

## ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL

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