

Supernatural Instinct

First Sunday of Advent (Year C)

“Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap. For that day will assault everyone who lives on the face of the earth. Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man.” [Luke 21:34–36](#)

“That day.” These two words are spoken twice in the passage above. To which day is our Lord referring? Clearly, He is referring primarily to the day of our final judgment and is warning us to make sure we are prepared for it in case it were to come at an unexpected moment. So how do we prepare?

Animals have the natural gift of instinct. They know how to survive, how to reproduce, how to gather food and how to avoid danger. They know this because God has implanted this knowledge within them. By this natural gift of instinct, they know what to do and what to avoid.

We, as humans, also have basic natural instincts. But our natural instincts are only sufficient to help us accomplish that which the animals accomplish. Therefore, if we are to gain an even greater knowledge and are to know how to properly prepare ourselves spiritually for the sudden and unexpected coming of Christ, then we need more.

The way we most properly prepare is through a special grace by which God reveals Himself and His will to our human reason. When that happens, we will know the best way to be fully prepared for “that day” the moment it comes. Perhaps one of the best ways to describe this ability is by describing it as a “supernatural instinct.” When our natural instincts become open to grace, and when the information on which we base our daily decisions in life comes to us by an ongoing and personal revelation from God through the infused gift of faith, then we will find that we simply know what to do and what to avoid. By analogy, just as a bird knows to fly south for the winter or a salmon knows to return to its place of birth to lay its eggs, so we will “know” within our spirit how to best serve the will of God and, thus, be most fully prepared for His imminent return. “Supernatural instinct” is nothing other than us allowing the grace of God to enter our lives so as to take control of everything we do and to lead us into the fulfillment of the perfect and glorious will of God. When that happens, we can be certain that we are perpetually prepared for all that comes and will never be caught by surprise like a trap.

Reflect, today, upon whether you are daily led by the knowledge of God’s will alive within you as a supernatural instinct. If this language seems foreign to you, then perhaps it is a time to ponder the question “Why?” Why aren’t you led by God’s grace through an ongoing gift of supernatural knowledge of His will? And if this language does resonate within you, then spend time pondering this gift and being grateful for the way that God has truly taken over your day-to-day life.

My revealing Lord, I pray that I will always know Your will and be led only by Your gentle but unmistakable promptings of grace. Please lead me, dear Lord, so that I will be perpetually prepared for Your glorious and final coming the moment it arrives. Jesus, I trust in You.

Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish

December 1, 2024

1st Sunday in Advent



Parish Staff:

Parish Office: 509-723-1459

Parish email:

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Parish website: www.westplainscatholicparishes.org

Father Michael Ishida, Pastor

Father Peter Miller

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Sacramental Emergencies – 509-998-7093

Pastoral Council

Father Ishida, Pat Whipple, Janet Whipple,,

Mario Cruz, Danielle Treis, Father Miller

Finance Council

Father Ishida, Eric Hanson

Physical Address: 200 W. Alder, Sprague, WA 99032

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 125, Medical Lake, WA 99022

Holy Mass and Sacraments Schedule

Sunday Mass: 10:30 am

12:30 pm English Mass

Reconciliation: Sundays at 10:00 am

Baptism and Holy Matrimony:

The family should be registered and active members at Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish for a least three months prior to Baptism or Holy Matrimony. Couples are engaged to marry need to contact Fr. Ishida at least four months prior to the wedding date for marriage preparation.

Anointing of the Sick:

Please contact Father Ishida.

Parish Office:

Please email or leave voice message.

FORMED.org—“The Catholic NetFlicks

Step 1. **Sign up as a Parishioner (it's FREE)** : search for **St. Anne Medical Lake**

Step 2. Then enter your name and create a password.

welcome

to our parish

First Sunday of Advent

Lectionary #3C~ Liturgical color: violet

1st Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16
Resp Psalm: Psalm: Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10,14
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2
Gospel: Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36
NO Gloria
The Creed

December is the Month of the Divine Infancy

"**Saint Michael the Archangel**, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen."

Diocesan news
to your inbox
every Friday



We love you as part of our flock
Keep in touch with us via email & text
Text the word **westplains** to the number **84576**

FORMED.org
JOIN for free!

Directions on front of the bulletin
Catholic "net flicks".

SPOKANE CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS

Scan to join the online community via Mighty Networks

PRAY FOR our priests and Bishop Daly!



2024 ACA Parish Goals

Mary, Queen of Heaven, Sprague \$5, 759

We have currently received \$5,370—93.25% of our goal.

Thank you to all who have donated.

Daily Prayer for Priests

O Jesus, I pray for
Your faithful and fervent priests;
for Your unfaithful and tepid priests;
for Your priests laboring at home or abroad in distant mission fields;
for Your tempted priests;
for Your young priests;
for Your dying priests;
for the souls of Your priests in purgatory.
But above all I recommend to You the priests dearest to me;
the priest who baptized me;
the priest who absolved me from my sins;
the priests whose Masses I assisted and who gave me Your Body and Blood in Holy Communion;
the priests who taught and instructed me;
all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way, especially *list all priests.*
O Jesus, keep them close to Your heart, and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Tuesday, December 24 @ tbd
Wednesday, December 25 @ tbd



Welcome to Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish To all visitors who are joining us for worship today. May your time with us be grace-filled and may the Lord Jesus bless you and your loved ones today and every day.

Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Sundays @ 10:30 am - confession @ 10:00 am
12:30 pm - English Mass



Beeswax Candles for sale!

Interested in handmade beeswax candles?

Contact Savannah Roach at
RoachSavannah98@gmail.com
or call 509-671-5656

Facebook—under homemade goods.

<https://tinyurl.com/yafbutsz>

Parishioner of Mary, Queen of Heaven



Please note: Mass Intensions take approximately 2 weeks to get processed and on the calendar. Please note this when giving your stipends for Intensions.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER

24	Sunday	Pro Populo
25	Monday	Harvey & Maria Ester Luce
26	Tuesday	Harvey & Maria Ester Luce
27	Wednesday	
28	Thursday	Harvey & Maria Ester Luce
29	Friday	Ralph Schwartz
30	Saturday	Ralph Schwartz
01	Sunday	Respect for all Human Life & Pro Populo

Mary, Queen of Heaven ... Pray for us!
St. Anne ... Pray for us!

Holy Day of Obligation!

Monday, December 9

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass times—tbd

Seven Sisters Apostolate

That our prayers may find the heart of every priest and bishop.



A call to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of a specific priest or bishop—a "holy wasting" (cf. Mt. 26:10) or lavishing of prayer for his deeper conformity to Christ.

Please contact Linda Pearson if you are interested in joining her at 509-879-0753 or email sookiesue@msn.com

Seven Sisters Apostolate meet after 9:00 am Mass at **St. Anne Parish, Medical Lake**. For all those interested—**Please join us in the Church.**