

A New Era of Hope
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say,
“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” [Matthew 4:17](#)

In Matthew’s Gospel, from which we read today, we hear the first words spoken by our Lord as He begins His public ministry: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Up until this point, Matthew’s Gospel presented us with Jesus’ genealogy, His birth, the story of the Magi, the Holy Family’s flight into Egypt, the slaughter of the Holy Innocents, Jesus’ baptism, the preaching of Saint John the Baptist and Jesus’ forty days in the desert. Now, after these introductory stories of Jesus’ life, we enter into His public ministry.

Recall that John had just been imprisoned, thus concluding his public ministry. Therefore, the time for the preaching and ministry of the Son of God had arrived. And though Jesus continues the theme of repentance started by John, Jesus takes John’s words further. Jesus adds something that John could not: “The kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Since we are still at the beginning of the season of Ordinary Time, it’s important to understand this transition from the Old Testament prophets, of which John was the last, to the New Testament preaching of our Lord. The difference is that all that had been prophesied and pointed to in the Old Testament had now arrived. Saint Jerome, in commenting upon this passage, says that as the Old Testament Law ceased, the Gospel commenced. And, of course, the fulfillment of this new era of the Gospel was only a few short years away when our Lord would offer up His life for the salvation of many.

As Jesus begins His preaching, His words are challenging but also very hopeful. By saying that “the kingdom of heaven is at hand,” Jesus stirs interest and holy curiosity among His first listeners. His call to repentance was softened by His new proclamation about the Kingdom.

One helpful insight we can take from these first words of Jesus’ public ministry is that this is the best way to share the Gospel with those who do not yet follow Christ. Oftentimes, when we see someone living in serious sin, we want to judge and condemn. But usually what they need the most is hope—hope that there is something much greater that comes from repentance. Certainly we need to speak against sin. But one of the most effective ways to do so is by initially offering the listener hope of something much better than the sin with which they struggle—specifically, the hope of the Kingdom of God.

Reflect, today, upon the newness of the ministry of Jesus, the newness of the first proclamation of the Gospel. As you do, try to imagine the holy curiosity that many would have had as they first listened to Jesus preach. Soon He would follow up His preaching with many signs and wonders that would confirm His message. But at first, Jesus simply instilled a hope in His hearers. As you ponder this, think about those in your life who also need this initial sense of hope and holy curiosity about the Gospel and pray that God will inspire you and use you to be an instrument of this merciful message.



Mary Queen of Heaven

Website: westplainscatholicparishes.org
(or simply type:) bit.ly/StAnneML
Rev. Mike Ishida

200 W. Alder, Sprague, WA 99032

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Sacramental Emergency Phone: 509-998-7093

January 22, 2023 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Office (St. Anne):

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Parish Council:

Rev. Mike Ishida
Pat Whipple
Janet Whipple
Mario Cruz
Danielle Treis
Father Miller

Finance Council:

Rev. Mike Ishida
Eric Hanson

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.

Mary Queen of Heaven, Sprague, WA

Sunday: 10:30 am *Confession @ 10:00am
12:30 pm English Mass

Daily Mass: 7:00 am Mass

St. Anne, Medical Lake, WA

Sunday: 9:00 am Mass
Monday: 6:00 pm Mass
Tuesday: 9:00 am Mass
Wednesday: 9:00 am Mass
Thursday: 9:00 am Mass
Friday: 6:00 pm Mass

**Confessions 30 minutes before EVERY Mass.*

**Adoration Monday & Friday 5:00pm-6:00pm*

**Adoration Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:30am-10:30 am*

St. Francis of Assisi, Harrington, WA

Saturday: 5:30 pm Mass *Confession @ 5:00pm

Sacraments

Penance (Confession):

St. Anne: 30 minutes before EVERY Mass

Mary Queen: Sunday 10:00 am

St. Francis of Assisi: Saturdays 5:00 pm

Baptism and Confirmation:

Contact Parish Office

Marriage:

Contact Parish Office

(requires preparation for at least 6 months in advance)

welcome
to our parish

How to Give

- Online Giving—It's safe, secure and easy to give with the secure service we use RebelGive: <https://bit.ly/StAnneGive>
- Mail you offering to: PO Box 125, Medical Lake, WA 99022
- Drop your donation in the giving basket



Jesus, I trust in You!

HIS MERCY
ENDURES FOREVER



2022 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL
Make a donation with the QR code above.

We have reached 86% of our goal.
Need only \$676 to reach our goal.

THANK YOU to all those that have so generously contributed to the ACA this year! If you haven't given yet, please considering giving.

Nourished to be Light

"... your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father ..." Matthew 5:16

Men's Conference—Hearts on Fire

February 4 @ St. Thomas More, Spokane
Deacon James Thurman, Archdiocese of Portland
Dr. Deacon Bob Rice, University of Steubenville
Tickets go on sale January 1, 2023

Register at:

<https://dioceseofspokane.org/events/2023-hearts-on-fire-mens-conference>

Walk for Life Northwest

Sunday, January 22, 2023

11:00 AM Mass at the
Cathedral of Our Lady of Lourdes

Following Mass—meet @ Rotary Fountain
South Howard St. Bridge Riverfront Park

12:00 PM Information Tent

12:30 PM Speaker: Louis Brown—a
Catholic Civil Rights lawyer and executive
director of Christ Medicus Foundation.
Walk begins after speaker.

Lord, as You began Your public ministry of proclaiming the Kingdom of Heaven, You instilled hope and a holy curiosity in the minds and hearts of Your first hearers. Please continue this good work and use me as You will—to be an instrument of this hope in those I encounter every day.
Jesus, I trust in You.

Mass Prayer Intentions

January 22—January 29

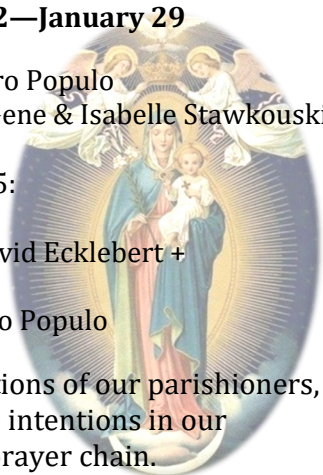
Sunday, January 22: Pro Populo
Monday, January 23: Gene & Isabelle Stawkowski
Tuesday, January 24:
Wednesday, January 25:
Thursday, January 26:
Friday, January 27: David Ecklebert +
Saturday, January 28:
Sunday, January 29: Pro Populo

And for all the intentions of our parishioners, especially the intentions in our Parish prayer chain.

Mary, Queen of Heaven, pray for us!

St. Anne, pray for us!

St. Francis of Assisi, pray for us!



Welcome 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.



January/February 2023 at a glance:

Sunday	M	Tuesday	Wednesday	T	F	Saturday
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
St. Anne, Medical Lake, WA 8:30 am Confession 9:00 am Mass Fellowship following Mass in St. Anne Hall Mary Queen of Heaven Sprague, WA 10:00 am Confession 10:30 am Mass 12:30 pm English Mass Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	Daily Mass @ 7:00AM Monday thru Friday Feast Days @ 10:00 AM					St. Francis of Assisi Harrington, WA 5:00 pm Confession 5:30 pm Mass
9 Days for Life Novena January 19-27 https://www.respectlife.org/9-days-for-life						
FORMED.org The Catholic NetFlicks JOIN for free! <i>Directions on front of the bulletin .</i>						
29	30	31	February 1	2	3	4
St. Anne, Medical Lake, WA 8:30 am Confession 9:00 am Mass Fellowship following Mass in St. Anne Hall Mary Queen of Heaven Sprague, WA 10:00 am Confession 10:30 am Mass 12:30 pm English Mass Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Daily Mass @ 7:00AM Monday thru Friday Feast Days @ 10:00 AM					St. Francis of Assisi Harrington, WA 5:00 pm Confession 5:30 pm Mass First Saturdays @ St. Anne 8:30 am Confession 9:00 am Mass 9:30 am Rosary
PRAY FOR BISHOP DALY, FATHER ISHIDA, AND ALL OUR PRIESTS!						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
St. Anne, Medical Lake, WA 8:30 am Confession 9:00 am Mass Fellowship following Mass in St. Anne Hall Mary Queen of Heaven Sprague, WA 10:00 am Confession 10:30 am Mass 12:30 pm English Mass Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Daily Mass @ 7:00AM Monday through Friday Feast Days @ 10:00 AM					St. Francis of Assisi Harrington, WA 5:00 pm Confession 5:30 pm Mass
PRAY FOR BISHOP DALY AND HIS CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR PARISHS AND SCHOOLS.						

Sign up for **FLOCKNOTE!** Text the word **westplains** to the number **84576**

Opportunity for involvement in the Guatemala Mission

Thanks to the leadership of Bishop Bernard Topel in the late 1950s, the Diocese of Spokane entered into an agreement with the Diocese of Sololá in Guatemala, whereby Spokane offered to share spiritual, material, and human resources with the Diocese of Sololá.

While programs have advanced and local leadership has replaced Spokane personnel, the Guatemala Commission of the Catholic Diocese of Spokane continues financial and prayer support for pastoral work, medical clinics, a radio station, and schools.

The Guatemala Commission, meeting four times a year, manages funds and communicates information from the people of Guatemala to the people of the Spokane diocese. Membership is open and welcome for anyone who is interested in being part of this ministry. Please contact Donna at rdconnell@comcast.net if you would like to attend a meeting or would like more information.

Ongoing prayer and financial support are vital to the lives and welfare of the people in the Highlands of Guatemala. They are very grateful and thankful for support from the people and parishes of the Spokane diocese and they pray for God's blessings for all.

Patients waiting at medical clinic.



Children participating in religious education program.

