



# Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

10243 12TH AVENUE SOUTH  
SEATTLE, WA 98168

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**WELCOME!**

Thank you for celebrating with us today. We invite you to come and worship with us again. If you would like to be a member of our faith community, please take a moment to register. We would love to have you as our spiritual companion.

## MASS SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY

5:00 pm Vigil Mass (Vietnamese)

### TUESDAY - FRIDAY

6:00 pm (Vietnamese)

### SUNDAY

8:30 am Mass (English)

10:30 am Mass (Vietnamese)

Livestream (Facebook and Youtube)

12:30 pm (Vietnamese for Youth)

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

1st Friday of the Month - 5:30 pm Adoration  
6:00 pm Mass

## CONFESSIONS

Saturday 4:30 pm - 4:50 pm  
Sunday 8:00 am - 8:20 am  
Tuesday - Friday 5:30 pm - 5:50 pm

## Our Lady of Lourdes Parish



### PARISH STAFF

#### PASTOR:

Father Joseph Vu, S.D.D., STL  
Frjoseph.vu@ollpsea.org

#### Parochial Vicar

Father Paul Thanh Vu, S.D.D.  
Thanh.Vu@ollpsea.org

#### Parish Secretary

Thu Thai Duong  
thu.duong@ollpsea.org

#### Bookkeeper

Monica Schwarz  
Monica.schwarz@ollpsea.org

#### Administration/Data Entry

Michelle Miller  
Michelle.Miller@ollpsea.org

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed  
Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Please Call for Appointment

**PARISH OFFICE 206-735-7598**

Sacrament of Anointing the Sick: Ext. 1  
Parish Staff: Ext. 2  
Administrative Support: Ext. 3

Please leave a message if no one answers and your call will be returned.



[archseattle.org/Partners](http://archseattle.org/Partners)

### FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP - JUNE 22 & 23, 2024

Donation	\$3,751.00
Donation Online	\$982.00
Maintenance Fund	\$5.00
Debt Reduction	\$0
<b>Total Donation</b>	<b>\$4,738.00</b>



**June 29th**



On June 29 the Catholic Church celebrates the feast day of Saints Peter & Paul. Prayers and God's Blessings as we celebrate Patron Saints of the Vietnamese Catholic Community at Our Lady of Lourdes, Father Joseph Peter Hai-Dang Vu, Father Paul Thanh Vu, and many OLL parishioners who adopt Saints Paul and Peter as their Patron Saints.

**GOD Bless AMERICA**

## Humility Is the Precondition for True Happiness

In today's secularized world, we don't often talk about the devil, and when we do, it's usually to make a joke. But Jesus didn't just make jokes about the devil.

In fact, the Bible tells us that undoing the devil's work was the primary reason Jesus came to earth in the first place: "This was the purpose of the appearing of the Son of God, to undo the work of the devil" (1 John 3:8).

Today's First Reading explains why the devil is so important for human history: it was "by the envy of the devil [that] death entered the world."

This happened in the Garden of Eden, with original sin.

When our first parents let themselves be deceived by the devil, stopped trusting in God, and disobeyed God's command, the original harmony that God had built into creation was shattered.

Evil, death, and suffering flooded the world.

And ever since then, human history, both of the human race, and of every individual, has been a battleground between those destructive forces of evil, sin and selfishness, and the redeeming power of God's grace.

This is the truth, revealed by Christ, and fairly obvious to anyone who takes an honest look at the world.

But if it's true and obvious, why does today's secularized world shy away from talking about it?

Part of the answer is simple: if we admit the reality of the devil and original sin, we are also admitting the fact that we, as fallen human beings, are in need of a Savior, someone stronger than evil and death who can come and redeem us.

But admitting our need for a Savior takes humility, and humility scares us.

We much prefer to see ourselves as self-sufficient, heroic, successful, and capable of taking care of ourselves, thank you very much.

But unless we are humble, admitting that we are not God, that we need God, then God's grace will not be able to touch and transform our lives, because God is too respectful of our freedom to force down the door of our hearts. That is what today's Gospel encounters teach us.

## Touching Christ's Cloak through the Sacraments

Christ is our Savior; only he can redeem us from the sinfulness, instability, and weakness that plague our lives in this fallen world.

But how do we receive this redemption?

Jairus walked up to him and knelt in front of him, because Jesus was passing right through his town.

The woman with a hemorrhage pressed through the crowds and activated God's power in her life by touching Christ's cloak.

But what about us?

Jesus has ascended in to heaven; how can we touch his cloak?

We can do so if we approach the sacraments with faith.

The sacraments were instituted by Jesus himself, given to the Church precisely for this purpose, so that we would not have to wonder if God is still at work in our lives.

When we kneel before the priest in the confessional and open our hearts to God's mercy, we are like Jairus kneeling before Christ in Galilee.

When we touch the body and blood of Jesus under the appearances of bread and wine in the Eucharist, we are like the woman with the hemorrhage: Christ's divine strength flows into our weak, wounded, fallen lives.

The same Jesus of the Gospels is still at work through the sacraments, still present and active in history, still healing, giving life, and strengthening those who believe in him. But we must approach them with humble faith.

Many people in the crowd touched Jesus' cloak that day; St Mark tells us specifically that the crowd "pressed upon him."

And yet, only one woman accessed Christ's healing power, because her humility unlocked her faith.

Today, as Jesus offers himself for us and to us in this Mass, let's offer ourselves to him in return, humbly, full of faith in his omnipotent goodness, so that his grace can work new wonders in us.



**July 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
*Prayer: Saint Thomas the Apostle, you became a faithful follower of Jesus. Though you struggled with an occasion of doubt, that struggle transformed you into a new man. Please pray for me, that every struggle and weakness I have will be eliminated and transformed so that God can use me to fulfill His holy and perfect will. Saint Thomas the Apostle, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.*

## ( PRACTICING ) CATHOLIC

### The Touch of Christ

For a long time, I didn't understand why the virtual Masses of the pandemic were so wearisome to me. Theoretically, shouldn't it be a tired mother's dream, fulfilling her Sunday obligation from the couch, not having to worry how much noise the kids are making?

But it wasn't. Seeing Mass without experiencing it left me hungry. It left me starving.

Then a wise priest explained it to me. "Watching virtual Mass is like taking a virtual shower," he said.

Grace might not be something we can see with our eyes, but it is very much something that is transmitted physically. Jesus has a human body for a reason. He needs to touch people.

We see that nowhere more clearly than in this Gospel. The crowds are pressing on him, everyone trying to get close, everyone trying to share his space. The hemorrhaging woman claws her way through, desperate to make physical contact with him, any part of him, even his cloak. The synagogue official begs Jesus to come and "lay hands" on his daughter, knowing that this is the only way for her to survive. He doesn't ask for Jesus' good thoughts or approving gaze. He knows that isn't what he needs.

In the Gospels, Jesus saves people chiefly through his own touch because he wants to show us — you and me, sitting in the pews — something very important about how we are saved.

But where do you and I find the touch of Jesus Christ? Where do you and I find salvation?

It's in the water flowing over the infant's forehead. It's in the Host dissolving on our tongues. It's in the oil that is pressed to the skin of the confirmand, the dying man, and the brand-new priest. It's in the embrace of the newly married couple. It's in the extended hand of the priest as he says, "Your sins are forgiven."

It's still here, two thousand years later. It's still waiting for us to reach out and grasp it.

*"If I but touch his clothes, I shall be cured." — Mark 5:28*

*- Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman*

### Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

#### Question:

In today's digital world, do we really need to be face-to-face with a priest to confess our sins? Would Facetime or Zoom ever be allowed?

#### Answer:

The question of whether or not Catholics can celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation virtually (via social media, by phone, or in some other way) is a question that has actually been around for several years. The recent COVID-19 pandemic brought the question back in a new way, especially as many parishes were forced to introduce a sort of "social distanced" confession, with the sacrament being celebrated outdoors.

In reflecting on this question, however, there are a couple points that we want to keep in mind. First, as the Code of Canon Law observes in different places, the faithful have a right to the sacraments of the Church and the Church's ministers have a responsibility to make them accessible. At the same time, however, we always have to be sure that we respect the nature of the sacraments themselves.

Although modern forms of technology and communication can help us in our work of evangelization catechesis, the Pontifical Council for Social Communication has reminded us that, "Virtual reality is no substitute for the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, the sacramental reality of the other sacraments, and shared worship in a flesh and blood human community. There are no sacraments on the internet" (The Church and the Internet, no. 9).

Although our encounters with others on the internet and via social media can be considered "real" in one sense, in the sacraments we encounter Christ in a personal and ecclesial way. It is never just a private experience but is always grounded in the life of the Church and this means that it must truly be personal, including the contact between the confessor and the penitent. While the convenience or ease of online celebrations might be appealing for many reasons, at heart, we always want to keep in mind the fullness of the Church's tradition and the meaning of the sacraments.