



**HOLY DISCIPLES  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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www.holydisciples.org

# Holy Disciples and Our Lady of Good Counsel Bulletin



Our Lady of Good Counsel  
Eatonville, WA 98328

(253) 875-6630  
www.olgceatonville.org

**December 20, 2025—January 16, 2026**

## **Pastor**

Fr. Woody McCallister  
frwoody@holydisciples.org

## **Parochial Vicar**

Fr. Navy Kumar Thomas  
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## **Parochial Vicar**

Fr. Bhaskar Chappidi  
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## **Deacon**

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## **Admin Assistant**

Marina Martinez  
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## **Pastoral Assistant for Administration**

Mary Takaki  
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## **Bookkeeper**

Laurie Halte  
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## **Pastoral Assistant for Faith Formation / Youth Ministry**

Monica Rodrigues  
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## **Children's (K-5) Faith Formation**

Rita Charles  
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## **Pastoral Assistant for Liturgy, Outreach, and Adult Faith Formation**

John Mastalski  
pal@holydisciples.org

## **Mass Schedule**

### **Holy Disciples**

Saturday (Vigil) 5:00pm  
Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am  
Wed, Thu, Fri 9:00am

### **Our Lady of Good Counsel**

Saturday (Vigil) 4:00pm  
Thursday 4:00pm

### **Reconciliation**

HD: Saturday 3:30pm  
OLGC: Saturday 3:00pm

### **Anointing of the Sick**

First Friday at Mass (HD)  
First Thursday at Mass (OLGC)

## **Christmas Season Liturgy Schedule—Parish Family 39**

### **Christmas Eve Masses—December 24**

4:00pm at Our Lady of Good Counsel  
5:00pm at Holy Disciples and Our Lady Queen of Heaven  
6:30pm at Saints Cosmas and Damian  
8:00pm at Our Lady Queen of Heaven  
8:30pm at Holy Disciples ☪ note new time for "Mass at Night"

### **Christmas Day Masses—December 25**

9:00am at Our Lady Queen of Heaven  
9:30am at Saints Cosmas and Damian  
10:30am at Holy Disciples Church

### **Feast of the Holy Family—December 27-28**

*Regular Weekend Masses*

### **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God—January 1**

*Holy Day of Obligation in USA*

4:00pm Vigil at Our Lady of Good Counsel (on 12/31)  
9:00am at Holy Disciples and Our Lady Queen of Heaven  
9:30am at Saints Cosmas and Damian

### **Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord—January 3-4**

*Regular Weekend Masses*

### **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord—January 10-11**

*Regular Weekend Masses*

## **FAITH FORMATION**

The Children's, Youth, and Adult faith formation sessions  
will resume the week of January 4, 2026.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**First Reconciliation** at Holy Disciples on Saturday, Jan 24 at 10:00am

Questions about sessions? Contact Rita (K-5), Monica (Youth Groups),  
or John (Adult OCIA and Confirmation)



### Stewardship of Treasure



Holy Disciples  
Church

As we continue our annual focus on *Stewardship of Treasure*, we invite you to take a moment to reflect on the many ways God has blessed you financially over the past year.

We encourage you to prayerfully consider how you might return a portion of those blessings to your Our Lady of Good Counsel or Holy Disciples church community.

As in previous years, your generous support directly sustains our mission and our ministries—helping one another encounter Jesus Christ in meaningful and transformative ways.



Our Lady of Good  
Counsel Church

### Donations for Advent and Christmas Flowers and Other Liturgical Needs

Envelopes are available in the back of the church for those who would like to contribute to decorating and enhancing our sacred spaces for the Advent and Christmas seasons. You may also list names of your loved ones who have passed away, and they will be remembered at Masses throughout the holy seasons. Donations will go toward enhancing and decorating the church and surrounding areas.

### Looking to become Catholic? Already Catholic, but not Confirmed

If you answer "Yes" to either of these questions, then now is the time to consider joining others who are on a similar Journey of Faith. There are different trails on the Journey of Faith depending on each person's individual needs. Already a baptized Christian - that's one trail. Not yet baptized - that's a different, parallel trail. Just needing to complete your sacraments of initiation and get Confirmed - we have a shorter, simpler trail for you!

All of this is part of our OCIA and Adult Faith Formation programs. Please connect in person with John Mastalski or Monica Rodrigues for more information and to get a registration form. The new OCIA Journey of Faith sessions started September 21, and **Adult Confirmation sessions will start in January 2026.**

### Our Next Zoom Bible Study: Ephesians

*"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing ..."*

This is how Paul begins his letter to the Ephesians—count how many times the word "bless" appears in that *short excerpt!*

No wonder the gospel is called Good News, it is news of blessing upon blessing.

We will start a short six-week study of Ephesians, beginning on January 6, 2026. We meet by Zoom (on your computer, tablet or phone) every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. (This study will finish the week before before Ash Wednesday and will not conflict with our popular Lenten small groups.)

Our group is small and friendly; Bible beginners as well as scholars are welcome.

If you are interested in joining or have any questions, please email [adminassist@holydisciples.org](mailto:adminassist@holydisciples.org).



### The Nativity in 'No Man's Land'

#### Christmas Reflection by John Mastalski, Pastoral Assistant

I recently watched the French film *Joyeux Noel* (2005) which tells the moving story of a Christmas truce during World War I. The events in the film, based on various true accounts, took place a little over 100 years ago when hand-to-hand combat and trench warfare were the norm.

Soldiers from Germany, France, and Scotland discover their common humanity—and shared faith traditions—in those trenches.

Music and food brought warring enemies together for a brief time as they celebrated the birth of the Prince of Peace—and discovered in that celebrating their kinship beyond country.

Of course, I sob during such films, especially ones so well-made. My tears betray my deepest longings for kinship and existential connection—and especially for an end to the gun-related violence that terrorizes us today.



But my tears are also joy-filled—evidence of my deep faith in the healing powers of kindness and compassion as shown by the enemies who became neighbors in the 'no man's land' between the trenches.

And my eyes well-up for the Christmas Baby whom the magi visit and who is the source of all kinship and kindness.

Thinking about the soldiers from the different countries reminds me of the two distinct Christmas stories told in the Bible. Most everything we celebrate about Christmas—except for Santa and the tree—comes from either the gospels of Luke or Matthew.

Of course, both writers tell of Mary and Joseph and the baby Jesus—but that's about where their

similarities cease. Indeed, each gospel writer focuses on wildly differing elements of the Nativity scene.

From Luke, we get the tired family traveling to Bethlehem and finding every hotel and Airbnb overbooked. So they find a barn with its food trough, the manger, which serves as their shelter and as Jesus' first crib.

Luke also gives us the poor sheep herders who were in their fields and who were summoned by angels—it took more than one angel for them to pay attention—to “be not afraid” of the “good news” that they were heralding.

These angels were so persuasive that the shepherds left their only source of income—the sheep—and went into town to find this “infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.”

Luke's version of the child's birth includes multitudes of supporting characters from the heavens (angels) and from poor members of the tribe (shepherds).

For Matthew, unlike Luke, the birth itself is not the focus of his story. Instead, his telling targets the juicy gossip around Mary's pregnancy and the party that happens a week or so after the birth.

Matthew gives us a dreamy Joseph who hears a single angel telling him of the true nature of his girlfriend's mysterious pregnancy. Joseph hears how his child—yes, *his* child, even though he had “no relations” with Mary—will be called *Emmanuel* and shall be named *Jesus*.

Then Matthew skips ahead to the story of the magi who are astrologers “from the east” with access to King Herod. Clearly, they have college degrees and enough frequent-flier miles to travel long distances “following a star.”

And, even though they were wealthy enough to

offer expensive gifts to the newborn baby, they were humble enough to bow down and “do him homage.”

Matthew places Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, too, but these gift-bearing out-of-towners find the Holy Family in a “house” rather than in a manger.

Matthew's version of Jesus' birth includes only one angel, an important “star” in the sky, various wealthy visitors, and three intriguing gifts (which are not very baby-friendly).

In the 'no man's land' outside of the sanctuary in our churches, we have erected typical Nativity scenes to celebrate this Christmas story. Like most Nativity scenes, the angels, shepherds, magi, and star are joined by various animals lingering on the edge of the scene.

Over the centuries, our telling and celebrating of this Baby's birth have led to the mingling of the characters—rich and poor—from Matthew and Luke.

Whether we have come from a distance (like the magi) or have to travel only a few miles (like the shepherds), there is always room for us in the Nativity scene. The shepherds and magi have found kinship in our church's 'no man's land' and, just by being there, invite us to join them, sit awhile, and ponder the Baby whose birth promises good news and freedom from fear.

O come let us show kindness to one another and to our newborn King and Redeemer!



### Prayer Ministry

We are blessed with a group of volunteers who provide prayer support to parishioners when loved ones and friends are in need of prayer to help them through healing or tough time. If you or someone you know is in need of prayers, email the church office or contact **Anita Ary-Price** at [anitalynn0126@aol.com](mailto:anitalynn0126@aol.com)



### Rachel's Corner Retreats

A healing retreat for those suffering from the experience of an abortion, you do not need to walk home alone. Project Rachel offers compassionate and confidential care for those who suffer the effects of an abortion.

The next Upcoming healing retreat is March 6 –8, 2026. For more information, see posters in back of church. Email [projectrachel@ccsww.org](mailto:projectrachel@ccsww.org).

Visit us at [www.ccsww.org/projectrachel](http://www.ccsww.org/projectrachel) or [facebook.com/projectrachelww](https://facebook.com/projectrachelww)

To leave a confidential message:  
Frances - English: (206) 920-6413  
Alejandra - Spanish: (206)-450-7814



project rachel  
Peace starts here

### New Bulletin—Print & Digital Ads

Available now! As Holy Disciples and Our Lady of Good Counsel transition to a new, weekly, commercially-printed bulletin—we are looking for advertisers. Parishioner **Michelle Jacobs** from LPi, our new bulletin printer (starting in January), will be securing new ads for our churches in the coming weeks. As valuable members of the local business communities, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our new Parish Family 39 bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on [ParishesOnline.com](http://ParishesOnline.com).

Please contact Michelle Jacobs at [MJacobs@4LPi.com](mailto:MJacobs@4LPi.com)  
or (800) 950-9952 ext 2215

