



Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church

Pastor: Father César Vega-Mendoza Pastor@olf.church
Deacons: Mark Krcma, Armando Escamilla,
Frank (Paco) Martinez

MISSION STATEMENT

We the Catholic community of Our Lady of Fatima united by faith, are called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to evangelize and assist in the faith formation of all.

We are committed to encourage, affirm and call forth everyone into participation by providing opportunity for ministry.

We seek to deepen our personal relationship with Jesus Christ Our Savior and provide an environment in which all have an opportunity for a greater sense of communion, family and community.



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Welcome to Our Lady of Fatima Parish

We welcome all our visitors.
May your time with us be grace-filled
and may the Lord Jesus Christ bless
you and your loved ones.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday,-Friday 9am to 5:00pm

Phone: 509-765-6729

Website: olf.church

Flocknote: ourladyoffatima26@flocknote.com
Facebook: Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church,
Moses Lake, WA

Address: 200 N. Dale Road – Moses Lake, WA 98837

What's Happening at OLF This Week?

Monday: Posada 6pm Bible Buddies Group 12pm Vigil Mass Choir 5:30pm Adult Choir 5:30pm
Apóstoles de la Palabra 6pm Spanish Bible Class 6pm

Tuesday: **Christmas Eve-Office Closed at 12pm**

Wednesday: **Christmas Day-Office Closed**

Thursday **Office Closed** Soup Kitchen 11am-1pm

Friday **Office Closed** Children's Choir Practice 4-5pm La Busqueda 6pm

Saturday

Sunday Youth Group 6-8pm

Announcements:

- ◆ Posadas will be daily at 6 pm in the church from December 16th-23rd
- ◆ No Youth Group 12/15 or 12/22, classes will resume Sunday 12/29
- ◆ *The parish Office will be closed beginning December 24th at 12pm in observance of Christmas. We will reopen Monday, December 30th at 9 am.*

Holiday Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	New Years Eve	New Years Day
<i>5 pm English</i>	<i>9 am English</i>	<i>S. Holy Mary Mother of God</i>	<i>S. Holy Mary Mother of God</i>
<i>8 pm Spanish</i>	<i>11:30 am Spanish</i>	<i>7 pm Bilingual</i>	<i>9 am English</i>
			<i>11:30 am Spanish</i>

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday	7:00am	Eng Communion Service
Tues - Fri	7:00am	Eng. Mass
	7:30am	Rosary
Tue	7:00pm	Sp. Mass
Thurs	7:00pm	Sp. Mass

ADORATION:

Monday 7am - Friday 7pm Adoration Chapel
Thursday Holy Hour 6:00pm

RECONCILIATION:

Tuesday	5:30pm to 6:45pm	Church Confessional
Thursday	6:00—6:50pm	During Holy Hour
Saturday	3:30pm to 4:30pm	Chapel Confessional

WEEKEND SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil	5:00pm	Eng.
	7:00pm	Sp.
Sunday	8:30am	Eng.
	11:30am	Sp.

First Friday & Saturday:**

First Friday Mass	7:00pm	Sp.
First Saturday Rosary	6:30am	Bilingual
First Saturday Mass	7:00am	Bilingual

followed by 15 mins. Adoration—Confessions available

PRAYER REQUESTS

Rest of the Soul

Robert Gonzalez Jr., Antoinette Wilcoxson, Manolo Pruneda, Bert Morales, Kristin Vedder, Lloyd Arbaugh, Adrian Baeza Escobedo, Margarita Hernandez, Joe Bernhart, Roberto DeLeon, Ramona Rodriguez, Pat Ramirez, Damien Rocha, Jesus Delgado, Rojelio Adame, Gloria Delgado, Tito Gonzalez, Sylbia Lopez, Enedina Garza, Brian Wilson, Yolanda Garcia, Rolando Adame, David Adame, Leonard Merdardo Delgado, Kim Hoiness, Angela Meza, Sebastian Baker, Adriel Miranda, Maria Hernandez, Marchell R Espinoza, Reyes De La Cruz, Diana Keller, Mitzy Cruz, James Nganga, Patricia Hutton, Lucy Gunn, Maria Cruz Rodriguez, Maria Luz Borjas, Helen Theis, Anthony Homer, Mitchell Thompson, Daniel Zarate, Zendaya Martinez, Leroy Gonzalez, Jessie Jimenez, Nickie Anderson, Lorna Paola Villanueva

Physical/Spiritual Health

Dolores Carvalho, Lucy Messer, William McCormick, Jean Agbisit, Lorraine Medrano, Anita Huerta, Corinne Geblin, Gina Ruiz, Francisca Garcia, Fran Bill, Jill Murray, Sally Richards, Corina Miranda, Minga Rubio, Darlene Boechler, Gail Altenhofen, Diane Stevenson

Military:

Daniel Jay, Shane Herup, James Herron, Christopher E. Uvalle, David Martinez, Paul E. Hanover, John Herup, JC Hernández, Bettany Noregas

Letter From Father César



Dear Parish Family,

We are approaching the end of our preparation time for the celebration of Our Lord's Nativity. Our Advent Season has been a great time of grace. I hope that the different liturgies, the advent booklet and Penance Services have been for you a great opportunity to "*prepare the way to the Lord.*"

Starting on the 16th we have been holding "*Las Posadas*": Las Posadas is a nine-day prayer service with a festival that commemorates Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem to give birth to Jesus. The word "*posadas*" is Spanish for "*lodgings*" or "*accommodations*". They are celebrated between December 16 and December 24 in Latin America, El Salvador, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, and by Latin Americans in the United States. Thank you to all the groups that hosted one of *the posadas* this year.

For some time now we might have been listening to Christmas music. Perhaps there are a million things on our minds now: gifts to wrap, dinner to prepare, cards to write, shopping hangover, etc. Let us place all those million worries aside and keep still and come to the silence of The Night that is approaching this week. Let us listen carefully to a different kind of sound, the sound of our longing. To help us listen, you can perhaps clasp your hands (*close your eyes if that helps*) and ponder what we have been wanting all along, what our hearts have been truly longing for all these years. What do we truly wish for every Christmas? If Heaven were to ask us tonight what our lifelong wishes are, what would these be? Whisper a prayer to the Child, tell him what we most desire today. What is your lifelong wish?

Perhaps on Christmas Night our only lifelong wish is to love and be loved. If heaven could grant our wish, perhaps we only ask to be more patient, more kind, more grateful. Perhaps this Christmas we long to begin forgiving or to be forgiven. Perhaps we yearn to be less distant, more loving with those who are near to us. Perhaps our only want is for our children to remember us, to visit us. To be close, to be family again. Perhaps as the song goes, we only want her or him, our beloved, to be home for Christmas. Perhaps we are yearning to have the strength to let go, to be faithful, to be free. Maybe today, we only want to understand the one who has hurt us. Perhaps our heart's desire is to be less jealous or envious or anxious. If only perhaps we could be less afraid or insecure, if only we could find rest for our weary lives.

Perhaps we have been wanting to say the words "*I love you*" but we cannot and can only mean the love indirectly. Today perhaps we only want to trust that God is still kind, and that life is still good. Perhaps we wish for once we could refrain from the words and silences that so readily tear our lives apart. Perhaps our only longing now is to be able to pick up the broken pieces of our life and go on believing that even shards and splinters are never wasted. Perhaps we only want to be quiet and alone, to allow time to heal our heart. Perhaps today our only wish is to not be alone, to have a friend, to be a friend, or for love to never end...

Christmas longing is something that we allow to grow on us. Only after many Christmases do we discover that the longing just as much abides in God as it does in us. It is not only we who long for the wholeness of Paradise again.

The Child that sleeps in a manger is no genie in a bottle, no baby Santa with a sack full of gifts, no Aladdin living in some magical lamp; the Child of Mary is neither falling star to wish upon nor fairy godmother to our Cinderella dreams. If we were to cradle this Child in our arms or sit him on our lap, and if we were to let his little hands clasp and curl around our little pinky finger, we would soon realize that this Child also needs what we need; that this Child will never be the same without our love; this Child longs for what we long for, desires our very desires; this Child dreams what we dream of.

If this Christmas the Child Jesus should wake us from our sleep, cradle him in your arms and whisper tender little things to soothe his need and longing. Hush him back to sleep in the manger of your heart. Whisper to him how real our longing is to love and be loved. Tell him how afraid we are to be alone. Then whisper to him that we love him despite all the fallen pieces, despite all that has happened to your life. Whisper to him how much we long to love him and there be consoled to find in the very longing itself the nearness of all that we desire. Who we have been longing for all our lives is this Child whose little hands reflexively clasp and curl around our finger, this Child who longs for whatever much love is still left in our lives. Our lifelong wish sleeps right here in the manger of our heart.

Merry Christmas,
Rev. César Vega-Mendoza
Pastor

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb

Luke 1:42

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

First Reading

Micah 5:1-4A

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 80

Second Reading

Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel

Luke 1:39-45

Gospel Reflection

The 4th Sunday of Advent brings us closer to the birth of Jesus and invites us to reflect on important themes. Through the readings from Micah, Hebrews, and Luke, we learn about God's promise, the importance of humble beginnings, obedience to God's will, and recognizing Jesus in our lives. Reflecting on these readings helps prepare our hearts for the joy of Christmas.

God's Promise in Humble Beginnings

The 4th Sunday of Advent Year C brings us the first reading from Micah, which speaks of a ruler coming from Bethlehem. This small town does not seem important, yet it is chosen by God. This teaches us that God often works through humble beginnings. Bethlehem is not a grand city, but it becomes the birthplace of Jesus. This shows that greatness can come from small and simple places. We are reminded that God values humility and often chooses what the world might overlook. God's promise to send a ruler from Bethlehem shows His faithfulness. He keeps His promises, no matter how small the beginnings. We can trust that God has a plan for each of us, even if it starts in humble places. This Sunday encourages us to see the potential in our own humble beginnings. We should not be discouraged by small starts but trust that God can do great things through them. By embracing humility and trusting in God's promises, we prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus.

Obedience to God's Will

The second reading for the 4th Sunday of Advent highlights Jesus' obedience to God's will. In Hebrews, Jesus declares that He came to do what God wanted, not what He wanted. This teaches us the importance of putting God's will above our own desires. Jesus offers Himself as a sacrifice, showing the ultimate act of obedience. This is not just a one-time event but a lifelong commitment to following God's plan. We are called to follow Jesus' example by seeking and doing God's will in our lives.

Obeying God can be challenging, especially when it goes against our own plans. However, the 4th Sunday of Advent Year C reminds us that true fulfillment comes from aligning our lives with God's purposes. This obedience leads to a deeper relationship with God and a more meaningful life. Reflecting on Jesus' obedience encourages us to examine our own lives. Are we willing to sacrifice our desires to follow God's will? The 4th Sunday of Advent calls us to commit to this path, preparing our hearts for the coming of Jesus through our acts of obedience and faith.

Recognizing Jesus in Our Lives

The 4th Sunday of Advent reminds us to be always looking for signs of God's presence in our lives. The Visitation, where Mary visits Elizabeth, is full of joy. Elizabeth recognizes Jesus when her baby, John, leaps in her womb. This moment shows us the importance of being open to God's presence in everyday moments. Elizabeth could have dismissed her baby's movement as just another kick. Instead, she saw it as a sign of something bigger. She recognized it as a moment of grace and the closeness of redemption. This teaches us to see God's hand in small, everyday events.

Jesus came to us as a baby in Bethlehem, but He also comes to us in our daily lives. If we only see Him in the nativity scene, we miss many moments of grace. We need to be ready to encounter Him in our interactions with each other. Through prayer and the sacraments, we prepare ourselves to recognize and welcome Jesus every day.

The 4th Sunday of Advent Year C encourages us to be watchful and open to God's presence. Like Elizabeth, we should be aware of the signs of grace around us. By doing so, we prepare our hearts for Jesus and experience the joy of His coming, not just at Christmas but every day.

Advent Prayer

Lord, help us to see Your presence in our daily lives. Guide us to be humble and obedient to Your will. May we recognize and welcome Jesus in every moment. Amen.

Reflection Questions

- What can you learn from Jesus' humble beginnings in Bethlehem?
 - How can you practice humility in your own life?
- What are some small signs of grace you might have overlooked?
 - How can you prepare your heart to encounter Jesus daily?

FAMILY CONNECTION

In the encounter between Mary and Elizabeth described in today's Gospel, we learn that other people can help us recognize God's presence and action in our lives. Mary traveled to see Elizabeth because Elizabeth's pregnancy was a sign that everything the angel told Mary would truly happen. Elizabeth recognized Mary as the mother of her Lord because her unborn child, John the Baptist, leapt at the sound of Mary's greeting. Elizabeth and Mary rejoiced together at the wonderful things God was doing in their lives. We too are blessed when we have people who help us recognize God's action in our lives. We pray that our family can be this for one another.

As you gather as a family, work together on a word search or hidden-picture puzzle. Help one another until everyone has found each of the words or pictures in the puzzle. Talk about this experience, noticing how some people found words or pictures more easily than others and how easy it was to see the word or picture once someone else pointed it out. Observe that sometimes we need the help of others to recognize God's presence and action in our lives. Read together today's Gospel, Luke 1:39-45. Ask: What did Elizabeth recognize about Mary? (that she was to be the mother of Jesus, the Lord) How did Elizabeth know this? (Her baby, John the Baptist, leapt with joy at Mary's greeting) Pray together that as we share our faith together as a family, we may help one another recognize God's presence and action in our lives. Pray together the Hail Mary.

PREPARES NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Prepares is in need of a bilingual volunteer to help with phone calls. It takes about an hour per month and we supply the numbers. If this is something you can do as a Friend of Prepares, please call:

Rosalie 509-431-4364
Jo 253-307-1574

Thank you and God bless your answer to help families with babies.

Parents Group During Religious Education:

Group will reconvene January 15th, 2025 at 6pm during Religious Education classes.

For information or questions, please call Hilary at 480-740-4082

Religious Education News and Information

- ◆ Kinder-6th Grade will be on winter break until January 15th
- ◆ Confirmation Classes (7th-12th Grade) will resume January 5th.

**If you have not done so already, please sign up for Remind texts for your Confirmation student:
Text the number 810-10 and put in the following code:
1st year-@OLFCNF26
2nd Year-@OLFCON25**



YOUTH GROUP UPDATES!!!

Our next Youth Group will be December 29th, 6-8pm
Be there or be square!
All Kids Grades 9-12 welcome!!!

Follow us on Instagram:
OLF_Youth_Group_Rocks



MASS INTENTIONS

Sat	21st	5 pm (En)	Fr Tony Quijano (L)
Sun	22nd	8:30 am (En) 11:30 am (Sp)	Francis Lester (D), All Souls of Purgatory, Families of OLF Almas de Purgatorio, Familias de OLF
Tues	24th	7 am (En) 7 pm (Sp)	Tom Steffens (B) Lorna Paula Villanueva (D)
Thurs	26th	7 am (En) 7 pm (Sp)	Gabriel Costa, Chris Wiggins & Family, Patrick Owen (B) Fernando Julio Estevez

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



From the Staff at Our Lady of Fatima Parish

Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound & Nursing Homes

If anyone knows of a parishioner or someone who is homebound or in one of the local nursing homes who would like to receive Holy Communion, please call
Carrie Tatum 509-989-6591

Remembrance Flowers

If you would like a *Flower Remembrance* in memory or honor of a loved one, please call the Parish Office.

Donation per arrangement:

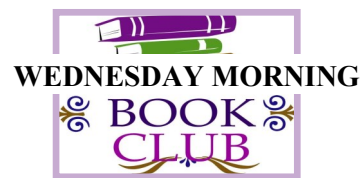
Be a part of the Bible Buddies Bible encounter group!

We meet on Mondays from 12 to 1:15 pm
in the Fatima Center

Our focus? To open our Bibles to read and discuss the upcoming Sunday's Mass readings.

Informal, fun and light hearted
Bring a lunch if you want.
All are welcome!

For info: call/text Debbie 509-989-4211



We invite everyone to join us on Wednesday mornings at 9 am in the Fatima Center as we gather for prayer and discussion of the latest book we are reading. For information, call Dee at 509-750-6728

New Years Eve

Dance Dec 31

Fatima Center

200 N Dale Rd

Time 8-1

\$30 per couple

\$20 person



Guest Dj

Rick Rod



Must be 21 or Older



Your offering on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will illuminate the darkness with the love of Christ through the network of Catholic Charities. Catholic Charities serves those most in need throughout the lifecycle—from expectant mothers and families with young children to grandparents raising their grandchildren and the elderly struggling to live independently. Thank you for prayerfully considering a gift to your neighbors in need this holiday season.
If you intend to give a Christmas gift directly to the parish, please do so on a different day.



ITS BACK!
Our Next Bunco Night will be Friday January 31st, 2025!
\$30 per person-dinner will be provided.
Bring your friends and enjoy a fun night of games, food, and drinks!

Abundance of Blessings Gala "The Numbers So Far"		
Incomes	Expenses	Net
\$92,765.00	\$13,165.60	\$79,599.40

**SAVE THE DATE!!!
Saturday November 15th, 2025
Annual Abundance of Blessings Gala**

Our Lady of Fatima Financials at a glance	
Operation Account-November Totals	
Total Regular Monthly Income	\$48,851.62
Total Regular Expenses	\$63,683.14
Net Gain/Loss	\$14,831.52
Building Fund Account-October Totals	
Total Income	\$106,657.00
Total Expenses	\$45,085.10
Net Gain/Loss	\$61,571.90

SADDLE VIEW FARMS LLC
FRANK C. & DIANA G. MARTINEZ

AMERICAN TAX SERVICE

OVER 25 YEARS LOCAL TAX PREPARATION

INDIVIDUAL ★ BUSINESS ★ FARMS

Tax Returns ★ Open Year Round
We Can Withhold Filing Fees From Refund
Payroll Preparation Service No Seasonal Employees

509-766-0192

Fax: 509-766-7613 103 E Broadway, Moses

TREVERI
CELLARS

71 GANGL RD, WAPATO, WA 98951
509.877.0925

Tacos El Rey

Fresh Hand Made Corn Tortillas

Order Online TacosElReyUSA.Com

You can order your delicious food or drinks giving us a call and we'll have it ready for you.

Restaurant 317 W. Broadway Ave 509-764-8611	Catering Call for info 509-855-6676	Espresso 407 Melva Lane 509-361-8161	Taqueria 1571 Yonezawa Blvd 509-855-1741

[/TacosElReyUSA](https://www.facebook.com/TacosElReyUSA) [/TacosElReyUSA](https://www.instagram.com/TacosElReyUSA) TacosElReyUSA.Com

Columbia Basin Eye Clinic, P.S.

Dr. Brian Roth, M.D. Ophthalmologist
Dr. Janet Huber, O.D. Optometrist
Timothy C. Thomas, O.D. Optometrist

1022 West Ivy Avenue
509-765-7845

Pioneer Memorial Services
For you, in your time of need.

Offering complete funeral services honoring your traditions. Abundant space available in the Garden of the Sacred Heart at Pioneer Memorial Gardens dedicated and blessed by Msgr. Skehan.

Ofreciendo servicios funerarios completos que honran sus tradiciones. Abundante espacio disponible en el Jardín del Sagrado Corazón en Pioneer Memorial Gardens dedicado y bendecido por Msgr. Skehan.

509-766-0191 (24-hours) 509-765-6500 Fax
14403 Rd. 2 NE, PO Box 537, Moses Lake WA98837

Fashion Eyewear * Contact Lenses

LAKESIDE OPTICAL

Optician: Kevin Carvo
1020 W. Ivy, Moses Lake 509-765-3497
lakesideoptical.com

Compliments of
Familia de León

Compliments of
Pioneer Veterinary Clinic
Dick Maier, D.V.M.
Courtney Redding, D.V.M.
Kryshelle Ballard, D.V. M.
Jennifer Brown, D.V. M.
827 Sharon Ave. 765-6794

Handy Man
Jorge Rodriguez
509-431-3977

Handyman, Repair, Maintenance, Painting, Furniture Installation, Delivery

Family salon
Gianella Alborneo
116w. 4th. Ave. Moses Lake, WA 98837
(509)765-2907
Facebook familysalon

Products Paul Mitchell, Johnny B, Biolage, Fantasy Jewelry and more.
Se habla español