# PREPARES

## Pregnancy & Parenting Support

### A Program of Catholic Community Services
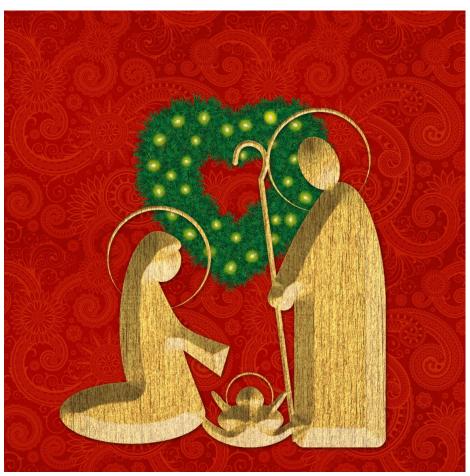
**December 2019**

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed the Lord is near.*

*– Philippians 4:4–5*

## A PREPARES Response.....

**Wishing you Joy and Love at Christmas!**



At this joyous time of year
we gratefully pause to thank you

for your support of PREPARES

May the love and joy of
the Christmas season be yours
throughout the year

Your PREPARES Team
Carol, Donna, Erin, Lisa and Teresa

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## Our Lady of Guadalupe Maternity Center Celebrates 30 Years!

Our Lady of Guadalupe Maternity Center, which became a PREPARES ministry two years ago, has been serving mothers and children since 1989. In the 30 years they have been in operation, they estimate they have served thousands of families by offering maternity, baby and children's clothing, diapers, newborn layettes and newborn carseats. Dedicated volunteers work tirelessly to ensure that the center is open to serve families two days a week. This year, on December 12th, the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, they are celebrating their 30 years of service.

Please join them on Thursday, December 12th from 10 AM to 12 PM for a tour of the facility and to share refreshments. They are located in the lower level of Catholic Community Services Center, 5705 Main Street SW, Lakewood, WA 98499.

For more information call 253-582-3384.

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A PROGRAM OF

## CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES
OF WESTERN WASHINGTON

## PREPARES Program Manager for King County

Many of you have met Donna Cheesebrough who has been serving as the Program Manager for PREPARES of Western Washington since last summer. Due to the caregiving demands of her family at this time, she has made the difficult decision to reduce the number of hours she can dedicate to PREPARES. While she will still be an active member of the PREPARES team, we are planning to hire

a new Program Manager for King County. This will be a full-time role based in Catholic Community Services office in Seattle.

If you, or anyone you know, is interested in this role, please take a look at the position which is posted on Catholic Community Services of Western Washington website <u>here</u>.

## This Month's Helpful Handout: Praying as a Family

Pope Francis recently wrote an apostolic letter "on the meaning and importance of the nativity scene" in which he encourages Christians worldwide to continue "the beautiful family tradition of preparing the nativity scene in the days before Christmas." This month's Helpful Handout includes other ideas about how famiies can create a domestic church in their home.

To learn more click <u>here</u> to access the link to the **Praying as a Family.**

### Advent Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Master of both the light and the darkness,
Send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.



We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.

We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.

To you we say, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

*Source: Henri J.M. Nouwen*

**Upcoming Events**

- Our Lady of Guadalupe - **December 12th**

- Holy Redeemer (Vancouver) Orientation - **December 14th**
- Christmas Day - **December 25th**
- St. Anthony (Renton) Holy Innocents Baby Shower - **December 28th**
- Holy Family of Jesus - December **29th**

Blessings,

Donna, Erin, Carol, Teresa, and Lisa
**PREPARES of Western Washington Team**
100 - 23rd Ave South, Seattle, WA 98144
206-737-9264

VOLUNTEER

DONATE

**To learn about updates and upcoming PREPARES events, please visit us on Facebook at** www.facebook.com/PreparesWW

Please consider joining us in walking the journey with families in your own parish community. For more information please visit our website at www.preparesforlife.org. If you know of others who might be interested in volunteering and or learning more about PREPARES, please forward them this message or have them contact us directly.

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