

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

August 2, 2020
Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



WELCOME

Whether you're a registered parishioner or first-time visitor, we hope you feel welcome. There are many ways to get involved. If you have any questions, please let one of our staff members know or call the parish office 253-630-0701

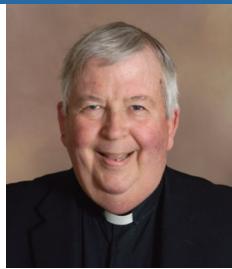
MISSION STATEMENT

The Catholic Community of St. John the Baptist: Where stewardship is a way of life and the diversity of our gifts is used to answer Christ's call to proclaim and live the Gospel.

Gather in God's Name, **Grow** in God's Time, **Go** in God's Spirit



FROM YOUR PASTOR



A student wondered about the difference between heaven and hell, and so approached his teacher. "In heaven," the teacher said, "there is a large banquet table with every imaginable delicacy you can imagine, every plate is full, every chair is occupied – it's a bountiful feast. And hell looks exactly the same, a great banquet, but there, everyone is starving." "Why is that?" the student asked. "The forks are too long," the teacher said, "and they can't feed themselves." "How about in heaven?" the student asked. "Ah," said the teacher, "in heaven, they feed each other."

Though we think of Jesus feeding the five thousand that day, it's really the disciples who do it – with God's help, of course. Jesus tells them to give the crowd something to eat. Blessing and breaking the bread, he gives it not to the crowd, but to the disciples first, and they in turn pass it around...and are amazed to find there is plenty for everyone, with lots to spare.

Discipleship requires participation on our part and a willingness for us, like Jesus, to take action. When we do-acting with and for Christ-miraculous things are possible. It's up to us to feed each other.

That may seem like a daunting task, given the magnitude of need we see in the world today, but the story of the feeding of the five thousand serves as evidence that God multiplies our efforts and provides what we alone cannot. All we can do is be faithful with what we've been given and do what we're asked, like the disciples on that mountainside that day.

When Jesus asked them to feed the crowd, their first response was, "We have nothing!" But Jesus knew better. And to the disciples' credit, they did what he asked. What they found as a result were basketfuls left over – full stomachs, satisfied people, meager resources turned into abundance.

Fr. Jim

CONTACT INFORMATION

Church/Office:
25810 156th Ave SE, Covington, WA 98042
Phone: 253-630-0701
E-Mail: office@sjtbcc.org Website: www.sjtbcc.org
Summer Office Hours:
Monday—Saturday, 10 am to 3 pm



Our summer office hours
Monday—Saturday, 10 am to 3 pm

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST



For those parishioners that haven't made a pledge to our Annual Catholic Appeal Campaign you still have a chance to do so. Please fill out a pledge envelope today or donate online-the web address is on the pledge envelope. If you have any questions please call Nancy at 253-630-0701.

Update for our Annual Catholic Appeal Campaign
As of July 23, 2020

Goal: \$126,503.00
Pledges: \$102,605=81.1%
Pledges: 310
Avg. Pledge \$ 330.98

Parish Communication Survey

Please take a moment to complete this survey to help us in our planning for the coming year. A link is provided in the email and parishioners without email will see it in the mail next week!



Adoration: Friday, August 7, 2020 9:30 am—3 pm

“The secret of happiness is to live moment by moment and to thank god for all that he, in his goodness, sends to us day after day.”

St. Gianna Molla

Mass Changes Coming in August

In light of the worsening COVID-19 situation and in the interest of safety for our community, we are moving the Masses back outside for the month of August beginning the weekend of August 8 and 9. We will still be in the church the first weekend in August (Aug. 1 and 2).

When we are outside, we can have up to 125 people at each Mass, so we will have only two Masses per weekend: Saturday at 5:30 pm and Sunday at 10 am. We will reexamine going back into the church in September.

Please register for Masses in August at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090e4ea9a728a6fa7-indoor>.

Include the names of everyone who is attending in the Who Are You seated box on the form. This will speed up check-in.

If you had previously signed up for the 9 am or 11:30 am Mass for Sunday, Aug. 9th, you are now registered for the outdoor 10 am Mass on Sunday, Aug. 9th.

Please bring your own chairs! We will have a limited number of chairs available for those who don't have portable chairs.

We'll see you outside in August!

All Parish Zoom Gathering

St. John the Baptist parishioners continue to meet in “Mass Groups” to reflect on the Sunday Gospel. We meet via Zoom Saturday mornings at 10:00 am and Sunday afternoons at 1 pm. If you would like to join us, there is a link in the bulletin email or you can call the office and ask for the link. We would love for you to join us! All you need is a piece of paper with your first name and preferred Mass time and you will be assigned to a group.

Here are the reflection questions for this Sunday's gospel:

Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

Reflection Questions:

At the beginning of this passage we read that Jesus was in need of consolation, his cousin John the Baptist has been killed. We see that he sought comfort and care in prayer, but we also see that he was moved through pity (empathy maybe) to care for those needing to be healed. Jesus responded with action. Often, when we experience tragedy we are most vulnerable to compassion. Have you seen this to be true in your life? When/Where?

As you read the story of the Loaves and Fishes, do you see a connection to the Eucharist? Explain...



St. John the Baptist is offering
Financial Peace University

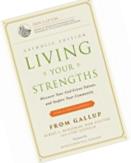
**Our next session will begin in
October 2020
ALL CLASSES VIA ZOOM
ONLINE!**

This program offers a variety of digital and written resources for money management and investing in your future. The nine sessions will be facilitated by a fellow parishioner and retired financial executive, who will share his expertise with participants.

Classes will be held on Thursday evenings via Zoom online.

Suggested donation is \$65/couple or individual, as the parish is subsidizing 50% of the cost. Some scholarships also are available.

To register or to receive more information, please contact Anne Frederick at annef@sjbcc.org or 253-630-0710 X112


Living Your
Strengths
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online!



*Discover how to use your God-given talents
Find out your top five strengths and explore how to
use them*

Classes are four weeks in length. You can choose a day or evening time online.

Suggested donation is \$20 for your book and resources. For more information contact Anne Frederick at 253-630-0701 x 112 or email at annef@sjbcc.org



New Parishioners We are so grateful to have you in our parish

Please contact Anne Frederick at the office 253-630-0701 or e-mail annef@sjbcc.org to receive more information about St. John the Baptist and for a personal welcome to find out how we might serve you!

Gifts from your Garden



Do you have extra produce from your garden? Would you like to share some with the Covington Storehouse Food-bank to serve our neighbors in need?



There is a cooler on the bench at the McMullen Center available to receive your fruit and vegetable harvest. Please raise the flag when you leave a donation. We will be collecting food donations and delivering them to the Storehouse on a regular basis. Thank you for considering and your continued generosity. Garden of the Good Shepherd (Margie and Ang Battisti)

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

Monday, August 3

Summer Office Hours Monday—Saturday 10 am-3 pm

Wednesday, August 5

Mass, 9 am

Thursday, August 6

Mass, 6:30 pm

Friday, August 7

Mass, 9 am

Adoration, 9:30 am —3 pm

Saturday, August 8

Confession, 4 pm

Mass, 5:30 pm (register) Outdoors

Sunday, August 9

Mass, 10 am (register) Outdoors



LIFE, JUSTICE & PEACE

Faith & Racial Equity Small Group Series: Do you want to address racism in your faith community, but you don't know where to begin? Faith & Racial Equity: Exploring Power & Privilege is an 8-week module that awakens groups to the economic systems, public policies, cultural norms, and hidden biases that empower some and oppress others. The first half of the module introduces a framework for understanding and recognizing racial disparities in power and privilege. Sessions 5-8 take a deeper dive into specific issues related to power and privilege, including affirmative action, the school-to-prison pipeline, the criminal justice system, and powerful biases in media representation. As with all JustFaith programs, participants will explore how their faith should inform their response to their learning, as well as discern action steps for working toward racial equity in their own communities. Visit tinyurl.com/sjtjustfaith for more information and to sign up today!

World Day Against Trafficking in Persons: July 30 is the annual World Day Against Trafficking in Persons – a joint effort to bring awareness to the sin of human trafficking, an issue that touches virtually every country in some way. 49% of all trafficked individuals are women and 23% of all victims are girls under the age of 18. For more information about trafficking, visit: <https://www.un.org/en/observances/end-human-trafficking-day>. St. Josephine Bakhita is the patron saint of human trafficking. Let us pray for her intercessions to find a way to end the practice of trafficking men, women, and children: *St. Josephine Bakhita, you were sold into slavery as a child and endured untold hardship and suffering. Once liberated from your physical enslavement, you found true redemption in your encounter with Christ and his Church. O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery; Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free. Provide comfort to survivors of slavery and let them look to you as an example of hope and faith. Help all survivors find healing from their wounds. We ask for your prayers and intercessions for those enslaved among us. Amen.*



75th Anniversary of the Bombings of Hiroshima & Nagasaki: August 6th & 9th mark the 75th anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima & Nagasaki, events that caused untold death and suffering. The Catholic Church has long opposed the use of nuclear weapons, especially against non-nuclear threats, and the development of new nuclear weapons. The Church urges that nuclear deterrence be replaced with concrete measures of disarmament based on dialogue and multilateral negotiations. Join other Catholics and people of good will as we approach the solemn occasion of the 75th anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6 and 9, 1945 with prayers and solidarity. Find resources like a prayer card and background information to share with your community at usccb.org/nuclear. Let us pray and act for peace in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world, but especially in Japan.

Reinstatement of Federal Executions: The week of July 13th saw the reinstatement of the death penalty, with three federal executions over the course of the week – the first three in 17 years, doubling the total number of federal executions committed over the last 57 years. There is currently a fourth execution slated for August 28th. The Catholic Church has advocated for the end to the death penalty, revising the Catechism in 2018 to call the death penalty "inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person" (CCC 2267). For more information and resources on the death penalty, please visit <https://catholicsmobilizing.org/>. The Catholic Mobilizing Network works towards an end of the death penalty and an embrace of restorative justice.



Please pray for those who are sick: Steve Ullrich, Tisha Yowell and Deacon Anselmo Pardo, and for those suffering from COVID—19

Please pray for those who have died : Roger Mendoza (nephew of Raphael Mendoza and Pete Larson (friend of Sam Racicot)



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