

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST



September 6, 2020
Twenty-Third 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



This certainly is going to be a challenging beginning of a new school year. With on-line sessions our children are going to continue to miss their personal interaction with their classmates. Parents are wondering how they are going to balance the need to guide their children's learning with their own work sched-

ule. And teachers wonder whether they and their students have the resources to make it all happen. Our parish faith formation will also be making adjustments. This time of COVID-19 calls for patience, courage, and adaptability. May the Lord bless us all as we proceed. We are not alone on this journey. May we trust that at the end of this ordeal we all will be the stronger.

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

Regular Office Hours:

Monday—Saturday, 10 am to 3 pm



Masses will be outside for September: Saturday Mass outdoors is at 5:30 pm, Sunday at 10 am. Our capacity is limited, so attendees must register.

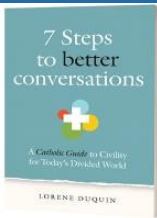
Please contact our registration line at **253-632-**

0683 or register at the **Sign up Genius** on our website. For more information on the Masses during the pandemic, see the **Mass Registration page**. Please create an individual sign up for every family member for each Mass you attend. Note in the comments who will sit together. **Please bring your own chairs. If you need us to provide a chair, please contact the parish office or call 253-632-0683.**



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

FAITH FORMATION



Opportunity for a small group discussion via Zoom!!!

Is it possible to carry out good conversations with people with whom I disagree? As incivility, bullying, and mean-spirited communication have risen to new heights in our society, people of good faith wonder how we might change this tide of disrespect. Written for small-group discussion as well as personal reflection, 7 Steps

to better conversations offers a fresh approach to communicating in our most difficult relationships, whether online or in person.

Building upon the teachings of Pope Francis, Lorene Duquin explores several ways in which we might come together to talk through our differences, challenges, and disagreements with renewed kindness, honesty, and respect.

Joan Williamson will be facilitating group discussion using this book. We will meet for four weeks with a Tues. evening group (7-8:30 pm), and a Wed. morning (10-11:30 am) group

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf29Go5goR4n6tM_qgeCcT6quldXknXFf3z67fqtrLUtgy2w/viewform?usp=send_form

Dates will be:

Tuesdays: September 1, 8, 15, & 22 or

Wednesdays: September 2, 9, 16, & 23

RCIA begins September 10th:

Are you or someone you know interested in becoming a full member in the Catholic Church? It may be that baptism is desired, or Confirmation, and First Communion!

We will begin the process of preparing for those Rites on September 10th. This process will be done with a hybrid (in person/virtual) model. Please contact Joan Williamson at 253-630-0701 x109 or joanw@sjtbcc.org for more in-

Faith Formation is Kicking Off on September 27th!

What a different year we are in! Yes, it will bring a difference to our methods in our programs. Please know that we are here to support our parents in the midst of this journey to help form your children in their Catholic faith. We are looking forward to making sure that growing community continues to be a central goal in our programs, whether online or in person! As Catholics it is important to stay connected.

Make sure to register your children for Faith Formation this year, and their preparation for Sacraments. For more information and to register click on the link below.

<https://sjtbcc.org/education/registrations/>

GRIEF MINISTRY



Grief Ministry Group beginning Sept. 9
Are you grieving the loss of a loved one, or friend? Has this Covid 19 been a difficult time for you in your grieving process? The support of a grief Minis-

try can help you understand and cope with such grief. The St. John's grief ministry team is happy to be starting up another successful group called GriefShare, a structured grief support program designed to help you manage your grieving process.

Our first session will begin September 9th-7 pm until 8:30 pm and will run for 13 sessions through December 2nd (every Wednesday evening, weekly) online via Zoom.

This weekly support group is both positive and faith-based, and tools will be provided to help each participant cope and manage the grieving process-fostering hope through fellowship. There is no charge for this program.

If you feel that this program is right for you, please register online at the GriefShare web site at www.griefshare.org/groups/125188. Select the orange button called "Register for this group" to the right of the St. John the Catholic Group name near the top of the page.

If you have any questions, contact the Lead Facilitator, Frank Hammock, via the GriefShare web page, or contact the parish office 253-630-0701

Prayer Requests

Please pray for those who are sick: Gerald Bender, Jacob Blake, Glenn McKee, Peggy Burke and Rose Dawson

Please pray for those who have died: Your own special intentions

St. John the Baptist wants to thank the following for their hours of work this month on our parish grounds: Mark Rosenberger, Rick McCurdy, Robert Beatty, Sam DiBella, Jim Meucci, Ken Nelson, David Aldous and Kathy Kernan. Thank you, Kathy Kernan



Give thanks to the Lord, who is good; whose love endures forever! (Psalm 107:1)

As we enter another month of 2020 and the ongoing concerns with Covid-19, it might seem as though we have more problems than moments of rejoicing. Yet, in the midst of our health and economic concerns, Catholic stewardship continually reminds us of the abundant love of God, who generously brings goodness and grace into all aspects of our lives.

God is with us! Our faith is centered in the Eucharist, which literally translates to the word Thanksgiving. Even if we are not able to attend Mass each week, the gift of Eucharist is with us. As Archbishop Etienne reminds us, "How beautiful it is when we learn to live as Christ, when we allow Christ to live more fully in and through us. This is a big part of what the Eucharistic life is all about!"

Here at St. John the Baptist, we are finding more and more ways our parishioners are sharing our life in Christ and finding unexpected blessings in the midst of our pandemic. Over the next months, we will be featuring stories of grace, goodness and gratitude in our parish bulletin, website and Facebook page.

Fr. Jim is asking all of us to take a moment and prayerfully reflect on those moments where we are experiencing the abundant life of Christ in our midst and offering Thanksgiving for our Savior and Redeemer. You are invited to send us your "Eucharist Moment" stories and we are looking forward to sharing them with others in our parish community.

We will begin next week, with a message of Thanksgiving from Mary-Kaye Soderlind, our Chairperson for the Stewardship and Evangelization Commission. In upcoming weeks, we will be featuring stories from other ministries in our parish and are looking forward to including your personal stories of how God's love is present for you. Please send your stories to annef@sjtbcc.org, so we can continue to uplift and give thanks to our God, whose love endures forever!



Are you looking for resources to plan your financial future?

This program offers a variety of digital and written resources for money management and investing in your future in a safe and confidential space. The nine sessions will be facilitated by a fellow parishioner

and retired financial executive, who will share his expertise.

Classes will be held on Thursday evenings via Zoom online.

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

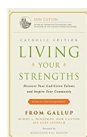
To register or to receive more information, please contact Anne Frederick at annef@sjtbcc.org or 253-630-0701 X112

Have you joined St. John the Baptist this past year?
We would love to welcome you and to get to know you!



Fr. Jim is hosting a Zoom gathering on **Wednesday, September 16th** from 7-8:30 pm. He is looking forward to meeting you and finding out how the parish might serve you! Register and also receive some free gifts from the parish! Please Join Us!

Contact Anne Frederick at the office (253) 630-0701 x 112 or e-mail at annef@sjtbcc.org for more information and to RSVP



LIVING YOUR STRENGTHS

Discover how to use your God-given talents

This four class series is a fun opportunity to learn your top five strengths and explore ways to be a more intentional disciple of Christ!

We are now planning on offering these classes via Zoom! For more information, please call Anne Frederick at 253-630-0701 x 112 or email at annef@sjtbcc.org. Suggested donation is \$20 for your book and resources.

LIFE, JUSTICE, PEACE

106th Annual World Day of Migrants & Refugees – September 27th:

Conflict is one of the main causes behind people being displaced. 25% or **8.5 million** people are displaced due to conflict. This breaks down to: **5.2 million** for armed conflicts; **2.7 million** by the use of force within communities (for example ethnic or religious discrimination); **16,600** for political reasons, **592,900** for criminal violence (such as murders, threats, extortion), and **39,700** for other causes dealing with conflict.

*To be close
in order to serve*

"Loving our neighbour means being a neighbour to all those who are mistreated and abandoned on the streets of our world, soothing their wounds and bringing them to the nearest shelter, where their needs can be met."

Forced like Jesus Christ to flee



WORLD DAY
OF
MIGRANTS
AND
REFUGEES
27-IX-2020

Creation Care Corner



"The pace of consumption, waste and environmental change... can only precipitate catastrophes...". "Truly much can be done!" – Pope Francis

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP RECOMMENDATION Choose Clean Energy

Electricity generation contributes significantly to earth warming greenhouse gas emissions nationally. Consider and shop green electricity sources for your home. There are 2nd party providers that guarantee to repurchase certified wind power equivalent to your household demand. You reduce your environmental footprint and support /expand renewable energy. Select a provider that has no sign-on or discontinuation fees, and that enables you to be billed and serviced thru your current electric utility. The process should be seamless: no equipment or service interruption required. Compare rates and select a supplier where the clean energy upcharge is only a few dollars extra /month. Compare to: www.aepenergy.com/residential/renewable-energy/

Visit <https://www.pse.com/green-options/Renewable-Energy-Programs/renewables-home> for ways to choose clean energy in the Pacific Northwest.

Labor Day Reflection: Due to the economic devastation caused by the coronavirus pandemic, the number of unemployed workers in the U.S. has increased by more than 14 million, from 6.2 million in February to 20.5 million in May 2020 – substantially greater than the increase seen during the great depression. These economic ramifications have had an even larger impact on those already living near the poverty line, leaving the newly unemployed now without access to food, health care, and in danger of eviction and utility cut-offs. In addition, many low-wage workers without benefits are unable to work remotely or in safe conditions and are at greater risk of contracting the virus. These inequalities are not new. The persistence of low wages, unsafe working conditions, and the experience of many workers in low-wage jobs tell us that we must give serious consideration to how we can address areas of inequality in our economic systems. We are called to prioritize the well-being of the human person over the capital they produce (see St. John Paul II in [Laborem Exercens](#), no. 12, on "The Priority of Labor"). How can we respond to these devastating impacts in a way that empowers our neighbors who have been most impacted by this economic devastation?

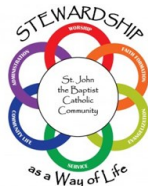
How Can Catholics Respond?

- In the workplace, if we are business owners, managers, or supervisors, we can help ensure that our businesses and organizations are offering family wages and the dignity affirming benefits that our long Catholic tradition affirms should be available for all workers and their families.
- We can also join local efforts to support a just wage/family wage, which is a wage at which workers and their families can have access to what they need to fulfill basic needs and thrive.
- Learn about efforts in your parish or local community to assist workers and their families, or to support their needs through advocacy or other efforts and get involved.

~ From [Labor Day 2020 Reflection Guide](#), USCCB Department of Domestic Justice & Human Development

NEWS FROM OUR NEIGHBORS

If you would like to consider being a volunteer tutor at Vine Maple Place for a couple of hours a week during this school year, please call me at 253-508-6987 or e-mail me (mksoderlind@yahoo.com) to get registered for a ZOOM meeting that will take place on Tuesday, September 15 at 11:00 AM. Tutors are needed for all ages and subject matter. Thanks in advance for considering this important outreach program. Mary-Kaye Soderlind



Your ongoing generosity and commitment to stewardship is a great blessing for our community and for those we serve, who are especially needing support during this challenging time.
Blessings, Anne

Parish Stewardship report for Sunday, Aug.30, 2020

Envelopes	\$ 5,368.00
Loose	\$ 2,181.00
Holy Day Assumption	\$ 519.00
Vigil Lights	\$ 3.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 230.00
2nd Collections	\$ 5.00
Faith Formation Fees	\$ 450.00
Sound System Donation	\$ 3,500.00
Supply Drive Donation	\$ 60.00
Funeral Stole Donation	\$ 280.00
Faith Direct 8/15/2020	\$ 20,622.42
Faith Direct 8/15/20-Assumption	\$ 155.00
Faith Direct 8/15/20-St. Vincent	905.00
Faith Direct 8/15/20-ACA	450.00
Total	34,728.42



Finale Update for our Annual Catholic Appeal Campaign. If you still want to contribute contact the Parish Office.

As of Sept. 1, 2020

Goal: \$ 126,503.00

Pledges: \$ 116,622=92.2%

Pledges: 330 Avg. Pledge \$ 353.40

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

Monday, Sept. 7

Labor Day Office Closed

NO MASS

Wednesday, Sept. 9

Mass, 9 am

Thursday, Sept. 10

Mass, 6:30 pm

Friday, Sept. 11

Mass, 9 am

Saturday, Sept. 12

Confession, 4 pm

Mass, 5:30 pm (register) Outdoors

Sunday, Sept. 13

Mass, 10 am (register) Outdoors

National Grandparents Day



STEWARDSHIP SAINT for September



Saint Teresa of Calcutta gave us an extraordinary example of Christian discipleship and stewardship by her faith, simplicity and service to women and men without considering their race, religion or nationality. She was born Agnes Bojaxhiu in Albania on August 26, 1910, and at age 18 went to Ireland to

join the Sisters of Loreto following what she discerned to be a call to become a missionary. She was sent to India in 1929, and began her novitiate in Darjeeling near the Himalayan mountains. Eight years later she made her solemn vows and took the name Teresa after Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, the patron saint of missionaries. From there she taught at the Loreto convent school in Calcutta for almost twenty years. Though a dedicated educator, she was increasingly disturbed by the desperate poverty in Calcutta. On September 10, 1946, Sister Teresa had an extraordinary conversion experience, what she later described as "the call within the call." While traveling by train from Calcutta to the Loreto convent in Darjeeling she experienced interior visions that led her to the conviction that Christ was calling her to serve "the poorest of the poor." In 1948 after a few months of medical training, Sister Teresa ventured out into the slums to tend to the needs of the destitute and starving. Her first year was very difficult. She had no income and had to resort to begging for food and supplies. She experienced loneliness, doubt and the temptation to return to the comfort of convent life. But at the beginning of 1949 she was joined by a group of young women who wished to be a part of her ministry. In 1950 "Mother" Teresa's community was formally recognized by the Vatican. Its mission was to care for, in her own words, "the hungry, the naked, the homeless, the crippled, the blind, the lepers, all those people who feel unwanted, unloved, uncared for throughout society, people that have become a burden to the society and are shunned by everyone." In 1952, she opened a hospice for the poor. Then she established several leprosy clinics throughout Calcutta, providing medication, bandages and food. In 1955, she created a home for orphans and homeless youth. The Missionaries of Charity soon began to attract both recruits and charitable donations, and by the 1960s had opened hospices, orphanages and leper homes all over India. Mother Teresa then went global. Her first mission outside of India was in Venezuela in 1965, then in Rome, Tanzania and Austria. During the 1970s the congregation started missions in dozens of countries in Asia, Africa, Europe and the United States. In 1979, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Mother Teresa died on September 5, 1997, departing a religious community with over 4,000 sisters operating 610 missions in 123 countries and aided by more than one million co-workers. Former U.N. Secretary General, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, said of Saint Teresa: "She is the United Nations. She is peace in the world." Saint Teresa of Calcutta was canonized on September 4, 2016 by Pope Francis. Her feast day is September 5.

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