

# THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST



November 15, 2020  
Thirty-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

## 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



Thank you for your participation in our Annual Renewal of Treasure!

We are deeply grateful for those of you, who have turned in a pledge card.

If you haven't had a chance to pledge, you should have received a letter from the parish last week. We appreciate you turning in your pledge as soon as possible.

Your generosity helps us support our mission to be stewards sharing the good News of Jesus Christ!

Our goal for our Stewardship Drive is:  
**\$1,200,000.00**  
As of Nov.9, 2020  
# pledged \$548,472=45.7%of goal  
# pledges=243=21%  
# of families=1159  
Weekly avg. pledge= \$43.41/week

## FROM YOUR PASTOR



As I write this column I am enjoying my first weekend off in a year. I'm not sure if I am bragging or complaining. I have enjoyed reading the latest David Baldacci novel, the latest collection of short stories by Stephen King, and The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams. A few hours earlier I learned of

the results of our presidential election. My prayer is that genuine healing takes place in our country in the weeks and months ahead. I take hope from the words of our president-elect when he says that he wants to be president not only of the blue states but of the United States. There has been too much judgment, too much finger pointing. May genuine peace break forth.

*Fr. Jim*



## CONTACT INFORMATION

Church/Office:

25810 156th Ave SE, Covington, WA 98042

Phone: 253-630-0701

E-Mail: [office@sjtbcc.org](mailto:office@sjtbcc.org) Website: [www.sjtbcc.org](http://www.sjtbcc.org)

**Regular Office Hours:**

Monday-Friday 9 am—3 pm Saturday, 10 am—3 pm

**Please pray for those who are sick:**

Jim Legaz( uncle of Tia Bailey), Susan Antoncich, Chelsea Wilde, April Schroeder, Gina Howell, Lailee Wright, and Clifford Behrens( father of Paul Behrens).

**Please pray for those who have died:**

Your own special intentions

**EUCHARIST THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD;**

*An* **ADVENT** *Day*  
**RETREAT**

You will approach the altar this Christmas with a whole new perspective when you join us as we look back on our own earliest memories of the Eucharist and what children today are telling us through their stories and artwork.

**Saturday December 5th - 9am-1pm - Via Zoom**

*To Register go to:*

**[www.sjtbcc.org/2020/11/06/Advent](http://www.sjtbcc.org/2020/11/06/Advent)**



*Featuring*

**DR. ANN  
GARRIDO**

Associate Professor of Homiletics at Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis, MO, Dr. Garrido has authored 10 books and for the past 25 years, she has been involved in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd movement: a Montessori-based collaboration of children and adults who seek to enjoy a common spiritual life.

## FAITH FORMATION



### Faith Formation

**Faith Formation Materials** ready for pick up in the office: If you weren't able to pick up your materials on Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> during the drive-by pick up event, no worries! Your materials are waiting for you in the office. You can pick them up Monday through Friday from 9am-3pm or Saturday from 10am-3pm.

#### PK-4<sup>th</sup> Grade Faith Formation families!

**Children's Liturgy of the Word: Via zoom Weekly, starting Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> from 10:15-11:00!**

Are you struggling trying to get your child(ren) to be more engaged in the weekly Mass? Especially when Mass is coming through a screen? Consider making this Children's Liturgy of the Word part of your Sunday morning routine. Join us every Sunday morning with Therese McHenry, via ZOOM, to watch a 25 minute video that correlates with the weekly Mass readings. This interactive experience is designed to connect with our youngest Catholics, inviting them to listen and respond to the weekly readings with song, praise, discovery and it's all on a child's level! There will even be time for social connection! I'll send out a zoom link each Saturday. Have questions? Email Therese McHenry - ThereseM@sjtbcc.org



**November 15<sup>th</sup>, Sunday Gospel:** Matthew 25:14-30

#### Reflection Questions:

What kind of fears hold you back from sharing the gospel (Good News of Jesus Christ) with others in your words, in what you choose to do (acts of service), and in choosing what you won't do?

#### THANK YOU !



The Knight of Columbus would like to thank all those that participated in this year's Apple Sale.

Contributions netted over \$3,850.

Funds will be used to purchase and distribute coats to local kids in need to keep them warm.

Thank You Very Much!

**COATS  
FOR KIDS**



#### Looking ahead to Thanksgiving Week

Monday, Nov. 23 Word & Communion, 9 am

Tuesday, Nov. 24 Word & Communion, 9 am

Wednesday, Nov. 25 Mass, 9 am

Thursday, THANKSGIVING MASS, 10 AM  
**Office Closed**

Friday, Nov. 27, No Mass  
**Office Closed**

Saturday, Nov. 28, Confessions at 4 pm  
**Office Closed**  
Mass at 5:30 pm

Sunday, Nov. 29  
Mass at 9 am and 11:30 am

The PREPARES ministry at St. John's is in need of a gently used bunk bed for a growing family in a small apartment. If you have a bunk bed you wish to donate, please contact Laura at 360-303-6298. Thank you!

\*PREPARES is a ministry that offers pregnancy and parenting support to those in need.

## THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

#### Monday, Nov. 16

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 am-3 pm

Saturday, 10 am- 3 pm

Word & Communion, 9 am

#### Tuesday, Nov. 17

Word & Communion, 9 am

#### Wednesday, Nov. 18

Mass, 9 am

#### Thursday, Nov. 19

Mass, 6:30 pm

#### Friday, Nov.20

Mass, 9 am

#### Saturday, Nov.21

Confession, 4 pm

Mass, 5:30 pm (register)

#### Sunday, Nov. 22

Mass, 9am and 11:30 am (register)



## STEWARDSHIP



### Stewardship, Pledges and Faith Direct

Many of us are blessed with consistent and dependable paychecks. Knowing how much income we will receive each month definitely helps us with budgeting. Yet, have you

ever thought about how you would manage your bills and schedule your payments if you were never sure how much money you were going to have in your bank account?

Your pledges and contribution through Faith Direct, our online giving program helps our parish develop and implement a budget that is based on our predicted income. It helps us steward our funds thoughtfully for the many ministries we serve.

Pledges provide a consistent barometer for making sure we will be meeting our expenses. While we are **most grateful for any gift that any parishioner can give at any time**, to help us maintain a more consistent cash flow, we have established an online giving program – Faith Direct. Those parishioners who are using the program tell us it is a great help to them, too. It allows them to clearly budget the amount that they want to give back to God and helps them feel assured that their parish is receiving their gift even when they are out-of-town, too busy to remember an envelope, or attending Mass at another parish. If you would like to learn more about this easy, safe and secure way of giving, please visit Faith Direct at [www.FAITHDIRECT.NET](http://www.FAITHDIRECT.NET) or call 1-866-507-8757.

You can also **pledge online** on our website [www.sjtbcc.org](http://www.sjtbcc.org) or **call our parish office** and we will be happy to assist you. Thank you all for your generosity in supporting St. John the Baptist as a stewardship-based parish!



### Parish Stewardship Report for Sunday, Nov. 8, 2020

Stewardship Envelopes	\$ 6,003.00
Stewardship Loose	\$ 13,699.50
Holy Days	\$ 218.00
Vigil Lights	\$ 26.45
CCS Honey Bucket Rei	\$ 289.50
Faith Formation Fees	\$ 50.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 114.00
Priest Pension	\$ 20.00
Mission Sunday	\$ 50.00
Host Donation	\$ 22.00
Holiday Gift Drive	\$ 6,220.00
Total	\$ 26,712.45



### Scholarship in the Pandemic

There's not much to do at work lately except read and watch documentaries. I figured if I was going to watch documentaries, by golly, I

would make it really worth my while. I am now enrolled in Southern New Hampshire University's online program working toward a degree in history with a concentration in military history. I have read some fascinating things about the contributions of the church to society and some interesting topics regarding church history in general. I would like to share some of these things with you all. No, there won't be a quiz.

This week's topic is writing. Long before the printing press made the written word available en masse, there were learned men whose life's work was employing their mastery of the written word. Before the advent of printing as we know it today, there were oftentimes a devoted room or group of rooms in a monastery, these rooms were called Scriptoria (singularly Scriptorium). The preservation of classical texts by these monks have allowed for such treasured works to remain available well into the future.

"He who does not know how to write imagines it to be no labor; but though three fingers only hold the pen, the whole body grows weary." We, in our modern era with climate controlled offices, comfortable chairs, adequate light, and ergonomic office equipment still grow weary of staring at a computer all day. Even with our caffeinated beverage of choice beside us and our electronic reminders to move every so often, we still experience the mental exhaustion that also wears us down physically. Imagine the life of a monastic copyist; the scriptorium was cold and damp, the light was probably poor even in daytime, working into the night by candlelight when he couldn't finish by day. His life wasn't easy or glamorous, but it was truly essential. It was probably a bit stressful too. Seen as copying texts by hand was a long and meticulous process, I can imagine that in case of error, after making a good deal of progress, Br. What's-his-name was probably pretty upset. These copyists are the reason why we have copies of Aristotle, Cicero, Plato, Plotinus, and especially The Bible.

Next time you might want to sit down and study scripture or philosophy, offer a word of thanks for these monks who have provided future generations with access to this knowledge.

#### Fun Fact:

1998 St John's Abbey commissioned a hand-copied bible to be completed by renowned calligrapher Donald Jackson and his elite team. I asked Fr Peter Tynan OSB, archivist at St Martin's University to get me some details and he referred me to the University Website's page regarding their copy in special collections, <https://www.stmartin.edu/spiritual-community/our-catholic-benedictine-tradition/st-johns-bible> based on the information provided, it took thirteen years from the time of commission to the completion of the final volume.

By: MJ Jorgenson, amateur historian

## LIFE, JUSTICE, & PEACE

### Creation Care Corner

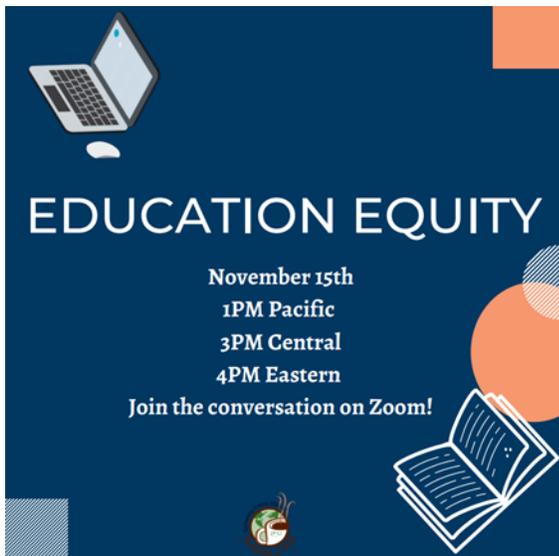
Taking action to protect God's great gift to us  
— Mother Earth



"...the world we have received also belongs to those who will follow us".  
— Pope Francis

#### THIS WEEK'S STEWARDSHIP RECOMMENDATION:

Reduce paper usage: 40% of the world's commercially cut timber is used for paper. This endangers natural habitats and depletes water resources. Since it's inexpensive to print, we do it without thinking. Try to go paperless: think about what you print, your bank statements, the paper towels you use, and the junk mail you haven't opted out of. There are many areas where each of us can help to lessen paper production. Paper is recyclable. Recycle paper at home and office, and buy recycled paper products.



EDUCATION EQUITY

November 15th  
1PM Pacific  
3PM Central  
4PM Eastern

Join the conversation on Zoom!


Justice Cafe has gone virtual! The Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center is holding monthly virtual Justice Cafes all on Zoom! This month will break open the topic of Education Equity. IPJC's Justice Educator Samantha Yanity will facilitate the discussion. To access the meeting information, click [here](#) and click on Justice Cafe: Education Equity. The password for the meeting is 644166.



A huge thank you to everyone who has made a donation to our Thanksgiving & Christmas Drive. We are inching our way towards our goals to be able to provide support to over 500 families between the two holidays. It is not too late to donate! Please visit [tinyurl.com/sjtbholidays](https://tinyurl.com/sjtbholidays) to make a donation today. Every dollar helps!

We are so very grateful for the support of the community to be able to provide so many Thanksgiving meals once again this year. We are coordinating our volunteers to put meals together. Due to safety requirements, we are sad that we cannot accommodate quite as many volunteers as in years past. We will miss seeing everyone's smiling faces, but look forward to having a larger group hopefully next year.

We do need a handful of volunteers who are willing to put in a longer shift. We are looking, particularly, for households of 2 or more people so that we can assemble meals while practicing social distancing.

We do ask that all volunteers wear a mask, observe at least a 6 foot distance between households, and stay home if you or anyone in your household has any symptoms of illness, including a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, chills, cough, sore throat, muscle aches, or recent loss of taste or smell.

To sign up, please visit our [Thanksgiving Sign-Up](#). You must sign-up in order to be able to volunteer.

Please contact Andrea (253.630.0701x115 or [an-dream@sjtbcc.org](mailto:andream@sjtbcc.org)) with any questions.

**Amplifying Black Catholics:** Did you know that November is Black Catholic History Month? Starting in 1990, November was selected as a month to celebrate all Black Catholics due to the feast days of two famous Black Catholic Saints - St. Martin de Porres on November 3 and St. Augustine on November 13. As November is also the month of All Saints, it is a great time to pray for the canonization of various Black Catholics on their path to sainthood. To learn more about this month, please visit [here](#) and [here](#).

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