

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

January 2, 2022

The Epiphany Of The Lord

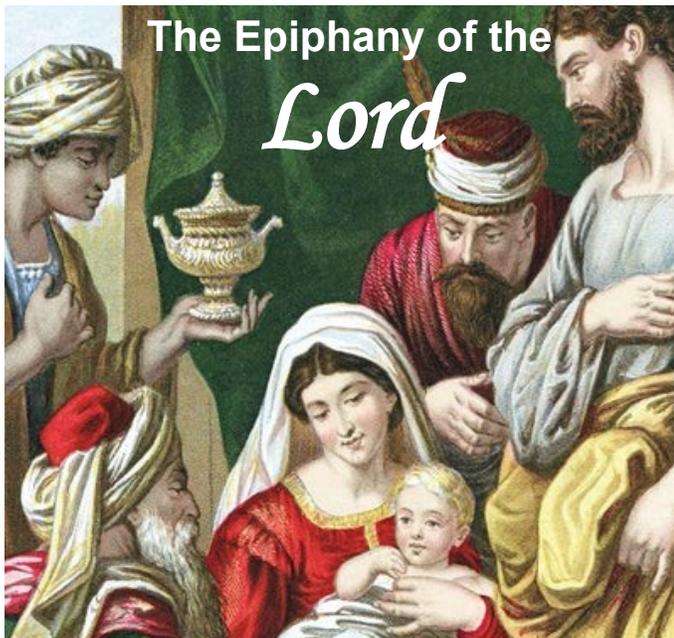
WELCOME

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 at 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



PARISH STAFF 253-630-0701

Pastor

Fr. Bill McKee, ext. 105 billm@sjtbcc.org

Bookkeeper

Nancy Moore, ext. 102 nancym@sjtbcc.org

Facility Steward

David Aldous, ext. 114 davida@sjtbcc.org

Music Coordinator

Luis Diaz de Leon, ext. 108 luisd@sjtbcc.org

Pastoral Assistant for Administration

Kathy Wickward, ext. 103 kathyw@sjtbcc.org

Pastoral Assistant for Faith Formation, RCIA & Sacramental Prep

Joan Williamson, ext. 109 joanw@sjtbcc.org

Pastoral Assistant for Pre-School/Elementary Faith Formation

Therese McHenry, ext. 123 theresem@sjtbcc.org

Pastoral Assistant for Liturgy & Pastoral Care

Laurie Moloney, ext. 111 lauriem@sjtbcc.org

Pastoral Assistant for Social Outreach and Advocacy

Andrea Mendoza, ext. 115 andream@sjtbcc.org

Pastoral Asst. for Stewardship & Evangelization

Anne Frederick, ext. 125 annef@sjtbcc.org

Pastoral Asst. for Youth Ministry 5-12

Chelsea Wilde, ext. 110 chelseaw@sjtbcc.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

25810 156th Ave SE
Covington, WA 98042
Office: 253-630-0701



Sjtbcc.org website



office@sjtbcc.org



[@sjtbcovington](https://www.instagram.com/sjtbcovington)

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Friday: 9am - 4pm; Saturday, 10am - 3pm
Word & Communion: Mon. & Tues. 9am
Mass: Wed. 9 am, Thurs. 6:30 pm, Fri. 9am
Sat. 5:30pm, Sun. 9am, 11:30 am, and 5:30pm
Confession: Saturday at 4pm
Vigil mass live streamed Saturdays at 5:30pm on Facebook. Recordings are posted to website by 8am Sunday

Pastor's Corner

The Holy Family



Scripture tells us practically nothing about the first years and the boyhood of the Child Jesus. All we have are the stories of the sojourn in Egypt, the return to Nazareth, and the incidents that occurred when the twelve-

year-old boy accompanied his parents to Jerusalem. In her liturgy the Church hurries over this period of Christ's life with equal brevity.

The general breakdown of the family, however, at the end of the past century and at the beginning of our own, prompted the popes, especially the far-sighted Leo XIII, to promote the observance of this feast with the hope that it might instill into Christian families something of the faithful love and the devoted attachment that characterize the family of Nazareth. The primary purpose of the Church in instituting and promoting this feast is to present the Holy Family as the model and exemplar for all Christian families.

"The Holy Family is an icon of the domestic Church, which is called to pray together. The family is the first school of prayer where, from their infancy, children learn to perceive God, thanks to the teaching and example of their parents. If we do not learn to pray in the family, it will be difficult to fill this gap later. I would, then, like to invite people to rediscover the beauty of praying together as a family, following the school of the Holy Family of Nazareth". (Pope Benedict XVI)

The Christian family is the first cell of the whole Church. It is the place where we begin the journey toward holiness and become more fully human. The Incarnate Word, Jesus Christ, became one of us. He was born into a human family. That was neither accidental nor incidental. There, in what the Pope Paul VI called the "School of Nazareth", we can learn the way of love. Jesus, in his childhood at Nazareth, forever transformed family life. Now, He teaches us how to live in love and devotion, if we will enroll in the "School of Nazareth".

Fr. Bill



Ways To Celebrate The Season

⇒ Start new Christmas season traditions

- **Read the infancy narrative** from the Gospel of Luke on Christmas Day, and pray Gracious Lord, Child of Bethlehem together.
- Gather the family to do this **brief Christmas season reflection**.
- **Bless your Nativity scene** and rethink how you view it.
- **Table topic:** What was the best non-material gift you received this year?
- **Support your parish outreach ministry** or give to Catholic Community Services, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul or Agape Service Project.

⇒ Keep celebrating

- **Keep the Nativity scene, tree and the lights up** as reminders of the Christmas season.
- **Play Christmas music**, especially carols celebrating the birth of our Lord.
- **Light the Christmas candle**, or "Christ candle," every day (any white candle will do) during dinner.
- **Enjoy your favorite Christmas food and drink**, giving thanks to God.
- **Watch family Christmas movies.** Read a list put together by the USCCB.
- **Host a Twelfth Night celebration** on January 5, the 12th day of Christmas.

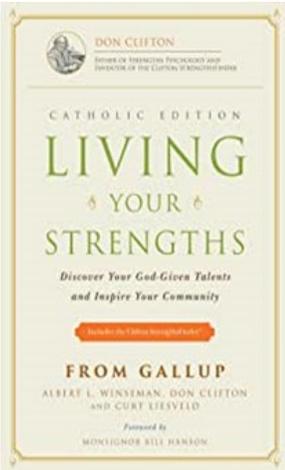


Please pray for those who are sick :
Eddie Dolan, Dan Horsman, Luz Manalo, and Cheryl Oakley

Please pray for those who have died:
Joanne Smith (cousin of Joan Williamson) and
Mark Sullivan (brother of Amy Bonte)



Stewardship



Learn about your special talents and how to share them with others!

New classes begin in January 2022

Strengths classes are four weeks in length. You can choose an in person day or an evening class via Zoom.

For more information, contact Anne Frederick at 253-630-0701 x 125 or email at annef@sjtbcc.org

Our Stewardship goal:	\$1,300,000
As of December 19, 2021	
Pledge amount (69.26% of goal)	\$900,385
No. of pledges (37.17%)	\$450
No. of families	1179
Avg. weekly pledge	\$38.48



Thank you to all who have submitted a pledge card.

Your contributions allow us to keep the lights on, fund staff

salaries, provide communication technology, music licenses, insurance, building and grounds maintenance, and so much more! Please take a moment and commit to our mission of parish stewardship by filling out a pledge card. Click [here](#) to fill out the pledge card.

Sunday Collection - December 19, 2021	
Stewardship Env.	\$4,798
Stewardship Loose Cash & Checks	3,443
Holy Days	375
Vigil Lights	114
St. Vincent de Paul	25
Funeral Donation	100
Missal Sales	30
Christmas Flowers	267
Giving Tree	420
Eucharistic Bread Donation	11
Facility Use	400
Baptism donation	100
Mass Intentions	120
Total	\$10,203

Synod

The Gift of Family and the Synod (Part 1)



I have always appreciated God's design of humanity. As humans, we are born into a community we call family. It is evident that we are created to live, learn, grow, and mature in community. The synod is about our journey as a people

together; a people in community. As Catholics, we engage in life with other people. Take some time as a family to prepare for participating in the synod, by reflecting together on some of Pope Francis' reflections:

Jesus meets us where we are, often on rocky ground. God is everywhere, especially found in messy, painful, or struggling situations. It is important for us to be open to seeing God in the places that seem less than holy. **As a family, find ways to see God in the world around us, talk about it!**

We are asked to be people of encounter...taking time to encounter Jesus in one another. We are called to openness, have courage and a willingness to let ourselves be challenged by the presence and the stories of others. **As a family, invite non-church going families to a "COVID-safe" encounter to play, pray, or dine together.**

How good is the "hearing" of our heart? Are we good at listening? Do we allow others to express themselves, to walk in faith even though they have had difficulties in life, and to be part of the life of the community without being hindered, rejected or judged? It is a slow and perhaps tiring exercise, this learning to listen to one another – bishops, priests, religious and laity, all the baptized – and to avoid artificial and shallow and pre-packaged responses. **As a family, take time to have a gathering together. Each person gets to ask a question that everyone in the circle gets to answer! What is something that you want to learn about your family members?**¹

Part 2 will be discussed next week.

¹ Pope Francis, Homily for the Opening of the Synodal Process.

[Holy Mass - Opening of the Synodal Path \(10 October 2021\) | Francis \(vatican.va\)](#)

Submitted by Joan Williamson

Outreach Ministry

Life, Justice, Peace Commission: The Life, Justice, Peace Commission met on Tuesday, December 7. There was a presentation on the One Parish One Prison initiative, which a group of parishioners are hoping to bring to the parish. The Commission voted unanimously to move forward with this ministry. The Commission recapped the busy month of November including two special appeals (Catholic Campaign for Human Development and the Catholic Community Services Appeal for the poor); the successful Thanksgiving meal drive, in which over 500 families were served; a tour of the C2C (Christ's 2nd Commandment) ministry of the recently opened Vine Maple Place Kent Campus; and a Thanksgiving meal offered to our Safe Parking guests. January will focus on a re-chartering for the Commission.



Welcome Gathering

Have you joined St. John the Baptist this past year? We would love to welcome you and to get to know you! Father Bill is hosting a Zoom gathering on **Sunday,**

January 16 from 1:00 - 2:30 pm. Please join us!

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



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
HARRY J. TUCKER COUNCIL 11780
COVINGTON, WASHINGTON

COMMITTED TO SERVE

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY



Kofc11780.com

Volunteer Opportunity

As many of you know, our beloved Connie Tietz passed away on Saturday, December 11 after a brief illness. She was our chief receptionist, bulletin editor, safe environment coordinator, mailing coordinator, and party planner extraordinaire. Her absence is deeply felt.

After some deliberation, we decided that we cannot really replace her, and we will not reopen her position.



However, we would love her tradition of warmly and personally greeting visitors and callers to our office to continue. If this sounds like a way you'd like to offer your time and talent to St. John the Baptist, please call the office or sign up for a 3-hour time slot through the QR code above or click [here](#).

If you are proficient with Publisher, your time in helping with the bulletin will also be greatly appreciated. If you are interested, please contact Pat Defiesta at 253-630-0701 (leave message for her to call you back).

Thank you for your gift of time and talent!



The Craft and Hobby Retreat on January 14 & 15 will feature a new format. We will meet from 9a-5p each day and plan to collect hygiene articles to go into ditty bags for the Seattle Seafarer's Center.

Please contact Nancy Moore at nancym@sjtbcc.org (253-630-0701) for more information and to register.



This Week At Our Church

Celebrate the Joy of the Christmas Season!

Sunday, Jan 2

Mass - 9 am,
Mass - 11:30 am
Mass (Life Teen) - 5:30 pm



Monday, Jan. 3

Yoga - 8am
Word & Communion Service - 9 am

Tuesday, Jan. 4

Word & Communion Service - 9 am

Wednesday, Jan. 5

Mass - 9 am
First Reconciliation Celebration - 6:30 pm
Youth Group - 7 pm
Hispanic Charismatic Formation - 7 pm

Thursday, Jan. 6, EPIPHANY

Yoga - 8 am
Mass - 6:30 pm
RCIA - 7 pm

Friday, Jan. 7

Mass - 9am
First Friday Adoration - 9:30 am
Hispanic Charismatic Prayer - 6 pm

Saturday, Jan. 8

Funeral for Connie Tietz - 11 am
Mass - 5:30 pm

2022 Calendars are here!

Pick up your copy in the narthex.



From Our Community



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES
OF WESTERN WASHINGTON

Catholic Community Services (CCS) South King County is launching a quarterly newsletter to share this news as well as opportunities to be involved. You can read and sign up to receive the newsletter. Click [here](#) for newsletter.

The biggest change is the retirement of the church-shelter model (i.e. HOME). In March 2020, CCS temporarily relocated the men staying in HOME as well as other church-based congregate shelters to a hotel. Over time, they learned that this model provided better service and housing outcomes to those in need. Through a partnership with King County, a hotel was purchased in Federal Way which will soon become the site of the first, permanent 24/7 shelter for single adults in South King County.

CCS is grateful for the relationships with church partners, such as St. John the Baptist's, and looks forward to continuing these relationships as their programs evolve to best serve those experiencing homelessness in our community.



Adequate staffing (both employees and volunteers) is critical for Vine Maple Place to serve families facing

homelessness. We have three urgent needs right now in Facilities & Maintenance.

Urgent Facilities Staff Need

Facilities Maintenance Specialist – (click [here](#) for job description)

Urgent Facilities Volunteer Needs - (click [here](#) for additional volunteer needs):

- **Building Maintenance Team:** 8 maintenance volunteers needed for general building, equipment repair, electrical, plumbing, and painting projects. Also needed - people who can lift and haul with a pick-up truck or box van.
- **Unit Cleaners:** 4 volunteers needed to help deep clean shelter apartments when a family moves out so that a homeless family can get safe. Cleaning materials provided.
- **Yard Team:** 7 volunteers needed for yard care and misc. outdoor projects including: mowing, weeding, pruning, landscaping, power washing.
- **One Day Work Parties:** Groups are needed for one day work parties