



THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

April 3, 2022
Fifth Sunday of Lent

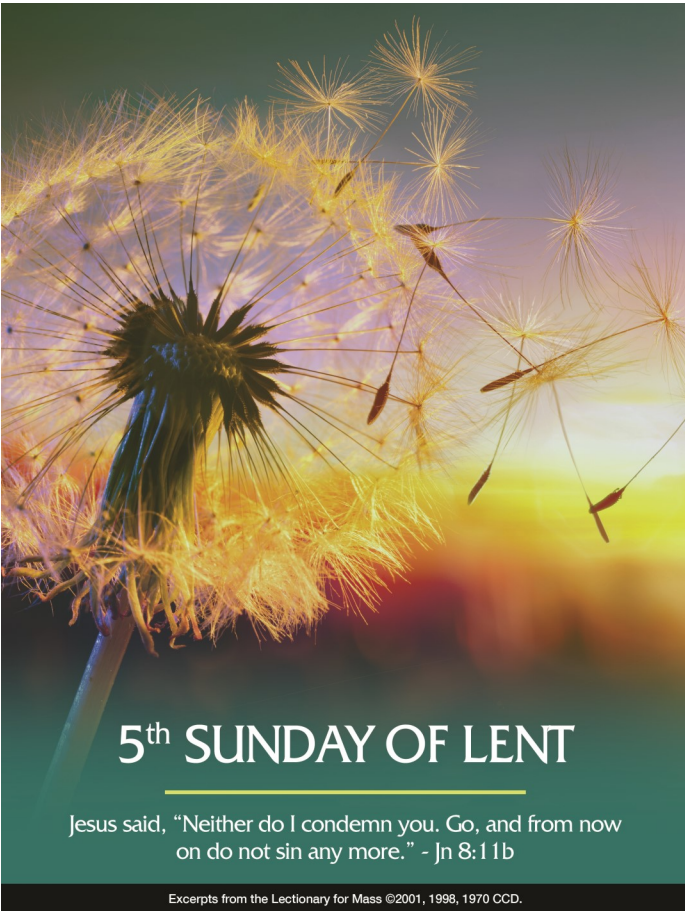
WELCOME

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!



CONTACT INFORMATION



Sjtbcc.org website

25810 156th Ave SE
Covington, WA 98042



office@sjtbcc.org



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

Open

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

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Friday: 9am - 4pm; Saturday, 10am - 3pm

Word & Communion: Mon. & Tues. 9am

Mass: Wed. 9am, Thurs. 6:30pm, Fri. 9am

Sat. 5:30pm, Sun. 9am, 11:30 am, and 5:30pm

Confession: Saturday at 4pm

Vigil mass is live streamed Saturdays at 5:30pm on

Facebook and posted to website by 8am Sunday

Pastor's Corner



This ministry “would draw on the help of our parish community to help a releasing person rebuild a new life.”

- Fr. Bill

One Parish, One Prisoner

Last weekend, Joe Cotton, Director of Pastoral Care and Outreach for the Archdiocese of Seattle, shared a reflection on the Sunday's gospel of the prodigal son and a statewide program called *One Parish One Prisoner*. This ministry seeks to equip faith communities to build supportive pre-release relationships with one person returning to their community from prison.

A group of St. John the Baptist parishioners have asked to begin this ministry. They would form a team and begin a two-year journey of relationship building, release planning, and holistic re-entry support for one person ending his/her incarceration. He/she would draw on the help of our parish community to help rebuild a new life.

The Parish Leadership Team wanted to let the parish know about this ministry and have the opportunity to share any comments or concerns. You can read more about called *One Parish One Prisoner* at <https://nwcatholic.org/voices/joe-cotton/catholic-voices-one-parish-one-prisoner> and <https://undergroundministries.org/opop>.

Please share your comments or concerns with either Andrea Mendoza, Pastoral Assistant for Social Outreach at andream@sjtbcc.org or myself at billm@sjtbcc.org. Feedback is due by Monday, April 11.

- Fr. Bill



Like Lazarus, people in prison are socially dead and entombed - but we can help roll away the stone.

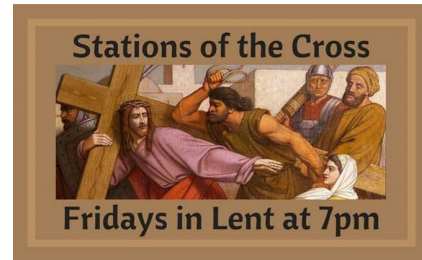
Did you know that, roughly speaking, there are about as many prisoners in Washington state as there are churches?

This morsel of information grabbed my attention at a criminal justice meeting I once attended, and it caught the attention of another attendee, Chris Hoke, a Protestant gang chaplain and author. The two of us connected immediately, sensing the power of harnessing churches to address one of the most complex and overwhelming tasks of criminal justice ministry: ensuring successful prisoner re-entry into society.

Hoke is now the founder of a new nonprofit called Underground Ministries, which has partnered with the Archdiocese of Seattle on a new and exciting endeavor called, “One Parish, One Prisoner.”

- Joe Cotton, Northwest Catholic, Feb. 2018

Lent



April 8 led by St. John's Youth Group



You are invited to make a donation on behalf of a loved one for flowers that will be purchased to decorate the church for Easter. Write the name of the person you wish to remember on a memorial card and place it in the envelope with your payment. Put it in the collection box in the narthex. The memorial cards will be displayed in the narthex at Easter.

Donations of \$10 is suggested
BY APRIL 10, 2022.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

**40 Cans For 40 Days
Lent Food Drive
Hunger Has No Season**

Can & pantry items accepted now in the Narthex.



March 2– April 17
Donations Will Support Local Foodbanks



Stewardship

Sunday Collection - March 27, 2022	
SOURCE	AMOUNT
Stewardship Envelope	\$3,302.00
Stewardship Loose Checks	1,819.50
Stewardship Loose Cash	751.00
Easter	5.00
Vigil lights	125.25
St. Vincent de Paul	1,187.00
Misc. 2nd Collections	127.00
CRS	2,210.00
Mass Intentions	20.00
Ukraine Donations	350.00
Easter Flowers	305.00
Faith Direct CRS	1,010.00
Faith Direct Catholic Home Mission	385.00
Faith Direct for 3/15/22	19,425.00
TOTAL	\$31,021.75



Driven By A Dream



Malnutrition is widespread in Rwanda, but Gloriose and her husband are doing everything they can to keep their children healthy and set them up

for success. From learning to grow a kitchen garden to participating in a micro-savings group, Gloriose and Karekezi know it takes many resources to help their children thrive. **How have you helped others access what they need this Lent?** For more information visit crsricebowl.org.



St. John has a couple in our parish who is supporting a recently arrived couple from Afghanistan. They could use some **support in helping the Afghan couple navigate**

resources such as long-term housing, employment, transportation, and English classes. The Afghan couple speaks primarily Pashto.

If you know of any resources or would be able to support this couple in any way, please let us know. You can contact Andrea at andream@sjtbcc.org or call/text at 253-893-6684, and she can connect you further. Thank you!



Start a garden in your own backyard or share the work with your community by **creating a neighborhood garden. Join our parish's Garden of the Good Shepherd Ministry!** Do you have space at a vacant lot or in a nearby park? Gardening is good for creation and saves you money. If you do not have space outdoors, you can grow veggies or herbs in pots in your place of residence. Indoor plants will produce oxygen to improve your indoor air quality.



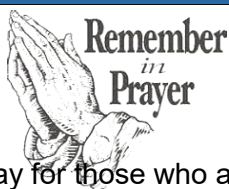
Christ's 2nd Commandment (C2C) ministry promotes awareness that people we meet in life are our neighbors. Below are reflections from C2C members on Thomas Merton's book, *New Seeds of Contemplation*. These reflections are invitations to explore this book. If you would like to learn more about getting involved with C2C, please contact Andrea Mendoza at andream@sjtbcc.org or 253-893-6684

Thomas Merton sews seeds for each of us to cultivate our own journey towards contemplation. As Merton states, "How do you expect to arrive at the end of your own journey if you take the road of another man's journey?" Merton gave us guidance to move forward on our own journey at whatever level we are at. "True Self" and "False Self" were seeds that came up in most discussions. We must accept that we hold many False Self positions, and it will take reflection and effort to move towards our True Self. The end of this book was certainly not the end of my journey.

Anyone who wants to further their spiritual journey, or self-improvement, should use *New Seeds of Contemplation* as their "go to!" The seeds were planted upon conception, and you must journey within first to find and understand your "True Self" and "True Purpose" in life! Learn how to be in solitude with yourself and your Creator! Learn how to discern false from true. How Satan moralizes your bad decisions, but how God turns evil into good

Thomas Merton writes "to say that I am made in the image of God is to say that love is the reason for my existence, for God is love. Love is my true identity. Selflessness is my true self. Love is my true character. Love is my name." In reading and praying with his *New Seeds of Contemplation*, I received an invitation to break open and explore what true contemplation looks like. What I came to appreciate and strive to embrace as I walk through the world, is that contemplation is not a form of prayer so much as it is a posture, a perspective, a way of being. It is a way of recognizing God in all things and by doing so unwrapping the identity of God as love and by extension, my own identity as love. Holding this truth in my heart affects everything. My time here on earth is a journey and my faith is a series of learning these truths over and over again but Merton's words give me a centering and an understanding of who God is and who I am. I know I will return to this book often in years to come.

In Our Parish



Please pray for those who are **sick** :
Andrea Chay, Joanne & Jason Gose,
Gina Howell, Cheryl Oakley,
and **Mary Petersen.**

Please pray for those who have **died**:
Shannon McVay (stepmother of David Aldous)

Just a reminder that St. John the Baptist will **NEVER** ask you to give a donation directly. The parish will only be collecting funds for:



- annual parish stewardship
- the Annual Catholic Appeal
- special collections that are publicized at Mass and in the bulletin

If you receive a request for a gift that appears to come from the parish, Father Bill, or any pastoral leader or parish staff/volunteers that isn't for one of the above, you should ignore the request or call the parish directly.

Attention Gardeners!



We invite you to share your flowers and blooming bushes/trees to enhance our worship space. We are looking for blooming bushes like Forsythia, Butterfly Bush, Hydrangea, Rhododendron or Snowball Viburnum, to name a few.

We also can use Calla Lilies and Dahlias.

We are hoping to have flowers and blooming branches to enhance our Easter celebration. Unfortunately, we are not able to come to you to gather the flowers. We ask that you bring them to the church on Saturday mornings, beginning April 16. Please do not drop anything off before then.

If you have flowers you want to donate, please call Laurie Moloney at the church office to let her know what you have. Mary Syslo and Judy Fuchs will be delighted to arrange what you bring to enhance our worship space. Thank you!



**FRIDAY
FAMILY FISH FRY**
Friday, April 8
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

See flyer insert for more details



We are moving to our next stage with our Synodal Process! Please take a few minutes to look at all of the responses we have gathered on the large posters in the Church Sanctuary. We have identified seven themes from our parishioner feedback:

- ◆ Church Leadership
- ◆ Faith Formation for All Ages
- ◆ Being a Servant Church – Outreach
- ◆ Rules and Regulations
- ◆ Being an Inclusive Church
- ◆ Practical Suggestions for our Parish
- ◆ Other (miscellaneous topics)

On April 6, Parish Synodal Leaders will meet to summarize the feedback and begin discussion for our report to the Archdiocese. We will also reflect on how we can begin to incorporate your suggestions into the discipleship journey of our parish.

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
Adult Faith Formation
presents:

Holy Spirit and Spiritual Gifts

Bible Study by Stephen J. Bintz



Thursday morning Zoom
April 21 through June 30, 2022

Tuesday evenings in-person/Zoom hybrid
April 12 through June 28, 2022
(except April 26)

Sign up here:

tinyurl.com/sjtbhsbiblestudy

Save the Date!

St. John the Baptist
Adult Formation Committee &
Creation Care Team
invite you to join

Jeff Renner,
former Chief Meteorologist
at KING5 TV,
on **Tuesday, April 26 at 7 pm**
for a discussion on

***Faith and the Environment:
Care for Creation***



This Week At Our Church

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sunday, April 3

Mass - 9:00 am
PS & Elem Faith Formation - 10:15 am
Mass - 11:30 am
Life Teen Night - 2:00 pm
Mass (Life Teen) - 5:30 pm
Charismatic Praise & Worship - 7:30 pm

Monday, April 4

Yoga - 7:30 am
Word & Communion - 9:00 am
Cub Scout Pack 506 - 5:30 pm
Knights of Columbus - 6:00 pm

Tuesday, April 5

Word & Communion - 9:00 am
Girl Scout Troop 46865 - 6:00 pm
Life, Peace, Justice Commission - 6:30 pm
WICS - 7:00 pm
Adult Faith Formation Bible Study - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, April 6

Mass - 9:00 am
Elem. Faith Formation Lenten Activity - 4:30 pm
Synod Leadership Team - 6:30 pm
Hispanic Adult Formation - 6:45 pm
Youth Group - 7:00 pm
Hispanic Charismatic Formation - 7:00 pm

Thursday, April 7

Yoga - 7:30 am
Adult Faith Formation Bible Study - 10:00 am
Creation Care Team - 1:00 pm
Safe Car Parking - 3:00 pm
Women's SFC: Universal Christ - 4:00 pm
Mass - 6:30 pm
RCIA - 7:00 pm

Friday, April 8

Creative Kindness Sewing Group - 8:45 am
Mass - 9:00 am
Holy Hour of Reparation - 1:30 pm
Family Fish Fry - 5:00 pm
Stations of the Cross - 7:00 pm
Hispanic Charismatic Prayer - 8:00 pm

Saturday, April 9

Baptism Prep - 9:00 am
RCIA Spring Retreat - 9:00 am
Mass - 5:30 pm

Vacation Bible School

June 27 to July 1

9am to 12 noon
Daily

More details to follow
in next weekend's bulletin

Save
the
Date!

From Our Community



Encounter

FOR OUR COMMON HOME

A NATIONAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

Catholic Climate Covenant and its partners invite U.S. Catholics across the country to join this new initiative to engage our senators in respectful and faith-filled encounters, asking them to advance climate solutions for the sake of our most affected neighbors, our common future, and our common home. **Join us in asking lawmakers to support climate and clean energy investments** that reduce our dependence on fossil fuels, lower national greenhouse gas emissions, create jobs, and build the resilience of impacted communities. This effort is connected to the U.S. Catholic Church's participation in the Vatican's *Laudato Si'* Action Platform. Join here: <https://godsplanet.us/advocacy> for a series of webinars and community-building efforts, including special opportunities for youth and young adults, and culminating in group meetings with your U.S. Senators the week of May 2 - 6, 2022! Together, we can live into our faithful call to care for creation, and for our most affected sisters and brothers. **Visit godsplanet.us/advocacy to learn more and to join!**



Thank you for your generous support of The Catholic Relief Services Collection and for revealing Christ's love to those who are poor and marginalized around the world. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Just visit www.usccb.org/catholic-relief for more information on how to give.

Rachel's Corner

Hope and Healing After Abortion

"One who pays heed to the wind will never sow, and one who watches the clouds will never reap."

- Ecclesiastes 11:4

Has your abortion story made you all too aware of the lack of light and hope in your life? Or perhaps feeling like you will be rejected or condemned in your relationships, so you don't bother building them? Join us on our next Rachel's Vineyard Retreat™, and discover how the winds and clouds change when healing has set in.

Call for a compassionate & confidential conversation

English: (206) 920-6413 | Español: (206)-450-7814

Email projectrachel@ccsw.org.

Visit us at www.ccsw.org/projectrachel or
www.facebook.com/projectrachelww.

Project Rachel is a program of Catholic Community Services.

You are loved with an everlasting Love!