

# THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

November 27, 2022  
First Sunday of Advent  
Matthew 24:37-44



## Mass Schedule

**Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm**

**Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:30 am, 5:30 pm**

**Word & Communion: Mon & Tues 9:00 am**

**Weekday Masses: Wed 9:00 am, Thurs 6:30 pm, Fri 9:00 am**



## MISSION STATEMENT

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!

## WELCOME

Whether you're a registered parishioner or first-time visitor, we hope you feel welcomed.

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**.



Sjtbcc.org  
(website)



[office@sjtbcc.org](mailto:office@sjtbcc.org)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

25810 156th Ave SE  
Covington, WA 98042  
@sjtbcovington

**253-630-0701**

## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH STAFF

### Pastor:

Father Bill McKee, ext. 105 [billm@sjtbcc.org](mailto:billm@sjtbcc.org)

### Bookkeeper:

Nancy Moore, ext. 102 [nancym@sjtbcc.org](mailto:nancym@sjtbcc.org)

### Bulletin:

Pat Defiesta, [bulletin@sjtbcc.org](mailto:bulletin@sjtbcc.org)

### Facility Steward:

David Aldous, ext. 114 [davida@sjtbcc.org](mailto:davida@sjtbcc.org)

### Music Coordinator:

Luis Diaz de Leon, ext. 108 [luisd@sjtbcc.org](mailto:luisd@sjtbcc.org)

### Pastoral Assistant for Administration:

David Cromer, ext. 101 [davidc@sjtbcc.org](mailto:davidc@sjtbcc.org)

### Pastoral Assistant for Faith Formation, RCIA & Sacramental Prep :

Joan Williamson, ext. 109 [joanw@sjtbcc.org](mailto:joanw@sjtbcc.org)

### Pastoral Assistant for Pre-School/Elementary Faith Formation:

Therese McHenry, ext. 123 [theresem@sjtbcc.org](mailto:theresem@sjtbcc.org)

### Pastoral Assistant for Liturgy & Pastoral Care:

Laurie Moloney, ext. 111 [lauriem@sjtbcc.org](mailto:lauriem@sjtbcc.org)

### Pastoral Assistant for Social Outreach and Advocacy:

Andrea Mendoza, ext. 115 [andream@sjtbcc.org](mailto:andream@sjtbcc.org)

### Pastoral Asst. for Stewardship & Evangelization

Anne Frederick, ext. 125 [annef@sjtbcc.org](mailto:annef@sjtbcc.org)

### Pastoral Asst. for Youth Ministry 5-12:

**OPEN;** contact Joan Williamson if interested

## THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

### Sunday, November 27

**Mass - 9:00 am**

BP Screening (free of charge) - after morning Masses

**Mass - 11:30 am**

**Mass - 5:30 pm**

### Monday, November 28

Prayer Ministry Training - 9:00 am

Word & Communion - 9:00 am

Choir (9 am & FilAm) Practice - 7:00 pm

Communications Committee (via Zoom) - 7:00 pm

### Tuesday, November 29

Word & Communion - 9:00 am

Confirmation Year 2 - 7:00 pm

Fil Am Simbang Gabi Planning Meeting - 7:00 pm

Hispanic Music Group - 7:00 pm

WICS (support for widowed people) - 7:00 pm

### Wednesday, November 30

**Mass - 9:00 am**

First Reconciliation Celebration - 6:30 pm

Choir (Sun 5:30 pm) Practice - 7:00 pm

Grief Ministry (via Zoom) - 7:00 pm

Youth (Grades 5 - 12) Ministry - 7:00 pm

### Thursday, December 1

Creation Care Team Meeting - 1:00 pm

Hora Santa de Reparación - 2:30 pm

Safe Parking Meeting - 3:00 pm

Universal Christ Faith Group Meeting - 4:00 pm

**Mass - 6:30 pm**

Choir (Sun 11:30) Practice - 7:00 pm

RCIA - 7:00 pm

### Friday, December 2

**Mass - 9:00 am**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - 9:45 am

Hispanic Charismatic Prayer - 6:30 pm

Choir (Fil Am) practice - 7:00 pm

### Saturday, December 3

Advent Reconciliation Service - 10:00 am

Confirmation Year 1 - 1:30 pm

Confessions - 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

**Mass - 5:30 pm**

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena - 6:30 pm

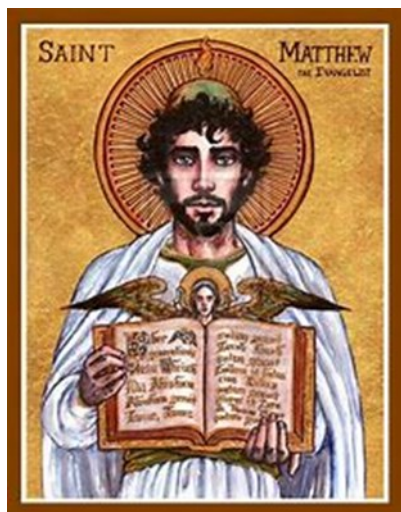


## Pastor's Corner



*"Some have described Matthew's gospel as an expanded edition of Mark, the first of the gospels to be written."*

- Fr. Bill



### Matthew's Gospel

With the beginning of Advent, we turn to Matthew's Gospel to guide us through the coming year. Some have described Matthew's gospel as an expanded edition of Mark, the first of the gospels to be written. Matthew retains Mark's general sequence of events. However, he frames it with an account of Jesus' birth and post resurrection appearances. Matthew adds five blocks of teaching material, emphasizing Jesus as the inaugurator of a new covenant who definitively interprets the Mosaic Law, and through fulfilling specific prophecies in the Hebrew Scriptures proves his identity as Israel's Messiah.

Matthew is writing for a Jewish Christian community and is concerned to show how Jesus fulfills Judaism. His life mirrors the events of Israel's history. Most of all, Jesus is pictured as the new Moses.

Writing a decade or two after the Roman destruction of Jerusalem, Matthew softens Mark's portrait of a more fiery Jesus, adding parables that imply a delay in the Second Coming. He focuses on the missionary work of the church and instruction to the Twelve, who are pictured in a much better light than in Mark's gospel. From Matthew's gospel we get the word "Church."

-Fr. Bill

Source: Stephen Harris, Understanding the Bible



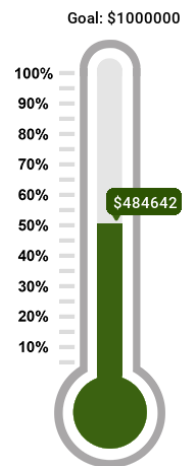
## Stewardship



We are grateful for all who have submitted pledges. If you haven't pledged, you recently received a message from the parish requesting your support. Your generous commitment truly sustains St. John the Baptist!

<b>Goal</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>
<b>Pledges Received</b>	<b>\$484,642</b>
% of goal	48.46%
# of families at SJTB	1213
# of families pledged	229
% of families pledged	18.88%
Average weekly pledge	\$40.70

\*Pledge update as of 11/16/22.  
See website for more current updates.



**Thank you for your support!**

### Parish Stewardship 2022

Expected Stewardship for October	\$108,874.00
Actual Stewardship Revenue	\$94,006.50

### Bill of the Month

For the month of October, **your stewardship gifts helped us pay our property taxes** for the 2nd half of 2022, which was \$9,807.00

**Thank you for your generosity!**

## Parish Mission

**Share Your CARE With Our Youth Ministry**



We have kicked off our year with Youth Ministry (5th-12th graders) on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. We have 79 students in this age group, and 14 wonderful leaders! Our gathering consists of an opening session (game, song, prayer, and teaching), small groups session, and ending prayer! We are in **need of 5-6 more dynamic adults**, who enjoy working with middle or high school youth, love God, and can facilitate small groups. We are focusing on Christology this first half of the year, and the Holy Spirit the second half of the year!

Please **contact Joan Williamson** at the parish office if you are interested in serving!

## Ministry Spotlight



As we draw closer to Christmas, you see the Giving Tree ministry come to life.

In collaboration with the St. Vincent de Paul ministry, the annual Giving Tree helps bring Christmas joy to families, who are facing difficult and challenging times. Starting the weekend before Thanksgiving, the Giving Tree and tags are placed in the narthex, and parishioners generously begin bringing in gifts that will be used in our Giving Tree Store.

Parishioners who may need help this holiday season and families who have been working with our St Vincent de Paul ministry are invited to our Giving Tree Store. On the day of the Store, families are welcomed into the McMullen Center, where they can select household items and gifts for their children. Each family will receive a new blanket, new bath towels, laundry detergent and gift cards to Safeway or Fred Meyer. They are also able to select items for each of their children. Each child will receive a new pair of pajamas, socks, underwear, a book, a toy, and a board game. Gift wrap and a variety of stocking stuffers are also offered to each family, and each family will leave with a holiday meal. In addition to assisting families, we also support Pregnancy Aid with items such as infant car seats, diapers, wipes, and baby toiletries such as pacifiers and bottles.

All of this is made possible by the generosity of our parish. Our goal is to support at least 50 families this holiday season. If you would like to help, monetary donations can be made at the following link: [tinyurl.com/sjtbholidays](http://tinyurl.com/sjtbholidays)

There is also an Amazon wish list [amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3DX1NTQULLRFC](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3DX1NTQULLRFC) where you can purchase your items and have them shipped directly to the parish. You can also take a tag from the Giving Tree in the narthex. **All items need to be received back to the parish by December 18.**

If you have questions or would like to be involved in the Giving Tree ministry, please contact Andrea Shimek at [sjtbcc.org/contact-us/](http://sjtbcc.org/contact-us/)

Submitted by **Andrea Shimek**

## Our Church

### Prayer Requests

For the sick :

**Steve Barlow, Jackie Cleveland, Faye Driessen, Amy Herman, Alec Lane, Terry Riddle, Jack Rouse, Tom Sawyer, and Joan Witte**

For those who have died:

**Katelyn Marshall** (daughter of Erin & Paul Marshall),  
**Cheryl Oakley** (mother of Gretchen Ojalla),  
**William Green** (cousin of Zelig Dolan), and  
**those whose names are inscribed in  
The Book of the Dead**

### The Season of Advent

Our cover photo reminds us that Advent is upon us. The excitement grows as we prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas. We celebrate each week of Advent with a candle.



Scan me to  
submit your  
guess

This week's contest is to name the four candles in the Advent wreath. If you know the answer, please fill out the entry form in the narthex or scan the QR code; form is at the bottom of the page. You may also visit us at [sjtbcc.org/2022/09/20/seeking-art-photos-for-bulletin/](http://sjtbcc.org/2022/09/20/seeking-art-photos-for-bulletin/) to submit your entry online. Winner will be notified by email. GOOD LUCK!

We pray for the 21 young members of our family of faith, who will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Wednesday!

We also lift up their families during this time.

This is an exciting time for our young people to experience God's mercy and love in this Sacrament!

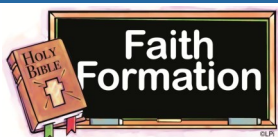


Over the next few weeks, fellow parishioners will be calling every household. **If you receive a call from an unusual number, please consider picking up and/or checking your voicemails.** We truly would like to connect with you and find out how you are doing!

### Congratulating November 6 Contest Winner

Our November 6 contest was guessing the location of our beautiful stained glass window, which was right behind the baptismal font. Congratulations to **Marilou Bickel**, who correctly guessed the location and was chosen from a basket of names with the correct guess. Thank you to everyone who entered this contest. Keep reading our bulletin for future contests!

## Our Church



### Minutes From the Adult Faith Formation Committee

We met on Thursday, November 10, 2022, with **Arlene Warnke, Paul Dehmer, Tina Reeves, and Joan Williamson** in attendance. We readied the final details for Fr. Bill's November 22 presentation, "Liturgy of the Hours, The Other Prayer of the Church". We delegated responsibilities readying for Dan Schutte joining us **in person** for our Advent Retreat on December 9 & 10! At our next meeting on December 8, we will be deciding which study we will use from Threshold Bible Study for our upcoming Tuesday evening/Thursday morning Bible Study groups, January 31- April 27, 2023.


### Don't forget! Parish Advent Retreat with Dan Schutte

Dan Schutte will be with us **Friday, December 9** from 7:00 - 8:30 pm and **Saturday, December 10** from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm for our Annual Parish Advent Retreat!



Our **Parish Advent Communal Reconciliation Service** with individual confession and absolution will be **Saturday, December 3 at 10:00 am**. Come, prepare to receive Christ this Christmas by receiving him in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.



 When shopping this holiday season, **remember to choose St. John the Baptist** to receive a tiny portion from every order you place through Amazon.

Visit [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) on your web browser and sign in with your Amazon.com credentials. Choose St. John the Baptist (Covington, WA) to receive donations and start shopping.

## FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING



### Fourth Sunday after morning masses

WE HAVE A REGISTERED NURSE AVAILABLE TO CHECK YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE IN THE NURSERY AFTER SUNDAY MORNING MASSES  
contact parish office for more information

## Our Community

### Rachel's Corner Hope and Healing After Abortion

*God is our refuge and our strength, an ever present help in distress. Thus we do not fear, though earth be shaken and mountains quake to the depths of the sea, though its waters rage and foam and mountains totter at its surging. God is our refuge and our strength." - Psalm 46:2-4*

Do you wish you could find a mental and spiritual refuge in a safe place where you are understood? God is inviting you to a healing where you can find those things in His merciful embrace. Give Him a chance to show you what it is like to rest.



**English: (206) 920-6413 / Español: (206)-450-7814**

Email [projectrachel@ccsww.org](mailto:projectrachel@ccsww.org).

Visit us at [www.ccsww.org/projectrachel](http://www.ccsww.org/projectrachel) or

[www.facebook.com/projectrachelww](https://www.facebook.com/projectrachelww).

*Project Rachel is a program of Catholic Community Services  
**You are loved with an everlasting love!***

### St. Anthony School is Now Enrolling

Are you interested in your child receiving a mission-based, community-focused Catholic education? St. Anthony is now enrolling for limited spots for the current school year and for all grades for next school year (2023-24). Please visit our website at [sasr.org](http://sasr.org) or email Jean Dang at [dang@sasr.org](mailto:dang@sasr.org) to set up a school tour or to learn more info.



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES  
OF WESTERN WASHINGTON

### CCS Appeal for the Poor

Each year the CCS Appeal for the Poor informs parishioners about the work of Catholic Community Services and Catholic Housing Services (CCS/CHS). CCS/CHS are our Catholic Charities in Western Washington. Every year CCS/CHS serves, on average, 100,000 poor and vulnerable people in Western Washington through more than 170 programs. This collection is used to support programs and services in our local area, and \$0.92 of every dollar goes directly to serving those in need. Next weekend we will take up this special collection and be joined by Jennifer Newman of Catholic Community Services to share about the work of the organization.



### An In-Person Marriage Encounter Experience

February 17-19, 2023  
Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center  
Federal Way, WA

Apply at [rediscoverthepark.org/](https://rediscoverthepark.org/)  
Jeff & Sandy Cornell (360-930-2321)



# PARISH STEWARDSHIP TIME. TALENT. TREASURE.



PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER  
GOD'S GIFTS TO YOU AND MAKE  
YOUR PLEDGE TODAY.



# **Parish Advent Retreat with Dan Schutte**



**Friday, December 9: 7-8:30 PM**  
**Saturday, December 10: 9 AM - 3 PM**

**"You are Near," "Here I Am, Lord," "These Alone are Enough" - Dan Schutte's music has been part of the heartbeat for the Church for more than 50 years. His music and writing flow from his knowledge of and deep love for Sacred Scripture, his Ignatian spirituality and his years of Ministry.**

**You are invited to join Dan as he uses his gifts to lead us in the spirit of Ignatius on our Parish Advent Retreat.**

**Open to all. No cost for admission. Lunch included on Saturday.**

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