

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

December 25, 2022
The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
Luke 2:1-14



Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm

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

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

Word & Communion: Mon & Tues 9:00 am

Office Hours & Contact Information

Monday - Friday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Sunday: Closed

253-630-0701



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**.



Christmas reveals to us a God who wants to be close to us. The awesome Christmas message is that, out of love for us, God has become one of us so we can become one with God.

This is the faith that animates St. John the Baptist Catholic Community. We gather to worship in gratitude for all God has done for us and trusting in the promise of eternity. We grow in our discipleship. Each one of us is on a particular journey of faith. Each one of us has another step to take. We accompany each other wherever we may be on this journey. And we go in service. We have Good News to share, doing so with acts of love and compassion, caring for all God's people, caring for God's creation.

Christmas is a day we welcome many people. There are those who are here every Sunday, for whom Mass is the highlight of the week and a source of strength for the coming week. We welcome family members and relatives who are visiting for the holiday. We welcome those of other faith traditions, who join their family members and friends today. COVID has kept many people away from in-person gatherings. We welcome those who are now transitioning back to in-person worship. There may be other things that have kept folks away. If you are one of those joining us today, we are so glad you are here with us today. We hope that whatever has kept you away can be resolved, healed, or forgiven. If you are one of our neighbors without a faith community to call your own, welcome!

Wherever you are at on this journey of faith, the St. John the Baptist Catholic Community is here to walk with you. Together, may we discover the presence of the Risen Lord, who has promised to remain with us forever.

You can find more information about our faith community on our web page at sjtbcc.org. You can also call the parish office and chat with myself or any of our staff at 253 630-0701.

Welcome!

-Fr. Bill



David Aldous (Facilities), **Pat Defiesta** (Bulletin), **David Cromer** (Administration), **Luis Diaz de Leon** (Music), **Anne Frederick** (Stewardship & Evangelization), **Therese McHenry** (Faith Formation), **Father Bill McKee** (Pastor), **Andrea Mendoza** (Social Outreach), **Laurie Moloney** (Liturgy), **Nancy Moore** (Bookkeeping), **Kathy Wickward** (Administration), and **Joan Williamson** (Faith Formation).

A Year in the Life of Our Parish

Look at what we've accomplished in 2022!

Happy 31st Birthday, St. John the Baptist Parish!!! (January 9, 1991)

- ◇ **Adopt-An-Island** - Relaunched in June to encourage the adoption (i.e., maintenance and care) of one (or more) of our 36 areas on our parish grounds.
- ◇ **Adult Formation** - Highlights include evenings on Jesus and Liturgy of the Hours with Fr. Bill, Advent & Lenten Retreats with Dan Schutte, and caring for creation with Sr. Dorothy Verna & Jeff Renner.
- ◇ **Blood Pressure Screening** - Began in March. About five people come through a month to have their blood pressure checked by one of our parish registered nurses, **Betty Lou Partridge**. All are welcome!
- ◇ **Faith Formation & VBS** - Back to in-person this fall, welcoming about 100 preschool to 4th graders and 89 from 5th to 12th graders, supported by 20 catechists, 13 adult volunteers, and dozens of parent helpers. Eighty-eight (88) children came through our Vacation Bible School this summer as well!
- ◇ **Financial Peace University** - Twelve (12) families are participating in our third offering of this program.
- ◇ **Installation of AC & bathroom remodel** - We have installed new counters and faucets in our church bathrooms, with more planned in the future. By summer, we will have A/C installed in the Sanctuary!
- ◇ **Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfasts** - Supported Ukraine Solidarity Fund and Coats for Kids.
- ◇ **Launched our new bulletin format** - 9/18. Cover page will feature photos/artwork submitted by parishioners.
- ◇ **Living Your Strengths Wine & Cheese Social** - We had our first social for "Achievers" on 10/8.
- ◇ **Music Ministry Song Slides** - In August, Parishioners were encouraged to sing along during Mass with the help of our slide show. Many thanks to three volunteers who help type out the songs and the six who help display them at every Mass so we can all sing along.
- ◇ **Parish Councils & Commissions Convocation** - 10/27. Parishioners serving on councils and commissions participated in dialogue sessions to discuss future planning for our parish.
- ◇ **Pollinator Garden** - Blessed on 9/3 to kick off the **Season of Creation**. *Northwest Catholic magazine* featured this garden with an article on 9/27.
- ◇ **Sacramental Programs** - Baptisms: 17; Confirmation: 12; First Communion: 24; and Marriages: 4.
- ◇ **Safe Car Parking** expanded from supporting six to eight individuals experiencing homelessness.
- ◇ **St. Vincent de Paul Ministry** - SJtB parishioners donated \$80,064.00; St. Vincent de Paul gave \$121,275.00 in assistance to neighbors in need around the Kent/Covington/Maple Valley area.
- ◇ **Synod** - 263 parishioners participated in 21 parish Synod sessions between January and March.
- ◇ **Thanksgiving Meals** - Dozens of volunteers spent their morning putting together 485 meals for families in need in our community.
- ◇ **Vesting Table** - Donated as an In-Kind service by one of our parishioners, **Angelo Battisti**, who also designed and constructed the table. It took him three months and was completed and installed in June. This table stores the various colored stoles, which are used to commemorate the liturgical dates.
- ◇ **Welcome Gathering** - 22 new parish families attended our first in-person Welcome Gather since COVID.

Our Church



Prayer Requests

For the sick :

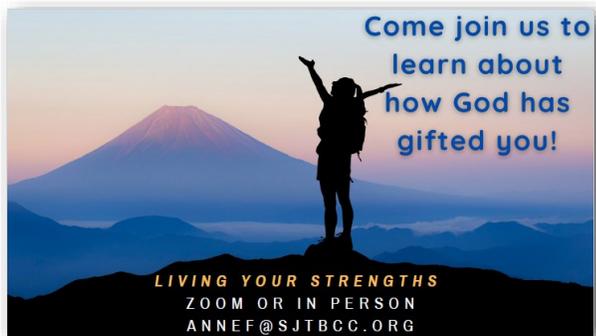
Faye Driessen, Charlotte French, Mary Ellen Pardo, and Jean Wilford

For those who have died:

Jackie Cleveland (mother of Cathy Silva)
Brian Torres Ibarra (son of Saul Torres & Maria Ibarra),
Connie Tietz - on the anniversary of her death (wife of Paul Tietz), and
Lynn Walker (friend of Charlotte French)



"The Questions Jesus Asked"
 Threshold Bible Study for Adults
 Tuesdays: Jan 31 - Apr 25 (except Apr 4 & 11)
 Thursdays: Feb. 2 - Apr. 27 via Zoom
 (except Apr 6 & 13)
Registration coming soon!



What are your Top 5 Talents?

Come join our four-week reflection and study opportunity to know how and what God has gifted you.

Stay tuned for future classes or contact Anne Frederick at annef@sjtbcc.org (253-630-0701) for more information.



Sign Up to Receive Our Weekly Email!



Did you know that Fr. Bill sends out an email every week with a link to our bulletin and other important information?

If you are not receiving these, please sign up by scanning the QR code or visiting the link provided! We look forward to connecting!

SJTBCCOvington.flocknote.com/StJohntheBaptist



STEWARDSHIP is about generously sharing God's gifts with one another, which is foundational to our mission at St. John the Baptist.

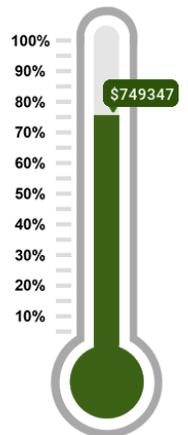
Please pray that this year each one of us will experience the joy of Sacrificial Giving: of generously sharing our gifts to help us build our parish community and the Body of Christ.

Your pledge matters!

Goal	\$1,000,000
Pledges Received *	\$749,347
% of goal	74.9%
# of families at SJTB	1216
# of families pledged	354
% of families pledged	29%
Average weekly pledge	\$40.70

* Pledge update as of 12/12/22.
 See website for more current updates.

Goal: \$1000000



Thank you for your support!



This Week At Our Church

The office will be closed this week.

**No Mass on Wednesday.
 Mass is celebrated Thursday & Friday as normal.**

Please check with your leader regarding other planned ministry meetings.

Our Church

Start Your Year off with SJtB!

Please plan to join us for any or all of the following:

January:

- 1 ---- Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
- 6 ---- First Friday Adoration
- 8 ---- Epiphany
- 8 ---- Celebration of Parish Anniversary
- 15 --- Coffee & Donuts
- 21 --- Knights of Columbus Crab Feed
- 27 --- Craft & Hobby Retreat
- 28 --- Craft & Hobby Retreat
- 31 --- Threshold Bible Study, Tuesday Evening Session Begins

February:

- TBD --Living Your Strengths sessions begin
- 2 ---- Threshold Bible Study Thursday Morning **Zoom** Session Begins
- 3 ---- First Friday Adoration
- 3 ---- Family Dance
- 12 --- Coffee & Donuts
- 12 --- Welcome Gathering for New Parishioners
- 18 --- Craft & Hobby Day
- 18 --- Strengths Wine and Cheese Night for WOO and Relators
- 19 --- Lent Event
- 22 --- Ash Wednesday
- 24 --- Knights of Columbus Fish Fry
- 24 --- Stations of the Cross
- 25 --- *The Letter* Film Screening & Lenten Supper

March:

- 3 ---- First Friday Adoration
- 3 ---- Stations of the Cross
- 10 --- Stations of the Cross
- 12 --- Coffee & Donuts
- 17 --- Stations of the Cross
- 18 --- Craft & Hobby Day
- 24 --- Stations of the Cross
- 31 --- Knights of Columbus Fish Fry
- 31 --- Stations of the Cross



Returning Catholics

No matter how long you have been away and no matter the reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with the Catholic Church.

We miss you, and we would like to welcome you home. If you left the Church in pain that we have caused; if you feel you have done something to separate yourself from us; if you have married outside the Church; if you attend Mass only at Christmas and Easter, for weddings or funerals but do not receive Holy Communion; or if you have not been to confession in a very long time, please contact Anne Frederick annef@sjtbcc.org or call 253-630-0701 x125. We look forward to walking with you on your faith journey.



Welcome Gathering

Have you recently joined our parish? Please join us for an upcoming gathering. All registrants will receive free gifts!

Contact Anne Frederick annef@sjtbcc.org or 253-0630-0701 x125 for more information.



Keep in touch!

Online:



sjtbcc.org

Social Media:



@sjtbcovington

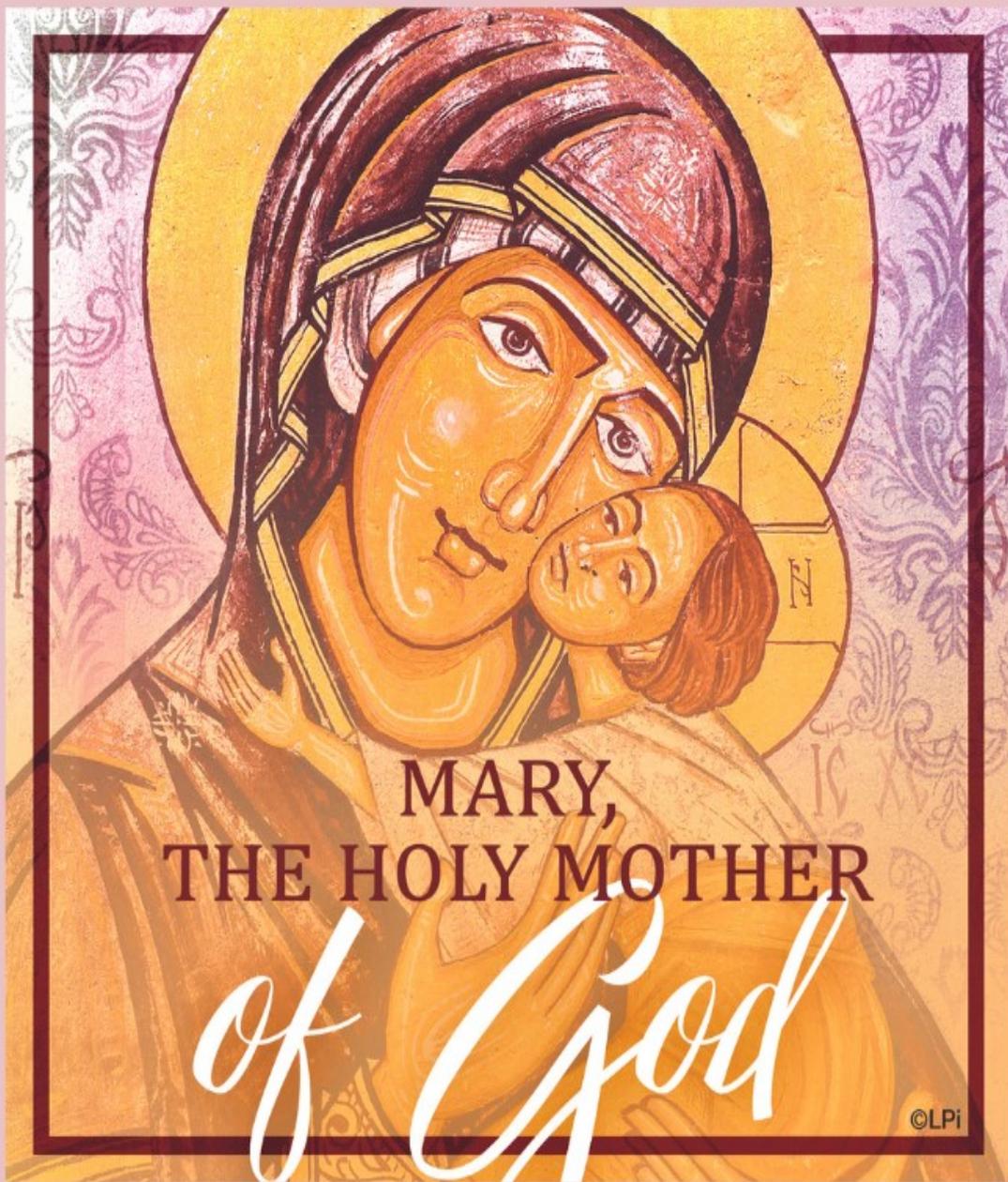
Livestream/ Mass Recordings:



Email:



office@sjtbcc.org



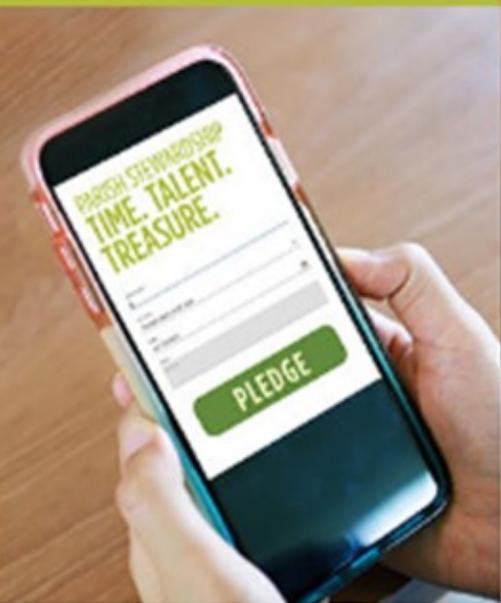
Mass Times

Saturday, 12/31: 5:30 PM

Sunday 1/1: 9:00 AM, 11:30 AM

(No 5:30 PM Sunday Mass)

PARISH STEWARDSHIP TIME. TALENT. TREASURE.



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



Knights of Columbus Crab Feast is Back



Saturday January 21, 2023

Doors Open: 6:30 PM

Dinner: 7:00 PM



\$50 / Person

\$275 / Reserved Table for 6

120 Tickets Available

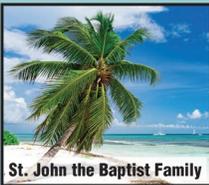
**Dungeness Crab, Caesar Salad,
Clam Chowder, Corn on the Cob,
Rolls, Dessert & Drinks**

**Tickets on Sale after all Masses, in
the Church Office, or see any Knight.**

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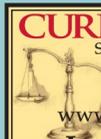
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