

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

December 4, 2022
Second Sunday of Advent
Matthew 3:1-12



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

Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
Sunday: Closed



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**.



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

Bookkeeper:

Nancy Moore, ext. 102 nancym@sjtbcc.org

Bulletin:

Pat Defiesta, bulletin@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:

David Cromer, ext. 101 davidc@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:

OPEN; contact Joan Williamson if interested

Sunday, December 4

Mass - 9:00 am

Faith Formation (PS & Elementary) - 10:15 am

Financial Peace University - 10:15 am

Mass - 11:30 am

Mass - 5:30 pm

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena - after 5:30 pm mass

Monday, December 5

Yoga - 7:30 am

Prayer Ministry Training - 9:00 am

Word & Communion - 9:00 am

Knights of Columbus Meeting - 6:00 pm

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena - 6:00 pm

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

Tuesday, December 6

Word & Communion - 9:00 am

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena - 6:00 pm

LJP Commission Meeting - 6:30 pm

Choir (Fil Am) Practice - 7:00 pm

Confirmation Year 2 - 7:00 pm

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

Wednesday, December 7

Mass - 9:00 am

Hispanic Charismatic Group - 6:00 pm

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena - 6:00 pm

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

Grief Ministry (via Zoom) - 7:00 pm

Parish Leadership Team Meeting - 7:00 pm

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

Thursday, December 8

(Immaculate Conception)

Yoga - 7:30 am

Mass - 9:00 am

Adult Faith Formation Committee Meeting - 10:00 am

Hora Santa de Reparación - 2:30 pm

Facilities & Grounds Commission Meeting - 4:30 pm

One Parish One Prisoner - 5:00 pm

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena - 6:00 pm

Mass (Immaculate Conception) 7:00 pm

RCIA - 7:00 pm

Friday, December 9

Mass - 9:00 am

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena - 6:00 pm

Choir (Fil Am) practice - 7:00 pm

Parish Advent Retreat (Dan Schutte) - 7:00 pm

Saturday, December 10

Parish Advent Retreat (Dan Schutte) - 9:00 am

Gospel Reflection SFC - 10:00 am

Confessions - 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Mass - 5:30 pm

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena - after 5:30 pm mass

Pastor's Corner



I would like to share with you this article by Fr. Paul Turner on the Immaculate Conception, whose feast day is Thursday, December 8.

- Fr. Bill

“The Immaculate Conception” is a title for Mary, the mother of Jesus. The expression means that Mary was conceived without sin. The conviction that Jesus was born of a virgin is a distinct belief, even though many Catholics erroneously think that the Immaculate Conception refers to Jesus.

Contributing to the confusion is the celebration of the Immaculate Conception during the season of Advent. While the faithful are preparing to honor the birth of Jesus, we commemorate the conception of Mary. The choice of Dec. 8 for the Immaculate Conception does not directly relate to Advent; it corresponds more to the traditional date for the feast of the birth of Mary, Sept. 8, which coincides with the dedication of a Jerusalem church in honor of the mother of Mary. The feast for the conception of Mary is backed up from that day nine months. In a similar way we celebrate the Annunciation on March 25, nine months before the birth of Jesus.

Belief in the Immaculate Conception asserts that God preserved Mary from all sin from the moment of her conception, thus preparing a pure vessel for the incarnation of the Son. This belief is not expressly contained in the Scriptures, but it enjoys a widespread following in the church's tradition. Although the Immaculate Conception of Mary has been affirmed since the earliest centuries of Christianity, it was not formally proclaimed a dogma of the church until 1854. December 8 is now a holy day of obligation in the United States, which is placed under Mary's patronage with this title.

When Mary is depicted as the Immaculate Conception, she is often shown wearing a crown of stars as the woman in Revelation 12 and standing on a snake, reversing the temptation of Eve. Mary, the Immaculate Conception, is the exalted queen of heaven who manifests God's power over sin.

-Fr. Bill

Stewardship



ANNUAL RENEWAL OF PARISH STEWARDSHIP

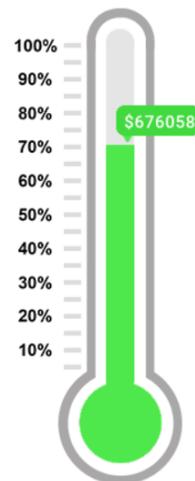
Thank you to all who have pledged!
Please help us exceed our \$1 Million Goal!

Goal	\$1,000,000
Pledges Received	\$676,058
% of goal	67.6%
# of families at SJTB	1214
# of families pledged	308
% of families pledged	25.37%
Average weekly pledge	\$42.21

*Pledge update as of 11/28/22.
 See our website for more current updates.

Thank you for your support!

Goal: \$1000000



Parish Mission

CARE and Winter Conditions



After a long warm summer and a seemingly very brief autumn, we are already feeling the chilly temperatures of winter. It appears that we may have a long and cold winter ahead of us. For the past several years, we have had parishioners who live nearby volunteer to clear snow from the walkways approaching the entrances to the church and sprinkle ice-melt to reduce the slip hazards prior to Mass.

To aid in this service ministry, we provide the ice-melt, snow shovels, and a walk behind ice-melt spreader as well as hand held spreaders. We also have a self-propelled snow blower on order.

Several names for this service ministry team have been bandied about, but none have landed firmly. Suggestions have included Snow Angels, Ice Angels, Slick Busters, and Traction Kings. If you would like to join the team, please contact the David Aldous at the church office. Thank you!

Ministry Spotlight



On December 12, 2019, we marked the 10th anniversary of celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe here at St. John the Baptist, when Bishop Eusebio Elizondo blessed the new statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe in the sanctuary and celebrated the Mass.

The group hosting this feast each year is the **Guadalupanos**, a group promoting devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary in

her title, Guadalupe. In addition to this yearly feast, the **Guadalupanos** do other ministries here at St. John the Baptist. Join us for this special feast on December 12! (See the schedule below.)

Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared in 1531 to an Indian named Juan Diego in Mexico. She spoke to him in his native language. As Pope Francis said on July 25, 2022, during his penitential pilgrimage to Canada, "At the dramatic time of the conquest, Our Lady of Guadalupe transmitted the true faith to the indigenous people, speaking their own language and clothed in their own garments, without violence or imposition." She appeared at a time when Spanish missionaries were having a difficult time evangelizing natives. Within 15 years of the apparition, nine million were baptized.

Pope John Paul II's first international trip as Pope was to the Basilica of our Lady of Guadalupe near Mexico City. In his book, *Rise, Let Us be On Our Way*, he wrote: "to some degree, this pilgrimage inspired and shaped all of the succeeding years of my Pontificate." During his Pontificate, Pope John Paul II made six trips to Mexico. In 1909 he proclaimed Our Lady of Guadalupe as Patroness of the whole American continent.

We invite you to visit her here in the sanctuary at St. John the Baptist. Come sit, kneel or stand beside her. Her face is dark. She is an indigenous woman. There is a small sash around her waist denoting that she is pregnant with Jesus. Her left knee is bent forward as she is dancing a prayerful dance. Talk to her. Dance with her. Listen to her. Light a candle. Bring her some roses. Bring her your heart.

Join us for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Monday, December 12, with these special events.

- December 3 - 11: Novena with bilingual Rosary at 4:30 pm in the church.
- December 12: Dia de la Virgen de Guadalupe
 - 4:00 to 6:00 am Mañanitas, breakfast to follow
 - Church will be open all day for prayer
 - 6:30 pm Bilingual Mass
 - Dinner Reception will follow Mass

Submitted by **Irene Cervantes**

Our Church

Prayer Requests

For the sick :

Jackie Cleveland, Fay Driessen, Amy Herman, Lili Lepola, Tom Sawyer, and Joan Witte

For those who have died:

Doug Ackerman (husband of Kristy Ackerman)
William Green (cousin of Zelie Dolan)
Iris Lehigh (sister of Lois Willard)
Katelyn Marshall (daughter of Erin & Paul Marshall),
Cheryl Oakley (mother of Gretchen Ojala), and
Terry Riddle (brother-in-law of Susan Behrens)

Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

Our cover photo features her. We celebrate her feast on December 12.

We don't have a contest this week, as we reflect upon the appearance of the Blessed Virgin Mary to St. Juan Diego and her motherly love. Speak to her this day and invite her to come to you as your merciful mother.

Celebremos la ocasión del Día de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe con las personas que amamos. Let us celebrate the occasion of our Lady of Guadalupe Day with the people we love.



During Advent, fellow parishioners will be calling every household. If you receive a call from an unusual number, please consider picking up and checking your voicemails. We truly would like to connect with you and find out how we might support you!!

Congratulating November 13 Contest Winner

The November 13 contest was to name the Christian name that Halloween goes by. Answer: All Hallows Eve. Congratulations to **Bonnie Sawyer**, who correctly guessed the answer and was chosen from a basket of names with the correct guess. Bonnie came and selected her prize a couple of weeks ago. Thank you to everyone who entered this contest. Keep reading our bulletin for future contests!

Christmas Poinsettias Needed

You are invited to make a donation of \$10 (suggested amount) on behalf of a loved one for the poinsettias that we will use to decorate the church for Christmas.



Write the name of the person you wish to remember on a memorial card. Place card in the envelope with your payment and deposit it in the collection box in the narthex. The memorial cards will be displayed in the narthex at Christmas.

Deadline is December 18, 2022.

Our Church

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!



Simbang Gabi is a cherished Filipino tradition of a nine-day novena of Masses preparing for Christmas. Originally, Mass was at dawn so laborers could attend. Today, in the United States, Mass is usually in the evening followed by a meal.

Here is a schedule of Simbang Gabi Masses in South King County.

- Saturday 12/10 11:00 am at St. James Cathedral
- Thursday 12/15 7:00 pm at St. Anthony, Renton
- Friday 12/16 6:30 pm at Holy Family, Auburn
- **Saturday 12/17 5:30 pm at St. John the Baptist**
- Sunday 12/18 5:00 pm at St. Anthony, Renton
- Monday 12/19 7:00 pm St. Philomena, Des Moines
- Tuesday 12/20 6:00 pm St. Francis, Burien
- Wednesday 12/21 6:00 pm St. Theresa, Federal Way
- Thursday 12/22 6:00 pm St. Theresa, Federal Way
- Friday 12/23 6:00 pm St. Theresa, Federal Way

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast



 Sunday December 11, 2022
10:00 – 11:30 

**COATS
FOR KIDS**

All Donations Will Support
Coats for Kids at Kent's
Springbrook Elementary School

We are still collecting gifts for the Giving Tree. Tags can be taken from the Giving Tree table in the Narthex. You can also make a monetary donation online at tinyurl.com/sjtbholidays or purchase an item from the Amazon wish list amazon.com/hz/wishlist/l/3DX1NTQULLRFC. Our goal is to help at least 50 families which includes over 150 children this holiday season. 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 the parish office. Thank you.



THANK YOU! A Season of Gratitude

On Saturday, November 19, dozens of volunteers spent their morning putting together 485 meals for families in need in our community. Kent Youth and Family, one of our partner organizations receiving meals, writes:

"We wanted to send a big thank you! to your volunteers and congregation for sharing their Thanksgiving blessings with the families served by Kent Youth & Family Services' Early Learning and Youth Programs. The families were excited by the Thanksgiving food supplies."

Two days later, on Monday evening, our Safe Parking ministry put together a proper Thanksgiving feast sharing fellowship with current and former Safe Parking guests.

We pass along a huge thank you for the generosity shown by so many in both time and resources to be able to brighten the holiday season for those who are struggling during this time.

Thank You

Seahawks Ticket Raffle



Ticket sales were less than expected, however we did raise nearly \$100 that will support Columbus Charities.

Congratulations to Angelo Battisti
for winning the raffle

Our Community

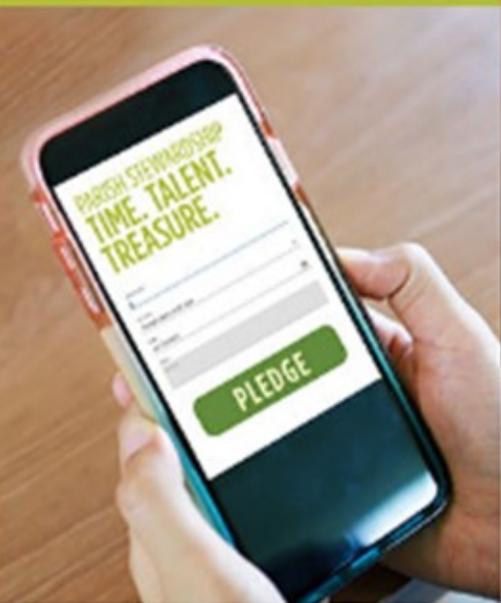
Appeal for the Poor

The Catholic Community Services and Catholic Housing Services (CCS/CHS) 2022 Appeal for the Poor Campaign kicks off this weekend. CCS/CHS are our local Catholic Charities at work, serving over 77,000 Western Washingtonians across 180 programs every year. With over 4,100 staff and over 3,000 volunteers, CCS/CHS continue to accompany and work alongside the men, women, and children who seek for essential services.

CCS/CHS created bulletin inserts ccsww.org/about-us/our-impact/ that illuminate the impact of our collective work this year. They continue to invite us to deeper partnership as we light a pathway to hope for those in need in our community. We encourage you to prayerfully consider how you might join their thousands of volunteers and staff this year. Is it through prayer advocacy, volunteerism, or a generous donation? Visit CCS/CHS at ccsww.org

For those who have never given, an anonymous donor has offered \$10,000 to incentivize new parish donors. The first 100 new households, who give at least \$100, will have \$100 of their gift matched – doubling your impact of Light & Hope to our neighbors in need! Visit ccsww.org/donatenow.

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.

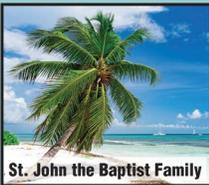
Open to all. No cost for admission. Lunch included on Saturday.

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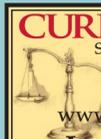
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