

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

April 16, 2023

Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

John 20:19-31



Photo courtesy of Paul Dehmer

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**.

Administrator's Corner

Due to a technical error, we are unable to print Father Bill's article this week. Our Pastoral Assistant for Administration, **Kathy Wickward**, has provided a reflection for this week.

Feast of *Divine Mercy*

This Sunday is the feast of *Divine Mercy*, one of the most recent feasts established by the church. On April 30, 2000, Pope John Paul II established the feast and canonized Sr. Faustina Kowalska, whose visions of Jesus in the 1930's included the image we refer to as *Divine Mercy*.

In his homily on that Sunday, Pope John Paul II referred to the same gospel from John we read this week, when Jesus appears to his disciples, breathes on them, and says, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Pope John Paul said, "Before speaking these words, Jesus shows his hands and his side. He points, that is, to the wounds of the Passion, especially the wound in his heart, the source from which flows the great wave of mercy poured out on humanity. From that heart Sr Faustina Kowalska will see two rays of light shining and illuminating the world: 'The two rays', Jesus himself explained to her one day, 'represent blood and water.'" (*Diary*, Libreria Editrice Vaticana, p.132).

Blood - the blood of sacrifice, his life that he shares with us at Eucharist; Water - the water of Baptism.

Blood and water. When else, dear friends, are blood and water poured out?

In the words of Julian of Norwich, 14th Century Christian mystic: "We know that all our mothers' bearing is [bearing of] us to pain and to dying; and what is this but that our Very Mother Jesus, He, All-Love, [bore] us to joy and to endless living? Thus He sustaine[d] us within Himself in love; and travailed, unto the full time that He would suffer the sharpest throes and the most grievous pains that ever were or ever shall be; and died at the last." (*Revelations of Divine Love*, Harvard College Library 1901, p.150)

And so are we "born again" in love and mercy.

Kathy



Question: Is this simply expanded clustering?

Answer: To enable and support parishes in this renewal effort, Partners in the Gospel uses a fundamentally different approach to the current clustering structure.

The parish family is a temporary step on the way to becoming one parish. A comprehensive parish support plan is in development as part of this process. This support plan will include a newly formed group of liaison staff, employed and funded by the Chancery, who will partner with the pastor in guiding the parish family through the process of becoming one parish. In addition, many tools and resources are in development that will help support parishes every step of the way, including detailed handbooks for navigating prayer and worship, missionary discipleship, administration and finance, governance and leadership.

For information or to sign up for the Partners in the Gospel update newsletter, please visit archseattle.org/partners/

Our Church



This Week in Our Church

Sunday, April 16 (Divine Mercy)

Mass - 9:00 am

Faith Formation (Pre-School & Elem) - 10:00 am

Mass - 11:30 am

Mass - 5:30 pm

Monday, April 17

Yoga - 7:30 am

Word & Communion Service - 9:00 am

Choir (Fil-Am) Practice - 7:00 pm

Choir (Sunday 9am) Practice - 7:00 pm

Tuesday, April 18

Word & Communion Service - 9:00 am

Threshold Bible Study - 7:00 pm

WICS - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, April 19

Mass - 9:00 am

Stewardship & Evangelization Commission - 6:30 pm

Truthful Reign Band Practice - 7:00 pm

Walking Through Grief - 7:00 pm

Youth Group - 7:00 pm

Thursday, April 20

Yoga - 7:30 am

Creation Care Team - 1:00 pm

Hora Santa de Reparación - 2:30 pm

Mass - 6:30 pm

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

RCIA - 7:00 pm

Friday, April 21

Mass - 9:00 am

Hispanic Charismatic Prayer & Vigil - 6:30 pm

Saturday, April 22

Gospel Reflection SFC - 10:00 am

Confessions - 4:00 to 5:00 pm

Mass - 5:30 pm

Contact Us!

If you're new to St. John the Baptist parish, welcome!
Please feel free to email or call one of us below if you
have any questions regarding our parish.

25810 - 156th Ave. SE, Covington, WA 98042

253-630-0701

Pastor:

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

Bookkeeper:

Nancy Moore, ext. 102, nancym@sjtbcc.org

Bulletin:

Pat Defiesta, bulletin@sjtbcc.org

Facility Grounds & Building:

David Aldous, ext. 114, davida@sjtbcc.org

Facility Use & Scheduling:

Kathy Wickward, ext. 101, kathyw@sjtbcc.org

Faith Formation & Sacramental Preparation:

Joan Williamson, ext. 109, joanw@sjtbcc.org

Faith Formation (Pre-K - Grade 4):

Therese McHenry, ext. 123, theresem@sjtbcc.org

Liturgy & Pastoral Care:

Laurie Moloney, ext. 111, lauriem@sjtbcc.org

Member Engagement:

Anne Frederick, ext. 125, annef@sjtbcc.org

Music Leader:

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

Outreach Ministries:

Andrea Mendoza, ext. 115, andream@sjtbcc.org

Online:



sjtbcc.org

Social Media:



@sjtbcovington



Welcome Newly-Confirmed Catholics!

Alicia Ballesteros-Mitchell, Lysa Degracia, and Alex Peck were all welcomed into the Catholic faith at the Easter Vigil April 9, 2023. Alicia and Lysa received their First Eucharist. Alex was baptized (see front cover). We welcome them all to St. John the Baptist!

Our Church

Prayer Requests

For those who are **sick**:

Pat Defiesta, Antonio Manalo, Teresita Martinez, Carolina Mendoza, Bob Schellhorn, Robert Waters, Melyssa (grand daughter of Kathleen Schmidt)

For those who have **died**:

Maureen Bryant (cousin of Mary Ellen Nelson)
Sister Pat Willems (teacher of Mary Hammock)



Please Don't Delete Us!

Remember, emails coming from archseattle@ccbchurch.com are **legitimate emails!** Feel free to open them and/or click on the links. If you do not see our bulletin emails on Fridays, **please check your spam folder.** If they are not in your spam folder, please contact Kathy Wickward at the church office or kathyw@sjtbcc.org.



Do you know someone who has left the Church and may be interested in returning?

We would like to welcome them home.

Anne Frederick in our parish office looks forward to connecting with you!
annef@sjtbcc.org or 253-630-0701 x125

Volunteers Needed for St. John the Baptist Yard Sale

We are looking for people to sign up to receive donations at the four Masses for the weekends of May 20 & 21, 27 & 28, June 3 & 4, and June 10 & 11. We also need people who are Safe Environment-qualified to pick up items from those who cannot bring them in. Please sign up for a slot at this link: archseattle.ccbchurch.com/goto/scheduling/56/public, or on the sign up sheets in the Narthex.

Let's Clean Our Church!

Our annual parish deep cleaning will be held on **Friday, May 19** from 10:00am to 4:00 pm and **Saturday, May 20** from 9:00am to 4:00 pm. Many hands make light work. Help us wash windows, clean chairs, wipe down and dust hard-to-reach spaces, and move items into yard sale storage. **Please RSVP**, as lunch and snacks will be provided. Sign up for either day at this link: archseattle.ccbchurch.com/goto/scheduling/55/public or contact the office if you can come.



Would you be interested in welcoming new members into our parish?

We are looking for singles, couples and families who might assist our new parishioners develop a deeper personal connection with our wonderful community.

For more information please contact annef@sjtbcc.org or 253-630-0701 x125

Come, Receive the Sacraments!

As Lent comes to an end and we begin the Easter season, we will see the Rites of Initiation begin to be celebrated in our Catholic Liturgies. These Rites (Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist) affect the persons receiving them in many ways, most especially in their relationship with Jesus and their relationship with the Church community. God extends grace to these individuals through these Sacraments. We can celebrate these Rites at other times in our Liturgical year, but there is a special emphasis on the reception of new and full members during the Easter season each year. Often times, when we witness these celebrations, we ponder our own need for Sacraments. If you, or someone you know, need any or all of these Sacraments of Initiation please **contact Joan Williamson** at the parish office.



Dance Night Coming Soon! Friday, April 21, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Mark your calendars, and come right at 6pm for a short dance lesson. Bring the whole family, bring a friend, all ages welcome. Light refreshments will be provided; bring a snack to share.

Contact Kathy at the church office or KathyW@sjtbcc.org for more information or to offer assistance to this event.
Please RSVP through the parish website, sjtbcc.org



WELCOME GATHERING

Have you recently joined our parish? Please join us April 23 for **lunch** and to receive **free gifts!**

Contact Anne Frederick annef@sjtbcc.org or the parish office for more information and to RSVP by April 19

Our Church



Our parish's *Welcome Circle* has been blessed to wrap around Alina, as she settles into life in the United States. A skilled seamstress, she was able to use her talent to create several costumes for the

recent play at Maple View Middle School, where one of her Welcome Circle members, Cheri, oversees the drama department. Alina has found a rich faith community in Federal Way, at a church with a large Ukrainian population and has recently begun working at a restaurant in Black Diamond, where she has been able to utilize her knowledge of the Polish language. At this point, Alina is on the verge of securing a driver's license (she was a licensed driver in Ukraine), and is in need of a working vehicle (automatic) to be able to go between Kent (where she is living), Black Diamond, and Federal Way. If you have any leads on a vehicle, please contact Andrea in the office at 253-893-6684 or by email at AndreaM@sjtbcc.org.

St. John the Baptist is also discerning forming a second Welcome Circle. As the conflict in Ukraine endures, the list of individuals and families seeking safety and stability continues to grow. Many of these individuals have been displaced multiple times within their country, as different towns and villages become unsafe to stay and others seek refuge in neighboring countries. While the war rages on in Europe, the United States has also opened up the possibility to sponsor individuals and families from four additional countries: Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Venezuela. Residents of these five countries are able to enter the United States via a process known as Humanitarian Parole – an option to stay in the United States legally for two years. The Archdiocese of Seattle is hoping to continue equipping individuals and parishes to welcome refugees into our community, seeing Jesus in their faces, and being Jesus' hands and feet. If you have any questions or interest in regards to these efforts, **please contact Andrea in the office.**

Bed Appeal



Our parish's conference of **St. Vincent de Paul** is continually looking for new or gently used beds (mattress & box spring) for our neighbors in need. If you have a bed set to donate, please contact Pat at bulletin@sjtbcc.org. If in acceptable condition, volunteers from St. Vincent de Paul will come and pick up from your house. Thank you!

A special thanks to **Lara Kwartin** for donating a trundle bed.

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING



Sunday after morning Masses

We have a registered nurse available to check your blood pressure
April 23, 2023 after Sunday morning Masses.
Location will be announced at Mass. Contact parish office for more information.

Our Community

Are you called to ministry with the justice-involved community? If so, please join us and jumpstart your discernment process. Our jail & prison ministry and reentry volunteers will be available for questions and networking. Join us for a very special conversation about our "Village of Compassion – a Community Care Team," comprised of servants who will courageously share their stories of interfaith work and experiences of transition from the inside-out.

Questions? Joseph E. Garcia at 206-293-2844 or Joe Cotton at 206-382-4847, joe.cotton@seattlearch.org

Sponsored by Archdiocese of Seattle Criminal Justice Ministry.

Building a Bridge
from the Inside-Out:
Voices & Faces

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

St. James Cathedral Pastoral Outreach Center

Rachel's Corner Hope and Healing After Abortion

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead - *Peter 1:3*

As we celebrate God's boundless love for all of us this Easter season, remember that God wants to forgive our sins, heal our wounds, and promises life everlasting for those who trust in Him. If you carry the wounds from a past abortion, the Easter season is a wonderful time to experience the joy of God's healing.



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

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