

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

August 13, 2023
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." (Matthew 14:22-33)



Photo courtesy of **Ben Lee**

One Parish One Prisoner (OPOP) Ministry of St. John the Baptist
(see related stories on Pages 3 and 4)

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

Confessions: Sat 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Office Hours & Contact Information

Monday - Friday: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm (summer hours)

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**.

Pastor's Corner

A Christian Mission In Guatemala

We were a weary but thankful group of missionaries that stepped off the plane last week after 11 days in Guatemala. Without telling the full story of our trip, I can say that the beauty of the country and the resilience of its people impressed me. We stayed first in Antigua, a town that has kept its Spanish colonial character, then at the home of Rudy Angel and Mayra Merida in San Sebastian, and finally at Lake Atitlan near Agua Escondida, hosted by Dr. Will and Diane Boegel (formerly St. Jude's parishioners).

While staying at Rudy and Mayra's, we spent time meeting with the full parish council of the Union de las Aldeas Corpus Christi, then with some of the individual church communities – Serchil, Canoe de las Piedras, Canaque, Barancas, and Ixcamal. This year we were blessed to take part in a field day designed for the children who receive therapy through A Mi Rey, a new foundation that Rudy and Mayra established to help families with children who have disabilities receive therapy closer to home. We met with Seres, a youth empowerment organization, at Ulew, their demonstration farm near the volcano Fuego. We also learned about Dr. Will's many ministries through Opal House.

Mission work outside of the United States is a great perspective-builder. We sometimes forget how easy it is to accomplish our goals here. We sometimes forget what deep poverty looks like. St. John the Baptist's projects continue to make a difference in the lives of the people we visited – clean water, secure homes, stoves that vent outside of homes. I felt blessed to be able to meet with our brothers and sisters at our sister parish and appreciate the opportunity you have afforded me to do so.



Kathy Wickward

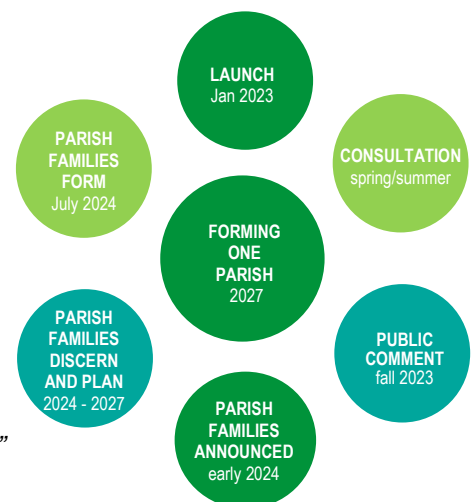
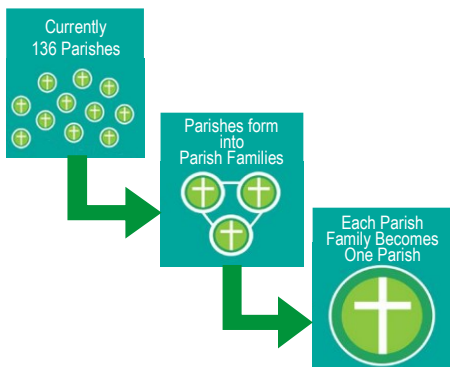
Pastoral Assistant for Administration
for vacationing Father Bill



UNDERSTANDING WHY

The Current Reality Report provides a snapshot of the archdiocese today and outlines data and trends across the region and forecasts demographic changes over the next decade. It also outlines the urgent need for change and why we must re-envision parish life today.

"The status quo is no longer an option."
- Archbishop Etienne



Our Church

19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. - Mt 14:28-29

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

This Week in Our Church

Sunday, August 13

Mass - 9:00 am
Mass - 11:30 am
Mass - 5:30 pm

Monday, August 14

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

Tuesday, August 15

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass - 9:00 am
Mass - 7:00 pm
Choir (Fil-Am) Practice - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, August 16

Word & Communion - 9:00 am
Truthful Reign Band Practice - 7:00 pm
Walking Through Grief - 7:00 pm

Thursday, August 17

Mostly Yoga - 7:30 am
PREPARES Meeting - 9:30am
Creation Care Team - 1:00 pm
Hora Santa - 2:30 pm
Mass - 6:30 pm
Choir (Sunday 11:30 am) Practice - 7:00 pm

Friday, August 18

Word & Communion - 9:00 am
Living Your Strengths Class - 9:30 am

Saturday, August 19

Gospel Reflection SFC - 10:00 am
Confessions - 4:00 to 5:00 pm
Mass - 5:30 pm

Why is it Called Sunday?

The name for Sunday stems from the Middle English word, *sunnenday*, which itself comes from the Old English word *sunnandæg*. The English derivations stem from the Latin *diēs sōlis* ("sun's day"). The Babylonians were the first to start the seven-day week, and they brought it to the Latin-speaking Romans, who named each day after a god. (Source: Dictionary.com)

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 Coordinator:

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

Youth Minister:

Peter Guthrie, ext. 110, peterg@sjtbcc.org

Online:



sjtbcc.org

Social Media:



@sjtbcovington

On the Cover

What is OPOP?

No, it's not a brand of soda pop, nor is it the title of a song! OPOP stands for *One Parish One Prisoner*, a ministry at St. John the Baptist. Together with our parish community who are gathered in the name of forgiveness and resurrection, OPOP (in partnership with Underground Ministries) helps support a soon-to-be-released prisoner rebuild a new life.

The team of OPOP ministers, pictured on the cover photo of this bulletin, commits to a journey of relationship building, release planning, and holistic re-entry support.

Let us hold in prayer our neighbor **Chaz** as well as the ministers of the OPOP team, mentioned in a related story on Page 4 of this bulletin, for their dedicated support in making this ministry happen.

Our Church

Prayer Requests

For those who are **sick**:

Steve Dalseg, Anthony Lewis, Laurie Moloney, Art O'Neil, and Jean Wilford

For those who have **died**:

David Voller

Come Welcome Chaz!

Sunday August 20 at 10:15 am (McMullen Center)

Our *One Parish One Prisoner* (OPOP) neighbor, Chaz, is officially being released on October 3, 2023. Join us in giving him an awesome "Welcome Home Event" to celebrate this momentous event. Let us shower him with our prayers and love as well offer tangible support for his integration back into society.

We will have a "Meet and greet Chaz" gathering on Sunday **August 20 after the 9:00am Mass**. There will be a presentation and testimony by the OPOP team.

To help Chaz in his integration, we have several "love-in-action" opportunities:

1. We are setting up a "Roll Away the Stones" fund, which will be prudently managed by the OPOP team to address Chaz's most pressing integration needs. All donations will greatly assist a resurrected and new life for Chaz. Please write checks out to St. John the Baptist and **write OPOP on the memo line**.

To make an online donation, please visit us at archseattle.cbcchurch.com/goto/forms/583/responses/new or scan this QR code.



2. We are putting together a "Welcome Home" basket. We welcome prayer cards/letters to encourage Chaz as well as gift cards for Home Depot (Chaz will require tools when he resumes his plumbing work) and Walmart gift cards for clothing. Please drop these off at the office by **no later than Thursday, August 17, 2023**.

The OPOP team has been honored to represent St. John the Baptist parishioners on this journey. This *Welcome Home Event* is an opportunity for the congregation to walk part of this journey with Chaz, as we recognize Christ in him, and manifest Christ to him.

Please contact any of the OPOP team members if you have questions: **Maureen Curran, Ben Lee, Andrea Mendoza, Carol Nelson, Abraham Ritter, Renee Samuelson, Verne Schweiger, and Nancy Zentner**.

Parish Leadership Team Update

The Parish Leadership Team (Pastoral Council) met August 2 for their first in-person meeting since COVID. We said goodbye to **Kathy Dalseg** (recording secretary), **Bob Denney, Trish Hanson, and Gary Lara**. Many thanks to them for their many years of service. We welcomed two new members, **Ben Lee** and **Renee Samuelson**. They join **Joe Burianek, Irene Cervantes, Anne Frederick** (ex officio member), **Nkechi Mbanugo, and Michael Murphy** to make up our current Parish Leadership Team.

This consultative body focuses on the priorities and direction of the parish as well as developing and living out the mission of the parish. They promote communication and understanding among parish organizations as well as between the parish and the Archdiocese.

The agenda included looking at the process of Partners in the Gospel and the role of the Parish Leadership Team, especially in the next phase of seeking input from parishioners regarding the most current draft of the parish families. This will take place in October.

The second topic of the evening was on the parish priorities. We updated the new members as to how these priorities were established from our parish synod sessions. We began a discussion how they might be implemented in the parish.

Fresh Fruits and Veggies Wanted



Please share your bountiful harvest with The Garden of the Good Shepherd. Donations may be from your garden or purchased from the store and can be **dropped off at the main office or in the crate outside the McMullen Center**.

Blessed are those who are generous, because they feed the poor. (Proverbs 22:9)

Give Outreach A Chance!

We have several opportunities to be involved in our outreach efforts and are constantly looking for additional support. Our ministries vary in focus, time commitment, and type of involvement.

If you are interested in learning more about our outreach efforts and how you can get involved, please **contact the parish office** at 253-630-0701. Our ministries thrive with the help of our incredible parishioners and provide support to many individuals in our community. Thank you for your discernment in how you can be Christ's hands and feet through our outreach efforts.



Our Church

Know They Neighbor

We are kicking off the fall rotation of **Supper Club** and you are invited to join!

You can register as an individual host or a host pair. Each group will have three hosts, who will take turns hosting a meal at their home. Once each one has hosted, then you have finished the rotation. More details on the parish website.

We are accepting registrations through the month of August and will begin hosting in September. Registrations are now open for:

- Singles (no children)
- Families (children included)
- Couples (no children)

Register by scanning the QR Code to the right or visiting our website.



Join the fun and food for our next *Strengths* party!

Fr. Bill is inviting all of our **Includers, Developers** and **Learners**

Saturday, August 26
After 5:30 pm Mass
McMullen Center

RSVP by August 22
annef@sjtbcc.org



SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

We will be collecting school supplies to benefit students in the Kent School District. Watch those “back to school” sales, and pick up items to help kids get off to a good start this school year.

Please **drop off your items in the bin at the Life, Justice, Peace table out in the narthex.**

Thank you for your support!

Welcome Gathering



Have you recently joined our parish? If so, please join us on **September 10** for our next gathering. Lunch will be provided. All registrants will receive free gifts!

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

Have you joined St. John the Baptist in the last year? We would love to welcome and get to know you!



Welcome Gathering Lunch, Fellowship and Gifts SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 AFTER 9 AM MASS

Contact Anne to RSVP or for more information:
annef@sjtbcc.org or 253.630.0701 x 125

Fr. Bill is looking forward to meeting you and finding out how the parish might serve you!

Father Bill Will Be on Vacation

Father Bill will not be available on **August 7-16**. He'll be on vacation! Father Jim Coyne will be presiding at the Vigil on August 12 and morning Masses on Sunday the 13th as well as the solemnity of the Assumption on August 15. Father Bill Heric will preside at the Sunday evening Mass.

Have a wonderful and safe vacation, Father Bill!

Childcare Volunteers Needed



The parish would like to offer childcare for some of our upcoming events, and we need volunteers to be caregivers for our children while their parents attend our events. If you are interested in this ministry, please contact the parish office at **253-630-0701** for more information.

Find A Mass Near Me

There are many apps that you can download to your phone to find masses near your vacation location. One popular link is *Catholic Mass Times* at catholicmasstime.org. If you have a favorite link, please share with the bulletin team. We may publish it for others to use. If you have an Apple phone, search “Mass Times for Travel” in the App Store.



Dear St John the Parish Parishioners,

I pray that I am able to express on paper my thankfulness I am feeling. When I was incarcerated, I worried about getting on my feet and who would be there for me.

OPOP has brought me to meet all of you and make connection, so I now don't feel alone through this difficult time. Each day has problems and issues that I face, but I now have people close to me to help guide me to the next day. People who I trust, who I can call and talk to when I am in need of a friend. Also, the people and their prayers that comforts my soul. All these brings me peace.

I feel surrounded by people who care for me and are rooting for me to do well. This gives me encouragement, direction and a purpose. I want to be a better person, a father to my children, a role model for others. I want to change my life for the better, and support others as you all did for me.

I feel that uplifting happening in my life now more and more each day. Giving to someone in need helps me feel like I'm doing what God wants me to do here, and that's a huge help for my soul.

Now looking back at how far I came make me thank God, because I know His love is so great. Also, to everyone that had a part guiding me to the point I'm at now, I cannot say thank you enough.

Thank you.

Chaz

Invitation from OPOP Team

Please mark your calendars to participate in a "Welcome Home Event" on
Sunday August 20 after the 9:00 am Mass, McMullen Center

In addition to a multi-media presentation and testimonies, we will be raising funds for a "Roll Away the Stones" account that will help Chaz overcome financial related obstacles on his way to re-integrate into society.

We hope you can join us!

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