

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

August 20, 2023

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! (Matthew 15:22)



Photo courtesy of *Anne Frederick*

Living Your Strengths Wine & Cheese Social
(see related story on Page 3)

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

Ponder this: Spirituality

Some of you all know that I am taking a few graduate courses in theology. Last weekend, I met my online cohort in person at Gonzaga and spent a wonderful time in conversation and movie-watching, among other more academic pursuits.

The last reading assignment was Dr. Leonard Doohan's book, *Spiritual Leadership*. His premise is that leadership in general needs a conversion, a change from a focus on technique and behavioral "rules" to a more transformational style that can only exist in a leader with deeply held values and mature spirituality.

Go ahead, try this: define spirituality.

One cool distinction I learned is the difference between spirituality and religion: spirituality concerns itself about the big questions while religion offers up the big answers.

Doohan offers a lot of definitions of spirituality that I will leave with you to ponder. Do so, as we consider joining another faith community that may express its spirituality very differently than we do. Spirituality is:

- a transitory manifestation of perennial values
- faith birthed in the ever-changing circumstances of modern life
- rooted in a faith experience and a deep resting place for the heart
- taking a positive approach to creation (an embodied faith)
- developed in the presence of others



Kathy Wickward
for vacationing Father Bill

(Pastoral Assistant for Administration)



For those of you who are hearing about PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL for the first time, you're probably wondering what it is.

Today we face many realities that impact parish life and make it difficult to fully live out our mission.

PARTNERS IN GOSPEL is the next stage of the strategic pastoral planning effort taking place across the Archdiocese of Seattle to re-invigorate and renew our local Catholic Church. It will bring most parishes together into a new family structure with two or more parishes. The pastor, parish leaders, and parishioners will determine how this new family will best join together to carry out the mission of the Church as one parish. The diagram on the right summarizes this process.



Our Church



This Week in Our Church

Sunday, August 20

Mass - 9:00 am

Meet and greet Chaz (OPOP) - after 9:00 am mass

Mass - 11:30 am

Mass - 5:30 pm

Monday, August 21

Mostly Yoga - 7:30 am

Word & Communion - 9:00 am

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

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

Tuesday, August 22

Word & Communion Service - 9:00 am

Wednesday, August 23

Mass - 9:00 am

Truthful Reign Band Practice - 7:00 pm

Walking Through Grief - 7:00 pm

Thursday, August 24

Mostly Yoga - 7:30 am

Hora Santa - 2:30 pm

Mass - 6:30 pm

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

Friday, August 25

Mass - 9:00 am

Living Your Strengths Class - 9:45 am

Saturday, August 26

Gospel Reflection SFC - 10:00 am

Confessions - 4:00 to 5:00 pm

Mass - 5:30 pm

Living Your Strengths social - 6:30 pm

Why is it Called Monday?

The English name for Monday comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *Mōnandæg*, which loosely means "the moon's day." *Mōna* is the word for *moon* in Old English. 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

Live Your God-given Strengths

Have you discovered a new talent and wondered how many other people have the same talent you do? Have you wondered how you can use these talents to form the best version of yourself? Wonder no more!

Living Your Strengths is a four-week class on discovering your strengths and talents and learning how to share these with others. Check out our ad on Page 5!

Featured on our cover is a photo of St. John's first reunion in September 2022 of parishioners whose one strength/talent is Achiever.

Those whose strengths are Developers, Includers, and Learners are invited to a reunion on Saturday evening, **August 26**, after Mass for fun, food, and festivities! Fr. Bill is looking forward to sharing stories about your strengths with one another as we build community. Contact Anne at annef@sjtbcc.org for more information.

Our Church

Prayer Requests

For those who are **sick**:
**Steve Dalseg, John Lawless,
Anthony Lewis, Laurie Moloney**

For those who have **died**:
Jean Wolford (sister of Joan Williamson),
For all victims of wildfires across the country

Remember to Join Us on Sunday August 20

Don't forget - *One Parish One Prisoner (OPOP)* ministry is holding 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 two "love-in-action" opportunities:

1. Donate to a "Roll Away the Stones" fund. 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.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/583/responses/new or scan this QR code.



2. Write prayer cards/letters to encourage Chaz or donate Home Depot or Walmart gift cards, which Chaz can use to purchase plumbing tools for his profession and clothing respectively.

Young Families Need You



Is the Holy Spirit calling you to walk with them? St. John the Baptist's PREPARES Program needs you as a *Direct Volunteer* for Families in Need! One of the greatest gifts we can give is of

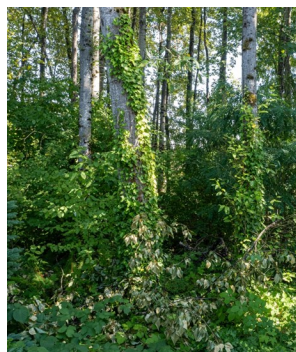
ourselves, to walk with another in need. PREPARES Pregnancy and Parenting Support's main goal is to encounter and engage with all types of families and support them along their early parenting journey.

To become a "direct volunteer" you'll need to fill out an application, have a reference and background check, and receive initial training. Once cleared, you'll be matched with a family-in-need.

Please **contact Kathy Wickward** in the office at Kathyw@sjtbcc.org to learn more or to sign up.

The need is great, but the reward of volunteering and helping to create stable and loving families is far greater.

Season of Creation Help Remove Invasive Ivy



Invasive English Ivy is taking over the woods near the South entrance to St John's campus. It's growing up the trees, smothering ornamental plants, and preventing native plants from growing in the understory.

Join us on **Saturday, September 9 from 9:00 am to noon** to clear it out.

We recommend wearing long sleeve shirts, long pants, and garden gloves. Bring your pruning shears if you have them. Community service credit will be available for high school students.

Register here **by September 3** archseattle.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/485/responses/new



This is sponsored by Creative Care Team and Facilities & Grounds Commission.



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!



September 17 - 19, 2023

**PARISH MISSION
Journey Together With Christ**

As we accompany each other in faith, Jesus calls us to freedom. Through Christ, we are free to be loved by God and to make loving choices in our life. This Parish Mission will explore our call to be Christ to one another, to live in the freedom God brings us, and to encourage God's love and mercy as we walk this faith together.

Our Church

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 the 5:30 pm Mass
McMullen Center
RSVP by August 22
annef@sjtbcc.org



Fresh Fruits and Veggies Wanted

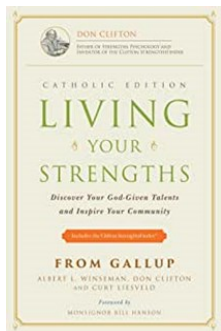


Please share your bountiful harvest with The Garden of the Good Shepherd. Donations may be from your garden or purchased from the store and can be **dropped off at the main office or in the crate outside the McMullen Center.**

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



Based on the book, *Living Your Strengths*, learn about your special talents from God and how to share them with others!



Living Your Strengths classes are three to four weeks in length. They are either scheduled during the day in person or in the evening via Zoom. For more information about this fun and informative program, contact Anne Frederick at 253-630-0701 x125 or email at annef@sjtbcc.org.

Sharing Our Blessings

As we are called to help our neighbors get back on their feet after a natural disaster, let us be reminded that not all charities are created equal.

You can use **Charity Navigator** at charitynavigator.org/ to find and support thousands of charities that align with your passions and values. Charity Navigator uses data from the IRS and the charities themselves to power their unbiased ratings, so that you can give with confidence.

To support the fire victims on Maui, Hawaii, please visit Catholic Charities Hawaii at catholiccharitieshawaii.org/

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!

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.



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.



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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