

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

October 8, 2023

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Mt 21:33-43)

I tell you, the Kingdom of God will be taken away from you
and given to a nation that will produce the proper fruit (Mt 21:43)



Photo courtesy of *Anne Frederick & the Stewardship & Evangelization Commission*

The Code of Giving
(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: **Wednesday 9:00 am, Thursday 6:30 pm, Friday 9:00 am**

Word & Communion: **Monday & Tuesday 9:00 am**

Confessions: **Saturday 4:00 to 5:00 pm**

Office Hours & Contact Information

Monday to 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**.

Pastor's Corner

How to Build a Culture of Life



Read the full version at respectlife.org/culture-of-life

Watching the news and reading the headlines, we may feel helpless seeing the heartbreaking lack of respect for human life. How do we respond? Changing the culture is a process of conversion that begins in our own hearts. When we encounter Christ, experience His love, and deepen our relationship with Him, we become more aware of our own immeasurable worth and that of others. His unchanging love is the source of our God-given dignity, which, therefore, cannot be taken away. When someone is facing great trials, we need to walk with them on their journey, intercede for them, and be open to sharing Christ's love, however He directs. We simply need to follow where He leads.¹



Top Reasons to Oppose Assisted Suicide. Read the full version at respectlife.org/reasons-against-assisted-suicide. Some polls indicate that the public is receptive to assisted suicide. But the same polls show that people's views shift when they learn about its dangers - especially the dangers for those who are poor, elderly, disabled, or without access to good medical care. Consider that, in Oregon and California, some patients' health insurance offered to pay for assisted suicide, but not treatment. And in states where assisted suicide is legal, often no psychiatric evaluation or treatment is required. Additionally, assisted suicide fosters discrimination by creating two classes of people: those whose suicides we spend millions of dollars to prevent and those whose suicides we assist and treat as a positive good.¹

What to Do When a Friend is Considering Abortion. Read the full version at respectlife.org/l-o-v-e. When a woman is facing a difficult pregnancy, the reaction of the first person she tells tends to set the tone for her decision-making. How do we respond in a loving way that is life-affirming for both her and her baby? First, prioritize listening over speaking. Ask her about her feelings, thoughts, values, beliefs, and wants. When her story is fully shared, it is your turn to provide factual information, in a loving and caring way. Encourage her. Help her set goals that extend beyond her due date to help her see life beyond her pregnancy. Reassure her that she is not alone, and provide practical support. Pray with her, offering Christ's love at a crucial life-saving and life-defining moment.¹

Fr. Bill

¹ This is a summary of a USCCB *Respect Life Program* article by the same name and is reprinted with permission. © 2019, USCCB, Washington, D.C. All rights reserved.

Partners in the Gospel

Please plan to attend one of these input sessions. Your feedback is important in determining our path going forward.

- Wednesday, October 11, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
- Thursday, October 12, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon
- Thursday, October 12, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- Saturday, October 14, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon
- Sunday, October 15, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

RSVP for one of the above sessions at this link:
sjtbcc.org/partners/

Our Church



This Week in Our Church

Sunday, October 8

Mass - 9:00 am

Elementary Program - 10:15 am

Mass - 11:30 am

Partners in the Gospel Consultation - 3:00 pm

Mass - 5:30 pm

HS Youth Group - 6:30 pm

First Reconciliation Meeting #1 - 7:00 pm

Monday, October 9

Word & Communion Service - 9:00 am

Prayer Ministry SFC Meeting - 9:30 am

Knights of Columbus Membership Drive - 4:30 pm

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

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

Tuesday, October 10

Word & Communion - 9:00 am

WICS - 6:00 pm

HS Confirmation Year 2 Prep - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, October 11

Mass - 9:00 am

American Sewing Guild Meeting - 9:30 am

Oracion - 6:00 pm

MS Youth Group - 7:00 pm

Truthful Reign Band Practice - 7:00 pm

Vida en el Espíritu - 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 12

PREPARES Meeting - 9:30 am

Creation Care Team - 1:00 pm

Hora Santa - 2:30 pm

Mass - 6:30 pm

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

Finance Council Meeting - 7:00 pm

RCIA/OCIA - 7:00 pm

Friday, October 13

Mass - 9:00 am

Hispanic Charismatic Prayer - 6:30 pm

Saturday, October 14

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 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

Giving Through QR Codes

Do you know who invented the QR code and what QR stands for? You don't have to Google it, because we'll tell you. QR stands for *Quick Response*, and it was invented by the Denso Wave Company in 1994. Its original purpose was to track automotive parts for Toyota Motor Group. Today, QR codes are used to share contact information, share links to websites, and in this particular case, make a pledge.

On our cover photo, members of the *Stewardship & Evangelization Commission* stand next to one of the many stewardship flyers posted on our church walls to scan the QR code and make a pledge.

We hope that you, too, will scan our QR code to make your pledge. Or if you're not comfortable using QR codes, you can do it the old-fashioned way and fill out a pledge card on the chairs in the sanctuary.

Our Church

Prayer Requests

For those who are **sick**:

Alfred Garcia

For those who have **died**:

Jim Forczek (husband of Terry Forczek)
Grace Purcell (mother-in-law of Kathleen Williams)
Jeni Ruthruff
Danny Townsend (nephew of Paul Dehmer)

Grief Support Program

Offered by St. John the Baptist *Grief Ministry*

October 11 to December 13, 2023
7:00 to 9:00 pm every Wednesday
online via Zoom

Walking Through Grief is a nine-part educational and inspirational grief program, which offers support and hope to those experiencing the loss of a loved one (e.g., spouse, parent, friend, or child) in their lives. This is offered at **no charge**.

During each weekly session, attendees will gain insight and education about their loss as they watch videos featuring professionals in the field. These professionals are joined by a group of contributors, who share their own grief journey and provide inspiration in how they have dealt with their own loss. Each week will have a specific topic and include a group discussion as well as some assignments to work on between meetings. A workbook is provided along with some tools, handouts, and articles to help in your grief journey.

If you are grieving, or know of someone who might need grief support, please contact **Frank Hammock** (Lead Facilitator), via the Parish Office, 253-630-0701.

To learn more about "Walking Through Grief," please visit us at walkingthroughgrief.com/.

Are You Being Called to be a Liturgical Minister?



We are recruiting for Sacristans, Point Persons, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers and Cross Bearers, Lectors, Greeters, and Audio and Video Ministers. **Contact Laurie Moloney** at our parish office if you are interested.

Or you may talk to these people at the Masses to find out more about being a minister: **Jeff Babbitt** for Altar Servers & Cross Bearers, **Luis Diaz de Leon** for Audio, **Pat Defiesta** for Eucharistic Ministers, **Kathy Kernan** for Greeters, **Norm & Tia Bailey** for Lectors, **Paul Dehmer** for Sacristans, and **Laurie Moloney** for video. They are coordinators for the listed ministries.

We Are Closed on Mondays

The parish office will be closed on Mondays **starting October 30**. We have made this difficult decision to meet the demands of a reduced staffing level and a steep learning curve for our new software. There will be staff working on site, so if you have an appointment, be sure to contact your staff person by their direct number. Note that calls to the general number will be directed to voice mail.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to one of our staff members after Masses.

We Still Need Diapers

PREPARES is a nurturing response of the Catholic community. Open to all, *PREPARES* provide meaningful, local, and sustainable support to mothers, fathers, and families as they nurture their children through pregnancy and early childhood.



We thank you for your recent support with the various sizes of diapers to support our program. However, our babies are growing like weeds, and we are still in need of diapers **Sizes 5 & 6**. If you are able to assist, please **drop donations of diapers at the office or the Life, Justice, Peace table out in the narthex**. These gifts of diapers will help provide a sense of stability to our moms in need. Thank you for your support!



Treasures to Be Shared



Over the past few weeks, we have received a letter from Fr. Bill and have heard powerful witness talks about the joy of giving back to God's community.

We are asking everyone to prayerfully reflect on how we are called to continue sustaining our parish and the ministries that support the mission of Jesus Christ.

Living a stewardship lifestyle as well as being grateful and generous with our gifts serve a two-fold purpose. One, it helps build God's kingdom here on earth. Two, it helps us strengthen each other's relationship with Christ. We ask that all our parishioners partake of that joy and return their pledge cards as soon as possible. You can mail them in the pre-paid envelope or drop them off in the collection basket. You can also scan the QR code above or go to sitbcc.org/pledge/.

We are grateful for you!

Our Church

Youth Faith Formation is Back!



The elementary program (pre-K to 4th Graders) meets every Sunday from 10:15 to 11:15am in the McMullen Center. Middle school youth group meets every Wednesday night from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. High School youth group meets every Sunday night after the 5:30 pm Mass until 8:45 pm with dinner provided.

It is not too late to register! Forms can be found at sjtbcc.org/faith/. If you have any questions, email or call us: **Therese McHenry** at ext. 123 or theresem@sjtbcc.org and **Peter Guthrie** at ext. 110 or peterg@sjtbcc.org.

Children's Liturgy of the Word Come Join Our Team



Beginning October 8, 2023 all children ages 5 to 10 attending the 9:00 am Mass will be invited to join the Children's Liturgy of the Word!

Children will be called forward after the Introductory Rites and will proceed to the McMullen Center, where they will celebrate the Liturgy of the Word in a way that is designed especially for children. This is an exciting way for children to hear and discuss God's Word and gain an appreciation for their liturgical heritage as Catholics.

We are looking for adults to help with this exciting ministry. Please contact **Therese McHenry** if you would like more information. Theresem@sjtbcc.org or 253-893-6687.

Invitation to All Men Monday, October 16, 2023 5:00 pm at the McMullen Center



Please join the Knights of Columbus, Council 11780, for an evening social. The evening will highlight *Monday Night Football*, pizza, and salad.

RSVP: Mike Murphy
253-630-0701

(leave message for Mike to call you back)

Proposed Families of South King County

If you missed the announcement a couple of weeks ago, the Archdiocese of Seattle has a list of the Proposed Parish Families on their website at archseattle.org/partners/.

Here at St. John the Baptist, it has been **proposed** that we become a family with St. Barbara (Black Diamond), Sacred Heart (Enumclaw), and St. Aloysius (Buckley).

According to the Archdiocese, parish families were developed based on parishes' size, geography, cultural and ethnic makeup, financial health, and school presence. You will note that some parishes stand alone; these parishes are run by a religious order or serve a specific cultural community.

It is vital that every parishioner participate in the input sessions as listed on Page 2 of this bulletin. This will be your chance to voice your concerns and comments on this proposal.

Other south King County families include St. Stephen the Martyr (Renton) and St. Anthony (Renton); St. Philomena (Des Moines) and Holy Spirit (Kent); St. Vincent de Paul (Federal Way) and St. Theresa (Federal Way); Holy Family (Auburn), St. Andrew (Sumner), and Sts. Cosmas and Damian (Orting); and All Saints (Puyallup) and St. Martin of Tours (Fife).

Please pray for the success of these parish families. We look forward to everyone's input in the next two weeks. Sign up for sessions here: sjtbcc.org/partners/

Our Community

Rachel's Corner Hope and Healing After Abortion

We pray to the Lord:

- for all people throughout the world, that they might recognize and treat each person as a masterpiece of God's creation;
- for all those facing an unexpected pregnancy, that the peace of Christ may fill their hearts;
- for all birthparents who place their children with adoptive families may receive abundant support
- for all women, men, and family members suffering from abortion may know the Lord's tender, healing love.



project rachel

Peace starts here

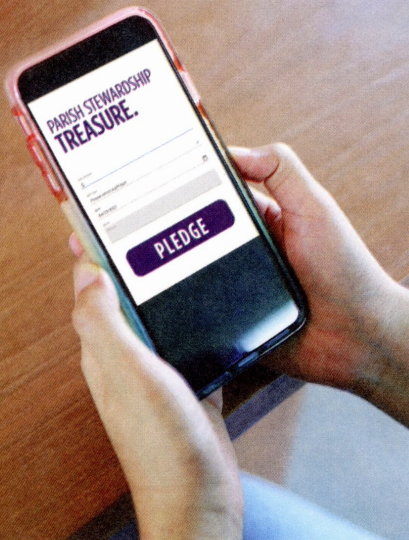
- USCCB *Respect for Life Month*
Intercessions for Life

Spanish Retreat - **October 27 to 29, 2023**
English Retreat - **March 8 to 10, 2024**

Call for a compassionate & confidential conversation.
English: 206-920-6413 | Español: 206-450-7814
projectrachel@ccsww.org | www.ccsww.org/projectrachel
www.facebook.com/projectrachelww

Project Rachel is a program of Catholic Community Services.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE.



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


Gratitude starts when we recognize
that we have received a gift.

Everything we have is a gift from God and we're called to share these gifts with others. This is stewardship.

Understanding this, embracing the joy of stewardship, is what creates in us a "need" to give. We give not because there is a need to give — but because our heart points us to give as a part of our faith journey. We give because we are grateful for what we have been given.

If you haven't already decided on your parish stewardship commitment, please prayerfully consider God's gifts to you and make your pledge today. Good things happen when you share. Seeing everything before us as gift — we joyfully accept the responsibility to grow and return our gifts to God.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE PLANNING

Title	Parish Treasure Renewal	Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA)	Special Collections	Parish Outreach	Other Charities
Purpose	Allows parish to plan operating budget for providing essential services and ministries.	Supports Archdiocese, includes parish rebate for donations over goal amount.	Funds selected local and global causes. Collections mandated by Archdiocese.	Financial aid and donations of items for designated needs and collections.	Non-profits and other groups serving local and global needs
Frequency	Every Fall	Every Spring	Monthly as Designated	Seasonal	
Amount	<i>2-5% family gross income</i>	<i>1% family gross income</i>	<i>1-2 % family gross income</i>		
Provides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday and weekday Masses • Grounds and facilities • Pastoral care • Sacramental preparation • Youth and young adult services • Faith formation programs for all ages • Music ministry • Social outreach and advocacy • Evangelization • Support for parish community events • Bulletins and website • Administration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial support for more than 60 Archdiocesan ministries • CYO Camps • Seminarians • Catholic Schools • Retreat Center • Hospital and Prison Chaplains • Catholic Community Services (CCS) • Diaconate formation • Clergy continuing education • Vocations • Pastoral planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic Relief Services (CRS) • Rice Bowl • St. Vincent de Paul • Catholic Community Services (CCS) • <i>NW Catholic</i> and Communications • Catholic Campaign for Human Development • Catholic Home Missions • World Missions • Peter's Pence • Holy Land Support • Prepares 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanksgiving meals • Giving Tree Store • Diaper Drives • Sister Parish in Guatemala • School Supplies • Food Donations • Knights of Columbus sponsored drives 	<p>List those other charities you support:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
\$ Amount Total	<i>My anticipated planned \$</i>	<i>giving for the year \$</i>	<i>for Catholic and \$</i>	<i>other non-profit \$</i>	<p>QR Code for Parish Online Giving</p>

Vicky French, GRI
Retiring after 34 yrs and nearly 800 sales! Thank you for your wonderful support!



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