

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

December 31, 2023
The Holy Family

Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted, and you yourself a sword will pierce, so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. (Lk 1:33-35)



Bulletin staff photo

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

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

See Page 3 for this week's schedule

Office Hours & Contact Information

Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Sunday & Monday: Closed

253-630-0701

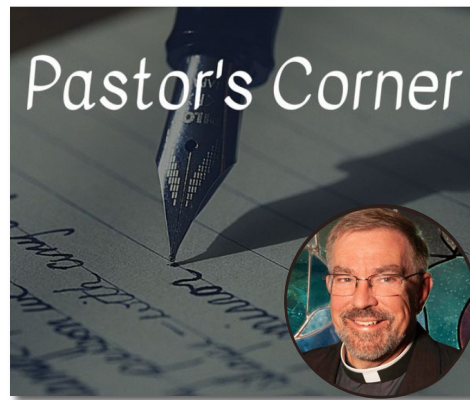


Mission Statement

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**.



Time to Step Up for a New Year's Resolution

"How many Masses did you have?" is a common post-Christmas question priests ask one another. I was surprised when one of my priest friends mentioned he just had one Mass for Christmas Eve. It was not because of small crowds, and it was not because he did not want to celebrate an additional Mass. It was because that parish could not find enough liturgical ministers to staff a second liturgy. Besides a priest, a Mass depends on sacristans, greeters/ushers, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, musicians, servers (we also need sound and video technicians).

We were able to have the regular schedule of four Christmas Masses. However, some of our ministers did double duty. We were short ministers, and we missed some opportunities like not having enough greeters at all the Masses to welcome people and to pass out bulletins as people left, giving our visitors an opportunity to learn more about our community.

This is not just a Christmas problem; we are very short liturgical ministers year-round. It would be nice to enter into our new parish family with a strong cadre of liturgical ministers. If we cannot adequately staff four weekend Masses with liturgical ministers who do not have to serve every week, maybe we shouldn't have so many Masses.

Another great need we face is Eucharistic Ministers to the sick and homebound. If we are not able to bring Holy Communion to the sick and the dying who cannot get to church, how can we call ourselves Church? The main reason we reserve the Holy Eucharist in the tabernacle is to bring it to the sick and dying. Often, when I first meet someone who needs Communion brought to them at home, I look at who their Catholic neighbors are. I send out an appeal for help. I hope you would consider serving if you get that call.

To become a liturgical minister, to explore being a Eucharistic Minister to the sick, or to request Communion be brought to someone homebound, contact Laurie at lauriem@sjtbcc.org. Make it a New Year's resolution.

Fr. Bill

This Week in Our Church



Sunday, December 31

Feast of the Holy Family

Mass - 9:00 am

Mass - 11:30 am

RCIA Dismissal - 11:30 am

Mass - 5:30 pm

Monday, January 1

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

OFFICE CLOSED

Mass - 10:00 am

Tuesday, January 2

Word & Communion Service - 9:00 am

WICS - 6:30 pm

Life Justice Peace Commission - 6:30 pm

Choir (Fil-Am) - 7:00 pm

Knights of Columbus General Meeting - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, January 3

Word & Communion Service - 9:00 am

Parish Leadership Team Meeting - 6:30 pm

Choir (Truthful Reign) Practice - 7:00 pm

Vida en el Espíritu Santo - 7:00 pm

Thursday, January 4

Yoga - 7:30 am

Creation Care Team Meeting - 1:00 pm

Hora Santa - 2:30 pm

Safe Parking Meeting - 3:00 pm

Mass - 6:30 pm

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

Women's Commission Info Session - 7:00 pm

Friday, January 5

Mass - 9:00 am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 9:45 am

Hispanic Charismatic Adoration - 4:00 pm

Hispanic Charismatic Prayer - 6:30 pm

Saturday, January 6

First Reconciliation Celebration - 10:00 am

(2nd to 12th Grades)

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:

Social Media:



sjtbcc.org



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Happy Anniversary St. John the Baptist!

Please pick up your parish gift after Masses on January 6 & 7, 2024.

Please Pray for the sick:

Mary Grizzle **Barb Hogenhout**
Mary Ellen Pardo **Micaela Rose**

and those who have recently died:

Michael Colbrese
(cousin of Mary Hammock)

Amy Hermann
(friend of Trena Kupper)

Henry Joseph Medina
(father of Angelica Medina)

Welcome New Parishioners!



Have you joined St. John the Baptist in the last year? If so, we would love to welcome and get to know you at our Welcome Gathering **lunch** on **January 28, 2024 after the 11:30 am Mass**. We look forward to seeing you there!

Please **RSVP** to Anne Frederick at annef@sjtbcc.org by **January 24, 2024**.

New Women's Commission



The Women's Commission information session will be held **Thursday, January 4, 2024** after the 6:30 pm Mass in the McMullen Center Multipurpose Room. This will be a gathering to reflect on the role of women

in the church, discuss the current charter, and forge a path forward. All interested women and men are invited to be part of this ground-breaking commission. For more information and a copy of the charter, check our website sjtbcc.org/womens-commission/.

Annual Report is Now Available

Do you want to know what's been happening from July 2022 to June 2023 at St. John the Baptist? If so, you've come to the right place! The staff has put together a report that captures the highlights of our parish throughout this period. It also gives a brief financial overview of our income and expenses as well as a high-level view of the financial health of our ministries and commissions.

Please take some time to read through our report at sjtbcc.org/annual-report/

If you have any questions, please contact the office staff at 253-630-0701.

You're Invited to a Crab Feast (sponsored by the Knights of Columbus)

Saturday, January 13, 2024

Dinner: 6:30 pm (doors open 6:00 pm)
\$50/person | \$275/reserved table for 6

Only 120 tickets available and
will not be sold at the door



**Tickets will be on sale after all Masses
in the church office or see any Knight**

Menu:

Dungeness crab, Caesar salad, corn-on-the-cob,
roasted mix vegetables, dinner rolls, dessert, & drinks

Financial Peace University Classes Starting Soon

Our next session of *Financial Peace University* will begin in late January 2024. Classes will be held between Sunday morning Masses in the parish conference room.

Suggested cost is \$50, but there are several scholarships available.

For more information, please contact **Anne** at annef@sjtbcc.org or 253-630-0710 x125.



Cold Temperatures Bring Icy Mornings

When the temperatures drop below freezing, frost and ice form on the parking lot and sidewalks creating unsafe conditions for people attending the 9 am Mass.

Without a dedicated ministry, de-icing the parking lot was only made possible by snagging a parishioner or two before Mass to help with the de-icing. We need a few **strong people/families willing to be on a winter rotation** to come and spread the de-icer on our sidewalks and parking lot at 8 am on these icy mornings. This will be a special ministry team that will only operate through mid-March.

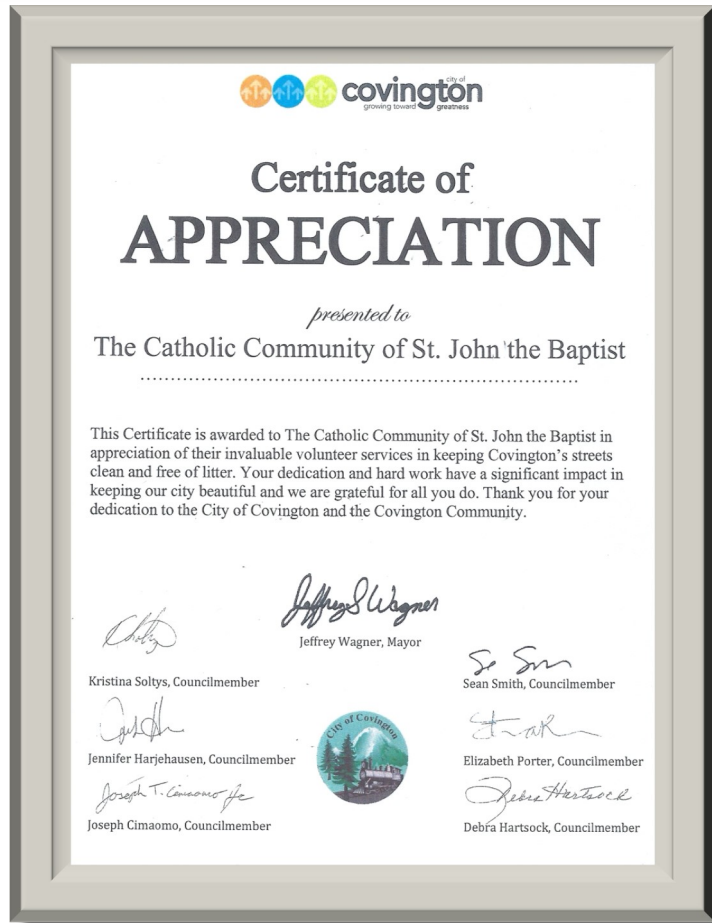
Please contact **David** at (253) 630-0701 x114 if you can support this ministry.

Thank you for your gift of time and talent.

We Welcome Family & Friends

Do you have family members and/or friends, who you are hoping will come back to church one day? St. John the Baptist will be pleased to welcome them this new year.

If they would like to know more about our faith, **Anne Frederick** at our parish office would love to connect with them and discuss how they can become a part of St. John the Baptist Faith Family. Please call her at 253-630-0701 ext. 125 or email annef@sjtbcc.org.



At a recent Council meeting, the City of Covington recognized the groups who contribute to keeping Covington clean through the Adopt-A-Street program. It was a blessing to experience the enthusiasm of the many in attendance as well as the sincere gratitude from the City of Covington representatives. This is another example of the many ways St. John the Baptist's community collaborates with and serves our wider community.

These are the groups that were recognized: Advantage Business Builders, Alliance Bible Church, **Catholic Community of St. John the Baptist**, City of Covington Employees, Covington Chamber of Commerce, Covington City Council, Covington Girl Scouts, Covington/Maple Valley Sea Hawks, Covington Youth Council, Kent MC JROTC, Maple Hills Community, Real Life Church, Red Canoe Credit Union, and Stephanie Hunziker Real Estate.



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