

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

January 21, 2024
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

“The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!” (Mt 1:15)



Staff photo

“I baptize you in the name of the father, and of the son, and of the Holy Spirit.”

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

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

Saturday: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Sunday & Monday: Closed

253-630-0701

This Week in Our Church

Contact Us!

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 Baptism at St. John the Baptist

Thanks to the Maya family for the release of the photo (taken by **Joan Williamson**) on our cover page. Proud parents, **Arturo Maya-Mendoza** and **Christina Maya**, watch as Father Bill baptizes **Lucas** (who's too busy enjoying the water) on January 7, 2024.

If you are interested in having your child baptized or would like information about getting baptized at St. John the Baptist, please contact our Sacramental Preparation staff person, **Joan Williamson** at joanw@sjtbcc.org or ext. 109.

Sunday, January 21

Mass - 9:00 am

Elementary Program - 10:15 am

Mass - 11:30 am

RCIA Dismissal - 11:30 am

Mass - 5:30 pm

Youth Group (HS) - 6:30 pm

Monday, January 22

Mostly Yoga - 7:30 am

Word & Communion - 9:00 am

Choir (9am) Practice - 7:00 pm

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

Tuesday, January 23

Word & Communion Service - 9:00 am

WICS - 6:00 pm

Advent Light Bible Study - 7:00pm

Wednesday, January 24

Mass - 9:00 am

Oracion - 6:00 pm

Choir (Truthful Reign) Practice - 7:00 pm

Vida en el Espíritu Santo - 7:00 pm

Youth Group (MS) - 7:00 pm

Thursday, January 25

Mostly Yoga - 7:30 am

Advent Light Bible Study - 10:00 am

PREPARES Training - 10:00 am

Hora Santa - 2:30 pm

Mass - 6:30 pm

Communications Meeting - 7:00 pm

RCIA/OCIA - 7:00 pm

Friday, January 26

Mass - 9:00 am

Hispanic Charismatic Prayer - 6:30 pm

Saturday, January 27

Gospel Reflection SFC - 10:00 am

Confessions - 4:00 to 5:00 pm

Mass - 5:30 pm



Next Week

Blood Pressure check after all morning Masses on
Sunday, January 28



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**.



New Women's Commission

On Thursday January 4, we had an informational listening session on our proposed *Women's Commission*. There were about 40 people who gathered.

Parish consultative bodies play a vital part in parish governance. Councils are mandated by a higher authority. Every parish must have a Finance Council, mandated by the Vatican. Every parish must also have a Pastoral Council (at St. John the Baptist, we call it a *Parish Leadership Team*) mandated by the Archdiocese. Commissions are determined at the parish level in response to the unique identity, needs, and circumstance of a parish community. "Commissions can be formed that are responsible for the development of strategic plans and policies for their specific ministry areas in response to the broad directions articulated by the pastor and parish pastoral council."¹ The need for a *Women's Commission* arose from our parish synod sessions that began two years ago. Our *Parish Leadership Team* not only provided to the Archdiocese a report on our parish synod sessions, but they also spent a considerable amount of time pondering what they heard from parishioners and formulated new parish priorities based on what they heard.

What I heard at the January 4 gathering was overall enthusiasm for the charter describing the role of the commission. (sjtbcc.org/go-ministries/stewardship-parish-ministries/) Additional ideas that surfaced were:

- the need for healing for the exclusion some women have felt;
- adding a special outreach and support for moms; and
- including a service component.

These were the things that stood out for me. Others were also taking notes, so that no idea would be lost.

The next gathering for the *Women's Commission* will be on Tuesday, February 6. To make this commission a reality, we will need parishioners to serve on the commission as well as parishioners to be engaged in some of the various committees or ministries supported by the commission. (Parishioners can only serve on one council or commission at a time but can serve on as many committees as they like.)

Last week, in John's Gospel, Jesus invited his first apostles to "Come and see." If the notion of a women's commission sparks an interest, a hope, a desire, or just curiosity, I invite you to **come and see**.

For more information, contact Kathy Wickward at kathyw@sjtbcc.org.

Fr. Bill

¹ Many Gifts: Consultative Leadership, Page 15

Please Pray for

the sick:

Susan Crist **Faye Driessen**
Barb Hogenhout **Bill Lepola**

and those who have recently died:

Felix Carunongan
(father of Tess Reyes)
Walt Schroeder
(father of Brenda Leyda)



New Hospitality Ministry Needs You!

If you are interested in supporting St. John the Baptist in the area of hospitality, we want to hear from you!

We invite you to participate in hospitality in the following areas:

- setting up and decorating for events;
- planning, preparing, and/or serving food; and
- cleaning after events.

You can volunteer for all or part of these aspects of hospitality that are so greatly needed and appreciated if you have interest, talents/skills, or feel called to support the parish in this way. If you are interested, please fill out this form: sjtbcc.org/hospitality/ or scan the QR code to the right.



Thank you for your time and interest. We look forward to hearing from you!

Show Us Your Art Skills

The bulletin team is looking for artists, who can provide artwork for the cover of our bulletin.

The drawing must depict life at St. John the Baptist Catholic community in some way. We welcome any artwork as long as you don't mind having your name published in our bulletin. If you are interested in featuring your artwork or need more information, please contact **Pat** at communications@sjtbcc.org.

Narthex Displays Must Be Approved

Out with the old and in with the new! But before you think of bringing your "old" things to give out for free and display on a table out in our narthex, please call the office at **253-630-0701**. There may be exceptions, but it is typically not allowed to display personal items to give for free. Father Bill or the staff needs to approve any material displayed in the narthex. If you have gently-used items that you no longer need, consider giving them to our *St. Vincent de Paul* ministry.

Also, please do not leave any medals, rosaries, or other religious materials in the narthex.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Partners in the Gospel Update

On November 16, 2023, the archdiocese released a letter from Archbishop Etienne and a Parish Feedback Report which synthesizes more than 3,000 pages of feedback from over 700 input session reports and 800 online forms during the Public Input Phase this fall. A review of the feedback was made by the Presbyteral Council, Priest Personnel Board, Oversight Committee, Partners Core team and Archbishop Etienne. As a result, proposed changes emerged for 25 parish families. There was a second round of consultation with staff and parishioners with these 25 proposed parish families. Archbishop Etienne is now in the final stages of discernment, and the final **list of parish families will be released on February 3, 2024**.

Update from Liturgy Commission

The Liturgy Commission met on January 11. We discussed our meeting process and finalized the commission charter after making some minor changes.

The Commission created a subcommittee to work on the Eucharistic Minister role and retreat, coming up with deliverables for the subcommittee. The retreat is scheduled for Thursday, March 21, at 7 pm. The commission voted to create a sending-forth rite at the weekend Masses for Eucharistic Ministers to the homebound.

We continued discussing how we can support the parish priority:

- SJTB gathers around the Eucharist and offers Christ-like inclusion & acceptance.
- We delight in the rich diversity of cultures & traditions. We discussed the multi-cultural celebrations we have now: *Flores de Mayo*, *Simbang Gabi*, and *Our Lady of Guadalupe*. What can we do differently to enhance these priorities? We decided to ask parishioners what special celebrations they have in their respective cultures to see how we can incorporate these into the Liturgy. There will be more information after the February meeting.

The next meeting will be on February 8 at 7 pm.

Update from Facility & Grounds Commission

St. John the Baptist *Facility and Grounds Commission* met Thursday, January 11, and reviewed the budget, completed ACA projects, and projects yet to complete.

The facilities budget is negative due to the purchase of a window covering for the sanctuary window near the Our Lady of Guadalupe area. The hope is that we will make up the difference in electricity savings, keeping the sanctuary cooler without the need for the AC.

The parking lot projects are nearing completion, with speed humps nearly all installed, the south driveway gate installed, and the neighborhood access gate nearly complete. Plumbing fixtures recently repaired include fixtures in the men's bathroom in the McMullen Center and the drinking fountain in the narthex hallway. The sanctuary bathrooms have not been painted. Two trees threatening a neighbor's home have also been removed. *Creation Care* is working on a project to plant up to 130 tree seedlings to replace those that have fallen or have been removed.

Next meeting is scheduled on February 8 at 4:30 pm.

New Security Gate Installed



Thanks to the generous donations to the 2022 Annual Catholic Appeal, a new security gate has been installed at our south driveway. The plan is to have this gate closed in the

evenings in order to provide a more secure and restful area for our Safe Car Parking guests.

The gates will be open during school hours and weekend Mass times. The north driveway will be open at all times. If you have any questions, please contact our office at 253-630-0701.

Hearing Devices Available at Mass

Did you know that we have hearing devices available at Mass? These devices are designed to work with most hearing aids. If your hearing aids aren't compatible or if you don't have them, we have earphones that work with the devices. The devices are on the video desk in the back of the sanctuary.



Please reach out to a staff person or point person before Mass for a hearing device. Don't forget to return them after Mass.

Welcome New Parishioners!

Have you joined St. John the Baptist in the last year? If so, we would love to welcome you and get to know you at our Welcome Gathering **lunch on January 28 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**.

Northwest Catholic Collection

There will be a second collection next weekend, **January 28**, to support *Northwest Catholic* magazine. Your donation ensures that the magazine is delivered six times a year, free of charge, to every registered Catholic household in Western Washington, and that its website, NWCatholic.org, is updated every day with local, national, and international Catholic news.

Northwest Catholic is an essential evangelization tool in the archdiocese, providing local stories of faith, inspiring columns from our bishops, and information about what's happening in the archdiocese. Thank you for your support of this ministry.

If you are not receiving the magazine, please be sure you are registered in the parish and that contact information is up to date.

Obituaries in the Northwest Catholic Magazine

As a free service to the Catholic community, *Northwest Catholic Magazine* posts obituaries online of people whose funerals are held in archdiocesan churches or who are buried in local Catholic cemeteries. Families can fill out the form at nwcatholic.org/submit-obit. Email editor@seattlearch.org with questions.

Mass for Healthcare Professionals & Caregivers

If you work in healthcare in any capacity, you are invited by Archbishop Etienne to join in person or livestream to celebrate members of the healthcare community and profession on **Saturday, February 10 at 5:30 pm at St. James Cathedral** (804 9th Ave., Seattle, WA 98104)

Hospital workers are encouraged to wear their scrubs or other professional attire.

Mass is held in February to coincide with the World Day of Prayer for the Sick, instituted by Pope John Paul II in 1992 as "a special time of prayer and sharing and of reminding everyone to see in his sick brother or sister the face of Christ."

Washington State Catholic Conference

For the 1/12/24 edition of the Catholic Advocacy bulletin, visit votervoicenet/iframes/WSCC/newsletters



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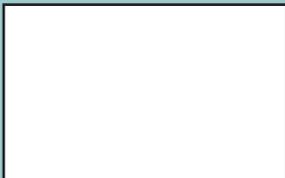
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