

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

March 3, 2024
Third Sunday of Lent

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him might have eternal life. (Jn 3:16)



Photo courtesy of St. John the Baptist's Media Team

Members of St. John the Baptist's *Media Team* leading the Stations of the Cross
See related story on Page 3.

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:30 am, 5:30 pm

Wednesday & Friday 9:00 am; Thursday 6:30 pm

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

Confessions: **Saturday 4:00 pm 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

**25810 - 156th Ave. SE,
Covington, WA 98042
253-630-0701**

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**.

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!

Pastor's Corner

Father Bill is taking some time off to visit family in Florida. Let's hope he brings back some warm weather for us! In his absence, one of his past articles is reprinted below. This is a popular topic as our aging population is called to eternal life.

When We Are Called Home



Recently, people have been asking about the "Last Rites." This term has not been used for the past 60 years. The Second Vatican Council, in its reform of the liturgy, restored *Extreme Unction* (the Last Anointing) to its more ancient practice of being not just for the dying, but for the sick. Now known as "**The Anointing of the Sick**", this sacrament prays for healing of body and soul. It is celebrated with those who are seriously ill, anticipating surgery, or suffering from advancing age.

The Church has a special care for those who are dying. There are two prayers for the dying. The first is called **Viaticum**, which translates "for the journey." It is sharing Holy Communion with the dying and focuses on the gift of Eucharist as the promise of eternal life. Jesus said, "The one who eats my body and drinks my blood will live forever." (*John 6:54*) *Viaticum* often includes a renewal of one's baptismal promises that began the journey of faith, now that the journey is reaching its conclusion.

The other prayer for the dying is called the **Commendation of the Dying**. It is a beautiful prayer that includes the litany of the saints and entrusts the dying into the gentle embrace of God. In one sense, it is the sending forth of the Christian soul from this life to eternity. Not only a comfort to the person dying, this prayer can have great meaning for family and friends who have gathered.

The *Anointing of the Sick* is led by a bishop or priest. *Viaticum* and the *Commendation of the Dying* can be led by a priest, deacon, or even a layperson. With fewer priests possibly covering larger areas, lay people may be called upon more and more to pray with the dying and accompanying them on this journey of faith. Though often difficult, it is a very holy experience.

Fr. Bill

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

Praying the Stations of the Cross

What do the Stations of the Cross represent? It commemorates Jesus' passion and death on the cross. There are 14 stations that depict a moment on his journey to Calvary, usually through sacred art, prayers, and reflections. Prayerful meditation through the Stations of the Cross is especially common during Lent and on Fridays throughout the year, due to Christ's Crucifixion on Good Friday.

At *St. John the Baptist*, ministries are called upon to lead the prayers and meditations at the stations every Friday during Lent. The second Stations of the Cross prayers and meditations during this Lent season was led by the members of the *Media Team*, as featured on the cover page. Five other ministries will have the opportunity to lead each Friday's prayer during this Lenten season.

The stations are always present in our church, which means that we can spend time with them at any time. Take some time during this Lent season to attend at least one Stations of the Cross prayer and meditation.

LENT

A SEASON OF RENEWAL

This Week in Our Church

Sunday, March 3

Mass - 9:00 am

Elementary Program - 10:15 am

Mass - 11:30 am

RCIA Dismissal - 11:30 am

Gr. 5-12 Sacramental Prep - 4:00 pm

Mass - 5:30 pm

Youth Group (High School) - 6:30 pm

Monday, March 4

Mostly Yoga - 7:30 am

Word & Communion - 9:00 am

Prayer Ministry SFC Meeting - 9:30 am

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

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

Knights of Columbus Membership Meeting - 7:00 pm

Tuesday, March 5

Word & Communion - 9:00 am

WICS - 6:00 pm

Confirmation (High School) Prep Year 2 - 7:00 pm

Lent 2004 Encounter - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 6

Mass - 9:00 am

Parish Leadership Synodal Consultation - 6:30 pm

Crecimiento - Vida en el Espíritu - 7:00 pm

Choir (Truthful Reign) Practice - 7:00 pm

Lent 2024 Encounter - 7:00 pm

Vida en el Espíritu Santo - 7:00 pm

"Walking Through Grief" Zoom - 7:00 pm

Youth Group (Middle School) - 7:00 pm

Thursday, March 7

Mostly Yoga - 7:30 am

Lent 2024 Encounter via Zoom - 10:00 am

Creation Care Team Meeting - 1:00 pm

Hora Santa - 2:30 pm

Safe Parking Meeting - 3:00 pm

Mass - 6:30 pm

RCIA/OCIA - 7:00 pm

Friday, March 8

Creative Kindness Sewing Meeting - 9:00 am

Mass - 9:00 am

Hispanic Charismatic Adoration - 4:00 pm

Stations of the Cross - 7:00 pm

Saturday, March 9

Gospel Reflection - 10:00 am

Lenten Reconciliation Service - 10:00 am

1st Eucharist Parent/Child Retreat #1 - 1:00 pm

Reconciliation - 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

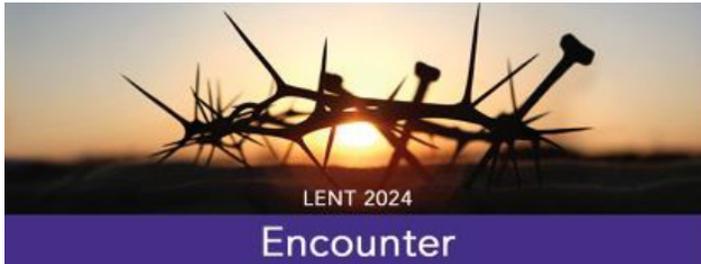
Mass - 5:30 pm

Please Pray for
the sick:

Nena Estoesta
Barbara Nagel

and those who have recently died:

Maureen Ille (cousin of Laurie Moloney)
Joe Nagel (husband of Barbara Nagel)
Peter Olson (son of Steve & Linda Olson)
Lee Williamson (brother of Joan Williamson)



Small Faith Groups Opportunity Lent 2024 Encounter

It is not too late to join members of our parish for a weekly meeting to break open the scriptures, dialogue, and pray together during Lent.

Options for this journey are:

- **In-person** groups on Tuesday evenings beginning **February 20** from **7:00 pm to 8:30 pm** in Classrooms 8A & 8B
- **In-person** groups on Wednesday evenings beginning **February 21** from **7:00 pm to 8:30 pm** in Classrooms 8A & 8B
- **Zoom** meetings on Thursday mornings beginning **February 22** from **10:00 am to 11:30 am**

Sign up at: sjtbcc.org/lent-encounter/

For more information, please contact **Joan Williamson** at joanw@sjtbcc.org or 253-630-0701 ext. 109.

Journey With Us

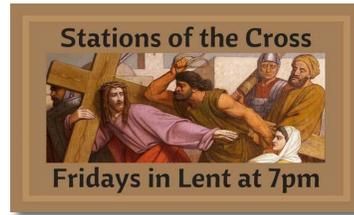


CRS Rice Bowl shares [stories of hope](#) from CRS' work around the world. These stories are examples of how your Lenten alms are helping communities

find solutions to problems like hunger and climate change.

Take a virtual journey with CRS to Uganda, El Salvador, and Indonesia! Don't forget to try the [meatless recipes](#) each Friday during Lent.

Visit crsricebowl.org for more information and to donate.



| <u>Date</u> | <u>Led by</u> |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| March 8 | Knights of Columbus |
| March 15 | Hispanic Community |
| March 22 | Stewardship Commission |
| March 29, 3:00 pm | Women's Commission |

Lenten Communal Reconciliation With Individual Confession

Saturday, **March 9 at 10:00 am**
Reflection by **Joan Williamson**

Confirmation Preparation for Adults

If you are an adult who would like to complete your Rites of Initiation by receiving the sacrament of Confirmation, please contact Joan Williamson at joanw@sjtbcc.org or 253-630-0701 x109.

Parish Leadership Synodal Consultation

If you **currently serve on councils and commissions**, you are invited to join the Parish Leadership Team for a second consultation for the World Synod on **Wednesday, March 6 at 6:30 pm** in the sanctuary.

Two sessions will be offered to the entire parish on either Thursday afternoon, **March 14 at 1:00 pm**, or Saturday morning, **March 16 at 10:00 am**.

Please plan to attend one of these sessions and share the following:

- where have you experienced or witnessed ways in which Church structures, leadership, or life hinder our shared mission;
- where have you experienced or witnessed ways in which Church structures, leadership, or life encourage and foster our shared mission; and/or
- what is needed to help all the baptized respond to our shared call to proclaim the Gospel and live as a community of love and mercy in Christ.

Don't miss out on this synod to voice your opinion on imagining and discerning steps to reform Christian communities and the Church as a whole.

To sign up for **the sessions on March 14 or March 16**, please visit sjtbcc.org/synod-2024/ or scan the QR code to the right.



Stay Clear of Media Team Area

An area in the Narthex is blocked off until we can get the water damage repaired. We realize that it is difficult to get from the baptismal font to the area on the left or to the nursery.

We removed chairs from the back row in front of the media table. **Please go past the media team and cross in front of the media table.**

The media team sometimes has items in the walkway and moves around a lot during livestreaming. We would hate for someone to trip or get bumped, so please avoid that area. Thanks for your cooperation.

Our Church Plants Need Some TLC

The church sprinkler system may have unloaded a few thousand gallons of water about a month ago, but most of our plants never got a drop of it. We need someone to water the plants in the sanctuary and narthex. If you love plants and can come about once a week to water them, our plants will love you! Please contact **Laurie Moloney** in the parish office if you can help our lovely plants thrive.

Supper Club is Back!



Let's get together for food! The exciting *Supper Club* is back in time for spring (March, April, and May) get-togethers. You choose the schedule for your group. Sign up as a single, as couples, or as families.

Sign up on our website at sjtbcc.org/supper-club-2024/ or scan the QR code above.

For any questions contact our Parish office or leave a message for **Bren Triplett**.

Training Session Scheduled for Eucharistic Ministers

The Liturgy Commission has elected to revise the current Eucharistic Minister Instructions and Guidelines. A Committee has been tasked to work on this revision. Once approved by the Liturgy Commission, these instructions and guidelines will be given to all Eucharistic Ministers at a retreat/training session scheduled for **Saturday, May 4 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon**. This is a mandatory session for all Eucharistic Ministers, including substitutes. If you are absolutely unable to make this date, please email **Pat Defiesta** at bulletin@sjtbcc.org. Note that there is no make-up session scheduled at this time. Please mark your calendars. Thank you to all of our Eucharistic Ministers, who tirelessly serve in this ministry!

40 Days, 40 Ways



Creation
Care Team

St. John the Baptist's *Creation Care Team* is sharing the third in a series of ideas from the *Franciscan Action Organization*, "40 Days; 40 Ways Guide." Each week throughout Lent, this group will be sharing a different idea, which is designed to provide an alternative or enrichment to your Lenten observations with creation-centered activities.

Week of 2/11/24 idea: Start a Nature Journal.
Week of 2/18 idea: Become a Lenten Vegetarian.
Week of 2/25 idea: Study & Share *Laudato Si'*

This week we share:

In the Biblical tradition, "**voice**" is the medium of **choice for communication from the Divine**. And when human beings respond to the Divine, they are called upon to "speak out" on behalf of whatever the Spirit is requiring of them. Out of this dialogical tradition comes the books of the Prophets, who were fiercely vocal responders to God's call. We are not all called upon to be as eloquent as the Biblical prophets, but we are called by faith to "speak up" on behalf of climate health and to not passively accept political and corporate actions that are ruinous to the environment.

There are many tools available to help you get started. See what our Washington State Bishops are advocating for at wacatholics.org/ or the US Bishops at usccb.org. Become an Advocate for the issue that most concerns you!

Honor a Loved One



Remember your loved ones with Easter flowers! A suggested donation of \$10 will purchase a pot of flowers, which will be used to decorate the church for Easter.

Write the name of the person you wish to remember on a memorial card (available in the Narthex), place the card in the envelope with your payment, and deposit it in the collection box in the Narthex. The memorial cards will be displayed in the Narthex on Easter.

Catholic Social Teaching Retreat

Join the South King County Deanery Outreach Committee and Catholic Community Services for our third of four retreats focused on Catholic Social Teaching. Together we will explore and encounter how the Principle of Rights & Responsibilities as well as the Principle of Dignity of Work & Rights of Workers are lived in our lives and faith communities.

Saturday, March 9, 2024
St. Anthony, Renton
8:00 am to 12:00 noon

LET JUSTICE & PEACE FLOW

LEARN MORE & REGISTER HERE →

Join the Creation Care Network to pray, learn,
and act on our collective commitment to
environmental justice.

CCN
SUMMIT
2024
SATURDAY
MARCH 16
9AM-4PM
SEATTLE U.



bit.ly/3SNcMDw

The day will feature:

- Young Adult Fireside Chat: Responding to *Laudate Deum*
- Mass with Archbishop Etienne
- Workshops and much more!

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Discerning Deacons Celebration and Sending

**Are you curious
about how the
Catholic Church is
rethinking women's
participation?**

Join fellow Catholics and Discerning Deacons as we continue the exciting conversation about this topic raised in the October 2023 synod, including exploration of restoring women as deacons in the Catholic Church.



Rappahannock Baptism ©2012 Mirinda Reynolds

Together we will...

- Celebrate how Western Washington has contributed to the discernment about women in the Church
- Lift up the diaconal women in our midst
- Encounter one another in fellowship and communion
- Hear from the delegation of Seattle Catholics who were in Rome during the October synod
- Support the mission and work of Discerning Deacons
- Launch into a season of action and witness this Lent and Easter

Tuesday, March 5, 2024 | 6:30 p.m. Social | 7:00-8:30 p.m. Program

**Come curious. Leave
excited! Are you in?
Please register here so
we'll know to expect you!**



<https://bit.ly/co-missioned>

This is a FREE event with a suggested donation of \$50, which you can make while registering or at the event itself.

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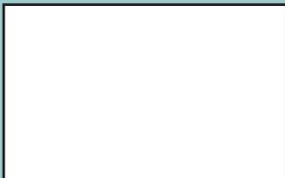
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