

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

March 24, 2024
Palm Sunday

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 22:1)

Photos courtesy of Laurie Moloney & Wilson Defiesta



The Hispanic Community leads the Stations of the Cross
See related story on Page 3

Mass Schedule - FOR HOLY WEEK ONLY

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, **Holy Thursday** March 28 - 7:00 pm
Stations of the Cross, **Good Friday** March 29 - 3:00 pm
Liturgy of the Passion, **Good Friday** March 29 - 7:00 pm
Easter Vigil in the Holy Night, **Holy Saturday** March 30 - 8:00 pm
Easter Celebration, **Easter Sunday** March 31 - 8:00 am; 10:00 am; 12:00 noon
No confessions on Holy Saturday March 30

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

Come visit us at **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

Make Holy Week Holy



Lent ends and the Easter *Triduum* begins with the Vigil of Holy Thursday. It marks the end of the 40 days of Lent and the beginning of the three-day celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ - Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday. On Thursday, Jesus shared *The Last Supper* with his apostles and offered them the example of service by washing their feet. He was subsequently arrested and tried. He was crucified at Calvary on Friday, outside the gates of Jerusalem. He was buried the same day, and arose three days later, on Easter Sunday.

The Fathers of the *Second Vatican Council* reminded us of the extraordinary significance of the *Triduum*: "Christ redeemed us all and gave perfect glory to God principally through his paschal mystery: dying he destroyed our death and rising he restored our life. Therefore the Easter *Triduum* of the passion and resurrection of Christ is the culmination of the entire liturgical year." (General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, # 18)

The 40 Days of Lent were a time of preparation for these great three days, which is what *Triduum* means. These three days lead us to an empty tomb and an Octave (eight days) of celebrating the Resurrection. They also introduce an entire liturgical season, the Easter Season, which lasts for 50 days until Pentecost.

Make Holy Week special. Take steps to indicate that this is not life as usual but a special time set apart. Do that through what you eat, what you do in the evenings, what you talk about, and what you do upon waking and going to sleep. For example, you might set aside an evening to read the Gospel accounts of Jesus' passion and death. Attend the liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the great Easter Vigil with its candle-lit procession into the church, tracing of salvation history in the Liturgy of the Word, celebration of baptisms and welcoming those joining the Catholic faith. At every Easter Mass, we renew our baptismal promises.

If you know of Easter and Holy Week traditions from your ethnic heritage, introduce them to your children. Many families decorate eggs - symbols of the Resurrection - or put together Easter baskets. My family pickled eggs – something I now do! The story of Jesus' suffering and death are at the heart of Christian faith. They are at the heart of our very existence and meaning. It's easy to be too busy or too distracted to attend to these rites and lessons. Make Holy Week holy by making sure its not just an ordinary week for ordinary things.

Fr. Bill

Please Pray for the sick:

Renee Nicholas
Christine and Lucas Martincic
Pete Villa

and those who have recently died:

Marino Acosta (uncle of Pat Defiesta)
Laurie Lesch (sister of Carol Holmes)
Carole Poussier
(wife of Neil & mother of Donna Gilomen)
Lee Williamson (brother of Joan Williamson)

Honor a Loved One

It's not too late to send in your donations to 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 or persons 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.

Deadline for donations is March 24, Palm Sunday.

Stations of the Cross



Join us for our last Stations of the Cross prayers and meditations on **Good Friday, March 29 at 3:00 pm**. The *Women's Commission* will lead us in prayer and meditation.

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:
Holy Thursday, March 28
7:00 pm

Stations of the Cross:
Good Friday, March 29
3:00 pm

Passion of the Lord:
Good Friday, March 29
7:00 pm

Easter Vigil in the Holy Night:
Saturday, March 30, 8:00 pm

Easter Celebration:
Sunday, March 31
8:00 am; 10:00 am; 12:00 noon

It's time for Adopt-A-Street Spring Cleanup

You are invited to join the *Creation Care Team* on **Saturday, April 13 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am**. Cleanup should be a bit easier with less street construction. For safety purposes **these cleanups will be limited to adults only**.

Please **register by April 11** using this link:
archseattle.ccbchurch.com/goto/scheduling/271/public
or by paper in the Narthex at the Life Justice Peace table.

The Random Acts of Cleanup (RAC) is another opportunity to consider. It is being offered by The City of Covington, who sponsors our street clean-up events. This program is a litter clean up program for individual volunteers ages 18 and older. Once enrolled, volunteers will receive a cleanup kit provided by the City, which will be theirs to keep. For more information visit covingtonwa.gov/cleancovington.php or see flyer in the electronic version of this bulletin.



Creation
Care Team

40 Days; 40 Ways

St. John the Baptist's *Creation Care Team (CCT)* is sharing the fifth in a series of ideas from the *Franciscan Action Organization*, "40 Days; 40 Ways Guide." These ideas are designed to provide an alternative or enrichment to your Lenten observations with creation-centered activities. See previous bulletins for other ideas.

Week of 2/11/24 idea: Start a Nature Journal.
Week of 2/18/24 idea: Become a Lenten Vegetarian.
Week of 2/25/24 idea: Study & Share *Laudato Si'*.
Week of 3/3/24 idea: Find Your Voice.
Week of 3/10/24 idea: Contemplate "*Earth Rise*."
Week of 3/17/24 idea: Take a Sabbath Walk.

This week we share this idea: have a conversation with an elder.

You can Google internet sites that will tell you how much hotter the temperature in your hometown is today than it was fifty years ago. But better yet, find an elder who can give you stories as well as data. Someone may share with you how the weather and outdoors were in Kent or Covington many decades ago! Ask an elder what sorts of things they did outdoors when they were young. How cold was it in winter? How long did winter last? Did young people skate, sled, ski, build snowmen? How hot was it in summer? Did they ride bikes, pick fruit, swim, fish, play ball in the street or in the park? Whoever your companion and wherever they grew up, their stories will be different from your own and well worth knowing.

This concludes the series of ideas for the Lenten season. We hope you've had a chance to experience at least one of these ideas. And if you haven't, consider trying them out next year.

The Start of Triduum and Washing of the Feet

The Mass of the Lord's Supper on *Holy Thursday* begins the celebration of the *Sacred Triduum*, the holiest three days of the Church's year. This Mass commemorates the institution of the Eucharist at the last supper. The *Holy Thursday* celebration begins with the reception of the *Holy Oils* that were blessed by the Archbishop at the *Chrism Mass*. These oils are used in the *Sacrament of the Sick, Baptism, Confirmation, and Ordination*.

Just as Jesus washed the feet of the apostles, we wash each other's feet in service to each other. First the presider washes the feet of three people, then those people wash the feet of two people each. Then each person who gets their feet washed will wash another's feet. It's not a requirement to participate, but it is a beautiful ritual. Ushers will help you know where and when to go forward.

The Mass concludes with a solemn Eucharistic Procession to the McMullen Center, where you will have the opportunity for *Adoration* until 11:00 pm, when we will end with *Compline* (night prayer). Come spend some time with the Eucharist before *Good Friday*, when the tabernacle will be empty and bare until the *Easter Vigil Mass*.

The Latest Addition to Our Staff

We are excited to welcome our newest addition to our staff, **Rose McAvoy**, who will be our part-time administrative assistant. **Rose** will be responsible for facility scheduling as well as supporting the Communications Team and Faith Formation. You'll see her in the office on Tuesday afternoons. She is a talented photographer, general organizer, and web designer. We are excited to have her on our team starting April 17! **Welcome Rose!**

While overseeing administration, **Kathy Wickward** will continue to support our community, evangelization, and outreach ministries.

Come Join Us!

Are you interested in exploring more about God or the church with a small group of fellow parishioners? This is the essence of what a *Small Faith Sharing Group* does.

Our group is looking for two or three more members. We meet on **Fridays from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm via Zoom**. We have done studies on the sacraments, the creeds, bible studies, and more. If this group sounds interesting to you, please contact the parish office and leave a message for **Dave Zentner**.

There is also a *Women's Group*, which meets on Monday evenings, and that group is also interested in adding more women. Contact **Joan Williamson** at joanw@sjtbcc.org for more information on this group.

Partners in the Gospel Update

Last month, the final parish families were announced across the archdiocese. This month all pastors and key parish leadership attended in-person regional trainings focused on the next phases of the Partners in the Gospel journey. They learned about the key activities that should take place in each phase of the process.

We are currently in Phase Zero, which is a time of preparation. Please continue to pray for this effort. Specifically, we pray that parishioners open their hearts to the Holy Spirit and that the Holy Spirit helps lead us on this journey. We also ask everyone to pray for the Priest Placement Board and our priests as they work together to find the best-fit leaders for our parishes. Pastor assignments will be announced in the spring per the [Seattle Archdiocese website](#). Visit the website for more information on pastor assignments.

We will also provide information in this bulletin as we get them.



Partners in the Gospel What is the Role of the Parish Liaison?

If you haven't heard the term, "Parish Liaison" as it relates to Partners in the Gospel, you will be hearing it a lot for the next few months.

Parish liaisons are professionals, who are hired and trained by the Archdiocese of Seattle. They will work in partnership with multiple parish families' pastors and their leadership teams to implement the parish family structure.

Each liaison will provide guidance, project management support, and ensure effective communication between the Partners in the Gospel core team, parish family (including pastor and staff), and the Planning and Mission Effectiveness team. The liaison will also support the parish in the creation of the One Parish Plan, which will be presented to the archbishop before becoming one canonical parish. Liaisons will start working with parishes starting this March.

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
El Via Crucis
Way of the Cross

One of the most popular traditions among Hispanic Catholics in the United States is the "Via Crucis Viviente" or **living** Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, which is a reenactment of Jesus' final hours and his journey to Calvary as said in the prayers and reflections of the Stations of the Cross.

The living Stations of the Cross is celebrated in Latin America and other countries such as Spain, Italy, and the Philippines. While St. John the Baptist does not have living Stations of the Cross, we certainly support our Hispanic Community with a time for prayers and meditations at the Stations in the Spanish language.

Featured on our cover is St. John the Baptist's Hispanic Community leading the Stations of the Cross on Friday, March 15. Prayers, meditations, and songs were all sung in Spanish, with booklets in English available for those who don't read or speak Spanish.

During the Lenten season, one ministry here at St. John the Baptist is called upon to lead the prayers and meditations. We hope you had the blessed opportunity to attend at least one of them this season.

LENT

A SEASON OF RENEWAL

This Week in Our Church

Sunday, March 24

Palm Sunday

Mass - 9:00 am

Blood pressure check after both morning Masses

Mass - 11:30 am

RCIA Dismissal - 11:30 am

Mass - 5:30 pm

Youth Group (High School) - 6:30 pm

Monday, March 25

Mostly Yoga - 7:30 am

Word & Communion - 9:00 am

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

Tuesday, March 26

Word & Communion - 9:00 am

WICS - 6:00 pm

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

Flores de Mayo Planning - 7:00 pm

Lent 2024 Encounter - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 27

Mass - 9:00 am

Oracion - 6:00 pm

Choir (Truthful Reign) Practice - 7:00 pm

Lent 2024 Encounter - 7:00 pm

Vida en el Espiritu - 7:00 pm

"Walking Through Grief" Zoom - 7:00 pm

Youth Group (Middle School) - 7:00 pm

Thursday, March 28

Holy Thursday

Mostly Yoga - 7:30 am

Lent 2024 Encounter via Zoom - 10:00 am

Hora Santa - 2:30 pm

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:00 pm

Adoration - 8:00 pm

Friday, March 29

Good Friday

Stations of the Cross - 3:00 pm

Hispanic Charismatic Prayer - 6:30 pm

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion - 7:00 pm

Saturday, March 30

Holy Saturday

Gospel Reflection - 10:00 am

Vigil Rites Rehearsal - 1:00 pm

Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter - 8:00 pm

Sunday, March 31

Easter Sunday

Easter Celebration:

8:00 am; 10:00 am; 12:00 noon



A celebration of
diversity in our Catholic
faith community




DISABILITY INCLUSION MINISTRY
Mass & Dance

APRIL 20

Mass | 11am | St. James Cathedral
Dance & lunch | 12-2:30pm | O'Dea Gym

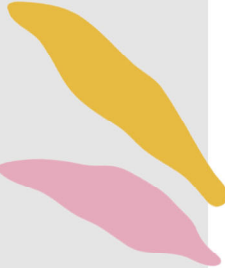


EVERYONE IS WELCOME.



The Archdiocese of Seattle's Disability Inclusion Ministry serves and works collaboratively with parishes and schools to promote the inclusion and meaningful participation of people with disabilities in the life of our Catholic faith community.

For more information, please contact Jennifer Wong at
jennifer.wong@seattlearch.org





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