

# THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

**March 31, 2024  
Easter Sunday**

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad. (Ps 118:24)



*A blessed Easter day and season to you and your loved ones  
from the staff of St. John the Baptist*

## **Worship Schedule**

**Vigil: Saturday 5:30 pm**

**Sunday Masses: 9:00 am, 11:30 am, & 5:30 pm**

**Weekday Masses: 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**

Come visit us at **25810 - 156th Ave. SE, Covington, WA 98042 253-630-0701**

## 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](mailto:billm@sjtbcc.org)

### Bookkeeper:

Nancy Moore, ext. 102, [nancym@sjtbcc.org](mailto:nancym@sjtbcc.org)

### Bulletin:

Pat Defiesta, [bulletin@sjtbcc.org](mailto:bulletin@sjtbcc.org)

### Facility Grounds & Building:

David Aldous, ext. 114, [davida@sjtbcc.org](mailto:davida@sjtbcc.org)

### Facility Use & Scheduling:

Kathy Wickward, ext. 101, [kathyw@sjtbcc.org](mailto:kathyw@sjtbcc.org)

### Faith Formation & Sacramental Preparation:

Joan Williamson, ext. 109, [joanw@sjtbcc.org](mailto:joanw@sjtbcc.org)

### Faith Formation (Pre-K - Grade 4):

Therese McHenry, ext. 123, [theresem@sjtbcc.org](mailto:theresem@sjtbcc.org)

### Liturgy & Pastoral Care:

Laurie Moloney, ext. 111, [lauriem@sjtbcc.org](mailto:lauriem@sjtbcc.org)

### Member Engagement:

Anne Frederick, ext. 125, [annef@sjtbcc.org](mailto:annef@sjtbcc.org)

### Music Coordinator:

Luis Diaz de Leon, ext. 108, [luisd@sjtbcc.org](mailto:luisd@sjtbcc.org)

### Youth Minister:

Peter Guthrie, ext. 110, [peterg@sjtbcc.org](mailto:peterg@sjtbcc.org)

### Online:



[sjtbcc.org](http://sjtbcc.org)

### Social Media:



@sjtbcovington

## Spring Flowers and Easter

Spring flowers adorn the sanctuary and narthex on Easter day. But did you know that flowers are specifically banned as decorations around the altar for nearly all of Lent? It is because Lent is a solemn season of preparation for the Easter Triduum.

At the arrival of Easter, the altar and surrounding areas are decorated with flowers to symbolize the new life that emerges from Jesus' death on Good Friday.

This year, and every year, we request donations to purchase flowers for Easter. In addition to the donations, we ask that donors write the names of their loved ones on a card. Those cards become part of the Easter décor and are displayed on ribbons in the narthex. This is a beautiful way during Easter, to remember those family and friends who have gone before us. If you didn't get a chance to donate this year, there's always next year! **Thank you to all the donors** whose donations purchased the beautiful flowers on display!

Spring flowers on Easter - what better way to welcome the season!

## This Week in Our Church



### Sunday, March 31

*Easter Sunday*

#### Easter Celebration:

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

### Monday, April 1

Mostly Yoga - 7:30 am

Word & Communion - 9:00 am

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

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

Knights of Columbus General Meeting - 7:00 pm

### Tuesday, April 2

Word & Communion - 9:00 am

WICS - 6:00 pm

### Wednesday, April 3

Mass - 9:00 am

Parish Leadership Team Meeting - 6:30 pm

Choir (Truthful Reign) Practice - 7:00 pm

Vida en el Espíritu - 7:00 pm

"Walking Through Grief" Zoom - 7:00 pm

Youth Group (Middle School) - 7:00 pm

### Thursday, April 4

Mostly Yoga - 7:30 am

Creation Care 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, April 5

Mass - 9:00 am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 9:45 am

Hispanic Charismatic Adoration - 4:00 pm

Hispanic Charismatic Prayer - 7:00 pm

### Saturday, April 6

Confirmation Prep for Adults - 9:00 am

Gospel Reflection - 10:00 am

Missa Señor de la Expiración - 1:00 pm

Reconciliation - 4:00 pm

Mass - 5:30 pm

### Weekend of April 6 & 7

Pastor/Parochial Vicar Announcement

# 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!

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## Pastor's Corner

### Welcome Everyone!



What Sunday is to the week, Easter is for the year. It is our most important liturgy, celebrating Jesus' victory over sin and death. And not only is Jesus now alive, Jesus is life itself, and this life he shares with us.

This is the life that animates St. John the Baptist Catholic Community. We gather to worship in gratitude for all God has done for us and trusting in the promise of eternity. We grow in our discipleship. Each one of us is on a particular journey of faith. Each one of us has another step to take. We accompany each other wherever we may be on this journey. And we go in service. We have Good News to share. We do so with acts of love and compassion, caring for all God's people, and caring for God's creation.

*Easter Sunday* is a day we welcome many people. There are those who are here every Sunday, for whom Mass is the highlight of the week and a source of strength for the coming week. We welcome family members and relatives, who are visiting for the holiday. We welcome those of other faith traditions, who join their family members and friends today. A desire for something more in life may have brought you here today. Easter is also a time for those who have been away from the Church to explore the possibility of coming back. Whatever brought you here today, we are so glad you are here with us today! We hope that whatever has kept you away can be resolved, healed, or forgiven. If you are one of our neighbors without a faith community to call your own, welcome!

Wherever you are at on this journey of faith, the St. John the Baptist Catholic Community is here to walk with you. Together, may we discover the presence of the Risen Lord who has promised to remain with us forever.

You can find more information about our faith community on our web page at [sjtbcc.org](http://sjtbcc.org). You can also call the parish office and chat with myself or any of our staff at 253 630-0701.

Welcome!

*Fr. Bill*

## Please Pray for the sick:

*Renee Nicholas*  
*John Lawless*  
*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)

## New Life in Christ A Call for All

By our Baptism we are called to follow the command that Jesus gave at the end of his earthly journey in human form. Jesus trusts that you and I will continue this ministry of the apostles, and we do so because we are disciples first. We are people who continue to learn and grow in faith. One way we do this is by tapping into the opportunities provided in our parish community. One such opportunity is the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) process, which is a formation process that leads adults into full communion with the Catholic Church.

Here at St. John the Baptist, a group of 20 individuals have been preparing to be fully initiated into our tradition. They have come into full communion with the Church at the Easter Vigil this weekend! In the midst of the RCIA process and as a community, we celebrate significant milestones with these Candidates and Catechumens.

There is a group of parishioners who are the RCIA team. For more information about the RCIA process and its importance for the parish community, check out the USCCB RCIA website at [usccb.org](https://www.usccb.org/rcia).

## 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](mailto:joanw@sjtbcc.org) for more information on this group.

## What's Next With the Synod?

Thank you to all our parishioners who participated in the latest listening session, which addressed the question of what hinders and what encourages the shared mission of all the baptized.

The synthesis report of the *Synod Assembly in Rome of October 2023* states, "As members of the faithful People of God, all the baptized are co-responsible for mission, each according to his or her vocation, competence, and experience. Therefore, all contribute to imagining and discerning steps to reform Christian communities and the Church as a whole." Your responses will help prepare for the *Synod Assembly in Rome* on October 2024. For more information go to [synod.va/en.html](https://synod.va/en.html).



## Elementary Faith Formation Invites You

The Elementary Faith Formation Program invites all children in preschool to Grade 4 to join our program! Our classes are held on Sunday mornings, October through May. Children can grow in faith together through lessons, prayers, and relationships while having fun at the same time. We hope you join us in becoming faith-filled kids! Please call the church office for information at 253-630-0701.

## Children, Come Celebrate the Liturgy of the Word at Mass

We offer a Children's Liturgy of the Word on Sundays, during the 9:00 am Mass for children ages 5 to 10. Kids celebrate the Catholic faith with readings, reflections, prayers, and songs, which are designed to engage their age level. This program will run from October through May. Contact *Therese McHenry* at [ThereseM@sjtbcc.org](mailto:ThereseM@sjtbcc.org) if you have any questions or would like your child to participate. Or you may call the parish office.

## We Bid Anne Frederick Goodbye

Our beloved **Anne Frederick** will be retiring in the middle of April. She is looking forward to spending more time with her family. Anne has brought many smiles to our faces over the years, and we will truly miss her spiritual guidance and wisdom.

We will gather **after the Masses on April 20 and 21** to congratulate her.

May God always be with you in this new chapter in your life, Anne! We hope we can still be graced with your presence at Masses here at St. John the Baptist in the future!

## Partners in the Gospel Update

For those of you who are just hearing this for the first time, *Partners in The Gospel* is the strategic pastoral planning effort taking place across the Archdiocese of Seattle to re-invigorate and renew our local Catholic Church. On July 1 of this year, *Holy Spirit* parish in Kent and *St. John the Baptist* parish in Covington will become one parish family under the leadership of one pastor and one or more parochial vicars (assistant priests). Over the next three years, we will discern the best way of becoming one parish. For more information, go to [archseattle.org/partners/](http://archseattle.org/partners/).

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.

Pastor and Parochial Vicar assignments will be announced at the Masses next weekend, April 6 & 7. All assignments will be listed on the [Seattle Archdiocese website](http://Seattle Archdiocese website) on Monday, April 8.

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



## 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.

## 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](http://archseattle.ccbchurch.com/goto/scheduling/271/public) or by paper in the Narthex at the Life Justice Peace table.

The *Random Acts of Cleanup* 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](http://covingtonwa.gov/cleancovington.php) or see flyer in the electronic version of this bulletin.

## Solemnity of Easter

Easter Sunday celebrates the Lord's resurrection from the dead and his victory over death. Easter Sunday is the greatest of all Sundays.

The word "Easter" comes from Old English, meaning simply the "East." The sun which rises in the East, bringing light, warmth, and hope, is a symbol for the Christian of the rising Christ, who is the True Light of the world. The Paschal Candle used during the Easter Vigil is a central symbol of this Divine Light, which is Christ. It is kept near the ambo throughout Easter Time and lit for all liturgical celebrations. (Source: USCCB)

## Rachel's Corner

### Hope and Healing After Abortion



Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. - *Pt 1:3*

As we celebrate God's boundless love for all of us this Easter season, remember that God wants to forgive our sins, heal our wounds, and promises life everlasting for those who trust in Him. If you carry the wounds from a past abortion, the Easter season is a wonderful time to experience the joy of God's healing.

Call for a compassionate & confidential conversation.  
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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](mailto:jennifer.wong@seattlearch.org)





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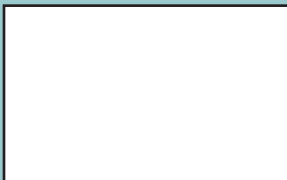
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