

# THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

April 21, 2024  
Fourth Sunday of Easter

The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone. (Ps 118:22)

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Photo courtesy of *Marge Battisti*

## The Beginning of the Easter Fire

(see related story on Page 4)

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### 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**

## 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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### Patience



PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL is meant to be a slow process, which requires patience and waiting. After over a year of consultation, our parish family was announced at the beginning of February. The beginning of April saw the announcement of the priests who will serve our parish family. It becomes official on July 1. Then begins a three-year process of forming one parish. This process will include welcoming, restructuring, and envisioning.

There are many unanswered questions; answers will only emerge as you go through this process. We will need to sit with uncertainty for a while. This is not always an easy thing to do. The first phase will simply be getting to know one another: you getting to know the new priests, them getting to know you, the two parishes getting to know one another, staff getting to know one another, and even getting to know ourselves better.

Please refrain from contacting the priests before they officially arrive, so they have time to wrap up their current assignments. We will let you know when the new pastor and parochial vicars will join us in July, and we will all have several opportunities to welcome and meet them. Until then, I remain fully committed to you.

Remember this is a three-year process, and it is going to take time to come together. We do not need to rush it. We are embarking on a great opportunity. Let's remember the ultimate goal of PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL is to revitalize parish life and to allow us to focus more attention, more energy, and more resources on our mission.

*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**  
(until June 30, 2024)  
ext. 105: [billm@sjtbcc.org](mailto:billm@sjtbcc.org)

## Administration, Engagement & Outreach:

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

## Bookkeeper:

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

## Bulletin:

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

## Database Management:

**Andrea Shimek**  
ext. 115, [andreas@sjtbcc.org](mailto:andreas@sjtbcc.org)

## Facility Grounds & Building:

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

## Facility Scheduling & Communications:

**Rose McAvoy**  
ext. 115, [rosem@sjtbcc.org](mailto:rosem@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)

## 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

# This Week in Our Church



## Sunday, April 21

**Mass - 9:00 am**  
Elementary Program - 10:15 am  
Cookies and coffee with **Anne Frederick** after am Masses  
**Mass - 11:30 am**  
5<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade Sacramental Prep - 4:00 pm  
**Mass - 5:30 pm**  
High School Youth Group - 6:30 pm

## Monday, April 22

Word & Communion - 9:00 am  
Choir (9:00 am) Practice - 7:00 pm

## Tuesday, April 23

Word & Communion - 9:00 am  
WICS - 6:00 pm  
Choir (Fil-Am) Practice - 7:00 pm  
St. Vincent de Paul Meeting - 7:00 pm

## Wednesday, April 24

**Mass - 9:00 am**  
Oracion - 6:00 pm  
Choir (Truthful Reign) Practice - 7:00 pm  
Vida en el Espiritu - 7:00 pm  
Youth Group, Middle School - 7:00 pm

## Thursday, April 25

PREPARES Meeting - 9:30 am  
Hora Santa - 2:30 pm  
**Mass - 6:30 pm**  
Communications Meeting - 7:00 pm  
RCIA/OCIA - 7:00 pm

## Friday, April 26

**Mass - 9:00 am**  
Hispanic Charismatic Prayer - 6:30 pm

## Saturday, April 27

Eucharist Prep Retreat 5th to 12th Grades - 10:00 am  
Gospel Reflection - 10:00 am  
Reconciliation - 4:00 pm  
**Mass - 5:30 pm**  
Strengths Wine & Cheese Party - 6:30 pm

**Please Pray for  
the sick:**

**Zelie Dolan  
Mike Grizzle  
William & Monica Jones  
Barb Martz**

**those who have recently died:**  
**Walter Guachalla-Rizaro**

**Welcome  
Reverend J. Carlos Orozco**



Father Carlos Orozco graduated from Mount Angel Seminary in Oregon with a double major in philosophy and religious studies. He later transferred to Mundelein Seminary in Chicago, where he completed his masters in Divinity. He hopes to pursue further education in Theology and Religious Studies. His area of academic interest is in biological and theological anthropology.

Fr. Carlos was ordained to the diocesan priesthood in June 2019 by Archbishop Peter Sartain at the Archdiocese of Seattle. He served two years as parochial vicar at *St. Louise Parish* in Bellevue and was assigned as a Priest Administrator at *Holy Spirit Parish* on July 1, 2021.

Aside from his pastoral ministry, Father Carlos enjoys reading, being active in social media, drawing, video editing, and photography. He also has a goal to visit all US National Parks and has a collection of exotic pets that includes tarantulas, boas, pythons, lizards, and more.

Please welcome Father Carlos as *St. John the Baptist's* new pastor effective July 1, 2024.

Next week, we will feature Father Crispin Okoth, one of *St. John the Baptist's* Vicars.

**Cookies and Coffee With Anne**

Our beloved **Anne Frederick** will be retiring in the middle of April. 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 bid her goodbye and have cookies and coffee/tea with her.

We **need your help** to make this event successful. Please see volunteer opportunities to **bring cookies and help with setup and cleanup here:** [sjtbcc.org/hospitality-signup/](http://sjtbcc.org/hospitality-signup/). Thanks for your help.

We look forward to seeing everyone!

**Mandatory Training Session 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. These instructions and guidelines are now approved by the Commission and Father Bill. It will be given to all Eucharistic Ministers at a retreat/training session on **Saturday, May 4** from **9:00 am to 12:00 noon**. This is a **mandatory** session for all Eucharistic Ministers, including substitutes. An RSVP sign-in sheet will be available in the next few days. An email will also be sent via Ministry Scheduler Pro.

If you are unable to make this date, please email **Pat Defiesta** at [bulletin@sjtbcc.org](mailto:bulletin@sjtbcc.org). A make-up session has not yet been scheduled at this time.

Thank you to all of our Eucharistic Ministers, who tirelessly serve in this ministry!

**Fun and Food  
Join Us at Our Next  
Strengths Party!**

Fr. Bill is inviting all those with **Positive**, **Harmonious**, and **Responsible** strengths

**Saturday, April 27**  
After 5:30 pm Mass  
McMullen Center

**RSVP by April 24 to Kathy at** [KathyW@sjtbcc.org](mailto:KathyW@sjtbcc.org)

**Update from the  
Women's Commission**

The *Women's Commission of St. John the Baptist* has met twice as a large group and three times as a leadership body. They have focused on the ideals of promoting women's voices in liturgy, connecting with women's advocacy groups outside of *St. John the Baptist*, and promoting inclusion. The advocacy group has met with *Discerning Deacons*, a group that has focused its efforts on prayer and study around the potential for restoring women to the diaconate. The Preacher's Circle has led Stations of the Cross on Good Friday. There continues to be interest in creating a faith sharing group around the goal of healing the wounds in the relationship between women and the church and in working on adding a service component to the group, specifically *Backpack Buddies*, a program that serves families in our neighboring schools by providing a bag of food for children over the weekend.

Most recently, the Commission has focused on distilling the mission and purpose statement into a short "elevator speech" that would identify the group quickly to outsiders. There is a possibility of renaming the group to honor Junia (from Romans 16:7), who is recognized as a saint in the Orthodox tradition. The Commission will vote on the above in the near future.

## Cover Photo Fun Fact

A parishioner, **Marge Battisti**, was working at the *Garden of Good Shepard* on Saturday, March 30 (Easter Vigil) and heard the sound of a chain saw cutting wood. She was curious and decided to follow the sound. What she found was our Facility Grounds & Building person, **David Aldous**, on his knees, strategically placing the wood for the Easter Vigil fire. David shared with Marge that the wood from the beautiful Christmas trees that adorned the Altar during the Christmas season are cut up and used to fuel the fire on Easter - a perfect depiction of birth, death, and resurrection.

## Annual Yard Sale June 20 to 23, 2024

It's a win-win-win, except since we're at church, it can be considered a blessing-blessing-blessing!

Blessing - that many parishioners with things they don't want or need anymore can donate somewhere knowing it will be treated with respect and be put to good use by someone who needs it.

Blessing - for those who come to shop to find things they need or want at low prices knowing what they spend goes to a good cause.

Blessing - that funds earned go to support Catholic education, tuition, and programs.



**Save the dates!** The yard sale will start with a preview sale **June 20, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm** (entry fee \$10), and then continue **June 21 to 22 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm**, ending **June 23 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm**. We will start collecting items after the Masses starting May 18, except for furniture which we will be able to take on June 10. We can take almost everything in **good, working condition** except for fuel tanks and cans, large appliances, car seats, helmets, or mattresses. We also need volunteers! Sign-ups will be online and in the Narthex this weekend.

## How Much Did I Donate?

Quarterly statements have been emailed/mailed to all registered households from whom we have received a donation during the first quarter of 2024. If you did not receive a statement and feel that you should have, please contact **Nancy Moore** in the parish office.



## Adult & Teen Volunteers Needed

We are in need of volunteers to help make our Vacation Bible School a success. If you are interested in volunteering please register at our website: [sjtbcc.org/vacation-bible-school/](http://sjtbcc.org/vacation-bible-school/) or **contact Joan Williamson at the office** for more info.



## Annual Catholic Appeal Kickoff

It is that time again to kick off the *Annual Catholic Appeal*. The theme this year is "One mission, one family - together in Christ." You should have received a letter from Archbishop Etienne this week. Please read his letter carefully and consider how each one of us lives out the mission of our Church, accompanying one another as disciples in Christ. **Our parish goal this year is \$128,000.** Our parish's average donation last year was \$446. All gifts received over our goal will be returned to the parish for our **parish project which is to install fencing around the retention ponds** to keep young children from falling in. We are very grateful for your generosity.

## Yum, Spaghetti!

The *Knights of Columbus* are inviting all parishioners, who are interested in learning more about the Knights and the Fraternal Benefits that are offered to Knights, to our Council Spaghetti Dinner.



Mark your calendars and join us on **Monday, May 6, 2024 at 6:00 pm.**

**RSVP by Friday, May 3,** by scanning the QR code or click on the link [sjtbcc.org/event-signup/](http://sjtbcc.org/event-signup/).





# Annual Catholic Appeal 2024

## One Mission, One Family, Together in Christ

The **Annual Catholic Appeal** funds ministries and services for your local Catholic community – including your neighbors and your parish. Your donation ensures the availability of outreach ministries, education, faith formation, support for parishes and much more!

### Your donation supports outreach ministries that:

- Care for the sick
- Engage youth communities
- Comfort the grieving
- Promote faith sharing
- Counsel those in crisis
- Welcome refugees
- Inspire CYO campers
- ... and much more.

Your ACA donation directly supports your parish with centralized services like human resources, financial services, liturgy guidance, faith formation, communications, building construction and more – all to ensure your parish can spend more time on pastoral care and less time on administration.



PICTURED FROM TOP: Catholic Youth Convention, Seminarians, CYO Camp

## Make Your Gift Today

[archseattle.org/GiveACA](https://archseattle.org/GiveACA) | Call 800-809-4921 | Scan the QR code



Annual Catholic Appeal | 710 9th Avenue, Seattle WA 98104 | [aca@seattlearch.org](mailto:aca@seattlearch.org)

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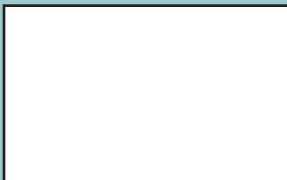
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