

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

April 28, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people. (Ps 22:25)



Photo courtesy of *Marge Battisti*

St. John the Baptist Street Cleanup Angels

(see related story on Page 4)

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!

Pastor's Corner

Partners in the Gospel



Other than personnel, we do not anticipate any immediate changes when our parish family takes effect on July 1. Many other parish families do have to adjust their Mass schedules, because the number of priests assigned to them makes it impossible to keep their current schedule. With two parishes forming our family plus 2-1/3 priests assigned, our Mass schedule should be able to remain the same for the time being. Later on, the parish family may need to look at Mass schedules, taking into consideration attendance, number of lay ministers available, etc.

We do face one immediate challenge: priest housing. A parish has three options: 1) provide an onsite rectory independent from parish offices, 2) provide off-site living such as renting an apartment, or 3) provide the priest a housing allowance, and let him determine his housing. *Holy Spirit Parish* has a small house, but it is certainly not large enough for two priests. Our parish has always provided the housing allowance, and this has worked fine for all the previous pastors. However, the allowance, set by the archdiocese is no longer adequate to cover the cost of rentals in the area. When I was assigned here three years ago, I was told that the archdiocese wanted a rectory established, either on- or off-site. I took a long-term approach, first wanting to stabilize our parish budget. Coming out of COVID, we were still relying upon our reserves. Once the budget was stabilized and built back up, I thought we could begin setting money aside.

The need is immediate. We need a place for one of the new priests to move into by the end of June. We are looking into the possibility of renting a rectory from one of our neighboring parish families, who may now have more rectories than priests. We are also considering renting an apartment or townhouse. We will also need to furnish it. This could be a temporary solution until the parish family decides what housing would be the best permanent solution.

If any parishioners have rental properties in the area, please let me know.

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

Administration, Engagement & Outreach:

Kathy Wickward
ext. 101, kathyw@sjtbcc.org

Bookkeeper:

Nancy Moore
ext. 102, nancym@sjtbcc.org

Bulletin:

Pat Defiesta
bulletin@sjtbcc.org

Database Management:

Andrea Shimek
ext. 115, andreas@sjtbcc.org

Facility Grounds & Building:

David Aldous
ext. 114, davida@sjtbcc.org

Facility Scheduling & Communications:

Rose McAvoy
ext. 103, rosem@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

Music Coordinator:

Luis Diaz de Leon
ext. 108, luisd@sjtbcc.org

Youth Minister:

Peter Guthrie
ext. 110, peterg@sjtbcc.org

Online:



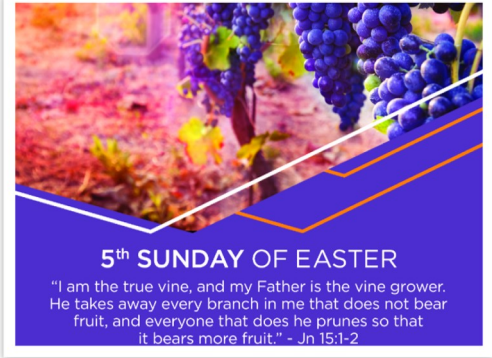
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Social Media:



@sjtbcovington

This Week in Our Church



Sunday, April 28

Mass - 9:00 am
Elementary Program - 10:15 am
Blood Pressure Check after morning Masses
Mass - 11:30 am
Mass - 5:30 pm
High School Youth Group - 6:30 pm
1st Eucharist Parent's Meeting - 7:00 pm

Monday, April 29

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

Tuesday, April 30

Word & Communion - 9:00 am
WICS - 6:00 pm

Wednesday, May 1

Mass - 9:00 am
Parish Leadership Team Meeting - 6:30 pm
Choir (Truthful Reign) Practice - 7:00 pm
Vida en el Espiritu Santo - 7:00 pm
Youth Group, Middle School - 7:00 pm

Thursday, May 2

Mostly Yoga
Creation Care Team Meeting - 1:00 pm
Hora Santa - 2:30 pm
Safe Parking Monthly Meeting - 3:00 pm
Mass - 6:30 pm
RCIA/OCIA - 7:00 pm

Friday, May 3

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, May 4

Eucharistic Ministers Retreat - 9:00 am
Gospel Reflection - 10:00 am
Confirmation Year 1 Prep (HS) - 10:00 am
Reconciliation - 4:00 pm
Mass - 5:30 pm

Please Pray for the sick:

Bob Babbitt
Doris Conley
Zelie Dolan
William & Monica Jones
Barb Martz
Renee Nicholas

those who have recently died:

Bruce Borsheim
(brother-in-law of Sandi Borsheim)
Walter Guachalla-Rizaro
(brother-in-law of Jorge Gomez)
Lydia Vivo Simon
(grandma of Earl, Geoffrey, & Leslie Simon)

Welcome Reverend Crispin Achola Okoth



Fr. Crispin Achola Okoth was born in Mombasa Kenya to John Okoth (deceased) and Catherine Nyadhi (deceased).

He did his primary and secondary in Mombasa; his college and priestly training in Bungoma and Nairobi Kenya. He was ordained to the sacred priesthood on August 25, 1990 for the Archdiocese of Mombasa. There in Mombasa, he served in various positions as a deputy principal in a diocesan seminary, vocation's director, archbishop's personal assistant, and pastor in the college of consultants. He then journeyed to Rome for further studies.

He came to the United States in 2003 to raise funds for poor children through *Christian Foundation for Children and Aging* before his bishop released him to serve here in the Archdiocese of Seattle. He first served as Parochial Vicar at *St. Joseph* in Vancouver. In January 2008, he was asked to serve as interim Priest Administrator at *St. Mary Magdalene* in Everett. In July 2008, he transferred to *St. John the Evangelist* as Priest Administrator.

His vision is to participate and lead in the process of building a faith and spirit-filled community, a praying community. He believes that people who are "spiritually healthy" build a strong, proactive, and vibrant community of believers.

In his spare time, Father Crispin likes to read, watch movies, and travel. While in Europe, he was blessed to travel most countries of Europe like Switzerland, Germany, Spain, and France. He has also travelled extensively in Africa and speaks several African (Kenyan) languages.

Please welcome Father **Crispin Okoth** as *St. John the Baptist's* new vicar effective July 1, 2024.

Mandatory Training Session for Eucharistic Ministers

A retreat for Eucharistic Ministers will be held on **Saturday, May 4** from **9:00 am to 12:00 noon**. Come at 8:30 to enjoy some coffee & donuts.

Included in this retreat is a **mandatory training** session for all Eucharistic Ministers (EMs), including substitutes.

An email has been sent to all current EMs as well as new EMs. **If you have not received an email yet, please check your spam** box for an email from archseattle@ccbchurch.com inviting you to this retreat or email **Pat Defiesta** at bulletin@sjtbcc.org. Please contact Pat if you are unable to make this session.

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

Liturgy Commission Update

The parish Liturgy Commission met on April 11 to discuss the following:

- The updated instructions for Eucharistic Ministers. Several minor edits were made. Plans for the pulpit talks the weekend of April 13/14 at all the masses by current Eucharistic Ministers were shared. The upcoming retreat for all Eucharistic Ministers was discussed.
- Current status of Point Person and Greeter ministries. The Commission will be addressing the need to recruit more volunteers in these two ministries in the near future.
- New dress guidelines for all Liturgical Ministers developed by a Commission subcommittee. Several edits were made, and the updated copy will be circulated to the Commission for final review before being submitted to Fr. Bill for his approval. Once approved, these dress guidelines will be given to the coordinators for each of the Liturgical ministries in the parish to discuss with the ministers in their respective areas.
- Updates for Partners in the Gospel including the announcement of our new pastor, Parish Liaison, and timeline for activities. Members expressed their hopes that opportunities for involvement in future plans for consolidation will be available to all parishioners who desire to participate in our becoming one parish over the three years ahead.

Our next meeting will be May 9 at 7:00 pm in the parish office.

Come Sing With Us

Do you like to sing or play an instrument? The 11:30 am choir is looking for new members. If you are interested, contact **Myke Smith** via the church office, or stop by the choir area after Mass.

Don't Forget - Spaghetti on Monday!



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/.

On the Cover

"Litter attracts litter," but thanks to the conscientious volunteers on Saturday April 13 (featured on our bulletin cover), our adopted street (156th Avenue between SE 256th Street and SE 264th Street) is litter-free! The following volunteers gave up Saturday morning to clean up the litter. Thank you!!!

Angelo & Marge Battisti, Billy Bailey, Kelly Cooksey, Bailey Cooksey, Paul Dehmer, Mike Hammons, Mikel Ligon, Luis De La Graza, and Rose McAvoy.

We continue to thank the volunteers at our prior two street cleanups, because their efforts had a positive impact in decreasing the amount of litter this time around. Your willingness to clean up God's Creation for our neighbors is very much appreciated.

Annual Catholic Appeal Kickoff

Last week, we launched the 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal. Next month, we will hear **Tom East**, our Partners in the Gospel liaison, speak to the impact of the Annual Catholic Appeal as we accompany one another and put the Gospel into concrete action.

Please see the bulletin insert for a list of these ministries, and please consider Archbishop Etienne's message in his letter as you discern your gift. You can use the envelope in the pew or give online at archseattle.org/GiveACA. Keep an eye on the tracking thermometer on our website to watch our progress!

Honoring Mother Mary

The Elementary Faith Formation, led by our teen leaders, will present a "May Crowning" at 10:25 am on May 5 in the church. Please join us to honor Mother Mary! Everyone is welcome to join the procession by meeting in the Narthex at 10:20 am. Flowers will be provided. Please contact **Therese McHenry** at the church office for more details.

Vacation Bible School Needs You

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/ or **contact Joan Williamson at the office** for more information.



You Are Invited

The Women's Commission would like to invite you to join us as we participate in a Zoom listening session with over 25 participating organizations, and over 1000 individuals on **April 29, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. PT** for *Discerning Diakonia*. This is a focused synodal encounter about the renewal of the permanent diaconate for the Church's social mission.

This event, which will include a listening presence from voting Synod delegates and a facilitated synodal experience of Conversations in the Spirit, features special guests including Deacon Geert de Cubber, the Synod's only Roman Catholic permanent deacon, and esteemed scholar on the diaconate, Deacon William Ditetwig. We will gather virtually to hear from ministry leaders from the United States and Canada, whose stories, experiences, and examples give us living witness for what is needed and what could be possible for our Church in this third millennium.

This is an easy but powerful opportunity to participate in the Church's discernment about women and the diaconate during the present Interim Phase of the Synod. Input from this listening session will be incorporated into input going to Rome this October.

Professional interpretation from English to Spanish is provided. If you are interested, please RSVP here: archseattle.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/2555/responses/new, or contact **Kathy Wickward** at the office.

Yard Sale Collection Dates

We will start collecting items after the Masses starting May 18 for items in good working condition. Note that large furniture will be accepted starting June 10. Please, **NO** fuel tanks and cans, large appliances, car seats, helmets, or mattresses. **Do not drop off any items without authorization.**

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.

Supporting our yard sale means supporting Catholic education, tuition, and programs. Please donate your items that were once your treasures and pick up new treasures when you shop at our yard sale.

Sign-up to receive items after Masses: archseattle.ccbchurch.com/goto/scheduling/56/public. Sign up to sort items: archseattle.ccbchurch.com/goto/scheduling/60/public



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!

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- 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

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JULY 8TH TO 12TH**

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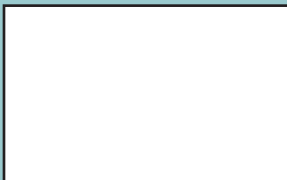
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