

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

May 5, 2024
Sixth Sunday of Easter

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power. (Ps. 98:2)



Photo courtesy of SJTB Media Team

May God Bless and Keep You
(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

Mary, Mother of God



As we enter the month of May, I would like to share with you an article from Fr. Paul Turner (Copyright © 2012 Resource Publications, Inc., 160 E. Virginia St. #170, San Jose, CA 95112, 408-286-8505).

Devotion to Mary remains a hallmark of the Catholic faith. Some people, unfamiliar with our religion, assume that prayer to Mary forms the backbone of the Mass. Wrong! Prayer to Mary is certainly the backbone of the rosary, but there isn't a single prayer addressed to Mary in the entire Mass, front to back, on any day of the liturgical year.

When it comes to prayer, we acknowledge Hebrews 7:25, which says Christ lives forever to make an intercession for us. So we direct our prayers to God through Christ. However, because of Mary's central role in salvation history, she makes several appearances in the texts at every Mass and every day of the liturgical year.

Most importantly, Mary's name is pronounced right in the heart of Mass in the Eucharistic prayer. She is called by two titles made mystic by their juxtaposition: "Virgin" and "Mother". In the second Eucharistic prayer for children, she is also called "Mother of God and our mother." Mary also appears in the Creed, as the virgin who conceived the Word made flesh.

At times, we celebrate a Mass in her honor, under a title like "Mary, Mother of the Church" (the Monday after Pentecost, which is May 20 this year), or to commemorate an event in her life, like *The Visitation* (May 31). A preface often prayed on these days echoes her song of praise, the *Magnificat*. But most frequently, she is remembered as the "Virgin Mother".

By connecting these two titles of Mary, the church invites us to reflect on her son. Mary's special role as the "Virgin Mother" reminds us that the miraculous birth of Jesus introduced the world to an extraordinary child, whose miracles would never cease.

At first, the title, "Mother of God," sounds wrong. God is the uncreated creator of all. How could God have a mother? That puzzling question draws us into a deeper meditation on the identity of Jesus. Because Jesus is both fully God and fully human, Mary must be called "Mother of God".

In the liturgy, Mary's role always bows to her son. She gives birth to him not only in time but in the liturgy and in our hearts. During the month of May, many will address devotions to Mary, and rightfully so. But she will direct them to Christ.

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



sjtbcc.org

@sjtbcovington

Our bulletin is also online at parishesonline.com/publication-page/st-john-the-baptist-church-98042?pid=15745f04-2fb8-4cc4-815f-d1cc9ec579c4&type=Church&acc=05-1539

This Week in Our Church 6th Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 5

Mass - 9:00 am
Elementary Program - 10:15 am
Mass - 11:30 am
Mass (Confirmation) - **5:30 pm**
High School Youth Group - 6:30 pm

Monday, May 6

Mostly Yoga - 7:30 am
Word & Communion - 9:00 am
Prayer Ministry SFC Meeting - 9:30 am
Knights of Columbus General Member Meeting - 6:00 pm
Choir (9:00 am) Practice - 7:00 pm

Tuesday, May 7

Word & Communion - 9:00 am
Life, Justice, Peace Meeting - 3:00 pm
WICS - 6:00 pm
Choir (Fil-Am) Practice - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, May 8

Mass - 9:00 am
EM Subcommittee Meeting - 2:00 pm
Oracion - 6:00 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 9

Mostly Yoga
Hora Santa - 2:30 pm
Facility & Grounds Commission Meeting - 4:30 pm
Mass - 6:30 pm
Liturgy Commission Meeting - 7:00 pm
Post Alpha Meeting - 7:00 pm
RCIA/OCIA - 7:00 pm

Friday, May 10

Creative Kindness Sewing Meeting - 9:00 am
Mass - 9:00 am
Funeral for Carole Poussier - 11:00 am
1st Eucharist Mass rehearsal - 6:30 pm
Hispanic Charismatic Prayer - 6:30 pm

Saturday, May 11

Craft & Hobby Day - 10:00 am
Gospel Reflection - 10:00 am
1st Eucharist **Mass** - 11:00 am
Reconciliation (Confessions) - 4:00 pm
Mass - 5:30 pm

Please Pray for

the sick:

Doris Conley

Monica Jones

Barb Martz

Renee Nicholas

and those who have recently died:

Zelie Dolan

Bruce Borsheim

(brother-in-law of Sandi Borsheim)

Walter Guachalla-Rizaro

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.



Yard Sale Collection Dates

We will start collecting items for our yard sale after Masses on **May 18** and all Masses thereafter until the sale. All items must be in good working condition. Note that large furniture will be accepted starting June 10. Please, **NO** fuel tanks and cans, no large appliances, no car seats, no helmets, and no mattresses. **Do not drop off any items without authorization.** If unauthorized items are dropped off, we are responsible for disposing of them, which usually comes with a fee.

The yard sale will start with a preview sale on 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

Or scan these codes to sign up.



Receive items



Sorters



Day of sale volunteer



Clean up

PREPARES Needs Your Help



On the weekend of May 11 and 12, the *PREPARES* ministry of *St. John the Baptist* will be hosting a *Mother's Day Needs Drive*. We will be collecting items to fill *PREPARES* Support Bags that will be distributed to disadvantaged mothers in our community.

We especially need diapers - **only** Sizes 5 and 6 and Pullups Sizes 3T and 4T for boys and girls please. Donations will be accepted after each of the Masses on May 11 and 12. A complete list of items needed can be found at sjtbcc.org/prepares-mothers-day-drive/. A baby crib, where you can place your donations, will be set up in the narthex.

Thank you for your support of this vital ministry for our mothers-in-need.

Annual Catholic Appeal Kickoff

Thank you to all those who have already made a gift or returned your Annual Catholic Appeal pledge. Your gift makes a difference to our brothers and sisters in all places in life, including those in prison, people who are at end of life, youth and young adults, and families seeking to grow in their faith and celebrating the sacraments.

Consider pledging over multiple months to support our parish and fund our parish project of building a safe enclosure around the ponds on the church grounds.

You can use the envelope in the pews or give online (and watch your mileage or cash back grow) at archseattle.org/GiveACA to make a safe and convenient gift to the appeal. Thank you for your support!

Here is where we stand **as of April 26:**

Total amount pledged: \$22,470.08

Total pledges: 34

Average pledge: \$660.88

The People Behind the Scenes

A big shout out to our bulletin proof readers:

Mary Petersen, Rita Rydberg, Bonnie Sawyer, and Kathleen Williams. These are the ladies behind the scenes who make sure that font sizes are the same size and color; and words are spelled correctly; who check grammar, formatting, QR codes, and URLs; and so much more. These four women give up an hour or more of their time every Sunday to go through the bulletin before it goes to print. Thank you, Ladies!

On the Cover

On the weekend of April 20 & 21, we bid farewell to a wonderful Pastoral Assistant for Stewardship & Evangelization, **Anne Frederick**, as she starts the next chapter of her life, retirement.

Featured on our cover is Anne being blessed by **Father Jim Coyne** and her faith family at *St. John the Baptist*. Below is a message from Anne:

“Thank you everyone for the delicious cookies, gifts, cards, and kind wishes you shared with me during my retirement weekend. You have blessed me in so many ways and you remain in my prayers of gratitude and hope!” ~ **Anne Frederick**

We wish Anne well in this new chapter in her life.

Counting Heads at Masses

It's that time of the year again, when our parish needs to send Mass attendance counts to the archdiocese. These Mass counts provide vital data that help the archdiocese gauge attendance trends, demographic shifts, and overall parish engagement. This information is crucial for planning and allocating resources effectively. It also ensures that our programs and services meet the actual needs of our parishioners.

Our Point People at each Mass will be doing the count around the time of Father Bill's homily. Thanks for your understanding. We apologize for the inconvenience and disruption that this counting may cause.

Building a Catholic Community

There is no such thing as “independence” when we're talking about a community. We are always dependent on each other, from the food that we eat (someone had to grow or raise them) to the clothes that we wear (someone had to make them.) As a community, we need to think of ourselves as “interdependent”, especially in times of needing a ride to go to Mass or any other church activity. Because *St. John the Baptist* does not have a transportation ministry, we are interdependent on each other to offer or ask a ride to attend Mass or church activities. The parish's staff members are limited by insurance liabilities to perform this ministry; but as a community, we can offer this rideshare to one another. Please consider being a steward to this self-ministry by offering a ride to someone who needs it. And if you're the one needing the ride and are confident in the person you are asking, feel free to ask for a ride.

This article in *US Catholic* might offer inspiration as well as information. Here's to building a Catholic Community! [U.S. Catholic \(uscatholic.org\)](https://www.uscatholic.org).

Come Sing With Us

Do you like to sing or play an instrument? The **11:30 am** Mass 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.

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: sitbcc.org/vacation-bible-school/ or contact **Joan Williamson** at the office for more information.



Highlights From Our Finance Council

A meeting was held on April 18. Some discussions during the meeting included:

- ordinary income (from Sunday Giving) is \$32,000 less than planned.
- facilities costs are very high due to a number of factors, including the burst pipe and higher utilities costs.
- review of a proposed budget without liturgy and pastoral care costs. We expect to break even, although there is some concern that we should adjust revenue expectations downward because of the drop in stewardship collections.
- *Annual Catholic Appeal* goal increasing from \$117,000 in the previous fiscal year, to \$128,000 this year, and to \$139,000 the following year. Our parish rebate will likely decrease.
- a possible rectory in our future. The plan is to delay a capital expenditure for the upcoming fiscal year by renting an apartment or renting a nearby rectory using the housing allowance.

The two parishes' Finance Councils will start meeting early in the new fiscal year, sometime after July 1.

Financial results March 31, 2024 Year to date:

Income: \$983,225.00

Expenses: \$1,004,892.00

Net Deficit: (\$21,667.00)

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 sitbcc.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 | Call 800-809-4921 | Scan the QR code



Annual Catholic Appeal | 710 9th Avenue, Seattle WA 98104 | aca@seattlearch.org



Come one...

Come some of you...

- **Families**
- **Individuals**
- **Teens**
- **Groups**

All Parish Spring Cleaning

**Friday, May 17th and/or Saturday,
May 18th**

Many hands (spread out) make light work!!

Help us get ready for summer!

- **We provide cleaning supplies**
- **You bring muscle, enthusiasm and gloves!**
- **Clean the Sanctuary, and Grounds**

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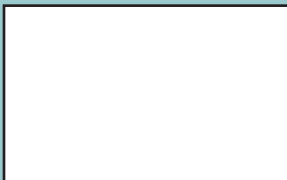
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