

WEEK OF JANUARY 5, 2025

# *The Epiphany of* THE LORD



When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." Matthew 2:1





## Our Mission

*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!*

*United in the Holy Spirit, we are a multicultural community celebrating Mass in four languages as we strive to live humility, gentleness, patience, bearing one another through love, striving to preserve unity of the spirit through the bond of peace:  
one body, one spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God.  
-Ephesians 4:1-6*

## Mass Times & Confessions

**Vigil:** Saturday at 5:30p

**Sunday Masses:**

9:00a | 11:30a | 5:30p

**Weekday Masses:**

Monday & Wednesday at 9:00a

Thursday at 6:30p

1st Friday Spanish 7:30p

**Word & Communion:**

Tuesday & Friday at 9:00a

**Confessions:**

Saturday 4:00p to 5:00pm

**Vigil:** Saturday at 5:00p | Spanish 7:00p

**Sunday Masses:**

8:30a | 10:30a | 12:30p Spanish

2:30p Swahili | 6:00p Chuukese (1st Sunday)

8:00p Spanish

**Weekday Masses** (in chapel):

Monday 9:00a

Wednesday thru Friday 9:00a

(Spanish Mass on Wednesday at 7:00p)

**Confessions:**

Saturday 3:00p to 4:30p (Main church)

Wednesday 6:00p to 6:45p (chapel)

## Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday 9:00a to 4:00pm

Saturday from 10:00a to 3:00p

Sunday & Monday - Closed

Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm

Saturday & Sunday - Closed



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**Sunday, January 5**

Mass - 9:00 am, 11:30 am

Blood Pressure Check after both morning Masses

OCIA Dismissal - 11:30 am

Mass - 5:30 pm

**Monday, January 6**

Mostly Yoga - 7:30 am

Mass - 9:00 am

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

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

Knights of Columbus Meeting - 7:00 pm

**Tuesday, January 7**

Word & Communion - 9:00 am

Life, Justice, Peace - 3:00 pm

AF Oracion - 6:00 pm

WICS - 6:00 pm

Vida en el Espiritu Santo - 7:00 pm

Liturgy Training (Espanol) - 7:00 pm

**Wednesday, January 8**

Mass - 9:00 am

Middle School Youth Group - 7:00 pm

Choir (Truthful Reign) Practice - 7:00 pm

**Thursday, January 9**

Creation Care Team - 1:00 pm

Facility & Grounds Commission Meeting 4:30pm

Hora Santa 5:00 pm

Mass 6:30pm

Women's Commission Leaders Meeting 6:30pm

Choir Practice (11:30) 7:00 pm

Liturgy Commission 7:00pm

RCIA/OCIA 7:00 pm

**Friday, January 10**

Word and Communion - 9:00 am

Faith Formation Dinner - 6:30 pm

Grupo Divinia Miserecordia - 6:30 pm

**Saturday, January 11**

Confirmation Year 1 Prep. - 10:00 am

Confession - 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Mass - 5:30 pm



**Sunday, January 5**

Mass in English - 8:30 am, 10:30 am

Misa en Espanol - 12:30 pm

Mass in Swahili - 2:30 pm

Mass in Chuukese - 6:00 pm

Misa en Espanol - 8:00 pm

**Monday, January 6**

Mass - 9:00 am

Food Pantry - 1:00 pm

**Tuesday, January 7**

World Peace Rosary - 12:00 pm

**Wednesday, January 8**

Mass - 9:00 am

Exposition - 6:00 pm

Confession - 6:00 pm

Mass - 7:00 pm

**Thursday, January 9**

Mass & Exposition - 9:00 am

**Friday, January 10**

Mass - 9:00 am

**Saturday, January 11**

Confession - 3:00 pm

Mass - 5:00 pm

Mass - 7:00 pm



## Please Pray for



the sick:

**J.J Chapel**  
**Ronie Gerona**  
**Elizabeth Richardson**  
**Melinda Toraz**  
**Arne Wespestad**

and those who have recently died:

**John Evoy**  
(husband of Asmaa Evoy)  
**Bill Grant**  
(friend of the Triplett family)  
**Cecelia Kinkela**  
(mother of Debbie Kinkela)  
**Connie Turner**  
(sister of Carla Snyder)

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## Twelfth Night, Epiphany

For those who thought that Christmas is over, there's still some celebrating left! *Epiphany*, celebrated on January 6, marks the final celebratory day of the Christian holiday season!

The day before the *Feast of the Epiphany* is the twelfth day of Christmas, and its evening is known as "Twelfth Night."

In some Catholic homes, it's not Christmas Day that is for giving presents to children, but the *Feast of Epiphany*, when the gifts are given in a way related to the Magi. Because of the *Epiphany's* association with the Magis' gift-giving, *Epiphany* is often referred to colloquially as the "Little Christmas."

It is today that the Three Kings should reach the creche (heretofore, they should be kept away from it) and that Baby Jesus should be adorned with signs of royalty, such as a crown, ermine, and gold or purple cloth.

Set up golden candlesticks around the manger where He lies.

Source: [Fisheaters Twelfth Night](#)

## Wanted: Gently Used Coats/Jackets



Here's your chance to do some spring cleaning early! The *Kent Food Bank and Emergency Services*, located in downtown Kent on West Harrison Street, is accepting **clean and gently used or new all-weather coats (adult sizes only)** for our unsheltered neighbors. If

you have a few sitting in your coat closet that you would like to donate to help our neighbors in need, please drop them off in the **Coats for Unsheltered Neighbors** box in the narthex at St. John the Baptist. Coats will be collected throughout the month of January. Please remember that long "dressy" coats will not serve their needs, as these are neighbors who are without shelters. There are resources for children's coats, so no children's coats are needed at this time.

May God bless you for your kindness and generosity.

## Attention Giving Tree Volunteers



The *Giving Tree* team of 2024 would like your feedback.

Plans for the *Giving Tree* 2025 event are being discussed, and your input is needed to make this event as successful as, or more successful than, past events. If you have any comments or suggestions for the next

event, please email them to **Pat** at [bulletin@sjtbcc.org](mailto:bulletin@sjtbcc.org). If you would like to remain anonymous, please write your comment or suggestion on a piece of paper and place in the "Bulletin" mail slot in the parish's mailroom. The team also welcomes comments on what went well, so they can continue that process in the future.

Thank you again to all of the volunteers who have helped to make the *Giving Tree* event on December 22, 2024 a successful event!

## Alpha: Explore Life and Faith in a Welcoming Community



Begin a journey of exploration and discovery with *Alpha*. Whether you are curious about Christianity, seeking deeper meaning, or simply exploring, you'll find a friendly and open space to connect.

Each session features a thought-provoking video that introduces key aspects of the Christian faith such as, who is Jesus and why does he matter. Learn how faith impacts everyday life. Join small group conversations where you can ask questions about God, faith, and life. Or you can simply listen to others share their perspectives.

Enjoy a free meal in a casual setting. Sharing food together helps build community and makes conversations more comfortable.

Sessions start on **January 13, 2025** from **6:30 pm to 8:30 pm** at Holy Spirit Parish Hall. Check St. John the Baptist's [website](#) for more information.

## Your Envelopes and Special Collections



We continue to have special collections every month, which support causes outside our parish (i.e., PREPARES, Rice Bowl, and Catholic Home Missions).

If you receive envelopes, it is really important that you **use the correct envelope** for your donations, so they will get credited to where you would like them to go. If we receive a donation in a Special Collection envelope, we assume it is intended for that Special Collection. If you are using that envelope because you don't have the stewardship envelope you need for that week, **please write the word STEWARDSHIP** in large letters somewhere on that envelope, so we can credit it correctly. Please refer to attached flyer.

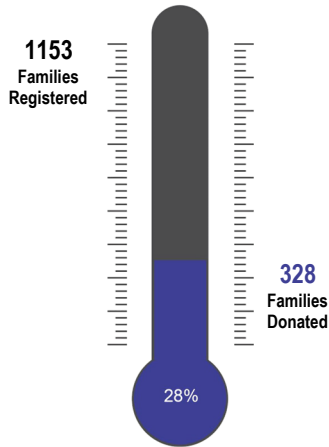
Thank you so much for all of your generosity to the parish and special causes. **We appreciate you!**

## Become a Steward of Your Treasure

Thanks to all who have pledged their time and treasure to our parish! We are entrusted with God's kingdom. Your support makes our formation, liturgy, community, and outreach programs possible.

While it would be nice to reach our monetary goal of \$1M, our primary goal now is to have **each and every registered household pray and respond to the call of stewardship**. This thermometer shows how many families have pledged.

- 328 households have pledged their treasures
- \$764,129.00 total pledged is 76% of our goal of \$1M



Remember, even the smallest pledge counts! Your commitment helps us to budget our funds for the coming year.

Please fill out a pledge card on [PushPay](#) or scan the QR code to the right. **If you pledge online, please report your total pledge for the year.**



Change your life by becoming engaged, as the steward that our Lord and Savior has called you to be.

## Temporary Priest Coverage

**Father Gilberto** of Holy Spirit Parish will be out of the country during the entire month of January. **Father Carlos** will be the celebrant at all of the Masses at Holy Spirit during that time, and **Father Crispin** will be the celebrant at all of the Masses at St. John the Baptist for the month of January. You can reach **Father Carlos** by phone at ext. 125 or email at [rcarlos@sjtbcc.org](mailto:rcarlos@sjtbcc.org) and **Father Crispin** by phone at ext. 105 or email at [crispino@sjtbcc.org](mailto:crispino@sjtbcc.org). You may also leave a message at the parish desk at 253-630-0701.

## Hearing Devices Available at Mass

If you haven't already "heard", we have hearing devices available at all Masses. These devices are designed to work with most hearing aids. If your hearing aids aren't compatible or if you don't have them, we have earphones that work with the devices. The devices are on the video desk in the back of the sanctuary.

Every so often, we hear that both priests are not sounding clear when they speak at the ambo, even for those whose hearing is good. If that has been the case for you, please try using the hearing-assist devices and see if that improves the clarity of the speaker. We are working on constantly improving our video and sound, so please let us know if it makes a difference.

Reach out to a media or point person before Mass for a hearing device. **Don't forget to return them after Mass.**

## 2025 Calendars

There are still some liturgical calendars left in the narthex. Pick up a copy if you haven't already done so.

## Cold Temperatures Bring Icy Mornings

It's that time of the year again, when cold mornings bring ice to our parking lot and sidewalks.

When the temperatures drop below freezing, frost and ice form on the parking lot and sidewalks creating unsafe conditions for people attending the early morning Masses.

Without a dedicated ministry, de-icing the parking lot was only made possible by snagging a parishioner or two before Mass to help with the de-icing. We need a few strong people/families willing to be on a winter rotation to come and spread the de-icer on our sidewalks and parking lot at 8:00 am on these icy mornings. This will be a special ministry team that will only operate through mid-March.

Please contact **David Aldous** at (253) 630-0701 x114 if you can support this ministry.

Thank you for your gift of time and talent.

**12 DAYS PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY**  
**Padova – Venice – Siena – Assisi – Rome**  
**APRIL 23- MAY 3, 2025**

There is a change on this *Pilgrimage to Italy* trip. **Father Carlos** was originally going to accompany parishioners on this trip, but **Father Crispin** will be there instead. Please check our [website](#) for complete information. We have not yet had a chance to replace Father Carlos's photo with Father Crispin's.

The office has limited information on this pilgrimage, so it's best to call **Holy Sepulcher Tours & Travel at 248-915-9933** if you have any questions. We hope to have more information in this bulletin in the near future.

## New Look to Our Bulletin

You have probably noticed the new format to our bulletin.

As of January 5, 2025, St. John the Baptist has officially joined bulletins with Holy Spirit to become "Family 30." The cover, mission statement and office hours, contact numbers, calendars, Gospel meditation, and ads will be printed by LPi, our contracted printers, and will be shared by both parishes. The articles specific to St. John the Baptist and Holy Spirit will be printed by each parish respectively. This gives each parish the flexibility to include all articles in a timely manner.

We hope you will enjoy the new format. We strive for continuous improvement, so the bulletin staff would like to hear from you on our new format and how you like or do not like it. Please email **Pat** at [bulletin@sjtbcc.org](mailto:bulletin@sjtbcc.org) with your comments.

Thank you for reading this bulletin and staying informed with St. John the Baptist community news.



## Readings for the week of January 5, 2025

### Sunday:

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13  
(see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

### Monday:

1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/  
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

### Tuesday:

1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/  
Mk 6:34-44

### Wednesday:

1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/  
Mk 6:45-52

### Thursday:

1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/  
Lk 4:14-22a

### Friday:

1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/  
Lk 5:12-16

### Saturday:

1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a  
and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

### Next Sunday:

Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25,  
27-28, 29-30 (1)/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/  
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.  
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for  
Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in  
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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Have you ever wondered why the magi had gold, frankincense, and myrrh? Matthew's Gospel tells us, **“Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh” (Matt. 2:11)**. Why are these things their “treasures”? One possible answer is they were magicians and astrologers, and these three items were the tools of their questionable trade. In offering them to Christ, they demonstrate that they will cease using such items to predict or control life. They place this baby-king, the God of Israel, at the center of their lives, and not their own devices of control, manipulation and prediction.

Isn't that what we need to do, too? Consider, for example, the magical power of money, symbolized by the magi's gold. Seemingly whatever we ask of money, it does. It wields a god-like power over the world. It can predict the future by guaranteeing better outcomes for us — which is why it is such a tempting alternative to trusting in God. The problem is such absolute trust in money enslaves us to the economic forces that make money so powerful. In paying homage to Jesus with “gold” (i.e., tithing), we participate in his authority over (and therefore freedom from) the magical sway of money.

What things in your life do you use to predict or control your future? What in your life seems to give you power over the world? Those are your treasures. Are you tired of feeling enslaved to them? Find a way to open them and give them to Christ, and you will be freer.

— *Father John Muir*

To get your content in our bulletin, websites, and social media, contact Pat Defiesta at [communications@sjtbcc.org](mailto:communications@sjtbcc.org) or Maria Molina at [communications@holyspiritkent.org](mailto:communications@holyspiritkent.org). Please send us content at least 2 weeks before publication.

# “God loves a cheerful giver”

-2 Corinthians 9:7

Every year, the Archdiocese of Seattle invites Catholics to support important collections. This calendar outlines opportunities so you can plan your giving and support the causes most important to you.

## Local, national and worldwide Catholic appeals



### JAN

**Church in Latin America:**  
Supports pastoral programs throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

### FEB

**PREPARES:**  
Parish-based pregnancy and parenting outreach to women and families of all faiths in building healthy support networks.



### MAR

**Northwest Catholic Campaign:**  
Supports the official news and evangelization publication for the Archdiocese of Seattle as well as the Catholic Communications Campaign for the USCCB.

**Lenten CRS Rice Bowl:**  
Donations fund Catholic Relief Services' agriculture, health, and educational projects overseas as well as grants in Western Washington for local anti-hunger projects.

**Catholic Relief Services:**  
Worldwide organization supporting the work of Catholic organizations that aid victims of war and natural disasters, help build peace in places of conflict, and minister to migrants and others with specific pastoral needs.

### APR

**Holy Land Good Friday:**  
Provides support for the holy places as well as pastoral, charitable, educational and social works in the Holy Land.

### JUN

**Peter's Pence:**  
Supports the works of the Holy Father in helping to relieve the suffering of the world's most vulnerable victims of war, the oppressed and those impacted by natural disasters.

LEARN MORE AND DONATE AT: [archseattle.org/collections](https://archseattle.org/collections)





## JUL

### **Military Services, USA:**

Supports the pastoral care of Catholics in the armed forces (at home and abroad), military academies, Veterans Affairs Medical Centers and those working in civilian jobs for the federal government beyond U.S. borders.

## AUG

### **Church in Africa:**

Finances pastoral projects in Africa including outreach programs, schools, evangelization, and education of clergy and lay ministers.

### **Catholic Home Missions:**

Provides resources to strengthen the Church in the U.S. by providing funds to enhance pastoral ministry through catechesis, seminarian and lay training, education and spiritual care.



## SEPT

### **Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD):**

Awards grants that address the root causes of national poverty through promotion and support of community-controlled, self-help organizations and transformative education.

## OCT

### **Black and Indian Mission:**

Supports and strengthens evangelization programs with an emphasis on serving economically challenged areas within dioceses in the U.S.

### **World Mission Sunday:**

Supports mission priests, religious sisters and brothers, and lay catechists who are Christ's witnesses to the most vulnerable communities globally.

## NOV

### **Church in Central and Eastern Europe:**

Helps to restore the Church in lands that survived decades of communist rule while building a new, more hopeful future for the people living there.

## DEC

### **Catholic Community Services of Western WA Appeal for the Poor:**

Supports over 190 programs and services that are relevant to local needs in all 19 counties of Western Washington.

LEARN MORE AND DONATE AT: [archseattle.org/collections](https://archseattle.org/collections)





December 29, 2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

May the peace of our Lord be with you this Christmas season.

We, the Bishops of Washington State, stand with our brothers and sisters who are immigrants and refugees. The threats of mass deportations and forced separation of families have caused great fear for refugees and migrants and their families—documented and undocumented. These threats are contrary to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the dignity of every human person that is central to the teachings of our Catholic faith.

In his encyclical letter *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis reminds us, “If every human being possesses an inalienable dignity, if all people are my brothers and sisters, and if the world truly belongs to everyone, then it matters little whether my neighbor was born in my country or elsewhere” (#55).

While we uphold that we are a nation of laws, as we’ve stated in the past, we also know that the U.S. immigration system is severely flawed and in need of a comprehensive overhaul. As Christians we know our love for God is measured by our love of neighbor, particularly the most vulnerable. Rooted in Scripture, the Catholic Church has a long tradition of standing with those forced to migrate, “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me” (Mt 25:35). Therefore, we cannot separate our love for God from our love for others, as we echo Pope Francis’ call to welcome, protect, promote and integrate immigrants (*Fratelli Tutti* 129).

Even the Statue of Liberty reminds us that migration is part of the fabric of our nation, with a line from Emma Lazarus, a Jewish-American immigrant author, engraved on its pedestal: “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.”

During this time of uncertainty and fear, we stand with our immigrant and refugee brothers and sisters. May all our brothers and sisters on the margins, especially migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, know that our parishes are open for prayer, comfort and solace. May each of us embrace the Gospel teaching and Pope Francis’ call to recognize the dignity of others as we welcome the stranger.



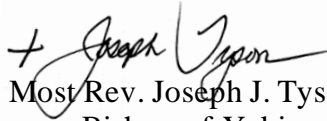
As pilgrims of hope entering into a Jubilee year, we journey together through these uncertain times knowing Our Lady of Guadalupe walks with us.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us!

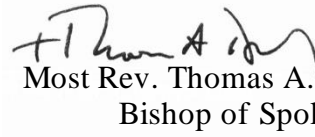
In the Heart of Christ,



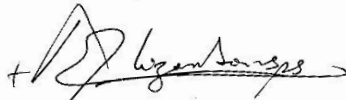
Most Rev. Paul D. Etienne  
Archbishop of Seattle



Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson  
Bishop of Yakima



Most Rev. Thomas A. Daly  
Bishop of Spokane



Most Rev. Eusebio Elizondo, M.Sp.S.  
Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle



Most Rev. Frank Schuster  
Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle



29 de diciembre, 2024

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo:

Que la paz de nuestro Señor esté con cada uno de ustedes en este tiempo de Navidad.

Nosotros, los obispos del estado de Washington, estamos con nuestros hermanos y hermanas inmigrantes y refugiados. Las amenazas de deportaciones masivas y separación forzada de familias han causado un gran temor entre refugiados, migrantes y sus familias, tanto documentadas como indocumentadas. Estas amenazas son contrarias al Evangelio de Jesucristo y a la dignidad de cada persona humana que es fundamental para las enseñanzas de nuestra fe católica.

En su carta encíclica [Fratelli Tutti](#) el Papa Francisco nos recuerda: "Si toda persona tiene una dignidad inalienable, si todo ser humano es mi hermano o mi hermana, y si en realidad el mundo es de todos, no importa si alguien ha nacido aquí o si vive fuera de los límites del propio país" (#125).

Si bien sostenemos que somos una nación de leyes, como hemos dicho en el pasado, también sabemos que el sistema de inmigración de los EE. UU. tiene graves fallas y necesita una revisión integral. Como cristianos, sabemos que nuestro amor a Dios se mide por nuestro amor al prójimo, particularmente a los más vulnerables. Arraigada en las Escrituras, la Iglesia Católica tiene una larga tradición de apoyar a los que se ven obligados a emigrar: "... porque tuve hambre, y ustedes me dieron de comer; tuve sed, y me dieron de beber; estaba de paso, y me alojaron" (Mt 25:35). Por lo tanto, no podemos separar nuestro amor a Dios y el de los demás, y deseamos hacer eco del llamado del Papa Francisco de acoger, proteger, promover e integrar a los inmigrantes (Fratelli Tutti 129).

Incluso la Estatua de la Libertad nos recuerda que la migración es parte del tejido de nuestra nación, con palabras de Emma Lazarus, una autora inmigrante judía-estadounidense, grabada en su pedestal: "Dame a tus cansados, a tus pobres, a tus masas apiñadas que anhelan respirar libres".


Durante este tiempo de incertidumbre y miedo, apoyamos a nuestros hermanos y hermanas inmigrantes y refugiados. Que todos nuestros hermanos y hermanas en los márgenes, especialmente los migrantes, refugiados y solicitantes de asilo, sepan que nuestras parroquias están abiertas para la oración y el consuelo. Que cada uno de nosotros abrace la enseñanza del Evangelio y el llamado del Papa Francisco a reconocer la dignidad de los demás al dar la bienvenida al extranjero.



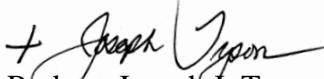
Como peregrinos de esperanza que entran en un año jubilar, caminamos juntos a través de estos tiempos inciertos sabiendo que Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe camina con nosotros.

¡Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, ruega por nosotros!

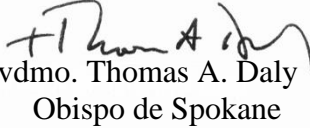
En el corazón de Cristo,



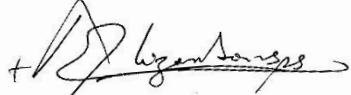
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