

# Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time





### **WEEK OF JULY 20, 2025**



Photo by Paul Dehmer

### Tending God's Garden: A Labor of Love by Our Creation Care Ministry

Our garden ministers are faithfully at work in the *Garden of the Good Shepherd*, tending and caring for the grounds with love and dedication - nurturing both the earth and our parish community. Whether you have a green thumb or simply enjoy being outdoors, there's a place for you in this ministry. Every plant, every hand, and every act of care helps our garden and our faith flourish.







## **Our Mission**

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

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!

## **Mass Times & Confessions**

(check weekly schedules for holiday times)

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)

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 5:00p

## **Office Hours**

(check weekly schedules for changes)

Monday to Friday 8:00a to 5:00p Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday - Closed Tuesday to Friday 9:00a to 4:00p Saturday from 10:00a to 3:00p Sunday & Monday - Closed 310 3rd Ave. S. Kent, WA 98032 253-859-0444







25810 - 156th Ave. SE Covington, WA 98042 253-630-0701



Father Carlos Orozco
Pastor
frcarlos@holyspiritkent.org
frcarlos@sjtbcc.org



Father Crispin Okoth Vicar frcrispin@holyspiritkent.org crispino@sjtbcc.org



Father Gilberto Mora Vicar frgilberto@holyspiritkent.org



Juan Carlos Tafur Facilities Steward



Brenda Fincher
Outreach
bfincher@holyspiritkent.org | x214



Cynthia Hernandez
Administrative Assistant
chernandez@holyspiritken.org



Veronica Nava Jimenez
Youth Ministry
VNavaJimenez@holyspiritkent.org | x216



Guadalupe Madrid
Faith Formation - Spanish
gmadrid@holyspiritkent.org | x229



Mary Molina
Communications
Communications@holyspiritkent.org | x225



Nancy Ortiz
Assistant to the Pastor
nortiz@holyspiritkent.org | x212



**Holly Renz**Liturgy, Music, RCIA, Infant Baptism hrenz@holyspiritkent.org | x215



Kristi Vasquez
Administration & Finance
kvasquez@holyspiritkent.org | x221



Evelia Torres-Lopez Clean Environment







holyspiritkent.org



David Aldous
Facilities Steward
davida@sjtbcc.org | x114



Luis Diaz de Leon Music luisd@sjtbcc.org | x108



Peter Guthrie Youth Ministry peterg@sjtbcc.org | x110



Rose McAvoy
Scheduling & Communications
rosem@sjtbcc.org | x103



Laurie Moloney Liturgy & Pastoral Care lauriem@sjtbcc.org | x111



Nancy Moore Bookkeeping nancym@sjtbcc.org | x102



Christina Daniel
Elementary Faith Formation
christinad@sitbcc.org | x123



Andrea Shimek
Database Management
andreas@sjtbcc.org | x115



Kathy Wickward Stewardship & Outreach kathyw@sjtbcc.org | x101



Joan Williamson
Faith Formation & Sacramental Preparation
joanw@sjtbcc.org | x109







sjtbcc.org

### THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH FAMILY



### Sunday, July

Choir Rehearsal (Swahili)
Swahili Community
Centro Rendu
Cursillos (Spanish)
Adult Faith Formation/Bible Study

### Monday, July

Bible Study Groups (Spanish)
Food Pantry
Small Christian Communities
Grupo de Oración
Youth Group
Grandparent Bible Study (Spanish)

### Tuesday, July

Young Adult Choir (Spanish)
Adult Confirmation
Small Christian Communities
Grupo de Oración
Choir Rehearsal (12:30 Spanish)
HS Youth Group
Terrific Tuesday Meals

### Wednesday, July

Young Adult Group (Spanish)
Knights of Columbus
Pastoral Council
Bible Study (Spanish)
RCIA/OCIA
English Class

### Thursday, July

Young Adult Core Team (Spanish)
Holy Hour for Vocations
Apologetics Bible Study (Spanish)
Adult Confirmation (Spanish)
Small Christian Communities
Bible Study Communities
Grupo de Oración Leadership Meeting

### Friday, July

Grupo de Oración Bible Study Communities Baptism Prep (Spanish)

### Saturday, July

Choir Rehearsal (7pm Spanish) Young Adults (Spanish) Small Christian Communities Grupo de Oración



### Sunday, July 20

Mass - 9:00 am Mass - 11:30 am Mass - 5:30 pm

### Monday, July 21

Mass - 9:00 am

Prayer Ministry SFC Meeting - 9:30 am Spanish Charismatic Group - 6:30 pm Choir (Sunday 9:00 am) Practice - 7:00 pm Knights of Columbus Leadership Meet - 7:00 pm

### Tuesday, July 22

Word & Communion Service - 9:00 am WICS - 6:00 pm MDES Rehearsal - 7:00 pm Vida en el Espíritu Santo - 7:00 pm

### Wednesday, July 23

Mass - 9:00 am
Divine Will Prayer Group - 10:00 am
Funeral for *Rick Antes* - 11:00 am
Choir (Truthful Reign) Practice - 7:00 pm

### Thursday, July 24

Weekly Walking Group - 11:00 am
La Hora Santa - 5:00 pm

Mass - 6:30 pm
Choir (Sunday 11:30 am) Practice - 7:00 pm

### Friday, July 25

Word & Communion Service - 9:00 am Choir (Filipino) Practice - 7:00 pm Hispanic Charismatic Prayer - 7:00 pm

### Saturday, July 26

Women's Retreat, Swahili Community - 9:00 am Reconciliation - 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm **Mass - 5:30 pm** 

### **Please Pray for**

those who are sick:

Sheri Arigoni Mary Grizzle Roger Holman Mary Ellen Waterson

### and those who have died:

Mary Bovee (niece of Mary Ellen Nelson)
John Carroll (father of Jim Carroll)
Anastacia Petines (sister-in-law of Maria Borja)

# One Church, Many Gifts Update from Annual Catholic Appeal

Thank you to all who have responded to the needs of our regional Church by supporting this campaign. As of July 17, \$129,222 (94.7% of our goal) has been pledged towards our parish goal of \$136,467.00 with 294 parish households participating.

We need another \$7,245 to bring us over the top and get a rebate for next year's project, which will support Catholic Relief Services and the Archdiocese Mission Essential Parish Family Fund. Catholic Relief Services has experienced a decrease in funding, impacting its ability to provide vital humanitarian assistance. The Mission Essential Parish Family Fund supports parish families within our Archdiocese in economically depressed regions or rural areas with small populations. This support allows the parish to carry out the mission of the Church.

Thank you, once again, for your generosity. You can still donate by filling out an envelope in the pews, or go online to <a href="mailto:archseattle.org/GiveACA">archseattle.org/GiveACA</a>.

# FAITH ON FIRE CATHOLIC WEEKEND



This year's Faith on Fire, the signature Catholic event of the Pacific Northwest, will take place from **July 25-27** at St. Mary Catholic Church in Anacortes. The keynote speaker is **Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers**.

Faith on Fire is a spiritually enriching celebration of fellowship, family, prayer, and vocations. We come together to rejoice in the beauty and joy of our Catholic Christian faith. Enjoy inspiring speakers, uplifting music, and so much more! Camping is allowed on the lawn for just \$15 for the weekend! (RVs, trailers, and tents are welcome.)

The event is free, but donations are welcome. Visit St. Mary at Anacortes for more information.

# Outreach Ministries at St. John the Baptist



If you're new to our parish, please check our <u>Outreach Ministries</u>. We would love to have you join one of our ministries!

# **Evolving Our Morning Communion Services**

By Laurie Moloney

Recently the Church released a new translation of the *Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharistic Mystery Outside Mass* ritual book. St. John the Baptist, with guidance from Seminarian *Simon Stehr*, took this opportunity to re-evaluate the communion services that are held on days when there is no Mass - 9:00 am on Tuesdays and Fridays.

For years, we have blended elements from two distinct liturgies - the Word & Communion liturgy and the Liturgy of the Hours - into a single service. However, as these are separate liturgical celebrations, it is more fitting to offer them individually rather than combined. So we will now celebrate both liturgies one after the other: beginning with the Word and Communion service, followed by the Liturgy of the Hours. The two together will not be any longer than the hybrid liturgy, which is usually 30 to 45 minutes.

Our prayer leaders will first lead you in the Word and Communion service. This begins with the Introductory Rites, including the *Confiteor* - the "I confess..." prayer - followed by the readings of the day and the Communion Rite.

Afterwards, you are encouraged to stay for the second liturgy, the Liturgy of the Hours, which is the daily prayer of the Church. It includes Psalms, Scriptures, and Canticles. There is also an opportunity for faith sharing during this liturgy.

Both liturgies are important to our faith life. Word and Communion unites us to the sacrifice of Christ in the Mass as well as to our community (*Eucharisticum Mysterium*, no. 3e). The Liturgy of the Hours, particularly morning prayer, recalls the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, the true light enlightening all people (John 1:9).

Come join us for these two beautiful liturgies of the Church.



Reminder: Blood Pressure Check next weekend after Sunday morning Masses



For those of you who purchased tickets, we'll see you at the ballpark (Cheney Stadium in Tacoma) on **Sunday July 20 at 1:30 pm.** 

#### From One Servant to Another

Hello Fellow Parishioners,

It is my pleasure to formally and publicly welcome the newest member of our staff, *Christina Daniel*. She will be directing the ministry for our prekindergarten through Grade 4 students and their families! *Christina* brings to us a wealth of experience, education, and faith as a Catholic Christian. Please be sure to read *Christina's* brief bio below and take a moment to welcome her in this position when you see her.

I also want to take this opportunity to publicly thank *Karen Remy-Anderson* for sharing her great leadership, ministry, and care while she directed our children and their families in these programs this past year. Although *Karen* has left this position, she will continue to be a parishioner and volunteer in different ministries in our parish!

In Christ,

Joan Williamson

# From Soil to Soul: Our Garden Grows On

On a beautiful and crisp June 7 morning of this year, the *Garden of the Good Shepherd* team enjoyed a time of friendship and working with the earth by planting more vegetable starters. Earlier in the year, they planted peas and beets. It wasn't long before the weeds also sprouted. Not to be outdone, they

replaced the weeds with starters for tomatoes, cucumbers, and beans. A few months after planting the beets, 17 lbs. were harvested in mid-June and delivered to *The Storehouse*, Covington's food bank. The team hopes to harvest more fresh veggies over the

summer and into early fall to donate to the food bank.

St. John the Baptist is thankful for the following faithful garden volunteers on June 7: Joanne Ackerman, Margie Battisti, Pat Carroll, Paul Dehmer, Hazel Kroll, Javier, Emilio Mayorga, and Michele Myers. Their dedication will allow the garden to flourish and produce food for our hungry neighbors. (Photos by Paul Dehmer [beets] and Margie Battisti [statue].)

If you would like to help out with watering or harvesting the fruits of this garden over the coming months, please contact *Kathy Wickward* in the office.



O Blessed Mother Mary, pray for us and for this garden, that it may always flourish in God's light. Amen.

# A Heart for Faith and Children By Christina Daniel

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

I am *Christina Daniel*, and I feel honored and blessed to be the new *Pastoral Assistant for Elementary Faith Formation*. I come from a devout Catholic family in Southern India. As for my education, I went to a Catholic school run by the Presentation Sisters and finished my bachelor's and master's degrees from Catholic colleges as well. I am so thankful for the Catholic education that helped me grow in my love for Jesus.

I am blessed with my loving husband, *Daniel*, and two beautiful children, *Kevin* and *Steffi*. We have been parishioners at St. John the Baptist since 2018. I have served as a catechist from grades Pre-K to Grade 6 for the past eight years. It is from this experience that I discovered my love for teaching young children. This led me to go back to college to earn my Master's in Elementary Education in Indianapolis in 2023.

As I look forward to taking on this new role of serving our young elementary families, I am excited and filled with joy to help young ones come close to Jesus. For Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me . . . for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."

May the Holy Spirit lead us and guide us through the intercession of our Mother Mary and St. Joseph.

Blessings, *Christina Daniel* 

Hi! I'm Pedro X. Madera-Cuevas, and I'd like to share my discernment story, how I came to hear God's call to serve Him and His people. Like every story, mine has a beginning, and it starts in Puerto Rico (PR), a small island in the Caribbean and a U.S. territory. I'm from a town called Lares, where I grew up, studied through high school, enjoyed drawing, played my favorite sport, volleyball, and lived my Catholic faith.

My family always encouraged me to live my faith. I would participate in Mass celebrations, go to youth group and participate of retreats. From a young age, I didn't question much my Catholic faith. Even as a teen, I tried to remain faithful to the Church's teachings. During those years, my family and I worked on a farm growing a variety of tomatoes. Every afternoon after school, I had to work on the farm, then study, before I could go to volleyball practice.



After graduating high school, I was accepted into the Mechanical Engineering program at the University of Puerto Rico. University brought its challenges. During my first year, Hurricane Maria devastated the island, leaving us without water for three months and without electricity for five. Yet amid the hardship, the community came together to help each other. There I glimpsed the mystical Body of Christ in action.

In January 2020, while starting my sixth semester, my life was shaken again when a series of earthquakes destroyed my family's home the day after the Epiphany. Spiritually, I broke. I questioned God: "Why us?" Wasn't the hurricane and the life on the farm enough? I believed God didn't care. I still believed He existed, but I hated Him, but I kept my hatred in silence. I couldn't stand even watching Mass on TV during the pandemic.

In 2021, I landed an internship with Amazon as a Product Design Engineer in Seattle, WA, my first time alone on the U.S. mainland. But within my first week, I was hospitalized with myocarditis caused by an unknown reason, damaging part of my heart. Still, I pushed through, completed the internship, and returned in Summer 2022 for another. Eventually, I was offered a full-time engineering position starting in July 2023.

In December 2022, I graduated from my engineering degree. That Christmas, my eldest sister gave me a book about Blessed Carlo Acutis. Even though I still carried anger toward God, I decided to read it out of respect for her. Carlo's love for technology, his deep devotion to the Eucharist, and his unwavering faith, especially in the face of leukemia, touched me deeply. Despite his suffering, he continued to praise the Lord with joy. Reading about how he embraced his Catholic faith from a young age stirred something in me, it brought a wave of nostalgia and made me realize how much I missed truly enjoying my own faith. Through his story, I learned about Eucharistic miracles and how Christ gives us His very heart, His myocardium, out of love. That made me pause and reflect: If God gives me His heart, why shouldn't I give Him mine? Through Carlo's intercession, my trust in God was rekindled, and that's where my journey back truly began. I returned to church and prayer. Through Our Lady's intercession, I realized how much Jesus suffers for us. As I prayed the Rosary daily, the idea of serving God completely, possibly as a priest, entered my heart. I kept this thought quiet because I was about to move to Seattle for my new job.

In Seattle, I began attending Christ Our Hope parish downtown and later met the Hispanic Young Adult Group "Todo X Cristo" at Holy Spirit Church. I joined them for a retreat at Camp Hamilton, and there, during a moment of silent prayer in front of the cross, I heard in my heart the words: "Hazte mío" ("Be mine"). I felt immense peace after my prayer, but doubt started to sneak in. I thought, "Was I imagining things?" The next day's Gospel was when Jesus saves Peter from sinking: "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" I knew God was speaking to me.

I joined Holy Spirit's young adult group, even traveling by train and Uber since I had no car. I eventually made wonderful friends who helped me get to and from church. Over the following months, I heard those same words, "Hazte mío", twice more. I began to take the idea of the priesthood seriously.

In January 2024, joking with a friend, I said I'd apply to seminary the day I was unemployed. In April 2024, I was laid off when my program at Amazon shut down. Suddenly, I faced a choice: pursue another job or listen to the quiet voice calling me deeper.

On July 1st, 2024, during Mass, the Gospel read: "Another disciple said to him, 'Lord, let me go first and bury my father.' But Jesus answered him, 'Follow me, and let the dead bury their dead.'" That same day, the Eucharistic Procession took place for Family 30. It was a turning point in my discernment. Hearing that Gospel and witnessing Fr. Carlos leading the people toward Jesus in the Eucharist moved me deeply. In that moment, I knew God was calling me—I felt a clear decision rise in my heart to respond to His call. I shared this with Fr. Carlos, and that conversation opened the door for me to begin the affiliate process with the Archdiocese of Seattle.

When it was time for me to apply to the seminary, I had an interview with the Admissions Board. During that process, I was told that the panel was excited about my application but felt it wasn't the right time. Their decision was a "not yet". It was recommended I needed to get to know the Archdiocese better. Even though it wasn't a "yes," it also wasn't a "no," so I stayed persistent in my discernment and didn't lose hope.

In May 2025, I began to experience doubts, wondering if this was truly what God wanted for me. Around that time, a priest from Puerto Rico heard my story and recommended that I attend a vocations retreat on the island. I decided to go, but before traveling, I prayed and asked God to give me clarity. During Eucharistic Adoration at the retreat, I once again heard His familiar, voice say: "Be mine." I responded in prayer, "How can I be yours?" And He answered, "Love them."

It was then that I realized the growing need for English-speaking priests in Puerto Rico, due to an increasing number of English-speaking communities. Not long after, the Diocese of Arecibo, my home diocese, offered me the opportunity to apply.

After prayer and reflection, I discerned that God is calling me to learn from the Holy Spirit and St. John the Baptist and take what I have learned and serve in Puerto Rico. Now, my last day at Family 30 will be August 9.

To the altar servers and crew: thank you for your joyful presence, your commitment, and the way you serve with both heart and reverence. In your quiet gestures, your steady hands, and your willing spirits, you remind us that holiness is often found in the simple act of showing up and saying "yes" to God.

To the parishioners: thank you for your warm welcomes, kind conversations, and unwavering support of me in my affiliate program. You reminded me that the Church is a family, and in that family, I found the courage to listen more deeply to God's call.

To the parish staff: thank you for your constant support, your patience, and the way you made space for me to serve and grow. Your witness of humble service showed me how a life given to God can touch hearts in the most ordinary, yet profound ways.

You have all played an irreplaceable role in my discernment. I will carry your love, encouragement, and example with me wherever the Lord leads.

Keep me in your prayers and thank you for everything! - Pedro

Blessed Carlo Acutis, pray for us.

## Weekly Prayer

### **Sunday's Readings**

#### First Reading:

They asked Abraham, "Where is your wife Sarah?"
He replied, "There in the tent."
One of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year,
and Sarah will then have a son." (Gn 18:10)

#### Psalm:

He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord. (Ps 15)

#### Second Reading:

It is Christ in you, the hope for glory. It is he whom we proclaim. (Col 1:27-28)

#### Gospel:

The Lord said to her in reply,
"Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried
about many things.
There is need of only one thing.

Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her." (Lk 10:42)

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 the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

### Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

In life, there are so many "Marthas" — people and situations that distract us from God. But if we imitate Mary and sit calmly at the feet of Jesus, his Word will guard our hearts from the anxiety of the world.

### Observances for the week of July 20, 2025

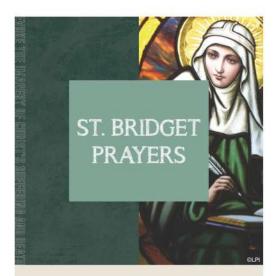
Sunday: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Lawrence of Brindisi,

Priest and Doctor of the Church

Tuesday: St. Mary Magdalene
Wednesday: St. Bridget, Religious
Thursday: St. Sharbel Makhlüf, Priest
Friday: St. James, Apostle
Saturday: Sts. Joachim and Anne,

Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Next Sunday: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time



### Devotions, Explained!

The St. Bridget Prayers evoke the imagery of Christ's suffering and death, plead for the forgiveness of the supplicant's sins, for a happy death, for fear and love of the Lord, and for a renunciation of worldly desires.

### **Prayer for Focus**

Lord, help me to remember what matters and who matters. And then help me to prioritize rightly and wisely, with Your heaven as my guide. Amen.

©LPI SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2025 | 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Send corrections and bulletin content to

Pat Defiesta at communications@sjtbcc.org (for St. John the Baptist bulletin) or Mary Molina at communications@holyspiritkent.org (for Holy Spirit bulletin).

Please send us content at least two (2) weeks before publication.

For St. John the Baptist questions/comments, email Pat at bulletin@sjtbcc.org

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS ON THE BACK OF THIS BULLETIN



### CEDAR DENTAL GROUP

General & Family Dentistry

New Patients Welcome | Cash Discount Offered
655 West Smith St. #206 Kent WA 98032

253-854-8306



RANLAWFIRM (253) 852-2345 ww.curranfirm.com JOHN M. CASEY arishioner of St.Theresa Parish



## LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME Kelly Day

kday@4LPi.com • (800) 950-9952 x2115







**Pacific** Northwest Home Care

24/7 Senior Care Facility **Adult Family Home** 253-334-3506 Des Moines, WA 98198



We offer home care services to help your loved one remain comfortable at home.

425.282.5505 | Serving King County



www.feldmanlee.com

253-859-2488

604 W. Meeker St. Suite 206

LYNWOOD 425-771-3600 19303 44th Ave W.

www.GetRoofSmart.com Catholic Owned **Business** 





Wills | Trusts | Power of Attorneys



25052 104th Ave SE, Suite B Kent, WA (253) 854-1244 iddinslaw.com info@iddinslaw.com

We provide peace of mind. Call Us Today!



Julissa Uribe, Parishioner 0% OFF on food onl TACO TUESDAY 253-854-2699 26220 116<sup>th</sup> Ave SE • Kent



Independent & Assisted Living • Life is good, make it Stellar!

(253) 852-2737 | 516 Kenosia Ave S | Kent, WA www.stellarliving.com/farringtoncourt



### Physio Health. Clinic

319 Washington Ave. S. • Kent, WA 98032 (253) 850-9780 • (253) 850-6445 office@physiohealth.clinic • physiohealth.clinic

Work Injuries • Car Accident Multidisciplinary Clinic MD DC LMT PT Hablamos Español

## SHORT STAFFED





Over 30 years of experience! 2 KNIGHTS AND A KNIGHT'S WIFE PLUS A VETERAN

We are your local one stop shop for Darren Parsons any and all of your Housing Needs



- 2 Real Estate Brokers Sophia Cosola 253-653-5699
- 1 Licensed, bonded & Insured Contractor Steve Cosola **253-508-4485**
- Extensive Data Base for many Vendors; oofers, electricians, plumbers. Landscapers window washers and much more
- Free Comparative Market Analysis
- Free Home Staging with every listing



