



Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2025



Photos by Tat Vu

Burgers, Corn, and Community Spirit!

The annual *Hamburger and Corn Feed* took place on Saturday, August 30, following the 5:00 p.m. Mass at Holy Spirit. This beloved tradition, offered free of charge with a freewill donation, is the Knights of Columbus' way of thanking parishioners for their generous support throughout the past year and welcoming them back as we kick off a new season of events after the summer break.



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 inside for holiday times and weekly changes to Mass)

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
Wednesday 7:00p Spanish
1st Friday (alternating months - see weekly schedule)

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 at 9:00 a (alternating months - see weekly schedule)

1st Friday Spanish at 7:30p

Word & Communion/Liturgy of the Hours:

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

CONTACT US | PARISH STAFF

310 3rd Ave. S.
Kent, WA 98032
253-859-0444



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



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



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



Father Gilberto Mora
Vicar
frgilberto@holyspiritkent.org



Brenda Fincher
Outreach
bfincher@holyspiritkent.org | x214



Cynthia Hernandez
Administrative Assistant
chernandez@holyspiritken.org



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



Mary Molina
Communications
Communications@holyspiritkent.org | x225



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



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



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



Juan Carlos Tafur
Facilities Steward



Evelia Torres-Lopez
Clean Environment



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



David Aldous
Facilities Steward
davida@sjtbcc.org | x114



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



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



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



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



Nancy Moore
Bookkeeping
nancym@sjtbcc.org | x102



Veronica Nava Jimenez
Youth Ministry
veronican@sjtbcc.org | X110



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



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THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH FAMILY



**Please call 253-859-0444
for more current information**

Sunday

Choir Rehearsal (Swahili)
Swahili Community
Rosary (Spanish)
Confirmation
Sac Prep/Catechesis Family Registration

Monday

Bible Study Groups (Spanish)
Food Pantry
Small Christian Communities
Grupo de Oración
Centro Rendu
Grandparent Bible Study (Spanish)

Tuesday

Mother Mary Guild
Adult Confirmation
Small Christian Community
English Classes for Spanish Speakers
Choir Rehearsal (12:30 pm Spanish)
Terrific Tuesday Meals

Wednesday

Young Adult Group (Spanish)
Knights Council
Altar Server Practice (Spanish)
Bible Study (Spanish)
RCIA/OCIA

Thursday

Young Adult Core Team (Spanish)
Holy Hour for Vocations
Apologetics Bible Study (Spanish)
Adult Confirmation (Spanish)
Small Christian Community

Friday

Grupo de Oración
Bible Study Communities
Baptism Prep (Spanish)
Base Ecclesial Groups (Spanish)
Movimiento Familiar Cristiano Católico

Saturday

Choir Rehearsal (7:00 pm Spanish)
Encuentro Catequético
Small Christian Communities



Sunday, September 21

Mass - 9:00 am
Children's Liturgy of the Word - 9:00 am Mass
Elementary Catechist Training - 10:00 am
Pancake Breakfast - 10:00 am
Mass - 11:30 am
Mass - 5:30 pm

Monday, September 22

Mostly Yoga - 8:00 am
Mass - 9:00 am
Hispanic Choir Practice - 6:00 pm
PFAC Meeting - 6:30 pm
Spanish Charismatic Group - 6:30 pm
Choir (9:00 am Sunday) practice - 7:00 pm

Tuesday, September 23

Word & Communion/Liturgy of Hours - 9:00 am
Synodal Preparation & Training - 5:00 pm
WICS - 6:00 pm
Vida en el Espíritu Santo - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, September 24

Mass - 9:00 am
Backpack Buddies set up (youth room) - 9:30 am
Divine Will Prayer Group - 10:00 am
Parent Orientation for PS to Grade 12 - 7:00 pm
Choir (Truthful Reign) Practice - 7:00 pm

Thursday, September 25

Mostly Yoga - 8:00 am
Weekly Walking Group - 11:00 am
La Hora Santa - 3:00 pm
Mass - 6:30 pm
Young Adult Night - 6:30 pm
Faith Q&A with Father Carlos - 7:00 pm
Choir (11:30 am Sunday) practice - 7:00 pm
OCIA Meeting - 7:00 pm

Friday, September 26

Word & Communion/Liturgy of Hours - 9:00 am
Marriage Prep - 6:30 pm
Choir (Filipino) Practice - 7:00 pm
Hispanic Charismatic Prayer - 7:00 pm

Saturday, September 27

Reconciliation - 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Mass - 5:30 pm

Please Pray for

those who are sick:

**Patrick Creegan
Andrew Holmes
Doug Johnson
Manny Martinez**

and those who have died:

Father James Picton

Don't Forget Pancake Breakfast This Sunday!



The *Knights of Columbus* are having their back-to-school pancake breakfast on Sunday, **September 21, from 10:00 am to 11:30 am.**

Remember to bring your money with you. Breakfast now costs **\$10 for adults, \$5 for kids ages 6-16, and free for young kiddos under 5.** Proceeds will go to the "In-Parish Assistance" fund. Please support this breakfast.

Let's Care for Creation Together



The *Creation Care Team* invites you to join in their 6th annual street cleanup on **Saturday, October 11, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am.**

For safety purposes these cleanups are **limited to adults only.** Bring your own gloves, but all needed equipment will be provided.

Please **register by October 9** by contacting the office or on the sign-up sheet on the *Creation Care* bulletin board.

Come Build and Pray the Rosary

The *Young Adult Group* of St. John the Baptist invites all young adults to join them in building a rosary to keep. Build and learn to pray the rosary on **Thursday, September 25, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm** at St. John the Baptist. (This event was originally scheduled for September 18.) All materials will be provided - just bring yourself and be ready to pray the rosary!



Ask Me Anything About Faith!

Father Carlos wants to know what questions you have about the Catholic Faith. Write them down and drop them in the drop box out in the narthex. **Questions are due after the 5:30 pm Mass on September 21.** He will answer them on **September 25 from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm** at a back-to-school event at the McMullen Center. Snacks will be provided along with games, pop quizzes, and prizes. Plan to join us for your answers!

From Our Parish to Their Plates: Backpack Buddies Needs You!



Backpack Buddies is a partnership between St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and Covington Elementary, our neighbor across the street. This program is a ministry within our parish that provides children at Covington Elementary with free and easy-to-prepare food to take home each weekend when school meal programs are not available. The goal is to ensure that students, who are facing food insecurities at home, have consistent access to food to improve their energy, confidence, and academic performance. We are currently supporting 30 students, who have been identified by the school counselors, to receive weekend food bags. This number will fluctuate as enrollment and needs change.

We are in need of donations to help fill the backpacks. You can contribute in several ways:

- Shop our Amazon wish list by clicking [here](#) or by scanning the QR code. Items can be shipped directly to the parish office.
- Use your preferred online retailer and have your items shipped directly to the parish.
- Purchase items locally and place them in the bin by the Life, Justice, and Peace table in the narthex or bring them to the parish office.



This week, we especially need shelf-stable milk, BelVita breakfast bars, instant oatmeal packets, granola bars, and applesauce cups or pouches.

Monetary donations are also welcome. If you write a check, **please note "Backpack Buddies Program"** on the memo line. Write all checks out to "St. John the Baptist Catholic Church".

If you have any questions, please contact **Andrea Shimek** in the parish office. Thank you for your generosity and support! No child should ever go hungry!

Is There More to Life Than This?



It's not too late to join in! The first session starts on **Tuesday, September 23.** This will be at Holy Spirit Parish from **6:30 pm to 8:00 pm.** The *Alpha* experience is **open to everyone**, no matter what their background or beliefs are. Think of it as dinner with friends, a short video on life's biggest questions, and an open conversation in a small group where no topic is off-limits. It's relaxed, welcoming, and free! This is a great chance to bring a friend, your questions, or even your doubts. Sign up in the narthex or [register here.](#)



Blood pressure check
after Sunday morning Masses **next weekend**
September 28, 2025

Be the “Safe” in Safe Car Parking

Our *Safe Car Parking Program* is looking for three (or more) volunteers to help provide the “safe” in safe car parking.

Since 2018, St. John the Baptist has supported eight guests, who sleep in their cars overnight in our parking lot.

Safe Car Parking volunteers work in pairs, taking a **week every month** to check our cameras overnight, log activity, staff the 24-hour phone line, and do a “drive through” to ensure that all is well in our parking lot. There is a monthly meeting on the first Tuesday. New volunteers will be paired with experienced volunteers.

St. John the Baptist has witnessed the number of people served double over the last year. Please contact **Kathy Wickward** at the parish office for more information.

Test Your Mass Awareness



Last week’s question was, “**What is the most important part of the Mass?**” Answer: Every part of the Mass is important! One depends on the other for the entire Mass to be successful. 1) **We gather** - we come together as God’s family to pray, listen, and be renewed. 2) **We are fed** - in the Liturgy of the Eucharist, we receive Jesus Christ Himself in the Eucharist. 3) **We are sent** - at the end, the celebrant sends forth the people so that each may go back to doing good works, praising and blessing God. This is not just a goodbye but a mission to announce and live the Gospel. We carry Christ to the World - we are called to live what we received and bring Christ’s love, peace, and mercy - to our families, workplaces, and communities.¹

We are approaching the time of year when parish events begin to pick up. In the coming weeks, announcements and articles will take the place of the “Test Your Mass Awareness” feature. Going forward, “Test Your Mass Awareness” will be published only as space allows.

A sincere thanks to everyone who participated in answering the questions over the past two months. Many parishioners have emailed to share how much they’ve enjoyed these articles, and all of these comments are greatly appreciated.

While “Test Your Mass Awareness” will appear only occasionally in the future, it is hoped that it continues to inspire you to enter more fully into the beauty and mystery of the Mass.

¹ [USCCB GIRM, Ch. 2 Ch2, § 27-90](#)

Give the Gift of Warmth to Someone Chilly This Season



Fall is in the air, which means the need for warm clothing is just around the corner. *Yarning for Community* will have their annual collection of hats, gloves and scarves for the homeless on the **weekends of October 11/12 and 18/19**. Please spread the warmth of your love to someone who is cold. Place your **donations in the marked bins in the narthex or at the church office**. Thank you!

SCAM

ALERT

Messages Pretending to Be from Our Priests

You receive an email from **Father Carlos**, a short and simple email asking, “How are you?” Innocent email, right? Well, it’s not - it is a scam! This email scam, called “phishing,” is designed to engage you in a conversation with the scammers, which eventually leads to an urgent request for gift cards or money. Remember, **Father Carlos** and **Father Crispin** will **never contact you directly** with an urgent request for funds.

If you are contacted by a scammer:

- Do not reply or send anything.
- Report it to the parish office as soon as possible.

St. John the Baptist staff will never ask for donations by phone, text, or email without prior notice in the bulletin and/or during Mass. Please note that gift cards are only requested as part of special events such as the parish *Giving Tree* program and is always announced in advance.

Be Part of the Stream: What Can Be Livestreamed and How to Get Involved



Ever wonder which parish events can be shared online? Our livestream ministry brings Masses, special services, and other events right into your home, allowing everyone to participate, near and far. While most events in the sanctuary can be livestreamed, there are a few limitations. The livestreaming team always does their best to share the life of our parish with the wider community.

Here’s a brief checklist of things to remember:

- Almost any event that occurs in the sanctuary can be livestreamed, unless it contains copyrighted music without a permission to use.
- A paid speaker will not be livestreamed unless his/her/their permission is granted.
- Masses livestreamed are Sunday 9:00 am, Sunday 5:30 pm, and weekday Masses.
- Funerals are livestreamed if the family requests.
- Weddings are livestreamed, but there is a stipend for the live streamer. Contact the church office for cost and more details.
- **The biggest limitation is the lack of trained live streamers.** If you would like to learn about and support this ministry, contact **Laurie Moloney** in the office or stop by the video desk before or after Mass and speak with one of our trained live streamers. Join in the fun of livestreaming events in our parish!



Knights of Columbus Honeycrisp Apple Sales September 27 & 28



Council 11780



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FOR KIDS**



Council 11780

**Purchase A Bag Of Apples And Help
Keep A Child Warm This Winter**

Come and See Retreat

Attention Catholic women ages 18-40: there is a vocation discernment retreat on Friday through Sunday, **October 3 to 5, 2025**, in the San Francisco Bay Area. Register here for the retreat [☛ Daughters of Charity](#).

Immigration Pilgrimage of Hope

Catholics from across Western Washington will make a pilgrimage to the detention center in Tacoma to demonstrate solidarity and express hope and compassion for detainees and all immigrants. We welcome and encourage all people of goodwill and faith traditions to join us! Register for the pilgrimage on **October 4, 2025, at 9:30 am**. ☛ [Immigration Pilgrimage](#)

Men of the Parish: Gather Together Soon!

Saturday, **October 25, 2025**, from **8:00 am to 12:00 noon** at St. John the Baptist for fellowship & prayers.

Welcoming Fall with Grace Healing Mass

Thursday, **October 30, 2025**, at **7:00 pm** for praise and worship at St. John the Baptist.

Together, We Are Nourishing Hope

By **Barbara Fraser** (Holy Spirit Parish)

(English / Inglés)

Greetings from the Holy Spirit Pantry!

A special thank you to the parishioners for your support and generosity, and the gardeners that have been dropping off fresh produce all summer! It takes a lot to keep the pantry up and running for the many families that count on us every week, every month and now years.

We could not have a pantry without you. We know how grateful our community is for your generosity. If you can, please continue to support the pantry on a regular basis and help keep us going. The need is greater and continually growing.

Thank you again for your concern, support and generosity.

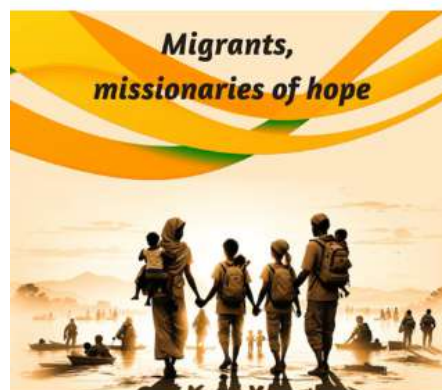
(Spanish / Español)

¡Saludos desde la despensa del Espíritu Santo!

¡Un agradecimiento especial a los feligreses por su apoyo y generosidad, y a los jardineros que han estado dejando productos frescos durante todo el verano! Se necesita mucho para mantener la despensa en funcionamiento para las muchas familias que cuentan con nosotros cada semana, cada mes y ahora años.

No podríamos tener una despensa sin ustedes. Sabemos lo agradecida que está nuestra comunidad por su generosidad. Si puedes, continúa apoyando la braga de forma regular y ayúdanos a seguir adelante. La necesidad es mayor y crece continuamente.

Gracias de nuevo por su preocupación, apoyo y generosidad.



We join the universal church in observing **National Migration Week, September 22 to 28, 2025**.

These are opportunities to reflect on the struggles and hopes of migrants, refugees, and newcomers, and to renew our commitment to the Gospel call to "welcome the stranger."

The late Pope Francis reminds us that **migrants are not numbers but human beings who reflect the face of Christ**.



From Gratitude to Grace: My Journey to the Canonization of Two Modern Saints

I'm **Pedro Madera**, and on September 7, 2025 by the Lord's Providence, I was blessed to attend the canonization of **Carlo Acutis** and **Pier Giorgio Frassati** at the Vatican. I went as a lone pilgrim, grateful for the opportunity. **Carlo** has long been an inspiration in my journey of faith, drawing me closer to God through his testimony. **Pier Giorgio** has also impacted me, since he, too, was a mechanical engineer. His boldness, humility, and love for God remind me not to fear striving for the heights.

At first, I saw this pilgrimage as an act of thanksgiving, but the Lord will never be outdone in generosity. One of the things I cherish about life is hearing people's stories. Along the way, I met people from many backgrounds, each with their own story of how these saints touched their lives. Some travelled in groups, others alone, but all were united by the same spirit of gratitude to God for the gift of **Carlo** and **Pier Giorgio**.

This canonization confirmed in my heart that God continues to raise up a new generation of saints to proclaim His merciful love. Together, let us walk toward sainthood; for if God desires it for us, why would we desire anything less?



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

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collision, there is still time
to avoid the disaster"*



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