



*Twenty-sixth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Priesthood Sunday*



WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2025



Photo by **Paul Dehmer**

Leaning on the Lord Together

Dr. ValLimar Jansen led our parish in an unforgettable *Mission 2025* at St. John the Baptist. Through powerful storytelling, vibrant music, and heartfelt prayer, she invited us to deepen our faith and experience God's joy together as a community.



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

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THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH FAMILY



**Please call 253-859-0444
for weekly events**

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
Alpha - 6:30 pm

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 28

Mass - 9:00 am

Children's Liturgy of the Word - 9:00 am Mass
Blood Pressure Screening after both am Masses
Elementary Faith Formation - 10:15 am

Mass - 11:30 am

Mass - 5:30 pm

Monday, September 29

Mostly Yoga - 8:00 am

Mass - 9:00 am

Hispanic Choir Practice - 6:00 pm
High School Youth Group - 6:30 pm
Spanish Charismatic Group - 6:30 pm
Choir (9:00 am Sunday) practice - 7:00 pm

Tuesday, September 30

Word & Communion/Liturgy of Hours - 9:00 am

WICS - 6:00 pm

Vida en el Espíritu Santo - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, October 1

Mass - 9:00 am

Backpack Buddies set up (youth room) - 9:30 am
Divine Will Prayer Group - 10:00 am
First Reconciliation Parent Class - 7:00 pm
Guatemala Team Meeting - 7:00 pm
Middle School Night - 7:00 pm
Choir (Truthful Reign) Practice - 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 2

Mostly Yoga - 8:00 am

Weekly Walking Group - 11:00 am

Adult Faith Formation Committee Meeting - 11:00 am

Creation Care Team Meeting - 1:00 pm

La Hora Santa - 3:00 pm

Mass - 6:30 pm

Young Adult Night - 6:30 pm

Azteca Dance Practice (Guadalupe) - 7:00 pm

Choir (11:30 am Sunday) practice - 7:00 pm

OCIA Meeting - 7:00 pm

Friday, October 3

First Friday **Mass at St. John the Baptist** - 9:00 am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 9:45 am

Choir (Filipino) Practice - 7:00 pm

La Misa en Español - 7:30 pm

Hispanic Charismatic Prayer - 8:30 pm

Saturday, October 4

Reconciliation - 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Mass - 5:30 pm

Please Pray for

those who are **sick**:

Patrick Creegan
Andrew Holmes

and those who have **died**:

Raymond Blas (friend of Joseph)
Alonso Cabildo Soria (uncle of Riva Soria Patrick)

First Friday Masses at St. John the Baptist for October 3rd



Family 30 Mass in English, 9:00 am
Misa en Español, 7:00 pm

Word & Communion on Monday 9/29/25

Point People Retreat and Invitation to Serve

Our parish will host a retreat for all Mass Point People on **Saturday, October 11, 2025, at 9:00 am** in the St. John the Baptist sanctuary. This will be a time for prayer, renewal, and recommitment to this important ministry.

Point People are essential to the flow of our liturgies. They ensure that all ministers are present and prepared before Mass begins, helping our celebrations run smoothly and reverently.

To encourage more parishioners to join this ministry, pulpit talks will be shared at all Masses on the weekend of October 4 & 5. We invite you to prayerfully consider serving as a Point Person. Your presence makes a real difference in helping our parish worship as one body in Christ.

If you are interested in learning more or stepping into this role, please contact **Scott Gilyeat** at the parish office or speak with the Point Person at the Mass you attend.



Faith Formation is Back Drive with Care!

The children of our parish will begin *Faith Formation* classes this Sunday, September 28. As they return to class, please drive carefully through the parking lot and remain alert for little ones crossing the street. Let's all help ensure a safe and welcoming start to the new *Faith Formation* year!

Blood pressure check

after Sunday morning Masses **this weekend**
September 28, 2025



Share Your Mission Moment

Were you uplifted and inspired by our *Parish Mission* on September 14-16 led by **Dr. ValLimar Jansen**? We'd love to hear from you! Share your thoughts in one or two sentences by emailing **Pat** at bulletin@sjtbcc.org. Responses will be featured in a future bulletin.


Turning Generosity Into Nourishment



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 11 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 (search for **"2025-2026 Backpack Buddies for Covington Elementary"**) by clicking  [Amazon](#), 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.

These bags are filled by the middle school faith formation students each week and delivered on Friday morning to Covington Elementary. These backpacks then go home on Friday afternoon with the children enrolled in the Backpack Buddies program.

Monetary donations are also welcome. If you write a check, **please note** "Backpack Buddies" 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!

Honeycrisp Apples on Sale Today to support



Celebrate the Feast of St. Francis with Our Annual Pet Blessing



The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi is on Saturday, October 4, 2025. St. John the Baptist parish will conclude the Season of Creation with our annual Pet Blessing on **Sunday, October 5, at 1:00 pm**. Bring your dogs, cats, birds, snakes, gophers, and any beloved creature, but please **keep pets on a leash or in a kennel**. The blessing will take place outside the McMullen Center by the picnic tables.

The Creation Care Team is also collecting pet food donations starting September 27 to support pets in need. You may drop off donations in the box by the Creation Care bulletin board in the narthex or bring them with you to the Pet Blessing.

Blessings for all - see you Sunday!

Priesthood Sunday



What is this day? It is a Catholic observance held on the last Sunday of September (this Sunday) to honor priests and the gift of priesthood and religious vocations. It is a time to express gratitude to **Father Carlos** and **Father Crispin**, to pray for them, and to reflect on the vital role of the priesthood here at St. John the Baptist. After Mass, take a moment to thank **Father Carlos** and **Father Crispin** for their faithful leadership - and kids, don't forget to give them a high-five!



Partners in the Gospel Update

Over the summer, St. John the Baptist and Holy Spirit formed our Parish Family Advisory Council and our Parish Family Leadership teams. These consultative bodies began reviewing the first phase of the One Parish Planning process, "Who are we?" which is focused on understanding the history, gifts, communities, and ministries of each parish in Family 30. The final part of this phase invites parishioners to participate in synodal listening sessions to answer the question "What are our challenges and opportunities?" starting in early October for both Holy Spirit and St. John the Baptist. Everyone is encouraged to participate and share their insights as part of the One Parish Planning process. More information will be in next week's bulletin.

Please take a few moments to listen to **Father Carlos** and his update on *Partners in the Gospel*.

👉 [Father Carlos's Update on Partners in the Gospel](#)

Be a Friendly Face at the Front Desk

Join our parish team as a front desk volunteer on Tuesday afternoons - answering calls and offering a kind welcome to those who stop by. If interested, please contact **Rose McAvoy** at the parish office.

Caring for Creation Inspired by St. Francis of Assisi

The Season of Creation 2025 is officially ending October 4 on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology. However, care for our Planet Earth must be ongoing, extending to every day and season of the year. St. Francis of Assisi left a legacy of love for nature, not merely in an environmental view but deeply rooted with a spiritual reverence for creation and a call to stewardship.

In 1205, near the church of San Damiano in Assisi, St. Francis was led to pray before the image of the Crucifix. From the cross he heard a voice say three times, "Francis go and repair my church." He eventually realized that God's request was to spiritually restore the entire Catholic Church. It is inspiring that the fulfillment of that request led St. Francis to his spiritual reverence for creation. Care for God's Creation is one of the primary principles of Catholic social teaching. We are grateful to St. Francis for his example.

We will be honoring St. Francis of Assisi at all of our regular Sunday Masses with his statue placed in front of the ambo beside the crucifix - the same image before which he heard the call to repair the Church of San Damiano.

Stewardship

The time has come to begin our annual focus on Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure. This coming week you will find a letter from Father Carlos in the mail. I invite you to join together as a parish community in making a pledge. Your commitment supports the many ministries and services that bring our faith to life - liturgy, faith formation, outreach, creation care, and parish celebrations.

When you receive your letter, please take a moment to prayerfully reflect on the blessings in your life, and consider how you might take a step forward in this journey of faith and generosity. Thank you for joining us in continuing to support the mission of our Church.

Please also consider how you might support our ministries with your gift of time and talent.

Make your pledge online by scanning this QR code or visiting our website at sjtbcc.org.



Save
The
Dates

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**. Adults only for safety reasons.

Is There More to Life Than This?

Join us every **Tuesday at Holy Spirit Parish** for an *Alpha* experience. Enjoy 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. Sign up in the narthex or [SJTJB website](#).



Give the Gift of Warmth

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**. Place your **donations in the marked bins in the narthex or at the church office**.

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.

Vine Maple Place Fundraising Event



Life, Justice, Peace Commission invites you to a one-hour fundraising event on **Saturday, October 25, at 10:00 am** to help moms and kids find safe and stable housing.

Healing Mass "Christ, Our Deliverance"

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

Save
The
Dates

Young Adults

Exciting events for our young adults for the month of October at St. John the Baptist parish grounds:

October 2 at 6:30 pm - Rosary Night
October 9 at 6:30 pm - Scripture Night
October 16 at 6:30 pm - Potluck Night
October 23 at TBD - Pumpkin Patch & Carving Night with **Father Carlos**
October 30 at 6:30 pm - All Saints Day Event

Events Outside of Parish:

Pilgrimage of Hope

Saturday, **October 4, 2025**, from **9:30 am to 12:00 noon** at St. Leo in Tacoma and walk to the ICE Processing Center in Tacoma. Register at [Pilgrimage of Hope](#)

Reality of Failed Abortions

Melissa Ohden, founder & CEO of The Abortion Survivors Network, speaks of the emotional, physical, and psychological challenges faced during post abortion. Join her on **October 7 from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm**. Register for online event at [Washington State Catholic Conference - Life & Abortion](#).

State of the US Death Penalty 2025

Attend a webinar that reflects Catholic teaching and how the faith community is responding to the continued use of the death penalty in the US on **October 9 at 1:00 pm**. Register for online event at [Washington State Conference - Death Penalty](#).

Assisted Suicide: Ethics & Law

Assisting in other people's suicides violates the universal moral principle against deliberately helping to take innocent human life. Join in a webinar that will delve into our Catholic response. Register for online event at [Washington State Conference - Assisted Suicide](#).



Your voice matters. Tu voz importa.

Synodal Listening Sessions for Partners in the Gospel - Opportunities and Challenges

What do you see could be our challenges in this journey and
what dreams do you have as we become one parish?

Each person's thoughts matter - We NEED to hear from YOU.

Check your calendar to see what date works best for you to
join a synodal style listening session.

| English | Location | Español | Ubicación |
|----------------------------|----------|--|-----------|
| Wednesday, Oct. 8th, 10 am | HS | Lunes, 13, Oct., 7 pm | HS |
| Thursday, Oct. 9, 10 am | SJtB | Miercoles, 15 Oct, Adultos Jovenes | HS |
| Saturday, Oct. 11, 2 pm | SJtB | Martes, 30, Oct., 7 pm | SJtB |
| Sunday, Oct. 12, 3 pm | SJtB | <p>¿Qué desafíos crees que podríamos enfrentar en este viaje y qué sueños tienes mientras nos convertimos en una sola parroquia?</p> <p>Las opiniones de cada persona son importantes:</p> <p>NECESITAMOS escuchar de TI.</p> <p>Revisa tu calendario para ver qué fecha te conviene más para unirse a una sesión de escucha al estilo sinodal.</p> | |
| Wednesday, Oct. 15, 10 am | SJtB | | |
| Thursday, Oct. 16, 7 pm | SJtB | | |
| Saturday, Oct. 18, 10 am | SJtB | | |
| Saturday, Oct. 18, 2 pm | SJtB | | |
| Wednesday, Oct. 22, 10 am | HS | | |
| Wednesday, Oct. 22, 7 pm | SJtB | | |
| Saturday, Oct. 25, 2 pm | SJtB | | |

Register for the date and time that works best for you,
use the paper forms in the narthex or online by scanning the QR code





TRANSITION UPDATE

Hola Parish Family,

I wanted to give you an **update** on Partners in the Gospel. Across the Archdiocese and here in our own parish family, **good things are already happening!**

Archdiocesan Highlights

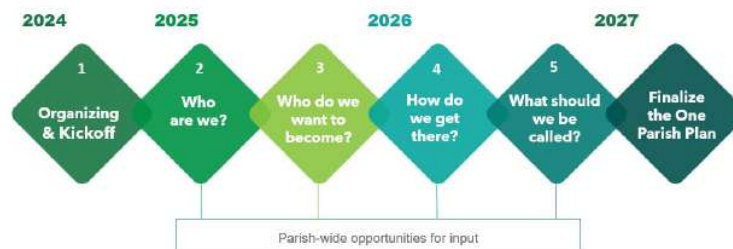
- **Signs of Hope:** Weekend Mass counts across the Archdiocese have grown 10% this year, with over 115,800 people coming together for worship. Mass is now celebrated in nine languages, a beautiful reminder of our diversity and unity in Christ.
- **Listening to One Another:** Parish Family Advisory Councils and Leadership Teams are guiding the process of “Who are we?” by looking at parish history, gifts, and ministries. Parishioner listening sessions are underway now through the end of the year; everyone is encouraged to share their voice.
- **Caring for One Another:** Through the Mission Essential Parish Family Fund, nearly \$300,000 in grants have supported parish families most in need. This is possible thanks to parishes, including St. John the Baptist, who contributed their ACA rebates and the generosity of many donors.

Local Progress

Here is where we are at:

- **Step Two Completed:** We have gathered valuable information about our current parish reality: viability metrics, the demographic survey, and parishioner feedback from August on “What do you love about your parish?” Those results will be shared soon.
- **Step Three Ahead – Listening Sessions:** Soon, parishioners will be invited into small-group prayerful sessions led by trained volunteers. These gatherings are a chance to listen to one another and to discern together where the Holy Spirit is leading us. Your voice is vital; please plan to participate.
- **Our Shared Mission:** Together, among other things, we must restructure to:
 - Grow Mass attendance and welcome more people to encounter Christ.
 - Strengthen our outreach to the poor.
 - Foster vocations to the priesthood, marriage, and religious life.
 - Support our priests with a sustainable rhythm of ministry (our goal is three Sunday Masses per priest; at present I celebrate 4–6 just on Sunday, and up to 10 on the weekend! Doable for now, but not sustainable long-term).

Please continue to pray for this process and stay tuned for the announcement of local listening session dates. In the hope, faith, and love of Jesus, Padre Carlos.



SPANISH ON REVERSE



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST



ACTUALIZACIÓN DE TRANSICIÓN

Hola Familia Parroquial,

Quería darles una actualización sobre Compañeros en el Evangelio. En toda la Arquidiócesis y aquí en nuestra propia familia parroquial, ¡ya están sucediendo cosas buenas!

Aspectos destacados de la Arquidiócesis

- **Señales de Esperanza:** El número de misas de fin de semana en la Arquidiócesis ha aumentado un 10% este año, con más de 115,800 personas reunidas para el culto. La misa ahora se celebra en nueve idiomas, un hermoso recordatorio de nuestra diversidad y unidad en Cristo.
- **Escuchando a los demás:** Los Consejos Asesores de Familias Parroquiales y los Equipos de Liderazgo guían el proceso "¿Quiénes somos?" analizando la historia, los dones y los ministerios de la parroquia. Las sesiones de escucha para feligreses están en marcha desde ahora hasta fin de año; se anima a todos a compartir su opinión.
- **Cuidándonos unos a otros:** A través del Fondo Familiar Parroquial Esencial de la Misión, casi \$300,000 en subvenciones han apoyado a las familias parroquiales más necesitadas. Esto es posible gracias a parroquias como San Juan Bautista, que aportaron sus reembolsos de la Ley de Cuidado de Salud Asequible (ACA) y a la generosidad de numerosos donantes.

Progreso local

Aquí es donde estamos:

- **Segundo paso completado:** Hemos recopilado información valiosa sobre la realidad parroquial actual: indicadores de viabilidad, la encuesta demográfica y los comentarios de los feligreses de agosto sobre "¿Qué les gusta de su parroquia?". Compartiremos estos resultados próximamente.
- **Tercer paso:** Sesiones de escucha: Próximamente, los feligreses serán invitados a sesiones de oración en grupos pequeños dirigidas por voluntarios capacitados. Estas reuniones son una oportunidad para escucharnos unos a otros y discernir juntos hacia dónde nos guía el Espíritu Santo. Su voz es vital; por favor, planee participar.
- **Nuestra misión compartida:** Juntos, entre otras cosas, debemos reestructurarnos para:
 - Aumentar la asistencia a misa y dar la bienvenida a más personas para que encuentren a Cristo
 - Fortalecer nuestro alcance a los pobres
 - Fomentar las vocaciones al sacerdocio, al matrimonio y a la vida religiosa.
 - Apoyar a nuestros sacerdotes con un ritmo sostenible de ministerio (nuestra meta es de tres misas dominicales por sacerdote; actualmente celebro entre 4 y 6 los domingos, ¡y a veces hasta 10 en total del fin de semana! Es factible por ahora, pero no sostenible a largo plazo).

Por favor, sigan orando por este proceso y estén atentos al anuncio de las fechas de las sesiones de escucha locales. Con la esperanza, la fe y el amor de Jesús, Padre Carlos.



Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of September 28, 2025

Sunday:

Am 6:1a, 4-7/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1b)/
1 Tm 6:11-16/Lk 16:19-31

Monday:

Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12ab/
Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5/Jn 1:47-51

Tuesday:

Zec 8:20-23/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Lk 9:51-56

Wednesday:

Neh 2:1-8/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6/Lk 9:57-62

Thursday:

Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12 (458)/
Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 18:1-5, 10

Friday:

Bar 1:15-22/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9/
Lk 10:13-16

Saturday:

Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Ps 69:33-35, 36-37/
Lk 10:17-24

Next Sunday:

Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/
2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14/Lk 17:5-10



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

I am embarrassed to admit that I frequently find myself dining and socializing with people who have millions and sometimes billions of dollars. I've eaten more caviar, lobster and wagyu steak than most people on the planet. I justify it by saying it's part of my job. But I have seven pairs of nice jeans and expensive shoes.

So it is rather uncomfortable to hear Our Lord say: **"My child, remember that you received what was good in your lifetime, while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented"** (Luke 16:25). Fellow rich people (and if you're American, you're rich), do we not vehemently though quietly object to this parable's karma-esque reward system? Why bless the rich man just to curse him later? And curse Lazarus just to bless him later? So Americans go to hell, while Burundians and Afghans go to heaven? What is going on?

One clue is that the condemned rich man doesn't complain of injustice. Rather, he simply begs to help his brothers to repent. Of what? We don't know exactly. Perhaps another clue is that the rich man now seems more like the downtrodden Lazarus. He knows what it is to be hungry and thirsty, to be wounded in the gutter; that he deserved that, not fancy meals and clothes. Maybe the rich man finally understands how to receive true blessings, but it is too late for him. But not for me. Not for us.

— Father John Muir

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2025 | 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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Send corrections and bulletin content to

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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

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