



*Twenty-seventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Respect Life Sunday*



WEEK OF OCTOBER 5, 2025



Photo by **Pat Defiesta**

Blessed to Grow in Faith and Knowledge

On Sunday, September 14, 2025, **Father Carlos** invoked God's blessing upon our students and teachers as they begin a new year of learning. In his prayer, he reminded us that the pursuit of knowledge is most fruitful when guided by faith and rooted in God's wisdom. May this blessing strengthen our young people in their studies and inspire their teachers in the sacred task of nurturing minds and hearts. As a parish community, let us continue to support them with our prayers throughout the year.



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



Sunday

Choir Rehearsal (Swahili) 12:00 pm
Swahili Community 4:30 pm
Confirmation Preparation

Monday

Grandparent Bible Study (Spanish) - 10:00am
Food Pantry - 1:00 pm
Centro Rendu - 3:00 pm
Rosary for Migrants (Spanish) & Hora Santa - 6:00 pm
Bases Comunidades Eclesiales 7:00 pm

Tuesday

Choir Rehearsal (12:30 pm Spanish) - 9:00 am
Terrific Tuesday Meals - 5:30 pm
Alpha - 6:30 pm
Small Christian Community 7:00 pm

Wednesday

Todo por Cristo (Spanish) - 8:00 pm
Partners Listening Session (English) - 10:00 am
Knights of Columbus - 6:30 pm
Altar Server Practice (Spanish) - 5:00 pm
Rosario de San Jose - 7:30 pm
RCIA/OCIA - 6:30 pm

Thursday

Holy Hour for Vocations - 10:00 am
Apostoles de la Palabra (Spanish) - 7:00 pm
Adult Confirmation (Spanish) - 7:00 pm
Bases Comunidades Eclesiales (Spanish) - 7:00 pm

Friday

Grupo de Oración 7:00 pm
Baptism Prep (Spanish) - 7:00 pm
Bases Comunidades Eclesiales (Spanish) - 7:00 pm

Saturday

Sac Prep/Catechesis 9:00 am
Choir Rehearsal (7:00 pm Spanish) 6:00 pm
Small Christian Communities 7:00 pm



Sunday, October 5

Mass - 9:00 am
Children's Liturgy of the Word - 9:00 am Mass
Elementary Faith Formation - 10:15 am
Mass - 11:30 am
Blessing of the Pets - 12:45 pm
Mass - 5:30 pm
High School Youth Group - 6:30 pm

Monday, October 6

Mostly Yoga - 8:00 am
Mass - 9:00 am
Hispanic Choir Practice - 6:00 pm
High School Youth Group - 6:30 pm
Choir (9:00 am Sunday) practice - 7:00 pm
Knights of Columbus Council Meeting - 7:00 pm
Spanish Charismatic Group - 7:00 pm

Tuesday, October 7

Word & Communion/Liturgy of Hours - 9:00 am
Safe Car Team Meeting - 2:00 pm
Life, Justice, Peace Meeting - 3:00 pm
Confirmation, Phase 2 - 6:00 pm
WICS - 6:00 pm
Vida en el Espiritu Santo - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, October 8

Mass - 9:00 am
Backpack Buddies set up (youth room) - 9:30 am
Divine Will Prayer Group - 10:00 am
Partner's Listening Session (English) - 10:00 am
Choir (Truthful Reign) Practice - 7:00 pm
Finance Council Meeting - 7:00 pm
Middle School Night - 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 9

Mostly Yoga - 8:00 am
Partner's Listening Session (English) - 10:00 am
Weekly Walking Group - 11:00 am
La Hora Santa - 3:00 pm
Facility & Grounds Commission Meeting - 4:30 pm
Mass - 6:30 pm
Women's Commission Meeting - 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
Liturgy Commission Meeting - 7:00 pm
OCIA Meeting - 7:00 pm

Friday, October 10

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, October 11

Point Person Retreat - 9:00 am
Partner's Listening Session (English) - 3:00 pm
Reconciliation - 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Mass - 5:30 pm

Please Pray for

those who are **sick**:

Wendy Martinez

and those who have **died**:

Ann Baerny (mother of *Linda Saucedo*)

Patrick Cregan (brother of *Tina Reeves*)

Jose Villaruz (father of *Mary Servano*)

Discipleship in Action: Returning God's Gifts with Joy

How do we express our discipleship? By returning a portion of all that has been given to us back to God. **Archbishop Etienne** beautifully affirms this in his ["Spirituality of Stewardship video"](#), reminding us that "the starting point of stewardship is recognizing that everything we have, everything that we are, is by God's initiative - God's grace."

Embracing stewardship allows us to experience the deep joy that comes from developing, using, and sharing our God-given gifts in service to others. Your pledge makes it possible for our parish to continue its mission and ministries.

To know how we are stewarding your gifts, please check out our newly published Annual Report on the front of our web page. Our goal is, again, \$1 million in pledges to cover our expenses for 2026/27.



Thank you for being part of this journey of faith and generosity.

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

Let's Care for Creation Together



Garden of Peace
Isaiah 32:14-18

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.



Be the First Smile They See!

Looking for a way to share your time and kindness? Our parish front desk needs a friendly volunteer on **Tuesday afternoons** to answer calls, welcome visitors, and help make everyone who walks through our doors feel at home.

Interested? Contact **Rose McAvoy** at the parish office and become part of our welcoming team!

From Parish Hands to Little Lunchboxes



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 34 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 hot chocolate packets, microwave popcorn, fresh fruit, and shelf stable milk. Needs change every week, so be sure to check our weekly bulletins for items needed for that particular week.

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!

Partners in the Gospel Update

The final part of the phase in Partners in the Gospel invites parishioners to participate in synodal listening sessions to answer the question, "What are our challenges and opportunities?" Everyone is encouraged to participate and share their insights as part of the One Parish Planning process.



You can sign up for these listening sessions by visiting archseattle.ccbchurch.com. This is your chance to voice your opinion and be heard!

Please take a few moments to listen to **Father Carlos** and his update on *Partners in the Gospel*. (You may need to slow down the video player)

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

Share Your Mission Moment

Were you uplifted and inspired by our *Parish Mission* on September 14-16 led by **Dr. Valimar 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.

Faith in Action: Supporting Moms and Kids through Vine Maple Place

The Life, Justice, and Peace Commission invites you to a one-hour Vine Maple Place fundraising event on **Saturday, October 25, 10:00 am** at the Maple Valley facility.

Learn how moms and kids get off the streets of South King County and into safe and stable housing. Please join us in helping families leave generational homelessness behind forever!

See materials and sign-up sheets on the Life, Justice, and Peace table in the narthex for more information.



If you are unable to attend, please consider donating directly by scanning the QR code or clicking on the code directly. You may also visit vineappleplace.org to donate.

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.

Blessing of our Pets



Don't forget to join us outside of the McMullen Center for the blessing of our pets on **Sunday, October 5, at 1:00 pm**.

Point Person Retreat

Saturday, **October 11, 2025**, from **9:00 am to 12:00 noon** at St. John the Baptist. Pulpit talks will be held on October 4 and 5, 2025.

PREPARES Diapers, Donations, Volunteers - Make a Difference!

The PREPARES ministry is seeking both "direct" and "indirect" volunteers! Stay tuned - an explanation about what our volunteers do will be presented at the Masses on the weekend of October 11 and 12, 2025.

Until then, PREPARES has an **ongoing need for diapers, wipes and monetary donations**.

Here are some ways to help:

- A one-time donation of diapers, especially sizes 4, 5, and 6
- A monthly diaper commitment. This can be set up on Amazon and delivered directly to the office at St. John the Baptist.
- A one-time monetary donation - checks made out to St. John the Baptist (memo: PREPARES).

Our **monthly needs** are:

- 30 boxes of diapers, mostly sizes 4, 5, and 6
- 60 packs of wipes

Please place your donations in the crib in the narthex. Thanks so much for your support of this ministry!

Be the Key to Our 9:00 am Choir's Harmony

Since the passing of our beloved **Rick Antes**, the 9:00 am choir has been in need of a piano accompanist. Ideally, we need two accompanists who rotate weekly, giving each one a week off. If you play the piano, are familiar with church repertoire, and can accompany a choir, you are invited to share your time and talent with the 9:00 am choir. As you reflect on your parish stewardship, this is a wonderful opportunity to serve St. John the Baptist through music. For more information, please contact **Luis Diaz de Leon** at x108 or luisd@sjtbcc.org.

Counting on You

It's that time of year again! Our parish is reporting Mass attendance counts to the Archdiocese. These Mass counts provide important data that help the Archdiocese track attendance trends, understand demographic changes, and measure parish engagement. This information is essential for planning, allocating resources, and ensuring that our programs and services meet the real needs of our parishioners.

At each Mass this month, our designated Point People will be counting attendees around the time of **Father Carlos's** or **Father Crispin's** homily. We apologize for any disruption this may cause during Mass and thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



STICK THESE on your FRIDGE!



Sweet Support: Tootsie Roll Fundraiser



The Knights of Columbus will be hosting their annual **Tootsie Roll Fundraiser** October 10–12 at Fred Meyer in Covington.

All proceeds support **Special Olympics** and programs for people with disabilities.

This is a wonderful way for our parish families to make a difference in our local community.



Want to learn more or get involved? Just ask any Knight!

Give Warmth. Give Love.

Yarning for Community is holding their annual collection of **hats, gloves, and scarves** for those experiencing homelessness.

Donations will be accepted the weekends of **October 11–12 and October 18–19**.

Please place items in the marked bins in the narthex or drop them off at the parish office.

Your gifts of warmth
make a big difference!



FAMILY 30 YOUNG ADULT OCTOBER MEETINGS



OCT 9

Rosary & Scripture Night

6:30 PM @ St. John the Baptist Catholic Church



OCT 16

Evening Potluck

6:30 PM @ St. John the Baptist Catholic Church



OCT 23

Pumpkin Patch & Carving Night w/ Father Carlos

5:30 PM @ St. John the Baptist Catholic Church



OCT 30

All Saints Day Event

6:30 PM @ St. John the Baptist Catholic Church



Welcoming Fall with Grace Healing Mass

Thursday,
Oct. 30th, 2025 | 7:00 pm
(6:45pm Praise & Worship)

Followed by Healing Service with prayer teams

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
25810 156th Ave SE Covington, WA 98042

Presider:
Rev. Crispin Okoth
Parochial Vicar, St. John the Baptist & Holy Spirit (PF30)

Concelebrants:
Rev. Sylvester Chanda
Parochial Vicar, St. James Cathedral
Rev. Carlos Orozco
Pastor, St. John the Baptist & Holy Spirit (PF30)

For information, call:
Marilou or Myke
(253)630-0701



Your voice matters. Tu voz importa.

Partners in the Gospel Listening Sessions - 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.

Date/Time*	Location	Date/Time*	Location
Wednesday, Oct. 8th, 10 am	HS	Thursday, Oct. 16, 7 pm	SJtB
Thursday, Oct. 9, 10 am	SJtB	Saturday, Oct. 18, 10 am	SJtB
Saturday, Oct. 11, 3 pm	HS	Saturday, Oct. 18, 2 pm	SJtB
Sunday, Oct. 12, 3 pm	SJtB	Sunday, Oct. 19, 12 pm	HS
Lunes, Oct. 13, 3 pm, Español	HS	Wednesday, Oct. 22, 7 pm	SJtB
Wednesday, Oct. 15, 10 am	SJtB		

*Some dates and locations have changed. Updated: 10-3-2025

¿Qué desafíos crees que podríamos enfrentar en este viaje y qué sueños tienes mientras nos convertimos en una sola parroquia?

Las opiniones de cada persona son importantes:

NECESITAMOS escuchar de USTEDES.

Revisa tu calendario para ver qué fecha te conviene más para unirse a una sesión de escucha al estilo sinodal.

Register to attend the session that works best for you,
Use the paper forms in the narthex or online by scanning the QR code



More information about these listening sessions can be found at: sjtbcc.org/partners-in-the-gospel-listening-sessions/

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

The rash one has no integrity;
but the just one, because of his faith, shall live. (Hb 2:4)

Psalm:

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. (Ps 95)

Second Reading:

For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice
but rather of power and love and self-control. (2 Tm 1:7)

Gospel:

"If you have faith the size of a mustard seed,
you would say to this mulberry tree,
'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,'
and it would obey you." (Lk 17:6)

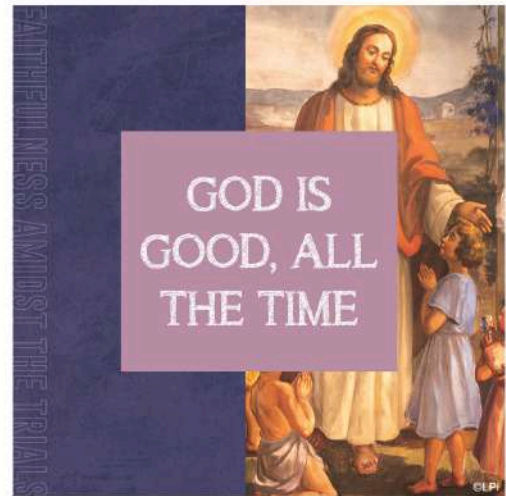
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

The Apostles beg Jesus for increased faith, but they don't really want faith. They want a magical feeling of certainty that requires no effort. Real faith must grow and sprout roots in fertile soil. Real faith requires attention and work. Are we willing to work?

Observances for the week of October 5, 2025

- Sunday:** 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time;
Respect Life Sunday
- Monday:** St. Bruno, Priest; Bl. Marie Rose Durocher,
Virgin
- Tuesday:** Our Lady of the Rosary
- Thursday:** St. Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs;
St. John Leonardi, Priest
- Saturday:** St. John XXIII, Pope
- Next Sunday:** 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Devotions, Explained!

This popular phrase is an affirmation of God's faithfulness amidst the trials of life, a theme that is presented again and again in Scripture: come what may, God will be with us.

Prayer to Respect Life

Dear God,
Help us to hear Your voice,
especially when You speak on
behalf of the voiceless,
the overlooked, and the forgotten.
Keep our ears attuned, and work
through us in a way that loves,
blesses, assures, supports, and
strengthens LIFE.
Amen.

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2025 | 27TH 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

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