



Third Sunday of Lent



WEEK OF MARCH 8, 2026



Photos by *Paul Dehmer*

Bishop Elizondo Inspires Young Adults

The Young Adult group of St. John the Baptist was honored to welcome **Bishop Eusebio Elizondo** as their guest on Thursday, February 26, 2026. The evening began with a bilingual Mass, followed by pizza and fellowship. After the meal, *Bishop Elizondo* shared his wisdom for the Lenten journey in an inspiring talk on hope and courage.



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 4:45p (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 9:00a (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

Please Pray for

those who are **sick**:

Jaime Babbitt
Father Robert Keane
Neal Johnson

those who have **died**:

Carmen Herrera (mother of *Rosario Brunken*)
Robert Seward (father of *Anne-Marie Parsons*)



Share your heart, your voice matters

Discernment isn't something done for you. It's something done **with** you. And we need your voice in the room.

We truly hope you'll take this opportunity to participate. These Listening Sessions are the space we have set aside for every voice to be heard. If you have thoughts, hopes, or concerns about our future, **this is the time to share them**. We don't want anyone to feel later that they missed their chance to speak during this important moment. This is our future; let's shape it together.

Choose a date now and join us! Child care is available on Sunday, 3/15, and Saturday, 3/21.

At Holy Spirit:

Wednesday, March 11, 10 am - 12pm, English
Sunday, March 15, 12 - 2 pm
Saturday, March 21, 3 - 4:45 & 6:15 - 8 pm



At St. John the Baptist

- Tuesday, March 10, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
- Sunday, March 15, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
A light lunch will be served
- Saturday, March 21, 10 am to 12 noon
Breakfast pastries and coffee/tea will be served

Please prayerfully consider attending a session. Come as you are, ready to listen and to be heard, knowing that your presence **will** make a difference.

Fridays during Lent

Join us in faith and fellowship throughout Lent.

On Fridays during Lent, all are invited to a fish dinner, 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm, followed by Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm (Good Friday at 3:00 pm). The cost of the meals varies, based on the options selected.

Date	Fish Dinner	Stations Leader
March 13	Fish Chowder & More, Peruvian style	St. Vincent de Paul
March 20	Fish Tacos	Elementary Faith Formation
March 27	Fish Fry	Guadalupanos
April 3	Good Friday	Young Adults

Finding Healing and Hope Together

All parishioners are invited to attend a session with Tom East, our parish family liaison, to process this news in our parish. He will offer three sessions of "**Grief to Growth**" for parishioners who would like to process this new information.

- March 16 at Holy Spirit, in Spanish, in the evening (time TBD, more information to follow).
- March 18, in English, at Holy Spirit, time TBD.
- March 21, English at St. John the Baptist at 1 pm.

Tom will also be offering office hours at St. John the Baptist and Holy Spirit on March 19th and 26th, times to be announced. Further, Joan Williamson, Kathy Wickward, and Laurie Moloney will be available to anyone needing to talk through this information over the next few weeks, and particularly on Sundays after Masses.

You can read the letter from Archbishop Etienne on our website: sjtbcc.org/letter

Join the Journey: Seder Meal and Celebration

If you open your Bible to Exodus 12, you'll find the instructions God gave the Israelites for a quick meal the night before they left Egypt. This meal, now celebrated as Passover, commemorates God's saving power, leading the people to freedom and a new national identity in the Promised Land.



Passover is an 8-day festival, and the meal - called the Seder - is traditionally shared on the first one or two days. Over time, it has drawn from many cultural traditions.

St. John the Baptist will explore the Seder on **Sunday, March 29, 2025, at 5:30 pm**, with a potluck meal as part of the celebration. **Seats are limited to 60**, and kids and families are especially welcome.

For more information or to register, click on this link archseattle.ccbchurch.com or email **Kathy Wickward** at kathyw@sjtbcc.org.



Managing Water, Nurturing Community

Don't forget to come and help us build a rain garden! If you and your family enjoy getting your hands dirty, **we'd love your help building this rain garden** directly outside of the *Garden of the Good Shepherd* - our parish produce garden that supports the local food bank. This rain garden will help manage excess water while benefiting the environment and our community.

Join us on **Saturday, March 14, from 1:00 - 4:00 pm**. Please bring gloves, work boots, and your favorite tool. We'll have plenty of shovels available for everyone!

Hunger Knows No Date



This Backpack Buddies program continues through the end of the school year, so please keep the donations coming. By living out Christ's call to feed the hungry, you are making a meaningful difference for families in our community.

This week we especially need **macaroni & cheese, ramen, fruit snacks, and granola bars**. Needs change every week, so be sure to check this bulletin for the most up-to-date list of needed items.

Shop our Amazon wish list (search "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.



If you have any questions, please contact **Andrea Shimek** in the parish office.



Spotlight on Ministries: *Life, Justice, and Peace Commission*

The *Life, Justice, and Peace Outreach Commission* inspires our parish community to actively respond to the social challenges facing our world.

Composed of many subministries, the *Commission's* true impact comes from the dedication of volunteers who serve as the hands and feet of Jesus in our community.

Guided by Catholic social teaching, this commission fosters understanding and formation in the Church's social doctrine while providing opportunities for active engagement in its social mission. In doing so, it **helps us live our faith through service, justice, and care for others**.

If you are interested in joining this ministry, please contact **Kathy Wickward** at the parish office for more information.

Strength, Comfort, and Hope for Your Journey

You are never alone. If feelings of hopelessness are part of your daily life, please reach out to one of our partner sites. Remember, God's presence is always with you, offering comfort and hope.

- **Retrouvaille** - for couples struggling in their marriages. Visit [Retrouvaille](#).
- **Project Rachel** - provides healing and reconciliation to those affected by abortion. Visit [Project Rachel](#).
- **Catholic Community Services** - Mental health (child & family) issues & wellness. Visit [CCS.org](#).

Or if you want to enrich your relationship:

- **Mental Health Wellness** - Friendship Bench. Visit our [website](#).
- **Marriage Encounter** - unlock the power of your relationship with new ways to do the "I do". Visit [World Wide Marriage Encounter](#).

Your Family Can Help Celebrate the Eucharist



At every Mass, our Ministers of Hospitality look for families or individuals who would like the **special honor of bringing the bread and wine to the altar** for consecration. The hosts and wine are prepared by the Sacristan and placed in the narthex at the entrance to the sanctuary. After the collection, our gift bearers carry these offerings forward, presenting them with care and reverence as they become part of the Eucharist.

We especially welcome families with children, though everyone - including individuals - is invited to participate. At its heart, this is a simple yet meaningful way to be actively involved in our worship, bringing not only gifts, but also your presence, your joy, and your prayers to the altar. All that's needed is a willing heart and a desire to celebrate the Eucharist with our parish community. We warmly invite you to step forward before Mass to speak with our Ministers of Hospitality or our Point Person and join this special ministry of gift bearers, sharing in the blessing of making our Mass a fuller, more joyful celebration for all.

Growing Together in Service: Liturgical Ministry Training



We are so grateful for all of our Liturgical Ministers and the wonderful ways you help make our parish celebrations meaningful! To support you and make serving together even smoother, the *Liturgical Commission*

will be offering a **special training for Eucharistic Ministers, Ministers of Hospitality/Greeters, Point People, and Sacristans**.

Because our ministries work so closely together during the Liturgy, this training is a wonderful opportunity to grow in confidence, deepen your understanding of your role, and see how your service connects with the whole community. While a date hasn't been set yet, we want to give you a friendly heads-up that this **training will take place after the Lenten season**, likely continuing into the Easter season to align with the liturgical calendar.

We hope you'll join us - it's a chance to learn, share, and celebrate the gift of serving together! More information to follow. Be sure to check our bulletin.



March 21, 2026, 9:30 am to 5:00 pm, Kennedy Catholic High School, More information at [archseattle.org](#)

St. Patrick's Day Potluck Sunday, March 15 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm



Volunteers are needed to help before and after.

This Week in Our Parish Family



Holy Spirit
PARISH

Please call 253-859-0444
for event times.

Sunday, March 8

Bible Study - 12:30 pm
Cursillos (Spanish)
Choir Rehearsal (Swahili)
Swahili Community
Marriage Preparation (Spanish)
Youth Confirmation
St. Vincent de Paul
Sacramental Prep
Choir (12:30) Rehearsal
Adult Faith Formation/Bible Study
Rosario

Monday, March 9

Food Pantry - 1:00 pm
Rosario del Migrante
Bible Study Groups (Spanish)
Small Christian Communities
Centro Rendu Youth
Grandparent Bible Study (Spanish)
Children's Choir

Tuesday, March 10

Rosary for Peace - 12:00 pm
Small Christian Community
Mother Mary Guild
Grupo de Oracion
Choir (12:30 Spanish) Rehearsal
Terrific Tuesday Meals

Wednesday, March 11

RCIA/OCIA - 6:30 pm
Young Adult Group (Spanish)
Bible Study (Spanish)
Cursillos
Knights of Columbus
Childrens' Dance Practice (traditional Mexican dances)

Thursday, March 12

Adoration
Apologetics Bible Study (Spanish)
Small Christian Community
Bible Study Communities
Choir (English) Rehearsal
Confirmation
Clases de Confirmacion

Friday, March 13

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry - 5:00pm
Stations of the Cross (English) - 7:00pm
Stations of the Cross (Spanish) - 7:00pm
Grupo de Oracion
Bible Study Communities
Baptism Prep (Spanish)
Base Ecclesial Groups (Spanish)
Knights Council
Divine Mercy

Saturday, March 14

Choir (7pm Spanish) Rehearsal
Small Christian Community
Children Sacramental Prep
Youth Group



The Catholic
community of
St. John the Baptist

Sunday, March 8

Mass - 9:00 am
Children's Liturgy of the Word - 9:00 am
Coffee Hour - 10:15 am
Elementary Faith Formation - 10:15 am
Mass - 11:30 am
Mass - 5:30 pm

Monday, March 9

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

Tuesday, March 10

Word & Communion Service/Liturgy of Hours - 9:00 am
Life, Justice, Peace Meeting - 3:00 pm
WICS - 6:00 pm
Confirmation Phase 2 - 6:30 pm
Partners In the Gospel Listening Session - 6:30 pm
Women's Listening Session - 6:30 pm
Grupo de Oracion - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 11

Mass - 9:00 am
Backpack Buddies Setup - 9:30 am
Bible Study (In-Person) - 7:00 pm
Choir (Truthful Reign) Practice - 7:00 pm
Finance Council Meeting - 7:00 pm
Middle School Night - 7:00 pm

Thursday, March 12

Mostly Yoga - 8:00 am
Bible Study (Zoom) - 10:00 am
Hora Santa - Holy Hour - 3:00 pm
Facilities & Grounds Commission Meeting - 4:30 pm
Mass - 6:30 pm
Women's Commission Meeting - 6:30 pm
Young Adult Night - 6:30 pm
Choir (11:30 Sunday) Practice - 7:00 pm
Liturgy Commission - 7:00 pm
OCIA - 7:00 pm

Friday, March 13

Word & Communion Service/Liturgy of Hours - 9:00 am
Fish Tacos - 5:30 pm
Choir (Filipino) Practice - 7:00 pm
Stations of the Cross - 7:00 pm
Hispanic Charismatic Prayer - 8:00 pm

Saturday, March 14

Adult Confirmation Prep - 9:00 am
Middle School 1st Eucharist Parent Planning - 9:00 am
Lent Reconciliation Service - 10:00 am
1st Eucharist Parent & Child In-Service - 1:00 pm
Reconciliation - 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Mass - 5:30 pm

St. Patrick's Day
POTLUCK



15 MARCH, 5 - 8PM

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST MPR

Bring an Irish inspired dish to share



Sponsored by Parish Family (PF) 30* All are welcome!
*St. John the Baptist, Covington & Holy Spirit, Kent

Encounter...
holistic healing presence
of Jesus Christ

Presider: Rev. Crispin Okoth
Parochial Vicar, PF 30



In Kenya, Fr. Crispin has preached in open air Healing Mass rallies. He worked with other priests in the ministry of prayer, healing & deliverance, bringing hope & renewal to many. Come & be on your journey to wholeness - spirit, mind & body!

Concelebrante
Rev. Anthony Kitema, PF 16

HEALING MASS
Wednesday, March 25, 2026
7:00pm

Healing Service with prayer teams
6:30pm Praise & worship
Followed by Adoration

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
25810 156th Ave SE Covington, WA 98042
For information, call Marilou or Myke (253)630-0701

Return to the Lord

Family 30

Reconciliation Service

Saturday, March 14
10 am - 1 pm

St. John the Baptist



Patrocinado por la Familia 30, Todos son bienvenidos!

Encounter...

La Presencia Sanadora
holística de Jesucristo



Preside: Padre Crispin Okoth
Vicario Parroquial, PF 30

Concelebrante

En Kenia, el Padre Crispin ha predicado en misas de sanación al aire libre. Trabajó con otros sacerdotes en el ministerio de oración, sanación y liberación, llevando esperanza y renovación a muchos. Ven y emprende tu camino hacia la plenitud espiritual, mental y corporal.

MISA DE SANACIÓN
MIÉRCOLES, 25 DE MARZO, 2026
7:00pm

Seguido de Adoración,
Servicio de Sanación con equipos de oración
6:30pm Alabanza y adoración

**LA MISA SERÁ EN INGLÉS,
ORACIÓN EN INGLÉS Y ESPAÑOL**

Iglesia Católica de San Juan el Bautista
25810 156th Ave SE Covington, WA 98042

Para más información, llamen a Marilou o Myke (253)630-0701

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Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it for the people to drink." (Ex 17:6)

Psalm:

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

Second Reading:

And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. (Rom 5:5)

Gospel:

"Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (Jn 4:13-14)

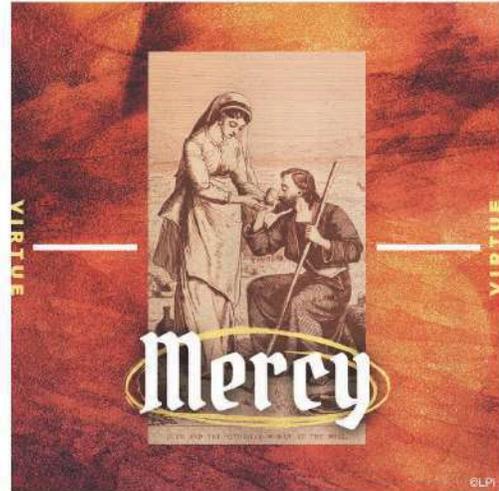
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Jesus did not convert the Samaritan woman with miracles. He converted her with presence. He was not afraid of her sins or her failures. He listened to her. He sat with her. Let us learn from this: when we are present to others, we can show them the face of God.

Observances for the week of March 8, 2026

- Sunday:** 3rd Sunday of Lent;
Daylight Saving Time begins
- Monday:** St. Frances of Rome, Religious
- Next Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Lent



Virtues, Explained!

True virtuous mercy is a choice governed by reason, not merely a feeling. God's mercy to us knows no bounds, but that mercy does not compel Him to grant us everything our appetitive passions desire. Rather, His perfect mercy is directed toward supplying our needs.

Blessing of Living Water

Lord, where there has been dryness in my life, bless me with Your living water!
Where I fear to dream of new hope and growth, bless me with Your living water!
Where I'm thirsty for new and abundant life, bless me with Your living water!
Drench the parched earth with Your promise, bless me with Your living water!
Amen.

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SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026 | THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



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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