

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 27, 2009

Homily Next Week:

Fr. John Whitney, SJ

Readings for

Sunday, October 4, 2009

FIRST READING: GENESIS 2:18-24

SECOND READING: HEBREWS 2:9-11

GOSPEL: MARK 10:2-16

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday - 5 p.m.

Sunday - 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday - Friday - 7:00 a.m.

Reconciliation

Saturday - 3:30-4:15 p.m. in the Church
or by appointment

Parish Center Hours

Monday-Thursday - 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Friday - 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Saturday - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

www.stjosephparish.org

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Fax: (206) 329-5698

Parish Receptionist (206) 324-2522

Parish Staff

(206) 329-5981

Pastor

Rev. John Whitney, S.J. x107

Senior Priest in Residence

Rev. Jack O'Leary, S.J. x101

Deacon/Pastoral Associate

Steve Wodzanowski x106

Pastoral Staff:

Dottie Farewell, Pre-K to 8th Faith Form. x112

Dennis Gentile, Facilities x110

Renée Leet, Administrative Assistant x100

Bob McCaffery-Lent, Music & Liturgy x109

Greg McNabb, Administration x108

Anne Moran, Administrative Assistant x116

Randy Novak, High School Youth x114

St. Joseph School

700 18th Avenue East • (206) 329-3260

Main Office x210

George Hofbauer, Principal x213

Rick Boyle, Academic Vice Principal x215

Sheryl Sperry, Student Vice Principal x218

The Welcome of Abraham

In the book of Genesis, the story is told of the nomadic Abraham, sitting near his tent when he saw strangers passing by. With hospitality characteristic of desert people, Abraham jumps to his feet and pleads with the strangers to stay with him. He prepares for them a special meal, as Sarah prepares wheat loaves and makes the guests comfortable. It is only after this welcome, that it becomes apparent that these strangers are messengers of God--angels--sent to Abraham and Sarah to deepen the covenant of God with them. A deepening that would be impossible, were it not for the kindness and hospitality of Abraham and Sarah.


Hospitality has always been a Scriptural value, and often has been portrayed as an occasion for God's grace. From Mary and Martha's welcome of Jesus into their home to the disciples who invite the risen Christ into their meal on the road to Emmaus, the ministry of Jesus is often a response to the invitation of others, and through the welcome offered, grace often overflows.

At a large and historical parish such as St. Joseph, much of our hospitality involves communities already established--welcoming those who may have started coming to church into the living body of our parish life. And we do this well, I think, as I reflect on events such as the Parish Picnic, the Home Masses, the gatherings of seniors after the Healing Masses, etc.

But there is another dimension to hospitality, a dimension by which each of us is invited to become more like Abraham--watching who is passing by and inviting them in. Grace comes with such hospitality, often graces we cannot imagine; but we can be reticent, and so it is challenging for each of us to act as individuals to invite others.

In a new Archdiocesan initiative, *Catholics Come Home*, there is an opportunity to find help with our hospitable outreach to Catholics and people interested in the Church. Through public advertisements and personal trainings, this initiative will be introduced in the next months to help us do what we are called to do: invite others into the gift and grace of our community. I am not sure how much such an initiative can do, but I know it will only work insofar as we continue to welcome and invite ourselves. My hope is that each of us will invite a friend to church, or if we know someone who longs for a community, we will welcome them to this table and this community. Let us be Abrahams and Sarahs, and find the gift of the covenant renewed for the life of our community.

Yours in the Lord,
John D. Whitney, SJ



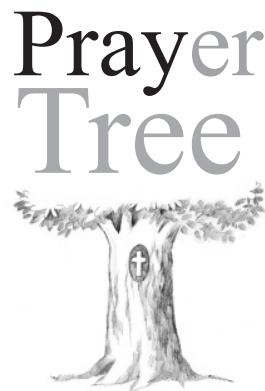
Calendar

Monday, September 28	Sacred Silence, 7 PM
Tuesday, September 29	RCIA Information, 7 PM
Wednesday, September 30	Pathfinders, 6 PM Parish Center
Friday, October 2	Eucharistic Adoration, 7:30-11 AM Loyola Chapel, Parish Center First Friday Healing Mass and Luncheon, 11:30AM First Friday Service & Potluck, 6:30 PM Arrupe Room
Saturday, October 3	Family Mass and Dinner, 5 PM Vigil
Sunday, October 4	Come to the Quiet ... 5 PM (before Mass)

Note: Daily masses (Monday-Friday) are celebrated in the Arrupe Room at 7 AM and the Blessed Sacrament will be reserved in the Loyola Room (the old rectory chapel) both located in the Parish Center.

St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions:

For Sarah as she travels a new valley of health concerns and for Desiree whose symptoms are perplexing to the medical community, we pray for each woman's well being in health, mind and spirit... For Brendan who broke his foot, may he heal well... In appreciation for friends who look after me... For our men and women serving abroad, we pray for their safety... For LaDonna's, Mrs. Pierre-Louis' and Jane's intentions.



“Yahweh listens when I call him . . . in Peace I lie down and at once fall asleep . . . it is you . . . who makes me rest secure.” Psalm 4

If you are interested in having someone placed on the prayer tree, please contact Renée Leet at 324-2522 or rleet@stjosephparish.org

Blessing of Animals

Friday, October 2nd- School Prayer Service at 8:25am in the Church
Sunday, October 4th- Feast of St. Francis of Assisi 12:30pm Front Lawn of Church

As autumn arrives, people in various places may notice something odd. A procession of animals, everything from dogs and cats to hamsters and even horses, is led to churches for a special ceremony called the Blessing of Pets. This custom is conducted in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures. Francis, whose feast day is October 4th, loved the larks flying about his hilltop town.

Francis wrote a Canticle of the Creatures, an ode to God's living things. "All praise to you, Oh Lord, for all these brother and sister creatures." For single householders, a pet can be a true companion. Many people arrive home from work to find a furry friend overjoyed at their return. Many a senior has a lap filled with a purring fellow creature. The bond between person and pet is like no other relationship, because the communication between fellow creatures is at its most basic. Eye-to-eye, a man and his dog, or a woman and her cat, are two creatures of love.

No wonder people enjoy the opportunity to take their animal companions to church for a special blessing. Church is the place where the bond of creation is celebrated.

The Blessing of Pets usually goes like this:

“Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. You called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land. You inspired St. Francis to call all of them his brothers and sisters. We ask you to bless this pet. By the power of your love, enable it to live according to your plan. May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation. Blessed are you, Lord our God, in all your creatures! Amen.”

As the prayer is offered, the pet is gently sprinkled with holy water.

The love we give to a pet, and receive from a pet, can draw us more deeply into the larger circle of life, into the wonder of our common relationship to our Creator.

St. Joseph's Parish Men's Retreat
"TRANSITIONS"
October 16-18, 2009
Camp Casey on Whidbey Island

Animators: Ken Barroga, Brian Cruess, Mike Burgess, Paul Wyckoff, Brian Jaeger, Steve Wodzanowski, Fr. Jack O'Leary, SJ and Norman LeMoine. Retreat begins Friday evening at 8:00 pm and ends 11 am on Sunday.

Cost: \$125.00 per person (includes two nights lodging & four meals - double occupancy) \$75.00 per person for our community elders 65 and older! Accommodations are simple and rustic! Bring your own bedding. Questions? Call Steve at 965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

RCIA

Come and See

"What the Catholic Church has to offer"

Tuesday September 29th

7:00pm – 8:30pm

St. Joseph's Parish Center

- Are you, your spouse, a friend, or an acquaintance a member of another faith tradition but worship regularly here at St. Joseph's?
- Are you experiencing God's call in your life and seeking Baptism or full communion with the Catholic Church?
- If you are, please consider participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. The RCIA is an opportunity to explore with others what the Catholic Church has to offer. It is an opportunity, through a process of discernment and gradual conversion to become a full member of the Catholic Church.

If you are interested, contact Deacon Steve Wodzanowski at 965-1646 or +stevew@stjosephparish.org We would be happy to meet with you and provide further information regarding our inquirers' sessions. All are welcome in this journey of faith. Come join us.

Seniors

First Friday Mass and Luncheon

Mark your calendars for the First Friday Healing Mass and Seniors Luncheon scheduled for October 2nd, at 11:30 am. Mass will be in the church with lunch following in the Parish Center. This is a wonderful way to connect with the seniors in our community. There is no charge for the luncheon. Please join us!

Holyrood Cemetery Mass

The monthly celebration of the Eucharist will be celebrated at Holyrood Cemetery on Saturday, October 3rd at 10:30 am.

St. Joseph's Marriage Enrichment Ministry Presents:

DATE NIGHT FOR COUPLES

Friday, October 23rd

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Parish Center

\$10.00 per couple

Childcare available upon request

"TOWARDS THE SACREDNESS OF MARRIAGE"

"Snapshots and conversation with Fr. John Whitney, SJ"

6:30pm – Wine and Dessert Social

7:00pm - Welcome/Opening Prayer

7:15pm - Talk by Fr. John

7:45pm - Small Group Conversation

8:15pm - Wrap up and Closing Prayer

Bring a favorite picture/snapshot of yourselves as a married couple.

To register or for more information contact Deacon Steve at 965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org or Linda and Dick Ellis at 328-2228 or landellis@comcast.net

First Friday Worship

What grew out of discernment sessions and the desire for an intimate, parishioner led service, is now about to start its third year at St. Joseph's Church. Together we have built a strong community centered on sharing our spirituality and the gift of prayer with each other, and it is our hope that you will continue to take part in this special gathering.

Please join us as we kick off our third year on Friday, October 2nd at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center Arrupe Room, as we continue to celebrate the feast of St. Francis. Our theme for October's gathering is "Care for Creation" and will be presented by members of the Eco-Justice Ministry with Paul Peterhans and Cathy Murray presiding.

As we have done in the past, we will have a potluck dinner immediately following the service, and this will be held in the Parish Center. We ask that you bring food or beverage to share.

If you have any questions, please contact Karen Quinn-Shea at quinn-shea@msn.com or Mary Beth Hribar-Deitz at Marybeth_hribar@yahoo.com

shirts across america.org

St. Joe's high school youth community, The VOICE, continues to grow its outreach to the Gulf Coast. The group has created the non-profit entity Shirts Across America and has partnered with the St. Bernard Project in New Orleans. SAA has donated over \$50,000 to SBP since January and has moved five families out of FEMA trailers and back into their homes.

As part of our ongoing efforts, Shirts Across America welcomes CNN Heroes of the Year and co-founders of the St. Bernard Project Liz McCartney and Zack Rosenberg to Seattle. As part of the 4 NOLA Tour they will be speaking to the student bodies at Seattle Prep, Holy Names, O'Dea, Blanchet and Tumwater high schools. If you are interested in hearing from these two incredible speakers, join us on Thursday, October 1st, at 7pm at Pigott Auditorium on Seattle University's campus.

The VOICE

The high school youth group will begin meeting on Wednesdays, starting October 7th, from 7-8:30 pm in the Arrupe Room of the Parish Center. For more information, contact Randy Novak at rnovak@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1654.

Pathfinders

The junior high youth group (6th - 8th grades) will begin meeting on Wednesdays, starting September 30th from 6-7:30 pm in the Parish Center. For more information, contact Dottie Farewell at dfarewell@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1652.

CYO Basketball Registration

CYO Basketball is coming soon! CYO Basketball sign-ups for 4th thru 8th graders will be due on October 9th. The season will run from mid-November through January. To register, visit the school website at www.stjosephsea.org for all CYO information.



God and Golf

What do God and golf, the Lord and the links, the Spirit and the sport have in common? St. Joseph parishioner and author Gary Graf will be available after all masses on October 3rd and 4th to sign his latest book, *And God Said, "Tee It Up!"* You'll learn about golf's great courses, tournaments and players, as well as the many connections the Good Book and great game share.

Eco-Justice Ministry

Free Advocacy Training

The Beyond the One Night Count (BONC) Fall Advocacy Training will be offered October 10th, 10 am-12 pm at St. James Cathedral in Seattle. We will learn about the City and County budgets this fall and how they will impact housing for those with very low incomes. Nancy Amidei, a nationally known advocacy trainer and professor of social work (UW retired) will make advocacy simple, approachable and fun. Please join us for this engaging training! The St. Joe's Social Justice Commission participated in this training and it is excellent. To register, please visit www.faihadvocracy.org

Eucharistic Ministers

During early fall we will be having a series of gatherings for all Eucharistic Ministers in the parish. You should have received an email from the EM captains Leona DeRocco and Mary Sepulveda alerting you to the time and place of your particular event. The schedule is reprinted below for your convenience. If you cannot make the one for your particular mass time, please DO come to one of the other ones. We look forward to gathering with everyone this fall! Please RSVP to Leona DeRocco at fallon_derocco@comcast.net or 206-328-8186.

5 PM Eucharistic Ministers: Tuesday, October 13th, 6:30 pm, Church Vestibule

9 AM Eucharistic Ministers: Tuesday, October 20th, 6:30 pm, Church Vestibule

11 AM Eucharistic Ministers: Sunday, October 4th, 12 Noon, Arrupe Room

5:30 PM Eucharistic Ministers: Sunday, October 4th, 6:30 pm, Arrupe Room

Communion for the Homebound

Eucharistic Ministers are available to bring Communion to the homebound. Please contact Fr. Jack O'Leary 206-329-5981, ext 101 or Deacon Steve Wodzanowski at 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org if you or someone you know would like to receive the Eucharist.

For Those Who Cannot Eat Gluten

An Invitation to Eucharist

If you have celiac disease or a severe gluten allergy, you may receive the Eucharist in a gluten-free form from the Presider, who will have the consecrated host in a pyx. Please tell him that you need a gluten-free host, and he will allow you to remove it from the pyx in a safe manner. Remember: this pyx will only be with the Presider, so go to him.