

THE 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
September 16, 2012

Homily Next Week:
Father John D Whitney, S.J.

Readings for September 23, 2012

FIRST READING: WISDOM 2:12, 17-20

SECOND READING: JAMES 3:16-4:3

GOSPEL: MARK 9:30-37

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday - 5 pm

Sunday - 8 am, 10 am, 5:30 pm

Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday - Friday - 7 am

Arrupe Room, Parish Center

Reconciliation

Saturday - 3:30-4:15 pm in the Church
or by appointment

Parish Center Hours

Monday-Friday - 8 am - 4:30 pm

Saturday - 9 am - 1 pm

www.stjosephparish.org

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Pastor

Rev. John D. 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, Dir. Religious Ed. x112

Dennis Gentele, Facilities x110

Stefanie McIrvin, Admin Mgr x108

Renée Leet, Admin Assistant x100

Bob McCaffery-Lent, Liturgy & Music x109

Caprice Sauter, Administration x102

Randy Novak, Communications x114

John Stuntebeck, Organist/Pianist x105

St. Joseph School

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Main Office x210

Patrick Fennessy, Principal x218

Rick Boyle, Academic VP x215

Kris Brown, Vice Principal x216



A Covenant of Community

Ignited by the Eucharist, we are Companions of Jesus and Companions of one another. As Parishioners at St. Joseph, we share the bread of life and grow together into the persons we desire to be and the community we are called to become. We claim the values of the covenant and we commit ourselves to grow as Parishioners with one another.

A Parishioner of St. Joseph Parish:

1. Inspires a living relationship with God at St. Joseph through "full, active, and conscious participation" in prayer, both liturgical and personal.
2. Animates the body of Christ at St. Joseph through participation in particular communities and groups, and by the intentional integration of those communities into the larger body of the Parish.
3. Expands the circle of grace found at St. Joseph through active commitment to and loving solidarity with those on the margins of society.
4. Deepens the life of wisdom and understanding at St. Joseph through the nurturing of intellectual curiosity-both personally and in others-and through thoughtful, reflective learning on matters of faith.
5. Provides for the continuing life of the St. Joseph Community through sharing of goods and talents; through stewardship of resources; and through critical and loving commitment to the structures of the Parish.

This weekend is our Covenant renewal weekend, please take a moment and sign the Covenant in the vestibule of the Church if you have not already done so.

A Note from Father Whitney

Thank you to everyone who has offered condolences for the death of my friend Marilyn Kirvin. I am blessed to be a part of this community.

John Whitney, S.J.

Calendar

Monday, Sept 17 Sacred Silence, Church, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, Sept 19 Choir Practice, Church, 6:30 PM
The VOICE, Arrupe Room, 7:00 PM

Friday, Sept 21 Eucharist Adoration, Loyola Chapel
Parish Center, 7:30 AM

Faith Seeking Understanding

Our sense of what is contained in our faith is deepened less by abstractions than by an encounter with mystery in what is human and often perverse. . . St. Gregory wrote that every time the sacred text describes a fact, it reveals a mystery.

-Flannery O'Connor-

Recently, I heard a radio interview in which a prominent bishop stated that those who did not agree with certain contemporary theological teachings “*had already left the Church.*” The interview disturbed me, and led me to reflect how dangerously far we have drifted from the Church of the Sacraments—where St. Francis Xavier, so desperate to ensure the eternal life of those to whom he was sent, would baptize thousand with little catechesis beyond the Lord’s Prayer and the Hail Mary—towards the Church of the Dogmatics—where only those who understand and believe as I do may attain entry. On this Catechetical Sunday, perhaps we would do well to reflect that Catholicism, though rightfully proud of its long intellectual history, is ultimately founded on something deeper than intellect, formed by something more amazing than any Catechism could contain.

It was St. Anselm who famously defined theology as “*faith seeking understanding,*” and from whom we derive much of the method of inquiry and study given in this discipline. *Faith seeking understanding* begins with our experience of the Transcendent in our own lives—the powerful movement of our heart through encounter with the God of Creation or with Christ present in Word and Sacrament, with the stirring of the Spirit that emerges in our prayer and draws us to the One who is the Mystery and Fulfillment, the welcoming Presence and the awesome Author of all that is. Theology begins here, in the experience that voices itself in metaphor and sacrament more easily than in the sometimes dry language of philosophical and theological study. So it is that we pray, before we understand what exactly happens in prayer; we worship, before we fully comprehend the One we worship; we love, before we think through all that our love entails. Our hearts ache for God, before our minds think to ask questions.

But faith *does* give rise to questions, and in the history of the Church, our longing to integrate our experience with the very human desire for understanding has been the source of all true theology. Indeed, the story of Christian doctrine is the story of men and women seeking to wrap their minds around experiences and beliefs that shape the Christian community. For example, for centuries, following the command of Christ, we gathered at the waters and baptized, “*In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*” and then, one day, some-

one asked: “*What does that mean? Is the Trinity three Gods, or three names for the same God, or three aspects of God?*” From this simple question comes the councils of Nicaea and Constantinople, Ephesus and Chalcedon, comes the distinction of *being* and *person*, comes the theological notion of three persons in one God and the idea that Father, Son, and Spirit are *consubstantial* (everyone’s favorite new word). Indeed, the reason we have the Creed we say today is the quest to understand what we meant by the words we prayed and the actions we took in the rite of baptism. Faith—the powerful experience of God in our lives—seeking understanding—the integration of our experience with the human gift of intellect and reason.

The concept of faith *seeking* understanding is important for another reason, as well; for it suggests that the quest of theology is never done, but is an eternal process unfolding into the mystery of God. That is not to say we never know anything about God; but, rather, to acknowledge that all we know about God—all we can know about God—is conditioned by our own limits and by the mystery of God’s own self. All our doctrines, all our dogmas—no matter how true—are incomplete and, to some extent, metaphorical. Like our knowledge of love (the fundamental image of God given us in the writings of St. John), no matter how much we know of God, we also must know that there is an infinite amount more yet to be known; and that the only way to truly understand is to live the experience to its end. To know love, we must become loving; to know God, we must be united with God in the fullness promised by the Resurrection. Thus, theology, beautiful and valuable as it is, is never finished, but is constantly unfolding in the mystery which is God.

This weekend, as we celebrate Catechetical Sunday, it is important to keep in mind the dynamism and limitations of our theology. For, while it is immensely valuable to study the teachings of the Church—valuable to be in dialogue with all the generations that have gone before us, and to give our children the gift of that history and that dialogue—we must also recall that we are not, fundamentally, a congregation of ideas or doctrines, of creeds or statements of principle. Before all of those things, we are a communion of faith, a body formed by the mysterious and irreducible action of the Holy Spirit, poured out on us in the Sacraments. We are a people chosen beyond reason, and loved beyond our ability to understand. It is not the purity of our doctrine or the uniformity of our theology that, in the end, unites us as Catholics and Christians; rather, it is the fact that we come to the altar of God and are fed on the Body of Christ, which reason cannot see and for which no theology is sufficient explanation.

John

Blessing of the Animals

October 4th is the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi.

Francis wrote *The Canticle of the Creatures*, an ode to God’s living things.

“All praise to you, Oh Lord, for all these brother and sister creatures.”

Blessing of the Animals will be Thursday, October 4th, at 8:30 am in the Church.

This will be with the school community.

There also will be a blessing at 6:00 pm on the Front Lawn.

All are welcome!



Social Ministry

My Experience With Cabrini Ministry Training

by Parishioner Arlene Warnke

"The Cabrini Ministry class spans 5 months and the time is dedicated to sharing and discovering one's faith with others. Months after the class ended, I still utilize the lessons and skills I learned.

The participants in the Cabrini Ministry class came from all walks of life. Personally, I was dealing with some life changing events when I began the class. I expected to gain insight into my religious beliefs but I did not realize how powerful and healing the messages would be. Aside from the spirituality aspects, I also learned a lot about myself.

Ultimately, the Cabrini Ministry class was a calling from God, the classes taught me the gift of listening. Not in the way we all think we listen, but in the way in which you truly hear someone. It saved me from the pains of my personal life, and it brought me closer to God. Every class allowed me to walk deeper into my faith and gain more insight into how I can love and be more compassionate - with myself and with others."

Arlene serves as a Eucharistic Minister at Virginia Mason Hospital. If you would like to see if Cabrini Ministry Training is right for you, contact Deacon Steve at 296-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish or visit their website at <http://www.cabriniministry.org> *Partial Scholarships are available.*

Baby Corner

Baby Corner urgently needs some items to assist families this fall. Our inventory of the following items remains low: Onesie-type infant undershirts (0-3m, 3-6m), one-piece infant pajamas (0-3m, 3-6m), infant outfits (0-3m, 3-6m), toddler pants (2T-5T), for both boys and girls, hygiene items (baby wash, soap, lotion, diaper-rash ointment), teethingers & rattles.

With cold weather coming, we are also in great need now of warm clothing—tops, bottoms, pajamas, outfits, jackets—sizes newborn through 4T.

Just drop off items in the crib inside the church.

Sisters and Brothers in Christ: Faith Journeys of LGBT Catholics

Panel presentation followed by group discussion
Thursday, October 18, 7 - 9 PM, Arrupe Room,
St. Joseph Parish Center.

Being Gay or Lesbian and Catholic presents a menu of challenges and LGBT people often work hard to reconcile being who they are with their Catholic faith and their love of the Church.

Please join us to hear personal stories about how some of your fellow parishioners who are gay and lesbian, as well as family members and straight supportive friends live lives of faith. The panel will be followed by an open community discussion, conversation and fabulous snacks.

For details contact: Rebecca Brown, rebecca.brown@goddard.edu or Christa Gray, cgray@alumni.nd.edu

Parish Blood Drive

The next Blood Drive at St. Joseph Parish Center:

Monday, October 1st

1 to 7 pm

Mark your calendar!

St. Martin de Porres

We need your help!

Looking for a family service opportunity? Teenagers need service hours? Our St. Martin de Porres team is looking for a family who would pick up bakery goods from Madison Park Bakery on the first Saturday of each month, at 5:30, and deliver them to the shelter on Alaskan Way (waterfront). It will require about 45 minutes once a month and will provide the men at the shelter with breakfast baked goods. Contact Sheri Andrews at sandrews@stjosephsea.org or call 325-7128.

Build Hope

In the pews are envelopes for Build Hope. Funds are allocated to community projects to support the efforts of low-income people seeking to change the social, political and economic conditions that perpetuate poverty while adhering to the moral and social teaching of the Catholic Church.



Prayer

Men's Ministry: Save The Dates!

Friday, September 21st – 6pm - Home Mass and Potluck Supper at the home of Jim McAteer, 2109 E Crescent Drive, Seattle, WA 98112

Friday, Oct 12th – 14th – Fall Retreat at Camp Casey on Whidbey Island. ***Why Are We Catholic: Reconciling My Faith and My Community with the Church and the World.*** Retreat Team includes: Rob Carroll, Joe Gaffney, Vince Herberholt, Troy Kaser, Fr. Jack O'Leary, and Fr. John Whitney. Cost is \$130 per person and includes two nights lodging (double occupancy) and four meals. Partial scholarships are available. Check out the flyer in the vestibule of the church.

For details, contact Deacon Steve at 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

Come and see what the Catholic Faith has to offer

Tuesday, September 25th
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
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 at 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

All are welcome on this journey of faith!

St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions: For those who will be undergoing biopsies, we pray for each of them before, during and after their procedures . . . For Jimmy who is recovering from cancer surgery may his strength be from the Lord in his healing . . . For the health of Danny, Creagan, Joyce, Helen and Betty . . . For Lester who had a stroke this week . . . Thanksgiving for our newest grandchild . . . For Americans who are serving abroad, Lord protect them . . . For Monica and for Susan each to find a place to live and a job.

Prayer Tree



***"Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrows;
it empties today of its strength."***
~ Corrie ten Boom

R.I.P.

Ed Wilson, beloved friend of the Fillipi family.
Christopher Stevens, ambassador to Libya
and the others who died with him.



This Week On the Willis...

Today you are hearing pieces by Joseph Jongen from the collection *Trois Pièces*, composed in 1908 for the harmonium. Joseph Jongen (1873-1953) was a Belgian composer who taught harmony and counterpoint at a college in Liège for a number of years before the First World War as well as fugue at the Royal Conservatory in Brussels following the war. He also served as director of the Royal Conservatory from 1925-29. Much of his work fell into obscurity following his death, but many of his works for solo organ are still frequently performed. One of his most famous works for organ is *Symphonie Concertante*, written in 1926 for organ and orchestra. It was commissioned for the re-dedication of the world's largest organ, the Wanamaker organ in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Next week on the Willis...music by Ralph Vaughan Williams.

John Stuntebeck, Principal Organist and Pianist



Community

Seniors On The Go

NOTE: Date Change!

The Seniors' Potluck will be held on the **THIRD (3rd) THURSDAY** of every month beginning September 20th at 6 pm.

Thursday, September 20th - OWL's monthly Potluck, 6:00 pm in the Social Hall

Friday, September 21st - Lunch at St. Demetrios Greek Festival. Lunch is \$10.00, please reserve your spot with Renee

Friday, October 5th - Healing Mass, 11:30 am, with lunch following in the Parish Center

Parish and School Fall Welcome Family Dinner, September 29

Brand New This Year - Talent Show - We need Your Talent!

We will kick off the school year with our Family Mass & Dinner on Saturday, September 29 beginning with mass at 5 pm, and continuing with dinner in the school's Wyckoff Gym immediately following. The evening's entertainment will be a **TALENT SHOW**—we need YOU to participate. Auditions will be held Wednesday, September 19 from 3-5 pm and Thursday, September 20 from 3-5 pm. To sign up for the show or to RSVP for dinner, please contact Dottie Farewell at dfarewell@st-josephparish.org.

Altar Server Training:

For those youth in grades 4th and higher who would like to serve during the Mass, our next training will be **Sunday, September 23, 2012 after the 11am Mass or 3pm Wednesday, September 26th**. Please meet at the front steps of the altar platform in the church. The training will take about an hour. New servers begin in October. This is a great way to earn service hours too! To sign up, please contact Dottie Farewell at dfarewell@stjosephparish.org or 206.965.1652.

Stand with the Sister's Update

A very big Thank You to our generous parishioners who have donated to date \$1,752.00 to offset the cost of buttons and supplies.

✋ An Application of the Senses: Shifting Seasons

Facilitated by
Marilyn Nash
Campus Minister for Ignatian Spirituality,
Seattle University

Thursday September 20th, 7-9pm
St. Joseph Parish Center
Mother Teresa Room (in basement of Parish Center)

For more information, please contact matt@ignatian-center.org or visit ignatiancenter.org

Save the Date!
A Covenant of Community Event
Wednesday September 26th
6 PM in the Social Hall

Mark it on your calendars, you won't want to miss it!

COLLECTION: SEPTEMBER 9, 2012
TOTAL NEEDED WEEKLY TO MEET BUDGET: \$15,994.00
TOTAL FOR MASSES AND GIFTS MAILED IN: \$16,893.25

Please remember to include St. Joseph Parish in your estate plans.

Ignited by the Mass of the Holy Spirit - St. Joseph School Community

