

*THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS,
MARY, AND JOSEPH*
December 30, 2012

Homily Next Week:
Father Jack O'Leary, S.J.

Readings for January 6, 2013

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 60:1-6

SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 3:2-3A, 5-6

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2:1-12

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday - 5 pm

Sunday - 9 am, 11 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

732 18th Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98112

Fax: (206) 329-5698

Parish Receptionist (206) 324-2522

Parish Staff (206) 329-5981

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 Gentile, Facilities x110

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

700 18th Avenue East • (206) 329-3260

Main Office x210

Patrick Fennessy, Principal x218

Rick Boyle, Academic VP x215

Kris Brown, Vice Principal x216

St. Joseph Holiday Schedule



New Year's Eve

Monday, December 31

6:00 pm, Benediction and Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament, ending at Midnight

New Year's Day

Tuesday, January 1

10:00 am, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Dear Members of St. Joseph Parish:

As this year draws to a close, we want to thank all those who have blessed this community with your resources, your prayers, & your generous service. It has not always been the easiest of days, & yet, we have remained faithful to one another, & God has remained faithful to us.

May God, Creator of all gifts, fill our hearts with hope & thanks, with an abiding sense of how deeply we are loved, & a restless desire to share that love with others.

May the Son of God, born of a virgin in the midst of poverty, remove from us every obstacle to grace, every impediment to kindness, every limit—created by our fear—that restrains us from living as women & men of the new creation.

May the Spirit of God, poured out upon the Church & into the hearts of all her members, knit us together in faith, hold us together in hope, & send us together in love for the liberation of our broken & enslaved world.

May the One true God—a community of persons, a unity of love—bless you all & bless all who call St. Joseph Parish home, in 2013 & in all the years to come.

Blessed New Year,

Fr. John, SJ Fr. Jack, SJ & the Staff of St. Joseph Parish

A New Year & Better Vision

*You do not have to be good.
You do not have to walk on your knees for a hundred
miles through the desert, repenting.
You only have to let the soft animal of your body love
what it loves.*

-Mary Oliver-

Many years ago, when I was Provincial of the Jesuits, it was my job to approve young Jesuits, at the end of their theology studies, for ordination to the priesthood. I recall writing those letters of approval, always touched by both trepidation and hope that this man might be gentle and generous, broken enough to bend but strong enough to support those in need. I prayed that he would avoid the terrible two-sided pitfall of our profession (a pitfall into which I have fallen too often) of believing either that he didn't matter at all or that he mattered too much. In trying to communicate my prayer, I came to favor an image to which I still return when thinking about ministry—that we are called to be like the lenses in a pair of glasses: i.e., it matters how we have been ground and how clear we are, but we should never imagine that we are the thing for which people are looking. We may help with focus (such is the work of ministry), but we do best when we empower others to see beyond us, to see the One who is at work within the movement of the seasons and the hearts of all women and men. Like any good pair of glasses, we are most successful in our ministry when those we serve forget that we are on; and concentrate, instead, on the power of the Word that lifts their heart, and on the horizon towards which they sail.

Such a notion of ministry depends upon an optimistic and, perhaps, naive faith in the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit, as well as a belief in the foundational grace planted within each person. It is this Holy Spirit who illuminates the world, and who broods in all Creation with a power and a glory that is unmarred by sin or by the corrupting power of our failure. Thought it is true that in every person and in the world at-large, sin distorts our vision of reality—limits our ability to trust the unfolding grace that we are offered—still, fundamentally, every person made by God is already possessed of grace and oriented towards the source of all love and hope. We are made for God, just as a person with eyes is made to see; and so, while our vision may need some adjustment, it is only as an assist to the grace given to us at our Creation by God and restored for us in the sacrifice of Christ. We are, already, “*Temples of the Holy Spirit*”—something every minister, every priest, every bishop and Pope must recall in order to serve well the God of the gospel. It is not our job, as ministers, to *make* people good, but only to help those fundamentally good people get past

their nearsightedness or their astigmatisms, their fears and self-created blindness, to help them see what God has already put before them as gift and promise.

But if this has been my long-standing view of ministry in the Church, this last year has been a time of challenge. Though often out of the headlines, the undertow generated by the abuse and leadership crisis of the last fifteen years has drawn women and men who love the Lord farther away from our Catholic community. Meanwhile, the verbal thickness of the Roman Missal has reinforced, with many of its grammatically muddled prayers, a sense that we are nothing but unworthy sinners, whom God only begrudgingly saves—rather than the loved sinners whom Jesus befriended, and whom God has rushed to rescue. Likewise, in actions against the Sisters and in various statements regarding gender and identity, those in offices of responsibility within the Church, have offered a very different view of mission and ministry than I have ever held—a view not of a world filled with God's grace, waiting only to be discovered by our improving insight, but of a world that is fundamentally suspect and degraded, where only the mediation of priests and prelates allows for clear guidance and true sight.

As the year drew towards its close, I had begun to think my own sense of the Church and our mission hopelessly out of line with the times; but then, something happened, in the horror around the Sandy Hook shootings, that restored my faith in the inherent grace at the heart of the world, and the call we have to help that grace find focus. On the Saturday after the shootings, as we gathered with the community for prayer and silence, I saw women and men—some regular church-goers, some probably rarely in the pews—come forward, tears in their eyes, and each one light a candle of remembrance and hope. In our moment of need, we sought a vision of solace and a God, not who judges, but who knows what it means to mourn the death of a Son on a sad and dreary afternoon. We turned to the Church—to each other, to St. Joseph—as a place to make visible the vision of our hearts, and as community that might focus the desire already within us.

I have no doubt that the world (and the Church) will continue to be blind at times, and that it will sometimes make me crazy. Yet, I know that when we are together, we have a chance to take off the blinders and, through our ministry to one another, see a God at work in the world. The vision is not held in the hands of a few, but depends on us all. May the new year deepen in each of us and in all of us this call to ministry, this call to vision.

John



Prayer

Come & Pray with us, for Just a Little While

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is an invitation to abide with Jesus, to take a single hour and quiet your heart from all that is rushing past, so that you might know that which lasts forever.

If you have never prayed before the Blessed Sacrament, you will be amazed at the peace and the grace that comes from allowing yourself to sit in the presence of Christ, from opening yourself to his love, given in this very physical and yet spiritual form.

Pray that your own life might be one with God.

Thursday, January 3rd, 7:00 pm, Church

**Centering Prayer:
Finding God Within Ourselves
Facilitated by Kathy Heffernan,
MAPS, BCC**

**Thursday January 17th, 7-9pm
St. James Cathedral
804 9th Ave Seattle 98104**

Centering Prayer is a method of silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of contemplative prayer, prayer in which we experience God's presence within us. This method of prayer is both a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship. Join Kathy Heffernan and other young adults ages 21-35 for an evening of reflection and discussion at St. James Cathedral on Thursday, January 17th, 2013 from 7-9pm. For more information please contact Matt Salazar at matt@ignatiancenter.org or visit ignatiancenter.org

Prayer Tree



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

For Denise who is recovering from a fall . .
. . For Anne who hurt her back . .
. . For Sienna to continue in her recovery from a lung infection .
. . For Bob's granddaughter who is going through some turmoil . .
. . For Emilie who is healing from shoulder surgery . . . For the kindness of friends who opened their homes and hearts to others to celebrate the "spirit of Christmas" . . . In appreciation for the men and women who serve to protect us here and abroad . . . In thanksgiving for the Light that shines in the darkness.

***"All this is the work of the kindness of our God;
He, is the Dayspring, shall visit us in his mercy
To shine on those who sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace."***

~Luke 1:78-79

A heartfelt welcome to newly baptized Isabel Misun Chua.

Thank you, Fr. John and St. Joseph's Community

I felt the blessings of your gift of prayers for me and the warmth of your caring from cards and phone calls. I am grateful for being part of a loving and caring community and that has made a difference. With each passing day the retina is healing.

Gratefully, Renee Leet



Community

Mark your Calendar for these Adult Faith Opportunities in the New Year:

A Three part series Studying Luke's Gospel - January 17, 24 & 31. 7-9 pm – Parish Center. Led by Father John Whitney, SJ

Listening and Love - A workshop presenting the essential skills of attending to self and others

Featuring Brian DesRoches, MSC, MHA, MBA, Ph.D. to benefit Cabrini Ministry Training Saturday, January 19th, 9:30-noon at St. Joseph's Parish Center. Suggested donation \$20.00 (all proceeds go to support scholarships for CMT). To register contact Deacon at SteveW@stjosephparish.org

Parish Lenten Retreat – Feb 22-24, 2013 at Camp Casey on Whidbey Island. Led by Fr. John, Deacon Steve, Bob McCaffery-Lent and parish planning team.

Seniors On The Go

Thursday January 3rd – Senior Outing to MOHAI (Museum of History and Industry) at South Lake Union followed by lunch. Museum admission is free...lunch is BYOL. Meet at Parish Center at 9:30 am. We will be back around 3:30 pm Sign-up with Renee at the front desk.

Friday, January 11th - Healing Mass, 11:30 am, with lunch following in the Parish Center (Note Date Change)

St. Joseph's Epiphany Dinner

Sunday, January 6th

1 - 4 pm

Parish Social Hall

We will open our doors to anyone in the Community for a shared meal and fellowship. Similar to last year we are reaching out to our "Outreach Partners" such as Recovery Café, St. Martin de Porres Shelter, Chief Seattle Club and Jubilee Women's Center to name a few. We will be providing transportation from several locations downtown. As is our tradition, we invite members of our community to provide cooked turkeys, hams, vegetables, potatoes, beverages, desserts and appetizers. Volunteers are needed to do the food prep, cooking, decorating, table hosting and clean-up. Please sign-up after Mass or by calling the parish center at 324-2522 ext 100 or by emailing Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org



St. Joseph's Marriage Enrichment Weekend

Note Registration Date Extended

February 1-3, 2013 La Conner Country Inn

Cost \$300 per couple, Partial Scholarships available, register by January 7th with Deacon Steve 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

2013 Planning team: Ginger and Warren Pollock, Sam and Julie Smith, Deborah Justice and Joe Fina, Kathleen Sullivan and Leo Lyons.



Social Ministry



ST. JOSEPH PARISH

IN ASSOCIATION WITH OUR OUTREACH PARTNERS:

CHIEF SEATTLE CLUB, FAMILY KITCHEN, JUBILEE WOMEN'S CENTER, RECOVERY CAFÉ, ST. FRANCIS HOUSE AND ST. MARTIN DE PORRES SHELTER INVITES YOU TO ATTEND



PLEASE JOIN US
SUNDAY, JANUARY 6TH, 1:00– 4:00PM
DINNER SERVED AT 2:30PM
PARISH SOCIAL HALL
732 18TH AVE E

MEAL INCLUDES: Eggnog • Cheese and Crackers • Roast Turkey and Baked Ham • Stuffing • Roast Potatoes and Gravy • Steamed Fresh Vegetables • Rolls and Butter • Desserts • Fresh Fruit • Coffee, Tea, Juice

TRANSPORTATION
TO ST. JOE'S WILL BE PROVIDED
FROM 2 LOCATIONS & AT 2 TIMES



THERE WILL BE RETURN TRANSPORTATION BACK DOWNTOWN STARTING AT 4:00 P.M.

- 1:2: 00P.M. - 2ND & YESSLER (OUTSIDE CHIEF SEATTLE CLUB)
- 1:2:30 PM- DENNY & BOREN (OUTSIDE RECOVERY CAFÉ)
- 1:30 P.M. - 2ND & YESSLER
- 2::00P.M. - DENNY & BOREN

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT DEACON STEVE AT
206-965-1646 OR STEVEW@STJOSEPHPARISH.ORG



Two Opportunities to Pray for Peace

Tuesday, 31 December 2012

New Years' Eve Benediction & Vigil

6:00 pm - Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Until Midnight - A Vigil of Adoration & Quiet Prayer

Stop in for a moment or longer, & pray for the healing of the world & the blessing of Christ in the new year.

Thursday, 3 January 2013

A Holy Hour for World Peace

**Benediction, Rosary, & Adoration
of the Blessed Sacrament**

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

"I will make the whole world my altar & on it will offer you all the labors & sufferings of the world." -Teilhard de Chardin-