

EASTER SUNDAY:
THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
March 31, 2013

Reflection Next Week:
Dottie Farewell, DRE

Readings for April 7, 2013

FIRST READING: ACTS 5:12-16

SECOND READING: REVELATION 1:9-11A, 12-13

GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-31

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

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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 Gentele, Facilities x110

Rebecca Frisino, Business 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

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Patrick Fennessy, Principal x218

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Kris Brown, Vice Principal x216



Faithfully At the Tomb

They did not expect it. Who could have? Their hopes were gone; bled-out on that awful afternoon when his cries of anguish tore the sky, and his body—heavy and still—was lowered into his mother's arms. No. They were done with hope; but not yet done with faith. They would keep faith with him, as he had always kept faith with them.

That was what moved them to rise early that Sunday morning and head towards the place they had marked in their minds, the place just down the hill from that of execution, where Joseph and the others had laid him, after his mother had finally let him go. They rose because they had loved him, and because they had felt strengthened by his love for them. They rose because they remembered his kindness and his compassion, when every other part of their lives had been cruel. They rose remembering how he looked at them and how he had seen them—as no man had ever seen them before. He had looked at them as they were: as persons, each with her own story, each with her own pain and blessing, challenges and small triumphs. He had seen them (each one could tell a story, unique to her), and not their disease or their status or their failures. Just them. And for that reason, hopeless though they were for any future, they would keep faith today. They would rise early, go to his grave with the oils and the spices ap-

propriate for the dead, and they would cleanse his body, and prepare it, and bless it in all that ways that custom and fidelity demanded.

There had been no time for such blessing and anointing earlier. By the time Joseph and Nicodemus had received permission for burial, the afternoon shadows were already long. And then there was Mary, holding him in her arms, rocking his broken body—they had to wait until she could bear what came next. And so, at last, they barely had time to wash the blood and sweat off his limbs and torso and wrap him in the linen cloths that someone had brought. Then they put him in the tomb, alone, and rolled the stone over the entrance.

On Saturday, they could not go because of the Sabbath. Instead, they sat with his mother and the men—crammed into that room which had seemed crowded during the Passover feast, but which today seemed stifling—filled with all the grief and dashed hopes of his friends and companions: the ones from Galilee, and those who had joined them along the way. They were all numb, now, beyond tears, and so did the simple chores expected of women, even on the Sabbath (how they wished his own way of being with them had rubbed off, just a bit, on these other men, his disciples). Then, as the shadows grew long, they slept a bit, waiting for the dawn.

It was Mary from Magdala who rose first, before the light, and who roused the others to get going. So they gathered the spices and oils and headed out, even while most of the men were still asleep. Mary, who had known so much infidelity and brokenness in her own life, would not break faith now, even though he was dead. Without hope, without any dream that she would find him alive, or any childish thought of miracles—without any delusions—she rose, and leaving the men still sleeping in their grief, she went with the other women to do the one last thing that they could do for him. To say goodbye.

And as they went along the way, they must have talked a little, wondering how they might move the burial stone and gain entrance to the tomb. Perhaps, they speculated, a gardener will be there, or one of the others from the area. They knew that they could not move it easily themselves, but they also knew they had to go and try to do whatever they could. Perhaps here, at least, God would provide. So they went.

Then coming to the tomb, they saw it open, the stone already rolled away, though the first rays of morning were only beginning in the eastern sky. Looking in, Mary saw nothing—no body, no sign of who had entered to disturb the dead. They ran back to the brothers and told them, not with hearts full of hope; but crestfallen that even in death more indignity could befall the one they loved.

Yet, when Peter and John came and saw, and then just walked away, Mary remained. She would still be faithful; she would still offer this last small act of love to him, and wait beside the empty tomb.

Today, across the world, millions of women, millions of vulnerable persons who can do no great acts, who have no power or prestige, whom the world rejects, wait faithfully, just as Mary did on that spring morning. They wait without hope, expecting no wonder or miracle—even seeing the empty tomb, Mary did not think of resurrection, but only longed to find out where they had taken the body—and yet they wait with great love and unwavering faithfulness. They wait not for a reward, not to earn some gift; but because that is all they can do. They can wait: faithfully, lovingly, without any power other than their own determined grace. And in this unwillingness to walk away, grace becomes manifest.

The miracle of Easter—like all miracles—does not appear simply out of nowhere. Rather, as in the miracle of the loaves and the fish, where little gifts become enough to feed a multitude, so too the small faithfulness of Mary meets the overwhelming faithfulness of God to bring a gift greater than any could hope or imagine. And so, when the gardener comes, and Mary, faithful beyond hope, pleads, *“Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you laid him, and I will take him,”* she receives her own name, *“Mary!”* spoken in that voice she could not expect nor ever forget. She receives her call, as disciple, as apostle of the resurrected Christ—an unimaginable gift that no one could ever take or diminish.

In these days, how many of us sit in the locked rooms of our hearts, despairing that the age of miracles has passed? How many of us—too practical to be fooled again—live hopelessly in anxiety or boredom, longing for some shining gizmo or some New Age movement to believe in?

Yet, somewhere in the darkness, our name is being spoken, even now. Somewhere, beyond these empty tombs, our Life—our Beloved—is calling to us, speaking our name with a kindness and a promise that will never be undone. He, too, has suffered all that we have—abandonment, failure, abuse, denial, betrayal, pain, death—and, yet, he is faithful to us, even now. We don’t need to understand fully, or to hope blindly, or even to do perfectly, we have only to bring the little faith we have. Just enough to show up. All the rest will be provided. Happy Easter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John" followed by a stylized flourish.



Prayer

This past week we have celebrated the mysteries
on which we base our very lives as Christians.

Just as we have blessed and broken and shared bread with Christ
at His Last Supper,
we have blessed each others' lives with and for others.
We have let Jesus wash our feet and learned from His example
to be tender, humble and generous in our service to others.

We have followed Jesus to the garden at Gethsemane,
and wept with him over the fragile places in our lives where we
are called to let go,
the situations in the world where evil seems to be winning
and where betrayal of what is good and true and sacred is
imminent,
where violence or death is inevitable.

We have followed Jesus to Calvary, and laid upon His cross our
sufferings,
the invisible wounds passed down to us from our childhoods,
the risks we've taken for others out of love,
the oppressions and persecutions of innocent persons, our own
offenses and neglects.

We have died with Jesus in the baptismal waters of our tears
that have begun to melt the frozen spots in each of our hearts,
in the surrender of our weaknesses to God's power,
in the death or goodbye of someone we have loved deeply.

We have laid in the tomb with Jesus in our heart's stillness
like tiny seeds in the ground waiting for winter's rains to warm to
spring;
like a child's face covered with dried tear stains almost ready to
break into a smile;
yes, even like a babe in a womb whose water has broken!
For much to our astonishment that tomb we entered with Jesus,
those waters of Baptism have become (will forever become)
womb to new life,
to eternal spring, to resurrection, to abundant Easter!

With Mary, Magdalene, and our newly baptized
we run to tell others about what we have seen,
what we have come to know in our hearts today,
and what we risk our lives and love for over and over again.
We tell with our eyes, our hope, the joy seeping out of our hearts,
the risking actions for healing and justice and peace
that are always focused on and energized by
the risen Jesus with us.

Alleluia!!!

Mary Hartrich

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

For Ann's health and well being . . . For the medical
staff at Children's Hospital who took wonderful care
of our son, Cameron . . .
For Dace and the journey she is travelling
. . . For Bob's mother and the family . . .
For Ryan Gerhold . . . For those who are ill
. . . For Lisa's car to be returned soon . . .
Thanksgiving for my husband's new job.

Prayer Tree



*"... weeping may endure for a night but
joy comes in the morning."*

~ Psalm 30:5

Rest in Peace

Bob Tobin who died on Palm Sunday.
Pat Callahan who dies during Holy Week.





Liturgy & Music

“Does the Easter Bunny have a theme song?”

During December radio stations abound with the strains of songs associated with ‘Ole St. Nick. Snappy and sappy melodies expound on his mythic, snowy, rooftop adventures attempting to bring good cheer to all the children in the land. It got me wondering if the Easter Bunny has a theme song or two as well. Alas, a cursory review online reveals a clear lack of quality music attached to this leporine creature. Aside from providing a potential sugar rush to millions of children fresh off their successful Easter Basket/Egg Hunts, he doesn’t have much of a story so far as I can tell. For that matter I don’t even know if the Easter bunny is a boy bunny or a girl bunny. Growing up in the Bronx, animals were pretty much limited to the zoo so I may be a little naive in these matters.

Fortunately, as Catholics, we most certainly have an Easter theme song! A good priest friend of mine used to playfully remind us every year as we gathered for the Great Easter Vigil that *“We are an Easter people and Hallelujah is our song.”* We certainly do our fair share of singing Alleluias at the vigil and on Easter Sunday and into the Easter season but we sing lots of other music as well. Seeing as The Triduum, the *“Three Days,”* is at the center of, not only our liturgical calendar as Christians, but at the heart of our spirituality, it makes sense that each piece of music chosen would be worthy of bearing this mystery and would be just the right piece at the right time. One of my favorite composers is the Frenchman Maurice Durufle, who composed the truly sublime setting of *Ubi Caritas* that we sing during the procession of the gifts every Holy Thursday. Durufle, though a world-renowned composer who lived a long life, only published eleven pieces of music in his entire lifetime! He was, to say the least, a perfectionist when it came to composition. When performing his music I get the distinct feeling that he has reflected for a very long time on every single note of the piece making sure that it was just the right note for that moment. Nothing extraneous. No filler. No other note would do.

“THE SINGING THING”
WEEKLY REFLECTIONS ON THE MUSIC WE
USE AT ST JOSEPH’S
~ROBERT MCCAFFERY-LENT

I feel that way about the music during the Triduum. I’ve been here at St. Joes for 4 ½ years now and, each year, I’m thinking year to year about the Triduum and how each piece of music fits, how it helps the liturgy flow, moves us from one place to the next, or simply moves us. I might tweak a thing or two slightly year to year, but, for the most part, we aim for it to be a consistent, familiar celebration which enables us to pray the Triduum by heart. Since there are so many “once a year” rituals as part of the Triduum (the foot washing and procession of the Eucharist on Holy Thursday, the veneration/passing of the cross on Good Friday, the Exsultet and adult baptisms at the Easter Vigil for example) I try to find spots to use these pieces of music throughout the year so that when we come to the Triduum they are familiar. Some, like the *Pange Lingua* sung during the procession of the Eucharist on Holy Thursday, are so particular to that ritual that there isn’t any other chance to use them during the year and we depend on long memory of using in that same place and time, year after year, over the course of many years. That kind of long memory might seem unlikely but just think about your family celebrations of Christmas or Thanksgiving. Once a year. Familiar. Known by heart.

During the Triduum this year, including a few changes from last year, we are using: 5 pieces by our friends the St. Louis Jesuits, 10 pieces from the Taizé Community in France, 9 pieces from the Haugen, Haas, Hurd, Joncas, Connolly “school” that ruled liturgical music in the 80s and 90s, 10 pieces of chant, 6 hymns, 10 choral pieces, including many from the past masters, (Mozart, Bach, Durufle, Gasparini, Dubois) 3 spirituals, 8 pieces of more contemporary modern (Proulx, Hughes, Hillert), one piece from the Psallite community, and, yes, 4 different alleluias since, after all, *“We are an Easter people and Hallelujah is our song.”* Happy Easter!

Robert McCaffery-Lent
Minister of Music



Luke II: From Jerusalem to the World

A Scripture Study of the Book of Acts

The Gospel of Luke is one part of a two-part work that includes the Book of Acts of the Apostles. In Acts, the Church that Jesus began with his journey to Jerusalem, his death and resurrection, and his ascension becomes the Church of the Spirit, sent into the world through the ministry of the early believers—especially Peter and Paul.

In this series, Fr. John will go through the Book of Acts of the Apostles and show the develop of the themes of a Church at prayer, inspired by the Spirit and given to the nations. In the season when Acts is read each Sunday, come and prayerfully study this amazing book of our birth as the Church.

Thursdays, April 18th & 25th & May 2nd, 7:00 pm, Arrupe Room in the Parish Center

Shirts Across America

“This all started with a DUCK!”

Several years ago, I challenged a handful of high school students who were part of St. Joe’s high school community, The VOICE, to come up with a way to impact families along the Gulf Coast. I presented them with **\$1,000 in cash** and told these high school students **this is your money.....for 60 days** that is.

What could they come up with to grow this money? Or will they simply hand it back to me after 60 days and say we decided to protect it from being lost?

These students tackled the challenged by selling a “Duck” and “4 the Flood” t-shirts, they helped raise \$19,000 to help families in need.

Shirts Across America was born.

Over the years St. Joseph Parish and school has acted as an incubator. Parishioners have come up with ideas and implemented programs that impact our local, regional and global communities. Our parish has spawned and supported important entities like the Baby Corner, Homeless Shelter, Chief Seattle Club, Sister Parish relationships in Arcatao & Kenya and the Jubilee Women’s Center. Many of these ideas have turned into stand alone non-profit organizations; positively impacting people every single day.

It is humbling and exciting to say **ANOTHER idea born on our campus** is growing up and having an impact locally, regionally and *nationally!*

This Easter Break, 135 high school and adult volunteers

from St. Joseph, Holy Names Academy, Bishop Blanchet, Seattle Prep and Bellarmine Prep are travelling to New Orleans to build homes. These young adults and chaperones are helping another ten families get closer to the dream of moving back into their homes destroyed years ago. They are following the directive of the Easter Season to go forth spreading our faith through action.

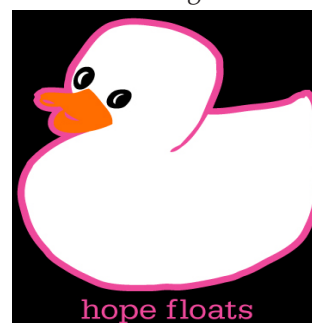
By the Numbers

Since 2007, Shirts Across America has sent over 1,200 volunteers to the Gulf Coast, working on 111 homes; fully funding eleven (11) houses.

We often tell high school and college students they are the leaders of tomorrow. Yes, this is true.

However, let us remind these amazing young people that they are the Leaders of TODAY, is they choose to be. (Remember this all started by selling t-shirts with a rubber duck on the front)

Shirts Across America building homes to build leaders.





Community

Cabrini Ministry

A Great Way to Volunteer!

The Listening Heart a program of Cabrini Ministry Training is offering a 7 class session this spring called The Listening Heart that focuses completely on the skills of communication, deep listening and how to companion others who are facing life challenges. The Listening Heart is also perfect for anyone that wants to become an excellent listener in any situation and to be a more pastoral, compassionate presence. Classes are held at St. James Cathedral Place on Tuesdays evenings, April 23-May 28 with one all day class on May 11. Tuition for the 21 hours of instruction is \$400. For more information and to apply, please contact Lisa Dennison, Training Coordinator at LisaD@cabriniministry.org

Seniors On The Go

Friday, April 12th - Anointing Mass, 11:30 am in the Church. Lunch to follow in the Parish Center. ***(Please note date change as there will not be a First Friday Mass on April 5th).***

Seattle Premier Showing

"A Band of Sisters" is the story of U.S. Catholic Sisters in their response to Vatican II and to the Call to Justice in the World:

April 12 – 18 Friday to Thursday daily at 7:00 pm and 9:00 pm

Northwest Film Forum: 1515 12th Ave. (near Seattle University campus)

Tickets: \$10.00 Seniors/Students: \$7.00

Online tickets can be purchased through Brown Paper Tickets.

Rice Bowl



Alleluia!

During the past six weeks, our parish community has prayed, fasted and given alms with a special focus on the poorest members of our global community. If you haven't returned your Rice Bowl yet, please drop it by the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity!

The Circle of Friends for Mental Health



Is a non-profit organization that has been engaging adults living with serious mental illness for 11 years, through arts education. Our teachers are community volunteers. Circle of Friends is facing the challenge of responding to new requests. We welcome those who would like to meet our kind, gentle participants and be a friend. We also seek committee members, boards members, teachers and other helpers to oversee aspects of our program, sustain our work and aid us in meeting the needs of this often forgotten group. Support our cause by joining us at the Arts in Action event on April 5, 2013 where our art will be showcased. The event will be held at St. Joseph, in the Social Hall. Another upcoming event will be a Run/Walk/Bike event to be held at Magnuson Park on June 15th. More information on stampeoverstigma.org, from Carolyn Hale at 206-325-6386 or the Main office at 206-525-0648.

Discernment in Daily Life

For those pondering life's decisions

5 Thursday weekly gatherings, April 18 – May 16, 2013
6:30 – 9:00 pm, St. Joseph Parish Center

Steve Wodzanowski and Kathy Heffernan, facilitators

Are you looking for guidance at this time in making a prayerful life decision, such as discerning your calling; staying in a relationship; determining what to do in retirement; or another life question? Or are you searching for tools for making your choices in daily life with prayerful intentionality? If so, join a group of people with similar questions. Through prayer, presentations and small group reflection, you will learn a process to integrate listening for God's presence in your life decisions, prayerfully consider guidelines for discernment taught by St. Ignatius, and experience meaningful group support.

COST: \$140/series (incl. \$25 non-refundable registration fee due by Thursday, April 11). Partial work scholarships available. Contact Andrea Fontana, Program Coordinator at (206) 329-4824 x3 or andrea@ignatiancenter.org for more info.



Community

AGAPE 2013: August 4th- 9th

Spirituality on Tap

Jesuits on the Frontier: The Travels and Friendships of the Early Jesuits and How Their Journeys Inform Our Own, with Tom Taylor, PhD

Thursday, April 18, 2013, 7:00 - 9:00 pm
St. Catherine of Siena, 814 NE 85th St. Seattle 98115
For Young Adults ages 21-35
Light refreshments provided!

In their early days, the Jesuits' travels throughout Asia defined their relationship with the world. The lives of Francis Xavier and Matteo Ricci give us some insights into the Jesuit missionaries and how they were able to maintain friendships across great distances. What were Francis Xavier's successes and failures on his voyages and what inspired Matteo Ricci to write his book *On Friendship*? What does this tell us about their work as missionaries? Join other young adults for an evening of discussion on the lessons from those travels and a reflection on their applications to our own as we ourselves maintain friendships around the nation and world.

Vatican II: Achievement & Challenge

Why does a silent blessing from Pope Francis give hope to the churches of Asia?

What is it about the Church in Asia that makes this expression of inclusivity and respect for religious diversity especially significant?

Seattle University welcomes Peter Phan, Ignacio Ellacuría Chair of Catholic Social Thought at Georgetown University, as he considers "What might the Catholic Church look like in 2050? A Prognostication from Asia." After a brief historical survey the lecture explores aspects in which Asian Christianity can offer ways to revitalize the Church in the next fifty years. Might the Church of the future be upon us with the installation of Pope Francis? Join the Seattle University community for this public lecture on April 18, 2013, 7:00p in Pigott Auditorium. Reserve your FREE tickets at ictc.brownpapa-pertickets.com.

Please visit our website for all the details on this year's Agape trip. This is an EXCELLENT program for our youth. Here is the core mission of this program (originated and operated by Catholic Young Adult/College Students at Western Washington University's Newman Center):

Agape was started in 2004 by Newman Catholic Campus Ministry (NCCM) at Western Washington University. Agape is run by students involved in NCCM who are passionate about social justice and youth ministry.

Our Mission

To foster understanding of Christ's presence in and through serving in Whatcom County, as well as the reason Catholic Christians are called to serve. "Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers so you do unto me." Mt. 25:40

- * To help participants recognize the Catholic churches rich tradition of generosity, service and compassion.
- * To understand what "social justice" is from a Catholic Christian standpoint.
- * To expand participant's world view through service experiences.
- * To help participants realize how they can impact their local community and the world through serving others, and having a mission and understanding of service.
- * To inspire participants to continue answering their "call to service" throughout their lives.
- * To address the needs of the Migrant community by providing food and clothing.

Applications will be due on April 26th.

To help or for questions, please call or email Dottie Farewell at:
dfarewell@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1652.



COLLECTION: MARCH 24, 2013

TOTAL NEEDED WEEKLY TO MEET BUDGET: \$15,994.00

TOTAL FOR MASSES AND GIFTS MAILED IN: \$19,228.58



Social Ministry

Parish Blood Drive

Imagine Saving A Life

Over the weekend two infants at Seattle Children's Hospital survived open heart surgeries because of PSBC donors. A 4-day old baby boy with O Positive blood required 8 units of Red Blood Cells, 3 platelet units, 3 units of fresh frozen plasma and 1 unit of cryoprecipitate. A 10-day old B Positive child received 10 units of Red Blood Cells, 3 platelet units, 2 units of fresh frozen plasma and 3 units of cryoprecipitate. Also, our O Positive inventory has been hit hard and fast today- a 79 year old male with congestive heart failure used a total of 22 units, a 28 year old male and a 44 year old female both received organ transplants at Swedish Medical Center and between the two of them used 184 units.

Some days, more blood is needed and some days, less is needed. But every day there is a need, and we don't know what the need will be. We want to make sure that blood is always there, no matter what.

THE NEXT PARISH BLOOD DRIVE IS MONDAY APRIL 15th! WE NEED YOU TO HELP SAVE LIVES!

Sign up with Renée at rleet@stjosephparish.org or call 206-324-2522 ext 100. Invite a friend to join you!

Sunday Hospitality

If you take a moment to think about all things Catholic, your list may include stained glass windows & beautiful churches, priests & nuns, education and service to the poor, even the smell of incense, and statues of saints and Jesus. But there is also another very Catholic practice that rings true to who we are, and that is our beloved post-mass ritual of Coffee and Donuts.

I remember growing up my folks would steer us clear of the social hall at our church, and head right to Albertson's to pick up 2 dozen donuts. It could have been because they were leery of wrangling 4 precocious children through the donut line, but I think it was mainly because my dad liked picking out his own variety of donuts. I felt like I was missing out on something good there in the social hall. It seemed everyone had a place to sit, chat, relax and hang out for a time and catch up or get to know each other better after church. It even had a name: *Coffee Hour*. On the rarest occasions, or if the Knights of Columbus were hosting a Pancake Breakfast,

we could go to *Coffee Hour*. We'd sit down and maybe eat with someone we just met, or sit with families we knew, and stop for a moment and just talk and catch up. I remember there was an usher—Mr. Martin—who use to light up his cigar and puff away right there in the social hall. It was the 80's and you could do that back then—and I did think it was stinky, but it was his thing—and it was something you could count on to happen week to week (the donuts and Mr. Martin's cigar).

This is what our hospitality ministry brings to our community each morning after the 9am mass. A place to stop, take a moment to catch up and share a story or two with each other and how many soccer games or recitals you had or have coming up. Now our arrangement in the Social Hall has some intimidating (and quite exciting!) factors to it: the balls that sail by may just barely miss hitting the hot coffee out of—or into—your hand; watching the teetering toddler balance on the very edge of the stage and wondering whether you should make a diving save or not; the tight knit groups that form small pods around the room and you're not sure whether to interject or ease into the circle; the hellos and smiles of our hospitality crews themselves as they walk around trying to pawn off that last half of the plain cinnamon glazed donut (it really is always the last variety to go). These experiences and many more, make up the unique coffee and donut hour for us at St. Joe's.

Please make your way down any given Sunday; have the kids run around in the gym, bring your coffee along or stay in the Social Hall and introduce yourself to someone new and make them feel welcome. It's ok. You're being hospitality ministers whether you know it or not. And if you want to tackle the harder-than-it-looks coffee maker and put on an apron, then let me know. If you want to join a crew and help once a month, we'd love to have you. We want **you** to keep this good thing rolling week in and week out as it has throughout the generations. You never know, by bringing your kids, you might be giving them lifetime memories of *Coffee Hour*!



Dottie



Social Ministry

St. Vincent de Paul Ministry at St. Joseph

There is no mistaking the redemptive message of Easter just as there is no mistaking Jesus' life among the poor. The two really go together.

Serving the poor is the mission of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, around the world and here at St. Joseph Parish. You are a big part of that: when you donate money, or give material goods St. Vinnie's stores. But there is more to do and we need your help.

We have about nine in our St. Joseph group. We'd like more people. We could use volunteers to take the collections at the end of Mass each first Sunday of the month. We are delighted that several students at St. Joseph School are helping during the school year. But we could use some others volunteers to help during the summer months.

Not every St. Vincent de Paul volunteer needs to make in-home visits, our trademark activity in meeting people in need, listening to their stories, helping them with rent or utility payments, often with the purchase of food and basic supplies.

We also could use help with entering data on our donors contributions so that we can send them a gracious letter of thank you, and a tally of their donations for their tax returns. These are easy ways to participate in serving the poor in our small way as revealed in the works of Jesus.

OK, we cannot heal the sick. We cannot cure all the stresses in the lives of those who seek our help. But we can listen patiently to their stories. We can extend a helping hand. We can offer these comforts that tell those we visit that you as parishioners care for their well-being.

So often they tell us how grateful they are for your help through us. This is their gift to us and to you. It's all about hope, the core message of Easter.



EcoJustice

Hope for Creation with new Pope Francis



"On March 13, Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, S.J., of Argentina became a pope of many firsts: the first pope from South America, the first Jesuit pope, and the first pope to take the name Francis." (Catholic Coalition on Climate Change, CCCC)

During his first audience with the media, there is a wonderful moment where Pope Francis recounts the story of why he chose the name Francis, in honor of St. Francis of Assisi. (See the video at catholicecology.blogspot.com; search "creation".)

Part of that transcript: "That is how the name came into my heart: Francis of Assisi. For me, he is the man of poverty, the man of peace, the man who loves and protects creation; these days we do not have a very good relationship with creation, do we?"


Later, in one of his first homilies, Pope Francis urged "Let us, protect Christ in our lives, so that we can protect others, protect creation" which he explained as "It means protecting all creation, the beauty of the created world, as the Book of Genesis tells us and as Saint Francis of Assisi showed us. It means respecting each of God's creatures and respecting the environment in which we live." (3/19/13; americanmagazine.org)

This Easter, as we celebrate the hope embodied in Jesus' rising, many are hopeful that our new Pope will help guide our world to a sustainable way of protecting Creation. Let us pledge to support him in these efforts.

Men's Group

On Saturday, April 6th, the Ignatian Spirituality Center will host the final session in a series on Ignatian Spirituality for Men entitled "**Making Decisions With God: Learning About Ignatian Discernment.**" It will take place at St. Mary's Parish (in the M&M Café, next to the church) from 8:30 – 11:30 am and will be presented by John Hickman. John has prepared a terrific morning and we'd love to have another great turnout at this final session!

If you are interested in volunteering with the St. Vincent de Paul ministry, please call Tom Newman, our Chapter President at 206-324-2729



*In the death of Christ Jesus,
all that we have feared is swallowed up:
all our failures, all our sins, all our sorrows,
fill his wounds & the emptiness of his broken body.*

*And then, in the faithful love of God,
Christ is raised anew!*

*Let us leave in the tomb,
the wrappings of our failure,
the clothes of death & loss & sorrow.*

*Let us walk in the light of this new life,
at the side of the One who has conquered death.*

*Glory to our God!
Blessed is the Power & the Mercy,
that gives life to those who knew only death,
that brings hope to those who had forgotten the way.*

*May we be Easter people!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*May the joy of the
resurrection fill
your world &
your heart!*

-the Staff of St. Joseph Parish & School-