

St. Joseph Parish

THE JESUIT PARISH IN SEATTLE

Sunday, September 12, 2021 * The 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time * www.stjosephparish.org



24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it." - Mk 8:34-35

The 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time September 12, 2021

Livestream Mass: 5pm Saturday
on our YouTube channel
(Available for viewing throughout the week)
9 AM Sunday
11 AM Sunday
5:30 PM Sunday

Weekday Mass Schedule Tuesday - Friday, 7 am, YouTube

Readings for September 19, 2021

First Reading: Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 Second Reading: James 3:16-4:3 Gospel: Mark 8:27-35

Parish Center 732 18th Ave E, Seattle, WA 98112 www.stjosephparish.org Parish Receptionist (206) 324-2522

Parochial Vicar Rev. Matthew Pyrc, S.J. x107 mpyrc@stjosephparish.org Pastoral Coordinator Steve Wodzanowski x106 stevew@stjosephparish.org **Pastoral Staff:** Marti McGaughey, Business Mgr x108 marti@stjosephparish.org Renйe Leet, Admin Assistant x100 rleet@stjosephparish.org Mark Petterson, Comm. & Justice x122 markp@stjosephparish.org Theresa Lukasik, Adult Faith Formation x111 theresal@stjosephparish.org Claire Hansen, Youth Faith Formation x112 claireh@stjosephparish.org Mary Wiseman, Stewardship x114 maryw@stjosephparish.org Bob McCaffery-Lent, Liturgy & Music x109 rmclent@stjosephparish.org Caprice Sauter, Comm. & Scheduling x102 caprices@stjosephparish.org Lianne Nelson, Bookkeeper x113 liannen@stjosephparish.org

Pastoral & Mission Council pastoral and mission council @stjosephparish.org

Yuri Kondratyuk, Facilities

St. Joseph School - Main Office	x210
Patrick Fennessy, Head of School	x218
Mary Helen Bever, Primary School Dir	x215
Vince McGovern, Middle School Dir	x219

Meet the Pastoral Council This Weekend

At this weekend's Masses, we will be introducing the Pastoral Council and blessing the attending members of the Council at the end of the Masses. We will also be inaugurating a monthly (2nd Sunday of the month) "Meet with the Council" event after Mass in the vestibule. Council members who regularly attend that Mass will be available for 15 to 20 minutes after Mass to meet with parishioners to share parish updates, respond to questions and listen to your issues and concerns.

One of our primary responsibilities of the Pastoral and Mission Council is to listen, report and respond to parishioner questions, issues and concerns. These meetings will be very informal. We encourage you to meet the Council members who regularly attend your Mass.

~ Vince Herberholt, Council Chair

Jennifer Kelly, Director of JRJI NW

Longtime parishioner Jennifer Kelly is the Director of Jesuit Restorative Justice Initiative Northwest (JRJI NW). Jennifer will be preaching at this weekend's Masses, and discussing the work of JRJI in Washington State. We invite you to come, learn more about JRJI, and see how you can get involved. You can reach Jennifer at irijinw@jesuits.org

Jennifer has been a parishioner at Saint Joseph since 1987. She and her husband Gerry Scully were married here in 1988, and raised their son Tadhg in the parish where, for many years, Jennifer taught in the children's faith formation program.

Abour JRJI Northwest: JRJI NW is a pastoral ministry of restorative justice that strives to heal broken relationships with those who are incarcerated and their families as well as victims of crime and their

families through prayer, education, and advocacy. JRJI NW mobilizes constituencies to advocate for transformation of the justice system to become more restorative than punitive. Ultimately, we all strive to help people find meaning in their lives and offer them a deeper alternative to life than gang membership and incarceration. https://www.jesuitswest.org/ministry/jesuit-restorative-justice-initiative-northwest/

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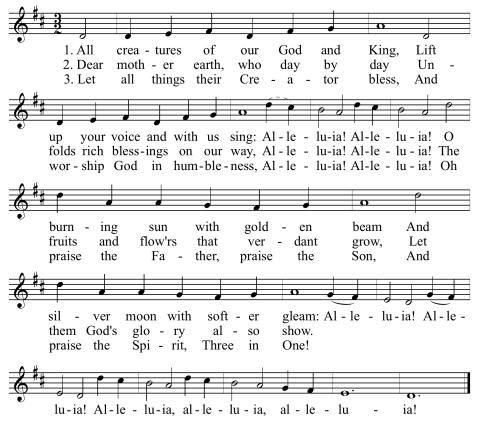


The Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Song

All Creatures Of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN



Gloria

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of good will.

- 1.We praise you,
 we bless you,
 we adore you,
 we glorify you,
 we give you thanks for your great glory,
 Lord God, heavenly King,
 O God, almighty Father.
- 2. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
- 3. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

First Reading

The Lord has opened my ear.

For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me? Then let us go to court together. Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me. The Lord is coming to my help, who will dare to condemn me?

Psalm 116 **Psalm** Ruff



I love the LORD, for he has heard my voice, in supplication; because he has inclined his ear to me the day I called. Ref.

The cords of death encompassed me, the snares of the netherworld seized upon me, I fell into distress and sorrow and I called upon the name of the LORD: "O Lord, save my life!!" Ref.

Gracious is the LORD and just; yes, our God is merciful. The LORD keeps the little ones; I was brought low, and he saved me. Ref.

For he has freed my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. I shall walk before the Lord in the land of the living. Ref.

Second Reading

James 2:14-18 Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will

that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty', without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

Gospel Acclamation

Murray

Isaiah 50: 5-9



"May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord; through which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world" Gospel Mark 8:27-35

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us (men) and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
All bow.
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
All stand upright.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

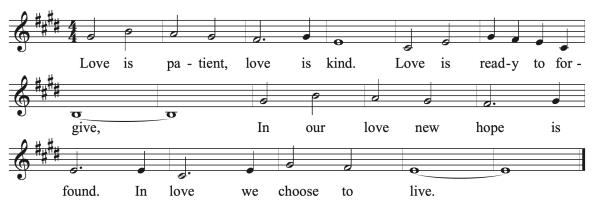
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offertory Song

In Love We Choose To Live

Cotter



Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Mystery of Faith

We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection, until you come again.

Great Amen

Amen

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

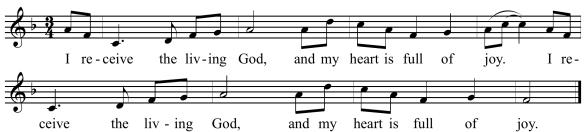
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Communion

I Receive the Living God

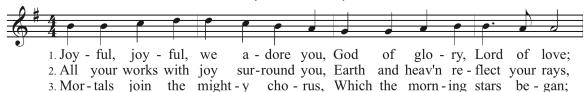
Geoffroy/Dom Clement Jacob

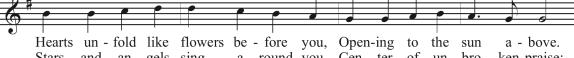


Recessional

Hymn to Joy

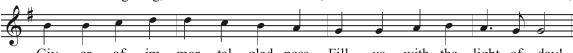
HYMN TO JOY





Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore you, Open-ing to the sun a - bove. Stars and an - gels sing a - round you, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise; God's own love is reign - ing o'er us, Join - ing peo-ple hand in hand.





of Fill Giv - er im - mor - tal glad - ness, us with the light of Chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun - tain, Prais - ing you e - ter - nal - ly! Joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun - ward In the tri-umph song of life.



RCIA

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS



COME AND SEE

What the Catholic Faith has to offer

Tuesday Nights, KICK-OFF SEPTEMBER 21st 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 or Confirmation in the Catholic Church?
- If you are, please consider participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. RCIA is an opportunity to explore with others what the Catholic Church has to offer. It is a process of discernment and gradual conversion to become a full member of the Catholic Church.
- We begin with your faith journey, your questions about the faith, and if you discover that you want baptism or full communion in the church, you will continue on in your journey toward the sacraments, but no commitment is required for the first few months of the journey.

If you are interested contact Theresa Shepherd-Lukasik @ theresal@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1651

Parish Life & Faith Justice

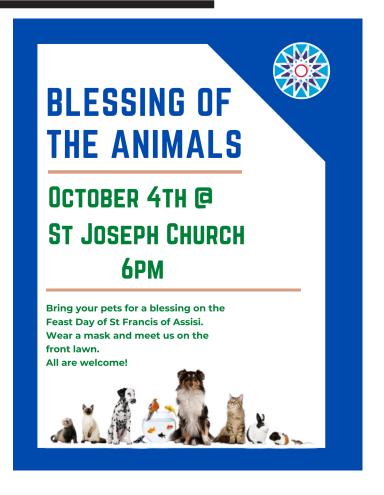
Young Adult Community

Stuff the Bus Now through September 26

Help furnish apartments for local college students experiencing homelessness! Catholic Community Services (CCS) needs your support to create welcome home baskets for the 66 students when they move into their new housing in Greenwood this fall. Our most needed items are bedding (twin size), kitchen utensils, and cleaning supplies, and there is also a Target wish list. Other cozy items such as plants, coffee, and decorations are also welcome!

Drop off donations in the kitchen at the back of the church Monday-Friday: 8AM - 4PM Saturday-Sun-

day: 12PM - 5PM Stuff the Bus will be on Sunday, September 26 before the 5:30 Mass. If you would like to help pack up all the donations to drive to Greenwood, email <u>youngadultcommunity@stjosephparish.org</u>.



An Invitation from the Kino Border Initiative and Ignatian Solidarity Network

As you may know, St. Joe's is sending a team to the Kino Border Initiative this Fall to accompany migrants and witness the conditions at the border. In addition to this trip, the Ignatian Solidarity Network has teamed with Kino to organize two actions in the coming weeks.

TRAVEL TO NOGALES ON 9/25 - On the eve of World Day of Migrants and Refugees, as designated by Pope Francis, our border partners have invited faith leaders (both vowed religious and lay) from throughout the U.S. to travel to Nogales, Arizona / Sonora to participate in a migrant-led public action to restore asylum protections on Saturday, September 25, at 2 PM PST, and to consider playing a public role in this action, which may involve accompanying and bearing witness to migrants who wish to present at the port of entry to request asylum.

ORGANIZE A PUBLIC WITNESS IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY - In addition, our partners have asked for people to organize prayerful public witnesses across the country on September 25th and on each Friday throughout the month of October. The hope is that these public witnesses will be prayerful in tone, share the stories of asylum seekers, ideally occur at sites related to the federal government (ie. federal buildings, courthouses, DHS offices, etc.), and attract local media attention.

<u>COMPLETE THIS FORM</u> (https://ignatiansolidarity.net/restore-protections-for-holy-families-take-action-form) to let us know that you would like to travel to Nogales or organize in your local community. Those who commit to traveling to the border will be put in touch with our partners at the Kino Border Initiative. And those organizing in their local community will be offered additional public witness tools, media engagement support, and more.



DISCERNING WOMEN DEACONS

Past, Present & Future



September 15 | 7:00 PM | Via Zoom

Consider attending a panel discussion on the past, present and future of the female diaconate. Speakers include Deacon Steve Wodzanowski, Samantha Yanity of IPJC and Theresa Shepherd-Lukasik. They will discuss women deacons in the Bible and a brief history of the female diaconate, the nature of the deaconate today, its ministry and the grace of ordination, and finally the future hopes of this movement to reinstate the female diaconate.

Following the speakers, we will break into small groups to reflect on what we heard and to consider next steps on what St. Joseph Parish can do to help support this movement.

If you have ever felt the calling to be a deacon please come and share your experience. If you are just curious and want to know more about the history of the diaconate and what Pope Francis' Commission is all about, please join us.

If you are interested contact Theresa Shepherd-Lukasik for the Zoom Link theresal@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1651

Parish Life

Sister Parish Update

There is happy news to share from our Sister Parish in Arcatao:

Padre Miguel will be staying on as pastor of San Bartolome, in partnership with Padre Colato. Padre Miguel will focus on the various programs and initiatives administered by the parish in service of the community. Padre Miguel is grateful for all the letters of solidarity, support, and appreciation he received from various members of the St. Joseph Parish.

Inauguration of the DHP Scholarship House:

On July 10th, 2021, students, administrators, parents, and supporters of the San Bartolome DHP college scholarship program, inaugurated the house purchased with funds raised by St. Joseph Parish in October 2019. The house has been named "The St. Joseph Student Residence". This house will be occupied by 20+ students when in-person classes resume in San Salvador. The event was filled with joy, reflection, prayer, and words of gratitude for the 25+ years of solidarity and support for this program by the parishioners of St. Joseph. Ramon Franco, the longtime DHP administrator, wrote a beautiful poem shared below.

BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH PARISH, SEATTLE, THANK YOU!

Two hundred years of parish life San Bartolomé on this inauguration day with St. Joseph, and the present memorial:

The Saint Joseph Student Residence!

A generational asset of great value Achieved with such generous love For our youth in bloom, to bet on staying in El Salvador.

This symbolic event it is a special thanks to such a unique fraternity that enables this growth.

Here our young people studying
With encouragement they will see
themselves working
For greater patriotic good to achieve
and other students to help.

Thank you for your thoughtful solidarity!
Thank you for your well-worked fraternity!
Thank you for making the dream home come true!
Thank you for being part of the awaited dawn!

Sisters and brothers of St. Joseph Parish Seattle: THANK YOU!



FAITH JUSTICE

SEASON OF CREATION



The Season of Creation begins September 1st, extending through the Feast Day of Saint Francis, October 4th. Below are the collective efforts by the Creation Care Network to live into the Season of Creation, we hope you can join for one or all!

World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

SEPTEMBER 1ST, 7-8 PM PDT ON ZOOM

CCN will team up with the local Franciscan family of western Washington to offer a virtual Prayer Service. The service will include related scripture readings, music, prayers and participatory reflections and intercessions. **Zoom link here!** (ID: 879 1190 1718, PW: 211228)

Hike with St. Pat's!

LABOR DAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH - MT. BAKER STATION @ 8:44 AM

Join CCN members on Labor Day, September 6th for a hike on the Margaret's Way trail. We'll get there using Metro's trailhead direct service. There is an option to set out from Elaine Clark's home at 8 AM. Additional information: contact Jo Anne Felton at Joftin@yahoo.com



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH FROM 10:00-11:00AM OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE, WEST SEATTLE, WA

CCN will host a prayer and action gathering to celebrate the Season of Creation at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Parish in West Seattle. The event will be in person and livestreamed using the links below:

Vimeo Live Stream | Facebook Live Stream



OCTOBER 3RD AT 12:30PM

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE IN SAMMAMISH, WA

Mary Queen of Peace will offer its 20th annual Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 3rd at 12:30pm. All are invited to bring their special companion animals (on a leash or in a crate, as appropriate). Children without a companion animal are encouraged to bring a cherished stuffed animal. All will be blessed and offered a certificate of blessing.

Care for Creation Mass

OCTOBER 3RD AT 12:00PM

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL

St. James Cathedral's Children's Faith Formation is planning a creation care themed mass highlighting how the sacred liturgy models care of creation. There will be a procession to the Cathedral Garden to emphasize the connection that integral ecology makes between reverencing God's creation and caring for those in our midst.

Care for Creation Prayers of the Faithful

The St. Joe's community will be centering the earth and creation in its Prayers of the Faithful for each weekend Mass throughout the Season of Creation.

Care for Creation - Highlighted at Cornerstone Catholic Conference

ALL DAY - OCTOBER 30TH - VIRTUAL

This year's theme is "Forming Disciples for Life and Justice." Highlights include Archbishop Etienne speaking on *Care for God's Creation* during the Bishops' Panel, Patrick Barredo highlighting the topic in the Faith and Advocacy workshop, and a discussion group focused on *Care for God's Creation*. The conference is free to attend, **register here**.

The Creation Care Network is a group of parishes and organizations in the Washington state that are committed to working toward integral ecology and are listed below:























Prayer for the Season of Creation

For the Season of Creation: May we hear the cries of the poor, disproportionately affected by our changing climate. May we embrace their suffering as our own. May their needs compel us to act now. May we join with local, national and global initiatives dedicated to restorative justice for the planet. God, in your mercy.





Spanish Language Classes at Casa Latina

Interested in learning Spanish and creating community with our immigrant friends and neighbors? Join Casa Latina's Somos Vecinos program - online and in-person classes are filling up now!

Visit <u>casa-latina.org/event/fall21-spanish-classes</u> or scan the QR code below!



ADULT FAITH FORMATION & PARISH LIFE

Baptismal Prep Team

St. Joseph's Adult Faith Formation needs your help!

- 1. We are seeking parents who have had their children baptized and who would be willing to share your stories of faith, your experience of baptism, and ways you share your faith in your family. Once a month, or once every other month, you would assist in baptismal prep with Theresa Shepherd-Lukasik, simply by sharing your faith with those who are seeking to have their children baptized.
- 2. If you have a background in theology, pastoral studies or have been a catechist of other sacramental prep programs, we could use your help in facilitating the program.
- 3. If you want to contribute the day of in the liturgy, we need help with set up. Baptisms are currently outside of the Mass, and we set up after the 11:00 AM Mass.

Theresa will provide training for all volunteer roles. If you are interested in helping or would like more information please email theresal@stjosephparish.org or call 206-965-1651.



Women's Ministry Schedule Update:

In light of the rising COVID cases, we have cancelled our Mass and Dinner to do an online morning retreat. We know how much people want to get together and see one another, but it seems best to keep it online.

We need a few more women to help plan our fall Zoom retreat for October 2. We need to come up with a theme, basic format, discuss what type of prayer and ritual might be included, who might be asked to share a story. If you have ideas and would like to help plan the retreat email women@stiosephparish.org.



The St. James Housing Advocacy Committee invites you to its Annual General Meeting

FIXING HOMELESSNESS: After Compassion Seattle, Where Do We Go from Here?

Thursday, September 23, 2021, 6:30pm-8pm on ZOOM

Panelists include: Tim Burgess, Katie Wilson (Transit Riders Union), & Mario Villanueva (WA Catholic Conference).

To register, email Patrick Barredo at <u>pbarredo@</u> <u>stjames-cathedral.org</u>

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

2021-2022 Program Offerings

1st & 2nd Grade Sacramental Preparation (First Communion & First Reconciliation)

These classes will meet two Sundays a month on Zoom from October to May. More information and a link to register can be found here: https://www.stjosephparish.org/101/1st-2nd-grade-sacramental-preparation.html

3rd-4th Grade Faith Formation

This class will meet on Zoom, one Sunday per month from October to April. The class will focus on continuing to develop a relationship with God through Jesus. Children and parents will work through *Finding God Grade Three* from Loyola Press, which offers and overview of Scripture, prayer, and Church Tradition. More information and a link to register can be found here: https://www.stjosephparish.org/79/childrens-faith-formation-register-here.html

5th-6th Grade Faith Formation

This class will meet in-person from October to May and meet 2 Sundays per month from 10:15am-11am. The class will focus on scripture and moral formation. 5th and 6th grades are an important time, just prior to the 7th grade when students prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you would like to register your child, please click here: https://www.stjosephparish.org/79/childrens-faith-formation-register-here.html

7th 9th Grade Sacramental Preparation (Confirmation)

Our Confirmation program will run from late September to February and meet most on Sundays in-person from 10:15am-11:45am. For more information and to enroll, please click here: https://www.stjosephparish.org/middle-school

HSO (High School Outreach) (open to 8th-12th graders)

This is a brand-new program which will offer volunteer experiences (community service hours) and community nights (social and prayer experiences) for 8th graders and high schoolers. Parents and Teens can follow our program via Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/stj_hso

To enroll, go to: https://www.stjosephparish.org/4957/young-jesuit-leaders-high-school-youth-group.html

Deadline to register for Children's Faith Formation - Friday, September 17th!

Needed: Altar Service Adult Lead

Do you miss having altar servers present at Mass? We do too! We would like to bring this ministry back in September for the Sunday 9:00am Mass. We are seeking an adult leader who would be willing to serve the parish by leading a training for altar servers once a quarter.

This person would work in partnership with parish staff. No experience is necessary! We will provide all the training content and materials. Serving is a great way for school families to complete their service hours! Contact Claire claireh@stjosephparish.org

Becoming Antiracist

August/September 2021: Privilege

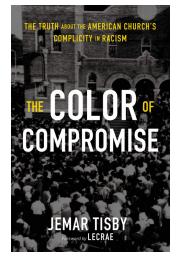
When we hear we have privilege, it is not an accusation. It is an opportunity and an invitation to use it for progress. We can use it by showing up against racism which includes dismantling institutional racism and all systems of inequity. Many of the systems of inequity started at the beginning of America and are still present in many forms today.

Scripture: "For the whole law is fulfilled in one word; you shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Galatians 5:14)

History: "While most people believe the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery and involuntary servitude, the Convict Lease System spread throughout the ex-slave states soon after the Civil War. It eventually became another tool for re-enslavement after the Emancipation Proclamation. Forced labor continued until its abolishment in the 1950's. For almost a hundred years after emancipation, southern wealth continued to be built on the backs of what amounted to a slave workforce." *Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome*, Dr. Joy DeGruy, 2017



Dr. Joy DeGruy



"Southern women played a significant role in memorializing, fundraising, lobbying for, and erecting Confederate monuments and memorials. These memorials inscribed white supremacy into the landscape of public spaces across the North and South. They tended to be erected at times when the South was fighting to resist political rights for black citizens... In 1891, the south codified segregation on trains, passing laws to force black people to ride in separate rail cars. In 1896, when a case was brought before the court for a black person who refused to move to the colored section of a train, the Supreme Court legalized what became standard practice throughout the country for another 60 years: the separate but equal doctrine. The court's decision meant they chose not to treat black people as full humans and fellow citizens... Many white Christians upheld racial segregation and defended it as a biblical mandate." *The Color of Compromise*, Dr. Jemar Tisby, 2019

For further reading: Peggy McIntosh: White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack (umbc.edu)

Video: Peggy McIntosh: How to recognize your white privilege — and use it to fight inequality | TED Talk

Reflection: "We must proclaim the truth that all life is one and that we are all of us tied together. Therefore it is mandatory that we work for a society in which the least person can find refuge and refreshment...You must lay your lives on the altar of social change so that wherever you are, there the Kingdom of God is at hand."- Howard Thurman, Commencement Address, Garrett Biblical Institute, 1943

Question: How do I have privilege other people do not have? How can I use it to help others and to fight for true equality in America? Have I avoided conversations about racism? Has my unconscious bias allowed others to be oppressed?



September 7th, 2021

Dear St. Joseph community,



I am writing today to let you know that I have accepted another job and will sadly be leaving my role in Youth Faith Formation at St. Joe's this week.

I have loved it here. We have the best staff, and best volunteers I have ever worked with. It's been a pleasure to witness so many First Communions, Confirmations, and Baptisms. I have loved the Magis Family Newsletter and the fire that people bring to showing our youth what our community values. I will miss our talented youth ministry team and the reimagining work they are doing with High School Outreach, and our online and in-person catechists, who embody the words of St. Ignatius, "to give and not to count the cost." This past year I was delighted to help a team of volunteers offer Advent and Lenten Family Service opportunities and hear from families how that time together creating stockings, writing letters, visiting Nurturing Roots (and more!) was a positive way that they could show their youth that our Catholic faith is about service to one another, especially the most vulnerable.

Why would I leave such a beloved community? On one level, the decision is practical: I need to better support my family, both financially and with my presence. My son starts kindergarten this year and I feel called to align my schedule with his so that my husband and I can be more present to these years with him. I am aware, as all parents of young children are, how precious these years are.

I am also excited for what this new position offers: a chance to work with a Catholic healthcare organization, to help build formation programs that impact the people working to continue the healing ministry of Jesus and the legacy of the religious sisters in this country. I hope to help shape a more equitable and just healthcare system.

The staff is currently preparing a transition plan, so stay tuned to parish communication channels in the weeks to come – Youth Faith Formation will be in good hands! If you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to email cff@stjosephparish.org

I will miss everyone here, but you'll be seeing me around! I plan to remain a devoted parishioner at St. Joseph, and look forward to seeing everyone at liturgies and events.

Gratefully, Claire Hansen

Everyone here at St. Joe's will miss working with Claire, but we're grateful that she will still be around as a parishioner. Join us on the weekend of September 18/19 to for a send-off during Mass with God's blessing!