Wisdom has built her house,
she has set up her seven columns;
she has dressed her meat, mixed her wine,
yes, she has spread her table.
Ecological Education and Spirituality

Chapter 6 of Laudato Si’

Many things have to change course, but it is we human beings above all who need to change. . . . A great cultural, spiritual, and educational challenge stands before us, and it will demand that we set out on the long path of renewal.

-Laudato Si’ 202-

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.”

-Matthew 7:21-

After 200 paragraphs of social analysis and theological reflection, of critical dissection of the technocratic paradigm and consumerist mentality; after demonstrating the unity of social and environmental ecologies and the biblical demand for our care of the earth; after calling for fundamental change in the structures of international power-sharing and in the composition of the world economic order, Pope Francis turns back to the most difficult challenge of all: the need for personal conversion. In the sixth and final chapter of Laudato Si’, the Pope reminds us that all the structural changes in the world, all the revisions in law and the clarity of theories will mean nothing unless each person—each of us—begins the internal conversion and spiritual transformation upon which all lasting change depends. We may intellectually grasp the truth of our situation, may read and accept all the lessons of integral ecology, but unless we act upon our knowledge, break the bonds that hold us, and allow our words to become flesh, no substantive change can occur.

For Francis, the transformation of our lives requires a depth of freedom not easily attained in contemporary society. We have become addicts of a consumerist and technocratic paradigm, a paradigm that “leads people to believe that they are free as long as they have the supposed freedom to consume” (203), but that actually enslaves us in materialistic desires that can never be satisfied. In such a world, “those really free are the minority who wield economic and financial power” (203), since it is they who both create the desires of the market and profit from them. Like all addicts, our ends can easily become the next fix, the next high, the next immediate (and undoubtedly short-lived) gratification. Looking at the lines outside the Apple store when new phones are released, or at the ratings for Keeping Up With the Kardashians, or at the profits from pornography, one can easily see to what Francis refers: we commodify the world, and then try to fill our emptiness with the objects our own addictions have created. This quest to satisfy our disordered desires leads to cut-throat competition and violence, either in obvious forms (e.g., physical abuse, human trafficking, militarism), or through the more subtle manifestations of racism and xenophobia, financial exploitation, and economic colonialism. Our addiction can be seen in a culture that glorifies wealth or idolizes weapons—both personal and national—and in
the tendency to ravage the earth for short-lived profits or individual benefit. All these activities echo with the false freedom of distorted autonomy, as we, like any addict, deceive ourselves into believing that we are in control, even as the realities of ecological and social decay undermine our assertion.

In the face of this challenge, Francis reminds us of the hope that exists within each person, hope that cannot be wholly crushed or overwhelmed, because it is in our human nature, in our destiny as women and men made in the image and likeness of God. As he says, “Human beings, while capable of the worst, are also capable of rising above themselves, choosing again what is good, and making a new start, despite their mental and social conditioning” (205). The habits of violence and power, of narcissism and control, of consumption and exploitation, which the social order sells to us through the manifold tools of manipulation, cannot conquer the human ability to “take an honest look at ourselves, to acknowledge our deep dissatisfaction, and to embark on new paths of authentic freedom” (205). We can change our lifestyle and our way of thinking; we can overcome the addiction of consumption by becoming conscious of the moral quality implicit in every act we take, in every use of water or resources. Because of a rationality that cannot be wholly overcome by the blindness of market forces, we can reject the supposedly inevitable lure of greater technology and more things, in favor of a different and more humane definition of human well-being. We can begin to see that we need not define ourselves as inevitable participants in some Hobbesian war with one another, where everything is dog-eat-dog; rather, we can overcome ideological individualism and recognize a fundamental unity between ourselves and all reality. Such thinking, when expressed in new (or, perhaps, renewed) habits, can transform the world.

The need to create new habits, or to reclaim the habits of our ancestors, calls for a kind of education that goes deeper than mere laws or principles. For while knowledge is important, and laws and principles have some purpose, education, to be complete, must liberate our habits from the power of our distorted affections. Just as consumption and individualism have become habitual to us—causing us to fall into their patterns with little conscious thought—so the virtues of an integral ecology must likewise become part of character, part of our habit of being in the world. The education we need is one which transforms our habits into virtues: where putting on a sweater is more normal than turning up the heat, where we take brief showers and separate our refuse as a matter of course, where we hardly think about it as we take the bus rather than the car or turn off a light when we leave the room. Such a change in habit makes possible true “ecological citizenship” (211). For, as Pope Francis makes clear, while it is important to know, and even more important to act, it is most important of all to become women and men of “selfless ecological commitment” (211). The changes of structures and systems cannot last without the personal transformation and conversion of each of us and all of us.

Such “ecological conversion” is not easy, especially when old habits are already in place. That is why Francis encourages us to take up the work of education in many settings—“at school, in families, in the media, in catechesis, and elsewhere” (213)—and why he places particular emphasis on the education of the young: “Good education plants seeds when we are young, and these continue to bear fruit throughout life” (213). Faced with a culture that continues to promote the addiction of consumerism, we must start early and call into service the foundational elements of human life, including family life and spirituality, aesthetics and social psychology. We must show the connection between ecological decay and the pain and despair from which so many suffer—“The external deserts in the world are growing because the internal deserts have become so vast” (217)—and offer the hope that comes from a world united and beloved. Finally, we must, according to Pope Francis, offer what Christianity has always offered: “an alternative understanding of the quality of life, . . . a prophetic and contemplative lifestyle, one capable of deep enjoyment free of the obsession with consumption” (222).

Whether by reviving the custom of grace before meals or by adapting the St. Therése’s “little way of love” for the many interactions of civil society, in its vision of the Trinity and its sacramental understanding of the world, Francis sees Christianity offering much to the new way of life called for by an integral ecology; yet, at the same time he respects that not all who come to this ecology will be Christian. Ending Laudato Si’ with two prayers—one “we can share with all who believe in a God who is the all-powerful Creator, while in the other we Christians ask for inspiration to take up the commitments to creations set before us in by the Gospel of Christ” (246), the Pope returns to the theme with which he began: that the crisis we face is not Christian alone or Catholic alone, but belongs to the human race. It calls for the conversion of each of us, for the communion of all of us, for the transformation of our structures and the restoration of our hearts. And whether we understand these changes as coming from our ethical core or from the Spirit of God within us matters little, compared to the disaster that looms if we fail to change.
ORDER OF CELEBRATION
TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

This worship aid is for all Masses, including 5:30 contemplative liturgy. All are invited to join in quiet prayer with prelude from 5:00-5:30 PM.

Prelude

Instrumental

Entrance Songs

Gather Us In #744 (5 & 9:30) Haugen

1. Here in this place new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away
see in this space our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in the lost and forsaken, gather us in the
blind and the lame; call to us now and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2. We are the young our lives are a mystery,
we are the old who yearn for your face,
we have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in the rich and the haughty, gather us in the
proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

3. Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the
bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
How Lovely Is your Dwelling Place (5:30)

Gloria

Cantor: Glory to God in the highest,

ALL: and on earth peace to people of good will.

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.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Són 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.

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

Wisdom has built her house,
she has set up her seven columns;
she has dressed her meat, mixed her wine,
yes, she has spread her table.
She has sent out her maidens; she calls
from the heights out over the city:
“Let whoever is simple turn in here;
To the one who lacks understanding, she says,
Come, eat of my food,
and drink of the wine I have mixed!
Forsake foolishness that you may live;
advance in the way of understanding.”

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 34

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord, the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading

Brothers and sisters: Watch carefully how you live, not as foolish persons but as wise, making the most of the opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not continue in ignorance, but try to understand what is the will of the Lord. And do not get drunk on wine, in which lies debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and playing to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks always and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father.
Homily

Fr. John D. Whitney, S.J.

Gospel

Jesus said to the crowds:
“I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world.”

The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?”

Jesus said to them, “Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you.
Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day.
For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.
Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him.
Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me.
This is the bread that came down from heaven.
Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever.”

Homily

Fr. John D. Whitney, S.J.

Offertory Song

Come to the Feast (5:00 & 9:30)

Moore

Instrumental (5:30)

Prayer over the Offerings

Priest: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

Assembly: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.
Preface Dialogue

Priest: The Lord be with you.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

Assembly: We lift them up to the Lord.

Assembly: It is right and just.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Mass of Christ the Savior

Schutte

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory. Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

Mystery of Faith

Save us, save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

Great Amen

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God...

Assembly: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Lamb of God

Vermulst

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.

Table Of Plenty

Schutte

Come to the feast of heaven and earth! Come to the table of plenty! God will provide for all that we need, here at the table of plenty.

Gift Of Finest Wheat

Kreutz

You satisfy the hungry heart With gift of finest wheat; Come give to us, O saving Lord, The bread of life to eat.
Song of Praise

Recessional

Instrumental

**THIS WEEK AT ST. JOSEPH**

**Sunday**
- 9:30 AM: Mass
- 10:30 AM: Coffee & Donuts - Join Us!
- 5:30 PM: Mass

**Monday**
- 7:00 AM: Mass
- 7:00 AM: Yoga - Body In Prayer
- 7:00 PM: Sacred Silence Prayer
- 7:00 PM: Rosary Prayer Group

**Tuesday**
- 7:00 AM: Mass

**Wednesday**
- 7:00 AM: Mass
- 7:00 AM: Yoga - Body In Prayer

**Thursday**
- 7:00 AM: Mass

**Friday**
- 7:00 AM: Mass

**Saturday**
- 3:30 PM: Weekly Reconciliation
- 5:00 PM: Vigil Mass

**We Are St. Joseph Events**

**Save The Dates!**
- Parish Picnic - September 20th
- Epiphany Dinner - January 10th
Liturgy and Worship

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

- For John’s recovery from surgery
- For the health of Maggie and Rebecca
- For Kevin’s hand to heal well
- Safe travel for Val and Jeff as they travel to Africa
- Happy Birthday to Julia, Katie and Patrick.

“Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you should answer each person.”

~ Col 4:6

Rest in Peace
Ed De Rocco, father of Leona De Rocco.

If you have petitions you would like included in the prayer tree, including birth announcements, illnesses and deaths, please call the Parish Office at 206-324-2522 ext 100 or email rleet@stjosephparish.org

In Need Of A Concert Quality Grand Piano

St. Joseph Parish is in need of a concert quality grand piano between 6-7 ft. The piano need not be brand new but should be in good condition. If you or a friend have one in your home that you no longer play or are downsizing and would like to donate, our Music and Liturgy Pastoral Assistant would love to hear from you.

Please contact Robert McCaffery-Lent at rmclent@stjosephparish.org or call 206-965-1649 to explore whether your grand piano might be a good match. Thank you for your consideration!

Mark your calendars! September 13th, Sunday morning Mass times return to 9:00 and 11:00 am.

Parish Life

End-of-Summer LGBTQ Barbecue

The St. Joseph LGBTQ Ministry will fire up the coals for an end-of-summer potluck-barbecue at the home and lovely back yard of parishioner Jack Hilovsky on Sunday, August 23, at 6:30. Come on over after the 5:30 Mass! We’ll have hamburgers and hot dogs to get the party started. Bring your favorite grillable, side dish, salad, dessert, or cool beverage and it is BYOB. Bring a friend! This is a family-friendly event!

Location: Garden Court Condos, 1631-16th Ave (between Olive and Pine St), Seattle 98122

Questions? Contact Theresa Lukasik at lgbt@stjosephparish.org or 224-628-8425. R.S.V.P. is optional, but appreciated as it will help us know how many to plan for.

Parish Life Commission

St. Joseph’s Parish Life Commission is seeking new members. The Parish Life Commission strengthens the community of St. Joseph Parish by welcoming new members into the Parish, making current members feel welcomed through celebrations and social opportunities, and building and uniting various communities of life. We meet on five Monday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00pm in the Parish Center. Meeting dates are: Sept. 21, Nov. 16, Jan. 25, March 21 and May 16. Ministries we currently oversee include Newcomers, LGBTQ, Young Adults, Seniors, Men’s and Women’s ministry, parish picnic, Ceili and We Are St. Joseph celebration. If interested please contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646. We are looking for 2-4 new members who can commit to either a 1, 2 or 3 year term.
Parish & School Picnic

Sunday
September 20th
1-4 pm, Parking Lot

We provide the following:
Hot dogs, Cotton candy & Sno-cones
Beer & Soft drinks on tap
Rides for the Kids
Live Music

PLEASE BRING: dessert, salad or side dish to share

PARENTS GET YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS
WE NEED YOU!

Contact Joe Augustavo, joeaugustavo@comcast.net or 206-229-6881
Children’s Faith Formation
Register Now!

We are looking to fill the following volunteer openings: CFF K (kindergarten), CFF 1 (first year of the two year Sacramental Preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist), CFF 3/4 (grade 3 & 4) co-teacher, CFF 5/6 (grade 5 & 6), and CFF Jr. High (Scripture studies course). All materials, trainings and support are provided! If you are not yet able to jump in, but have teaching experience and would like to be a substitute, please let me know. For any and all inquiries you may reach Dottie Farewell at dfarewell@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1652.

Volunteer hours in CFF program apply to the required school volunteer hours.

This vital program is only possible with your support! Call me and let’s talk about how you can help.

~Dottie, 206-965-1652

Course Offerings

Sunday Morning Childcare

Children's Faith Formation Pre-Kindergarten

Children's Faith Formation K (CFF K)

Children's Faith Formation 1 (CFF 1)

Children's Faith Formation 2 (CFF 2)

Children's Faith Formation Year 3 & 4 (CFF 3/4)

Children's Faith Formation Year 5 & 6 (CFF 5/6)

Children's Faith Formation Year Junior High

High School Confirmation

Sign Up Now For High School Confirmation

The Confirmation preparation program begins October 11th and includes Sunday lunch. Class sessions are from 12:15 to 2:00 pm. We will also have a Saturday retreat, service learning experiences, and a Reconciliation services. The date for the Confirmation Mass & Rehearsal will be in late January or early February. Students should be 16 years of age at the time of Confirmation or a High School Junior. The fee is $135.00 and scholarships are available.

We will have an information meeting for students and their parents on Sunday, October 4th, following the 11:00 am Mass, in the Parish Center.

Register on our website, www.stjosephparish.org - click on the Faith Formation tab, then on High School Confirmation.

Adult Faith Formation

Parish staff and volunteers have been working over the summer to plan a coordinated Adult Faith Formation that will begin in September. Over the course of the year, we plan to offer a variety of programs based on what we are calling the five pillars of faith: Belief and Practice, Sacraments, History, Scripture and Spirituality. Some of the highlights include: scripture study based on the Gospel of Luke; Catholic 101; Emerging Issues like the Pope’s Encyclical Laudato Si, the Synod on the Family, the Year of Mercy and the Pope’s presentation before Congress. Many of the programs will be in the evening but we are also working on programs that will be offered during the day and programs that will be offered online. Look for more details coming up in the Bulletin in September.

We Need Your Help

To offer these programs we need a group of volunteers that will help us prepare for, promote and facilitate these programs in the parish. If you are interested in helping out or would like to find out more about Adult Faith Formation, please contact Dottie Farewell at dfarewell@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1652 or Vince Herberholt at vherberholt3@comcast.net or 206-491-4486.
Come and See What the Catholic Faith has to Offer
Tuesday, September 22nd  - 7:00 pm – 8:30
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 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 965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

All are welcome in this journey of faith!

Faith Formation Commission
St. Joseph’s Faith Formation Commission is seeking new members. The Faith Formation Commission forms and supports a spiritually and intellectually active community by developing educational programs appropriate to age and circumstances, supporting programs that nurture a sacred relationship with God, creation, and our local global communities, fostering dialogue and discussion in the Catholic Jesuit tradition. We meet on six Tuesday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Parish Center. Meeting dates are: September 22, October 26, January 12, February 23, April 26 and May 24. Ministries we currently oversee include Children’s Faith Formation (CFF), Adult Faith Formation, Sacramental Preparation, and Youth Ministry. If interested please contact Dottie Farewell at dfarewell@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1652. We are looking for 2-4 new members who can commit to either a 1, 2 or 3 year term.

A Little More About R.C.I.A.
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The R.C.I.A. program for bringing people into the Catholic Church has been called the greatest achievement of the Second Vatican Council. Whether or not you agree, R.C.I.A. is, undoubtedly, a wonderful ministry of the Church today. St. Joseph Parish invests a lot of time, talent, and prayer into those seekers who find their way to us.

If you are either coming to Catholicism for the first time or find yourself at a crossroads where you are desiring full communion, 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.

Contact Deacon Steve for more information or with any questions you may have at stevew@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646.

Sign Up Now For Infant Baptism Preparation Classes

We will have infant Baptism preparation classes for parents and godparents coming up on two consecutive Wednesday evenings on September 16th and September 23rd from 6 - 8 pm. To request information and registration materials, please contact Dottie Farewell at dfarewell@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1652. Classes are open to parishioners and visitors. Class fees are $50.00 per couple for the two classes. Scholarships are available.
Faith Justice Commission
St. Joseph’s Faith Justice Commission is seeking new members. The Faith Justice Commission builds a community of gospel love and care at St. Joseph by sharing information and promoting opportunities for parishioners to engage in direct service with those in need, assisting in those events or programs that build greater companionship with the poor or marginalized, and developing collaborative avenues of advocacy to transform structures of poverty and displacement. We meet on five Monday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in the Parish Center. Meeting dates are: Sept. 14, Nov. 9th, Jan. 11, March 14, and May 9th. Ministries we currently oversee include St. Martin de Porres Shelter, Francis House and our Sister Parish in El Salvador to name a few. We also coordinate the Alternative Christmas Bazaar, Giving Tree, Epiphany Dinner and We are St. Joseph’s Service Days. If interested please contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646. We are looking for 2-4 new members who can commit to either a 1, 2 or 3 year term.

Cabrini Ministry Training
Join us at St. Therese Parish in Seattle, 10 am-noon on Saturday August 29th to explore your call to ministry. Come hear about the different stages of discipleship and reflect on the particular gifts God is calling you to share with others. The morning of scripture study, prayer, and small group discussion is sponsored by Cabrini Ministry Training and will be facilitated by Jean Clancy, CMT alum, and Carla Loucks, CMT Executive Director. The same workshop will also be offered at Holy Family in Kirkland on Tuesday, August 25th from 7-9pm. Free of charge, but donations accepted. Please RSVP by contacting info@cabriniministry.org

Jubilee Women’s Center
Looking for a gratifying volunteer opportunity? Lend a hand at Jubilee Women’s Center—right next door!

Located a block away from St Joseph Parish, Jubilee Women’s Center supports women experiencing poverty to build stable and fulfilling futures. Led by the guiding principle that all women are to be treated with respect and dignity, Jubilee’s programs and services help formerly homeless women with affordable housing, education and support services so they can heal, grow and move from crisis to independence.

Volunteers are a highly valued part of the Jubilee community of support, making a significant impact on the lives of the 42 Jubilee residents and more than 1300 other low-income women in the Seattle area who rely on Jubilee for free clothing, computer access, classes and referrals.

It’s easy to volunteer for a single project or an ongoing role, as an individual or in a group:
• Plan and prepare a meal for residents
• Donate women’s clothing for the free boutique
• Staff the reception desk
• Sort clothing and assist in the boutique
• Help with a fundraising event
• Tend the garden or mow the lawn
• Share your photography skills
• Teach a class for residents

To learn more about volunteer opportunities at Jubilee Women’s Center, check out http://www.jwcenter.org/get-involved/volunteer/, or call 206-957-5512.

Recovery Cafe
Please join us for a monthly class led by Killian Noe, Vicki Allen and Emmy Neilson!

This monthly gathering is for members, volunteers, friends and donors of Recovery Café. This is an opportunity to work with practices and tools that help us develop our interior lives, become contemplatives and experience authentic community with others who hunger for spiritual deepening.

Thursdays, September 24th to November 5th, 7:00PM
Please email killian@recoverycafe.org to save your space!
A Summer Night with the Youth Delegation to El Salvador

Come join the St. Joseph’s Youth Delegation for an evening presentation on our recent visit to the Sister Parish, San Bartolome, in Arcatao, El Salvador. Students will share stories, pictures and reflections on this formative trip.

Wednesday, August 26th
7:00 to 9:00 pm

Join us for a presentation and gathering with refreshments and dessert!