“The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 6, 2015
Reflection Next Week:
Stephanie Ragland

Readings for December 13, 2015
FIRST READING: ZEPHANIAH 3:14-18A
SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7
GOSPEL: LUKE 3:10-18

Weekend Mass Schedule
Saturday - 5 pm
Sunday - 9:00 am, 11:00 am & 5:30 pm

Weekday Mass Schedule
Monday - Friday, 7 am, Parish Center

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

Parish Center
732-18th Ave E, Seattle, WA  98112
Monday- Friday - 7 am, Parish Center
Saturday - 9 am-1 pm
www.stjosephparish.org
Parish Receptionist (206) 324-2522

Pastor
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jwhitney@stjosephparish.org

Parochial Vicar
Rev. Glen Butterworth, S. J. x103
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Deacon/Pastoral Associate
Steve Wodzanowski x106
stevew@stjosephparish.org

Pastoral Staff:
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Yuri Kondratyuk, Facilities x110

St. Joseph School
(206) 329-3260

Mercy Reconciling the World

The reign of God, the eschatological liberation of the world, is already in process, is already being established. It takes shape in concrete modifications of actual life.

- Leonardo Boff -

Christians and Muslims are brothers and sisters. We must therefore consider ourselves and conduct ourselves as such... Together, we must say no to hatred, no to revenge and no to violence, particularly that violence which is perpetrated in the name of a religion or of God himself. God is peace, God salam.

-Pope Francis in the Central Mosque of Koudoukou, Central African Republic-

Leaning against the doors of the cathedral, the purple satin of his cope hanging just above the mud-caked hem of his alb, Francis prayed in silence for the people of the Central African Republic and for the people of the world. Here, amid war and violence, he would push open the doors of mercy—for the first time in history beginning a Jubilee Year not in the center of Rome, but in a place peripheral to Western consciousness. Here he stood: among a people wounded by sectarian violence and civil war, a people impoverished by systems over which they have little control, a people filled with joy at the presence of a Pastor who loved them and saw them and touched them without fear. Like Paul amid the Gentiles, Francis came as one impelled by the love of Christ, to proclaim this gift of mercy and to affirm, in his own body, the gospel of reconciliation offered to God’s beloved. In his voice and touch, his smile and laugh, his tears and his muddied shoes, the Spirit of Christ took flesh in Francis, as he went from hospital to arena, from cathedral to mosque. Speaking more eloquently in deed than in words, the Vicar of Christ allowed himself to become Christ’s sacrament of reconciliation for those he encountered.
This coming week, on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (8 December), Francis will offer the whole world what has already begun for the people of CAR. Amid the marbled perfection of St. Peter’s Basilica, he will open the great bronze doors of Jubilee, and commence the Year of Mercy for the universal Church. Through these doors, pilgrims will be invited to pass, symbolizing in their bodies the journey to which we are all called—a journey across the threshold of mercy into a new place of hope and healing. And though the richness and pageantry of St. Peter’s may make it seem a world apart from that brick cathedral in Bangui, the Spirit will be the same: one of welcome and hope, in the midst of a world filled with violence and despair. The doors of mercy—opened in Africa or in Rome, at St. James Cathedral or in our own vestibule—welcome all of us into the presence of God and the longings of our own broken hearts.

In this Jubilee Year, the Argentine shepherd, who smells of the sheep, calls us to seek mercy in the poverty of the manger of Bethlehem, to celebrate mercy in the shadow of Christ’s cross, and to live mercy in a world broken yet redeemed, wounded yet filled with God’s own likeness and glory. We cross this threshold of mercy together with Francis and with the people of Africa; we cross it with the women and men wounded by the Church’s sins of abuse and clericalism, with the victims of racism in Ferguson and of displacement in Palestine; we cross it with indigenous peoples and with refugees, with the desperate and the endangered; we cross it with other Christians and with Muslims, with all people of good will and hope. We cross it as loved sinners, longing for the communion that comes of God’s mercy, and hoping to leave behind the burdens of hate and violence that we can no long bear to carry. And when we have entered the house of mercy, we turn, like Francis—like Christ—to welcome all others into this, our proper home. This home is not some distant heaven, but rather the true Kingdom of God, the home we share with Christ and all his people.

In our journey across the threshold, in our pilgrimage of mercy, much will be asked of us and much will be given. Through the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, we shall be reminded of all the burdens we have yet to lay down, and all the gifts we have yet to give and receive. Likewise, in the Eucharist, we will be nourished by the mercy of Christ’s own body and blood, and strengthened to share in the sacrifice of mercy that his life entails. Further, in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we will be asked to hear anew the words that God longs for us to hear: that we are beloved and forgiven, received with open arms into the place that was always ours, the place where God waits to run to us, like the father ran to his prodigal son. We go to this Sacrament not because it is magic, not because God’s mercy is controlled by the words of absolution; we go not because the priest is holier than us, for every priest is a sinner himself, in need of the same mercy. We go, rather, because, like Francis, we know that we are beings in this world, physical as well as spiritual, who need to reach out to other persons and to be embraced and welcomed by them. Confession is about leaving our bags at the door, dropping them at the threshold of mercy, and hearing—in our ears, as well as our hearts—the words of welcome, and feeling in our flesh the embrace of grace.

So let us begin this journey together, unafraid of the mud that stains the hem of our garment, and trusting in the Word of mercy, by which we are already being redeemed.

John

Say Goodbye To Father Glen

Following the 5 pm Mass on Sat, Dec 12, and the 5:30 pm Mass on Sun, Dec 13 parishioners will have the opportunity to bid farewell to Fr. Glen (for now!). Additionally join us at breakfast between the 9 & 11 am Masses to see Glen. Come for refreshments and celebrate his blessed time here at St. Joseph.

St. Joseph Holiday Schedule

Tuesday, December 8
5:30 pm, Soup Supper - Parish Center
7:00 pm, Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass

Saturday, December 12
12:00 pm to 4:00 pm, Seek Mercy: Parish Reconciliation Service

Sunday, December 20
Church cleaning & preparation following the 11:00 am Mass, no 5:30 pm Mass.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Thursday December 24
4:00 pm, Children’s Mass (Doors open at 3:00 pm)
6:00 pm, Mass in the Evening
10:00 pm, Lessons & Carols
10:30 pm, Mass in the Night

Friday, December 25
10:00 am, Mass in the Morning

New Year’s Eve

Thursday, December 31
8:00 pm, Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, ending at Midnight

New Year’s Day

Friday, January 1, 2016
10:00 am Mass, Solemnity of Mary,
The Holy Mother Of God
Order of Celebration
Second Sunday Of Advent

Introit (9)

Advent Introit

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Rejoice, the Lord is at hand. Prepare.”

Call To Worship

Please stand at the tolling of the bell.

Entrance Songs

Advent Entrance Antiphon (5, 9 & 11)

Gouin

To Zi-on's hill our God will come with healing for all nations' ills.

Your hearts will quick-en as you hear the Lord's ma-jes-tic, glo-rious voice.

Christ Circle Around Us (5:30)

Gouin

2. Come, O Word of Truth, font of know-ledge from on high.
4. Come, O Might-y Lord, mas-ter of the stars of night.

Come, Bough of Bless-ing, bloom for all the world to see.
Come, Ho-ly Wis-dom, be our faith-ful friend and guide.
Come, Key of Da-vid, o-pen wide the path-way home.
Come, Strength of Pil-grims, keep us in your lov-ing sight.

Christ, cir-cle round us. Christ, may your light sur-round us.

Shine in our liv-ing. Fill our hearts with great thanks-giv-ing.

Blessing The Advent Wreath

Penitential Act

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault.
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.
Kryie

First Reading

Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God forever: wrapped in the cloak of justice from God, bear on your head the mitre that displays the glory of the eternal name. For God will show all the earth your splendor: you will be named by God forever the peace of justice, the glory of God’s worship.

Up, Jerusalem! stand upon the heights; look to the east and see your children gathered from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that they are remembered by God. Led away on foot by their enemies they left you: but God will bring them back to you borne aloft in glory as on royal thrones.

For God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low, and that the age-old depths and gorges be filled to level ground, that Israel may advance secure in the glory of God. The forests and every fragrant kind of tree have overshadowed Israel at God’s command; for God is leading Israel in joy by the light of his glory, with his mercy and justice for company.

Responsorial Psalm  

God Has Done Great Things For Us

Responsorial Psalm  

God Has Done Great Things For Us

Second Reading

Brothers and sisters: I pray always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus. God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.
Gospel Acclamations  
Alleluia (5,11 & 5:30)  
Murray

Offertory Songs  
Comfort, Comfort (9)  
Bach/Ferguson

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the desert. John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

Reflection  
Ann Patnaude

Dismissal Of Candidates and Cathechumens (9)

Offertory Songs  
Comfort, Comfort (9)  
Bach/Ferguson

Comfort, comfort now my people; speak of peace: so says our God. Comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning under sorrow’s load. Cry out to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them; tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

For the herald’s voice is crying in the desert far and near, calling all to true repentance, since the kingdom now is here. Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way! Let the valleys rise to meet him and the hills bow down to greet him.

Then make straight what long was crooked; make the rougher places plain. Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign. For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad, and all flesh shall see the token that God’s word is never broken.
Holy, Holy, Holy

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

Ho - san - na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Mystery of Faith

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro-claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.
Great Amen

A - men.

Lamb of God

Vatican Edition XVII

Plainchant

A - gnus De - i, qui tol-lis pec-ca-ta mun-di: mi-se-re-re no - bis. A - gnus De - i,

qui tol-lis pec-ca-ta mun-di: mi-se-re-re no - bis. A - gnus De - i,

qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun - di: do - na no - bis pa - cem.

All Are Invited To Come Forward

During communion, we invite all to come forward. If you do not ordinarily receive Eucharist, or choose not to, come for a blessing, indicating your desire by putting your hand on your heart.

If you have a gluten allergy, & need a gluten free host, please come to the presider & indicate this.

Communion Songs

Prepare the Way of the Lord (9)

Taize

Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre - pare the way of the Lord, and all peo - ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God.

A Voice Cries Out (5, 11 & 5:30)

Joncas

A voice cries out in the wil - der - ness: Pre - pare a way for the Lord! A voice cries out in the wil - der - ness: Make straight a high - way for God!
This Week At St. Joseph

Sunday
9:00 AM  Mass - Childcare Available
10:00 AM  Coffee & Donuts - Join us!
11:00 AM  Mass
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
7:00 PM  St. Vincent de Paul Meeting

Tuesday
7:00 AM  Immaculate Conception Mass
5:30 PM  Soup Supper - Parish Center
7:00 PM  Immaculate Conception Mass

Wednesday
7:00 AM  Mass
7:00 AM  Yoga - Body In Prayer
6:00 PM  Pathfinders
7:00 PM  The VOICE Youth Group

Thursday
7:00 AM  Mass

Friday
7:00 AM  Mass

Saturday
12 - 4:00 PM  Parish Reconciliation Service
5:00 PM  Vigil Mass
Thank you for supporting one of our Outreach Partners!

Instructions: GIFTS MUST BE BACK TO THE CHURCH BY MONDAY DECEMBER 14th

1. Please choose an ornament and purchase the requested item.

2. If your item does not indicate whether to wrap the gift or to leave it unwrapped, please leave the gift UNWRAPPED.

3. Please attach the ornament/tag you received to the wrapped/unwrapped gift.

4. Bring your giving tree donations back to the St. Joseph’s Giving Tree or the Parish Center. The last day of our collection is Monday, December 14th.

5. If you have any questions regarding the Giving Tree, please contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org or 965-1646.

**Ornaments Color Codes**

- **Gold**  Westside Baby
- **Red**   Francis House
- **Blue**  St. Martin de Porres
- **Purple**  Jubilee Women’s Center
- **Yellow**  Chief Seattle Club
- **Brown**  Winter Shelter
- **Light Green**  L’Arche
- **Orange**  Recovery Café
- **Light Blue**  Noel House
- **Black**  Peace on the Streets for Kids on the Streets
- **Dark Green**  Pregnancy Support
- **White**  St. Vincent de Paul

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**Prison Ministry Conversation**

One of the corporal works of mercy is visiting those in prison. As part of the Year of Mercy, we invite you to join in an exploratory conversation on how St. Joseph Parish might be involved in prison ministry as well as prison reform and restorative justice. If this interests you or you have ideas or experience please join us on **Thursday December 10th 7-8:30 pm** in the Parish Center. Questions: Contact Deacon Steve at 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

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**St. Vincent de Paul**

**Donations help with heat in these cold-weather months**

She had asked for some help with food. But as soon as we arrived, our St. Vincent de Paul team could see she needed help with heat too. Trying to survive on just about $350 a month forced her to forego heat this cold fall day. She wore a heavy woolen coat that “A friend had given me.” She needed a couple of blankets for her bed. This woman had not turned on the heat because her old apartment had electric baseboard heating, which is very inefficient and therefore expensive to run. We gave her Safeway cards to provide food, got her some blankets and urged her to use the heaters at least during the day. She is up in age and should not risk her health by being in a cold apartment.

Your donations each first-of-the-month Sunday allow us to help this woman and many like her who live at the edge of society. Thank you for your generosity: it’s the Lord’s work.

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**Parish Blood Drive**

We are having another blood drive on **Monday, Dec 14th from 12-6 pm** (Closed 2-2:45) in the Parish Center. To sign up for the blood drive, please email Renee Leet at rleet@stjosephpasish.org

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**WestSide Baby**

We are looking for regular volunteers, especially for our Central District site – which is now open the second Saturday of each month for volunteers as well as its regular hours Monday 9-3, Tuesday 9-1, Wednesday 9-5 and Thursday 9-3. For more information contact Shana Allen, Volunteer Manager on shana@westsidebaby.org or 206.686.6659.
On Tuesday, December 8, the church celebrates the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary. There will be two parish masses on this Holy Day: 7 am in the Arrupe Room and 7 pm in the church.

Before the evening Mass at 5:30 pm we’ll have a soup supper in the Parish Center, please join us as we discuss the Year Of Mercy.

Our collection will go to Jesuit Refugee Services. The refugee crisis underway today in Europe is driven by Syrians, Iraqis, Afghans, and Eritrean, Sudanese and other African refugees fleeing war and oppressive circumstances. Humanitarian crises disrupt education by delaying access to schools and contributing to higher dropout and lower completion rates. When such emergencies result in displacement, the lack of access to quality education can have profound implications for the ability of affected communities to recover and thrive.

From Syria to Afghanistan, from Ethiopian camps hosting Eritrean refugees to South Sudanese communities hosting internally displaced families, JRS seeks to help refugees and the displaced become self-sufficient via our education programs. Please join us!

St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions:
- Grateful that Terry’s surgery went so well...
- For a dear nonagenarian who is suffering from shingles, may she find comfort and be healed...
- For those who are enduring colds and flu, may they begin to feel better...
- For the homeless, may they find shelter and warmth and help during this cold season...
- That we show kindness to one another and strangers daily to make a difference in someone’s life — what we put out in this world is what we bring back to our lives...
- For Pope Francis and his intentions.

“But when the kindness and love of God our savior appeared, he saved us; not because of any righteous deeds we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the baptism of new birth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.”
~Titus 3:5

Thank You!! During the Thanksgiving Day Mass, St. Joseph parishioners donated $1,296.00 to St Mary’s Food Bank. St. Mary’s is committed to eradicating hunger by providing direct human services to meet the basic needs of children, women and men throughout our Seattle Community. The Food Bank serves all who approach it without discrimination, tests or limiting requirements. They serve over 600 students in local schools and nonprofits providing nutritious food so children are ready to learn. The Food Bank has also piloted a mobile food bank bringing food to the Filipino Community Center to feed 125 mostly elderly individuals. For more information about the good work at St. Mary’s, please visit http://thefbsm.org/

Let us thank the Lord for his presence and for the strength which he gives us in our daily lives, at those times when we experience physical and spiritual suffering, pain, and grief. Let us thank him for the acts of solidarity and generosity which he inspires in us, for the joy and love with which he fills our families and our communities, despite the suffering and violence we sometimes experience, and our fears for the future. Let us thank him for his gift of courage, which inspires us to forge bonds of friendship, to dialogue with those who are different than ourselves, to forgive those who have wronged us, and to work to build a more just and fraternal society in which no one is abandoned. In all these things, the Risen Christ takes us by the hand and guides us.
~Pope Francis, Homily 30 November 2015

Ann Patnaude Bio
Ann and her husband John moved to Seattle two and half years ago from Chicago, where she received a PhD in Art History at The University of Chicago. She works as an independent scholar, researching and writing on ancient Greek art and archaeology. Ann volunteers at Harborview Medical Center as a Eucharistic Minister and serves in their NODA (no one dies alone) program. She is the co-chair of the newly-formed Welcoming Ministry at St. Joseph’s and is a member of the Parish Life Commission. She is also actively involved with the College Success Foundation, which helps underserved students prepare for, attend and graduate college. For fun, Ann enjoys spending time with John and their mastiff, Gracie; playing piano; and exploring new restaurants in Seattle.

Thank You
Parish Life

Seniors On The Go

Tuesday, December 8th - 11:30 am Seniors Brown Bag Lunch Planning meeting; 1:00 pm Movie Matinee (A CHRISTMAS STORY). Bring snacks to share!

Thursday, December 10th - Trip to Mobok’s, Flowerworld and Maltby Café; 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. To reserve space on bus, call Renee at 324-2522.

Wednesday, December 16th - Christmas Party Potluck Dinner, 5:00-8:00 pm in the Social Hall. Please bring an unwrapped toy for St. Francis House and a gift for under $5.00 to exchange. Questions? Call Dolores Dorn at 206-322-2259.

Friday, January 8th - Healing Mass at 11:30 am followed by Seniors Luncheon in the Parish Center. (Please note date change).

Funeral Hospitality

We need help with our funeral hospitality ministry. This important ministry offers support to families coping with the many details of funeral planning. As part of our loving concern for the life of the community here, our hospitality team provides assistance in the planning and hosting of a reception after funeral services.

This is a great opportunity for school moms to earn “service hours” and a pleasant way for newcomers to become acquainted. Please contact Mary Ott with any questions or to sign up at ottjm4@gmail.com or 206-324-7459.

Young Adult Ministry

Ugly Holiday Sweater Social – On December 6th following 5:30 Mass we’ll meet for festive fellowship in the Parish Center. Wear your finest, “ugliest” Holiday sweater to kick the season off right! Bring $5 or a can of food to get your picture taken with Santa!

Young Adult Planning Meeting – On Wednesday, December 9th, from 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the Parish Center. Bring your ideas and energy as we map out plans for Jan-March 2016. Already on the table is a Young Adult Retreat and Small Groups to tie in into the Year of Mercy. Questions.. Contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646.

LGBT Ministry

Christmas Party, Sunday, December 20th at 6 pm, Parish Center

Ad Majorem Dei Concert Series:
"Carol of the Angels"
A Choral Arts Christmas

Choral Arts, St. Joseph Choir-In-Residence, will present its signature program as a gift to you during this holiday season. Our unique hour-long concert of uninterrupted music with interludes played by classical guitarist Robert McCaffery-Lent provides an oasis of calm in the midst of this hectic holiday season. Saturday December 12, 8:00 pm at St. Joseph Church. Sunday, December 13, 4 pm at Trinity Parish Seattle. Suggested donation is $25 general admission, $20 for seniors and students are always free! For more information about this concert visit www.choral-arts.org
**Faith Formation**

**CFF1 Teacher Needed!**
Due to such a fantastic turn out for our CFF 1 class this year, we are in needed of an additional Sunday School teacher. This is the first year of the two year Sacramental Preparation program for First Eucharist and meets in the Social Hall classrooms from 10:10 -11am Sunday mornings. The teacher will work with Archdiocesan approved textbooks and provided curriculum. Please contact Dottie Farewell at dfarewell@stjosephparish.org to find out more.

**High School CYO Basketball**
St. Joseph has the option to field teams in Freshman/Sophomore and Junior/Senior Boys leagues as well as a high school girl’s league. Registration is dependent on interest. All high school students are eligible to participate as long as they do not play on a high school basketball team of any kind.

High School CYO Info Link
http://www.seattlearchdiocese.org/athletics/sports/basketballhs.aspx

High School Game Schedule Link
http://www.teamsideline.com/Org/Home.aspx?d=Qb1dzCChdV8tPOVt5gU15Q%3d%3d

High School Registration

Deadline: December 7th  Fee: $75

If you have any questions, please contact Athletic Director, Robby Hayes at rhayes@stjosephsea.org

**Family Mass & Breakfast**
Sunday, December 13th, after the 9:00 am Mass
Parish Pancake Breakfast
Crafts for the Kids

Breakfast will include pancakes, eggs, sausage and fruit; $5 per person, kids 4 & under eat free.

There will be no CFF 1 through Junior High classes that day; this is a CFF1 & 2 Event

**Adult Faith Formation**
There are a ton of programs for adults interested in learning more about our shared faith. There is literally “something for everyone”! Please feel free to join in. All are welcome!

**Online Bible Study:  **On November 5 we began an online Bible study that will focus on the upcoming Sunday Readings – in this case, the Readings for December 6th. Please visit http://www.stjosephparishbiblestudy.wordpress.com, the code to get in is Arrupe. Linda Chavez and Vince Herberholt will be the moderators. After the initial startup the moderators will begin the week with a blog post to introduce the upcoming readings. If you have questions, please contact Linda Chavez at linda@rchavez.net or Vince Herberholt at vherberholt3@comcast.net.

Our online Bible study has started strong! Please join us.
Email linda@rchavez.net or vherberholt3@comcast.net for instructions on how to join in.

**CYO Boys JV Basketball Coach**
Our St. Joseph CYO Athletics program is looking for a coach for our 8th grade boys junior varsity team. Please contact Athletic Director, Robby Hayes at rhayes@stjosephsea.org, immediately if you are available to coach. Practices are twice a week, with games on weekends.
**Stewardship Update**

Many, many thanks to all who have made gifts and pledges to our annual stewardship appeal. **To date, we have received 536 pledges totaling $897,240 toward our goal of $1,500,000.** We are endlessly grateful for your commitment to St. Joseph Parish!

If you haven’t yet affirmed your active membership in our parish, please do so, and prayerfully consider what, if any, gift you are able to give to support our work. To speak, or write an affirmation is to make your membership intentional and not merely pro forma. In a community of prayer and spirit, such an affirmation, we hope, will also encourage reflection and break the, perhaps, merely habitual ties. So, that is why we ask for annual affirmation.

**Many thanks… Jeffrey & Anne Blackburn, Kirk & Kim Boys, Dolores Browne, Ken Chapman & Denyse McFadden, Caitlin Day & Teresa Abella, Robert & Hallie Desautel, David & Diana Einmo, Tamasha Emedi, Cecilia Grevson, Brian Hahn & Mary Klubben, Geralanne Holstine, Ryan & Cynthia Lysne, Christopher & Andrea Miller, Megan Murphy, John Paul, Brian & Giselle Pavlovec, Cole & Maia Peterson, Marc & Marianne Pettitjohn, Kim Rooney, David Rothrock & Kirsten Johnson, Lynn Rowley, Bret Taylor & Deborah Hill, Lucian & Shannah Wischik & Edward & Ann Zamojski**

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**Jesuit Puget Sound**

**“The Promise of Mercy”**

Tuesday, December 15, 2015* (*note new date!)

7:00 pm at St. Joseph Church, Seattle

What will this Year of Mercy mean for you? One week after Pope Francis opens St. Peter’s doors for the Jubilee Year of Mercy, you are invited to open the doors of your heart to God’s “promise of mercy” in the spaciousness of this contemplative Advent evening of prayer, music, art, storytelling, silent reflection, and ritual. Be inspired by humble and uplifting stories of mercy from the L’Arche and Recovery Café communities. Give yourself time to breathe in the midst of a hectic time of year!

Free will offering. Seating is first-come, first-served. An RSVP is helpful, but not necessary. For more information, contact andrea@ignatiancenter.org or (206) 329-4824. Co-sponsored by the Ignatian Spirituality Center and St. Joseph Parish, Seattle.

**Save The Date**

Cahtolic Advocacy Day is February 8, 2016. Mark your calendars and join us! Registration information will be available soon.

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**A Winter Day of Reflection: An Examen at the Turn of the Year**

Saturday, January 2, 2016 , 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

St. Joseph Parish Center, Rosanne Michaels, facilitating

Looking for a unique and meaningful gift idea? Consider giving this one-day mini-retreat to your loved one’s! When the hectic holiday season dies down, we invite you to join us at the turn of the calendar year for a peaceful Winter Day of Reflection to look back on the previous year and look forward to the year ahead in the light of God’s perspective. COST: Early registration fee - $45 (through Monday, December 28) Final week registration fee- $55 (after Dec 28). Light breakfast, lunch and materials included. Partial work scholarships available. INFO: For more information about this day, or for questions about partial work scholarships, contact Andrea Fontana at (206) 329-4824 or andrea@ignatiancenter.org
A Service of Prayer & Reconciliation
12 December 2015
Noon - 4:00 PM

As part of the Jubilee of Mercy
the St. Joseph Community
will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation
in a liturgy of prayer & reflection.
Come for a few minutes or for the entire time.
Individual Reconciliation will be offered.

Noon:  Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
2:00 pm: Prayers for Mercy
         * Sins of the Church
         * Sins against the Earth
         * Sins of the Culture
4:00 pm: Benediction