Sunday, 20 December 2015 * Fourth Sunday of Advent * www.stjosephparish.org

St. Joseph Parish





FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 20, 2015 Homily Next Week: Fr. Glen Butterworth, S.J.

Readings for December 27, 2015

FIRST READING: SAMUEL 1:20-22, 24-28 SECOND READING: JOHN 3:1-2, 21-24 GOSPEL: LUKE 2:41-52

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 - 8 am - 4:30 pm Saturday - 9 am-1 pm www.stjosephparish.org

Parish Receptionist (206) 324-2522

Pastor

Opening Gifts

Because of his boundless love, Jesus became what we are that he might make us to be what he is.

-Irenaeus of Lyons-

Growing up in my family, Christmas morning was always a wonderful time. Though we were not allowed to get up too early, at 6:00 am we would all line up at the door between our bedrooms and the living room. My brother, Bill, held the task of starter, whispering loudly, "Ready. Set. Go!"—at which point we would all run down the hall and across the kitchen to the family room, where we would slide into the gifts left for us by Santa Claus, where chaos would ensue as we tried on sweaters over our pajamas or climbed on bikes we could not ride in the house.

But for all the joy of Christmas morning, from an early age I preferred Christmas Eve, when my sisters and brothers and I would give gifts to our parents. Though I enjoyed getting the toys and clothes in the morning, there was nothing like the chance to surprise my parents, who did so much for us, and to see them light up as we gave them "just what they needed!" In the old photos, I can see myself, dressed in my cowboy-and-Indian pajamas, standing next to my mother, as she opened each of her packages with tears in her eyes, saying at every gift, "Oh, you shouldn't have spent your money on this!" My father, on the other hand, would take a different tack. Leaning back in his big winged chair, he would open each gift slowly and with a studied expression of evaluation—as though he wanted to make sure that it was a good gift and then he would smile, as though it were just what he wanted, and exactly what he deserved. I remember, especially, one year when I was about 6. The day before, he had taken me to down to Anderson's Pharmacy, and given me the money—I think it was \$5—to buy a gift for my mother and him. And as he unwrapped the two styrofoam snowmen that I had chosen as his gift (my mom got the pharmacy's best Tussy perfume), he acted as though it were the greatest present he had ever received, as if he could not imagine how I could have afforded such a wonderful gift. For the rest of his life, I remember seeing those snow men atop his dresser, where he always kept them, and I felt how much love was there, in his reception of that gift.

Though both my parents are gone now, the effect of those Christmas Eves remains in me: reminding me that gratitude is perhaps the greatest sign of love that we can ever give to one another. When we receive a gift not according to our power, but according to the heart of the one who offers it, we enrich that person: showing her that she is a bringer of blessings, affirming in him the power to move us. For when someone offers us a gift, he puts himself in a place of danger, a place of weakness, knowing that he could be rejected or devalued if the gift is not accepted. Thus, to accept a gift with love is to give power to the giver—the power to surprise and delight, the power to bless and enrich. When we accept a gift, we create a relationship with the giver, weaving our lives together

in a wonderful and mysterious way by which both of us are blessed. My parents changed my life, not simply by the many gifts they gave to me, but by the way they received the gifts—small and weak though they were—that I had to give to them. In those wondrous exchanges, I was allowed to be like them, and so grew closer to them each year.

This coming week, as we celebrate the great gift of Christmas—when the Son of God was given to us in all our weakness and poverty—we should not lose sight of the fullness of the gift. For God comes to us not simply in power and majesty, but in weakness and need. The gift is also an invitation to give ourselves. Like my father, slipping me the \$5 in the pharmacy, God gives us his own life and waits to see what we will offer in return. And when we bring our own small gifts—nurturing the child in the darkness, welcoming the parents into the stable of our hearts, coming with our sheep or our little drum-God responds as though we have given him everything he ever wanted, for, indeed, we have. God longs to be something more than Santa Claus in the sky, longs for something more than devotees who line up with their lists in hand. And so he comes to us in weakness and need, trusting that we want to give, knowing that in giving we will at last see the power we have been given: power to love, power to nurture, power to bless God even as we ourselves have been blessed.

So, let us be thankful this week for all that we receive, and let us know that God is thankful for us, as well. In this way do we become like him—as givers and receivers, as women and men who bless even as we are blessed, as children of the all-mighty God and as babies held in the arms of our mother.







FOLLOW ST. JOSEPH ON FACEBOOK

Did you know that St. Joseph has a Facebook page? Check out our posted pics and inspirational shares on our Jesuit identity. And while you're at it, please "like" us. As of press time, the parish had 305 likes. Thanks for putting us over the 300 mark. Let's go all the way to 400!

Check us out at: www.facebook.com/stjosephseattle



St. Joseph Holiday Schedule

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 & 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 (in Parish Center)

New Year's Day

Friday, January 1, 2016 10:00 am Mass, Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother Of God

ORDER OF CELEBRATION FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

This worship aid is for all Masses. There is no 5:30 pm Mass this weekend.

Prelude

Instrumental

Introit (9 & 11)

Rorate Coeli

"Rorate coeli desuper, et nubes pluant justum." "Skies, let the just one come forth like the dew, let him descend from the clouds like rain."

Call To Worship

Please stand at the tolling of the bell.



Advent Entrance Antiphon

Gouin



O hea-vens o-pen wide a-bove. rain down the Just one all you clouds.



bring forth a Sav-ior, mo-ther earth. Let all cre-a-tion know its Lord

Blessing The Advent Wreath

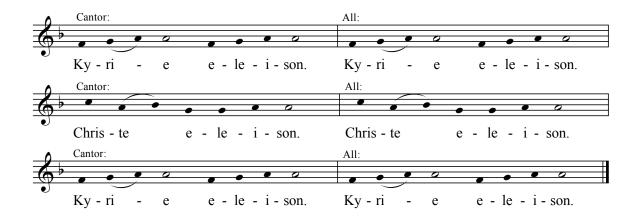
Penitential Act

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,

Strike breast during next line.

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 Micah 5:1-4A

Thus says the LORD: You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah too small to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel; whose origin is from of old, from ancient times. Therefore the Lord will give them up, until the time when she who is to give birth has borne, and the rest of his kindred shall return to the children of Israel. He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock by the strength of the LORD, in the majestic name of the LORD, his God; and they shall remain, for now his greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth; he shall be peace.



Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 80--Lord, Make Us Turn To You



Second Reading

Hebrews 10:5-10

Brothers and sisters: When Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight. Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll, behold, I come to do your will, O God.'"

First he says, "Sacrifices and offerings, holocausts and sin offerings, you neither desired nor delighted in." These are offered according to the law. Then he says, "Behold, I come to do your will." He takes away the first to establish the second. By this "will," we have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Gospel Acclamations

Alleluia (5 & 11)

Murray



Advent Alleluia (9)

Ioncas



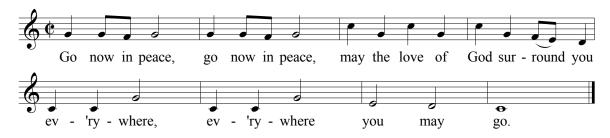
Gospel Luke 1:39-45



Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

Reflection Gerry Scully

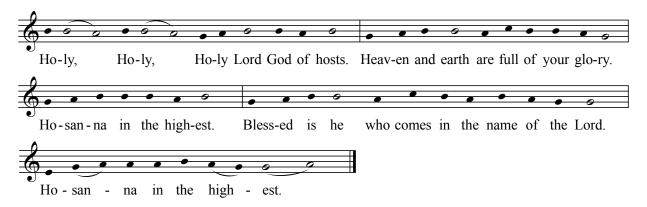
Dismissal Of Candidates and Cathechumens (9)



Offertory Song The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

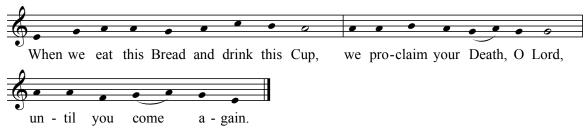


Holy, Holy, Holy



Mystery of Faith

Plainchant

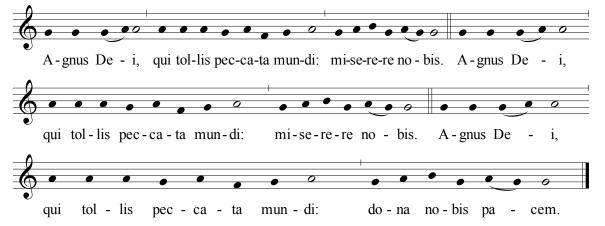


Great Amen Plainchant

Lamb of God

Vatican Edition XVII

Plainchant





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.

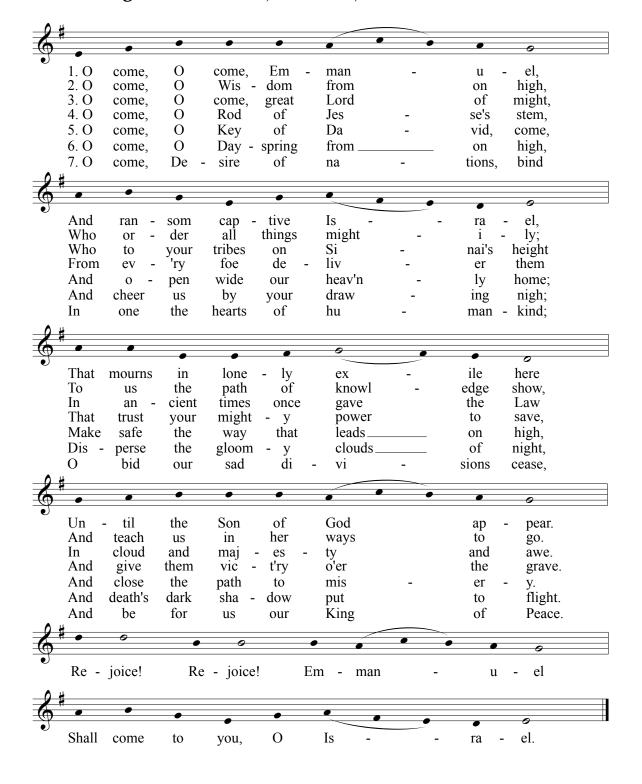
If you have a gluten allergy, & need a gluten free host, please come to the Presider & indicate this.

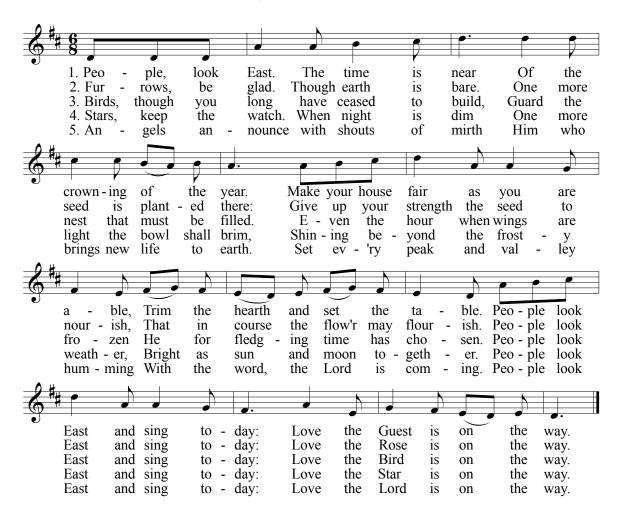


Communion Song

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Psallite





Postlude

Instrumental

Prayer for the Jubilee Year of Mercy

Seek Mercy Lord Iesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful, as the heavenly Father is merciful. Help us seek mercy: in the forgiveness of our sins, in the desire of our hearts, in the surrender of our will. May the mercy you have given us in your coming among us as brother and friend, fill us with joy and hope, that we might grow in mercy through communion with you, who live and reign with the Father, n the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOSEPH



Sunday

9:00 AM Mass - Childcare Available 10:00 AM Coffee & Donuts - Join us!

11:00 AM Mass

12 PM Church Cleaning for Christmas

Monday

7:00 AM Mass

7:00 AM Yoga - Body In Prayer 7:00 PM Sacred Silence Prayer 7:00 PM Rosary Prayer Goup

7:00 PM St. Vincent de Paul Meeting

Tuesday

7:00 AM Mass

Wednesday

7:00 AM Mass

7:00 AM Yoga - Body In Prayer

Thursday

7:00 AM Mass

4:00 PM Children's Mass 6:00 PM Mass in the Evening

10:00 PM Lessons, Carols & Mass in the Night

Friday

10:00 AM Mass in the Morning

Saturday

3:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM Vigil Mass

JESUIT PUGET SOUND



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

Save The Date

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

"Integral Ecology: Pope Francis and Planetary Thinking

Thursday February 4, 2016, 7:00 pm Pigott Auditorium

In the second of this year's Catholic Heritage Lectures, Christiana Peppard, Ph.D., a professor of science, theology and ethics at Fordham University, will explore the climate crisis--particularly in regards to issues of water access--as a call to respond to those in need.





LITURGY AND WORSHIP



Prayer St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions: Once again we are touched by our church community's overwhelming helpfulness and generosity to others who have had their wishes fulfilled by your support when you took a tag from our Christmas Giving Tree – you are a blessing and we are grateful . . . For the intentions of the Toce family . . . For Joe who will be having a new chemo treatment . . . For those who stumble in the darkness and are overwhelmed by their struggles.

> "Hear my prayer, O Lord; let my cry for help come to you." ~Psalm 102:1

Please remember in your prayers and thoughts

Tracy Janney, wife of Russell and mother of Scott, Elliot and Michael, whose service was on Saturday. Jay P. Quinn, father of Karen Quinn-Shea, who died last week. Service will be January 16 at 1 pm here. For Sister Katherine Dyckman, S.N.J.M. whose service was last Friday.

Gerry Scully Bio

Gerry Scully, who hails from Dublin Ireland, has been a parishioner at St Joseph for 28 years. He is a Gonzaga graduate who came to the United States initially as a Jesuit Scholastic of the Irish Province. Upon returning to Ireland he taught religion and philosophy at Belvedere College, a Jesuit high school, in Dublin. After deciding not to pursue ordination he returned to the US and married his wife Jennifer at St Joseph's in 1988. Shortly after their wedding, both embarked on an unexpected but richly blessed vocation in L'Arche. Having carried several roles in L'Arche, including Regional Coordinator of the US/Canada Western Region, Gerry now serves as the Executive Director of L'Arche Seattle.

The Rosary At St. Joseph

Praying the Rosary can help us face the often harsh realities of life with hope and grace. Pray the Rosary at St. Joseph for the first time or the thousandth. People will help guide those who are just learning. Bring your own Rosary beads, count on your fingers or use a smartphone app such as iRosary.

> **Everyone** is welcome to pray the Rosary, Mondays from 7 to 8 pm in the Parish Center Loyola Chapel

Parish Holy Hour

Thursday, January 7th, 7-8 pm, join the Choose Life Ministry for a Rosary with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, in the Lovola Chapel of the Parish Center. Refreshments to follow. All are welcome!

Sacred Silence



The Sacred Silence prayer group gathers on Monday nights at 7 pm in the Church for an hour of silent prayer. Newcomers always welcome. Open to all types of prayer practice. People are encouraged to use whatever silent prayer practice works best for them whether it is center-

ing prayer, Ignatian imagination or another prayer. For information on Sacred Silence and silent prayer contact Jim Hoover at sacredsilence@stjosephparish.org or 206-286-0313.

Come Help Decorate!

Join fellow parishioners on Sunday, December 20th to prepare the Church for Christmas. Immediately following the 11 am Mass, we will gather for a quick lunch in the Arrupe Room of the Parish Center, then head over to the Church, divide in teams, and thoroughly clean the church, light the trees, hang the wreaths and set out the poinsettias. Bring the family. Stay an hour or three. Make it an annual tradition!

Parish Life

Seniors On The Go

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

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The prayer shawl ministry has made many beautiful shawls and blankets that have been given to parish members, as well as their friends and relatives.

Our ministry typically meets the first Tuesday of each month in the Parish Center from 7-8:30 pm. **The next meeting is January 5th.** We spend that time in prayer and friendship, while knitting or crocheting our blankets and shawls. We welcome all levels of experience, even people who would like to learn to knit or crochet as we have members who would be happy to teach and mentor at the gatherings.

If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Rothmeyer at jenniferrothmeyer@hotmail.com or 206-310-1098.

CYO Sports

Volleyball registration is up on the St. Joseph website. The **last day to register is January 14t**h. Volleyball is open to all boys and girls in the 4th-8th grade. 4th grade teams as well as boy's teams are dependent on interest.

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. Please contact Mary Ott with any questions or to sign up at ottim4@gmail.com or 206-324-7459.

FAITH JUSTICE



St. Joseph Epiphany Dinner

Sunday, January 10th - 1 - 4 pm - Parish Social Hall

We extend a personal invitation to all of our "Outreach Partners," however, all are welcome for community and fellowship. We invite members of our community to provide cooked turkeys, hams, vegetables, potatoes, beverages, desserts and appetizers. Volunteers are needed to do the food prep, cooking, decorating, table hosting and clean-up.

This year, sign-ups are on-line at PerfectPotluck.com. Sign-up by entering your name, email & phone number for the item you would like to bring! Visit PerfectPotluck.com and locate the meal by coordinator last name (Wodzanowski) and password (Epiphany). You can also signup after Mass.

Thank you in advance for your generosity! Questions? Please contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish. org or (206) 965-1646.

St. Martin de Porres

St Martin de Porres shelter for men over the age of 50 is in need of blankets in this colder weather. Either bring to the Parish Center or call Candace, 206 323 814.

Urgent Need For Volunteers

2nd Saturday Team St. Martin de Porres Shelter Starting January 2016

We need 4-8 volunteers to make/bring 24 hearty sandwiches, 3 dozen hard-boiled eggs fruit (bananas,satsumas, grapes), 3-4 gal. milk/cider

To help contact Deacon Steve at 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

Poverty Workshop

Date: January 16, 2016, 9:00 AM-2:30 PM, Social Hall

What choices would you make if you had little time & money to spare? Come join us to explore hard choices many people with limited means face each & every day.

- 1. Role play a month in the life of low-income families; 2. Meet others who care about the issue; 3. Explore the
- impact of poverty on our community.

Questions? Email Hunthauh@seattleu.edu or call 206-296-6954. Space is limited. Reserve your spot today! (Walk-ins will be accommodated as space allows) Register: http://bit.ly/1KDNVnK



Getting to Know You...



And Getting to Know Myself With You.





St. Joseph's Couples Retreat Weekend **February 5 – 7, 2016** La Conner Country Inn

\$365 per couple *
Partial scholarships available

*Includes Continental breakfast Saturday and Sunday and Saturday group dinner

Saturday lunch and afternoon on your own

Register with Deacon Steve by Jan. 11 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

FAITH FORMATION



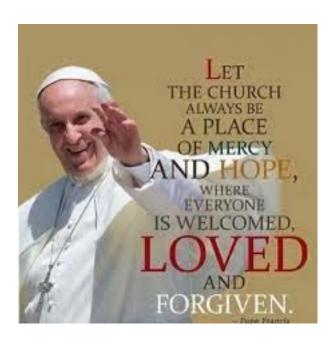
Adult Faith Formation

On-line Scripture Study continues weekly; this online, self-directed study allows you to bring Christ alive in your head and heart through weekly lectionary-based reflections. Please visit and sign up: https://stjosephparishbiblestudy.wordpress.com (to access use the word Arrupe)

Faith Formation Highlights for the New Year:

Catholic 101-a small group series focused on the pillars of the Catholic church. Meets Wednesday nights from 7-9pm beginning in January.

Who Is Pope Francis? What is He Up To?: Insights into Francis' life, reforms in the Church, and challenges for the world. Guest speaker Fr. Patrick Howell, S.J. will discuss Pope Francis and the Church on Thursday, January 21 from 7-8:30 pm in the St. Joseph Parish Center, Arrupe Room. Fr. Howell is a Distinguished Professor at Seattle University's Institute of Catholic Thought and Culture, author of several books and most recently an article in America magazine, "Pope Francis Meets the American Church"



Infant Baptism Prep Classes

Baptism is the first of three sacraments of initiation into the Catholic Church. Our next set of infant baptism preparation classes for parents and godparents will be held on Thursday, January 7 and 14 from 6-8pm. Preregistration is necessary by emailing Dottie Farewell at dfarewell@stjosephparish.org.

Children's Faith Formation

Rite of Christian Initiation for Children - Children who have not yet been baptized by the age of seven years old receive full initiation (baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation) into the church during the Easter season.

Children's Baptism – if you have a child age five to seven years old and he or she would like to be baptized into the Catholic Faith, then this is the program for you. The program of preparation begins in January with the Sacrament of Baptism taking place on Sunday, April 10th.

Please set up an appointment with Dottie Farewell by calling 206-965-1652 or email dfarewell@stjosephparish.org

No CFF Sunday School on December 27th or January 3rd. Classes resume Sunday, January 10. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Pancake Breakfast Thank You!

A big thanks to all the people that helped with the pancake breakfast this past weekend including Jim and Charlie Whitson, Nick, Franklin and Peter Heymann, Leland Adams, Reid Rogers, Mia Anderton, Maggie Kerner, Niko Nicoloudakis, Eleanor Metcalf, Dexter Farewell, Cammy and Cooper Stukel, Austin Savage, Josie Barker, Josie Moran, Madison and Drew Laughlin, Roman DeLaurentis, Corbin Johnson, Rose Potts, Patrice, Mike, Lily, Noah and Ryen Theisen.

Agape Service Project Meeting

Have you heard of the Agape service trip for middle school students and wanted more information? We are holding an Agape information meeting on Wednesday January 6th, 2016, from 6:00-7:00pm in Parish Center. Agape is a week-long service trip in Bellingham, WA during the first week of August 2016. This is a great summer service project and an empowering trip for middle schoolers. Questions? Email Erin Tobin at cff@ stjosephparish.org



STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Update

Many, many thanks to all who have made gifts and pledges to our annual stewardship appeal. **To date, we have**

received 658 pledges totaling \$1,021,450 toward our goal of \$1,500,000. We are endlessly grateful for your commitment to St. Joseph Parish!

Many thanks... Peter Alspach & Maureen O'Leary, Steve & LeAna Alvarado-Smith, Bob & Debbie Ashmun, Richard & Madeline Bersamina, Steve & Julie Bishop, Catherine Boyle, Robert Branson & Judith Raab, Tim Brown & Helen Sullivan, Scott Campbell & Jane Schmidt, Michael Caputi, Arthur Chapman, Mary Chesley Chikahisa, Morgan & Elizabeth Cole, Dolores Colobong, Patrick Morton & Kathleen Colombo, Ryan Connolly & Sarah Volpone, David & Dorothy Crean, Jim & Lisa Crisera, Caroline Daly, Thomas & Josephine Daly, Patrick & Marlene Dineen, Mark & Stacey Donahue, Steve & Carol Donaldson, Ben & Sarah Duenwald, Jason & Carly Elrod, Sigrid Endresen, Diego & Lisa Ferre, James & Catherine Gannon, Christoper & Marilee Goebel, Graham Graham & Lisz Palas Graham, Patrick Grimm & Nancy Hurlburt, Connor Haffey & Lisa Jane Stoll, Dr. Mark Harrast & Robb

Ginter, Susan Heffernan & Craig Smith, Andy & Courtney Heily, David Holm & Christine Carlson, Jim & Rosalie Hopper, John & Maria Hughes, Jeannine Jacobson, Jerry Johnsen & Stephanie Ragland, Jay Johnston & Missy Ward, McAllister Kirschner & Regan Wesley-Kirschner, Loren & Joddy Krogstad, Mimi Krsak, William & Katherine Kuder, Gerry Lamar, Katharine LaPlante, George & Shelley Laramore, Greg Lindhorst & Zoe Barsness, Sean & Danielle Lobo, Virginia Mack - Donley, Kevin MacPherson & Susan Balich-MacPherson, Lou & Lauretta Marchesini, Steve Mc-Carthy, John McKay Jr, Roger & LeeAnn McMillen, Alicia Miller, Mark & Ellen Mills, Richard & Linda Monroe, Al , Richard & Laurie Padden, Tom & Beth Peterson, Tom & Katie Phillips, Catherine Raab, Richard & Janet Ranf, Tyler Reparuk, Stephen & Rena Ritchey, Allison Ruettgers, John & Lauren Salata, Michael & Debora Scott, Michael Sinsky & Mary Cunningham, Albert Smith & Kristine Brynildsen-Smith, Brian Smith & Peggy Mc-Shane, Newell & Marie SmithGeorge & Suzanne Spano, Bob & Peggy Stevens, Brion & Kristin Stone , Bill Taylor & Nancy Uding, Andrew & Michelle Toth, Steve & Lisa Turnure, Lawrence Uhlman & Rene Dubay, Jane Urner, Sarah Van Arsdale-Cook, Mary Verrilli, Michael Vila, Arthur Wahl, Edward Welch, Frank Woodruff & Dr. Jan Agosti, and Evan Wyman.