Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you.

-Jeremiah 1:4-
On Confirmation

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you.

-Jeremiah 1:4-

My work is loving the world.

Are my boots old? Is my coat torn?
Am I no longer young, and still not half-perfect? Let me keep my mind on what matters, which is my work, which is mostly standing still and learning to be astonished.

-Mary Oliver-

This Saturday evening, as we begin a week dedicated to Catholic schools and Catholic education, the community at St. Joseph will welcome Archbishop Sartain for the Confirmation of twenty-five young adults—twenty-two from our Parish and three from St. Therese. Through the imposition of hands and anointing with oil, the Archbishop will complete a process of initiation for these young people into the Catholic Church, a process that began, for most of them, more than a decade-and-a-half ago. And though we will celebrate how far these young people have come, in a deeper sense this Sacrament is not so much about the completion of a process as it is about the beginning of a life; not so much about entering the Church as about becoming it. For even as the oil glistens on their foreheads, these young women and men assume an identity prepared for them since before they were born: an identity bound to the heart of Christ and enflamed by the fire of the Holy Spirit; an identity which does not diminish their own personal identity, but which empowers it with a new strength and a new mission. Just as Mary—who did not fully understand all that was being asked of her—opened herself to the power of the Holy Spirit and became the Mother of God, so these confirmandi are asked to open themselves to the same Spirit, through a “Yes!” that will echo through their lives with power and grace.

When I received this Sacrament—in 1972—it was still the custom for the bishop to slap the face of the confirmed (lightly), as a symbol of the suffering one might expect as a witness to Christ. Indeed, for many of us, the bishop’s slap was the most memorable part of the rite. In those days, when Fr. Walter Ciszek’s imprisonment and torture in Russia and Dr. Tom Dooley’s tales of communist atrocities in Southeast Asia were still part of Catholic culture, we often imagined ourselves questioned by “Red” China’s secret police or by the KGB of the Soviet Union, whose atheistic ideologies would demand that we renounce our faith, or be sent to the Gulag or the firing squad. In those moments, we envisioned ourselves, like the martyrs of old, suffering for Christ until our death. We longed to be such heroes, and found the gentle slap of the bishop just a prelude to our heroic future.
Yet, to tell the truth, while there were Christians suffering around the world, our imaginings were mostly melodrama—the stuff of fear and propaganda, not conviction or experience. Rather than preparing us for the true struggles of our faith, our Confirmation only kept us in a world of make-believe, where we could dream of ourselves as heroes, future martyrs of the Church Militant, but not people of the Church as we would find it. These fantasies lacked the power to inspire conversion or foster true hope. Indeed, I have often wondered if the “make believe” quality of our Confirmation was not, in part, responsible for the later departure of many of my peers from the Church, who, caught in dreams of heroism, became disenchanted by the ordinariness of the Christian journey.

Today the ritual slap has disappeared from Confirmation, and hopefully, so too has the air of make-believe persecutions and suffering. Gone is the melodramatic imagery of a triumphal Church facing down the evil world—replaced by a deeper sense of the complexity of the world and the often unheroic quality of our Church. And though these young people may not receive a ritual slap in the face, they come to this Sacrament already experienced in suffering, already educated in the dangers that threaten belief. The majority of those to be confirmed had not yet reached consciousness when the two towers fell in New York, and they have lived their whole life in a nation at war. Many of them have seen one or another parent unemployed by the Great Recession, or have watched their friends move away because their parents needed work. Most have had friends who went through treatment for addiction and have encountered drugs and alcohol since early in their school years. They have never known a time when pornography was not a mouse-click away or when shaming and internet bullying were not a reality of life. They have never seen a Church unscarred by scandal and cover-up, never known a time when the thought of a vocation to the priesthood or religious life was a common consideration among young Catholics. They have lived in a world where global warming and natural degradation, poverty and displacement have been seen as nearly insoluble problems.

And yet, without any of the heroic fantasies of yesterday, these young men and women come to the altar for blessing, and to affirm that this is their Church, this is their faith community. In the Jubilee Year of Mercy, these young people need no slap to know that the work of the reign of God is challenging, that mercy and compassion are rare and never come cheaply. They see that every day. They already have a sense that the enemies of faith are not so heroic as we imagined in the past, but are more insidious and more mundane. Still, for all that, their faith is richer and their readiness for this Sacrament more deeply held. They understand that they are making a choice to be Catholic, a choice to be disciples and pilgrims in a troubled world, a choice to take up the work of Christ. Inspired, often by Pope Francis, or Dorothy Day, or Archbishop Romero, or the many others who refuse to lose their joy and hope, these young women and men volunteer with the homeless or at hospitals; they go to New Orleans or El Salvador in service; they work to preserve the natural environment, and stand up to support those whom our society sets aside. They live the gospel in all the ordinary—and thus revolutionary—ways it is meant to be lived. May they go forth, each day, to love the world and to be astonished by it; to believe that they have been anointed as the People of God, the body of Christ, dedicated by God for the life of the world.

Connecting with St. Joseph
WELCOME!

New? Visiting? Interested? Are you visiting for the first time? Interested in knowing more about the ministries and activities at St. Joseph’s parish? Please join our weekly e-news blast at www.stjosephparish.org and click on the “Sign up for our eNewsletter” link in the upper right corner of the homepage. Thank you!

Register! Are you a Catholic attending Mass at St. Joseph Parish, yet haven’t officially registered? Join us!

Why register? St. Joseph’s Church is a vibrant parish offering many avenues for ministry, connecting with other parishioners and spiritual development. We’d love to get to know you, connect with you, and inform you of our various activities, groups and events going on at the church. Please pick up a registration form in the back of the church or go online to register at www.stjosephparish.org and click on the “Join Our Parish” link. We look forward to connecting with you. Thank you!

Ash Wednesday Services
Wednesday, February 10
at 7am & 7pm
in the Church.
All are Welcome.
Order of Celebration
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prelude

Entrance Song

We Are Called
Haas

All stand and sing.

1. Come! Live in the light! 
2. Come! Open your heart!
3. Sing! Sing a new song!

Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord! We are called to be
great day when all will be one! God will reign, and we'll
mercy to all those in fear! We are called to be
light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God!
hope for the hope less so hated and blind ness will be no more!
walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love!

Refrain

We are called to act with justice, we are called to
love tenderly, we are called to serve one another;
to walk humbly with God!

Welcome of Archbishop Peter Sartain (5)

Penitential Act of Rite of Sprinkling with Baptismal Water (5)

Springs of Water
Marty Haugen

Springs of water, bless the Lord! Give God glory and praise for ever!
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 Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Please be seated.

**Liturgy of the Word**

**First Reading**

The word of the LORD came to me, saying: Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you.

But do you gird your loins; stand up and tell them all that I command you. Be not crushed on their account, as though I would leave you crushed before them; for it is I this day who have made you a fortified city, a pillar of iron, a wall of brass, against the whole land: against Judah’s kings and princes, against its priests and people. They will fight against you but not prevail over you, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Cantor* sings first then assembly repeats.

I will sing, I will sing of your salvation.

**Second Reading**

Brothers and sisters: Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails. If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing. For we know partially and we prophesy partially, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I used to talk as a child, think as a child, reason as a child; when I became a man, I put aside childish things. At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known. So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.
Jesus began speaking in the synagogue, saying: “Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.” And all spoke highly of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They also asked, “Isn’t this the son of Joseph?” He said to them, “Surely you will quote me this proverb, ‘Physician, cure yourself,’ and say, ‘Do here in your native place the things that we heard were done in Capernaum.’” And he said, “Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place. Indeed, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah when the sky was closed for three and a half years and a severe famine spread over the entire land. It was to none of these that Elijah was sent, but only to a widow in Zarephath in the land of Sidon. Again, there were many lepers in Israel during the time of Elisha the prophet; yet not one of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.” When the people in the synagogue heard this, they were all filled with fury. They rose up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town had been built, to hurl him down headlong. But Jesus passed through the midst of them and went away.

At the 5 pm Mass: Please remain standing until the Archbishop has kissed the Book of the Gospels.

Gospel Acclamation


Presentation of the Candidates for Confirmation (5)

Homily (5)

Reflection (Sunday Masses)

THE CONFIRMATION RITE (5)

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

The Laying on of Hands

The Anointing With Chrism

Dismissal Song (9)

Go Now In Peace

Sleeth
Please stand.

The Nicene 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,

At the words that follow, up to and including ‘and became man’, all bow.

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
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.

Prayers of the Faithful

Reader:...God in your mercy.    Assembly Response: Lord hear our prayer.

Please be seated.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory Songs    Day By Day (5)    Richard/How

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray: to see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day.

We Are Many Parts #733    Haugen

We are many parts, we are all one body, and the gifts we have we are given to share. May the Spirit of love make us one in deed; one, the love that we share, one, our hope in despair, one, the cross that we bear.
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.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

Assembly: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

Assembly: It is right and just.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Mystery of Faith

Great Amen
COMMUNION RITE

Sign of Peace
Assembly greets one another: Peace be with you.

Lamb of God

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

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

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 of a gluten free host, please come to Fr. John & indicate this.

Communion Songs

Jesus Hope of the World

Tate
After you receive Communion, you may kneel or sit if desired until the ciborium is returned to the tabernacle.

**Seek Mercy**

Lord Jesus 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, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

**The Concluding Rites**

Archbishop: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.
Archbishop: Blessed be the name of the Lord.
All: Now and forever.
Archbishop: Our help is in the name of the Lord.
All: Who made heaven and earth.
Blessing of School Staff and Faculty (9)

Recessional

City of God

Verse 1

1. A wake from your slumber!
   A rise from your sleep!

A new day is dawning for all those who weep.

The people in darkness have seen a great light.

The Lord of our longing has conquered the night.

Let us build the city of God.

May our tears be turned into dancing!

For the Lord, our light and our love, has turned the night into day!

Verse 2

2. God is light; in him there is no darkness. Let us walk in his light, his children, one and all.

O comfort my people; make gentle your words.

Proclaim to my city the day of her birth.

To Refrain
THANK YOU FOR SAYING YES! We can’t begin to express our gratitude to parishioners who have affirmed membership in our parish and made a pledge of support for 2016. Our vibrant parish would not be what it is without your consistent support.

As of January 27th, 796 parishioners have pledged $1,125,158.00 toward our $1,500,000 goal. If you have yet to send in your annual affirmation of membership or pledge of support for 2016, please feel free to make your gift online or contact stewardship@stjosephparish.org. THANK YOU!!

IRA Charitable Rollover Option Now Permanent

On Dec. 18, President Obama signed the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015 into law, legislation that includes a permanent extension of the IRA charitable rollover.

The IRA charitable rollover, which allows taxpayers age 70 ½ or older to make tax-free charitable gifts of up to $100,000 per year directly from their Individual Retirement Accounts to eligible charities, including colleges, universities and independent schools, is now a permanent part of the U.S. tax code. For more information about how you can support St. Joseph with your IRA, please consult your financial advisor or contact Tina, our Director of Advancement, at 206.965.1654. Many thanks!
Faith Formation

Please join us in welcoming the newly confirmed!

Mia Anderton - One of my gifts is the gift of listening. I am choosing to be confirmed because I am ready to become a full member of the Church. I have seen others get confirmed, and I hope that I will be as involved as they are in our community. The patron saint I chose is St. Catherine of Siena.

Josephine Mary Barker - I love to play softball and hope to play in college. I chose to be confirmed because I wanted my faith to be able to grow as I get older. Also, I went to a Catholic school when I was younger and wanted to be able to continue that part of my life. I chose St. Josephine Bakhita.

Roman DeLaurentis - I am gifted in athletics. I chose to be confirmed to join my Catholic community. I would like to put a stamp on my faith and beliefs and to use the teachings from the church out in the world. I chose St. Ignatius of Loyola.

Carmen Myra Einmo - My gift is singing, I love to sing. I’m choosing to be confirmed so that I can go into this next level in my faith and so that I can be a Catholic my whole life. It’s a big part of my family to get confirmed, and I want to follow that. I chose St. Cecilia, patron saint of song.

Nick Heymann - My special talent is music. I play the drums, piano, and bass, as well as sing. Through my family, friends, and teachers, I have come to know God. I choose confirmation to better learn how to open my heart every day, how to understand the words of the Lord, and how to transfer those words in action. My patron saint is Saint Longinus.

Katie Hill - I have the gift of patience. I like to read and play sports. I chose to be confirmed to further explore my faith. I chose St. Sebastian as my confirmation saint.

Margaret Roberta Kerner - I chose confirmation to grow and learn more about my faith. Growing up in a Catholic middle school and high school, my faith has been a big part of my life. I am hoping confirmation will help me take the next step to strengthen my faith and grow closer to God. I chose St. John of God.

Nicole LaBelle - I am a good listener and like art and music. I chose to be confirmed because I thought it would be the right path to take in order to be a good person. Many people are good without being Catholic but for me, this seemed like a good path. I chose Saint Lucy, Patron Saint of the Blind, as my confirmation saint.

Drew Laughlin - I chose confirmation to let it be known that I believe in the Holy Trinity and want to be one with the church for the rest of my life. I chose St. Joseph as my saint.

Madison Laughlin - My gift is public speaking; I enjoy talking to others and expressing my knowledge and opinions with others. I have chosen to be confirmed because I want to continue my path of spiritual growth in the Catholic church. I chose St. Elizabeth as my saint.
Austin Savidge - I like to meet new people and learn new things. My gift is that I make new friends with people that might not have that many and include them in fun activities. I want to be confirmed to enhance my relationship with God. St. Francis of Assisi is my confirmation saint name.

Aidan Thomas Smith - My gift is music. I play many instruments, but my favorite is the guitar. I've chosen my confirmation patron saint to be Isidore. I chose to be confirmed to get closer to what I believe in, as I get closer to adulthood.

Caitlin Skye Stukel - I want to be confirmed to continue my Catholic journey and because I enjoy being part of the church. I also no longer go to a Catholic school so I wanted to take action to get closer to God and stay involved with the church. My patron saint is Saint Quiteria.

Matthew Zech - A gift I think is valuable to my life is my leadership. I am choosing to be confirmed because I think it is a big step in growing closer with God and growing stronger in my faith. Being confirmed will help me feel more attached to this community. St. Ignatius is my saint's name.

Confirmation Thank You's

Thank you to Archbishop Peter Sartain, Pastor John D. Whitney, S.J., Deacon Greg McNabb & Deacon Steve Wodzanowski and altar servers extraordinaire Cooper and Thomas Lappenbusch, and Audrey Donahue. Thank you to Erin & Shannon Tobin for the lovely reception. Special thanks to Bob McCaffery-Lent for the beautiful music; to parents, and all adults who have provided guidance, love and support; and the Confirmandi’s sponsors. Finally, our gratitude to the catechists who guided the youth on their journey: Corbin Johnson, Rosemary Potts Song, Cecilia Venzan, & Tadeu Velloso.
Family Mass and “That’s Amore” Dinner Dance Party

Please join us for our Annual Family Mass and Dinner Dance on Saturday, February 6th. We’ll celebrate Mass at 5:00 pm, then head to the Social Hall for dinner and dancing. There will be a DJ and kids entertainment.

To purchase tickets visit parish homepage https://www.stjosephparish.org/ and click on “That’s Amore” tile; cost is $10.00 for the first adult, $5.00 for each additional family member. All are welcome (reminder to CFF 1 & 2 families: participation in this event is part of your formation program). To volunteer please contact David Hein at davidh@okigolf.com

Agape Middle School Summer Service Week

Are you a middle school student or a parent of a middle schooler? Have you heard of the Agape Service project and always wanted to go? Agape Service project is a one week long immersion service trip for current 5th-8th graders. It is held in Whatcom County and run through Western Washington University’s Newman Center. This year’s trip will begin Sunday, August 7th thru Friday afternoon, August 12th. We are always looking for adult chaperones! For more information, please contact Erin Tobin at cff@stjosephparish.org

Partnering With Parents

Parents whose children attend Sunday morning Faith Formation: Do you know that we have a free discussion group that meets in the Parish Center each Sunday when your children are in their classes?

Sue Grady, MDiv leads the discussion every Sunday from 10:15 am to 10:55 am in the Parish Center foyer. Receive weekly links to current articles from great Catholic magazines like America, US Catholic, and National Catholic Reporter. Explore enriching ideas. We guarantee you’ll enjoy the discussion.

Join Us and Get all Your Questions Answered!

Catholic 101 meets Wednesday night February 3 from 7 - 8:30 pm on the top floor of the Parish Center. Catholicism 101 will center around who is God and what is our desire for God, God’s revelation in Scripture, Faith, Trinity, Creation, and Incarnation. It is designed for those who are interested in exploring the Catholic Faith, but aren’t ready to commit to the RCIA process or for cradle Catholic’s who are desiring to be more deeply connected to their faith. We will explore the meaning behind what we say at Mass each week, learn about the Nicene creed and other basic tenants of the Catholic faith more deeply. People of all levels of understanding are encouraged to join because your experience and understanding will enrich all of our experiences.

Join us even if you haven’t attended before!

Immersions in Ignatian Prayer

On Thursday, February 4 Deacon Steve will present The Examen: Finding God in Your Life as part of the Immersions in Prayer series presented by ISC (St. Joseph’s is co-sponsoring first two sessions).

Sessions are from 6:30-8:45pm in the Mother Theresa Room of the Parish Center. Single session option available for $20/session.

Please register at www.ignatiancenter.org or by contacting Dottie Farewell at dfarewell@stjosephparish.org
Catholic Schools Week
A reflection by Patrick Fennessy

A good friend of mine, who happens to be a Catholic priest, told me this story.

He was celebrating Mass, and every time he began to speak, a little boy, about 2 years old, started to scream. As if to add to the priest's frustration, every time he stopped talking, the boy stopped crying. The child did not cry as the parishioner read the first reading, nor did he cry when the choir sang the responsorial psalm. But each time the priest spoke, the boy cried...and it grew louder, one might say more deliberate even, as Mass went on.

By the time my friend was offering the homily, this little boy was wailing. But the priest refused to let it get to him...he kept on preaching. He was a professional; he was not going to let this baby knock him off his game.

When the priest was at the altar preparing the Eucharist, he started to harbor ill thoughts about this little son of God. If that mother brings that baby to me for a blessing, he's not getting one, thought the priest. Doesn't she know where the cry room is?

Sure enough, communion came, and the baby was in the priest's line. As the baby and his mother neared the priest, as his ire grew and grew, but then he noticed the little boy's shirt. It read, "Be patient. God's not finished with me yet." Needless, to say, that baby got a blessing.

The truth of the matter is that God's not finished with any of us...ever, but Catholic schools sure help.

For those of you who are already members of our community, I hope Catholic Schools Week offers you the opportunity to reflect on how our schools are helping do God's work with your daughters and sons. For those of you who are contemplating sending your kids to a Catholic school, I hope this week offers you the opportunity to begin to experience the great work that Catholic schools—especially St. Joseph!—carry out with our students and families. Know that we are ready to partner with you in the education of your sons and daughters.

Prayer Tree
St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions: For Sully's hand to heal well... For a new outlook in making an adjustment... For our leaders worldwide to transcend borders and ethnic divisions for peace and justice.

“Yesterday I was calm and I wanted to change the world. Today I am wise so I'm changing myself.”
~Rumi

Parish Holy Hour
Thursday, February 4, 7-8 pm, join the Choose Life Ministry for a Rosary with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, in the Loyola Chapel of the Parish Center. Refreshments to follow.
All are welcome!

“What will save the world? My answer is prayer. What we need is for every Parish to come before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in Holy Hours of prayer.”
-Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Catholic Schools Week
Call to Action
This weekend donations will be sent to a new Jesuit School in our area. Seattle Nativity School is a Catholic, Jesuit-endorsed STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) middle school seeking to break the cycle of poverty through an education that nourishes souls and ignites leaders for love and service. As an independent, Catholic (category 2) middle school, SNS serves low-income students, all of which qualify for the national free and reduced lunch program. Seattle Nativity's mission is aligned with Catholic identity standards and the Jesuit charism of social justice. For more information about Seattle Nativity School, please visit www.seattlenativity.org or contact Fr. Jeff McDougall, S.J., at jmcdougall@seattlenativity.org or 206.494.4708.
Help the Enslaved Shrimp Workers in Thailand

He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.

-Luke 1:20-

On Tuesday, 15 December, the Seattle Times reported on the exploitation and forced labor of hundreds of workers, mostly women, by the shrimp companies of Thailand. Locked-up and then forced to work 12-16 hours a day, these people prepare shrimp for export, mostly to the United States, where it is sold to retailers, including the parent-company of QFC and Fred Meyer. In order to press for the liberation of these enslaved workers, St. Joseph will serve no imported shrimp at our activities, and we encourage you to take these few simple steps:

1. Refuse to buy shrimp imported from Thailand in the market. You can check packaging and ensure that you buy domestic shrimp from Oregon or other states. Ideally, tell managers that you will not buy Thai shrimp.

2. Ask the source of the shrimp you order in a restaurant. One of the users of Thai shrimp is Olive Garden, but it should be easy for restaurants to tell you from where their shrimp comes. Don’t buy Thai.

3. Invite others to join the action. Talk to neighbors or friends, store managers or restaurant owners to pass the word about Thai shrimp and the enslaved workers.

For further information or if you wish to help, you may contact Sue Grady, who has brought this information to our attention, at sue.e.grady@gmail.com

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

St. Vincent de Paul Collection
Next Weekend, February 7

The donations you make to our parish St. Vincent de Paul group help meet many needs. All too often, however, we encounter people whose resources are stretched because the high cost of their medications takes resources they would use for food, rent or utilities. For women, men and even children illnesses that require expensive medications amount to a “tax” on their ability to pay for the most basic needs.

We visited a veteran this past year who had virtually no food in his apartment, only half a loaf of bread. He had asked for some help with his rent, which we covered. But as we were leaving, we inquired about his food situation. He said he had not asked for help with food because he was happy just to get help with his rent.

We gave him enough Safeway food cards so that he could restock. He was a veteran, had served his country, fallen into ill health and suffered a severely broken ankle. The dollars you give let us help this courageous man. Thank you for your support.

Ignatian Spirituality for Men

In the Steps of Ignatius:
Forgiveness and Freedom:
Accepting Mercy for Ourselves and Others
Saturday, Feb 20 from 12:30-2:30 pm
at Recovery Cafe 2022 Boren Ave 98121

Join men from the Ignatian Spirituality Center and Recovery Café for an afternoon of reflection and ritual to explore what it might mean to accept the gifts of forgiveness and mercy for ourselves, freeing us to offer them to others. The program will be facilitated by Vince Herberholt and include reflections on forgiveness and mercy by presenters Dave Shull from the Recovery Café and Rev Peter Ely SJ from Seattle University, large and small group reflection and conversation, and a closing ritual of forgiveness. Bring a friend, and discover the freedom of forgiveness!

No cost. Lunch provided by Recovery Cafe. Please RSVP to Andrea at (206)329-4824 or andrea@ignatiancenter.org by Tuesday, February 16. For more information, www.ignatiancenter.org. Co-sponsored by the Ignatian Spirituality Center and Recovery Cafe.
Women’s Ministry Invites you to...

A Morning of Prayer, Reflection and Fellowship

MARY, MARTHA, & MERCY
Saturday February 27th
8:30am – 12 Noon, Parish Center
Animators: Denise Balthrop Cassidy, Mary Beth Hribar, Dolores Brown and Sara Bayless da Costa
Continental Breakfast provided but not childcare

Do you ever feel you’re “Mary” in a “Martha” world, or wonder how to balance your commitments with your need for spiritual fulfillment? Come reflect on “Mary, Martha, and Mercy” in casual fellowship with women of different generations from our community and enjoy a continental breakfast, brief reflections on the theme, time for quiet reflection, and small group discussions. For more details contact Denise Balthrop Cassidy denise@cassidyhome.com

Seniors On The Go
Friday, February 5th - Healing Mass at 11:30 followed by luncheon in the Parish Center.
Friday, March 4th - Healing Mass at 11:30 followed by Lenten luncheon in the Parish Center.

Calling All Young Adults (21-35)
Sunday January 31st - after 5:30 pm Mass

Feeling the winter blues? Looking for a night of laughs and bonding? St. Joseph’s Young Adults are hosting a game night on Sunday, January 31st at 6:30 in the Parish Center. Light refreshments will be provided. All are welcome. Join us for Wine and Cheese Social! For details email Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org

GETTING TO KNOW YOU
Newcomers are Welcomed at St. Joseph!

Last week new parishioners of St. Joseph gathered to mingle and get to know one another at our third MEET, GREET, AND EAT event. Over 30 adults and 7 children dined on Caprese skewers, pasta salad, and salmon, cream cheese and dill on crostini catered by Shanty Cafe. St. Joseph staff introduced themselves and encouraged folks new to our parish community to get involved in a ministry. We sat around tables and shared stories and laughs.

If you are new to the parish and missed this event, MARK YOUR CALENDAR for our next Newcomer event on Thursday, May 5, 2016.
A Gift for the Ages

By remembering St. Joseph Parish in your estate planning, you can ensure that the graces you and your family have received will be sustained for future generations.

• Create a will or living trust, or revise an existing one.
• Decide the gift you would like to designate for St. Joseph Parish and/or School.
• Inform your dependents about your desire to designate gifts for St. Joseph.
• Provide your attorney with our suggested bequest language:

  I give, devise, and bequeath to St. Joseph Parish, Seattle (Tax ID# 91-0588423), a tax-exempt organization doing business at 732 18th Ave. E, Seattle, WA, 98112, the sum of $______________ (or) _________% of my estate (or property described herein), to be used for ____________________________.

  (You may specify your purpose, e.g., buildings & grounds, liturgy, social ministry, formation, etc.)

  Any questions, please contact St. Joseph Parish at 206-324-2522 x-114, or stewardship@stjosephparish.org. Informing us of your intent helps us carry out your wishes. Thank you!