Sunday, July 9, 2017 \* Fourteenth Sunday of the Year \* www.stjosephparish.org



# St. Joseph Parish

THE JESUIT PARISH IN SEATTLE















"I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones."



# FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 9, 2017

Homily This Week: Bob Grimm S.J. Homily Next Week: George Teodoro, S.J.

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

#### Readings for July 16, 2017

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-11 Second Reading: Romans 8:18-23 Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23

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-Thursday - 8 am - 4:30 pm Friday - 8 am - 3:00 pm Saturday - 9 am - 1 pm www.stjosephparish.org

Parish Receptionist (206) 324-2522

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jwhitney@stjosephparish.org	
Rev. John D. Whitney, S.J.	x107

x218

x215

x219

Patrick Fennessy, Principal

Mary Helen Bever, Middle School Dir

Lillian Zadra, Primary School Dir

### Why Are You Terrified?

The disciples were sailing across the sea when a violent squall came up and waves were breaking over the boat, so that it was already filling up. Jesus was in the stern, asleep on a cushion. They woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Quiet! Be still!" The wind ceased and there was great calm. Then he asked them, "Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?" They were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?"

-Mark 4: 37-41-

The enemy is fear. We think it is hate; but, it is fear.

-Gandhi-

A few years ago, I went to the hospital to see a friend who was dying of cancer. She was asleep when I entered her room and—since I knew that sleep was hard to come by in the hospital—I decided to sit awhile and let her sleep. Listening to the rhythmic breathing and to the hums and beeps of the various machines, I looked around at the few personal items that somehow found a place between the heart and lung monitors, the packages of sterile wrappings, and intravenous pumps. Of course there were the usual things one receives in the hospital: two or three plants set up near the sink and a few cards pinned to the bulletin board. But what most interested me were the things she had brought from home, the things she wanted near her when she knew she might not be returning to her house again. There on the nightstand beside her bed was a photo of her children, a slender book of poetry, a rosary, and a small piece of wood on which was painted a contemporary icon.

I remember picking up the icon and looking at it—it was a picture of a boat caught in huge storm, with waves breaking over the front. In the boat were the twelve apostles, hands up in the air and obviously terrified and yelling. In the back of the boat, apparently unperturbed by the noise of the storm or the fear of the men, lay Jesus, curled up on some netting and a coil of rope, and sound asleep.

While I was still looking at the icon, imagining the story from Mark's Gospel, my friend woke up and looked over at me, and asked me how long I had been there. I told her that I just arrived, and then went on to say how much I liked the icon. She smiled a little and said, "It was a gift given to me years ago, when everything was crazy in my life. It was Peter who gave it to me, and when he did he said 'Remember, he's always in the boat, even when it seems scary.' Though I must admit, my first thought, when he said that, was: 'Yeah, but why doesn't he wake up?'"

Then she laughed a little, and closed her eyes, the smile still on her face. And though I knew that death was close to her now, I could tell that she was not afraid. There was sorrow about leaving her children and her friends, and a wish that it could have all been different. But she wasn't afraid, and hadn't been for months. She had seen the waves rising, and knew, when most of her friends were

still flailing in denial, that her fragile boat would soon be swamped. She had done what she could reasonably do to prevent it—chemo and radiation, a naturopathic diet and a series of surgeries—but none had been sufficient. Now, having given it her best, she refused to succumb to the tyranny of terror. Whatever was coming, she had this moment—to hold her children and weep with them, to recall her life and share memories with her friends, to say goodbye and to receive, with faith, God's promise of reunion—and that was enough for her. Today, she would be grateful, and that was her peace. As she once told me, "Cancer is awful, but at least it taught me that being afraid is pointless. What matters is those I have here, now. What's going to happen is going to happen."

Of all the attributes of human nature, intended to preserve us in a hostile environment, none become as easily disordered as does fear. Fear, though not itself a sin, leads us into sin—distancing us from ourselves and from others, from the reality of the world and the abiding love of God. As Gandhi notes, it is fear, more even than hatred, which is the source of our ills and the cause of our distress; for whereas hatred is a bright fire, fear is insidious, a dark spirit that poisons the well of our sensibility and invites us to do horrible things in the name of common sense and self-preservation. Filled with fear, we forget our own history and our deepest desires, forget the moment we are in because the moment we anticipate is so terrifying—even though it doesn't yet exist.

How many of the great sins of our age have emerged from fear, or how often have our fears been enflamed to normalize such sins? In our fear of the barbarism of 9/11, we turned our sons and daughters, our brothers and sisters into torturers. We denied our own system of laws and justice, and opened a prison camp in Cuba where innocence was no guarantee of release. We invaded nations, caring little for ancient notions of just war. We turned our faces from drone strikes abroad, and from mass incarceration at home, because we were told to fear for our safety. We closed out the images of children dying in the waters off of Greece or murdered in the cities of Central America because we had come to fear the immigrant, and fear the changes to our culture and our privilege. We have denied the effects that our consumption has on the earth, because we fear that it will cost us too much to change, or because it may cause us too much inconvenience. We silenced dissent by the fear that it empowers our enemies—calling the voices we do not like "fake news" on the one hand or "hate speech" on the other. Everywhere, we seem to surrender to fear, or nurture fear in others—leading us to divide the world into "them" and "us" with divisions that have no grounding in history or in fact. And, too often, we allow this fear to lead us to violence and hatred, to a denial

of rights and a destruction of persons. We wrap our fear in guns and in vitriol, in the semi-anonymous viciousness of social media and in the self-righteous destructiveness of the mob. Fearing the storm that surrounds us, we threaten to swamp the boat in which we all live, and drown ourselves in a sea of hatred.

But it does not have to be this way. We do not have to give into this widening cycle of fear and hatred. The answer is already with us—asleep in our hearts, as Jesus slept in the boat of the apostles. We must simply wake it up. By small acts of kindness and courage, by confronting our fears through the embrace of those who are different than ourselves, by observing the gifts that surround us, by being grateful for what is rather than fearful of what might be: this is how we begin to quiet the great storm of fear. This is how we answer fear: not with greater fear or other fears, but with love, active and unwavering. This is how we save our life. This is how we resist.

John of

### **WELCOME!**

New? Visiting? Interested? Are you visiting for the first time? Interested in knowing more about the ministries and activities at St. Joseph 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 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.

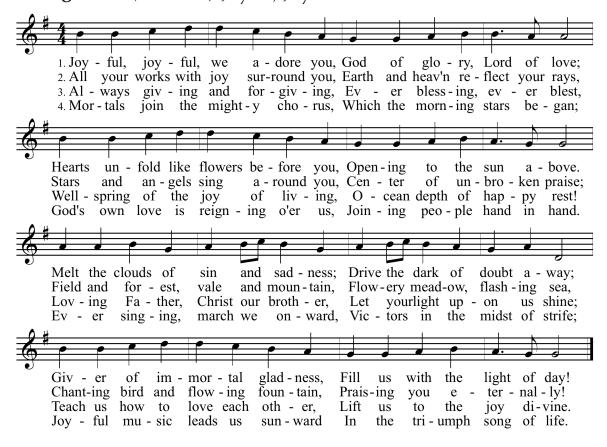
## FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Please take a moment to silence your cell phones.

**Entrance Songs** 

(5&9:30) Joyful, Joyful We Adore You

HYMN OF IOY







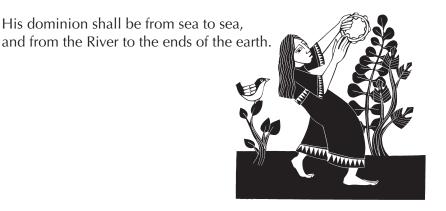


Gloria See Cards In Pews

### **First Reading**

Thus says the LORD:
Rejoice heartily, O daughter Zion,
shout for joy, O daughter Jerusalem!
See, your king shall come to you;
a just savior is he,
meek, and riding on an ass,
on a colt, the foal of an ass.
He shall banish the chariot from Ephraim,
and the horse from Jerusalem;
the warrior's bow shall be banished,
and he shall proclaim peace to the nations.

Zechariah 9:9-10





I will give you glory, O God my King. I will bless your name forever. I will bless you day after day and praise your name forever.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all creation.

All your creatures shall give you thanks. O Lord, and you friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God.

O Lord, you are faithful in all your works and loving in all your deeds. You, O Lord, support all who fall and raise up those who are bowed down.

### **Second Reading**



### Romans 8:9, 11-13

Brothers and sisters: You are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit that dwells in you. Consequently, brothers and sisters, we are not debtors to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Murray



### Gospel

At that time Jesus exclaimed: "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones. Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him."

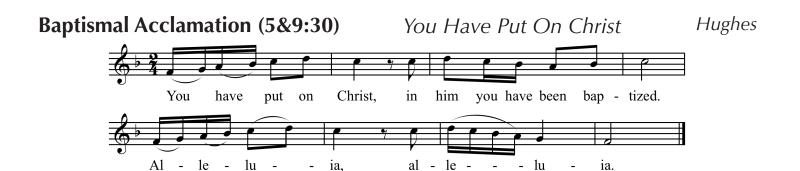
"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

Matthew 11:25-30



**Homily** 

Bob Grimm, S.J.

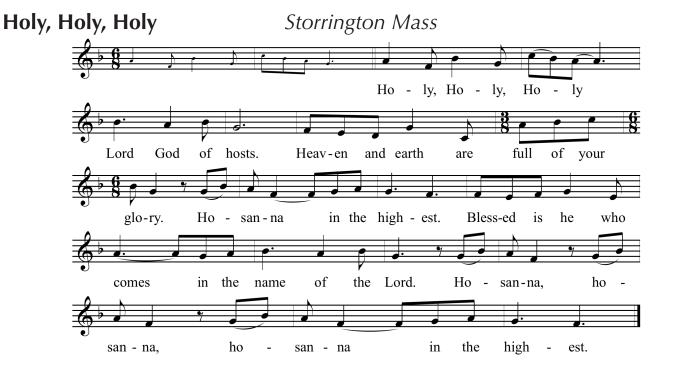


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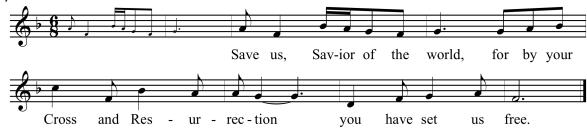
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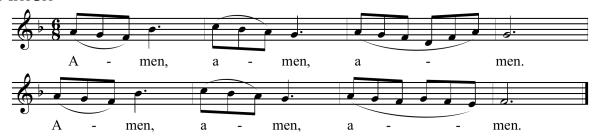




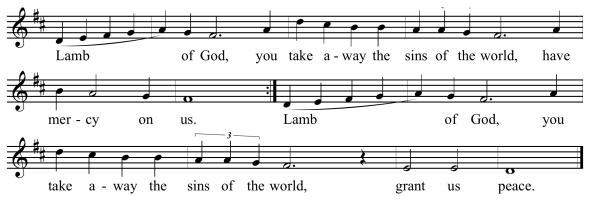
### **Mystery of Faith**



#### **Great Amen**



### **Lamb of God**



#### 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**

**Taste** 

### Communion Antiphon



Kelly



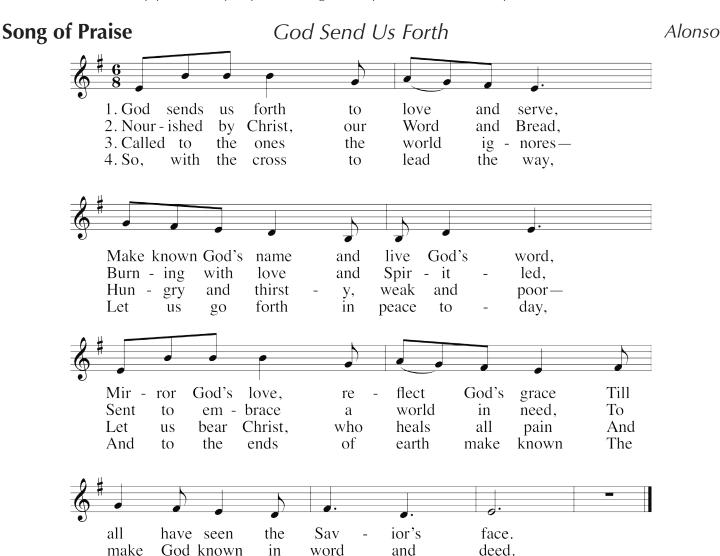




All who labor and are overburdened All who labor and are overburdened Let them come to me Come to me And I will give them rest

Take my yoke upon your shoulders Take my yoke upon your shoulders And learn from me, learn from me for I am gentle in heart

For the heart I hold is humble, yes the heart I hold is humble And my yoke is easy, my burden light And you will find rest for your soul



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# THIS WEEK AT ST. JOSEPH

Sunday

9:30 AM Mass

10:30 AM Coffee & Donuts - Join us!

5:30 PM Mass

6:30 PM BBQ on the Plaza - Join us!

Monday

7:00 AM Mass

7:00 PM Holy Rosary Group 7:00 PM Sacred Silence

**Tuesday** 

7:00 AM Mass 7:00 PM Yoga Wednesday

7:00 AM Mass

**Thursday** 

7:00 AM Mass

7:00 PM Tent City Forum on Homelessness

**Friday** 

7:00 AM Mass

**Saturday** 

3:30 PM Weekly Reconciliation

5:00 PM Vigil Mass



recovery from surgery.

# LITURGY AND WORSHIP

Prayer St. Joseph Community extends its Tree prayers and hopes for the following intentions: Thank you for making Tent City 3 a viable place . . . For those who are hurting from the pain and discomfort of sciatica, may they find relief . . . . . For Lola's recovery from two fractures . . . For the health and wellbeing of Patricia, Emilie, Kathy and Maia . . . For Callie's

"For I will restore health to you and Your wounds I will heal, Declares the Lord . . . ."

~Jeremiah 30:17

RIP

Earl Spangler whose funeral Mass is here Tuesday, July 11th at 4pm.

### **Baptism Families**

Please join us in praying for our families who have children receiving the sacrament of baptism this weekend.

The Coppess Family
The Hart Family
The Leitzelar Family

## **Online Bible Study**

Did you know that St. Joseph's has an Online Bible Study with reflections written by Parishioners? This is the perfect opportunity to make a little space in your busy week to read and pray with the Scriptures for the upcoming Sunday. Join our online community and allow your fellow parishioners to help deepen your prayer life through their reflections.

https://stjosephparishbiblestudy.wordpress.com/

## Come Pray With Us! Monday Night Prayer Groups

Join us in prayer on **Monday, July 10th at 7 pm.** There are two prayer groups meeting. Join our Sacred Silence prayer group in the church or come pray the Rosary in the Parish Center Chapel.

The Sacred Silence prayer group will gather in the church for an hour of silent prayer. Participants need to enter the church before 7 PM as the church is locked in the evening. For information, contact Jim Hoover at sacred-silence@stjosephparish.org or 206-286-0313.

Praying the Rosary can help us face the often harsh realities of life with hope and grace. People will help guide those who are just learning.

# Parish Life

# Marriage Enrichment Boat Cruise

Back by popular demand, St. Joseph Marriage Enrichment Summer Boat Cruise! FRIDAY AUGUST 25th - \$60/couple

Join us on the "My Girl" Charter Boat for a wonderful sunset cruise with your sweetheart!

BYOB.. BEVERAGES AND FOOD

Board: 7:00pm - Lake Union Public Pier by MOHAI

Setting sail: 7:30pm

Returning to port: 10:30pm

Max: 56 people

For Information contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjo-

sephparish.org or 206-965-1646.

# LGBTQ Ministry Summer Home Mass & Potluck

Thursday, July 13th at 6:00 pm

Please join the LGBTQ Ministry for a home mass and potluck in celebration of community and fellowship. We will be meeting at the home of Tee Earls and Troy Kaser; please bring your favorite side dish. An RSVP is appreciated as space is limited. Please email lgbt@stjosephparish.org to RSVP and for location address or for any other questions.

### **Parish Life Commission**

St. Joseph's Parish Life Commission is seeking new members. The Parish Life Commission strengthens the community of St. Joseph Parish by welcoming new members into the Parish, making current members feel welcomed through celebrations and social opportunities, and building and uniting various communities of life. We meet on five Monday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in the Parish Center. Meeting dates are: Sept. 11, Nov. 13, Jan. 8, March 5 and May 14. Ministries we currently support include Newcomers, LGBTQ, Young Adults, Seniors, Men's and Women's ministry, parish picnic, Ceili and We Are St. Joseph celebration. If interested please contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646. We are looking for 4-6 new members who can commit to either a 2 or 3 year term.

### **Seniors On The Go**

**Friday, July 21st** - Join us for a wonderful day exploring the North Cascades. Including lunch in the town of Newhalem and an afternoon boat cruise on Diablo Lake. \$25.00 per person including lunch. Leave from St. Joseph's Parish Center at 9:00 am and returning around 8 pm. Must sign-up and pre-pay by July 14th. To register contact Renee at 324-2522 or rleet@stjosephparish.org

**Friday, August 4th** - Healing Mass at 11:30 am. No luncheon.

## Young Adult Hike (21-35)

SATURDAY JULY 15TH

Location: Oyster Dome (Pacific NW Trail, Bow, WA 98232)

Details: Views of the San Juans and Samish Bay! A great opportunity for fellowship and celebrating Creation. Please bring your own snacks/water. We'll stop at a local restaurant to grub up after the hike!

Time: Meet at 8 am St. Joseph to carpool. We'll be back in Seattle around 4-5 pm.

Drivers: We are looking for 1-2 more drivers, so let us know if you're able to drive! Drivers need a Discover Pass—if you can't drive but do have a Discover Pass, please bring it along so a driver can borrow

For details email averyhaller@outlook.com

## **Young Adult Service Trip**

Wednesday, July 19, 7 pm, St. Joseph Parish Center

The St. Joseph Young Adult (YA) Community is hosting a service immersion trip to build homes in New Orleans October 18-22, 2017. The trip is 5 days and the \$1,075 cost includes airfare, lodging, meals, transportation and all service activities through our partners Shirts Across America and Habitat for Humanity. Join us for the Info Night where you can hear more about the trip, registration details, and the experiences of past participants. This is an incredible opportunity to build community with other young adults while serving the NOLA community that is still rebuilding. Come learn more! Pizza, salad, and refreshments will be provided. For more information contact Deacon Steve at 206 965 1646 or Katy Ryan at Katherinemryan@gmail.com

# TENT CITY AT ST. JOSEPH

## **Tent City Information**

If you want to help with tent city while they are our guests this summer, please email Deacon Steve at stevew@ stjosephparish.org to see how you can assist.

### Calendar of Events

Here is our current Calendar of events while Tent City is here and who to contact if you want to volunteer. Our goal is to have at least one parish sponsored event each week. If you have ideas for additional events and/or want to take the lead on hosting a dinner or other type of gathering, let me know at stevew@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646.

- Thursday, July 13th 7:00 8:30 pm Parish Center. Panel Conversation on Homelessness with Residents of TC3. Need folks to bring desserts to share! To help contact Kate Wise at k.wise@outlook.com
- Friday, July 21st 7:00 10:30 pm Parish Social Hall. Pizza and Movie Night. Need volunteers to get pizza from Costco, buy salad, beverages, snacks and desserts. To help contact john.v.kew.ii@gmail.com
- Wednesday, August 2nd 6:30 8:30 pm on the Plaza. Parish Barbecue to celebrate St. Peter Faber, S.J. Hosted by St. Joseph's Men's Ministry, we need help with set-up, cooking, serving and cleanup. Contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org to assist.

If you are willing to take the special Tent City cell phone, in case of emergency calls on evenings and weekends for a week or two this summer, please call or email Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org or (206) 965 - 1646. (Last summer we received a total of six calls, half were questions about donations!)

## Tent City 3 now has an Amazon Wish List!!: http://amzn.to/1Ukse66



# FAITH FORMATION



### Come and See What the Catholic Faith Has To Offer

Tuesday July 18th - 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - St. Joseph's Parish Center

- Are you, your spouse, a friend, or an acquaintance a member of another faith tradition but worship regularly here at St. Joseph's?
- Are you experiencing God's call in your life and seeking Baptism or full communion or Confirmation with the Catholic Church?
- If you are, please consider participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. The RCIA is an opportunity to explore with others what the Catholic Church has to offer. It is an opportunity, through a process of discernment and gradual conversion to become a full member of the Catholic Church.

If you are interested contact Deacon Steve Wodzanowski at 965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org
All are welcome in this journey of faith!

## **Shirts Across America Trip**

Please join us in praying in thanksgiving for a wildly successful trip that our High School youth group experienced in New Orleans. Participants include:

Will Battaglia
Matthew Broom
Matthew Campbell
Lauren Day
Jack Deane
Alina Gemza
Ashley Goodspeed
Jack Heffernan
Ava Klubberud
Dylan Murphy
Chiara Procaccio
Grace Stewart
Julia Weinand
Sean Wiley

Adult Leaders Sam Kennedy Terri Stewart Jen Wood



### The Dawn of Jesuits West

Jesuits West, the newest province of the Society of Jesus in the United States, came into existence July 1, standing ready to serve as a force for good to God's people in 10 Western states and beyond.

Under the stewardship of Provincial Father Scott Santarosa, SJ, and a cadre of Jesuit and lay leadership and volunteer partners, Jesuits West is a broad network of approximately 100 ministries and works which offers education through universities, high schools, and elementary and Nativity schools; Ignatian spirituality through parishes and retreat and spirituality centers; help and guidance to the poor and marginalized through social ministries; education and training for the next generations of Jesuit priests and brothers; and care of senior and infirm Jesuits who have dedicated their lives to the service of others.

The new province, which reunites the former California and Oregon provinces since their split up in 1932, will continue the Jesuit tradition of going to the margins of society to provide education, spirituality, and justice wherever it is needed.

"One of my hopes it that we can be more responsive to the Lord," said Fr. Santarosa, provincial of the former Oregon Province since 2014 and pastor at Dolores Mission Parish in Los Angeles prior to that. "We hope to be responsive to the needs presented to us by the world and by the people who are in need or suffering. My hope is that we can be nimble and ready at a moment's notice to serve." Source: Jesuitswest.org



# Get Behind Your Church Help Paint & Repair St. Joseph



### A Note From Our Pastor

I need your help.

In the last months, we have been working to raise the money to paint the exterior of St. Joseph Church and to perform the repairs that are needed after generations of use. Though later, during our second phase, we hope to make improvements that can allow us to better serve the needs of our parishioners, today's work it is as unglamorous—and essential—as insuring that the beautiful window in the north transept and at the west end of the nave (the crowning of Mary and the St. Cecilia windows, respectively) stay in place without further damage. It involves painting the church, which happens every three decades, and repairing leaks that threaten to damage the inside of the church during rain storms. It involves maintaining what has been handed on to us: a place beautiful and functional for the prayer and worship of our community and our children.

But we can't do it without you.

If you haven't had the chance to give yet, please do so now. If you can give \$500 or more, we still have matching funds available, but even if you can't—even if you can give \$5 or \$25 or \$50—please do it. It would mean so much more if the work we did was work supported by the whole community: a wonderful sign that we are together in this ministry and service.

So, no more lofty paragraphs, no more inspirational quotes, just this: we need your help, now. If St. Joseph has blessed you, think of blessing us back, in whatever way God moves you—I know that will be enough.

Whatever you decide, know of my prayers and thanks always.

Yours in the Lord,

John D. Whitney, S.J.

**Pastor** 

### To Give

To make your gift, please use the designated envelopes found in the pews, or go to our webwww.stjosephparish.org and the "Paint & Repair St. Joseph" picture link. For more information, please contact our Director of Advancement, Tina O'Brien at tinao@stjosephparish. org or (206) 965-1654.

### **Double your gift** Race to the Finish

Two new donors have graciously offered to continue to match gifts of \$500 or above, up to \$200,000! So don't miss this opportunity!

## Pope-Pourri

In October 2018, the Church will celebrate the Synod of Bishops on the theme: Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment. We will talk about how you, as young people, are experiencing the life of faith amid the challenges of our time. We will also discuss the question of how you can develop a life project by discerning your personal vocation, whether it be to marriage in the secular and professional world, or to the consecrated life and priesthood. It is my hope that the journey towards the World Youth Day in Panama and the process of preparation for the Synod will move forward in tandem.

Our age does not need young people who are "couchpotatoes"

According to Luke's Gospel, once Mary has received the message of the angel and said "yes" to the call to become the Mother of the Saviour, she sets out in haste to visit her cousin Elizabeth, who was in the sixth month of her pregnancy (cf. 1:36, 39). Mary is very young; what she was told is a great gift, but it also entails great challenges. The Lord assured her of his presence and support, yet many things remain obscure in her mind and heart. Yet Mary does not shut herself up at home or let herself be paralyzed by fear or pride. Mary is not the type that, to be comfortable, needs a good sofa where she can feel safe and sound. She is no couch potato! If her elderly cousin needs a hand, she does not hesitate, but immediately sets off.

It was a long way to the house of Elizabeth, about 150 kilometres. But the young woman from Nazareth, led by the Holy Spirit, knows no obstacles. Surely, those days of journeying helped her to meditate on the marvellous event of which she was a part. So it is with us, whenever we set out on pilgrimage. Along the way, the events of our own lives come to mind, we learn to appreciate their meaning and we discern our vocation, which then becomes clear in the encounter with God and in service to others.

The Mighty One has done great things for me

The meeting of the two women, one young and the other elderly, is filled with the presence of the Holy Spirit and charged with joy and wonder (cf. Lk 1:40-45). The two mothers, like the children they bear, practically dance for joy. Elizabeth, impressed by Mary's faith, cries out: "Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord" (v. 45). One of the great gifts that the Virgin received was certainly that of faith. Belief in God is a priceless gift, but one that has to be received. Elizabeth blesses Mary for this, and she in

turn responds with the song of the Magnificat in which we find the words: "The Mighty One has done great things for me".

Mary's is a revolutionary prayer, the song of a faith-filled young woman conscious of her limits, yet confident in God's mercy. She gives thanks to God for looking upon her lowliness and for the work of salvation that he has brought about for the people, the poor and the humble. Faith is at the heart of Mary's entire story. Her song helps us to understand the mercy of the Lord as the driving force of history, the history of each of us and of all humanity.

When God touches the heart of a young man or woman, they become capable of doing tremendous things. The "great things" that the Almighty accomplished in the life of Mary speak also to our own journey in life, which is not a meaningless meandering, but a pilgrimage that, for all its uncertainties and sufferings, can find its fulfilment in God. You may say to me: "But Father, I have my limits, I am a sinner, what can I do?" When the Lord calls us, he doesn't stop at what we are or what we have done. On the contrary, at the very moment that he calls us, he is looking ahead to everything we can do, all the love we are capable of giving. Like the young Mary, you can allow your life to become a means for making the world a better place. Jesus is calling you to leave your mark in life, your mark on history, both your own and that of so many others.

How to remain connected, following the example of Mary

It is said of Mary that she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. This unassuming young woman of Nazareth teaches us by her example to preserve the memory of the events of our lives but also to put them together and reconstruct the unity of all the fragments that, put together, can make up a mosaic. How can we learn to do this in practice? Let me offer you some suggestions.

At the end of each day, we can stop for a few minutes to remember the good times and the challenges, the things that went well and those that went wrong. In this way, before God and before ourselves, we can express our gratitude, our regrets and our trust. If you wish, you can also write them down in a notebook as a kind of spiritual journal. This means praying in life, with life and about life, and it will surely help you to recognize the great things that the Lord is doing for each of you.



## FAITH JUSTICE

## **Faith Justice Commission**

St. Joseph's Faith Justice Commission is seeking new members. The Faith Justice Commission builds a community of gospel love and care at St. Joseph by sharing information and promoting opportunities for parishioners to engage in direct service with those in need, assisting in those events or programs that build greater companionship with the poor or marginalized, and developing collaborative avenues of advocacy to transform structures of poverty and displacement. We meet on five Monday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in the Parish Center. Meeting dates are: Sept. 25, Nov. 20th, Jan. 22nd, March 19th, and May 21st. Ministries we currently support include St. Martin de Porres Shelter, Francis House and our Sister Parish in El Salvador to name a few. We also coordinate the Alternative Christmas Bazaar, Giving Tree, Epiphany Dinner and We are St. Joseph's Service Days. If interested please contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646. We are looking for 2-4 new members who can commit to either a 2 or 3 year term.



# OUR LOCAL CHURCH

## **Archdiocesan Planning Study**

The results of the planning study conducted by the Archdiocese are out. We've printed copies that are located in the back of the church if you would like to view the results.