Jesus came and touched them, saying, 
“Rise, and do not be afraid.”
And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone.

Agapé
2017
**Learning the Lesson of Joseph From Our Children**

_The Church without frontiers, Mother to all, spreads throughout the world a culture of acceptance and solidarity, in which no one is seen as useless, out of place, or disposable._

_-Pope Francis-

This last Tuesday, I drove up to Bellingham with Dottie Farewell—our Director of Religious Education—to meet those young people who had gone on the Agapé Service Retreat, sponsored by the Newman Center at Western Washington University. As usual, I was impressed by our 7th, 8th, and 9th graders, and enjoyed seeing their exuberance and their kindness, their budding adult responsibility and the vestiges of their childhood silliness. Although we got up to Bellingham too late to see them weeding a field of strawberries, I did get to see them work together to create a meal out of the food they had bought as families before we arrived. Each of the students had been given $1.50, and each was given a “family” with whom they pooled their money to create a meal for themselves. I was surprised by the wise choices they had made at the store—eggs, pasta, chorizo sausage, rice—and at their various levels of creativity in putting things together. Although I did get to contribute my expertise—i.e., how to clean a pan easily and how to poach an egg—for the most part they fended for themselves and discovered both how difficult it is to live on so little and how, together, they could create something wonderful.

But it was later, after they had eaten their early dinner and stored away the left-overs for an evening snack, that the most important part of the day occurred. Around 6:30 pm, we all headed out to the migrant camp, north of Bellingham, where young Hispanic women and men, with their families, lived in simple housing and worked from morning to night in the raspberry and blueberry fields of the region. In the camp to which we went, the student-volunteers began by leafletting the residences. Having memorized a simple Spanish phrase, groups of the young people went door-to-door, telling the parents and other adults—most of whom spoke little English—that there would be a food bank set up the following day. Yet, even before they finished their rounds, the other reason for this visit was apparent, as hoards of children gathered around the volunteers, following them, being lifted up and over them, and inviting them out to the play area along the road. Though some were hesitant at first, others of our students led the way—lifting up the small children in piggyback rides that earned squeals of delight, or sitting with them as they showed off their toys or played with the plastic beads the Agapé leaders had brought with them. In the center of the grass, across from the recently erected jungle gym and swing set, a free-for-all dodge ball game began with six or seven balls brought by other Agapé groups. It was a beautiful racket, that reminded me, for all the world, of lunchtime on the St. Joseph playground.

Moving aside from the whiz of the dodgeballs, I stood on the grass outside one of the housing structures, about four feet from the three port-o-potties that serviced this building, and spoke to a young woman holding a beautiful baby girl. Her English was weak and my Spanish virtually non-existent, yet she could see me smiling at her baby and understood that I was more than willing to become an idiot to make her daughter laugh. She smiled at me, then, as her daughter giggled a little at my funny sounds and faces. And when she let me hold little...
Elissa, we understood each other in a way beyond language and culture, beyond things like white privilege or immigration status—we understood each other as human beings; creatures of the same stock; children of the same history of sorrow and shame, joy and wonder. Bouncing the child in my arms, I felt nothing but love and admiration for her and her mother, and I thought of so many other places that I had been privileged to visit—the villages of Alaska and the islands of Micronesia, outside the walls of Bethlehem and in the hills near Cuernavaca—where women, just like this young mother, were raising happy, lovely children, and trying to give them a better life than they, themselves, had known. Though I had no idea of the mother’s immigration status nor how she had arrived in this country, as I handed back her daughter to her, I knew that such things did not matter at all. It is a grace that she is here, with her child, in a place where, despite prejudice and setbacks, that child might yet grow up free and become like the Agapé students whom I had come to visit; i.e., she might fulfill her gifts for the glory of God and the good of her community. And, thinking these thoughts, I felt, at the same time, a twinge of shame for not being able to stop the sins committed against those who come here—however they can—for the sake of such blessed daughters and sons.

Near the end of the book of Genesis, the story is told of the ten sons of Jacob (aka, Israel) who sell their brother, Joseph, into slavery, and then tell their father he has been killed by animals. Jacob, at home with his youngest son, goes into mourning at the loss, but carries on, caring for the family that remains. When a famine comes over the area where Jacob and his family live, he sends his older sons to Egypt to see if the Egyptians will help them survive. There the brothers meet Joseph, though they do not recognize him, so fully has he become part of the Egyptian power structure. But Joseph recognizes them, and after leading them to repentance, receives them back with love and joy, revealing to them, “I am Joseph, your brother.” Then, on behalf of the people of Egypt, he welcomes all the tribes of Israel—all the foreigners—into Egypt, where grain has been stored in anticipation of this famine. And the Egyptians join in that welcome. Despite the famine and despite the odd customs of the strangers, the Egyptians do not worry about their own security, nor about whether there will be enough grain to go around. Rather, they welcome these foreigners, and keep them among them, until fear of their numbers and of their loyalty turns the Egyptians against the sons of Jacob. And in that moment, when their hearts move from confidence to fear, from welcome to enslavement, the Egyptians doom themselves, becoming less than they once were, becoming not a people of hope but a nation of slave-drivers and prison guards. A nation already prepared to meet their destruction in the waters of the Red Sea, where anger and spite will draw them, and where God will wash away Pharaoh and all his chariots and all his charioteers.

Today, at this moment, women like those whose children played with our Agapé students are incarcerated in jails and prisons—euphemistically referred to as “detention centers”—for no other crime than seeking a better life for their daughters and sons. Like the sons of Israel, they have crossed the border not out of malice or hatred, but out of need and desire to keep their children alive, to prepare a way for their children to grow up strong and free, better off than they might be in their native land. Yet we, so different from Joseph, have not seen in them our brothers nor our sisters, but only scapegoats to be blamed and foreigners to be feared. We have sent out our own version of Pharaoh’s chariots and charioteers: armies of agents from Immigration Control and Enforcement (ICE), who have locked up fathers and mothers, daughters and sons, enslaving them in prisons or allowing them to be exploited because they cannot come out of the shadows. Today, in a land that once aspired to be the envy of the world, families are divided, communities are held hostage, women and men live in fear that some night, without warning, the forces of the United States government will break through their door or stop them in the street, and whisk them away to potentially years of “detention” and ultimate deportation. This is not because they are drug dealers nor criminal actors, not because they pose a threat to the government nor to the citizens of the United States, but only because we are afraid of them—afraid of their numbers and of their difference from “us” (or at least the “us” who control such policies). Like the Pharaoh who “knew not Joseph,” we assert that our fear-driven claims of sovereignty outweigh the unalienable rights we once affirmed—i.e., “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.” Thus, we call those who have come into our land “illegal,” and deprive them of the human rights of due process and legitimate representation. Yet, for all that we fear, can any of us imagine a law that would transcend the moral imperative that fathers and mothers feel for the well-being of their children? Who of us, fearing for our child’s life or safety, would not swim any river, cross any desert, pay-off any “coyote,” live under any shadow so that our daughter or son might grow up safe, free, and hopeful?

Watching the children of St. Joseph as they interacted with the beautiful and joyful children of the migrant workers, I felt honored to be with these students. Unassuming and compassionate, they sought no papers to offer their affection, but opened their hearts generously and played with their peers and with the younger children on the common ground of shared humanity. Why is it that adults cannot do the same? Why is it that our government manifests so much of the spirit of Pharaoh and so little of the wisdom of Joseph? Is it because our hearts have grown blind, or is it only that we will not see? And, if we follow Pharaoh, again, into the sea of ICE and anger, fear and recrimination, are we any less likely than the Egyptians to meet our doom at the hands of a just and loving God?
Entrance Songs

(5&9:30) What Is This Place
Hjuibers

1. What is this place where we are meeting? On-ly a house, the earth its floor,
2. Words from afar, stars that are falling, Sparks that are sown in us like seed.
3. And we accept bread at his table, Broken and shared, a living sign.

Walls and a roof sheltering people, Windows for light, an
Names for our God, dreams, signs and wonders Sent from the past are
Here in this world, dying and living, We are each other's

all we need. We in this place remember and speak A-
we are gathered here, And know our God is near.

What gain what we have heard: God's free redeeming word.
we need to increase: Our justice and God's peace.

(5:30) Be Still
Walker/Freeburg

1. Be still and know that I am God. You are my chosen one, to
2. Be still and know that I am God. You are my chosen one, I
3. Be still and know that I am God. You are my chosen one, to

whom my love I give. My life is yours, in you I live.
whom I show my ways. My love is with you all your days.

Be still, be still and know that I am God.

First Reading
As I watched:

Thrones were set up
and the Ancient One took his throne.
His clothing was bright as snow,
and the hair on his head as white as wool;
his throne was flames of fire,
with wheels of burning fire.
A surging stream of fire flowed out from where he sat;
Thousands upon thousands were ministering to him,
and myriads upon myriads attended him.
The court was convened and the books were opened.

As the visions during the night continued, I saw:

One like a Son of man coming,
on the clouds of heaven;
When he reached the Ancient One
and was presented before him,
The one like a Son of man received dominion, glory,
and kingship;
all peoples, nations, and languages serve him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion
that shall not be taken away,
his kingship shall not be destroyed.
Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 97

1. The Lord is king, let earth rejoice, let all the coastlands be glad. Justice and right, God's throne.

2. The skies proclaim God's justice; all peoples see God's glory. All you spirits worship the Lord.

3. For you indeed are the Lord most high above all the earth, exalted far above all spirits.

Second Reading
Beloved: We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that unique declaration came to him from the majestic glory, "This is my Son, my beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven while we were with him on the holy mountain. Moreover, we possess the prophetic message that is altogether reliable. You will do well to be attentive to it, as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9
Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother, John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone.

As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Homily
John D. Whitney, S.J.
Offertory Song

Transform Us

PICARDY

1. Transform us as you, transfigured, Stood apart on
   Ta-bor's height. Lead us up our sacred
   Lift us from where we have fallen,

2. Transform us as you, transfigured, Once spoke with those
   holy ones. We, surrounded by the
   Live in this world as your Body,

3. Transform us as you, transfigured, Would not stay with
   in a shrine. Keep us from our great temp-
   Lead us down those daily path-ways

Mountains, Search us with revealing light.
Witness Of those saints whose work is done,

Full of questions, filled with fright.
Chosen daughters, chosen sons.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Storrington Mass

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

Glo-ry. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who

Comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hos-

Mystery of Faith

Save us, Savor of the world, for by your

Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.
**Great Amen**

A - men, a - men, a - men.

A - men, a - men, a - men.

**Lamb of God**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

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**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.*

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**Communion Songs**

**Antiphon: We Long To See Your Face**  
*Kelly*

It is your face we seek, O Lord.

**Take and Eat #831**  
*Joncas*

Take and eat; take and eat: this is my body given up for you.

Take and drink; take and drink: this is my blood given up for you.
Song of Praise

You Are The Voice

Haas

This Week At St. Joseph

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

Monday
7:00 AM  Mass
7:00 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

Friday
7:00 AM  Mass

Saturday
3:30 PM  Weekly Reconciliation
5:00 PM  Vigil Mass
TENT CITY AT ST. JOSEPH

TENT CITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

• Thursday, August 17th, 6:30 pm dinner, 7pm music. St. Joseph’s Mexican Fiesta outside with music provided by Dusty Souls (our very own parishioners...Bob McCaffery-Lent, John Adams and Rob Carroll). Mark Busto and Mau-reen Lee are heading up the dinner. Please contact them if you want to help at mleebusto@comcast.net

• Monday, August 21st, 6:30 pm Farewell Dinner followed by Tent City 3 Night of Stars in the Parish Social Hall. TC3 residents participating in our Writers Group will be presenting their written stories, poems etc. Lisa Babinec is heading up the dinner. Please contact Lisa to help lbabinec@me.com

• Tent City Move-out Days – Friday August 25th and Saturday August 26th. Location TBD. Need volunteers on both days to take down the camp, load and unload trucks. More details to follow... For general inquiries, contact Deacon Steve 206-403-0910 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

TENT CITY 3 WISH LIST: Bottled Water, Razors (Men & Women), Velcro Strips, Deodorants (Men & Women), Shampoo/Conditioner, Paper Towels, Ground Coffee, Clorox Wipes/Soft Scrub, Laundry Soap/Softener, Breakfast Cereal, Milk/Orange Juice/Lemonade, Dog Food, New Undergarments (Men & Women all sizes), New Socks (Men & Women all sizes, Tents (10 X 10), Canned Meats (Tuna, Chicken etc.), Peanut Butter and Jelly, Fresh Fruits, Frozen Party-Size Entrees (Lasagna etc.) , Lunchmeat (Ham, Cheese, Salami, Turkey, Roast Beef etc.)

PLEASE DROP OFF ITEMS AT THE CAMP CHECK-IN TENT

FAITH JUSTICE

2017 Young Adult Immersion Trip With Shirts Across America

Wednesday, October 18th—Sunday, October 22nd, 2017—New Orleans, LA

Shirts Across America was created as a ministry of St. Joseph Parish in 2005. The Work: Shirts Across America has organized dozens of volunteer trips to New Orleans over the years. SAA will partner with Habitat for Humanity on this trip as we build homes along the Gulf Coast. The Lodging: The group will be staying in a small dorm setting, allowing you to build a thoughtful, close-knit community. The Cost: Cost of the trip is $1,075. This cost covers: airfare, ground transportation, housing, most meals, museum visit, and some entertainment.

Register Now! Registration & Deposit $550 (non-refundable)
Fri, September 8, 2017 Final Payment $525 Due (non-refundable)

Applications: Registration/Application and payment for the Young Adult Immersion Trip is available at www.ShirtsAcrossAmerica.org

One Parish, One Prisoner

St. Joseph has accepted an invitation from the Archdioce-se of Seattle to be a “pilot Church” for a new Prison Re-Entry program in collaboration with the Department of Corrections and Underground Ministries.

We are looking for parishioners to be part of our “RE-ENTRY SUPPORT TEAM”. If interested, please call Deacon Steve at 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

St. Joseph’s Refugee Task Force

Invites you to a viewing of “SALAM NEIGHBOR” followed by a Discussion with Nicki Smith, Executive Di-rector of the International Rescue Committee.

Tuesday August 22nd - 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Salam Neighbor is an award-winning film and campaign to connect the world to refugees. Immerse into the life of a Syrian refugee through the journey of Chris and Zach as the first filmmakers allowed to be registered and given a tent inside of a refugee camp. For more information contact Deacon Steve at 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org
**Marriage Enrichment Boat Cruise**  
Friday, August 25th - $60/couple  
Board: 7:00 pm  - Lake Union Public Pier  
Setting sail: 7:30 pm - Returning approx. 10:30 pm  
Max: 56 people  
For information contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646. To register: stjosephparish.org then click on the boat cruise tile.

**Seniors On The Go**  
Tuesday, August 22nd - RIDE THE DUCKS. Depart from Parish Center at 10:00 am, catch the 11:00 am tour followed by lunch at IVAR's on Lake Union. Return home around 2:30 pm. Cost $20.00 plus lunch. Must signup and pre-pay by August 8th. Contact Renee in the Parish Office 324-2522 or rleet@stjosephparish.org

**Friday, September 1st** - Healing Mass at 11:30 am. No luncheon.

**Men’s Ministry Day Hike**  
Saturday August 19th  
Red Pass via Commonwealth Basin (off Snoq Pass): ~10 miles round trip, ~2500 vertical. 7AM departure from St Joseph. Northwest Forest Pass required if you are driving. Please RSVP to Bill Fleming at billfl@live.com or Deacon Steve at 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

**St. Joseph Adult Faith Formation Presents**  
**Brats BBQ, Beer and Basics with John D. Whitney, SJ**  
Join fellow parishioners after the 5:30 Mass for a causal evening of brats, hamburgers, beer and other refreshments as we engage in a conversation with John D. Whitney, SJ around the basics of our faith. What do Catholics believe about heaven and hell? What is Eucharist? Why do Catholics baptize babies? Why do Catholics pray to Mary and the Saints? Why do Catholics not eat meat on Fridays in Lent? Please bring your questions and Father John will be delighted to answer them.

For further information or questions, please contact TheresaL@stjosephparish.org  
www.stjosephparish.org

**LGBTQ Ministry**  
Discover Liberation Theology - Jeanette Rodriguez PhD  
St. Joseph's Parish Center - Mother Teresa Rm  
Monday, August 14th from 7:00-8:30 pm  
Liberation Theology: What is it? Who began it? Why is it relevant today? Please join us. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

**Women’s Ministry**  
The Women's Ministry is holding a coffee connect on Saturday, August 12th at Tully’s on 19th Ave E from 10 - 11am. Please join us for an hour of lively conversation. Contact Sheila Marie at 206.251.7035 if you have any questions.

**Attention All Young Adults (21-35)**  
Please join us for our Quarterly Planning Meeting  
Tuesday August 22nd  
7-8:30pm in the Parish Center.  
Our goal is to plan out events for the next three months (Sept-Nov) Bring your ideas and feel free to invite a friend. Snacks will be provided. For more details contact Deacon at 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org
St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions: For Monica, Alicia, Debbie, Dan, Michael, Brenda and Alan who are facing chronic health challenges . . . For all to be safe during Seattle’s Seafair weekend and enjoy the festivities . . . A grateful thank you and appreciation to the youth and adults who participated in our Agape week in the Skagit Valley . . . Wonderful turn out for the summer Blood Drive, thank you for your support – it does make a difference.

“Call to me and I will answer you,
And will tell you the great and
Hidden things that
You have not known."

~Jeremiah 33:3

RIP
Michael Nall, father of Max and Nainoa, who died on July 24th.

Come Pray With Us!
Monday Night Prayer Groups

Join us in prayer on Monday, August 7th 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.

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/