Lent Week Two:

“Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.”
He was a Roman equestrian—a knight of the Samnite clan from the Ponti family (which is likely the source of his first name). Though never an important military or civil official, he had friends in the court of the Emperor Tiberius, and one of them, Sejanus, secured him an appointment at prefect (i.e., governor) of the occupied region of Judaea in the year 26. Yet, despite his ability to ingratiate himself with the powerful, Pilate was not a very good prefect, and managed to alienate both the Jews and the Samaritans in the course of his ten years in office. During the first months of his arrival in Jerusalem, he had religious images of the emperor hung throughout the city, even in the area around the Temple, and had coins minted which bore pagan religious symbols—actions which may have pleased his “base” but infuriated Jewish sensibilities and led to anger in the streets. It also made more difficult his primary responsibility: collecting the taxes upon which the Roman Empire depended. Later, when his sponsor, Sejanus, fell into disrepute in Rome, Pilate sought to keep his office by placating Jewish leaders in various ways—including using his authority to rid them of a particularly annoying young rabbi, who had come from the northern regions of Galilee to proclaim a message that challenged the Jews and the Samaritans in the course of his ten years in office. And while, according to the various gospel accounts, he sought to avoid responsibility for his actions—according to Matthew, washing his hands in a protestation of innocence—it is clear that the crucifixion could not have occurred without his active consent. Only the Romans had the authority and practice of crucifying their enemies and political dissidents—the Jews could only use stoning—and only the Roman governor could order the crucifixion of a public figure such as Jesus had become. Thus, for all the water and all the hand washing, it was only by Pilate’s choice that Jesus goes to the cross: a victim not only of the enmity of Temple authorities, but also of the craveness and pandering of Rome’s governor.

When I think of Pontius Pilate, I tend to see him as he is portrayed in the First Station, in the nave of St. Joseph Church: a well-fed, round-faced man, who enjoys the pleasures that come with his office and is willing to ignore the suffering of others if that suffering serves his desire for power and privilege. There he sits on his seat of judgment, his
foot resting on a small red pillow, suggesting his love of luxury, and his Roman toga covered by a military breastplate, suggesting the twin powers of war and government that he holds so close to his heart. At Pilate’s side, ignored because she is not worthy of notice, is a kneeling slave girl, who holds the bowl in which the great man washes his hands and who has, on her face, a look of sorrow for what she is witnessing. Meanwhile, before him—his head bowed low, but his posture strong—stands Jesus, the prisoner, the enemy of those Pilate wants to please, and the means by which Pilate might calm the riots that threaten his standing in Rome. Yet, it is Pilate’s face I most remember: the face which holds neither cruelty nor understanding, but stares at Jesus with a crinkled brow and emotionless eyes, as though the man before him were just another piece of bureaucratic business that needs to be dealt with before he can end his day.

I have often wondered if Lance Wood Hart, the artist who created the Stations of the Cross for St. Joseph and who had studied in Europe throughout the 1920’s, had anyone in particular in mind when crafting the likeness of Pilate, or if, like many artists, he was simply attuned to the forces that were already arising in the culture when he created the piece in 1929. For this image seems to me to evoke less a Roman governor of the 1st century than it does a bureaucrat of the 20th or 21st—one of those small-minded, cold-hearted people who make authoritarianism work, and whom Hannah Arendt describes in Eichmann in Jerusalem with the phrase “the banality of evil.” Such individuals have none of the heroic proportions one finds in the villains of literature. Rather, they present themselves in the world as mere functionaries of the state (or party, or religion, or movement, or whatever) destroying lives not by the grandeur of their evil intent, but through their apparently mindless obedience and adherence to the role given them by the “system”—a system whose virtue or viciousness is not their concern. Their mantra, “I was just following orders,” or, “I was just enforcing the law,” seems to exonerate them from personal responsibility, reducing their barbarism to mere bureaucracy, and masking their ambition behind the anonymity of policy. This is the Pilate whom Wood portrays in this First Station—a creature of the modern world, who looks at Jesus as a problem to be solved, and sends him to the cross not because he is guilty but because that is what the people want (and that is what will garner Pilate a few more points in the polls).

I have been thinking a great deal about Pontius Pilate during these days of Lent, especially as I have walked up and down the nave of St. Joseph, praying the Stations of the Cross, and I have come to see his face throughout our wounded and broken culture. On the evening newscasts and the weekend talk shows, the voice of Pilate calls us to close our hearts to the humanity of the other and to retreat into tired stereotypes and bland abstractions. And so often we do, become little Pilates ourselves, sitting on our thrones of privilege and judgment, even as we claim to have no power. We wash our hands of the blood of Syrian refugees whom we let drown in the Mediterranean, or of Pakistani civilians who become the “collateral damage” for our war on terror. We turn our children and our fellow citizens over to death because we claim we are powerless to stop gun violence. We serve systems of disenfranchise-ment, because the Supreme Court has equated money with speech or because we fear that speaking out may get us fired. And all this time, Jesus stands before us, sentenced to death by our fear and by our weakness.

This Monday, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops asks all Catholics and other women and men of goodwill to contact their representatives in Congress and in the White House to demand action on legislation that will protect so-called Dreamers: i.e., those covered by DACA, who came to this country as minors and have never known another home. In taking this action, women and men of faith seek to break the power of Pilate in our hearts and in our nation, to reject the notion that we are doomed by policies and laws that have nothing to do with justice, nothing to do with the value of human life. Though the letter of the law condemns the presence of these young people, the Truth—which is greater than any statute—recognizes that their situation is unique and worthy of special protection and a path to citizenship. It is a Truth that Pilate cannot understand, yet a Truth incarnate in the person of Christ, who testifies to it with his very body and blood. If we are his, we cannot wash our hands of these women and men; we cannot sit in the chair of Pilate, thinking only of our own interests and the abstractions of the law. No. We must not be passive, but must act with love, with courage, with hope, and with ceaseless devotion. For it is Jesus who stands before us today, accused though innocent, facing death though deserving life—and no amount of water can wash us clean if we do not speak for him and stand with him in this time of trial.

John 19

St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions: For Linda who is recovering from a fall . . . For friends who have moved into new surroundings . . . For a caretaker’s upcoming trip . . . For our children to be safe.

“Look after your work, doing it with enthusiasm, humility, competency, passion and with a spirit that knows how to thank the Lord.”

~ Pope Francis
I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault.

Therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.
First Reading

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, “Abraham!” “Here I am!” he replied. Then God said: “Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you.”

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD’s messenger called to him from heaven, “Abraham, Abraham!” “Here I am!” he answered. “Do not lay your hand on the boy,” said the messenger. “Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son.” As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 116

I trusted, even when I said, “I am sorely afflicted.”

How precious in the eyes of the LORD is the death of his faithful.

Your servant, LORD, your servant am I, the son of your handmaid; you have loosened my bonds.

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make; I will call on the name of the LORD.

My vows to the LORD I will fulfill before all his people, in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem.
Second Reading
Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God’s chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died—or, rather, was raised—who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

Gospel Acclamation

Lenten Acclamation

Vermulst

Gospel

Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

Homily

Julian Climaco, S.J.

(9) Rite Of Reception and Confirmation

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Berthier

(9) Choral: Jam Christe Sol Justitiae

Chant/Young

O Jesus, shining like the sun, your light is hope to everyone.
Help us to turn our hearts your way. Jam Christe Sol Justitiae. (Now, Christ Sun of Justice)

Jam Christe Sol Justitiae you change our darkest night to day.
Transfigure us with your true light. O Sun of Justice, Jesus Christ.
The Cross Of Jesus

1. Come, O God, re-new your peo-ple, We who long to see your face.
   Strengthen hearts that have grown fee-ble;
   Fill our lives with truth and grace. Only you can win our freedom;
   Holy, Holy, Holy
   Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord God of hosts. Heavy and earth are full of your glo-ry.

2. Deep with in cre-ate a new heart; Melt a-way the win-ter chill.
   Help us now to make a new start,
   Help us now to know your will. Washed in wa-ters of for-giveness,
   Hosanna in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

3. In the dark-ness that sur-rounds us We have lost you from our sight.
   Even though your love has found us,
   We embrace the powers of night. Scatter now our deep-est dark-ness.
   Hosanna in the high-est.

   Through the pow-er of your Spir-it,
   Strengthen us in our com-mu-nion,
   Mystery of Faith
   When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro-claim your Death, O Lord,
   un-til you come a-gain.
Great Amen

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

(9) I Receive The Living God

Geoffroy/Clement OSB

Take, O Take Me As I Am

Bell/Carroll
Mercy, O God

Mercy, O God, have mercy on us. Send down your mercy to set us free. Mercy, O God, have mercy on us.

Send down your mercy to set us free.

1. Gather the people, the children the elders,____
2. Now is the hour, the day of salvation;____
3. Long is the journey and steep are the mountains,____
4. Wash us anew in your life-giving water;____
5. Once lost in darkness you did not forsake us, but____
6. Wake, O sleeper, awake from your slumber;____

come now and gather before the Lord.
coming now is the time to return to God.
come now and guide us, O gracious God.
come quench the thirst of our yearning hearts.
called us your children and gave us light.
rise from the chains of the dark, cold tomb.

O open your hearts to compassion and mercy,
O open your lives to forgiveness and mercy;____
Show us your face, give us hope for the journey;____
Break through the silence, the fear and the long ing;____
O open our eyes, come remove all our blindness;____
Walk in the light of compassion and mercy;____

O open your hearts to the Lord.
O open your lives to the Lord.
Lead us to walk in your love.
brace us with unending love.
O open our eyes to your love.
Walk in the light of the Lord.
**Song Of Praise**

1. Transform us as you, transfigured, Stood apart on
   Tabor's height. Lead us up our sacred
   mountains, Search us with revealing light.

2. Transform us as you, transfigured, Once spoke with those
   holy ones. We, surrounded by the
   witnessed Of those saints whose work is done,

3. Transform us as you, transfigured, Would not stay with
   in a shrine. Keep us from our great temple
   of time and truth we quickly bind,

   Lift us from where we have fallen,
   Live in this world as your body,
   Full of questions, filled with fright.

   Chosen daughters, chosen sons.
   Where our love is not confined.

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**Recessional**

(5,11&5:30) Tilling of the Bell

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**PICARDY**
This Week At St. Joseph

Sunday
9:00 AM Mass
10:00 AM Coffee & Donuts - Join us!
11:00 AM Mass
5:30 PM Mass

Monday
7:00 AM Mass
7:00 PM Sacred Silence Prayer Group
7:00 PM Rosary Prayer Group

Tuesday
7:00 AM Mass
7:00 PM Yoga

Wednesday
7:00 AM Soup & Stations
5:30 PM Soup & Stations

Thursday
7:00 AM Mass

Friday
7:00 AM Mass
11:00 AM Stations of the Cross
11:30 AM Anointing Mass

Saturday
3:30-4:30 PM Reconciliation
5:00 PM Vigil Mass
St. Joseph’s Annual  
St. Patrick’s Day Party  
Saturday, March 10th, 6 pm

Join us for a delicious dinner, cold libations, wonderful music & festive dancing!

Online registration is open, get your tickets now! www.stjosephparish.org

Cost is $25.00 per adult & $10.00 per child (children 2 and under are free)

A delicious menu of corned beef, cabbage, potatoes and macaroni & cheese. All beverages are included in ticket.

Party Highlights Include:
Music by Dusty Strings
Dancing by Tara Academy
A Cake Walk for dessert
Fun prizes for the kiddos

Volunteers needed, please contact martim@stjosephparish.org with questions or to volunteer.
Olivia Woodford is an actress, storyteller, director of Healing Theatre and a member of The Network of Storytellers, Int’l.

Founder of Bible Women Speak, Olivia tours her five original one-woman plays throughout the U.S. and internationally. She facilitate retreats focused on Women of the Bible and the cultural/historic context of the time Jesus lived.

She has a BFA in Theater from Boston University, has performed in regional and off-Broadway theaters and has taught theatre in public and private schools and to. As an artist, she is dedicated to nurturing the sacred in to people’s lives.

BibleWomenSpeak.com

St. Joseph’s Women’s Ministry invites you to our Lenten Day of Reflection featuring Olivia’s performance of her one-woman play “The Heart of the Cross.” Her presentation will transport us back in time to the foot of the Cross to experience Jesus’ Death and Resurrection through the eyes of the women who witnessed these events.

The performance will be presented in in three sections. Between each section, we will discuss related scripture and explore the role of women in Jesus’ ministry. Contemplation and discussion time will focus on how the faith of Veronica, Mary Magdalene, Jesus’ Mother Mary, and Martha inspire us and how their lives and actions are meaningful to our life today as Christian women.

Come join us in awakening the spirit of the Lenten season in our hearts and minds as we engage the love, faith, and compassion of of the gospel women and the personal awakenings they experienced from being close to Jesus.

Breakfast and Lunch included

Cost: $30 (scholarships available)

RSVP at www.stjosephparish.org

Questions? Email women@stjosephparish.org

Saturday, March 17
9:00 am—4:00 pm
Arrupe Room, Parish Center
**Parish Life**

**Women’s Ministry**

“Guilt-Free Mama”

A MOM’s gathering for Lent.
Friday nights Mar 2nd & Mar 9th
Join us, even if you missed the first gathering.
6:30 – 7:00 pm Meet & Greet
7:00 – 8:30 pm Program
No fee! Join us in the parish center!
Questions or to RSVP women@stjosephparish.org

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**Seniors On The Go**

**Friday, March 2nd** - Anointing Mass at 11:30 am in the church. Join us for a Lenten lunch after Mass!

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**LGBTQ Ministry Social**

Join St. Joseph's LGBTQ Ministry for happy hour on the first Monday of the month. On **March 5th**, we will be at Liberty Bar (517 15th Ave E) from 5-7pm. All are welcome and encouraged to join us. And remember, **Happy Hour is the Best Hour.** For more information, please contact lgbt@stjosephparish.org

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**Men’s Ministry**

Please join members of the St. Joseph Men’s Ministry on **Tuesday, March 6th at 6:45 am** in the school auditorium for breakfast featuring Robbie Bach, who will speak about his days leading Microsoft’s Xbox division while balancing a life of faith, family and service. Q&A to follow. All are welcome to attend, but please RSVP to Leslie Bartlett at lbartlett@stjosephsea.org by Friday, March 2.

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**Liturgy and Worship**

*This Lent, try adding the Stations of the Cross to your Lenten prayer life. We have two opportunities each week to pray this devotion. Wednesday evenings at 5:30 pm and Friday at 11:00 am.*

**Stations of the Cross at St. Joseph**

The devotion known as the “Way of the Cross” or “Stations of the Cross” began around the 4th century, as pilgrims—led by the Emperor Constantine’s mother, Helena—began to visit Jerusalem and seek out the places of Jesus’ suffering and death. Later, the road through Jerusalem became known as the “Via Dolorosa” (“Way of Sorrow”). But many could not visit Jerusalem, and in the 17th century, the Pope gave the Franciscans the right to establish miniature stations, in imitation of the Via Dolorosa, in their own churches. Eventually, these stations were narrowed down to the 14 stations we know today, and became part of most churches in Western Christianity—designed to lead pilgrims along the way of Jesus’ death, and leave them ready for his resurrection at Easter.

The Stations of the Cross in St. Joseph Church, created by Lance Wood Hart (who also did the church’s mosaics), were part of the original design of the church, and feature a combination of painted glass and oil over gold and silver backgrounds. Walking these stations, up and down the nave of the church, one takes a journey both of the feet and of the heart, from the judgment seat of Pilate to the tomb of Joseph of Arimethea—as Jesus lets go of everything, entering even into death on the cross, all for love of us.
Lent at St. Joseph

Rice Bowl Collection
Fast, Pray & Give this Lent with the Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl

ENCOUNTER CESIA
We encounter Cesia in Nicaragua, where, despite a lack of economic opportunity, young people pursue their dreams by building businesses to better their lives. How can you work to improve the lives of others this Lent? How can you support those worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

New Program This Year - Soup & Stations
Join us every Wednesday at 5:30 pm in the church to pray in the footsteps of Jesus. Then stay and join us for a simple soup supper and fellowship. No need to RSVP, just show up. Every Wednesday in Lent.

Pray the Stations of the Cross
Every Wednesday at 5:30 pm & every Friday at 11:00 am. All are in the church.

Women’s Ministry MOM’s Group Series
Fridays - March 2 & March 9 - 6 pm in the Parish Center

Women’s Ministry Lenten Day of Reflection
Saturday, March 17th - Register online at www.stjosephparish.org

Novena of Grace - 9 Days of Grace
March 7th to the 15th - Presented by the Ignatian Spirituality Center

Men’s Ministry Mass & Potluck
Friday, March 23rd - 6 pm in the Parish Center

Parish Reconciliation Service
Saturday, March 24th - 12 pm to 4 pm

"In the face of so many wounds that hurt us and could lead to a hardness of heart, we are called to dive into the sea of prayer, which is the sea of the boundless love of God, in order to experience his tenderness."

~Pope Francis
Candidates

My name is Emily Donaldson, I came to Seattle in 2014 to purse my PhD in Educational Leadership, Organizations, and Policy at the UW—which I plan to finish in Spring 2019. I grew up in a United Methodist church in Portland and was an active member of Methodist congregations throughout college and my young adult life. The community and open-heartedness of the Methodist church always felt right to me, but the depth of the liturgy and spirituality often left me wanting as I got older. When I moved to Seattle, I asked my partner (now fiancé!), Tim, a lifelong active Catholic, to find a parish in Seattle he “thought I would appreciate” for us to attend when he was in town (he still lives in Portland). He suggested we try St. Joseph because of its Jesuit roots and we’ve never visited another Seattle parish. Still it has taken me years to stop resisting the notion of “having to do” RCIA in order to be able to fully participate in mass. But I kept coming because you—the community of St. Joseph—kept buoying me with your relentless focus on social justice, inclusivity, and actively living your faith. It wasn’t until I started planning to move back to Portland this summer that I realized it may be a long time before I find such a vibrant, fitting parish again. RCIA at St. Joseph’s has re-engaged my faith and has continually shown me a hope-filled image of the Catholic Church that, finally, feels like home.

My name is Kim Gualdoni and I have lived in Seattle for almost 30 years now. I moved here from Phoenix after graduating from the University of Arizona (go Wildcats!). I love the Pacific Northwest, but I do miss the desert heat and sunshine. My daughter is in the 2nd grade at St. Joseph Catholic School, which has been the catalyst in opening my eyes, mind, and heart to God and Catholicism. My husband was raised Catholic, but we did not baptize our daughter at birth. Her genuine interest in religion and the church has been inspiring, and I’m excited to be joining her on this journey. I am touched and blessed by the outpouring of love and support from my family and friends. Every day is a step forward in the deepening of my faith journey with God. I am so lucky!

My name is John Lehmann and I grew up outside of Boston, MA. I went to school in Virginia, worked in New York City for a few years after graduation and then made my way out to Seattle four years ago to see about that “west coast life”. I have lived in Fremont since I moved here and work for Amazon. I decided to join RCIA to better understand the nuances of the Church and how the aspects of the dogma and canon might help me better connect with my own faith. I was baptized as a teenager in an Episcopalian church but fell out of regular attendance once I went to college. I started attending Mass with my Catholic girlfriend, (who is also my sponsor). We both felt we could deepen our relationship through a common understanding of our faith beliefs. I chose St. Joseph thanks to two friends who went through RCIA last year and spoke highly of the staff, the process and the teachings here. I feel that I’m only at the beginning of my spiritual journey after finishing RCIA, but that’s exciting - and I’ve learned that discernment and personal reflection are important pillars in the Catholic faith. Thank you for welcoming me to the community!

My name is Barbara Trentalange. My daughter’s first word was “God”. Having grown up in a non-religious household, I paid attention to her unusual choice of first word. When she showed continued interest in the beautiful tall white building in our neighborhood, I enrolled her in Sunday school. Sunday school eventually led to her enrollment at St. Joseph’s school. The St. Joseph community has been incredibly welcoming and supportive to our family. What began as a quest to find the right spot for my daughter has turned into my own spiritual journey through RCIA. I look forward to gathering each week with the RCIA group to have in-depth conversations about Catholicism, spirituality and faith with other like-minded individuals. I am thankful, through my daughter, God led me to this wonderful community.
Faith Justice

Confirmandi

My name **Kathryn Gaffney**, I was born in Portland, OR and raised in Vancouver, WA. I grew up in the St. James and Our Lady of Lourdes Parishes, where I participated in the sacraments of baptism, reconciliation, and first communion. I’ve lived in Seattle for just shy of a decade and have been working in the gaming and web services industries for six of those years. I earned both my undergraduate (BA, sociology) and graduate (MBA) degrees from Seattle University; the Jesuit tradition is incredibly important to me. In my free time, I enjoy hiking, traveling, reading, movies, cheering for the Seahawks, and spending time with friends and family. One of my first memories of Seattle involved visiting St. Joseph's as a child, as my aunt and uncle were members of the parish, so it holds a special place in my heart. I am excited, honored, and humbled to be participating in the sacrament of confirmation at St. Joseph’s Parish.

My name is **Alison Jones**. I am originally from Bellingham, WA, and am part of a large (93 and counting) Catholic family. My great act of rebellion in High School was skipping Confirmation, which didn't work out too well, since I still went to Notre Dame for college and lived in a convent in NYC for a year after graduating. I now live in Ballard and work at the Gates Foundation, where my focus is on reducing infant and child mortality rates. I was inspired to pursue confirmation at this particular time because of the election of Pope Francis and his vision for a merciful and compassionate Church that serves as a field hospital for the world. I am grateful for the community at St. Joseph, and the people I have met through RCIA, who show me that a deeper engagement with the Church and each other can provide hope, understanding, and inspiration to continue to pursue the common good.

My name is **Carolyn Kading**. I grew up in Sammamish, WA. Attended Gonzaga University in Spokane. I am now at a tech company in recruitment. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with family and close friends. Hobbies are: cooking, writing, reading and being outdoors either running or hiking. I attended St Joseph for the first time in November 2015 and felt a sense of belonging to a church community. Learning more about Catholicism, in juxtaposition with knowledge of the Jesuits from Gonzaga, reaffirmed my desire to join the Catholic Church and be a parishioner at St Joseph. The choice to become Catholic has remained steady since I joined RCIA and I look forward to meeting more members and furthering my roots in this community!

My name is **Grace Sutherland**. I live in Magnolia and work at glassybaby. My family and I have been a part of St. Joseph Parish ever since I was young when my sisters and I attended St. Joseph School from kindergarten to 8th grade. I decided to participate in RCIA because I wanted to renew my relationship with God. One thing I have learned through the process is that everybody experiences God and the Holy Spirit differently and that your relationship is not always black and white. Having attended Catholic school from kindergarten to senior year, I was under the impression of strict rules and guidelines to “being a Catholic”. I have learned that this is definitely not the case and that gives me hope. The Catholic Church is much more accessible than I once believed to be true.

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**Special Meeting On Immigration**

**Monday February 26th - 7:00pm - Parish Center**

St. Joseph’s Faith Justice Commission in consultation with Fr. John is preparing a letter and action plan in response to the current debate on immigration policy. We specifically are researching how we as a parish can accompany our Immigrant brothers and sisters, educate ourselves on the issues and act as advocates using the principles of Church Social Teaching. If you want to join our efforts and have ideas on how to accomplish these goals, please join us. Information, contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646.
Please participate in the Call-in Day to Congress on Monday, February 26, 2018! Your advocacy is critical to help the nearly 1.8 million Dreamers, young people who were brought into the United States by their parents as children. They may face deportation as soon as March 6, unless Congress reaches a bi-partisan deal to protect them. Please follow these easy steps to help:

1. Please call 855-589-5698 to reach the Capitol switchboard, and press 1 to connect to your Senators. Once you are connected to each Senator’s office, please ask the person on the phone to deliver this simple message:

“I urge you to support a bipartisan, common-sense, and humane solution for Dreamers:

- Protect Dreamers from deportation and provide them with a path to citizenship.
- Reject proposals that undermine family immigration or protections for unaccompanied children.
- As a Catholic, I know that families are not “chains,” but a blessing to be protected.
- Act now to protect Dreamers, our immigrant brothers and sisters.”

2. Please call 855-589-5698 a second time to reach the Capitol switchboard again, and press 2 to connect to your Representative. Once you are connected to the Representative’s office, please ask the person on the phone to deliver the same message as above.

After completing your call, please go to http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org to learn more about Dreamers and find other ways to voice your support.
Faith Formation

Summer Service Learning Camp

Calling all current 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th graders! Do you want to make a difference in your community? Come join us for St. Joseph’s Camp Give Back, June 25-29, 2018 from 9 am-3 pm. Throughout the week, campers will participate in community service and reflection, developing empathy for the poor and marginalized. They will leave the week feeling empowered to make change, and put faith into action. Questions? Contact Julie Tilghman at julietilghman@gmail.com

Pathfinders NEW Summer Service Learning Trip to Hillsborough, OR

St. Joseph Parish is planning a trip to Hillsborough, OR to participate in a new service learning experience called “Just5Days.” Just5Days is a five-day service program where you will be involved in direct service to those in need as you also learn about your faith. The trip is from June 25 thru June 29 and open to current 6th, 7th, & 8th grade students. Contact Dottie Farewell for additional information and an application form at dfarewell@stjosephparish.org