Be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us as a sacrificial offering to God.
Friends: in the midst of summer, I am caught between weddings and funerals (and too hot weather), so this week I dip into the archives. Reading over this article from 2014, it struck me as still important and true—a thought to recall amid all the rancor and accusation of the current age. I will have a new article next week, but hope you can enjoy this one in the last weeks of a beautiful summer. Blessings, John, SJ

The Particularity of Grace

Love, love, love, says Percy. And run as fast as you can along the shining beach, or the rubble, or the dust.

Then go to sleep. Give up your body heat, your beating heart. Then, trust.

-Mary Oliver (Percy is her dog)-

Sitting outside of Tully’s on a warm summer morning, bemoaning the truly disordered condition of the world, I felt my heart sink deeper and deeper into despair. In Gaza, another verse of the same old song seems determined to be sung, as hapless, enraged Palestinians, filled with self-destructive anger, launch missiles into Israel that almost never reach a target; while Israeli jets, with strategic precision and American technology, bomb civilian centers, killing hundreds in a quest for a few. On the southern border of the United States, those blessed by peace and power chant to return refugee children to dangerous and impoverished homelands, without so much as a hearing, on the questionable premise that mercy or even justice only encourages such refugees. In Iraq, the bloody aftermath of a misbegotten war continues to polarize and to punish those who have never had a voice, have never arisen one day in a world where they were something other than obstacles in the path of violent men. And in the streets and lonely apartments of our cities, each day, dozens of veterans take their lives in despair of ever truly returning home. The litany of sorrow rolls on: from bishops in Minnesota still hiding records of pedophilia and abuse of power, to members of Congress encouraging lawsuits but never getting around to legislation. In our own community, cancer seems too much with us, while other diseases—from depression to Alzheimer’s—seem to mock us from the shadows. Great problems, vast and seemingly insoluble, wash across the table in the sun. What can even the warmest of days do for us, in the face of so much suffering?

But just then, a small dog scurries beneath the table, his pointed ears shifting—one up, one down, both up, both down—as he sniffs purses and book bags, apparently convinced we are holding out on him. Looking up, his brown eyes are full of expectation and joy, his tongue, slightly out, panting. He knows nothing but this moment. For him, there is no global powers nor spheres of influence, no epidemic of cancer nor sexual abuse crisis: there is only this day and these smells, only the hands that pet or are licked for salt or some crumb left from the morning coffee-cake. He is pure and present, fulfilling the end for which he was created. He praises God by his joy at being the dog he is.
In our media-saturated age, we can drown in the statistics of horror: the hundreds dead in Palestine, the thousands trapped on the border. Feeling small against the flood of data, we cling to our judgments or are swept away in our sense of powerlessness and despair. Those involved in these stories are distant, almost imaginary figures, like pedestrians viewed from the top of the Empire State building; and we speak of them and their situations in generalities or apply to them some universal principles—abstract ideas created to contain this group, that region, “those” people. Yes, though we can feel rage or sympathy, spurred on by pundits and television’s talking heads, in truth, the sheer magnitude makes difficult any real connection with the people of these groups. All we hear are harrowing statistics, awful reports, stunning stories; yet, none of the people spoken of in these stories is as real to me as this dog, licking my hand, nuzzling my shoe.

The wonder of the Incarnation of God in Jesus is not that God became “Man” but that God became this man. God enters our world as a particular person, complex and beautiful, able to laugh and able to suffer. He was not a statistic nor a people, but a person as real and particular as any one of us. And it was in all the complexity of his own unique life that the mystery of salvation came to be—a truth as profound for each of us as it is for Christ. For while it may be important at times to think abstractly, to note the movement of refugees and the course of nations, we live in the beautiful and, sometimes, heartbreaking reality of a particular world.

When we think only of generalities, of refugees or Palestinians or Israelis or Tea-Partiers, we risk losing what is most glorious about the world in which God has placed us. It is a particular world and we are particular to it. Immeasurably precious in our own identity, our own personhood, our own weird and wondrous life.

Likewise, each of those who dies in Palestine has a particular name and story: he was born in a particular bed, to parents who loved him and got angry with him when he yelled in the house; he had a face he made that would make his little sister laugh, and his hand was warm when you touched it—though sticky when he ate pomegranates. And, each of the children picked up from Honduras is one person: she has her own smile, the teeth a little crooked and gapped because she has never seen a dentist; she has a little scar above her lip from the time she fell as a toddler, and she still weeps when she thinks about the grandmother who used to hold her hand. These particular persons, like us, are composed of webs of relationships, of that unique, enfleshed series of joys and of troubles that is human life.

Thinking of such particular persons can—some say—distort our objectivity; yet, it is the kind of distortion God has when looking at each puppy and paramecium, each tree and each of us. It is a distortion that allows you and I to be loved uniquely, even as all of us are loved completely. Perhaps such a distorted vision, built less on principles than on the grace of living in this moment and receiving each person in her or his own identity, does not create a clear and distinct ideology; yet, it may just make us—each of us—slightly more like God.

Originally published on 20 July 2014

Praying The Examen With Deacon Steve

Wednesday August 22nd
7:00pm – 8:15pm
St. Joseph’s Parish Center

One way to examine life is "the examen of consciousness", a popular method of prayer from St Ignatius Loyola and his followers. The Daily Examen is a technique of prayerful reflection on the events of the day in order to detect God’s presence and discern God’s direction for us. The Examen is an ancient practice in the Church that can help us see God’s hand at work in our whole experience.

Please RSVP to Deacon Steve at 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org
Welcome to St. Joseph. Please take a moment to silence your cell phones.

As We Gather At Your Table

1. As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word. Help us know, O God, your presence; let our life. Send us forth to love and serve you, bringing feast. Where triumphant love will welcome those who hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred story till we peace where there is strife. Give us, Christ, your great compassion to for claim it as our own. Teach us through this holy pride our peace destroy; As we join with saints and banquet how to make love's victory known. Image in the world you died to save. Angels to repeat the sounding joy.

(5:30) Eat This Bread

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

First Reading

1Kings 19:4-8

Elijah went a day's journey into the desert, until he came to a broom tree and sat beneath it. He prayed for death saying: "This is enough, O LORD! Take my life, for I am no better than my fathers." He lay down and fell asleep under the broom tree, but then an angel touched him and ordered him to get up and eat. Elijah looked and there at his head was a hearth cake and a jug of water. After he ate and drank, he lay down again, but the angel of the LORD came back a second time, touched him, and ordered, "Get up and eat, else the journey will be too long for you!" He got up, ate, and drank; then strengthened by that food, he walked forty days and forty nights to the mountain of God, Horeb.
Responsorial Psalm  

Psalm 34: Taste and See  

Haugen

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord, the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times, God’s praise ever in my mouth.  
Glory in the Lord forever, and the lowly will hear and be glad.

Glory in the Lord with me, let us together extol God’s name.  
I sought the Lord, who answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

Look to God that you might be radiant with joy and your faces, free from all shame.  
The Lord hears the suffering souls and saves them from all distress.

Second Reading  

Ephesians 4:30-5:2

Brothers and sisters: Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were sealed for the day of redemption.  
All bitterness, fury, anger, shouting, and reviling must be removed from you, along with all malice.  
And be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ.  
So be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us as a sacrificial offering to God for a fragrant aroma.

Gospel Acclamation  

Alleluia  

Murray

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

“I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord;  
Whoever eats this bread will live forever.”

Gospel  

John 6:41-51

The Jews murmured about Jesus because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven,” and they said, “Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph? Do we not know his father and mother? Then how can he say, ‘I have come down from heaven’?” Jesus answered and said to them, “Stop murmuring among yourselves. No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draw him, and I will raise him on the last day.  
It is written in the prophets: They shall all be taught by God. Everyone who listens to my Father and learns from him comes to me.  
Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father.  
Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life.  
I am the bread of life.  
Your ancestors ate the manna in the desert, but they died; this is the bread that comes down from heaven so that one may eat it and not die.  
I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world.”

Homily  

John D. Whitney, S.J.
Offertory

Gift Of Finest Wheat

Westendorf / Kreutz

You satisfy the hungry heart With gift of finest wheat; Come give to us, O saving Lord, The bread of life to eat.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Mass Of Wisdom

Janco

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna!

Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

Mystery of Faith

We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection, until you come again.

Great Amen

All Are Invited To Come Forward

During communion, we invite all to come forward. If you do not ordinarily receive Eucharist, or choose not to, come for a blessing, indicating your desire by putting your hand on your heart. If you have a gluten allergy, & need a gluten free host, please come to the presider & indicate this.

Communion Song

Take and Eat

Cantor

All

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.

Joncas
Closing Song

God Sends Us Forth  Alonso

1. God sends us forth to love and serve,
2. Nourished by Christ, our Word and Bread,
3. Called to the ones the world ignores—
4. So, with the cross to lead the way,

Make known God's name and live God's word,
Burn with love and Spirit led,
Hungry and thirsty, weak and poor—
Let us go forth in peace today,

Mirror God's love, reflect God's grace
Sent to embrace a world in need,
Let us bear Christ, who heals all pain
And to the ends of earth make known

all have seen the Savior's face,
make God known in word and deed.
saving love our God has shown.

Annual Catholic Appeal -
Only $5,627 Left To Go!

Please give today if you haven’t done so already. Your gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal is still needed! Thank you to all who have responded to the needs of our Church in Western Washington through the 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal. Currently, 407 parishioners have committed $146,111 of our $151,738 goal, which is 21% of our registered families. Any amount received over our goal will be returned to St. Joseph and will be designated to improve, and hopefully expand, the restroom facilities in the Parish Social Hall. Please fill out a pledge envelope today or donate online – the web address is on the pledge envelope located in the pews.

A million thanks to Scott Andrews & Katharine Ross, Steve Deitz & Mary Beth Hribar, Rupert & Dolores Dorn, Bill Fleming, Katherine Klauser, Philip & Martha Read and Marguerite Walsh.
We Are One Body
A Petition for Reform of the Immigration Policies of the United States

“Every stranger who knocks at our door is an opportunity for an encounter with Jesus Christ, who identifies with the welcomed and rejected strangers of every age (Matthew 25:35-43). . .In this regard, I wish to reaffirm that ‘our shared response may be articulated by four verbs: to welcome, to protect, to promote and to integrate.’”

-Pope Francis-

“My dream is of a place and a time where America will once again be seen as the last best hope of earth.”

-Abraham Lincoln-

At its birth, the United States declared that the value of a person depends not on rights granted by government, but on inalienable rights granted by the will of the Creator. This principle—tested and refined through civil war and social upheaval—is a north star to our nation’s moral compass, drawing us back when fear or selfishness lead us astray. Today, as we struggle to decide our policy towards those seeking refuge at our border, we are called, as Americans, to look again to the wisdom of the Declaration and, as Christians, to the teaching of our faith.

Just as “inalienable rights” guided the founders of our nation, so inherent human value guides Catholic Social Teaching, proclaiming that every woman or man has a right to life, and to the human goods by which to maintain family, faith, and freedom. Catholic tradition holds that the goods of the earth exist to foster the common good, the good of reason, by which each person and the whole community are protected. Civil laws must respect not just the will of the majority, but the inherent dignity of every person, who is “endowed by their Creator” with a value that cannot be justly compromised by the power of any government. This we believe and affirm, as Catholics, as Christians, and as Americans.

Today, in the name of protecting the sovereignty of our national borders, the US Government is violating both Catholic Social teaching and the fundamental moral principles of this nation. No government has the authority to fracture families, to deny basic rights of counsel to the detained (including children), to indeterminately confine, and to punish those who had no active role in committing the offense of unlawful migration. Such actions violate the inherent dignity of migrants and undermine the principles of justice upon which our country was founded. We, therefore, petition the Congress, in accord with the moral law and as provided for in the Constitution, to take immediate action:

- To reunite all families separated by the Customs Service or by Immigration and Custom Enforcement, even if parents or guardians have been detained or deported.
- To provide minors detained by the US government with legal counsel prior to any hearings—either administrative or judicial—on refugee status or immigration.
- To provide alternative forms of monitoring, not involving incarceration, for all those detained solely as the result of violations of immigration law, or awaiting hearings on immigration status.
- To empower the judiciary to review decisions of the administrative immigration courts (maintained by the executive branch) regarding requests for refugee status based on well-grounded fear.
- To provide inspection and government oversight of private for-profit detention facilities.

These are not easy times, but as women and men of faith, we are filled with a Spirit of hope, and drawn as one body to our displaced brothers and sisters, by the love of God and the example of Christ Jesus. Though the power of oppression seems great, we are not cowed by it; though the walls of fear seem high, we are not overcome. Rather, we stand today in solidarity—one body, one spirit—with our immigrant brothers and sisters. We stand with Christians and Jews, with Muslims and Hindus, with women and men of every spiritual and ethical tradition, who pursue justice for the poor as a moral imperative. We stand with all people of good will, including police officers, customs officers, and agents of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) who seek a more just system. To them, especially, we offer our prayer and support, asking them to refuse any order inconsistent with the principles of human rights and moral law. Together, we reject fear, and embrace faith; we call for prayer that leads to action; and we act together as one living body, who seeks justice and hope for every woman and man.

Signatures are being gathered in the back of the church after each Mass.
A Pilgrimage & Mass at the Northwest Detention Center
Saturday, August 25th

Works and Parishes in the Jesuit West Province stand in solidarity with refugees and immigrants.

9:00 am – Carpool/Bus from St. Joseph Parking Lot to St. Leo’s. Please RSVP to rleet@stjosephparish.org or call 206-324-2522 to reserve a seat on the bus. Space is limited. Address: 732 18th Ave E Seattle 98112

10:00 am – Prayer and Pilgrimage at St. Leo’s Parish. 30 minute walk for those who wish. Bus transportation available. Address: 710 S. 13th St. Tacoma, WA 98504


For more information contact Dn. Steve Wodzanowski at stevew@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646 or Joe Hastings at jhastings@stleoparish.org or 253-272-5136 X110
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. 24, Nov. 19, Jan. 28th, March 25th and May 20th. 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 1, 2 or 3 year term.

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. 10, Nov. 5, Jan. 14, March 4, and May 6. Ministries we currently support include Newcomers, LGBTQ, Young Adults, Seniors, Men’s and Women’s ministry, Parish Picnic, St. Patrick’s Day Party 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 1, 2 or 3 year term.

St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions: For those experiencing the “sundown syndrome” and for their families and their caregivers.

“...Be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ.”
~Ephesians 4:32
Faith Formation Teams Help Needed

St. Joseph’s Infant Baptism Prep Team is seeking new members to join our team. Last year we had 80 Baptisms and hosted 9 Prep Classes. We are looking for people to host the baptismal families at Mass on the day of the child’s baptism. We also need team members who are willing to help teach the baptism prep classes. If teaching isn’t your thing, we need others who are willing to share and talk with these new parents about your experience of baptism as well as the graces and struggles of parenting. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact Theresa Shepherd-Lukasik at theresal@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1651.

St. Joseph’s High School Confirmation Team is seeking new members to join our team. Yearly, 20-30 High School Youth receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. We need vibrant faith-filled people to help form them in the faith. This is a 13 week preparation program with an offsite retreat and a day of service. No teaching experience is necessary, but knowledge of the faith with a desire to ignite a spark of faith in others is. All volunteers are required to take the Archdiocese Safe Environment Class. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact Theresa Shepherd-Lukasik at theresal@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1651.

CFF still needs your help!

Faith Formation Needs You! We have over 200 children in our Sunday School and Youth Group programs. This vibrant and critical ministry is only successful with the help of an army of volunteers. The following volunteer positions are still needed:

CFF Pre-K Teacher: This energetic group of children who can make learning fun and someone who is excited to see awe and wonder in children’s eyes. Some experience with children ages 3-4 is preferred. Class meets from 9:00-10:15am in the social hall. Class begins October 7th (major holidays/breaks off). Student volunteers are also needed to assist; this does count for service hours.

CFF Kindergarten Teacher: general religious education for Kindergarten aged children. Class meets from 9:00-10:15am.

CFF Substitutes Needed: If you have teaching experience but not enough time to commit to every week. We still need you! Please add your name to our substitute roster, lessons provided and easy to follow. Please email Theresa Lukasik at theresal@stjosephparish.org

Employment Opportunity

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

St. Joseph Parish, Seattle, is seeking a new Director of Religious Education. The Director of Religious Education (DRE) develops and oversees the spiritual formation and intellectual development of the community at St. Joseph Parish. Working with the Director of Adult Faith Formation, the DRE has primary responsibility for the development of the youth of the Parish, and shared responsibility for the development of all members as people of “faith seeking understanding” in the Catholic Jesuit tradition of St. Joseph Parish. Working in collaboration with the Pastoral Team, volunteers, and others, the DRE seeks to nurture intellectual curiosity, emotional maturity, and spiritual formation through development and implementation of programs, and through sacramental preparation. Full job description available at www.stjosephparish.org Contact Marti McGaughey, Pastoral Assistant for Administration at jobs@stjosephparish.org to apply.
Children’s Faith Formation 2018-2019

The CFF program continues to flourish with the participation of so many children and youth in grades Pre-K thru Junior High. This is a program that takes many hands and hearts to provide strong and consistent faith formation for our youngest parishioners. To volunteer, please contact Theresa at theresaL@stjosephparish.org

Course Offerings

Scholarships available for all our course offerings!

Children's Faith Formation Childcare: During the 9am Mass for children 1-3 years old. This is a time for your child to begin experiencing church through playtime. Children are supervised by a paid adult and volunteer youth. Open year-round, register at any time. The annual fee is $100.

Children's Faith Formation Pre-Kindergarten (CFF Pre-K): During the 9am Mass for children *3 1/2-5 years old. This is a hands-on, Montessori-style class for our young ones. *Your child should be out of diapers and able to follow simple directions, such as those given in a preschool setting. The annual fee is $40.

Children's Faith Formation K (CFF K): During the 9am Mass for children currently enrolled in Kindergarten (private, public, home, or parish school) beginning in the fall. Classes consist of scripture stories, arts & crafts, songs, and gym playtime. Pickup is in the old gym across from the Social Hall. The annual fee is $40.

Children's Faith Formation 1 (CFF 1): The first of a two year Sacramental Preparation program for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Participation and completion of CFF 1 (or equivalent) is required before the second year, during which your child would receive these sacraments. This includes children in our parish school, public school, other private school or home school. The annual fee is $75.

Children's Faith Formation 2 (CFF 2): ALL children planning to receive First Reconciliation and First Eucharist this upcoming school year must have completed the CFF 1 class (or equivalent) last year whether you attend our parish school, public school, other private school or home school. Additional retreat and home materials provided for immediate preparation. There is a $125 annual fee.

Children's Faith Formation Year 3 & 4 (CFF 3/4): This class is for children to reflect, learn, and continue to practice their faith. We will continue to use arts, scripture studies, and community building activities to strengthen our faith and knowledge of the Church. The annual fee is $40.

Children's Faith Formation Year 5 & 6 (CFF 5/6): This class for youth in 5th & 6th grades focuses on the liturgy, Church teachings and growing faith through prayer. The annual fee is $40.

Children's Faith Formation Year Junior High: This class is a 3-year Bible study for youth in 7th, 8th, & 9th grades. The annual fee is $40 for each of the classes PLUS $25 for materials (Bible & workbook).

High School Confirmation: Youth must be at least 16 years old by the Confirmation Mass date (late January/ early February), already received the Sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist, and continued in ongoing faith formation through parish programs or Catholic High School. Students are actively seeking the Sacrament of Confirmation and are participating members in their parish and personal faith life. Classes begin the end of September and ends in January. The annual fee is $150.

To sign up, visit our Faith Formation Page: www.stjosephparish.org
Women of Passion & Power:
Loving Ourselves

Fall Retreat 2018
September 28th 6 pm – Sept 30th 12 pm

Come, join your sisters and make new friends as we explore Loving Ourselves. When we find time to rejuvenate, it lifts our spirits and makes us better parents, partners, friends and colleagues. Bolster your prayer life, meditate, draw, stretch, unplug. This weekend is about you.

We will be staying at the beautiful Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center at the Palisades in Federal Way. Five delicious meals provided, no shopping, cooking or clean-up!

Cost is $250 per person, single occupancy.
All are Welcome.
Payment Plans and Scholarships available. Please contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org
If you need a ride, have dietary restrictions, mobility needs or other questions, please send them to Sheila Marie at smarie49@comcast.net.

Laptop Drive to Support Our Sister Parish in El Salvador

The Sister Parish Committee is asking for donations of well-functioning laptops running up-to-date operating systems (Windows 10, Mac OS High Sierra). We are hoping to collect 20 laptops by October 1st.

These laptops will be given to scholarship students in our sister parish in El Salvador this fall. At present, there are thirty scholarship students who share 6 computers. Providing more laptops will increase the students’ ability to excel and take advantage of their education. Please consider donating to our laptop drive to support the success of our brothers and sisters in El Salvador.

The Sister Parish Committee will wipe the computers before they are donated. Please remember to provide any log-in information and passwords, as well as the power source. Laptop bags are also appreciated.

For questions or more information, please contact Sam Kennedy (samkennedy09@gmail.com) or Deacon Steve at 206-965-1646.

Seniors On The Go
Friday, September 7th - Anointing Mass at 11:30 am.

Friday, October 5th - Anointing Mass at 11:30 am. Followed by our delicious luncheon. Join us for fellowship and lunch after Mass.

Young Adult Ministry
Please join us for our Quarterly Planning Meeting
Wednesday, August 15th - 7-8:30 pm - Parish Center

Our goal is to plan out events for the next three months (Sept-Oct-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 Parish Choir

WHAT: Auditions for St. Joseph Parish Choir

WHEN: August, at a time to convenient to you and the music director

WHERE: Church Tower Music Office

HOW: Contact Music Director Robert McCaffery-Lent at 206-965-1649 or Rmclent@stjosephparish.org

PREPARATION:
I will hear you sing some scales and short phrases to assess your range and sight reading ability and ask you to sing a verse of a familiar hymn. You don’t need to anything in particular to prepare.

SCHEDULE:
You can find the music ministry calendar for the coming year at: https://www.dropbox.com/s/w69o9190py0isdb/St.Joseph Choir Calendar 2018-2019.pdf?dl=0

For hundreds upon hundreds of years the Catholic liturgy has counted upon the choir to help people pray through song. Catholic Parish Communities all over the world, large and small, rich and poor, do their best, every year, to invite and gather the finest musicians in their midst so that they might hone the craft of liturgical music and help the spirits of those present to soar in the liturgy. St. Joseph is no exception, having had an active parish choir here for many years and we are currently seeking singers in the community to be part of the music ministry during the coming year.

Make this the year that you listen to that little voice in your head that encourages you to get involved and to use the voice God gave you to sing! Remember:

“Those who sing pray twice.” St. Augustine

The St. Joseph Adult Choir rehearses Thursdays from 7-9 pm and sings the 9 am Sunday mass from September through June. It is open to high school age and older. For more information or to schedule an audition, contact Robert McCaffery-Lent: Rmclent@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1649.

The St. Joseph Children’s Choir “Joyful Voices” sings the 9 am mass three or four times a year and has two after school rehearsals before each mass. The date of the next Children's Choir Sunday is October 15. All children are welcome, as long as they are able to focus on singing through rehearsal and Mass. Parents of younger kids may need to sit with them and help them through the music. To sign up or for more information, please contact Jen or Matt Tilghman-Havens at j.tilghmanhavens@gmail.com and mtilghmanhavens@gmail.com.

Instrumentalists: If you are skilled in playing an instrument, there are a variety of opportunities in the music ministry! For more information or to schedule an audition, contact Robert McCaffery-Lent: Rmclent@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1649.

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. You can also find our online bible study on the top of the weekly e-newsletter that is sent out on Thursday, just click the button that says “Online Bible Study”.

https://stjosephparishbiblestudy.wordpress.com/

“Don’t forget what would happen if we treated the Bible as we treat our cellphone, always with us, always close to us!”

~Pope Francis