I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth...
Called to the Kingdom

For Zion’s sake I will not be silent,
for Jerusalem’s sake I will not be quiet,
until her vindication shines forth like the dawn
and her victory like a burning torch.”

-Isaiah 62:1-

In December, 1955, more than 100 years after the 13th Amendment put an end to official slavery in the United States, the nation remained a largely segregated society. Sometimes from conscious malice, but often as the result of a more sinister racism of custom, blacks and whites lived lives isolated from one another. And while bigotry and ignorance would sometimes flair into violence, more often than not, the enculturated structures of injustice remained just below the surface, hidden from many whites who thought little of those they did not see, or of the privilege that kept them apart. Like a disease, lying dormant in the bloodstream, racism would, at times, flair up in a fever of lynching and murder, but otherwise seemed, for the majority of Americans, to burn away unnoticed by those not subject to its daily humiliations.

It was in such a world that a slight, young African-American woman boarded her bus in Montgomery, Alabama, on her way home from a long day’s work at a department store. She climbed aboard, as she had so many other times, and sat in a seat just behind the “color line,” designated by the Municipal Code to keep blacks and whites apart. As the bus grew more crowded, the driver, as was customary, began to move the line backward, so that more of the white passengers would have a place to sit. Told to move farther back so that a white man might sit down, the woman said she would not, intentionally refusing to surrender to the system she understood too well. She made this refusal, she would later say, not from the weariness of work, but from a weariness of injustice—a deep conviction that, despite the appeals of custom and law, she could no longer accept the wickedness inherent in this seemingly small humiliation. She accepted arrest, non-violently allowing those charged to enforce the law to take her away, and began a new moment in the long—and still unfinished—work of arcing the universe towards justice. Like the prophet, Isaiah, she would not be silent, even though it led her to a jail cell and a police record. Instead, she held her ground, for the sake of her nation and the vindication needed by all.

Though Rosa Parks was not the voice destined to lead the nation to the new awareness of race and rights that it desperately needed, in her refusal to yield, in her determination to sit with the dignity owed to a human being, she was essential to all that would follow. Her mission may not have been to address the masses or articulate the changes needed in civil rights law; it was not to speak the words that would shame the complacent and open the long-shut door of the voting booth. Yet, by pointing to the heart of a specific injustice, she identified, in her own gentle but definitive way, the deep wound of the culture in which she lived; and made evident the infection that—though so easily ignored by the privileged—was draining the life out of the nation, and cheating all people, especially the poor and marginalized, of their hope and their humanity. Rosa’s arrest for sitting on a bus made manifest the abstractions of racism and the
absurdity of this profound evil. Like the “Yes!” spoken by Mary of Nazareth, Rosa’s humble but unyielding “No!” allowed God to become flesh, and set the scene in which the next movement of the reign of God might come into being.

From the unwillingness of Rosa Parks to remain silent, arose the formation of the Montgomery Improvement Association, which led to a boycott of the bus system, under the leadership of Montgomery newcomer, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.—the pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church. And from her determination not to be quiet, arose all that would happen in the years to come: the shining movement of vindication, when women and men, inspired by the example of Rosa and ignited by the preaching of Dr. King, went into the streets of Selma, Alabama and Detroit, Michigan, to the steps of the Lincoln Memorial and into the halls of Congress. Calling Dr. King from his quiet ministry of pastoral leadership and biblical scholarship, Rosa Park’s prophetic action helped change the structures of power in the United States and transformed the stagnant waters of despair into the strong wine of justice—a wine that warmed the hearts of many, and gave courage even on those days when blood stained the streets of our nation and the wound of Calvary was exposed again on a motel landing in Memphis. Hers may not have been the ministry of leadership—not a call to oratory or to organization—but without her acceptance of the ministry of summons, there may have been no Martin Luther King, and perhaps no civil rights movement as we saw it unfold. As with all gifts given by God, the grace of Rosa and the grace of Martin needed one another to attain their fullness—needed a community of grace in which to flourish; for the gifts of the Spirit are never given for an individual alone, but always given, as St. Paul reminds us, that they might work together for the good of all. Unless all the gifts are recognized, the whole will remain imperfect; but in the glory of all gifts, the kingdom itself may begin.

It can be easy, I think, to identify the ministry of others—to look at Mother Teresa of Calcutta or at a volunteer working along the border of Syria, at the silent prayer of a Carmelite nun or at someone laboring with refugees in Africa, and sense the unfolding of God’s call. But, as we look at ourselves, our vision can become murky, the call to service less clear or compelling—who are we, after all, that God should call us to work for justice? We are too small and such work must be for someone else.

Yet, the truth is that the Son of God does not come into this world to pour out upon a chosen few the grace for ministry; nor does God take flesh to establish some kind of “ministry union” to which only the select belong, and from whom the rest of us simply receive services. No! Each one of us is ordained by the power of the Holy Spirit for ministry to this world—and only together can any of us truly fulfill our ministry. And if we fail to respond to our call, given for our shared salvation, then we are no better than the people on the bus, who watched Rosa Parks get arrested; or those in Selma, who could not be bother by the beatings at the Edmund Pettus Bridge. If we withhold our gifts when they are summoned we are no better than the Sanhedrin, who out of their fear and self-protection decided it was acceptable for Jesus to die, so that they might not suffer.

Christ comes into the world to call each one of us to our distinct ministry, which time and personality have given to us, and us alone. This ministry entails the great directions of our life—as parent or spouse, as religious or lay, as teacher or lawyer or homemaker—but it also entails those unique moments, when we are called to stand up like Martin or sit down like Rosa, to accompany the marginalized where we encounter them. Furthermore, Christ comes that we might have the grace to see, not just in a few, but in every person—whether rich or poor, strong or weak, old or young, gay or straight, male or female, immigrant or native born—a minister of the gospel. Comes that we might see that person even when we look in the mirror. For how many of us have felt reticent to take up our ministry? Felt, “I am going to do something for the poor or for peace, for the sick or for the healing of the Church; but not yet. I just don’t have time, right now.” But true ministry—the ministry of Christ—is rarely convenient, rarely arrives in a way that matches our timetable; rather, it comes on a crowded bus or at a job we have just begun, when work is the heaviest or when we feel weary. It comes when we listen to the power of the Spirit, delivered into our hearts, or when we see it manifested by the actions of those whose courage calls us out.

Today, in this nation, the chilling power of despair and cynicism falls upon us like snow upon the grass—drowning out the promise, deadening the sound of every hope and possibility, turning us into a meaner and angrier people. We are lulled into passivity or provoked into social media venting by the very magnitude of our problems: by the continuing violence in our streets, by the rivers of blood that flow through the Middle East, by the intractable lying of our public officials, by the betrayal at the heart of a Church we once trusted so much, by the relentlessness of addiction and dishonesty, cruelty and violence.

But Rosa and Martin—like Mary and Jesus—remind us that none of these problems is unconquerable, none of these crosses need overcome us in the end. If we live our ministry—if we summon one another and speak the truth, if we respond to one another with love and courage, and act against these evils, if we refuse the cynicism we are sold, and hold tight to the hope which sat down on that bus in Birmingham and spoke out on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, which allowed the Son of God a place on this earth and offered the Son of Mary into the hands of the Spirit—nothing can overcome us. For we are, each of us and all of us together, the beloved of God, made for nothing less than the Kingdom.
Entrance Song

**Praise To You, O Christ Our Savior**

*Farrell*

**Refrain**

Praise to you, O Christ, our Savior, Word of the Father, calling us to life;

Son of God who leads us to freedom: glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

1. You are the Word who calls us out of darkness;
2. You are the one whom prophets hoped and longed for;
3. You are the Word who calls us to be servants;
4. You are the Word who binds us and unites us;

You are the Word who leads us into light; You are the Word who brings us through the desert:

You are the Word who speaks to us today; You are the one who leads us to our future:

You are the Word whose only law is love; You are the Word made flesh who lives among us:

You are the Word who calls us to be one; You are the Word who teaches us forgiveness:

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

(5:30) **Be Still**

*Walker/Freeburg*

1. 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.
2. Be still and know that I am God. You are my chosen one, I came to set you free. Give me your cares and rest in me.
3. Be still and know that I am God. You are my chosen one, to whom I show my ways. My love is with you all your days.

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

**Gloria**

See Cards In Pews
Psalm 40

I waited, I waited for the Lord who stooped down to me and heard my cry.

God put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. Ref.

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, but an open ear.

You do not ask for holocaust and victim, instead, here I am. Ref.

In the scroll of the book it stands written that I should do your will.

My God, I delight in your law in the depths of my heart. Ref.

Your justice I have proclaimed in the great assembly.

My lips I have not sealed, you know it, O Lord. Ref.

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

It is too little, the LORD says, for you to be my servant, to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and restore the survivors of Israel; I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

Ps 40

Psallite

First Reading

The LORD said to me: You are my servant, Israel, through whom I show my glory.

Now the LORD has spoken who formed me as his servant from the womb, that Jacob may be brought back to him and Israel gathered to him; and I am made glorious in the sight of the LORD, and my God is now my strength!

Ps 40

Psallite

Second Reading

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, to the church of God that is in Corinth, to you who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be holy, with all those everywhere who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia 7

Berthier

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. To those who accepted him, he gave power to become children of God.

Gospel

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, ‘A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.’ I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to Israel.” John testified further, saying, “I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon him. I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, ‘On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God.”

Homily

Glen Butterworth, S.J.
**Offertory Song**  
*Cantor/Choral Anthem: Seek To Serve*  
Pfautsch

May I live in the world as one who always seeks to serve.  
May I live as one who knows the love of God.  
Lord, teach me how to live and how to serve.  
With my ears, may I hear, with my eyes may I see.  
With my lips, may I speak, may your word be heard through me.  
Thus, as I live each day may love sustain the will to serve.  Amen.

**Holy, Holy, Holy**  
*Mass Of Christ the Savior*  
Schutte

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.  
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

**Mystery of Faith**

When we eat this bread, and drink this cup, we proclaim your death O Lord, until you come again.

**Great Amen**

Lamb of God

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

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

Psalm 23 – The Lord Is My Shepherd  
Murray/Gelineau

Here I Am, Lord  
Schutte

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone.
Finest bread I will provide Till their hearts be satisfied.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.
Prayer Tree

St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions: For the health of Joseph McGowan, S.J. and also for the health of dear friends Kemper, Suzie and Frannie . . . Thankful for your prayers in the healing and recovery of a beloved daughter . . . Safe travel for family in Hong Kong . . . For a son who is moving to Texas to hone his culinary skills . . . For those who are experiencing challenges in their lives, may they find peace in their souls and well-being . . . For a friend who has had a setback in her treatments, may her medical team be able to resolve this . . . Thank you to the community for supporting our recent blood drive.

“May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace.”

Welcome The Newly Baptized

Clark Baisch
Tessa Barnes
Lillian Guo
Madison Morgan

Come Pray With Us!

Monday Night Prayer Groups

Join us in prayer this Monday 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. Please arrive before 7 pm as the doors are locked right at 7.
Seniors On The Go

Friday, February 7th - Anointing Mass at 11:30 am, then join us for a delicious luncheon in the Parish Center. All are welcome! Please feel free to park in the parking lot and take the elevator up.

Living Rosary for Life

Wednesday, January 29th - 6:30pm - St. Joseph Church

Discover new ways to bring prayer to life at the Living Rosary. What is a living rosary? The people gathered at this prayer service will stand in the formation of a rosary with each person representing a bead. The group will then pray the rosary aloud together. This is a great way for those both familiar and unfamiliar with the rosary to engage in prayer. We will offer our prayer for the flourishing of all human life and for an end to the things that threaten the sacredness of human life. Following the rosary we’ll enjoy some hot chocolate and fellowship.

People of all ages are encouraged to participate as a bead. You can sign-up here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F44ABAA2CA0FC1-living or by e-mailing Jojo Reardon at joannelreardon@gmail.com.

This event is co-sponsored by the Choose Life Committee, Youth Ministry, and the Faith Justice Commission. We hope to see you on January 29th!

Latino/a/x Gathering

Tuesday, January 28th, 7:00-8:30pm

All parishioners and school parents who identify as Latino/a/x, are invited to help plan the 2020 We Are St. Joseph Celebration, taking place May 16th. This year we are celebrating Latino/a/x cultures and traditions from all over the Americas, from Seattle to Santiago.

Join us on January 28th in the Parish Center at 7pm. Bring your ideas, resources, and connections to help us share the spirituality, food, and traditions of Latino/a/x cultures with the parish community. For more information contact Sara Alvarado at salvarado@stjosephsea.org, Lando Alvarado at landoalvarado@gmail.com, or Deacon Steve at steve@stjosephparish.org / 206-965-1646.
Faith Formation

Children’s Faith Formation Schedule

2/1/20 - CFF 1 Parent & Child Workshop 10am-noon
3/8-10/20 - CFF 2 Chalice Making Sessions
3/28/20 - CFF 2 Parent & Child Workshop 9am-noon

RCIC

Are you interested in making the Catholic Church a home for your older child? Consider enrolling your child in our Spring RCIC series! RCIC stands for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Children. RCIC is a process through which children become fully initiated members of the Roman Catholic Church. Starting in March, St. Joseph will hold sessions on most Wednesday afternoons from 4-5 PM. Children who are older than the 3rd grade who have not been baptized are warmly invited to join the group. This process will include prayer, instruction, working with peers, and the celebration of rites leading to the celebration of the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist in the Easter season. To enroll your child in this program, please contact Claire Hansen (Director of Youth Faith Formation) at claireh@stjosephparish.org.

Online Scripture Reflection

Did you know that St. Joseph 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/

Agape Service Trip

- A week of upholding the dignity of our migrant brothers and sisters
- A week of living your faith and meeting Christ
- A week of hope, joy, and purpose
- A week of Agape love

The Agape Service Project 2020 is scheduled for Sunday, August 2nd through Friday, August 7th and will take place in and around Skagit Valley. Youth Registration is now open and will fill on a first come, first serve basis.

The Agape Service Project is open to all sixth (6th) through eighth (8th) graders of the 2019-2020 academic school year. For more information and a set of registration forms contact Claire Hansen: claireh@stjosephparish.org

Altar Servers Needed!

Altar Servers are needed for the 11am Sunday and 5pm Saturday masses. Altar servers are usually in the range of 5th-8th grade and can be enrolled in St. Joseph School, another school, or schooled at home. If your child is already trained and able to serve, please contact Claire Hansen to be added to the schedule! If your child is interested in being trained, please mark your calendars for a training on Sunday, February 23rd from 11am to 1:30pm. For more information and a set of registration forms contact Claire Hansen (Director of Youth Faith Formation) at claireh@stjosephparish.org.
Volunteers Needed
2nd SATURDAY MEALS AT ST. MARTIN DE PORRES SHELTER

St. Joseph’s Parish provides a meal to the men at St. Martin de Porres Shelter every Saturday night. We have four teams, one for each Saturday of the month. We are looking for parishioners to join the 2nd Saturday team. To go to the shelter and serve (5:45pm – 8:15pm). Or to contribute Food Items: milk, ice cream, fruit, hard-boiled eggs, sandwiches, hot dogs, lasagna, etc. It varies from team to team.

We usually serve between 150-220 men a night. This is a great opportunity to serve as a family or with a group of friends. If you would like to learn more or volunteer contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646

Northwest Catholic Collection
January 25 & 26

Through NORTHWEST CATHOLIC magazine, NWCatholic.org and social media, the Church is able to enter every home with a message of hope that the world so desperately needs. For this reason, NORTHWEST CATHOLIC is sent free of charge to every registered Catholic household in Western Washington. Your donation is a great way to share the gift of faith with others. If you wish to contribute, envelopes are available in the Church Vestibule. Thank you for your support!

Racial Justice Book Group

Our book for discussion February 11, 7pm in the Parish Center is The Souls of Black Folk by W. E. B. Du Bois. We will also be choosing titles/videos for discussion in March, April and May. All are welcome, even if you have never come to a meeting before! Please join us!

St. Vincent de Paul

Your donations to St. Vincent de Paul often trigger ecumenical support for the poor we serve.

Our volunteers recently visited a middle-aged person recovering from alcoholism. This person was doing well and about to begin looking for a job. We provided some help with rent: for a tiny-house being sponsored by a local Lutheran Church. We also provided a voucher for clothing from one of our St. Vincent de Paul stores. And this individual was under the care of a counselor also gets some assistance from the Salvation Army.

If it takes many hands to make light work, your support allows us to join hands with others hands to help this person get back on track.

The next St. Vincent de Paul collection is February 1st & 2nd!