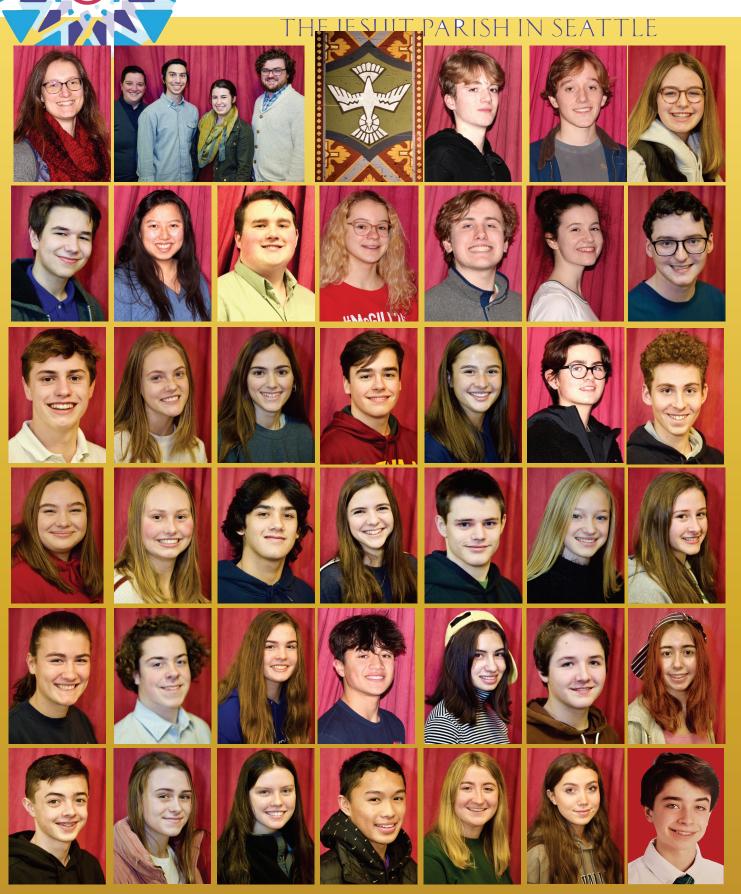
Sunday, January 26, 2020 * Third Sunday of the Year/ Confirmation & Catholic Schools Weekend * www.stjosephparish.org

St. Joseph Parish



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JANUARY 26, 2020

Homily This Week: Bishop Elizondo, M.Sp.S. Reflection This Week: Mary Helen Bever Homily Next Week: Glen Butterworth, S.J.

Weekend Mass Schedule Saturday - 5 pm Sunday - 9 & 11 am & 5:30 pm

Readings for February 2, 2020

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4
Second Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18
Gospel: Luke 2:22-32

Weekday Mass Schedule Monday - Friday, 7 am, Parish Center Reconciliation

Saturday - 3:30-4:15 pm in the Church or by appointment

Parish Center

732 18th Ave E, Seattle, WA 98112

Monday- Friday - 8 am - 4:30 pm Saturday - 9 am - 1 pm www.stjosephparish.org Parish Receptionist (206) 324-2522

Pastor

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Parochial Vicar	
Rev. Glen Butterworth, S.J.	x103
gbutterworth@stjosephparish.org	
Deacon	
Steve Wodzanowski	x106
stevew@stjosephparish.org	
Pastoral Staff:	
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marti@stjosephparish.org	
Renée Leet, Admin Assistant	x100
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Lianne Nelson, Bookkeeper	x113
liannen@stjosephparish.org	
Yuri Kondratyuk, Facilities	x110
St. Joseph School - Main Office	x210
Patrick Fennessy, Head of School	x218

Mary Helen Bever, Primary School Dir

Vince McGovern, Middle School Dir

x215

x219

Open Your Eyes

Send forth your spirit, we are created and you renew the face of the earth.

-Psalm 104:30-

The airstrip seemed to come out of nowhere. We had been flying for about two hours, north from the airport at Kampala, when suddenly in the midst of gently rolling hills and few buildings or roads—the red dirt strip appeared in the window to my right, just as the words of the pilot to prepare for landing came over the small plane's speakers. Within minutes we were touching down on the gravel and climbing out amid all the packages that had shared the cabin with us. There I saw Gary, waiting for me across the patch of grass and behind the small wood and wire fence, accompanied by a native driver and leaning against the somewhat battered UNHCR truck that had been given to the Jesuit Refugee Services for their work in Adjumani. Grateful to see Gary's smile, I grabbed my bag from the pile on the ground and hurried over. He looked wonderful, and we greeted each other with the familiar teasing and affection we had shared since our first meeting at Nativity House in Tacoma, where I had come as a novice to learn about work among the poor. Since then, Gary had been to the streets of Portland, where he accompanied homeless women and men, and then to Africa—seeking to live in solidarity with people even more on the margins. As a part of JRS, Gary had first been sent to Rhino Camp, the sprawling make-shift village in northern Uganda, set up for those fleeing the Sudanese civil war; but for the last year he had been here, in Adjumani, along the banks of the Nile, where a number of those same refugees had been given the chance to establish small farms, just outside the town. Still, at times, threatened by violence from the child soldiers of the Army of God, Gary had settled into this region—working with a German Jesuit to educate catechists and help the refugees either find a way back home or settle into their new one.

We climbed into the truck and took off down the small patch of paved road that passed in front of the airport. Having arrived just after the rainy season, I noticed how lush and beautiful the land was, and watched as a young woman, a baby slung low on her back, hoed the rows of corn across from the airport. But the same rain that made the land so verdant also turned the roads into a rutted mess; thus, as soon as we left the pavement outside the airport, I found myself rocking violently in the backseat—trying to look out the front window so that I might anticipate the next drop, but never quite managing to do so in time. Eventually getting used to the dips and dives, I wedged myself against the window and tried to take in what was around me: the red soil and the fields, punctuated with low trees and small corn fields that came, at times, all the way down to the roadside, almost touching the door of the truck. Expecting a refugee camp of sparse vegetation and all the trappings of human misery, I was amazed by the beauty of the region, and thought I could begin to understand the attraction Gary felt to this land and these people.

Suddenly, as I was daydreaming, our driver turned sharply right, into what looked like the center of a cornfield. It was only after a few moments that I realized we were actually on a path, going somewhere in particular. And then I heard it: the sound of bells rising above the rustle of the corn, and behind the bells, singing and chanting in a language I could not understand. As we burst through the edge of the corn into

a clearing, I saw them, the dancers and the singers, wearing bells and waving banners. I saw a woman, a red bandana tied over her head, clad in an aquamarine blouse, fringe on its arms and bodice, and "Country Music" written in rhinestones along the neckline. She was jumping and laughing and singing in welcome to Gary and me. And when the truck stopped, she ran to Gary and gave him a hug, as others came to escort us to the meeting we had not expected.

Ducking low, I entered the chapel that had been built in the middle of the clearing. Made of sticks and twigs gathered from the area, and then woven together, the chapel had a few benches, made from logs, sliced in half and put on smaller logs planted in the ground. In the front, beside a battered, hand carved crucifix and a broken mandolinlike instrument, was a small altar. Not able to stand upright in the space, I was led to a seat of honor—an old plastic chair—and invited to sit, as members of the community, some coming from miles away, came to tell me how grateful they were for Gary's presence and his care. "Because you sent, Fr. Gary," said one man, "I know my children will learn their faith, and will know about God's love." I sat there, unable to speak, overcome and awed. Here I was, amid women and men who had been driven from their homes by unspeakable violence, some of whom had seen their children kidnapped to serve as child soldiers, or who had served as such soldiers themselves—women and men who were now just tolerated in this new home, and were scratching out a life under extreme conditions, but whose first response was joy and thanksgiving. I felt grateful to Gary for his grace, and undeserving of such thanks—though I received it, not for myself, but because it was important for them to speak it. And I found myself, at the end of this morning, weeping with joy and ready to leave this small chapel and dance with these wondrous and resilient people—which, of course, is what we did. For some time after this unexpected meeting, we danced and sang and laughed together—old people and children, young girls and young men, and two very white Jesuits, one of whom, at least, felt like he had never been so happy before.

Throughout my few days in Adjumani, this experience of welcome became my lens of understanding and interpretation for everything else. Though I saw great poverty and want-saw young children carrying jerry cans filled with water from the one tap in the compound to their small huts; saw students, squeezed together at worn wooden tables or huddled together on the ground because there were not enough room for them in class, nor books for them to read—it was not what was lacking that drew my attention, but the smiles on the faces of those children and the determination I met in all the students. Though the world might wish to define them as victims of abuse and injustice (which they were), or dismiss them as the "collateral damage" of international political forces, they would not be reduced by such definitions. Alive, and filled with a spirit of life, they were marked by the joy of being together and by their determination to use whatever they had received. Likewise,

though I also saw amazing things—men fishing as they had for a thousand years, with throw nets from flat bottom boats; women carrying gigantic fish on their heads; a home-made barge, that looked like it could fall apart any minute, powered by two big outboards, crossing the Nile while loaded with busses and cars, with people and bicycles—because of the greeting I had experienced, I saw all these things not simply as attractions of a picturesque people, but as signs to me of the unconquerable spirit of the women and men who were making their home in Adjumani. We, who had danced and laughed and cried together, were sisters and brothers now, at least in a small way; and so I could no longer reduce them, making them merely objects for my pity or my fascination.

Many years ago, when I was in 8th grade, I stood before the Archbishop of San Francisco and received the chrism of Confirmation, professing that I believed in Jesus Christ and in his Church. But in the nearly half century since I made that profession and received that chrism, I have come to realize that Confirmation is not a moment to be checkedoff on the tally of collected Sacraments, but an invitation to see the world with new eyes, and to recognize over and over again the presence of Christ in the world. It is a call, repeated often, to let go of labels and ideologies, categories and concepts, and to realize that human beings are more than any of the labels we give them, any of the things they own, any of the situations in which they find themselves. Through the call of the refugee community of Adjumani, the Holy Spirit opened my eyes not to the abstract problems of refugees, but to the abiding presence of Christ in each one of these women and men.

We live in an age filled with places to hide—filled with consumerism and celebrity, with avatars and the internet, with ideological dogma and echo-chamber discourse—and, even when we do not mean to do so, we can replace the living Spirit with our own dead ideas. Indeed, in these days of impeachment and political division, of seemingly unending war and cruelty, of rising racism and nationalism, we may wonder if the Spirit has not finally left our world, so hard is she to see. But, sometimes, if we have the desire and are graced to go to the margins, we may yet discover the Spirit who lives still. Indeed, among the poor, whose ability to hide is often diminished by suffering and loss, that Spirit may yet reveal to us the God of Life and Love, of Joy and Mercy, of Transformation and Hospitality: the God of Jesus Christ. For the Spirit of Christ still lives in every heart, and through that Spirit Christ has conquered the world—not by destroying all that is evil, but by giving us ourselves, as women and men loved and able to love, good and able to do good, free and able to bring freedom to others. This is the Spirit of God, affirmed in Confirmation, alive (if sometimes hidden) in every human being: may those young people who are to be Confirmed at St. Joseph this Saturday feel her power and follow her call.

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

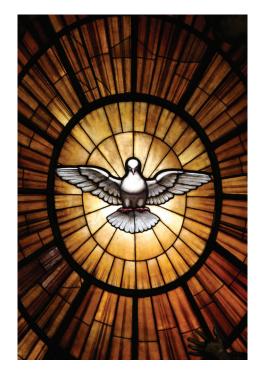
Welcome to St. Joseph. Please take a moment to silence your cell phones.

Entrance Song

(5,11,5:30) Send Us Your Spirit

Haas











Gloria

See Cards In Pews

First Reading Isaiah 8:23-9:3

First the LORD degraded the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali; but in the end he has glorified the seaward road, the land west of the Jordan, the District of the Gentiles.

Anguish has taken wing, dispelled is darkness:

for there is no gloom where until now there was distress.

The people who walked in darkness

have seen a great light;

upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom

a light has shone.

You have brought them abundant joy

and great rejoicing,

as they rejoice before you as at the harvest,

as people make merry when dividing spoils.

For the yoke that burdened them,

the pole on their shoulder,

and the rod of their taskmaster

you have smashed, as on the day of Midian.





The Lord is the stronghold of my life. Of whom should I be afraid. *Ref.*

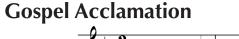
There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long: To dwell in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life. *Ref.*

I believe I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Hope in God and take heart. Hope in the Lord! *Ref.*

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

I urge you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree in what you say, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and in the same purpose. For it has been reported to me about you, my brothers and sisters, by Chloe's people, that there are rivalries among you. I mean that each of you is saying, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with the wisdom of human eloquence, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its meaning.





Berthier



Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the kingdom and cured every disease among the people.

Gospel

Matthew 4:12-23

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what had been said through Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death light has arisen.

From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him. He walked along from there and saw two other brothers, James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They were in a boat, with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him. He went around all of Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and curing every disease and illness among the people.

(5) The Confirmation Rite

Presentation of the Candidates for Confirmation Homily: Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, M.Sp.S. Renewal of Baptismal Promises The Laying on of Hands The Anointing With Chrism



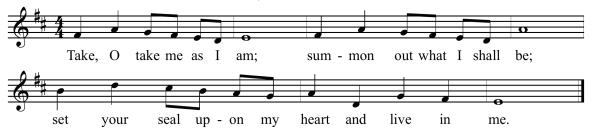
Reflection

(9,11,5:30) Mary Helen Bever

Dismissal

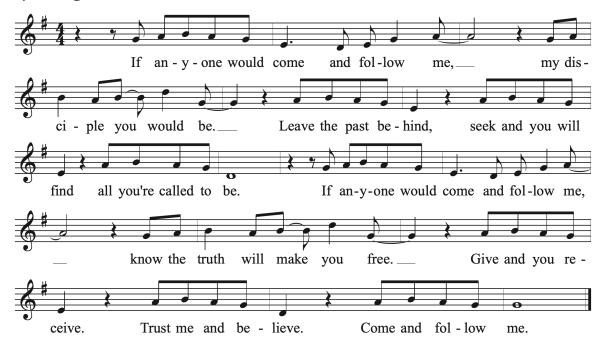
(5:30) Take, O Take Me as I Am

Bell



Offertory Song

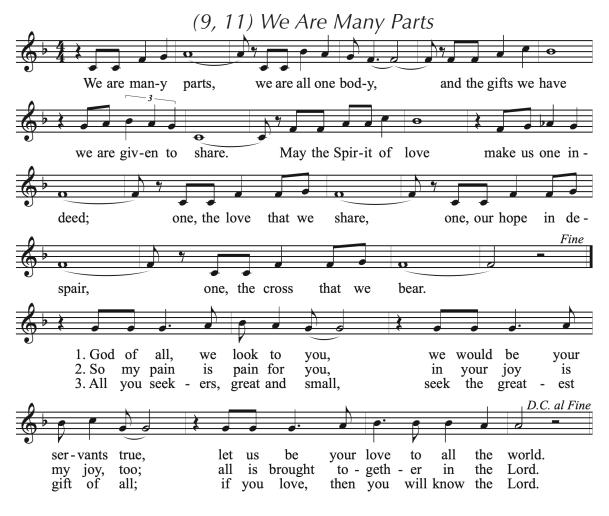
(5) Come And Follow Me

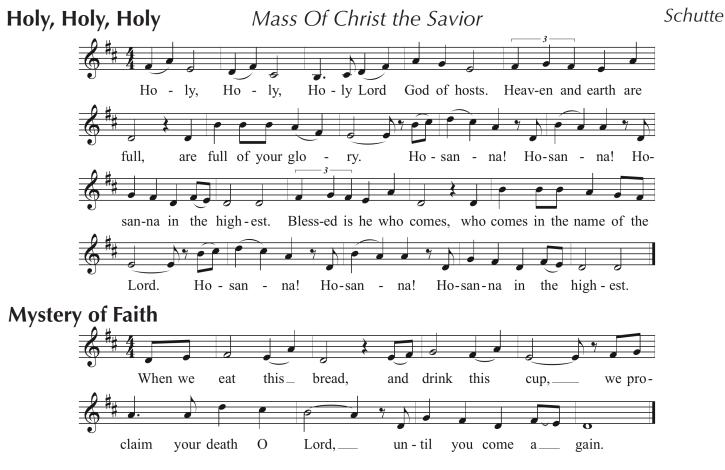


All Are Invited To Come Forward

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.





Lamb of God



The Confirmation Concluding Rites (5)

Bishop: The Lord be with you All: And also with you

Bishop: Our help is in the name of the Lord All: Who made heaven and earth

Recessional

(5,11,5:30) The Summons



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Bell





Parish Life

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.

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 stevew@stjosephparish.org / 206-965-1646.

Sister Parish Ministry

Did you hear Padre Miguel at Mass this fall? Or join us for the evening of Pupusas and stories as we celebrated 30 years in solidarity with our Sister Parish in El Salvador?

Our next Sister Parish Ministry meeting is **Saturday, February 8th from 3 - 4:30 pm in the Parish Center.** We will be discussing the covenant guiding the relationship and the projects that we would like to address in the coming year. If you have been interested in our Sister Parish Ministry, please join! All are welcome, even if you have never come to a meeting before! For more information, contact Sam Kennedy at samkennedy09@gmail.com

Young Adult Ministry

January Social: Speed Friending

January 26th - 6:30 pm, Following the 5:30 Mass

Interested in making new friends? Want to meet other young adults from church? Look no further than St. Joseph Young Adult Speed Friending. All are welcome and hope to see you there! Contact Ann Marie Huisentruit at amhuisentruit@gmail.com with any questions!

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, Con-

firmation 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 enewsletter that is sent out on Thursday, just click the button that says "Online Bible Study".

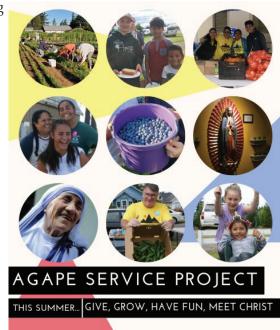
https://stjosephparishbiblestudy.wordpress.com/

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 11 am Sunday and 5 pm 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 1:30 pm. For more information and a set of registration forms, contact Claire Hansen (Director of Youth Faith Formation) at claireh@stjosephparish.org

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FAITH JUSTICE

Volunteers Needed

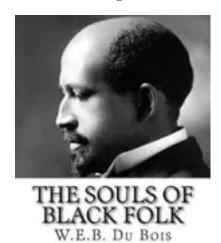
2nd SATURDAY MEALS AT ST. MARTIN DE PORRES SHELTER

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 (5:45 pm – 8:15 pm). Or to contribute food items: milk, ice cream, fruit, hardboiled 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.

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!





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!

St. Vincent de Paul

Your St Vincent de Paul donations always help—but once in a while it only takes one call and the person is on their way, not to call again.

One young man was trying to complete a Master's degree in Accounting. Illness cost him his job and time away from school. Back on his feet and in school, he needed help with rent. His studio apartment was furnished with cardboard boxes. We were able to cover a month's back rent and for the current month. He made it.

A young mom with two kids, a job but a recent victim of being mugged and robbed, needed help with a moving in fee at a new, safer location for an apartment. We had to stretch a bit but we covered the cost. She and daughter and son were on their way.

Your generosity enables our volunteers to help people in a wide variety of situations, often in emergencies. We are grateful to you—and to them—for being able to lend a hand.

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



FAITH JUSTICE

A Note From Deacon Steve

Hello Friends,

Blessings to you and your family in 2020. I want to extend an invitation for you to join me at my table for TOAST FOR NOLA. Most of you are familiar with the incredible work this organization has done in building up our youth as leaders thru service. Born out of our St. Joseph's Youth Group THE VOICE... under the vision and dedication of former St. Joseph's Staff member, Randy Novak, now Executive Director of Shirts Across America.

I have such wonderful memories of working side by side with youth and always carry with me a place in my heart for the residents of New Orleans and how SAA opened my eyes to on-going economic and racial inequities in our society. My trip to the Whitney Plantation is something I'll never forget and hanging on my office lamp is the lanyard from my experience there.

I'm hoping we can get a good showing from the parish to come out and show our gratitude for Randy and SAA and to show our support for the future of America Our Youth! Our Guest speaker will be the Executive Director of NOLA's Habitat for Humanity who will discuss SAA's impact on New Orleans.

If you know of someone else who might be interested in coming to this, please pass along their info to me or contact them yourselves.

If you want to sit at my table, go to this link http://shirtsacrossamerica.org/toast-for-nola/ Put my name in the space of "who invited you", and you will be placed at my table

To learn more about Shirts Across America, visit http://shirtsacrossamerica.org/.

Blessings, Deacon Steve Wodzanowski 206-965-1646





Hospital Ministry

Catholic Hospital Ministry at Harborview Medical Center

Volunteers are needed to bring Holy Communion and provide a presence to patients and their families at Harborview Hospital. Volunteers must complete all necessary paperwork, background checks, personal interviews and Orientation/Training sessions. Time expectation is once a week - 3-4 hour shift, plus bimonthly check-in gatherings. There is lots of flexibility in regards to specific day/time. If you would like to participate, please call 206-965-1646 or email Deacon Steve Wodzanowski at stevew@stjosephparish.org

Blood Drive Thank You!

I wanted to follow up on our blood drive Monday January 13th. Here is how we finished up!

- 30 registered/attended
- 6 were first time donors
- 4 out of 30 were deferred/not able to donate
- We collected 24 pints of blood!
- Potentially 72 local patients will benefit from this drive

Your blood drive was especially helpful during this crazy snow time! We lost a lot of donations this week due to schools being closed. We are so incredibly grateful you were still able to accommodate our blood drive.

> Thank You, Bloodworks NW





LITURGY AND WORSHIP

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. For information, contact Jim Hoover at sacredsilence@stjosephparish.org or 206-286-0313.

Praying the Rosary can help us face the often harsh realities of life with hope and grace. We have volunteers ready to help guide those who are just learning.

Prayer ree

St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions: For a friend who is being treated for cancer, we pray for her healing . . . Gratitude and thanksgiving for another friend who after a year of chemo and surgeries has recovered well.

"It is the routine of daily prayer that carries us from one day to the other, full of trust, followed by mercy."

~Joan Chittister

Rest in Peace Peggy Read, whose Rosary is Tuesday, Jan. 28th at 9:30 am, Funeral at 10 am.

Mary Ries, whose funeral is Friday, Jan. 31st at 11:00 am.

Recorded Homilies

St. Joseph is now recording the homily each weekend. We are sharing those recordings on our website, www. stjosephparish.org and also on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/stjosephseattle. Please feel free to listen and to share them with others. We hope you enjoy this new feature.

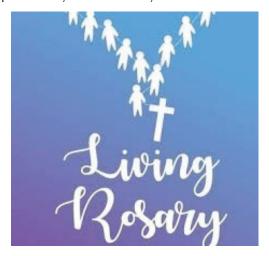
Living Rosary for Life

Wednesday, January 29th - 6:30 pm - 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!



New Choir Members Needed!

The St. Joseph 9 am choir is seeking new singers to join us for this next part of the church year: winter ordinary time, Lent and Easter. There are openings for men and women in all voice parts. To schedule an audition please contact director of Music Robert McCaffery-Lent Rmclent@stjosephparish.org 206-965-1649 or sign up at the parish website. Rehearsals are Thursday evenings.

Confirmandi

Betsy Allen - I want to be Confirmed so God can become a bigger part of my life. I believe I have good counsel to help me guide myself and others to good choices. I want to develop more piety and to pray more with the Holy Spirit's help. I chose St. Elizabeth of Hungary because I admire her strength to help the poor even if it was beneath her social standing. One thing I want others to know about me is that I'm a freshman at Holy Names.

Blake Anderson - I play hockey and I love several other activities as well including bowling. I chose Anthony for my confirmation name because St. Anthony has helped me out the most. Whenever I lose something, I always pray to him and I end up finding the item. I am choosing to be Confirmed so I can continue my spiritual journey, it is important to me.

Maggie Aydelott - I want to be Confirmed because I want to be closer to God and see Him as a friend. I chose Edith Stein as my saint name because she is strong in fortitude. During the holocaust and stayed true to her faith. She was smart and strong was able to persevere. She was passionate and I hope to be like her. I feel I understand things like she did.

Kaitlin Baldwin - I want to be Confirmed so that I can continue my Catholic faith journey as an adult. I chose St. Elizabeth Ann Seton because she was a mother and a teacher who always very kind and holy. When I'm not at class, I like being with my friends and going outside.

Liam Bell - I am seeking to be Confirmed to continue and expand my Catholic faith journey as an adult. I want to form a stronger connection with God and my Confirmation saint. I feel that after I am confirmed, I will be able to do more as a Catholic for my community and spirituality. My saint's name is St. Ignatius. I chose him because of his revolutionary ideas about spirituality and faith. I often try to do community service. I feel it has an important impact on my community and the people I am helping.

Lauren Boehm - When I was attending St. Joseph, I knew straight away that I wanted to be Confirmed. I have found a deeper understanding of what it means to be Catholic, and more importantly, how to be a Good Catholic, through the Jesuits. I hope that the Holy Spirit can impart upon me wisdom and patience so that I can help more people. The saint I have chosen is Saint Ia of Cornwall, an Irish princess whose unwavering faith led her to establish multiple chapels. I admire her strength and I hope to carry that strength. I am an avid cook and I am always looking to connect people through the shared experience of a meal.

Marcela Bonet - I seek the sacrament of Confirmation at St. Joseph because I want to continue to be a part of this community and continue in my journey of faith. I am passionate about learning new things about the world and helping other people. I seek the gift of piety because I feel I am somewhat lacking in that area. I also believe I have a gift of the interpretation of tongues because I learn language and interpret words easily and would like to strengthen that gift. I picked St. Laura Montoya of Columbia because she used her unique gifts to aid the indigenous peoples of Columbia and I hope to use my gifts to aid underrepresented people as she did.

John Calvert - I want to be Confirmed because I want to be Catholic for the rest of my life, or I at least want to be able to fall back onto Catholicism as I grow older. The Confirmation saint name I chose was Blessed Karl I of Austria, and I chose him because he relates to a very interesting part of history, and because he really tried to end WWI. For fun, I really like to play trumpet and I really like history.

Brendan Cannon - I want to be Confirmed because I want to learn what it means to be an adult in the Catholic Church. A gift that I have is good counsel, but I need to accept the Holy Spirit's gift of piety. I chose St. Joseph because my dad's name is Joseph, and he is someone that I can look up to and live by. For fun, I enjoy playing football, basketball and tennis.

Blake Conner - I chose to be Confirmed in order to complete the formal steps in my lifelong faith journey of being a Catholic while confirming to God that my faith is real, genuine and my guide through life. St. Bernard of Montjoux is the saint I chose because he spent his life as a priest in the Alps doing missionary work such as building schools, churches and Alpine Hostels to aid lost travelers. One of my gifts is helping others and I plan to continue to do so, just as St. Bernard did, throughout my life. I can relate to St. Bernard of Montjoux because he is the patron and protector of skiers. Skiing is a sport I learned at a young age and continue to enjoy. I love to ski and spend time in the mountains with my family and friends.

Anna Cooper - The Confirmation saint name that I chose was St. Cecilia. She is the patron saint of music. I play the piano and the flute, so music is a very important part of my life. There are many reasons why I want to be Confirmed, including to grow stronger in my faith and learn how I can incorporate God into my daily life. I am seeking the Holy Spirit's gifts of wisdom because I want his guidance and love in the future when making decisions.

Confirmandi

Ava Fimmano - I seek Confirmation to incorporate more faith into my life. I chose St. Genesius as my saint because of his connection to humor and bringing joy to others, which is something I am very passionate about. From the Holy Spirit, I am seeking charisma. I have been given the gift of creativity which I enjoy sharing with others. In my free time, I love to draw and hang out with my friends.

Clare Flynn - I seek Confirmation because I want to strengthen my faith and better understand God's word and our purpose here on earth. I have the gift of being welcoming a kind, and I use these gifts by making people feel loved and part of community. I wish to obtain the gift of wisdom and understanding because I believe that knowledge is the key to deepening my relationship with God. I chose the name Elizabeth because she devoted her life to helping others and was so selfless at a young age. In my free time I enjoy playing sports such as lacrosse, soccer and basketball and hanging out with my friends.

Aidan Frondozo - I want to be Confirmed because I want to continue being Catholic as I grow up. I chose blessed Edmund Rice because he helped educated many poor boys in Ireland and also created the Christian Brotherhood which continues to teach many boys. One gift of the Holy Spirit that I seek is knowledge because I want to know God better. One thing I do for fun is play baseball.

Xavier Ginaven- Being Catholic is a part of my identity. I chose to be Confirmed as the next step in my faith journey. I selected St. Francis Xavier, S.J. as my patron saint because I aspire to live with courage, passion and tenacity just like he did. I am grateful to the St. Joe's community for showing me how important faith can be.

Gena Goforth - I am seeking Confirmation to continue my journey in my Catholic faith into my adult life. I chose St. Christopher as my saint name because I love what he represents, especially traveling. I have been given the gift of being curious, and I want to use it to learn more about the world. I like to dance for fun at Cornish, and my favorite style is ballet.

Margot Gwynn - I want to be Confirmed so I can receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, strengthen my faith and to become a holier child of God. I have good counsel, and I believe that this gift of the Holy Spirit allows me to lend my knowledge and advice to others. I chose St. Catherine of Siena because she comforted and nursed those who were sick, and I am inspired by how she lived her life. I want to receive the gift of piety to become a more

prayerful and reverent person. In my free time, I love to run cross country, play lacrosse, spend time with friends and family, and enjoy the outdoors!

Hobbs Hegedus - I want to be Confirmed because I hope to become closer to God and become an official dedicated member of the church. Also, I want to finally have my questions of the church be resolved. The Confirmation saint I chose was St. Herman of Alaska. I chose him because of his selfless and environmentally conscious life.

Jackson Heisler - I seek Confirmation so I can continue my Catholic faith through the next stages of my life. I chose St. Sebastian because I can relate to him and the things he stands for. He stands for hard work, stamina, strength, courage and also helped people who were in need and in trouble. I am a person who works really hard and always tries to do things for others. I would like to try and better the world with my personality and gifts. During my free time I play soccer and basketball and I love to travel the world with my family.

Annie Hipps - I seek Confirmation to strengthen my connection with the Church and my relationship with God. I chose St. Marie Amandine because she is the patron saint of laughter and believes that laughter is the best medicine. I wish to live by that. I desire the gift of knowledge to learn more about God and my relationship with Him. I believe I have been blessed with the gift of empathy which has taught me to build strong friendships and connections with others. In my free time, I enjoy playing lacrosse and soccer with friends.

Rose Kennedy - I'm seeking the sacrament of Confirmation at St. Joseph Parish to commit myself to being a more active member in the Catholic Church and living out the positive values the church promotes. One gift of the Holy Spirit I have is wisdom and the ability to love others. One I Seek to gain through my Confirmation is understanding of God, scripture, and my calling. My confirmation saint is St. Lucy, the patron saint of blindness. I hope to be a light to others as her name means and never blind to the good things in the world. I love working with children and hope to pursue a career with children after my Confirmation.

William Murray - I would like to be Confirmed because I want to be closer to God and continue my journey in the Catholic faith. I have been given the gift of wisdom, and I would like to increase this gift. I have chosen Saint Bernard of Menthon because he helped travelers in dangerous part of the Alps. He is also the patron saint of skiing.

CONFIRMANDI

Wyatt Nelson - I am seeking Confirmation as it is the next step in my faith journey as a Catholic as I become an adult. I have been given the gift of compassion and I hope to use this gift throughout my life helping others to see the world in a gentler light, and I want to gain the gift of healing, so I can help others. I chose St. Paul as my Confirmation saint, partially because my father was named after him, but mainly because I deeply respect him for his conversion to Christianity and the impact his writings have had on the Christian Faith. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with friends, staying active in the outdoors and competing on athletic fields.

Holden Nora - I seek Confirmation because I want to further my Catholic life into my adulthood. After leaving my Catholic middle school, I now attend an independent high school. Throughout my first two years of high school, I have felt my relationship with God weakening. For the duration of the Confirmation classes, I have been able to strengthen my relationship with God through prayers we learned and practiced. The two gifts of the Holy Spirit that I believe I have been blessed with are wisdom and understanding. Upon completing my Confirmation journey, I hope to gain knowledge and counsel. I have chosen Paul as my Confirmation name. I was initially drawn to this name because the name Paul is both my grandfather's name and my Godfather/Confirmation Sponsor's name. Upon further investigation, I found that I admire how St. Paul was able to use his status to inspire change within his community. St. Paul is truly an inspirational figure for me today because of his ability to gather people from all walks of life and preach God's Word.

Max Read - I would like to be Confirmed because I want to continue my faith journey as an adult in the church. The gifts of the Holy Spirit I desire are wisdom and knowledge to help me understand God's will for my life. I chose St. Benedict as my patron Saint because he was a scholar, which I admire.

Matthew Tor Rothrock - One of my gifts is empathy. I am very empathetic because I truly feel for those that lie on the margins. Whether people are experiencing homelessness or displacement, I want to do anything I can to help because I understand what they are living can be extremely tough. I chose to be Confirmed because I was brought up in the Catholic Church and I really enjoy the traditions of the Church, including Christmas Eve mass and Easter mass. I chose St. Sebastian—the patron saint of athletics— as my Confirmation saint. Athletics and

sports are a big part of my life because I have formed so many relationships with new people because of sports and I wouldn't have these relationships otherwise. I love to run; I run cross-country and track and love the team feel of both. They also allow me to be outside, which is a plus.

Jett Schwagler - I want to be Confirmed because I want to be happy with God. I chose St. Paul as my Confirmation saint because he found Jesus and got forgiven after he did a lot of bad things, then he gave his life to helping others to come to faith in Jesus. Like him I persevere, and I do not give up often.

Kathryn Shearer - I am seeking Confirmation because I want to be a part of the church community and have God become a greater part of my life. I am outgoing and athletic and want to reach out and help others through different volunteering opportunities. I seek wisdom to trust that God will be there for me and guide me in my life. The saint I chose is Saint Catherine of Siena because she as an advocate in the church and spoke out for what she believed, and I hope to live out her values in my life. For fun, I hang out with my friends and play soccer.

Claire Shigo - I am seeking to be Confirmed at my parish of St. Joseph because I want to grow closer to God throughout my lifelong religious journey. The Holy Spirit has given me the gift of understanding, and I hope to later on acquire the gift of wisdom. My Confirmation Saint is Joan of Arc. I chose her because she had much courage despite the gender difference at the time. During my free time, I enjoy hanging out with friends and family, and playing golf.

Elizabeth (Ellie) Smith - I want to be Confirmed because I hope to continue to strengthen my relationship with God in my adult life. I chose St. Francis of Assis as my Confirmation saint because his loving and giving nature inspires me to care for those around me. In my free time, I enjoy reading and learning about history and psychology. I feel that I have the gift of being empathetic, but I wish to gain fortitude and courage through Confirmation.

Rocco Spanhaus - I am seeking to be Confirmed to continue my relationship with God and strengthen my love for Him. I chose St. Francis as my saint because he was kind to animals, cared for the poor and helped to reform the church. Also, my Grandpa's name is Frank, and I wanted to honor him.

Confirmandi

Bridget Thompson - I am being Confirmed to strengthen my faith with God. My Confirmation saint name is Catherine. I chose this name because St. Catherine is the patron saint of teachers and I hope to one day become a teacher. One gift I bring is empathy, and I show this through my love of my friends and family. In my spare time, I like to play volleyball, basketball, hang out with my friends and do service.

Shelby Thompson - I want to be Confirmed to grow closer to God and strengthen my faith. A gift of the Holy Spirit I believe I have is fortitude, and a gift I hope to receive from Confirmation is good counsel and wisdom. The Confirmation name I chose was St. Francis Xavier Cabrini. I chose her because she helps people who she is not familiar with and goes out of her comfort zone. In my free time, I enjoy being with friends and family and playing lacrosse.

Joey Vila - I am seeking to be Confirmed because I want to continue my Catholic faith journey as an adult as well as further grow my relationship with God. Some of my gifts are my athletic ability and ability to make people laugh. For my Confirmation saint, I chose St. Sebastian, which is the patron saint of athletes. I chose this saint because sports have been a huge part of my life, and I feel that this saint often looks over me when I compete.

Ellie Wakefield - I am looking to be Confirmed because I see it as the next step in my journey as a Catholic and continuing to grow my faith as I enter my adult years, as well as playing a larger role in the Church community. I chose St. Frances as my saint name because I admire the ideals and values she cared about, such as immigrants and the caring of the sick. I believe that I carry the gift of creativity and organization, which I hope I can share with the community following my Confirmation. For fun, I enjoy running cross country, skiing, and spending time with my family.

Evan Wolfe - I would like to be Confirmed because I want to become closer to God as well as be fully immersed in a Catholic community. I also imagine someday I might want to be married in the Church. I seek the gift of wisdom because I see it as the most valuable. A gift I feel I already have is fortitude because I am strong and stick to my convictions. I chose the saint name Patrick because Patrick is my middle name and represents my Irish heritage which is extremely important to me.

Julia Wood - I wanted to be Confirmed because it gave me an opportunity to learn more about my faith and understand what it would mean to be Catholic as I grow up. After learning about the gifts of the Holy Spirit, I seek understanding. I chose St. Clare as my Confirmation saint because of all she accomplished in her life. For fun, I enjoy playing sports and other activities.

Sophia Zaboukos - I want to be Confirmed because I want to continue my faith and look for God in my adult life. I feel, of the gifts to the Holy Spirit, I have wisdom. Through Confirmation, I hope to gain understanding. I also hope to gain more knowledge of God's teachings. In my free time I love to dance and spend time with my friends. I hope I will see God more so in these activities after confirmation.

You young people, my dear young friends, you have a particular sensitivity towards injustice, but you are often disappointed by facts that speak of corruption on the part of people who put their own interests before the common good. To you and to all, I repeat: never yield to discouragement, do not lose trust, do not allow your hope to be extinguished. Situations can change, people can change. Be the first to seek to bring good, do not grow accustomed to evil, but defeat it with good. The Church is with you, bringing you the precious good of faith, bringing Jesus Christ, who "came that they may have life and have it abundantly" (In 10:10)

