Of you my heart has spoken, ‘Seek his face.’
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him.”
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 8, 2020

Homily This Week: Glen Butterworth, S.J.
Reflection Next Week:
Theresa Shepherd-Lukasik

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

Readings for March 15, 2020
First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7
Second Reading: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8
Gospel: Matthew 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Weekday Mass Schedule
Monday - Friday, 7 am, Parish Center
Reconciliation
Saturday - 3:30-4:15 pm in the Church
or by appointment
Parish Center
372 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
Rev. John D. Whitney, S.J. x107
jwhitney@stjosephparish.org

Parochial Vicar
Rev. Glen Butterworth, S.J. x103
gbutterworth@stjosephparish.org

Deacon
Steve Wodzanowski x106
stevew@stjosephparish.org

Pastoral Staff:
Marti McGaughey, Business Mgr x108
marti@stjosephparish.org

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Lianne Nelson, Bookkeeper x113
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Yuri Kondratyuk, Facilities x110

St. Joseph School - Main Office x210
Patrick Fennessy, Head of School x218
Mary Helen Bever, Primary School Dir x215
Vince McGovern, Middle School Dir x219

Fearless Love

The secret to happiness is freedom... And the secret to freedom is courage.
-Thucydides-

In the early 1530’s, Iñigo de Loyola, who had lived for many years as a beggar and spiritual pilgrim, seemed to be on the way to a more peaceful, if not entirely conventional life. Since being wounded at the battle of Pamplona, the young former courtesan had been little more than a vagabond, seeking to follow in the footsteps of St. Francis or St. Dominic. He had renounced his commission and his military honors, set his sword and shield aside in a vigil at the monastery of Montserrat, and had lived in a cave for many months in a little village near Barcelona called Manresa. Though something had changed for him during his months at Manresa, he still seemed to most people something of a crackpot—a religious zealot, who, for all his personal charm, was a bit dangerous to be around. Begging his passage, he had managed to make it to Jerusalem, where he had hoped to stay, but the Franciscans who supervised the Holy Sites had other ideas and ordered him out. Returning to Spain, he had begun studies at various schools, only to be called before the Inquisition on several occasions because of his tendency to attract others to his spiritual zealotry—a zealotry authorities feared might not be entirely orthodox. Each time he had proven his innocence, usually after several days in jail, but had still been served with restrictions that limited his ability to talk freely to others about matters of faith and morals. Finally, distressed by these limitations, he went to Paris, to the college of St. Barbara, a part of the University of Paris. There, Iñigo continued his formal studies, all the while deepening his understanding how the spirits of darkness and light manifested themselves in his heart, and how best to draw close to God.

During his days in Paris, it was not unusual for there to be occasional outbreaks of disease, especially among the poor. One day, accompanying a doctor friend to the home of a plague victim, Iñigo entered the house to give consolation to the man and his family. Sitting beside the sick man, Iñigo touched his sore and offered him a word of comfort and hope, and then went on his way. Yet, as he emerged from the home, and began to walk home to his rooms at the college, Iñigo became increasingly obsessed with the idea that his hand, which had touched the man’s wound, was now itself contaminated with plague. In that moment, as he walked the streets of Paris, all the needs and all the beauty of the city shrank away for him. He could not see the people who shared the streets with him: neither the poor who needed his help, nor the merchants in their stalls. He could not see the richness of that great city: the river and the trees, the wonders of the afternoons sky, nor the bird flying above. He could not sense all that was given to him: the opportunities that presented themselves, nor his own gifts and graces. He could not sense Christ present in the world nor “God in all things.” Trapped in fear, regretful of what he had done, all he could see was himself: a man filled with anxiety and bound in a prison of his own mind and heart.

In these days of the COVID-19 epidemic, when a number of people in our own region have died of the disease, we can, perhaps, sympathize with Iñigo (later Ignatius), as he walked through the streets of Paris: his head bowed down with worry, rubbing his hand and filled with...
thing I believe we all need to recall in these times when
the story, however, that something more is given, some-
foolishly pious tale of the saints. It is in the second part of
and were the story to end there, it would be just another
we have as human beings to be prudent and to take care;
Such a simplistic religiosity undercuts the responsibility
him from the illness, so he need not take precautions.
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he seems to reflect a kind of piety that borders on magi-
when Iñigo goes with the doctor and touches the wound,
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there was no knowledge of methods of disease transmis-
ly foolhardy. Indeed, even in Ignatius' own time, though
ruses, Iñigo's action of touching the sick man seems utter-
As Ignatius tells the story, his fear of infection grew to the
point where “this imagination was so vivid he could not
and he felt the pain growing in his hand, if
only by the power of his imagination. But then, amid his
panic, he remembered for a moment the grace he had
come to know so well, a grace that had led him through
shipwreck and war, through sickness and near death; a
grace and love that he had come to believe transcended
even death, and was deeper even than the grave. And in
that moment, through an act of will, he confronted his
fear head on, and found the courage to refuse to submit
to the confinement this fear offered. Thrusting his hand
into his mouth and rolling it around, he declared: “If you
have the plague in your hand, you shall also have it in
your mouth.” Suddenly, he was set free from his fear, and
his life belonged to him again.

During my years in the Jesuits, I have read and studied
many stories about the life of Ignatius—his gallantry at
Pamplona, his conversion at Loyola, his deeper transfor-
manion at Manresa, his gathering of companions at Paris,
etc., etc.—but this little story of dealing with his fears
has long been one of my favorites. Not because I think it
is wise to ignore fundamental safeguards when dealing
with the sick, but because it shows how much Ignatius
understood the power of fear to rob us of ourselves—and
his unwillingness to accede to that.

For those of us raised with an awareness of germs and vi-
ruses, Iñigo's action of touching the sick man seems utter-
ly foolhardy. Indeed, even in Ignatius' own time, though
there was no knowledge of methods of disease transmis-
sion, there was enough sense of contagion that victims
and their families were often shunned and set apart. Thus,
when Iñigo goes with the doctor and touches the wound,
he seems to reflect a kind of piety that borders on magi-
cal thinking—as though God would miraculously protect
him from the illness, so he need not take precautions.
Such a simplistic religiosity undercut the responsibility
we have as human beings to be prudent and to take care;
and were the story to end there, it would be just another
foolishly pious tale of the saints. It is in the second part of
the story, however, that something more is given, some-
thing I believe we all need to recall in these times when
fear, in all its guises, seems so much on the ascent.

When Iñigo leaves the sick man's house, it is not the dis-
ease that plagues him—at that point, either he has it or he
does not. Rather, at that point, it is the fear of the disease
that will not let him go. Dragging him deeper and deeper
into his own darkness, the fear becomes the source of his
isolation and the cause of his separation from all that sur-
rounds him. It is this fear against which he rebels, thrusting
his hand into his mouth in an act of courage and resis-
tance. For if he allows the fear to hold him, he knows he
will cease to be himself, cease to act in the grace that God
has given him; for fear always binds us in a way that only
love and courage can cure.

Today, faced with a contagious disease that could sicken
or kill the most vulnerable among us, we must be prudent
and cautious in our behaviors. We must use the medical
and hygienic tools available to us to avoid contracting or
passing on the coronavirus—e.g., cancelling some gather-
ings, avoiding shared foods, washing or sanitizing our
hands whenever we come in contact with others. Yet, at
the same time, we must resist that temptation by which
prudence and care become infected with fear—a fear that
too often in recent times has led us into hatred and di-
vision, to scapegoating and demonizing, to blindness of
all the graces we have received and all the graces we are
called to give.

Whenever wise prudence is infected by unreasoning fear—
of terrorism or of immigrants, of fascism or of socialism,
of the media or of the coronavirus—we lose sight of reality
and create separation and alienation from ourselves, from
others, and from God. Like Ignatius on the streets of Paris,
we can begin to forget who we are and who we are called
to be. Fear is a disease more virulent and insidious than
coronavirus; a disease that closes our eyes, and strands us
in the isolation which is the essence of sin. When it con-
trols our lives, fear robs us of passion and commitment,
of light and hope, of great desires and joyous, generous
love. It leaves us hunkered down in a bunker of our own
making, with a faith that cannot comprehend the passion
of the prophet in the desert nor the sacrifice of the Son of
God hanging on the cross.

God has filled us with wisdom, and calls us to be prudent;
but God has not called us to be safe, small, or fearful.
Rather, even in these times of challenge, the command-
ment remains: “Love one another, as I have loved you.”
These are not words of compromise nor of resignation;
these are words of fearless compassion, backed up by the
very life and death of Christ himself. So, as we work to
safeguard ourselves and our loved ones in these days of
contagion, let us not surrender our best selves; let us not
forget we are beloved of God; let us remain courageous in
love to all who need our care.
Second Sunday in Lent

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

Introit

Those Who Seek Your Face, Lord

Those who seek your face, Lord, with a pure heart shall stand in your holy place.

Call To Worship - Please Stand

Tolling of the Bells

Entrance Song

Grant To Us

Grant to us, O Lord, a heart renewed;
Recreate in us your own Spirit, Lord!

Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord our God, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel. Ref.

Deep within their being I will implant my law; I will write it in their hearts. Ref.

I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Ref.

And for all their faults I will grant forgiveness: nevermore will I remember their sins. Ref.

Confiteor

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Kyrie

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. 

Cantor: All:

Christe eleison. Christe eleison.

Cantor: All:

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.
First Reading  
**Genesis 12:1-4a**

The LORD said to Abram: “Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father’s house to a land that I will show you.

“I will make of you a great nation, 
and I will bless you; 
I will make your name great, 
so that you will be a blessing. 
I will bless those who bless you 
and curse those who curse you. 
All the communities of the earth shall find blessing in you.”

Abram went as the LORD directed him.

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Responsorial Psalm  
*Psalm 33*  
**Haugen**

Let your mercy be on us, O God, as we place our trust in you. 
Your words, O God, are truth indeed, and all your works are ever faithful; 
You love justice and right, Your compassion fills all creation. Ref. 
See how the eye of God is watching, ever guarding all who wait in hope, 
To deliver them from death and sustain them in time of famine. Ref. 
Our soul is waiting for God, for God is our health and our shield. 
May your kindness, O God, be upon us who place our hope in you. Ref.

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Second Reading  
**2 Timothy 1:8b-10**

Beloved: Bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God.

He saved us and called us to a holy life, not according to our works but according to his own design and the grace bestowed on us in Christ Jesus before time began, but now made manifest through the appearance of our savior Christ Jesus, who destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

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Gospel Acclamation  
**Vermulst**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. King of endless glory! 
“From the shining cloud the Father’s voice was heard: This is my beloved Son, listen to him.”
Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9

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

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

Homily

Glen Butterworth, S.J.

Rite of Reception and Confirmation (5:30)

(5:30) Veni Sancte Spiritus

Berthier

Offertory Songs

Choral / Cantor: Jesus The Very Thought of Thee

Bernard of Clairvaux / Simon Lole

Jesus, the very thought of thee with sweetness fills my breast;
But sweeter far thy face to see and in thy presence rest.

Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame, nor can the mem’ry find
A sweeter sound than thy blest name, O Savior of mankind!

O hope of ev’ry contrite heart, O joy of all the meek,
To those who fall, how kind thou art! How good to those who seek!

But what to those who find? Ah, this nor tongue nor pen can show,
The love of Jesus, what it is none but his loved ones know.

Jesus, our only joy be thou, as thou our prize wilt be;
Jesus, be thou our glory now, and thru eternity.
(5:30) Transfigure Us, O Lord

Hurd

Holy, Holy, Holy

Chant

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

Mystery of Faith

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord,

Great Amen

Amen.

Lamb of God

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: do-na no-bis pa-cem.
1. You have called us each by name in your great compassion, encompassing our failings with mercy.
   ALL: God of mercy, lead us.

2. Slow to anger, rich in love, you bestow forgiveness. May we, in turn, forgive those who harm us.
   ALL: God of mercy, lead us.

3. In our midst as one who serves, breaking down divisions, to all in need you send us as neighbor.
   ALL: God of mercy, lead us.

4. Reaching out to those in pain, wounded and abandoned, may we create safe havens for healing.
   ALL: God of mercy, lead us.

5. In the word of truth you speak, word of hope and challenge, you summon us to speak for the voiceless.
   ALL: God of mercy, lead us.

6. In this Bread we break and share, in this Cup of blessing, you summon us to work for true justice.
   ALL: God of mercy, lead us.

Mercy, O God

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

**Tolling Bell**

(5:30) You Are the Voice

*Haas*

Praise for the light that shines through the night, from darkness to light, from death to new life, and praise to the morning that brings forth the sun, to open our eyes to the Lord! To open our eyes to the Lord! *Ref.*

Praise for the water that springs from the sea, the seed that gives life to all who believe, God’s love overflowing, our hearts know the joy to be daughters and sons of the Lord! To be daughters and sons of the Lord! *Ref.*

Praise for the singing and praise for the dance, with new heart and voice, all raise the song of praise to creation; all heaven and earth, come sing of the glory of God! Come sing of the glory of God! *Ref.*
Habitat For Humanity Parish Build

When: Saturday March 21st from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM (although you can always leave early if necessary)

Where: Pacific, WA (more details to follow if you sign up for the build)

How: You can either drive to the job site and meet the parish team in Pacific or you can meet up at St. Joseph’s parking lot around 8 AM to carpool to Pacific for the day.

Who: Please reach out to Charlie Stiens if you are interested in attending by emailing him at cstiens326@gmail.com. We are limited to only 10-12 spots so please sign up sooner, rather than later.

Additional Information: You must be over the age of 18 to volunteer or accompanied by a parent/guardian if you are 16-17 years old. Work will relate to construction of a home and will involve some form of manual labor so come prepared to have fun and get sweaty. Lunch will be provided!

Racial Justice Book Group

Please join us for our next meeting on Tuesday, March 10th at 7pm in the Parish Center to discuss the book Born a Crime: Stories From a South African Childhood by Trevor Noah. Our group provides a safe and respectful place to address racism through the lens of the Gospel, and for discerning action steps in response. Please email racialjusticebookgroup@stjosephparish.org with any questions, to RSVP or if the cost of purchasing the book is an obstacle.

Rice Bowl

CRS Rice Bowl is Catholic Relief Services’ Lenten faith-in-action program. It offers opportunities for your family to engage daily with the spiritual pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. And it’s an opportunity for our parish/school to come together as a community and reflect on what it means to live our Gospel call to seek those in distress and help those in need. During the next 40 days, we will encounter the stories of people in Kenya, Vietnam, and Honduras where CRS is at work. We’ll be invited to eat simple, meatless meals from these countries. And, through the stories, we’ll learn about the principles of Catholic social teaching—and ways we can put them into action during Lent and beyond. We will reflect on how we are called to recognize the needs of our global human family. We will see how our prayers, fasting and almsgiving can provide for those worldwide who are most in need, especially those who are hungry and lack proper nutrition.

Meet Trinh

Trinh’s family are farmers in Vietnam who have been affected by climate change. What would you do if your source of nutrition was threatened? How can we support those whose livelihoods are vulnerable to weather? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.
Camp Give Back!

A week-long service-learning camp for rising 3rd-8th graders.

Students participate in community service, reflections, develop empathy for those who are disadvantaged, and finish the week feeling empowered to make change in their community.

Open to students entering 3rd-8th grade in the fall of 2020

Offered in two sessions – register for either or both!

Session One: June 15-19, 2020. Camp Hours: 9 am to 3 pm.

Session Two: June 22-26. Camp Hours: 9 am to 3 pm

Register at: www.stjosephparish.org

Children’s Faith Formation Schedule

**Have you signed up for a mass on First Communion Weekend? Contact Claire Hansen to sign up for which mass your child will participate in.

** Chalice making is here. It is required for all parish and school families.

- Sunday March 8th from 1-3PM
- Monday March 9th from 2:45-5PM
- Tuesday, March 10th from 2-4PM

Confirmation

- Volunteers are needed to lead next fall’s Middle School Confirmation Program, which will meet 2 - 4 times a month from September through January.
- The program will meet on Sundays from 12:30pm-2:00pm.
- It will include a retreat (1 full day) and some service experiences (1/2 day).
- Contact (claireh@stjosephparish.org) if you’d like more information or if you’d like to talk about volunteering.
**Seniors On The Go**

**Tuesday, March 24th** - Senior Matinee Play - BABETTE’S FEAST at the Taproot Theatre. Leave from St. Joseph at 11:30 am then lunch at a Greenwood restaurant followed by the play at 2 pm. (Cost $15.00 for ticket plus lunch). Seating is limited. Tickets must be pre-paid. Deadline to purchase ticket is 3/10/2021. For details contact Renee at the Parish Center 206-965-1640 or rleet@stjosephparish.org

**Young Adult Ministry**

**Justice Café**

Another session of Justice Café will take place on March 18, 2020 from 7:00pm-8:30PM in Xavier Room. Justice Café, a ministry of Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center, is designed to give young adults the space to engage in conversation on issues of global and local concern and make connections between spirituality and justice. This month’s café theme is Plastics. We will be discussing the current environmental dilemma that is filling our oceans with 8 million tons of plastic. If you would like to discuss care of creation in the context of faith, come join us! Warm beverages will be provided, bring a snack to share! For more information contact Samantha at syanity@ipjc.or or 206-223-1138.

**Join us for our Quarterly Planning meeting**

Monday March 9th | 7:00-8:30pm | Parish Center

Newcomers are always welcome. Spread the word!

Our agenda is to evaluate our past events and plan out events for the upcoming months (recapping events Dec – Feb and planning for March – June ). If there is an event you would like to see our Young Adult group do, this is the place to be to make that happen! For more details contact Deacon at 206-965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org or Catherine Vallejo at catherinebvallejo@gmail.com

**Service Project**

Saturday, March 28th 10:00am - 2pm
St. Vincent De Paul Georgetown Food Bank

Join your fellow young adults for our Spring service project by supporting St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) to benefit their Georgetown Food Bank. Your volunteer work would consist of bagging items and distributing food to our neighbors who visit the food bank for food and clothing. SVDP heavily relies on a volunteer workforce, so this is a great way for us to help SVdP better provide for those most in need.

If you are interested in carpooling or have any questions, please contact Dan Popoff dan.popoff@gmail.com

**Sacrifice: Bach's Saint Matthew Passion**

On Friday, March 20th, here at St. Joseph, Orchestra Seattle and the Seattle Chamber Singers will present a performance of the Saint Matthew Passion unlike any that has yet appeared in Seattle, bringing the passion story vividly to life with staging, costumes, and supertitles, blurring the lines between concert, opera, and oratorio. A roster of superb soloists joins, including local favorites Arwen Myers, Brendan Tuohy, and José Rubio.

General admission tickets are $25 for adults, $20 for seniors, $10 for Under 30, and FREE for students and youth (18 and under).

For more information, and to purchase tickets, please visit www.osscs.org

**Women's Ministry**

**Coffee Connect**

Saturday, 3/14/2019 at 11:00 am
VIOS Cafe (note: NOT Macrina Bakery - too noisy)

All welcome. Questions:
Gayle at gaylesommerfeld@msn.com
An LGBTQ+ Lenten Soup with Substance

March 25th | 6:30-8:00 PM | Arrupe Room in the Parish Center
732 18th Ave E, Seattle

Please come and join other LGBTQ+ Parishioners for a simple meal of soup, salad and bread. The focus of our Lenten gathering will be fellowship, prayerful reflection and discussion focused around the raising of Lazarus.

Please RSVP for this event so we can know how much food to provide. Freewill offering of $5 will be accepted, but all are welcome; do not let money keep you from this meal and fellowship.

For more information or to RSVP
email theresimal@stjosephparish.org or call 206-965-1651
St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions: For those who are suffering in many different ways, may we give them strength and hope through our love and caring and listening and through our prayers.

“Lord, help us to accept the pains and conflicts that come to us each day as opportunities to grow and to become more like you.”

~Mother Teresa

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.

Irish Mass For Peace

Please join us for the St. Patrick’s Day tradition of the annual Mass for Peace in Ireland and Around the World at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church, 2702 Broadway East, Seattle, at 10:00 AM on Friday, March 13. This Mass for Peace is an annual opportunity for us to come together and pray for peace in Ireland, in our world, and in our families. We hope to see you there!

Pray the Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent at 11:00 am. All are in the church.

St. Joseph Financial Update

Some facts about our financials through February 2020. Our ordinary income is up $76,000 from last year (as you may recall, last year we experienced a budget shortfall that resulted in us asking parishioners to make up the difference). Our Parish Stewardship Campaign has seen significant growth, over 50% of parishioners participated with a pledge and our pledges are up more than $300,000 from last year, truly we are grateful for the increase in participation. I really want to thank everyone who participated in our Stewardship Campaign. Both the number of parishioners participating and the dollars pledged are up over last year. This community continues to amaze me with their active participation and generosity. We are going to be able to complete some building and maintenance projects this spring. First up on the list is a new railing to the entry of the Parish Center and the long awaited new doors to the Social Hall. As always, please don’t hesitate to reach out with any questions, comments or concerns at marti@stjosephparish.org or 206.965.1648.

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<th>Current Fiscal Year to 2/20</th>
<th>Budget</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ordinary Income</td>
<td>$1,107,376.87</td>
<td>$1,160,600.00</td>
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<td>Donations and Fundraisers</td>
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<td>Proceeds from Endowment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$1,169,389.47</td>
<td>$1,208,454.00</td>
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What is the Novena of Grace?

If you’re seeking a Lenten practice to help deepen your relationship with God, consider the Novena of Grace, a retreat offered amid the busyness of daily life. Rather than going away for nine days to a retreat center, the retreat is presented within the context of a one-hour liturgy each day. Join us during your lunch hour for the Eucharist at 12:30 pm at SU’s Chapel of St. Ignatius (1:00 pm on weekends). Or unwind with contemplative evening prayer (without Eucharist) at the end of your day at 6:30 pm at St. Joseph Church. Join us for one, some or all of the nine days. Choose any combination of times and locations and/or make the retreat online at www.ignatiancenter.org/novenaofgrace.

You’ll experience excellent preaching from three Ignatian-inspired presenters, powerful prayers of petition, beautiful music and optional prayers for healing at the end. Open to persons of any age and spiritual background, it offers you time to open yourself to the Spirit and experience healing and transforming grace.

The Novena’s origins date to 1633, when tradition says St. Francis Xavier appeared to a priest in a healing vision and promised that all who would earnestly ask his intercession with God for nine days would experience profound grace. The Novena survives today as an annual tradition which is continually updated to remain relevant to the daily lives of retreat-goers.