



ST. JOSEPH PARISH

THE JESUIT PARISH IN SEATTLE

Sunday, November 29, 2020 * First Sunday in Advent* www.stjosephparish.org



1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.” - Mk 13:33

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 29, 2020**

**Livestream Mass 5pm Saturday
on our YouTube Channel: St. Joseph, Seattle**
Sunday Mass - 9:30AM & 5:30 PM
(Must register before attending)

Weekday Mass Schedule
Monday - Friday, 7 am, YouTube

Readings for December 6, 2020
FIRST READING: ISAIAH 40:1-5, 9-11
SECOND READING: 2 PETER 3:8-14
GOSPEL: MARK 1:1-8

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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

News from the Council: St. Joe's Young Adult Community Thriving in 2020

By Catherine Vallejo and Alex Vallejo

The St. Joe's Young Adult group is a spirited, faithful, and service-oriented group that seeks to live out St. Joe's mission to love and serve all. The group is diverse - we come from many different careers and stages of life, from those who just moved to Seattle for their first jobs, families introducing their first kids, and everybody in between! While our official programming focuses on spirituality, socializing, and service (sometimes all at once), the magic of the group lies in the deep & lasting relationships developed outside of official events. The St. Joe's young adult community has been uniquely challenged during the COVID pandemic, as many of us are relatively new to the city, live alone, work remotely, and are far from family. However, this hasn't stopped us from coming together as a community for mutual support, spiritual sustenance, and fun!

Despite our entire summer schedule being scrapped, the community has maintained its energy through the pandemic through a variety of COVID-safe programming including virtual bible study, socially distanced happy hours, online faith sharing, and other ad hoc events. Our young adult bible study recently finished the book of Psalms & are now discussing C.S. Lewis' *The Great Divorce*. Happy hours are virtual and have featured competitive trivia nights and special guests like Fr. Glen & Fr. Matthew. Other events included a socially distanced corn maze adventure, discussions about "prayer 101," and Habitat for Humanity builds. During the corn maze adventure, we learned that wandering around and chatting is a lot more fun than trying to set the fastest known time for the maze! The community has responded to the unique social challenges of 2020 through events like a prayer vigil for racial justice and a happy hour dedicated to raising money for the Equal Justice Initiative.

Looking forward, we are excited by the addition of new members, the energy of the community members, and some of our favorite winter events — the annual retreat & white elephant Christmas party (in whatever virtual form they may take)! We would love to have you join us! It's easy - just email us at youngadultcommunity@stjosephparish.org to get connected. You can also find event listings and updates at <https://www.facebook.com/stjosephyoungadultcommunity>

Advent Reflections: Liturgical Updates from the St. Joseph Art and Environment Committee

By Katy Callaghan Huston, MAPS

Liturgy is the work of the people. We gather to hear the Word of God, to praise God in sung and spoken prayer, to share the bread and the wine at the Table of the Lord, and to go forth in service to God's People. With the major changes mandated by Pope Paul VI, following the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) we were given the mandate, multiple times, to "adapt" the liturgy according to cultural, and other, needs.

You know already that it is the COVID-19 pandemic that is causing recent adaptations. Advent begins this year on November 29 - that is the start of our new church year. In a typical year you would see the Advent wreath with its four candles suspended over the altar. This year hanging the wreath above the altar does not work visually for live-streaming Mass—the camera cannot "see" it. We are going to get creative, though! The Advent wreath will be present, just in a different way.

The circle of the Advent Wreath symbolizes eternity, and the four candles have meanings that we will explore each week. Many families repeat the tradition at home as a way of deepening and making spiritual preparations more intimate and personal. Consider making a simple evergreen wreath with three purple candles and one pink candle to light whenever your family gathers. Lighting candles is one way of bringing light into this quiet and dark season. You will see other signs of Advent blending into Christmas in the coming weeks as we journey together through the darkness into light.

If you have an interest/special skill in liturgical art and would like to be part of this group, please contact Fr. Matthew Pyrc at mpyrc@stjosephparish.org

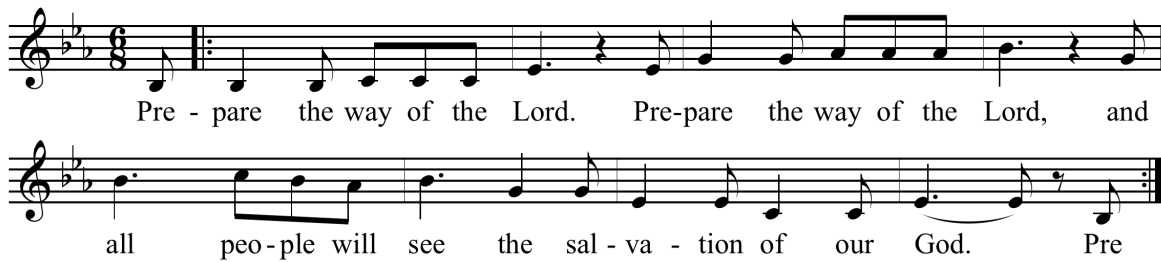


FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

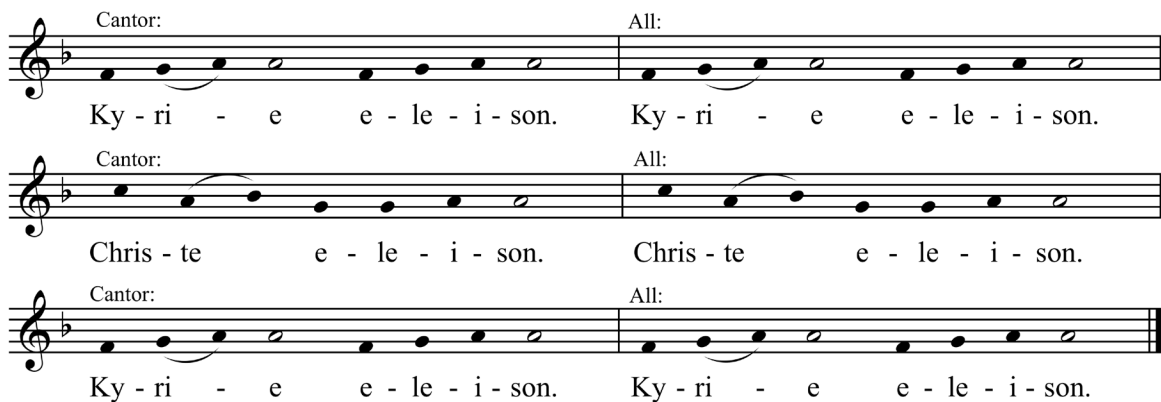
Entrance Song

Prepare the Way Of the Lord

Taize



Kyrie



First Reading

You, LORD, are our father,
our redeemer you are named forever.
Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from your ways,
and harden our hearts so that we fear you not?
Return for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your heritage.
Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,
with the mountains quaking before you,
while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for,
such as they had not heard of from of old.
No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you
doing such deeds for those who wait for him.
Would that you might meet us doing right,
that we were mindful of you in our ways!
Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful;
all of us have become like unclean people,
all our good deeds are like polluted rags;
we have all withered like leaves,
and our guilt carries us away like the wind.

Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7

There is none who calls upon your name,
who rouses himself to cling to you;
for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered us up to our guilt.
Yet, O LORD, you are our father;
we are the clay and you the potter:
we are all the work of your hands.



Psalm

Psalm 80 Lord, Make Us Turn To You

Mayernik



Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we— shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us, enthroned on the cherubim, shine forth.
Rouse up your might and come to save us. *Ref.*

God of hosts, turn again, we implore; look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted,
the son of man you have claimed for yourself. *Ref.*

May your hand be on the man at your right hand,
the son of man you have confirmed as your own.
And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name. *Ref.*

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always on your account for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus, that in him you were enriched in every way, with all discourse and all knowledge, as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will keep you firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Chant Alleluia

Murray



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

Show us Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation.



Gospel

Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gate-keeper to be on the watch. Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

Profession of Faith

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us (men) and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
All bow.
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
All stand upright.

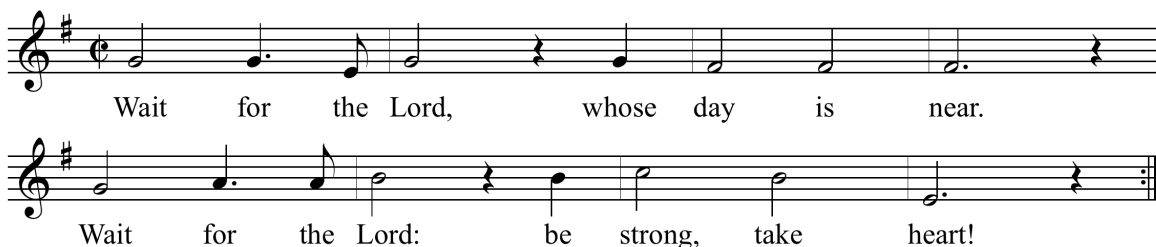
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was
buried,
and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offertory Song

Wait For the Lord

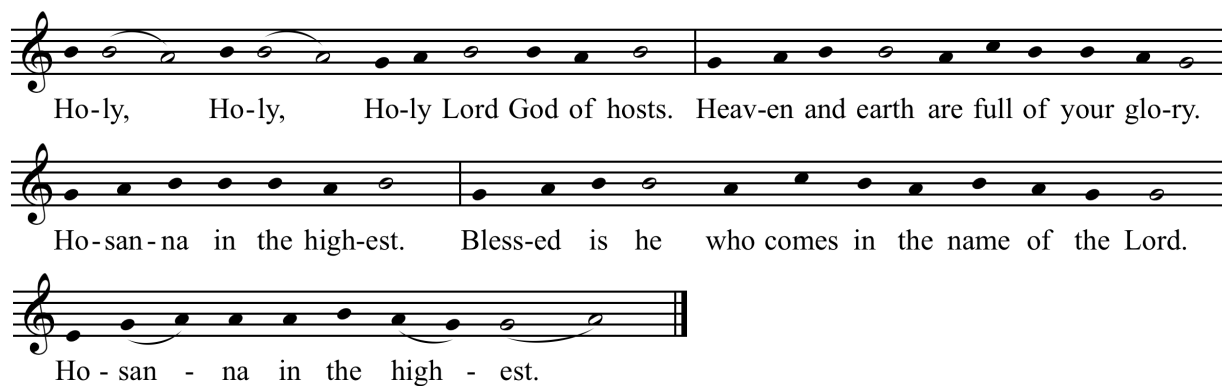
Taize



Holy, Holy, Holy

Chant Mass

Taize

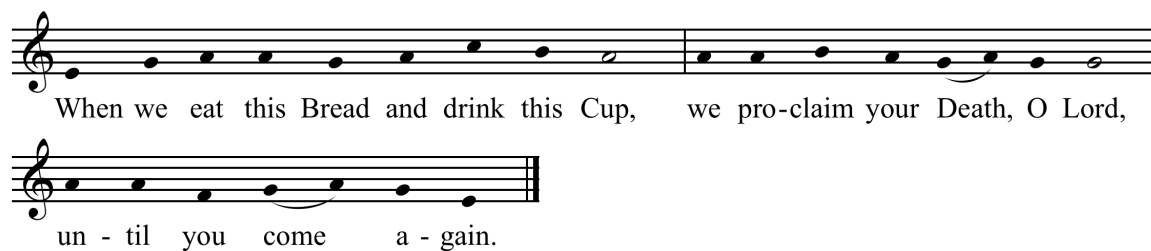


Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord God of hosts. Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry.

Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Mystery of Faith



When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro-claim your Death, O Lord,

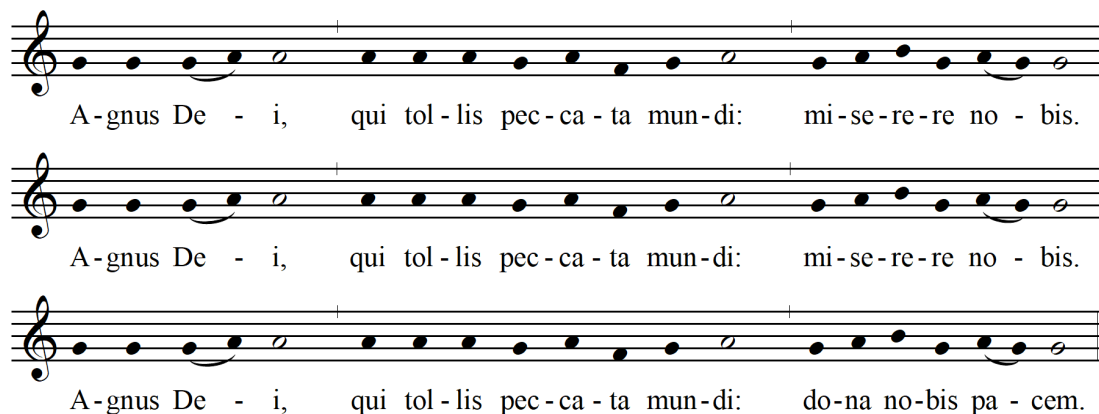
un - til you come a - gain.

Great Amen



A - men.

Lamb of God



A-gnus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun-di: mi-se-re-re no - bis.

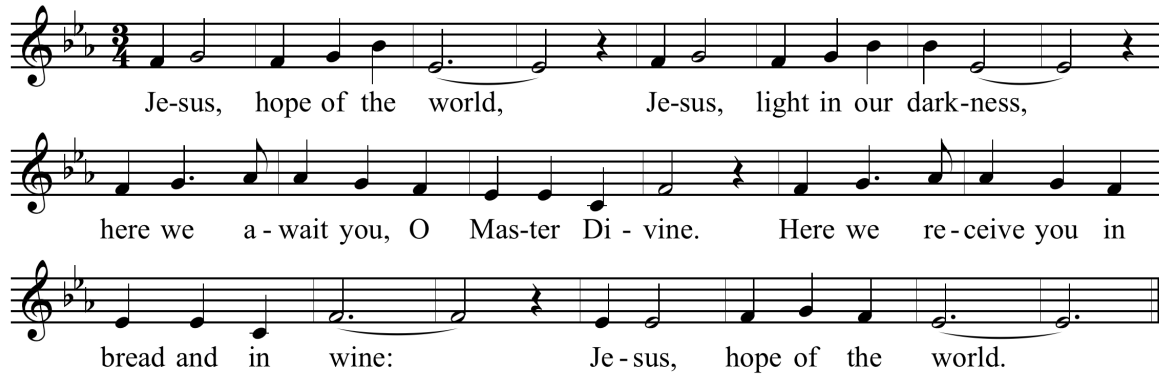
A-gnus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun-di: mi-se-re-re no - bis.

A-gnus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun-di: do-na no-bis pa - cem.

Communion

Jesus, Hope of the World

Tate



1. Cantor: Come to us, O Son of God!

All: Come, Lord Jesus!

Cantor: Come to us, O Son of Man!

All: Come, Lord Jesus!

Cantor: Come, Son of God! Come, Son of Man!

All: Shepherd your people in love!

2. Cantor: Come to us, O Promised King!

All: Come, Lord Jesus!

Cantor: Come to us, O Promised Peace!

All: Come, Lord Jesus!

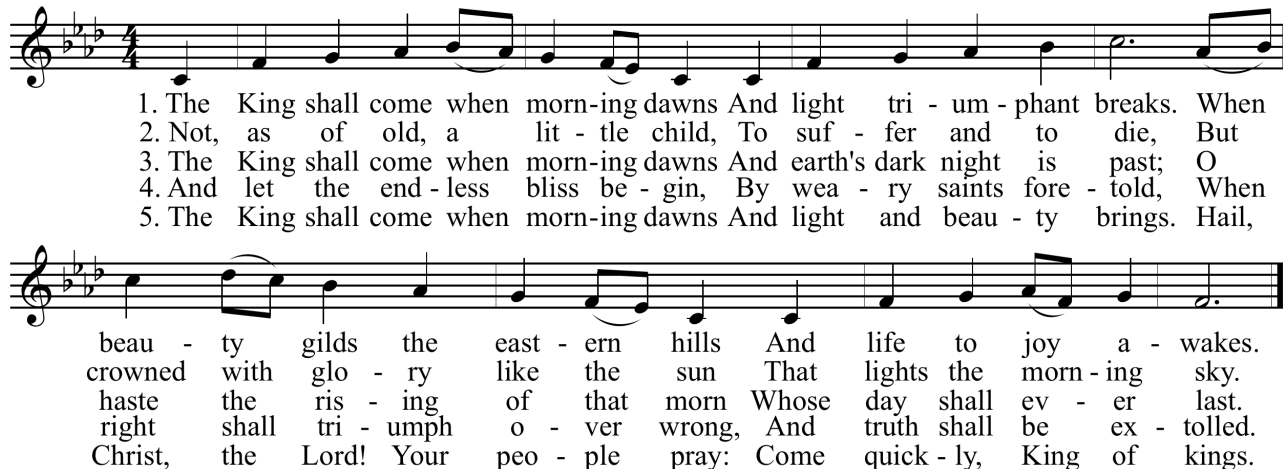
Cantor: Come, Promised King! Come, Promised Peace!

All: Come and be Lord of our hearts!

Recessional

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

MORNING SONG/Brownlie



LITURGY & WORSHIP

1st Friday Online Healing Prayer Service

December 4th - 11:30am – 12:30pm

In keeping with our tradition of gathering every 1st Friday for our Healing Mass, we invite you to join us for an online Healing Prayer service led by Sr. Mary Annette Dworshak, Deacon Steve Wodzanowski, and Bob McCaffery-Lent.

This is open to anyone who wants to join with others to pray for healing, individually and collectively. If you want to participate, contact Deacon Steve and he will send you the Zoom link or instructions to call in: stevew@stjo-sephparish.org or 206-965-1646. [You can also register here for the Zoom link.](#)

PARISH LIFE

St. Joseph Men's Ministry Advent Morning of Prayer

Join us on Sunday, December 5th, at 9am on Zoom for "Advent: What are you waiting for? A morning of quiet prayer, reflection and fellowship in preparation for the Christmas Season."

**Saturday, December 5th
9:00am – 11:00 am on Zoom**

Animators: Chris Jones, Kirk Boys, Paul Freiburger, and Vince Herberholt

To get the Zoom link, Contact Deacon Steve at (206)965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org

Young Adult Advent Bible Study – Tuesdays

Join us every Thursday from December 3rd through the end of Advent as we read through Bishop Robert Barron's Advent Study (we have a limited number of free copies to hand out)! This is a great opportunity to dive deeper into your faith through thought-provoking and encouraging discussions. Contact youngadultcommunity@stjosephparish.org to join!

Prayer Shawl Ministry Tuesdays on Zoom

Did you know? The Prayer Shawl Ministry is still meeting (virtually)! Our next meeting is **Tuesday, December 1st from 7- 8:30 pm, via Zoom.**

We spend time in prayer and friendship, while knitting or crocheting our blankets and shawls. We welcome all levels of experience, and all kinds of crafters and "want to be" crafters. Please contact Sheila Prusa at prayer-shawl@stjosephparish.org for the Zoom link.

Community News

Baby Corner Important Update

Thank you for your generous contributions to Baby Corner at St. Joe's. At this time, we are only able to accept diapers and wipes – please do not leave other items for Baby Corner. We will let you know, of course, when things are back to normal!

Book by Parishioner

Looking for meditative reading this Advent? L. Patrick Carroll, a long-time parishioner and former co-pastor of St. Joe's, has just published a book collection of his homilies for all three liturgical cycles. *Take-Home Homilies* is an excellent resource for individual prayer or for group discussion. Copies are available from Madison Books or [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

Rental Opportunity

Long time parishioner is renting a recently updated cozy mother-in-law apartment starting on November 1st close to St. Joseph church. If interested, please contact Leo at 206 683 2963 and he would be happy to discuss next steps.

Prayer
Tree

"If it is possible, as much as lieth within you, live peaceably with all men."
~Romans 12:18

**We pray for the intentions of
Bert and Val, Larry and Margo, John and Terri,
Preston and Matt, Cameron, Carolyn,
Riley, and Lucy.**

FAITH JUSTICE

St. Joseph Giving Tree

Between November 20th, and December 16th, St. Joe's is again hosting the annual Giving Tree! You can take an ornament off the tree in the church vestibule OR [sign up online here](#).

- Please choose an ornament and purchase the requested item.
- If your item does not indicate whether to wrap the gift or to leave it unwrapped, please leave the gift UNWRAPPED.
- Please attach the ornament/tag you received to the wrapped/unwrapped gift.
- Bring your giving tree donations back to the St. Joseph Giving Tree or the Parish Center (or have it mailed to 732 18th Ave East, Seattle, WA 98112).

Note: The last day of our collection is Monday, December 16th. Thank you for supporting one of our Outreach Partners! If you have any questions regarding the Giving Tree, **please contact Deacon Steve at steve@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646.**

Zoom with Representative Nicole Macri on Homelessness

Mark your calendars! Do you want to advocate for our underhoused friends and neighbors? Are you interested in combating the systemic problems that cause homelessness? Join a Zoom call with State Representative Nicole Macri (who is also an expert on housing policy) and members of St. Joe's to discuss strategies and actions to help those most hard-hit by the pandemic and recession.

Thursday, December 3rd - 5:30pm – 6:30pm

Email Deacon Steve (steve@stjosephparish.org) for the Zoom link.

Racial Justice Book Group - *The 1619 Project*

Dec. 9th, 7pm on Zoom

Please join us on December 9 at 7pm for a discussion of all six episodes of the "1619" project. Each episode is thirty to forty minutes in length.

The '1619' project is a Podcast From The New York Times. It is an audio series on how slavery has transformed America, connecting past and present through the oldest form of storytelling.

To listen, visit: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/23/podcasts/1619-podcast.html>

To RSVP and for the Zoom link, please contact racialjusticebookgroup@stjosephparish.org



St. Joseph Parish Seattle Conference

**St. Vincent de Paul
Oct 2019 - Sep 2020**

Neighbors Directly Served: **511**

Person-to-Person & Virtual Visits: **273**

South County Families Served: **~70**

Your Donations

In Church / Mail / Online: **\$96858**

Financial Assistance Provided Through Your Donations

Total: **\$76,688**

Rent (incl So. County): **\$51,486**

Utilities: **\$2,287**

Food and Other Needs: **\$22,915**

Whether the need is guidance with available resources, financial help, or conversation the St. Joseph Parish - St. Vincent De Paul conference works to keep our neighbors from being hungry or cold and provides support in their home

For more information please contact svdp@stjosephparish.org

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

Bring Light to Your Community this Advent through Service

We understand many of you may be feeling distant from your friends and fellow St. Joseph parishioners during this COVID-19 pandemic. For several months, our ability to come together as a community has been limited. As we approach the Advent season, we want to provide service opportunities for families, including those with children of all ages, to reconnect with their Catholic spirituality through service and reflection. The St. Joseph Family Service Working Group has developed the following opportunities:

Preparing meals for St. Martin de Porres Shelter

Preparing Christmas stockings or cookie decorating kits for L'Arche

Preparing Christmas letters for elderly parishioners

Family Service Bingo – If you're viewing this online, click here for a service "bingo" board – This is a more informal service opportunity providing ideas for you and your family to do service during the Advent season.

For more information about these activities and to sign up, email Claire Hansen (claireh@stjosephparish.org).

November Magis

Have you finished the saint scavenger hunt from the November Magis? Called "Bingo!!" on your kids for their acts of kindness? For these and other ideas of how to share your faith with your kids, please click here: <https://www.stjosephparish.org/magis>

Sacramental Preparation for Older Children

For youth who are between 4th grade and high school, RCIA/c (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, Adapted for Children!) is the process of preparing to join the Catholic Church or "catching up" on missed Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist). **To enroll your child in this program, please contact Claire Hansen at claireh@stjosephparish.org**

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Accompany a New Catholic!

We are in need of 4-6 adults who can be a faith companion to someone going through the RCIA process to join the Catholic faith.

As a sponsor you are assigned a Confirmandi (Baptized Catholic adult), Candidate (Baptized adult), or Catechumen (Unbaptized adult) whose continuing faith journey you will share. Being a Sponsor is like being a trusted friend. You share what you can about your own faith journey. You serve as a bridge to the larger St. Joseph community. You listen and you pray.

Each relationship between a Sponsor and a Candidate or Catechumen is unique. As a Sponsor, you walk with them through a formation process that culminates with initiation into the Church. You are not expected to know every aspect of the Church's teaching, but rather simply to be a guide, an example of a Catholic living your faith as best as you can. If interested, please contact Deacon Steve at stevev@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646.

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Corner with Mary Wiseman

What will Thanksgiving mean this year, in the face of so many challenges and so much loss? What can we find to be grateful for? And how can we celebrate, while our lives are still so thoroughly disrupted, and our hopes to have a normal holiday season have been diminished?

The truth is, even on difficult days, in difficult times, I know that there are things to be grateful for. When we choose to be positive, we become aware of the things in our lives that are good, it naturally leads us into opportunities to express gratitude for the things that we do have.

In pondering this, I inevitably realize that I am thankful for community. Here at St Joseph we are so lucky to have a vibrant community that offers us the chance to not only be cared for, but also opportunities to care for one another.

So how can we support each other in these times? I thought of a few simple ways:

Prayer is more than just saying 'thank you' to God. Prayer is a powerful opportunity to talk to God and to lift up our concerns and hopes. Pray in solidarity for our brothers and sisters here and around the world who are sick, and for those who have lost loved ones to this virus. May God console them and grant them peace.

Pray for doctors, nurses, and caregivers, for public health officials, and all civic leaders. May God grant them courage and prudence as they seek to respond to this emergency with compassion and in service to the common good.

Pray for those with mental health concerns, as well as those who feel increasingly lonely during this time. May they be comforted by calls and letters of love and encouragement.

Serve others by providing food or helping with programs that build greater companionship with the poor or marginalized. Serve others by bringing awareness to racial inequality and injustice.

Serve by checking on your friends and neighbors. Continue to reach out and care for one another through phone calls, emails, and social media. Reach out to anyone you think might be feeling isolated over the next few weeks.

Give to organizations that serve the community, including St. Joe's. In addition to text-to-give and online giving, you can still drop checks off at the church vestibule (in our new drop-box), or mail it to St. Joseph Parish at 732 18th Ave E, Seattle, WA 98112.

Also located in the church vestibule – a new [Dip Jar](#) donation box. You can simply insert your credit card to make a \$20 donation – stay tuned for a video on our YouTube and Facebook pages that shows how easy it is!

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me at maryw@stjosephparish.org or call me at (206) 324-2522 ext.114 with any questions or concerns.

Peace and blessings,



Mary Wiseman
Pastoral Assistant for Stewardship
maryw@stjosephparish.org (206) 324-2522 x114

Text To Give

(360) 502-7257

Simply text the amount you want to give and follow the instructions.



ST. JOSEPH PARISH
THE JESUIT PARISH IN SEATTLE

Dear St. Joseph Family,

November 13, 2020

We want to keep you up to date on the latest news regarding the COVID-19 pandemic in our city, and ask for solidarity in beating back this virus. Infections are spiking in [King County](#), and that impacts us all. NOW is the time for us to demonstrate love for one another in some very real ways.

There are three straightforward ways through which we can all love one another at this time:

1. **FOLLOW STATE AND LOCAL HEALTH DIRECTIVES AND RECOMMENDATIONS** - "Pandemic fatigue" affects us all, but now is not the time to become lax about following guidelines that have been shown to work: frequent hand washing, maintaining a six foot distance from people that are not in your household including in the church itself and, most importantly, wearing masks, even in your home when guests are there. This applies even to people that are in your extended "bubble."
2. **BLOCK THE VIRUS' ABILITY TO SPREAD** - We all want to spend time with friends and family during the upcoming holiday season, but experts tell us that we should severely limit the number of people we socialize with who are outside our immediate household. Consider alternative ways to celebrate safely, including virtual gatherings, or hosting holiday gatherings after self-quarantining for two weeks beforehand. The reality is that quarantining is not an easy thing to do, and we must be honest with each other about our COVID mitigation behaviors. (While getting a test prior to gatherings is a useful indicator, a negative test does *not* guarantee that a person is not infectious. [See CDC guidelines for more information.](#))

[Washington State guidelines](#) suggest that outside gatherings are preferable, as they significantly decrease the chance of viral spread. Stay six feet apart from one another, and wear a mask if you cannot maintain that distance. If gathering inside, wear a mask, except to eat or drink. When eating or drinking, keep a six-foot distance between people. Increase ventilation by opening windows.

3. **GET YOUR FLU SHOT** - Health experts tell us that it is crucial that we all get our flu shots this year. A reduction in flu cases will take pressure off the rapidly increasing pressure on our health care system.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR OUR PARISH?

We must do our part by following health guidance and blocking the virus. Parish ministries will continue to adhere to stringent guidelines, based on the best available data and vetted by our Health Advisory Board. Mass is at the heart of our ministries here at St. Joseph, and although we do not want to suspend our limited in-person Masses, it is very likely that we will have to at some point, given the reality of the situation. We pray that any restrictions are only necessary for a short time, and that we can stop the spread, together. Mass provides a vital lifeline to many, and we understand the tension in providing for the various needs of the community, including spiritual and psychological needs. Be assured that we will only go forward with activities that are well managed. Of course, we will communicate any changes to in-person liturgies via all parish communication channels. **Your health and safety is, and always will be, our highest priority. Remember that we all have a responsibility to each other – we show our neighbors love by following the guidance of health experts during this time of pandemic.**

In Christ's Love,

Fr. Glen Butterworth, Pastor
Terry Mayberg, M.D., Health Advisory Board

"IGNITED BY THE EUCHARIST TO LOVE & SERVE"

732 18th Avenue East
Seattle, WA 98112
206-324-2522
www.stjosephparish.org

THE MAGIS FAMILY FORMATION PROJECT

December 2020

The *Magis* is a family faith sharing guide with a “menu” of options for parents and children to pick readings and/or activities to do together, especially during Covid-19. December’s theme is **Saying Yes to God in Our Lives**, corresponding with Advent and Christmas. Because there is so much we want to share with you this month we have an extended Magis available online at <https://www.stjosephparish.org/magis>

Creating a Homemade Advent Wreath

An evergreen symbol of the passage of the four weeks of Advent



- Make a wreath with a paper plate and some cardboard toilet paper or paper towel tubes. Follow the template at: <https://www.looktohimandberadiant.com/2014/11/kids-advent-wreath-free-printables.html>
- Make a natural wreath by putting 3 purple pillar candles and 1 pink pillar candle in mason jars and arranging the greenery around them
 - Find fresh greenery at Home Depot or your local garden store.
 - Purchase advent candles though Kaufer’s Religious Supplies (5201 4th Ave S, Seattle)
- After you've set up your wreath, raise your hands in blessing and say together: *Each week we add another light. Our hope for Jesus growing bright. We pray, we share, we do our part, to welcome Jesus to our heart*

Advent Examen

The daily examination of conscience, a spiritual practice developed by St. Ignatius of Loyola

1. **Review:** Invite the Holy Spirit to help you see the day as the newborn baby Jesus sees it. What joy have you found today? Where have you felt God’s love?
2. **Thank:** Think about what you are thankful for today. What special things or gifts did you receive today? (thinking about the gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh brought to Jesus)?
3. **Feel:** Take a moment to consider when you felt God today. Recognize your feelings in those moments. How did you prepare your heart for God’s presence in the coming of Jesus?
4. **Pray:** Now take a moment to think about the times when God seemed to be hidden. When may you have seen the need for love and didn’t respond (maybe like the innkeeper), or the opportunity for forgiveness and you walked away?
5. **Hope:** Finally, prepare for the hope of Jesus Christ in your life. Think about what you are hopeful for and what you are looking forward to during Advent and the Christmas season.

Reading Corner

- *Counting to Christmas: Family Advent Devotions and Calendar*
- *The Legend of the Poinsettia* by Tomie dePaola
- *Angela and the Baby Jesus* by Frank McCourt
- *The Gift of the Magi* by O. Henry
- *Santa’s Christmas Prayer*
- *Santa’s Prayer*



Say 'Yes!' to God Advent and Christmas Calendar

We say yes to God when we reach out to others with kindness and pray to God with faithfulness and gratitude.

Use this calendar in collaboration with the Family Conversations about Faith section below.

- **Nov 29** Decorate for Advent & Christmas

- **Dec 1** Get in touch with a friend you miss

- **Dec 2** Pray for the sick

- **Dec 3 Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier**

He said yes to God when he knelt beside St. Ignatius as one of the first Jesuits. Later, he became a missionary to India and Japan. *St Francis Xavier, pray for us!*

- **Dec 4** Let someone go before you in line

- **Dec 5** Give someone your full attention

- **Dec 6 Memorial of Saint Nicholas, the patron saint of children.**

One European tradition is to put your shoes out and wake up to candy or treats! *St. Nicholas, pray for us!*

- **Dec 7** Donate toys to bring a child joy

- **Dec 8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary**

Mother Mary, be at our side to inspire us as we try to be ever nearer to your Son, Jesus.

- **Dec 9** Pray for those who are lonely

- **Dec 10** Light a candle for peace

- **Dec 11** Leave a gift for your postal worker

- **Dec 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

Our Lady of Guadalupe, teach us about God's love for Native and Indigenous people. Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us!

- **Dec 13** Be extra kind to a shy friend

- **Dec 14** Send letters to far-away family

- **Dec 15** Pray for those who are hungry

- **Dec 16** Do a chore without being asked

- **Dec 17** Give a genuine compliment

- **Dec 18** Do a secret act of kindness

- **Dec 19** Go for a walk and pick up litter

- **Dec 20** Visit St. Joseph's and say a prayer

- **Dec 21** Write a note to an elderly neighbor

- **Dec 22** Bring friends Christmas treats

- **Dec 23** Help clean your house for Christmas

- **Dec 24** Sing Christmas Hymns with joy!

- **Dec 25** Give your family a big hug and a kiss.

- **Dec 26 Feast of St. Stephen The Martyr**

St. Stephen was a loyal member of the early Christian community. Christianity was illegal at the time and he was asked to deny his faith; he remained faithful. *St. Stephen the Martyr, pray for us!*

- **Dec 27 Feast of St. John the Apostle and Evangelist**

- **Dec 28 Feast of the Holy Family (Jesus, Mary, and Joseph)**

Do you have a creche or nativity scene in your house? When you look at Jesus in the manger pray: *O Divine Babe of Bethlehem Come and be Born in Our Hearts.*

- **Dec 29** Write notes to thank each person who gave you a gift

- **Dec 30** Help your family by offering to make dinner and do the dishes

- **Dec 31** Make a list of things your grateful for from 2020

