



ST. JOSEPH PARISH

THE JESUIT PARISH IN SEATTLE

Sunday, April 4, 2021 * Easter Sunday * www.stjosephparish.org

LET US

rejoice

AND BE

glad.

PSALM 118

EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 4, 2021

Livestream Mass: 5pm Saturday
on our YouTube channel
(Available for viewing throughout the week)
9:30 AM Sunday
5:30 PM Sunday

Weekday Mass Schedule
Tuesday - Friday, 7 am, YouTube

Readings for April 11, 2021

FIRST READING: ACTS 4:32-35
SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 5:1-6
GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-31

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Mary Helen Bever, Primary School Dir x215
Vince McGovern, Middle School Dir x219



ST. JOSEPH PARISH
THE JESUIT PARISH IN SEATTLE

St. Joseph Parish Pastoral and Mission Council – A New Constitution

Did you know? The Interim Parish Council is now no longer “interim!” That’s because we recently ratified a Council Constitution and Bylaws, governing documents that lay out a path for growth for the Council, the Commissions, and the Parish as a whole. We encourage you, the People of God, to read the Constitution and Bylaws, so that we all can engage collaboratively towards the mission of St. Joseph Parish: “Ignited by the Eucharist to Love and Serve.”

A few highlights: in Article III, you’ll read about how the Council is convened, and how you can get involved. Article V describes bi-annual meetings that are open to all registered parishioners. In the Bylaws, Section VI.3, you’ll see the procedure for bringing a motion before the Council.

The Council has numerous communications and open presentations planned to help parishioners understand the Constitution. Please check the bulletin, website, and e-newsletter for more details as they become available. In the meantime, please to not hesitate to reach out with any questions or clarifications: pastoralandmissioncouncil@stjosephparish.org

Click here to read the Constitution and Bylaws on our website: <https://www.stjosephparish.org/constitution>

Triduum & Easter Liturgy Schedule

Holy Thursday: April 1st 7pm (Also Livestreamed)

Good Friday: April 2nd 7pm (Also Livestreamed)

Easter Vigil: April 3rd 8:30pm (Also Livestreamed)

Easter: April 4th 7am, 9:30am, 11:30am

[*Easter Livestream Mass on YouTube: April 4th, 9:30am](#)

EASTER SUNDAY

Prelude

(7) *Bright Morning Stars*

Collins

(9:30 & 11:30) *He Is Risen*

Carter



He is risen, he is risen! Tell it out with joyful voice.
He has burst his three days prison let the whole wide earth rejoice.
Death is conquered, we are free, Christ has won the victory.

Come, you sad and fearful hearted, with glad smile and radiant brow!
Shadows have departed, Jesus' woes are over now,
And the passion that he bore, sin and pain can vex no more.

He is risen, he is risen! He has opened heaven's gate:
We are free from death's dark prison., risen to a holier state.
And a brighter Easter beam on our longing eyes shall stream. Alleluia, alleluia!

Procession

Earth, Earth, Awake!

LASST UNS ERFREUEN/Stuempfle Jr

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace
to people of good will.

1. We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

3. For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

2. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

First Reading

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Peter proceeded to speak and said: "You know what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree. This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible, not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

Psalm

(7) Psalm 118: This Is the Day

Haugen

"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad."

Give thanks to the Lord for God is good; God's mercy endures forever;
Let the house of Israel say: "God's mercy endures forever." *Ref.*

The hand of the Lord has struck with power, God's right hand is exalted.
I shall not die but live anew, declaring he works of the Lord. *Ref.*

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,
The Lord of love and mercy has brought wonder to our eyes! *Ref.*

(9:30 & 11:30) Psalm For Easter Day

Proulx

"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad."

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; God's love endures forevermore.
So let the children of Israel say: God's love endures forevermore! *Ref.*

The Lord's right hand has triumph brought, the Lord's right hand has raised me up.
I shall not die but I shall live, singing of all God's mighty deeds! *Ref.*

The stone the builders would not use has now become the cornerstone.
Such wonders are the work of the Lord, and they are marvels in our sight! *Ref.*



Second Reading

1 Corinthians 5:6b-8

Brothers and sisters: Do you not know that a little yeast leavens all the dough? Clear out the old yeast, so that you may become a fresh batch of dough, inasmuch as you are unleavened. For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us celebrate the feast, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Gospel Acclamation

"Alleluia!"

Gospel

John 20:1-9

On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead.



Offertory Song

Now the Green Blade Rises

NOEL NOUVELET/Crum

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been;
Love is come again, like wheat arising green.

In the grave they laid him, Love by hatred slain,
Thinking he would never wake to life again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
Love is come again, like wheat arising green.

Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
Springing from the grave where three days he had lain;
Raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
Love is come again, like wheat arising green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
By your touch you call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
Love is come again, like wheat arising green.



Holy, Holy, Holy

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

Mystery of Faith

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

Great Amen

Amen

Lamb of God

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

Communion

(7) *Easter Alleluia/O Sons and Daughters*

O FILIA ET FILIAE

(9:30 & 11:30) Alleluia, Hearts To Heaven!

Stanton/Wordsworth

1. Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to Heav'n and voices raise: Sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise. He, who on the cross a Victim, for the world's salvation bled, Jesus Christ, the King of glory, now is risen from the dead.
2. Christ is risen, Christ, the first fruits of the holy harvest field, Which will all its full abundance at His second coming yield: Then the golden ears of harvest will their heads before Him wave, Ripened by His glorious sunshine from the furrows of the grave.
3. Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high; Alleluia! to the Savior who has gained the victory; Alleluia! to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity: Alleluia, alleluia! to the Triune Majesty.

Recessional

Organ Instrumental: Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



LITURGY & WORSHIP



Palm Sunday & Easter

By Katy Huston, MAPS

We have moved through Lent, with fasting, almsgiving, and prayer, the purple and rose and simple liturgies, we have strengthened our spiritual life.

Palm Sunday, also called Passion Sunday, begins Holy Week, whose color is red. As early as the fourth century, the faithful in Jerusalem re-enacted the solemn entry of Christ into their city on the Sunday before Easter, with a procession in which they carried branches and sang the Hosanna. At St. Joseph, we have traditionally processed outside with palm branches and song. This year we will simply gather in the church.

Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Saturday are all one liturgy. We begin on Thursday with the color white, and with lights and flowers and song. In the Eucharistic Procession at the end of mass, the presider carries the hosts the Altar of Repose; the church is darkened, the altar stripped. There will be time and space for your personal reflection on Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. The music for the procession begins our Good Friday liturgy.

The color for Good Friday is red. We will not be able to pass the large wooden cross throughout the church. We will use the first form of showing: beginning with the cross covered with a cloth, and then uncovered in three parts. We will not be able to touch the cross for veneration, but we can reach out with our eyes and our hearts. We leave in silence.

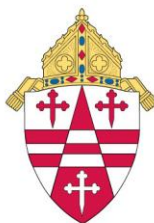
The Easter Vigil is the time when we initiate new Roman Catholic Christians into our community. We will have Baptisms of five adults. They will also be confirmed and receive their first Eucharist. There will be others who will make a profession of Faith as Catholics—they were baptized in another Christian church. And we have some who are being confirmed as adults. This is our joyous “High Holy Days” and we hope you can join in either live or online.

7am Daily Mass – Open for In-Person Attendees

We are pleased to announce that 7am daily Mass (Tuesday – Friday) is now available for in-person attendance. All are welcome!

We still have COVID protocols in place, which means the door will be locked promptly at 7am so that web-cast filming may proceed. Additionally, masks must be worn by all participants and social distancing will be enforced. Pre-registration is not necessary to attend this Mass, but we ask that you arrive at least ten minutes before 7am, as you will need to provide your name and contact info at the door.

If you would like to volunteer for the month of April to greet, usher, or lector at the 7am Mass, please email caprices@stjosephparish.org



Archdiocese of Seattle Bishops Speak Out Against Hatred

March 22, 2020 – It is with heavy hearts that we offer this statement regarding the recent acts of violence and hatred against our Asian American brothers and sisters. The recent attacks, both nationally and locally in our own archdiocese, are indicative of a new era of hatred that must come to an end.

Harm against our Asian American brothers and sisters is harm inflicted on everyone. As members of the one Body of Christ, we wish to acknowledge the pain, the fear, the anger and the stress our Asian American brothers and sisters are currently experiencing. With a history of racism, violence and suppression, these fears for this community are very real and cannot be ignored.

Today, the Asian American and Pacific Islander American communities give life to the Northwest and the Catholic Church of the Archdiocese of Seattle. These brothers and sisters have a long history in this region, dating to the 1800s. They have enriched the life of the Northwest, sharing their traditions and cultures with our Catholic parishes and our communities. We are so grateful for their presence and the gift of diversity they bring to our communities.

As interconnected brothers and sisters, made in the image and likeness of God, we implore everyone to respect one another, and honor the dignity of every person. Jesus said, “I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another” (John 13:34).

Each of us can make choices to demonstrate how we stand together in love and solidarity against racist acts of hatred. By baptism, we are called to bring more love and understanding into our world. This starts with our families, our neighbors, our parishes and the larger community. We continue to pray for the protection, healing and strength of our Asian American brothers and sisters while we stand in solidarity with them and continue to address the evils of racism.

+ *Daniel Mueggenborg*

Most Rev. Daniel H. Mueggenborg
Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle

+ *Paul D. Etienne*

Most Rev. Paul D. Etienne, DD, STL
Archbishop of Seattle

+ *Eusebio Elizondo*

Most Rev. Eusebio Elizondo, M.Sp.S.
Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle

FAITH JUSTICE

Racial Justice Book Group Zoom Meeting – April 14th

Please join us Wednesday, April 14 at 7pm on Zoom for a discussion of *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and The Teachings of Plants*, by Robin Wall Kimmerer. As a botanist and as a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the author embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teachers.

In *Braiding Sweetgrass*, Kimmerer shows that the awakening of a wider ecological consciousness requires the acknowledgment and celebration of our reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world. For only when we can hear the languages of other beings are we capable of understanding the generosity of the earth, and learning to give our own gifts in return.

To receive the Zoom link, please contact racialjusticebookgroup@stjosephparish.org.

PARISH LIFE

Virtual Healing Service

Saturday, April 9th, 11:30am

Click [here in the online bulletin](#) or email Deacon Steve (stevev@stjosephparish.org) for the Zoom link.

Young Adult Events

Young Adult Planning Meeting

Tuesday, April 6th, 7:00pm-8:15pm

Virtual (email youngadultcommunity@stjosephparish.org for the Zoom link)

Join the young adult community to plan upcoming events and have a say on the future activities that we partake in for the months of April, May & June.

Pre-Mass Neighborhood Walk

Sunday, April 11th, 4:30pm-5:20pm

In-Person (Meet at St. Joe's Parking Lot)

Take a walk with the St. Joe's Young Adult Community and take in the beauty of the Capitol Hill Neighborhood before 5:30PM mass on Sunday, April 11th. We will meet at the St. Joseph's parking lot at 4:30 PM and head out from there on an approximately an hour-long stroll through the neighborhood. Stick around for the celebration of Mass.

Join the new Facebook Young Adult Group

Join the new official St. Joe's Young Adult Facebook Group. While St. Joe's Young Adults have had a Facebook Page for years, we wanted the ability to open up a channel of communication between community members and keep people in the loop on events, faith sharing activities, and volunteer opportunities. Join the Group here: www.facebook.com/groups/stjoesyacomunity/

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

Youth and Family Activities - Join us!

At Home for Holy Week Check out this guide for some hands-on activities, thoughtful conversation starters, and ways to share faith with your youth in Holy Week and on Easter <https://www.stjosephparish.org/files/935.pdf>

April Magis This edition features lots of hands-on activities to teach your children about growth and renewal in the Easter season <https://www.stjosephparish.org/files/932.pdf>

Family Service Projects Last call! To sign up, click here. Please contact Claire Hansen at claireh@stjosephparish.org with questions or concerns.

CRS Rice Bowl: Please bring your rice bowl donations to the church during open hours or a Mass. You can hand your donations to a church attendant.



High School Youth Masses Join us on Thursday, April 22nd and Thursday, May 20th at 7pm for an 8th-12th grade youth mass with Fr. Matthew Pyrc, SJ. Contact Claire Hansen (claireh@stjosephparish.org) to sign up.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Friends and Neighbors: Guild in the City

You are invited to join the Grunewald Guild and "Guild in the City" as we take our faith outdoors on Saturday, April 24th, 11am-1pm at the Olympic Sculpture Park.

Brian Johnson, the new Executive Director of the Grunewald Guild, will guide the group through the Olympic Sculpture park, sharing sacred texts for individual reflection. The Grunewald Guild is located outside of Leavenworth and hosts an in-person, summer-long program on art and faith as well as online programs throughout the year.

For registration or to learn more, please contact:

<https://grunewaldguild.com/events/guild-in-the-city-seattles-olympic-sculpture-park/>

STEWARDSHIP CORNER



Once again, we have made our way through Lent, this time isolated and distanced from our extended families and our church. This is not the kind of Lent we are used to experiencing together. We gave up so much more this year than in any other year most of us can remember. We gave up dinners out, strolls through stores, movies, plays, school concerts, sporting events, family visits, and so much more. Like last year, maybe Lent was more meaningful for some, measured by how much we have given up. Some are probably feeling as if have spent twelve months stuck in Good Friday! With the distribution of vaccines, though, we have new hope for an end to this deadly pandemic, and one day soon we will hear one another sing!

The mission and ministry of our church didn't stop twelve months ago, when we got the word that we needed to close our doors to slow the spread of this disease. In some ways, the demands of our mission field became more challenging, and we are needed now more than ever!

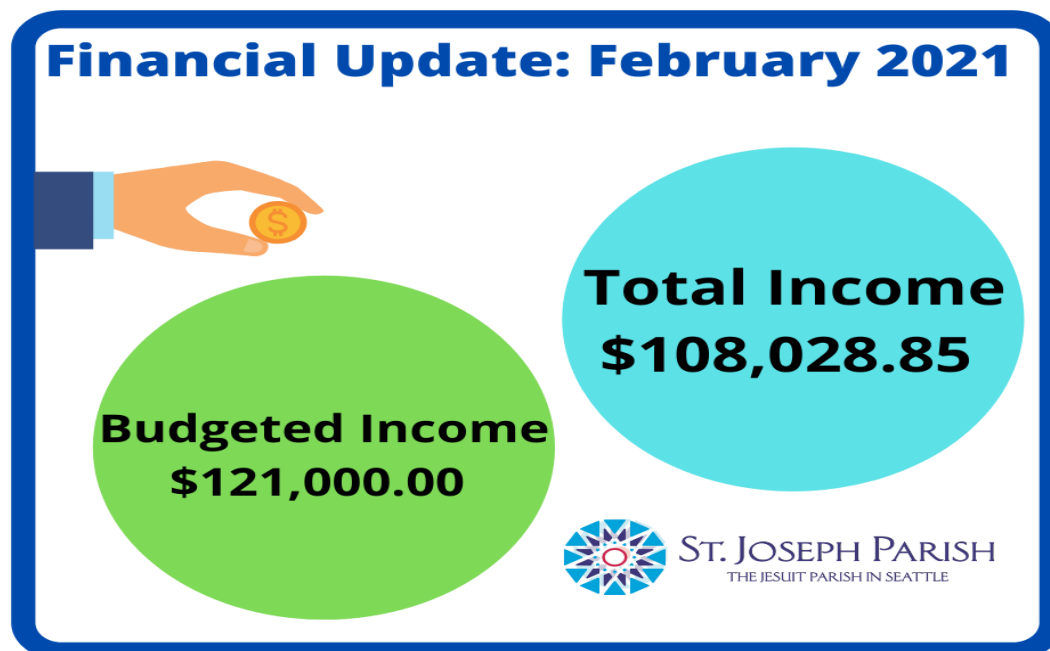
Many of us find ourselves in a very different financial situation than we were in when the year began, but if you are able, as much as your able, please continue your financial support to keep being a witness of hope to our congregation and community. This year's Easter offering will go a long way for our church to offer ministry to those in need due to this crisis. So, if you have the resources, I would invite you to pray for wisdom and generosity, and then give as God has given to you.

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.

Easter Blessings,

Mary Wiseman, Pastoral Assistant for Stewardship

[Click here to give online.](#)



PARISH LIFE

Life Together, in the Spirit



There are many active Parish Life ministries, communities, and service groups, and the Parish Life Commission seeks to build connections among all parts of our parish community. The Commission focuses on how we can connect across these many groups, how we can build relationships across generations, and how we can welcome newcomers and current members, whether through big events or small actions.

We are seeking new members to the Parish Life Commission. Are you interested in seeing how you can support the Commission? Contact staff liaison Mary Wiseman at maryw@stjosephparish.org

Need support during COVID-19? Call Washington Listens



What is Washington Listens?

Crisis Connections helps to facilitate a support line called Washington Listens. Washington Listens will provides non-clinical support to people who feel sad, anxious, or stressed due to COVID-19.

Washington Listens is free and anonymous. Any Washington resident can call and a support specialist will listen and help to guide you to connections within your community.

How do I access Washington Listens?

Call 1-833-681-0211. Washington Listens is staffed Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and weekends from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. TSR 771 and language access services are available.

You will be connected to a support specialist who will talk with you about your struggles, if you end up needing professional support the specialist will work to connect you to those services.

Partnering agencies

Washington Listens is program operated by partnering agencies to support the state.. All agencies ensure their staff are appropriate and receive training on the crisis counseling model.

- Crisis Connections
- Community Integrated Health Services (CIHS)
- American Indian Community Center (AICC)
- Colville Tribe
- Frontier Behavioral Health (FBH)
- Okanogan Behavioral HealthCare (OBHC)
- Yakama Nation
- Peer Washington
- Recovery Café
- Comprehensive
- More coming soon!

More ways of accessing services coming soon

Check out our website for updates. We are working on helping people to reach support specialists by adding text, online resources and culturally accessibility.

Contact:

Call 1-833-681-0211.

Walistens.org



ST. JOSEPH ADULT FAITH FORMATION PRESENTS A YEAR WITH POPE FRANCIS: LAUDATO SI



Celebrate Earth Day by discovering the theology and spirituality behind, ***Laudato Si: Care for Our Common Home***! In continuing our series on the writings of Pope Francis, we have invited **Patty Bowman**, the former Director of the Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center, who has presented numerous times on Care for Creation and headed much advocacy around the issue of climate change. Please join us:

Wednesday | April 14 @ 7:00-8:30 PM

Wednesday | April 21 @ 7:00-8:30 PM

Wednesday | April 28 @ 7:00-8:30 PM

If you do not have a copy of *Laudato Si*, please contact Theresa and she will direct you how to get a copy, send handouts, and provide you the Zoom Link to join the program. The program will look at key concepts from this encyclical, and we will reflect in small groups on its meaning and impact on your every day life.

**To sign up or for more info please call or email Theresa at
theresal@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1651**



THE MAGIS FAMILY FORMATION PROJECT

HOLY WEEK 2021

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. March’s theme is **Preparing for Jesus’ Resurrection**, corresponding with Lent and our anticipation of Easter.

LENTEN FAMILY REFLECTIONS

March 28: Palm Sunday. Mark 11:1-10

Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying out: “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! Hosanna in the highest!” - Mark 11:8-10



- Palms symbolize peace and victory, and Jesus’s entry to Jerusalem is triumphant. And yet, we also know that Jesus is entering Jerusalem to die. Why do we celebrate this?
- How do you prepare the way for Jesus?

March 29-April 3: Holy Week. Mark 14:1-15:47¹

Each day during Holy Week, the family can gather in a prayerful space to read and talk about the passion Natiative. The passion as found in Mark’s Gospel might be read as follows throughout the week:

- Monday -- Mark 14:1-11
- Tuesday -- Mark 14:12-26
- Wednesday -- Mark 14:27-52
- Thursday -- Mark 14:53-72
- Friday -- Mark 15:1-41
- Saturday -- Mark 15:42-47

After reading from the Gospel each night, the family might reflect on the reading together. Be open to children asking questions and responding to the events described there. In this way, the entire week can become a “way of the cross.”



Holy Week

QUIET TIME: GOOD FRIDAY REFLECTION

Good Friday afternoon is the perfect time to shut down all ‘noise’ and use the quiet time to think about Jesus’ sacrifice. Turn off tv, cell phone, media, and music for a designated period in the household. Use the time to color the image below and just be with the Lord.

¹ [Sunday Connections, Loyola Press Online](https://www.loyolapress.com/sunday-connections)



Blessed
be the
God
and
Father

of our
Lord
Jesus
Christ.

which
according to
His abundant
mercy hath
begotten us
again unto
a lively

hope
by the
resurrection
of Jesus Christ
from
the dead.
1 Peter 1:3

The Elect



My name is **Melissa Canfield** and I have been married for eight years. Years ago, I passed St. Joseph's on Ash Wednesday as the community still lingered on the lawn, and laughter and joy warmed the night air. As I passed the crowd, a slight tug pulled on my frayed and fragile heartstrings, and just as quickly, it was gone. In the fall of 2019, this same tug led me to attend Mass regularly, and in the following year I began the RCIA process. I have enjoyed exploring faith with the participants and the team. I look forward to our continued friendships as I become part of the St Joseph family.

Hi, my name is **Anica Carpenter**. I am in 9th grade. I have really enjoyed the insight that RCIA has given me. I hope to learn and grow in the St. Joseph community to live a kinder and more compassionate life. Yay, Class of 2024!



Hi! I'm **Kaye Chavez**. Last year I was a catechumen, accepted and elected - but not baptized due to COVID. A year later, I am very thankful for St. Joe's and the RCIA team. Throughout COVID, St. Joe's has been my primary point of community contact, I'm now a pro at Zoom and screen-sharing. During my first round of RCIA, I was nervous and overwhelmed about all of the steps, I didn't want to make any mistakes and risk getting kicked out by Deacon Steve. During my second round of RCIA (what I like to describe as a year long Lent), I am very excited to continue my faith journey at St. Joe's and grow with the church.

My name is **Brian Hayden** and I'm originally from Lake Oswego, OR. Growing up my family did not practice any faith or religion. I moved to Seattle in 1999 to attend the University of Washington and have been a Seattleite ever since. My wife Michelle and I have three children: William (6), David (3) and Hailey (1). My wife is a Catholic and we plan on raising our children in the Catholic faith. RCIA has been an awesome opportunity for me to expand my education and belief in Catholicism. Learning the history of Catholicism and having the opportunity to learn from and share with others in the group has given me a much better understanding of how Catholic teachings apply to my life. I'm looking forward to becoming a full member of the church and the community at St. Joseph!



Hello, everyone, my name is **Irene Suver**. I am 64 years old, and the journey-to-home provided by RCIA has been an extraordinary gift during this COVID year. Every Tuesday, as well as the few times we have been able to be in church together have been the bright spots and outstanding highlights of this time. While in a few weeks, I will be leaving the Seattle area for Everett, I intend to remain part of the community at St. Joe's which has been so supporting and welcoming during this rather fraught journey. I still have an office in Seattle, just a few blocks away, and intend to be an active participant in the community. I look forward to better days for all of us to come. Many thanks to Deacon Steve, Gayle Sommerfield, and all the facilitators who have lit the path so far in this process.

The Elect

Hi, my name is **Chey Tate**. I moved to Washington and started going to St. Joe's almost two years ago. I was very involved in church until college when I stopped going. Then I lost someone very close to me. My world turned upside down and became very dark. Not sure where else to turn, I found myself praying and quickly it became regularly. I slowly began to move forward and knew the thanks was owed to God. I started going back to church and I joined RCIA to become baptized so that I could do as Jesus says, because I'm so grateful for all he's done for me. After spending the last year learning about the Catholic Church, my spiritual journey has grown stronger and I know that I made the right decision. I look forward to being a part of this loving community.



The Candidates



My name is **Justin Baggett** and I grew up in Lucedale, MS. I work as a wine consultant at Downtown Spirits. I was baptized in a Southern Baptist church and often felt struck by the disparity between Christ's message and the message I was getting from the pulpit. I've attended Catholic masses off and on for a few years until last year when I began attending St. Joseph's regularly with my partner, Anna Nelson, who is also in RCIA, and was excited to see so many people trying to live in concert with the teachings of Jesus. Going through RCIA has been a really faith deepening experience for me and led me to a greater appreciation for the traditions and spiritual practices in Catholicism.

My name is **Aya BonnLuders**. I grew up in Omaha, NE as a non Catholic attendee of Catholic schools. I was baptized as a Lutheran, but my family was not religious when I was growing up. Coming simultaneously from both a non religious family and a religious education imbued me with a spiritual thirst, but very little support. I explored faith and spirituality in my teenage and young adult years, following roads that turned away from Catholicism and Christianity. After all that time, I am surprised to find myself here -- yet, I am comforted. I am struggling, but acknowledged in my struggles. I have found both spiritual nourishment and support in my RCIA group and from my sponsor. RCIA has been an enriching experience that I never expected to be a part of. It's hard to articulate what brought me here. It's hard not to think it was Divine.



My name is **Anna Nelson**, and I'm 30 years old. I'm from Hazlehurst, MS and moved to Seattle in September 2016 to attend the Library and Information Science program at the University of Washington. I was raised Southern Baptist and baptized as a child at Harmony Baptist Church in Mississippi. I occasionally attended Catholic Churches as an adult, where I found the ritual of Mass comforting. I started attending St. Joseph's regularly during advent 2019, and decided that I would pursue RCIA if I continued regular attendance for a year. I worked to remain as active as possible in the church during the pandemic, and I found that the church and the community was a great comfort during an extremely hard time. Now, I'm excited to make St. Joseph's my home church and deepen my faith here. I work for the National Archives here in Seattle, and enjoy dancing in my free time. In October of 2017, I married my partner Justin Baggett, who is also a candidate in RCIA.

The Candidates

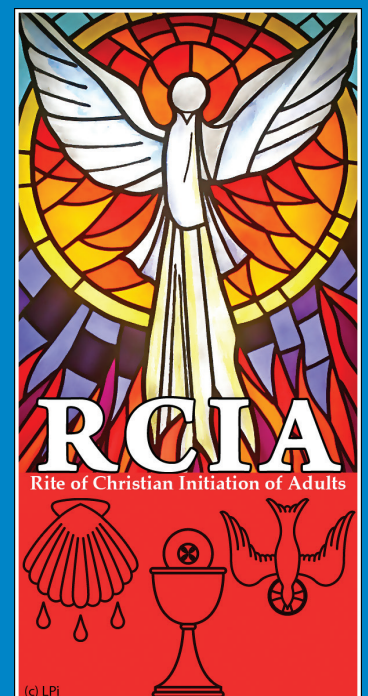
Hello! I'm **Wendy Saffel**—a longtime neighbor of St. Joe's, having lived just down the street with my family for 25 years. I was baptized, raised, and active in the Methodist church, but have been without a church home for 10 years. As I've wanted to put spirituality front and center in my life again, I visited many churches and faith traditions, and found a home in St. Joe's. I've long been attracted to the traditions and strong communities of Catholicism—and I don't need to tell you how special St. Joe's is. You've chosen this community, too. Going through RCIA has been a beautiful opportunity to dig deep into my faith, and to very purposefully choose this path. I care so deeply for my fellow RCIA explorers as we have bonded over Zoom twice a week in this pandemic. I can't wait to give them a hug someday! Deepest gratitude to my sponsor Katy Huston for her mentorship and for so patiently answering all my questions, and to the entire RCIA leadership team who dedicated so much time and support on this journey. I'm really looking forward to meeting other members of the congregation and making my relationship with St. Joe's official.



My name is **Rebecca Sargent** and I am originally from Georgia. I grew up in the Methodist Church but later became a member of a nondenominational Christian church in Georgia and after moving out here to Washington state, became a member of another nondenominational Christian church. Both of those churches could be best described as evangelical and somewhat Pentecostal, which I initially really enjoyed and identified with but over time became disillusioned with, especially over the last 5 years. I began dating my partner Curtis Himel in February of last year, and with him being Catholic, I wanted to learn more about his faith. Both of these factors led me to researching Catholicism and joining RCIA. Curtis (who is also my sponsor) as well as RCIA have been very instrumental in explaining Catholicism to me and I have grown to have an immense appreciation and respect for the Catholic faith. I am looking forward to joining the Catholic Church and deepening my faith.

Join us as we welcome our new friends in the Lord to St. Joseph!

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults brings into our midst, the Elect - those who are involved in immediate preparation for initiation at the Easter Vigil, the Candidates - the baptized Christians who are preparing to become Catholic, and the Confirmandi - adults seeking Confirmation in the Catholic church.



The Confirmandi



Hello! My name is **Geena-Louise Boyce** and I am twenty-six years old. Baptised in the Catholic church as a baby, I had the privilege of attending Catholic school in Mountlake Terrace, WA for two years: kindergarten and first-grade. When I was six, my parents divorced and my mother couldn't afford to send me to St. Pius anymore. My faith stopped growing shortly after my First Communion. Then, years later in 2016 as I stumbled through young adulthood in college, I luckily found a room to rent on Aloha Street in the home of a long-time Seattlite family. They would sometimes go to their church on holidays, and I found myself wanting to go to mass on Sundays, especially with Holy Names across the street and St. Joseph's parish a stone's throw away. I felt welcomed every time I sat down in the pews at St. Joe's. Thankfully, I could recall every prayer and gesture like some sort of Catholic muscle memory. When COVID-19 hit, I began RCIA. The pandemic moved me to fortify my relationships with God and my birth family, so and I asked my mother, a Filipina Catholic, to be my sponsor for my Confirmation. I am extremely blessed to have found St. Joe's when I did, and and for RCIA giving me the competence to see the value in both consolation and desolation that faith really is all about.

Hello! My name is **Carlos Cruz**. I am originally from Baltimore, MD but I moved to Seattle with my fiancée, Emily, and our two dogs a couple of years ago. I was brought up as a Catholic by my El Salvadorian family, and along my early childhood journey I was baptized and received first communion in the Catholic Church. My faith journey was paused during my teenage and early adulthood years, but I decided to resume it after getting engaged to Emily. Getting reconnected to God and the Church before our wedding in June was very important to us and our families. I have learned and reflected so much throughout the RCIA process, and I cannot wait to be confirmed and become part of the St. Joe's community!



Hi! My name is **Victoria Torres** and I grew up in Philadelphia until my family moved here when I was a teenager. I've pretty much lived in the Edmonds area ever since. I was baptized Catholic and attended a Catholic school for my early education. Although straying away from religion all together as a young adult, I have carried those fundamental, core values that were engrained in my spirit through baptism and exposure to faith as a child. After having my son I had a deep desire to connect with God. A few years ago I started listening to a Catholic daily prayer app that was recommended to me. That daily prayer lit a fire that has been burning and since then I have received the sacrament of Reconciliation and Eucharist. I attend Mass weekly either at Holy Rosary in Edmonds, where my son goes to Kindergarten, or here at Saint Joe's. I'm drawn to the Jesuit philosophy and values which seem universally accessible - especially in regards to care for the whole self, human dignity for all and finding God in everything. I feel that the community at St. Joe's is a direct reflection of that Spirit. I'm overjoyed to be on this beautiful journey with you all.