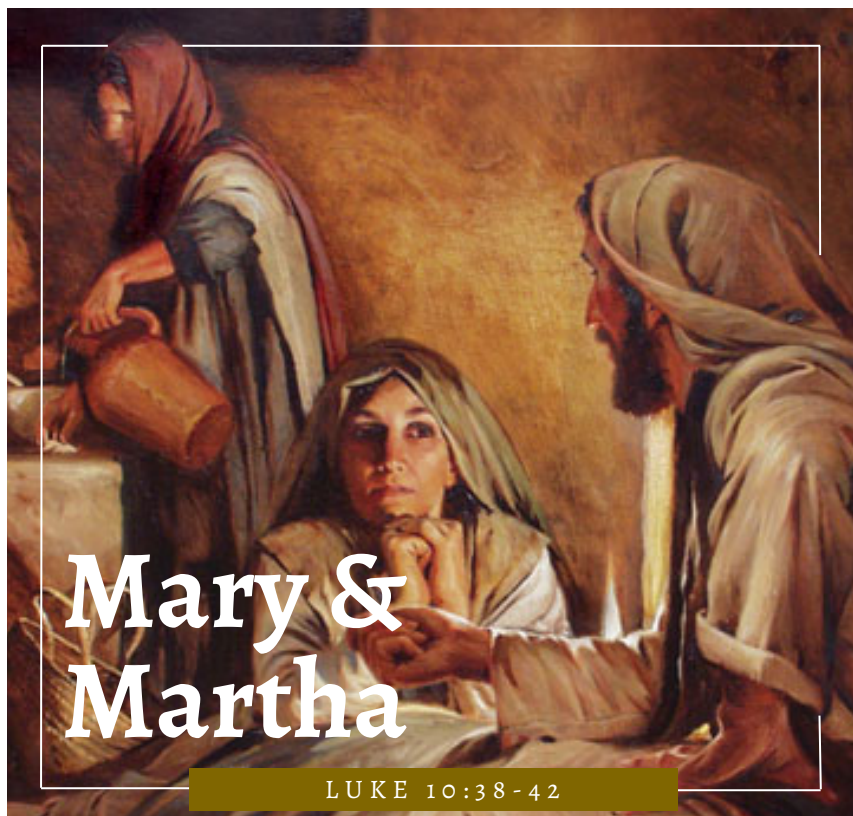


PARISH FAMILY 14

ST. ALPHONSUS | ST. BENEDICT | ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST



Mary & Martha

LUKE 10:38-42

SUNDAY MASSES

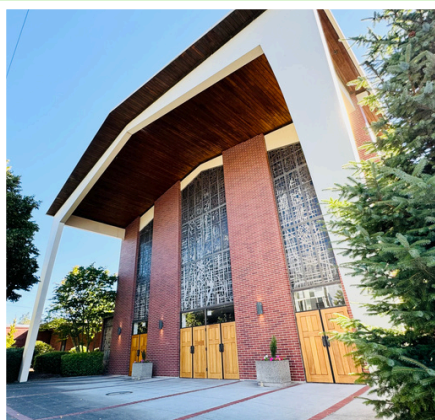
Saturday: 5:00 PM Vigil at St. Alphonsus
5:00 PM Vigil at St. John
Sunday: 8:30 AM at St. John
9:00 AM at St. Alphonsus
10:30 AM at St. John
11:00 AM at St. Benedict

DAILY MASSES

Mon - Thurs: 7:30 AM at St. Alphonsus
(except **1st** Wed and **1st** Thurs,
refer to School Masses)
Fri: 9:00 AM at St. John
Sat: 8:00 AM at St. Alphonsus
(except **1st** Sat: 9:00 AM at St. John)
School Masses (Sept-June): All are welcome!
1st Wed: 8:45 AM at St. Alphonsus
1st Thurs: 9:00 AM at St. Benedict
1st Fri: 9:00 AM at St. John

CONFESSION

Saturday: 4-4:45 PM at St. Alphonsus
4:30 PM at St. John
First Thursday Confession and
Adoration: 7-8:00 PM at St. Alphonsus



ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH

5816 15th Ave NW, Seattle, WA 98107
Phone: 206-784-6464
Email: parishinfo@stalseattle.org
Website: <https://stalseattle.org>



ST. BENEDICT PARISH

1805 N 49th St, Seattle, WA 98103
Phone: 206-632-0843
Email: parish@stbens.net
Website: <https://parish.stbens.net>



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH

106 N 79th St, Seattle, WA 98103
Phone: 206-782-2810
Email: parishoffice@stjohnsea.org
Website: <https://stjohnsea.org>

For pastoral emergencies, please call: 206-271-3543.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

July 20, 2025

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Gn 18:1-10a/Col 1:24-28/Lk 10:38-42

	ST. ALPHONSUS		ST. BENEDICT		ST. JOHN	
July 20 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9 AM 10 AM	Mass No Coffee & donuts after Mass	10 AM 11 AM 12 PM 5 PM	Coffee & donuts Youth Mass with CLOW (Livestream) RIP: Martha Thoms Greenwood and Bill Thoms Social Hour - <i>Lumpia for all!</i> Grief Support Group	8:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 2:00 PM	Mass Lectio Divina Mass with CLOW Coffee & donuts after both Masses St. Francis of Assissi
July 21 Monday <i>Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i>	7:30 AM 7 PM	Daily Mass RIP: Charles Bielaczy Men's Group	8:30 AM 7 PM	SMdP Sandwich Making Gospel Study		
July 22 Tuesday <i>Saint Mary Magdalene</i>	7:30 AM	Daily Mass RIP: Dorr Anderson VII	6 PM	Liturgical Ministry Training		
July 23 Wednesday <i>Saint Bridget, Religious</i>	7:30 AM	Daily Mass RIP: Frances Duffy	5:30 PM 7 PM	Finance Council HCSJ Meeting		
July 24 Thursday <i>Saint Sharbel Makhluf, Priest</i>	7:30 AM 10 AM	Daily Mass INT: Layman/Nenninger/ Isenbert Families Scripture Study				
July 25 Friday <i>Saint James, Apostle</i>	8:15 AM to 8 PM	Adoration Chapel open			9 AM	Daily Mass
July 26 Saturday <i>Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	8 AM 4 PM- 4:45 PM 5 PM	Daily Mass INT: Angie Calvetti Confession Vigil Mass			4:30 PM 5 PM	Confession Vigil Mass (Livestream)
July 27 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9 AM 10 AM	Mass No Coffee & donuts after Mass	10 AM 11 AM	Coffee & donuts Mass with CLOW (Livestream) RIP: Mary Alice Tully Elias	8:30 AM 10:30 AM	Mass Mass Coffee & donuts after both Masses
	For livestream and recorded masses, click the links:		https://parish.stbens.net https://www.facebook.com/stben-seattle		www.stjohnsea.org/live-stream-masses	



Sign up to **get notified of mass cancellations** or mass time changes.
<https://bit.ly/PF14NotifyMe>



Subscribe to **weekly bulletin and newsletter**.
<https://bit.ly/PF14WeeklyBulletin>



PARISH FAMILY UPDATES

JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE TO ROME AND ASSISI: A JOURNEY OF FAITH AND HISTORY



Members of our Parish Family joyfully and successfully completed their pilgrimage from June 16–25, 2025!

Thanks be to God for a safe and grace-filled journey! Enjoy these photos from their unforgettable pilgrimage.



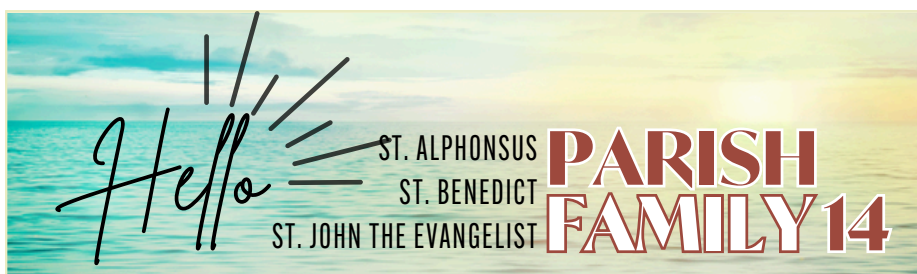
THANK YOU FOR AN AMAZING PARISH FAMILY BBQ!

What a fun and joyful day we had at the Parish Family BBQ!

A huge thank you to all the volunteers and the amazing staff at St. John who worked hard to prepare for the event. We're also grateful to everyone who helped set up, grill, serve food, welcome guests at registration — and all the other behind-the-scenes tasks that made the day run smoothly.

And thank you to those who shared their favorite dish. Everything was delicious!

We're sharing one photo for now, consider it a sneak peek! More pictures and stories from the BBQ will be in the next bulletin!



We'd love to see a SNAPSHOT OF YOU!

It only takes a few minutes to fill out our Parishioner Profile Update Form, and it really helps us stay connected with you! Here's how:

Step 1: Scan the QR code, visit the link, or grab a paper form in the vestibule.

Step 2: Update your contact info so we can reach you (no spam, we promise!).

Step 3: Answer just four quick questions, hit submit, and you're done!

St. Alphonsus
bit.ly/PF14StAl



St. Benedict
bit.ly/PF14StBen



St. John
bit.ly/PF14StJohn



This is a simple way for us to get to know you—your story, your gifts, and what matters to you. Whether you're new or have been with us for a while, your presence is a blessing to our Parish Family. We look forward to walking this journey with you!

UPCOMING EVENTS

JOIN OUR

Youth MASS

EVERY 3rd SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

20 JULY 2025, SUNDAY
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
ST. BENEDICT CHURCH

Let's celebrate the Feast of St. Benedict together!



Our amazing young people will lead the way in celebration of the Feast of St. Benedict! From music to hospitality, the youth will be at the heart of the liturgy. After Mass, the celebration continues with *lumpia* and light refreshments at the school cafeteria. See you there!

ST. ALPHONSUS & CHOPPERS BRASS: MUSIC FOR ORGAN & BRASS

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF FRITTS OP. 4

FRIDAY | 08 AUG 2025 | 7:00 PM
ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH

<https://bit.ly/StAlOrgan40th>



\$20 Suggested Donation

Join us for the first of our concerts celebrating the 40th anniversary of the magnificent Paul Fritts Organ at St. Alphonsus Church. Organist and Music Director Andrew Koch joins the Choppers Brass quintet for an evening of music for organ and brass spanning the centuries from the Baroque to present day.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER...



Please remember the following people who are ill, homebound, or need your prayers this week: Marnie Ahern, Lillian Anderson, Charles Bielaczy, Alexander Bodsky, Anneliese Bodsky, Jon Condon, Donna Day, Jeff D'Amelio, Natasha Ryan D'Amelio, Rosalia Dimaunahan, Bertha Eriksson, Todd Galv  n, Espedito P. Galv  o, Margaret Goodrich, Carol Grimes, Lianne Grimes, Myrna Israkul, Emily Jones, Joan Knebel, Daniel Love, Josephine Lynch, Seamus Lynch, Norma Macke, Anne Manfredi, Ginny Massett, Darren Miller, Joanne Morgan, Jerry Mulka, Patricia Mulka, Jennifer Nagel, Ray Naidu, Dan Nichols, Gary Olsen, Bob Pohlman, Lucy Rogers, Jack Serwold, Abby Simpson, Jeannette Tannario, Jane Treeheal, Dennis Weiler, Jerilyn Wetzell, Shea Wilson, Lillian Yamamoto, Carmen Marie Bravo, Megan Yoshimura, Hilda Saleh, and Scott Tom.

For those who have died, including Ramiro Brito Ceron, that they may rest in the healing embrace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we pray to the Lord. For Armed Forces personnel throughout the world, that they come home safely to their families, we pray to the Lord.

Note: To request a prayer, please call the Parish Office or use the QR code or this link: <https://bit.ly/PF14Prayer>



The prayer list is updated monthly. To keep your request active, please resubmit it each month.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, JULY 27 - Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading

Genesis 18:20-32

Abraham bargained with God for the safety of the innocent.

Psalm

Psalm 138

"Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me."

Second Reading

Colossians 2:12-14

God nailed our sins to the cross of Christ.

Gospel

Luke 11:1-13

Jesus teaches us to pray and reminds us to persevere in prayer.

Before we hear Jesus teach his disciples to pray, we see Abraham persistently petition God to show mercy toward the people of the city of Sodom. In the Gospel, Jesus confirms how important it is to show this kind of persistence. Our Father in heaven, Jesus teaches us, is generous beyond human generosity, having given the Holy Spirit to be with us always, and so we should freely ask for our needs, assured that we will be heard.

FAITH FORMATION AND SACRAMENTS

SMALL FAITH SHARING GROUPS

Scripture/Gospel Study

Come discover the beauty of the Gospel and grow closer to God and each other as we read and reflect on scriptures together in a warm, welcoming group. All are welcome!

- St. Alphonsus group meets **every Thursday, 10 AM, at St. Alphonsus McGrath Room.**
- St. Benedict group meets **every Monday, 7 PM, via Zoom Meeting ID: 864 2616 6842 Password: 961919.**

Men's Group

Join the Men's Group **every Monday, 7 PM, at St. Alphonsus McGrath Room** for fellowship and faith sharing. Don't miss out!

Directory of Other Small Groups

Family Rosary Group

Olga Sala - salatorra@yahoo.com

Women's Ministry

St. Alphonsus - Olivia Raese at olivia@raesegroup.com

St. Benedict - Debra Reilly at debras.reilly@gmail.com

Book Group/Club

St. Benedict - Brenda Stratton at bjandmes.bjs@gmail.com

St. John - Diana Gruszczynski at diana.gruszczynski@outlook.com

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Infant Baptism

Baptisms in our Parish Family are scheduled during the Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses at our three churches. Please see the schedule below for upcoming dates. For more information, contact Julia Rudden at jrudden@stjohnsea.org or Claire Shea at claireshea@stalseattle.org.

September 6 and 7, 2025

December 13 and 14, 2025

February 28 and March 1, 2026

June 13 and 14, 2026

First Holy Communion

First Holy Communion preparation is offered for children typically in 2nd grade (around ages 7–8) who have been baptized. Classes start in **September at St. Alphonsus, and October at St. John and St. Benedict.** For questions or more information, please contact Claire Shea at claireshea@stalseattle.org or Julia Rudden at jrudden@stjohnsea.org.

Youth Confirmation

Youth Confirmation is for students in 7th grade and older who have been baptized and received First Holy Communion. Classes start in **November.** For questions or more information, please contact Julia Rudden at jrudden@stjohnsea.org.



Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

Are you an adult who participates in the life of the church, but has not been confirmed? Would you like to receive this sacrament of initiation and become a full member of the Catholic community? Please contact Daniel Pelfrey at ceff@stjohnsea.org.



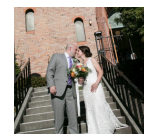
Order of Christian Initiation for Adults Adapted for Children (OCIAAC)

OCIAAC is designed for children in 3rd grade and above who are either unbaptized or baptized in another Christian tradition. Through age-appropriate catechesis, they will prepare to receive the Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist. For more information, please contact Daniel Pelfrey at ceff@stjohnsea.org.



Sacrament of Matrimony

Couples are asked to contact the Parish Office at least six to eight months in advance to begin preparation. For more info or to start the process, please reach out to Julia Rudden at jrudden@stjohnsea.org or Christine Cavanaugh at christine.cavanaugh@outlook.com.



Parish Advocate for Annulments

For parishioners seeking a marriage annulment, please contact the Parish Office or email annulment@stjohnsea.org.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

SUNDAYS, 10:30 AM (JULY 20, AUGUST 3 & 17) ST. JOHN CHURCH	SUNDAYS, 11:00 AM (ALL SUNDAYS) ST. BENEDICT CHURCH
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Bring your little ones to these masses!
Come and see your child light up as they encounter the Word of God in a way they can truly understand!

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

St. Vincent de Paul Society

SVDP society assists the poor and needy within our parish boundaries through grocery, transpo and rent vouchers. Support by donating and volunteering with them. For more info, contact the following:

St. Alphonsus: Doug Martin - doug@martinenv.com
St. Benedict: Len Andrews - leonardjandrews@gmail.com
St. John: Joyce Farrell - joycefarrello8@gmail.com

If you need assistance, please call Helpline Call Center at (206) 767-6449, M-F, 8 AM - 3 PM.

St. Martin de Porres Sandwich Making

SMDP sandwich makers prepare a total of 800 sandwich lunches every month for men who live at the SMDP shelter in downtown Seattle. Join the next sandwich making on **July 21, 2025, Monday, 8:30AM** in the St. Benedict Parish Center. Contact Vicky Briones at vicster912@gmail.com for more information.

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is a global organization of Catholic men committed to the principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. The local council supports the community through fundraising for local organizations, assisting with parish events, hosting pancake breakfasts, and holding regular meetings to plan and grow its outreach. For more info, contact the following:

St. Alphonsus: Louie Van Hollebeke - louiervh@gmail.com
St. John: Aaron Amort - aaronamort@gmail.com

Operation NIGHTWATCH

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Operation Nightwatch presentation!

We're grateful to Deacon Frank DiGirolamo for shedding light on their compassionate work serving those experiencing homelessness. Through heartfelt stories, he reminded us that the most important message we can offer is that each person is loved and not forgotten.



In a touching moment of real-life irony, a homeless man quietly entered during the talk, rested in the vestibule, refreshed himself, and left peacefully after receiving food and water – a quiet reminder of the very people this mission seeks to serve.

Let's keep the momentum going. If you're moved to help, consider supporting Operation Nightwatch in any way you can. Feel free to contact them at info@seattlenightwatch.org or 206.323.4359.

SANCTA VITA

NEXT STEP PREGNANCY SERVICES ANNUAL GALA

SEP 20, 2025

- Stay tuned for official invitations and ticket information!
- Sponsors are welcome! Please contact Heather at: heather@nextstepnw.com.
- You can also help by donating toy basket for baby's first year (infant to one year old). All items are needed by July 20.



On July 2, our small but mighty group from St. Benedict, St. Catherine of Siena, and St. John joined forces with 6–8 other volunteers to tackle an unexpectedly extravagant task: sorting onions! Some were good, some... not so good, and a few were practically applesauce in disguise.

Despite the pungent challenge, the experience was a blast, full of laughter, camaraderie, and classic rock blaring from the boom box. Together, we packed up 40-pound boxes of salvageable onions and had a truly meaningful and memorable time.

A huge thank you to everyone who showed up and served with joyful hearts!

Join the next packing and sorting event on **Wednesday, September 3, 2025, 6 - 8PM!** Note that all volunteers must register in advance (FLL recommends 5 days prior). If you don't have an FLL account (required), it usually takes 2-3 minutes to create the account. Sign up now by scanning the QR code or contact Len Kannapel at kannapell@yahoo.com.



FAITH IN FOCUS



The Priesthood of the Faithful

MASS DEPENDS on the participation of the priesthood of the faithful, according to the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* (5). “The celebration of the Eucharist is the action of the whole Church.” Baptized Christians share in the royal priesthood of God’s people. Everyone offers a spiritual sacrifice together with the priest in union with Christ.

“For this people is the People of God, purchased by Christ’s Blood, gathered together by the Lord, nourished by his word” (ibid.). When we assemble at church, we come as God’s own, a people loved so much that Christ shed blood for us. We gather as people of faith, as people God loves. We listen to God’s Word—food for this chosen people.

This people is “called to present to God the prayers of the entire human family” (ibid.). We partake in the General Intercessions, or the Universal Prayer.

We are “a people that gives thanks in Christ for the mystery of salvation by offering his Sacrifice” (ibid.). The priest does not offer this sacrifice alone. All of us do. We all give thanks. Scratch the skin of any Christian and you should find thanksgiving in the blood. We offer the Eucharistic Sacrifice with the priest, giving thanks.

Finally, it is a people “that is brought together in unity by Communion in the Body and Blood of Christ” (ibid.). God’s priestly people reach perfection in Communion.

“This people, though holy in its origin, nevertheless grows constantly in holiness by conscious, active, and fruitful participation in the mystery of the Eucharist” (ibid.). When we gather for Mass, we do not merely watch. We do not merely read along. We participate actively and consciously in the mystery around us. And we grow in holiness.



Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: Sacraments © 2020 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner. GIRM © 2011, USCCB.

SAINT OF THE MONTH

Saint Veronica

Feast Day: July 12

Patron Saint of laundry workers and photographers

We hear the story of Veronica when we pray the Stations of the Cross. At the Sixth Station, Jesus stopped to allow Veronica to wipe the blood, sweat, and dirt from his face. This simple act of kindness is all we know about Veronica, a woman in Jerusalem. She is not mentioned in the Gospels, but Jesus’ followers must have shared the story of her loving care for the Lord so often that it has become part of our tradition.



It is believed that Veronica used her veil to wipe Jesus’ face. Afterward, the image of Jesus’ face was imprinted on the cloth. Veronica’s veil is a treasured Church relic, an object of a personal item of religious importance. According to legend, Veronica later touched Emperor Tiberius with the veil and he was cured of an illness. The veil has been preserved, or safeguarded, in St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome since the eighth century.

We do not know if Veronica was a follower of Jesus before the day he was crucified or if she became a Christian because she was a witness to Jesus’ suffering. We do know that Veronica responded to Christ on that first Good Friday by reaching out to comfort him.

The Church honors Veronica as a saint. We can imitate her loving and caring actions by doing all we can to help people who are hurting.

Source: www.saintsresource.com/veronica

PARISH FAMILY LEADERSHIP TEAM

Pastor

Fr. Colin Parrish
pastor@parishfamily14.org

Director of Operations

Dani D’Amelio
ddamelio@parishfamily14.org
206-782-2810 ext 314

Director of Communications

Racquel Servito
r.servito@parishfamily14.org
206-632-0843 ext 210

PAA, St. Alphonsus Parish

Lori Corcoro
lcorcoro@stalseattle.org | 206-784-6464

PAA, St. Benedict Parish

Harold Hamilton
paa@stbens.net | 206-632-0843 ext 216

PAA, St. John the Evangelist Parish

Mary Wiseman
mwiseman@stjohnsea.org
206-782-2810 ext 314

Principal, St. Alphonsus School

Nick Padrnos
npadrnos@stalseattle.org | 206-782-4363

Principal, St. Benedict School

Brian Anderson
b.anderson@stbens.net | 206-633-3375

Principal, St. John the Evangelist School

Abby Mansfield
amansfield@st-johnschool.org
206-782-2810 ext 310



Saint John the Evangelist Parish

PARISH NEWS

MINISTRY NEEDS

Eucharistic Ministers

Serving at the altar of God is a most sacred way of participating in Mass. Eucharistic Ministers function as servant to the body of Christ, God's people. The primary focus of their ministry is to serve our parish with fidelity, reverence, and love. Eucharistic ministers distribute either the Blood of Christ (the Cup) or the Body of Christ (the Plate). Duties are entirely during mass, and do not require early arrival or late departure from mass. All Confirmed Catholics can be Eucharistic ministers. Training will be provided!

Contact Lauren Exnicios at lexnicios@gmail.com for more information.

Sacristans

Sacristans set God's table. Sacristans arrive 45 minutes – 1 hour prior to mass to prepare the church, and remain after mass to clean the holy materials in the sacristy and set everything back in its place before leaving the church. Responsibilities include turning on the lights, lighting the candles, setting out the vessels and books for the priest to use at mass, assisting during the liturgy if needed by the priest, and supporting the altar servers in their roles.

Training will be provided!

Contacts:

Andrea Vaught - andrea.vaught@gmail.com

Cheri Wolf - cheriawolf@hotmail.com.

All ministries at St. John Parish & School require Safe Environment training. Please contact Sheila Marty at the Parish Office or email smarty@stjohnsea.org.

PARISH STAFF

206-782-2810

PA for Administration

Mary Wiseman
mwiseman@stjohnsea.org, ext 310

Director of Development

Teresa Gillett
tgillett@stjohnsea.org, ext 355

Director of Sacramental Preparation

Julia Rudden
jrudden@stjohnsea.org, ext 308

Coordinator of Evangelization and Faith Formation

Daniel Pelfrey
ceff@stjohnsea.org, ext 352

Director of Liturgical Music

Dr. Twila McDonell,
music@stjohnsea.org, 360-920-8866

Administrative Assistant

Sheila Marty
smarty@stjohnsea.org, ext 358

Receptionist/Admin Assistant

HongPhuc Nguyen
hpnguyen@stjohnsea.org, ext 300

Facilities Supervisors

Ryan Roach | Beatriz Palomo
maintenance@stjohnsea.org

School Principal

Abby Mansfield
amansfield@st-johnschool.org, ext 310



ST. JOHN BOOK CLUB - Date (August) and venue TBD

We will read *Joan of Arc* by Mark Twain. In Twain's own words, "I like *Joan of Arc* best of all my books; and it is the best; I know it perfectly well. And besides, it furnished me seven times the pleasure afforded

me by any of the others; twelve years of preparation, and two years of writing. The others needed no preparation and got none."



AGAPE SERVICE PROJECT 2025

Give back to others this summer; participate in the AGAPE service project on **August 13!** Join other St. John families in bringing food, fun, and fellowship to farmworkers and their families in Whatcom County.

This unique event gives students a safe and powerful way of encountering Jesus in those who live on the margins. The day-long event will include interacting with children, as well as food-based activities, such as food bank organization, or preparing and serving food. Register at <https://bit.ly/43KxVT9> (Optional \$15 for a T-shirt available on site)

SCHOOL NEWS

Now Accepting Kindergarten Applications!

Is your child ready to start their educational journey in a nurturing, faith-filled environment? St. John School is now accepting applications for our 2025-2026 Kindergarten class!

- A strong academic foundation
- A warm and caring community
- Rooted in faith and tradition
- Enriching programs in art, music, Spanish, and more

Give your child the gift of a St. John education. Apply today and become part of a vibrant community where students learn, grow, and thrive.

Week of July 13, 2025

MASS ATTENDANCE

Saturday, 5 PM	103
Sunday, 8:30 AM	100
Sunday, 10:30 AM	188

Invite your friends and family to attend Mass and experience the peace, community, and spiritual growth it brings!

PARISH COLLECTION

Mass Collection	\$ 2,418.28
Online Donations	\$ 5,649.12
Mailed-in	\$ 1,706.00
Total Collection	\$ 9,773.40
Weekly Budget	\$ 15,596.00

Under Weekly Budget - \$ 5,822.60

Thank you so much for all your support to St. John Parish!

Set up your recurring online giving now!

<https://bit.ly/PushpaySJ>



THROUGHOUT THE ARCHDIOCESE



Discover how you can make a lasting impact on our Church's mission through planned giving. This informative webinar will guide you through the various ways you can support our community and ensure the future of our faith.

Highlights:

- Hear from representatives from the Fulcrum Foundation and the Archdiocese of Seattle and attorney John Keckemet.
- Understand the importance of planned giving.

This webinar is perfect for parishioners, donors, and anyone interested in supporting their parish or schools' future. Register for this free webinar at <https://bit.ly/3Tunlex> or find out more information by contacting emilina.seats@seattlearch.org.



Aug 8, 6-9 PM | Aug 9, 9 AM - 3 PM | Aug 10, 2-5 PM
Saint Thomas Church, Tukwila

It is an invitation to receive emotional healing personally which will renew families and relations. Jesus is able to heal you, physically, emotionally and spiritually. (1 Thes 5.23). Bring yourself, your family and friends.

Register at <https://forms.gle/kmH3g81PjCJq1RTB7>. Registrations are limited to the first 250.

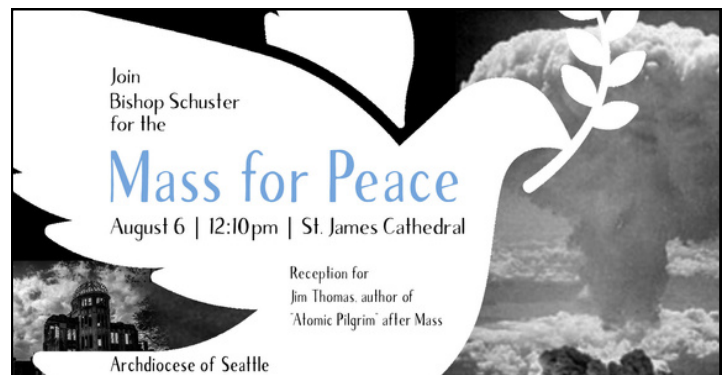


Seattle Men's Retreat Monastic Weekend at Westminster Abbey, Mission, B.C

Aug 15, 6:00 PM - Aug 17, noon

The 68th Annual Seattle Men's Retreat Monastic Weekend with the Benedictines of **Westminster Abbey, Mission, B.C.** is scheduled for **August 15-17**. You will have an opportunity to immerse yourself in the lives & liturgy of the monks and experience religious life in the beautiful British Columbia countryside.

Cost: \$145. Reservation deadline: **August 1, 2025**
For further information, call Dr. Greg Gosch @ 425.220.3019 or email GJGosch@gmail.com.



Join Bishop Schuster to help us commemorate the 80th anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima & Nagasaki, Japan at our Annual Mass for Peace.

All are invited to pray for continued peace in our world and reflect on the tragedy of war.

Attend mass in person or livestream on Vimeo, Facebook or YouTube @ArchdioceseofSeattle

After Mass there will be a reception with Jim Thomas author of *Atomic Pilgrim* in the Isaac Orr Conference room. Jim will share highlights from his book followed by a Q&A and book signing.



August 12 - 14 | 1:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Unplug with the Lord: A Retreat for High School Juniors, Seniors and Recent Graduates

High School juniors, seniors, and recent graduates are invited to attend this prayerful 3-day/2-night retreat at the beautiful **Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center!** Retreat leader Fr. Chad Hill will offer a variety of approaches to prayer as a way of growing closer to God and discerning His plan. This summer is the perfect time to get away and Unplug with the Lord as big decisions and next steps await this fall!

Register at <https://bit.ly/4Ooj16>

Cost to attend: \$100. Financial assistance is available, if needed.

For questions or financial aid requests, please email Kimberly Abadir, Director of Youth Ministry Services at kimberly.abadir@seattlearch.org

Grant applications open now through September 12

The St. Joseph Foundation supports Catholic ministry and encourages Catholic nonprofits in Western Washington to apply for funding. For more information, go to <https://archseattle.org/st-joseph-foundation>





Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 18, 2025

Contact: Ryan Colby

E-mail: media@becketfund.org

Phone: 202-349-7219

Contact: John Manning

E-mail: media@firstliberty.org

Phone: 972-941-4453

BREAKING: Federal court blocks Washington law targeting seal of confession

District judge rules priests cannot be forced to violate sacramental seal

WASHINGTON – A federal court today [blocked](#) a new Washington state law that would have forced Catholic priests to face jail time unless they broke the sacred seal of confession. The law at issue in [Etienne v. Ferguson](#), which was set to take effect on July 27, required clergy to report abuse shared within the sacred confines of the confessional. WilmerHale and co-counsel Becket and First Liberty Institute represent the lead plaintiffs Archbishop Paul D. Etienne, Bishop Joseph J. Tyson, and Bishop Thomas A. Daly, who filed an [initial lawsuit](#) earlier this summer.

After a July 14 hearing where Washington argued its new law lacked “legislative animus,” the court ruled that the state was, “unable to explain why the language in § 1(b) of the bill doubled down on singling out clergy.”

As part of its commitment to Safe Environment, the Catholic Church already requires priests to report abuse and neglect to law enforcement and other state authorities. The only exception would be if the information is learned during the sacrament of confession. The new law singles out this specific privilege for religious activities but allows protections to remain in place in secular settings.

For centuries, the Catholic Church has upheld the belief that confession is holy and must stay private. This principle—known as the seal of confession or sacramental seal—requires absolute secrecy from priests about anything said while administering the sacrament. A priest has a sacred obligation to keep everything he hears during the sacrament of confession completely confidential. The seal is so vital to the Catholic faith that any priest who violates it faces automatic excommunication. Over the centuries, priests have been imprisoned, tortured, and even killed for upholding the seal. Penitents today need the same assurance that their participation in a holy sacrament will remain free from government interference.

Washington’s new law, which was slated to take effect on July 27, threatened to impose penalties of up to 364 days in jail, a \$5,000 fine, and potential civil liability on priests who uphold the seal of confession and obey God’s command. Although the state claims the law was designed to protect minors, it still permits attorneys and others to maintain confidentiality when given identical information.

The Catholic Church in Washington has spent years strengthening its approach to protecting minors and vulnerable adults through its Safe Environment programs, background checks, and reporting policies. Across the Archdiocese of Seattle and the Dioceses of Spokane and Yakima, priests—and all Church personnel—are already required to report suspected abuse to law enforcement or child protection agencies. These policies cover diocesan parishes, schools, and other ministries. The Church supports mandatory reporting except in the narrow instance of the sacrament of confession.

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