



ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL
The Ascension of the Lord
May 16, 2021

ORDER OF CELEBRATION

The Ascension of the Lord

WELCOME! A few important notes on this weekend's liturgy:

- + Masks are mandatory. Your mask must cover both your nose and your mouth at all times.**
- + The clergy and readers are permitted to remove their masks, but only when they are speaking. They will wear masks at all other times.**
- + Always observe social distance of at least six feet between family groups, including during the communion procession and as you leave. Please do not move around the Cathedral.**
- + Some congregational singing is permitted at this time. A 3-layer mask is required for singing.**
- + Thank you! We can all help each other stay safe and comfortable by following these common sense guidelines.**

The Introductory Rites

PRELUDE

“Serene alleluias from a soul longing for heaven” from *Ascension Suite*
Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

ENTRANCE

Thou art gone up on high
OLD 25TH

Thou art gone up on high, To mansions in the skies;
And round thy throne unceasingly The songs of praise arise:
But we are lingering here, With sin and care oppressed;
Lord, send thy promised Comforter, And lead us to thy rest.
Thou art gone up on high; But thou didst first come down,
Through earth's most bitter misery To pass unto thy crown;
And girt with griefs and fears Our onward course must be;
But only let this path of tears Lead us at last to thee.
Thou art gone up on high; But thou shalt come again,
With all the bright ones of the sky Attendant in thy train.
Lord, by thy saving power So make us live and die,
That we may stand in that dread hour At thy right hand on high.

Emma Leslie Toke (1812-1878)

RITE OF SPRINKLING WITH BAPTISMAL WATER

Vidi aquam

Franz Schubert (1797-1828), adapted



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

GLORIA

Congregational Mass
John Lee (1908-1990)

ALL

Glory to God in the highest,
We praise you, we bless you,
we glorify you, we give you thanks
Lord God, heavenly King,
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
you take away the sins of the world,
you take away the sins of the world,
You are seated at the right hand
of the Father,
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
with the Holy Spirit,

and on earth peace to peo- ple of good will.
we a- dore you,
for your great glory.
O God, almighty- y Fa- ther.
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
have mer- cy on us;
re- ceive our prayer;
have mer- cy on us.
you alone are the Most High Je- sus Christ,
in the glory of God the Father, A - - - men.

COLLECT (OPENING PRAYER)

The Liturgy of the Word,

FIRST READING

Acts 1:1-11

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 47

Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

God mounts the throne to
shouts of joy, to shouts, to shouts of joy.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:17-23

ALLELUIA

chant, *O filii et filie*

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

GOSPEL

Mark 16:15-20

HOMILY

Father Stephen V. Sundborg, S.J.

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.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Franz Schubert, adapted



The Liturgy of the Eucharist

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND THE OFFERINGS

(10:00 & Noon)

Above all praise and majesty,
Lord, thou reignest evermore, alleluia.

Above all praise and all majesty

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

SANCTUS

German Mass

Schubert, adapt. Proulx

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts._____

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts._____

Heav - en and earth are full,_____ full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est._____

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Schubert, adapt. Proulx

We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-fess your Re-sur-rec - tion,

we pro-claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.

AMEN

Schubert, adapt. Proulx

A - men, a - men, a - men, a - men, a - men.

LORD'S PRAYER

AGNUS DEI

Schubert

R 1, 2 Have mer - cy on us.

R 3 Give us your peace.

Please kneel following the Lamb of God and remain kneeling until it is time for your row to go forward for Holy Communion.

Distribution of Holy Communion

- + **Communion is given only in the hand.**
- + **Maintain six feet of separation between household groups as you come forward.**
- + **Wear your mask. Hold your hands out as flat as possible so that the minister can easily put the host on your open palm without touching your hand.**
- + **After receiving Holy Communion, lower your mask with one hand, put the host in your mouth, and then put your mask back on.**

COMMUNION

Signa eos qui in me credunt

Mode VII

Theses signs will accompany those who believe:

they will cast out demons,

and when they lay their hands upon the sick, these will recover, alleluia.

(10:00 & Noon)

I will not leave you comfortless, alleluia.

I go, and I will come to you, alleluia,
and your heart shall rejoice, alleluia.

John 14:18

Nos vos relinquam orphanose

William Byrd (1540–1623)

VOTIVE ANTIPHON TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Regina celi
chant.

Re - gí - na cæ - li læ - tå - re, al - le - lu - ia,
O Queen of heaven, be joyful, alleluia,

Qui - a quem me - ru - í - sti por - tå - re, al - le - lu - ia,
For he whom you have humbly borne for us, alleluia,

Re - sur - ré - xit, si - cut di - xit, al - le - lu - ia:
Has a - ris - en, as he pro-mised, alleluia:

O - ra pro no - bis De - um, al - le - lu - ia.
Of - fer now our prayer to God, alleluia.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

PROCESSION

Præludium in D Major, BWV 532
 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL

The Most Reverend Paul D. Etienne, Archbishop of Seattle

PASTOR

The Very Reverend Michael G. Ryan

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Reverend Alex Pablo

IN RESIDENCE

Reverend David A. Brant

PASTORAL ASSISTANT for ADMINISTRATION

Lawrence N. Brouse (206-382-4280)

FAITH FORMATION

Kathleen McCabe, Director (206-382-2018)

Rosanne Michaels, Faith Formation (206-654-4658)

Jennifer Wong, Baptism Coordinator &

Children's Faith Formation (206-619-0816)

Theresa Van de Ven, Administrative Assistant (206-219-5822)

LITURGY

Corinna Laughlin, Pastoral Assistant for Liturgy (206-264-2086)

John Marquez, Julie Sharples, sacristy (206-654-4646)

MUSIC MINISTRY (206-382-4874)

Joseph Adam, Director of Music & Cathedral Organist

Stacey Sunde, Director of Youth Music

Marjorie Bunday, Music Office Assistant

SOCIAL OUTREACH and ADVOCACY

Patrick Barredo, Director (206-382-4515)

Lonnie Larsen (206-382-4235)

Cathedral Kitchen: Mick McHugh (Director) (206-264-2091),

Maria Tally (Assistant Director), John Givins (206-264-2091)

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS MINISTRY

Nancy Granger, Parish Mental Health Nurse (206-382-4269)

ST. JAMES IMMIGRANT ASSISTANCE (206-382-4511)

Christopher J. Koehler, Director

Patrick Suhrbier, Immigrant Legal Services

Sayuko Setvik, Tutoring Coordinator

STEWARSHIP and DEVELOPMENT

Maria Laughlin, Director (206-382-4284)

Caroline Okello, Welcome and Volunteer Coordinator (206-382-4500)

YOUTH MINISTRY

David Buchholz, Christina Buchholz, youth@stjames-cathedral.org

PARISH OFFICE

Mary MacLean, Bookkeeper (206-382-4564)

Micki-Jo Palmer, Executive Assistant for Finance (206-654-4650)

Margaret Lynch, Wedding Office (206-382-4288)

Bev Mauser, Louise Mennella, Wedding Coordinators

FACILITIES and GROUNDS

Tang Nguyen, Facilities Supervisor (206-264-2087)

Alan Frasher, Michelle Knipp, Lino Nillas

CELEBRATIONS of the SACRAMENTS

MASS

Sundays 8:00am - 10:00am - 12 Noon - 5:30pm

Weekdays 8:00am (M, T, W, Th, F, S) & 12:10pm (M,W,F)

Saturdays 8:00am & "Vigil" 5:30pm

VESPERS and BENEDICTION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

Sundays at 4:00pm

BAPTISM Communal celebrations are held monthly. A preparation program for parents and godparents is required. Contact Jennifer Wong for information, 206-619-0816.

MARRIAGE Registered parishioners may begin the scheduling process up to 14 months in advance. Contact Margaret Lynch, 206-382-4288 or mlynch@stjames-cathedral.org.

ANOINTING of the SICK A communal celebration is held twice yearly. In case of serious illness, impending surgery, or advanced age, please call the parish office. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick should not be delayed until the person is unconscious or in imminent danger of death. Call the parish office for information.

FUNERALS for parishioners, contact Nancy Granger, 206-382-4269

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.

After-hours Emergency answering service for parishioners: 206-467-3049

804 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104

Telephone: 206-622-3559 FAX: 206-622-5303

Website: www.stjames-cathedral.org

WELCOME, VISITORS! If you are a visitor to the Cathedral, we want you to know how welcome you are – whether you have come from another part of the country, from across the world, or simply from another parish here in the Archdiocese.

The Ascension of the Lord May 16, 2021

ON THE COVER God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord. Icon of the Ascension of the Lord. Joan Brand-Landkamer, Cathedral iconographer.

FLORAL OFFERINGS are a wonderful way to remember a deceased loved one, celebrate an anniversary, or give thanks for a prayer that has been answered. We currently have many weekends open for floral offerings in June and July. *Information*, Micki-Jo Palmer, mpalmer@stjames-cathedral.org or 206-654-4650.

NEW WEEKDAY MASS OPPORTUNITY Beginning Monday, May 24, Father Ryan will offer a 12:10pm Mass in the Cathedral on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. All are welcome without prior registration.

WEDNESDAY TOURS RESUME Beginning Wednesday, May 5, our regular 1:00pm tours of the Cathedral have resumed! No registration is required; just meet your guide in the Cathedral vestibule at 1:00pm. *Masks are required and social distancing will be observed during our tours.*

ST VINCENT DE PAUL THANKS YOU An experienced social worker was proud of his job, which focused on helping the mentally ill. His salary was at least partly dependent on federal funding through the Medicaid program. Unfortunately, issues developed with that funding, and he lost his job during the pandemic. Less than two months later, this middle-aged man was still waiting for unemployment benefits to start and actively seeking a new job in his field. But he did not have enough money to pay his rent. He called the SVdP Helpline (206-767-6449), and with your support we were able to pay most of one's month rent – thank you! *Information*, Jo Ann Wiesner, 206-291-4012 or wiesnerjo@gmail.com

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A WEEKLY FRIENDLY CHAT WITH A CALL COMPANION? St. James Cathedral Care Call Ministry volunteers are looking forward to having regular phone visits with those who would enjoy a friendly, supportive conversation on a regular basis. The Call Companions are volunteers who would like to reach out to individuals who desire more social contacts in their lives with people who care. *Information*, Nancy Granger, RN at 206-382-4269 or ngranger@stjames-cathedral.org.

PARISH REMEMBRANCE Throughout the year, because we are the Cathedral Church, we remember in prayer at Mass and Vespers each of the parishes and missions of the Archdiocese of Seattle on a Sunday near their feast day. This week we pray for the parishes of Immaculate Heart of Mary in Sedro Woolley and Kelso, and Christ our Hope in Seattle.

WHEN DID WE SEE YOU A STRANGER AND WELCOME YOU? In the Gospels, Christ invites us to see Him in our poorest sisters and brothers. That poverty is brought home to us each day as people sleeping in our streets. But what is the most generous Christian response? What is the most effective way to address homelessness as a society? Is charitable giving enough? Should Catholics advocate for legislation or policy? Join the St. James Cathedral Housing Advocacy Committee in considering these issues. Make a difference as a Catholic and a voter; get involved. *Information*, Bruce Drager, dragerbruce@gmail.com.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN – SAFE

ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM This announcement is to notify you of our initiative to provide abuse prevention curriculum to our youth in Faith Formation/Youth Ministry. This Spring St. James Cathedral will offer one sexual abuse prevention course to youth in Children's Faith Formation, Sacramental Preparation, including Youth Confirmation Program. In our efforts to protect our vulnerable population, the Archdiocese of Seattle has integrated abuse prevention material into our faith formation and youth ministry curriculum in the context of teaching our youth about our Catholic faith. To help you understand what youth will be offered, we ask you to visit: <https://archseattle.org/for-parishes/safe-environment/safe-environment-parish-faith-formation-and-youth-ministry-educators/>. This link provides "Parent/ Guardian Resources," about the curriculum being used. Parents/Guardians have the right to opt their child/youth out of this lesson. Unless you would like to opt your youth out of this lesson you are not required to do anything. *Information*, Theresa Van de Ven at 206-219-5822 or tvandeven@stjames-cathedral.org or Micki-Jo Palmer at 206-654-4650 or mpalmer@stjames-cathedral.org.



Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

JANUARY 23—FEBRUARY 1, 2022

You are invited! Father Ryan will lead a parish pilgrimage to the Holy Land early in 2022. Over ten memorable days, we will retrace the steps of Jesus, all the way from Nazareth and Bethlehem, to Galilee and the River Jordan, to the Holy City of Jerusalem. We will also have the option of continuing on in the footsteps of the apostles Peter and Paul, following them to Rome and Vatican City. A pilgrimage to the Holy Land is truly a life-changing, faith-deepening experience. Find out more about the pilgrimage by visiting the Cathedral website www.stjames-cathedral.org or pick up a brochure in the Cathedral Bookstore. Registration deadline is June 30. *Information*, Maria Laughlin, 206-382-4284 or mlaughlin@stjames-cathedral.org.

Musical Prayer

On Friday, May 21 at 6:30pm, Libby Phelps, violin and Kayleigh Miller, viola offer music by Bohuslav Martinu, John Harbison, Caroline Shaw, and W. A. Mozart. The prayer is streamed live on Vimeo and Facebook. <http://www.facebook.com/stjamesseattle> or <https://vimeo.com/event/212548>.

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL IS SEEKING TO HIRE A COORDINATOR OF CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION to begin on June 1, 2021. This is a year-round, full-time position. The responsibilities of the Coordinator of Children's Faith Formation include but are not limited to children's faith formation (pre-school through 8th grade) including Faith Mentors, sacramental preparation for children including, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, middle school Confirmation, and RCIA for children. Excellent salary and benefits in accord with Archdiocesan guidelines. Interested applicants can download the Archdiocesan Job Application at: <https://archseattle.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/HR1.2-EmploymentApp2019Parish.pdf> and send it with a cover letter and resume, via e-mail, to Kathleen McCabe, kmccabe@stjames-cathedral.org.

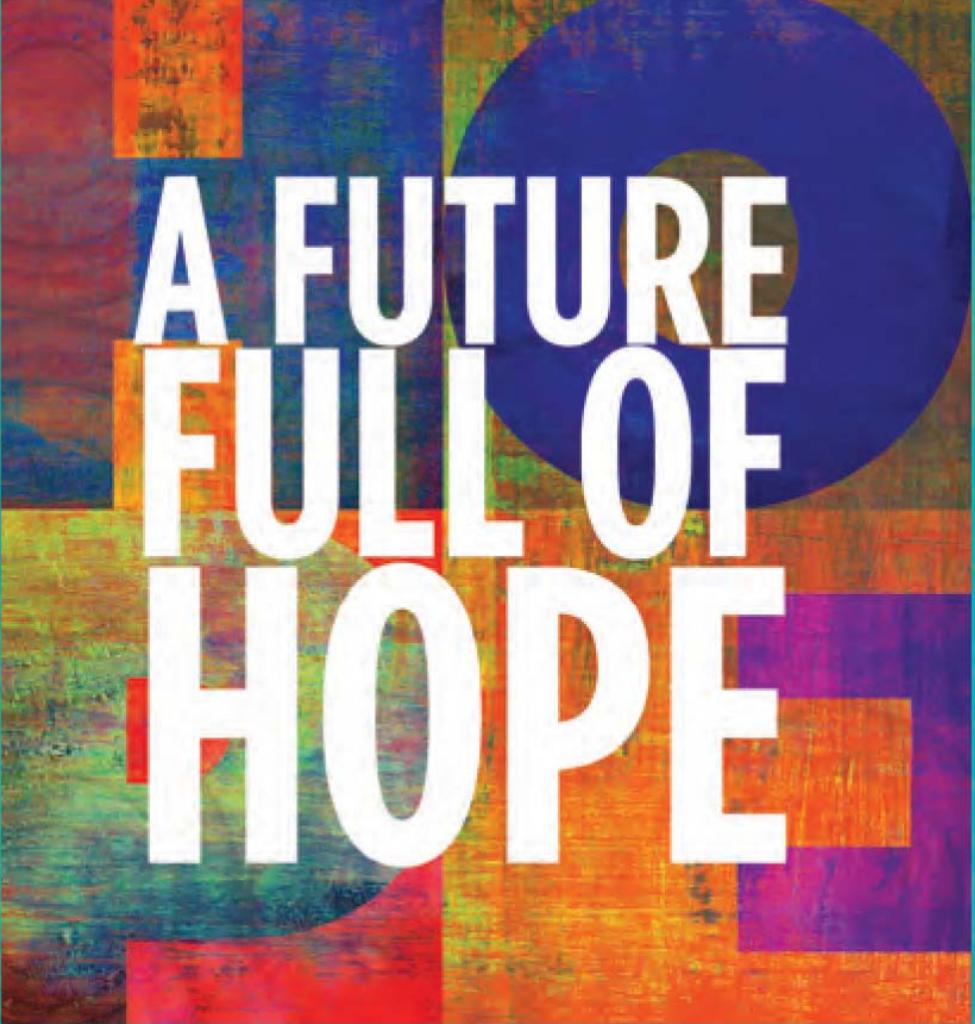
PARENT SUPPORT CALLS Are you a parent or guardian of a school-age child or young adult? Are you looking for extra support and connection, or help navigating resources during these hard times? Join fellow parents and community providers to ask questions and get ideas and support, on the 2nd or 4th Friday of the month at 6:00pm. We know your life is busy – stay for the whole call or leave early if you need to. Join by video or dial in. About the facilitator: Heather has worked in mental health as a psychiatric nurse for 16 years with both children and adults. She currently works on inpatient mental health units at Harborview Medical center and as a Seattle elementary school nurse. She became passionate about helping support people living with mental illness after experiences growing up with family members affected by mental illness. Registration is required: *Information*, katie@namiseattle.org or visit namiseattle.org/parent-support-call.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES Catholic Community Services/Catholic Housing Services (CCS/CHS) has asked the Cathedral to provide meals for their day centers and shelters. Unopened store-bought casseroles and unopened sandwich-ingredients (bread, deli meat, vegetables and condiments) are greatly appreciated. In addition, toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrushes, soaps and shampoos, feminine hygiene products), canned ready-to-eat meals (ie soup or chili), cup of noodles, easy mac & cheese, K-cup coffee, cocoa and tea, individual servings of chips, crackers, granola bars and cereals have been requested. Deliver food to Cathedral Hall (803 Terry Ave.), Tuesdays, 9am to 11am. *Information*, Patrick Barredo, pbarredo@stjames-cathedral.org.

OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY NEWSLETTER Learn about upcoming events and opportunities as well as stay informed on Catholic social teaching by receiving this twice-monthly newsletter. Subscribe, outreach@stjames-cathedral.org.

LOVE FOR OUR FAMILY

PASSION FOR OUR FAITH



A FUTURE
FULL OF
HOPE

PROMISE FOR OUR FUTURE

CARE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

www.archseattle.org/acadonate

A PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

FOR THE RENEWAL AND SPREAD OF THE FAITH

On the feast of Pentecost, May 23, Archbishop Paul D. Etienne will promulgate a new pastoral plan for the Archdiocese of Seattle. The archbishop invites Catholics to pray a novena to the Holy Spirit leading up to Pentecost (May 14–22), for the intention of the renewal and spread of the faith. The novena prayer is a translation of the traditional Pentecost hymn *Veni Creator Spiritus*.



**Come, Creator Spirit,
visit the minds of those who are yours;
fill with heavenly grace
the hearts that you have made.**

**You who are named the Paraclete,
gift of God most high,
living fountain, fire, love
and anointing for the soul.**

**You are sevenfold in your gifts,
you are finger of God's right hand,
you, the Father's solemn promise
putting words upon our lips.**

**Kindle a light in our senses,
pour love into our hearts,
infirmities of this body of ours
overcoming with strength secure.**

**The enemy drive from us away,
peace then give without delay;
with you as guide to lead the way
we avoid all cause of harm.**

**Grant we may know the Father through you,
and come to know the Son as well,
and may we always cling in faith to you,
the Spirit of them both.**

Amen.



LET US DREAM ANEW

A Virtual Pentecost Retreat
inspired by Pope Francis' book
*Let Us Dream: The Path to a Better
Future*

**Saturday, May 22, 2021
9AM to 12:30 PM
Offered on Zoom**

**Presented by the
St. James Cathedral
Life, Peace and Justice
Commission**

The world has drastically changed in the last year, and we have all been affected. This retreat, inspired by Pope Francis' teachings, looks ahead to how each person can help make the world a better place than it is now, especially through the celebration of Pentecost. We live in a time to See, a time to Choose, and a time to Act. Through prayer, guided meditations, individual reflection and small group discussion, retreatants will consider their own paths to a better future!

Retreat Registration: Patrick Barredo, Director of Social Outreach and Advocacy, 206-382-4515 | pbarredo@stjames-cathedral.org

PRAYER, HEALING AND ACTION FOR RACIAL SOLIDARITY

ON THE 1ST ANNIVERSARY OF GEORGE FLOYD'S MURDER



TUESDAY, MAY 25 AT 7:00PM
ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL (804 NINTH AVENUE)

The South Seattle Deanery Racial Solidarity Team invites you to commemorate the first anniversary of George Floyd's murder by participating in a prayer service for healing and action. Archbishop Paul D. Etienne will preside. South Seattle parishes will offer their prayers and share how their parishes will commit to working for Racial Justice.

Register to attend in person: <https://conta.cc/3vqoo0L>

Livestream the prayer service:

Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/event/940810>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stjamesseattle/>

The Eucharist sends us forth to love and serve

At the end of every Mass, we are not merely dismissed, but sent forth. "Go forth, the Mass is ended." "Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord." "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life." These words, spoken by the priest or deacon, echo the last words of Jesus to his disciples before his ascension into heaven:

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

(Matthew 28:19-20)

Mission and presence: this is what happens at every celebration of the Eucharist. Here, Christ's promise to be with us always is fulfilled again and again. When we participate in the Eucharist, and receive the sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood, we don't just witness that promise: we become part of it. We are incorporated into his Body. And, like the disciples, we receive the great commission as well: we are sent forth to love, to serve, and to glorify God by the way we live our lives.

The Eucharist overflows in each of us in different ways to help build up the Kingdom of God in our midst.

- In parents, catechists, teachers, and pastors, sharing the faith with children and young people
- In sponsors and godparents, helping adults and young people on the journey to full initiation in the Church
- In praying with and providing concrete support to families in need, to women in crisis pregnancies, to those experiencing homelessness
- In extending the love of Christ to the homebound, the isolated, the imprisoned, and those living on the margins

The Eucharist unites us with the worship offered to God eternally in heaven; the Eucharist also grounds us here on earth. The Eucharist unites us in the Body of Christ, and challenges us to look at the world with Christ's eyes, and respond with Christ's love.

It all starts with the Eucharist!

"When we receive the Body and Blood of Christ, we become what we receive — we are incorporated into Christ's Body.... And to be Christ's Body is to carry on the mission of Christ in the world. This mission at its core is to proclaim the Word of Christ, to celebrate his sacraments, and to extend his love through lives of charity. The Eucharist commits us to the poor." — Archbishop Etienne, *The Work of Redemption*



Archbishop Paul D. Etienne

For Reflection

Is the celebration of the Eucharist an important part of my life? How does the Sunday Eucharist impact my life the rest of the week?

Do I live out my faith in concrete acts of love and service?

There are countless ways to serve in the Church and in the broader community and no one can do them all. What forms of service call to me?

ST. JOSEPH

Creative Courage



In the face of difficulty, we can either give up and walk away, or somehow engage with it. At times, difficulties bring out resources we did not even think we had.

As we read the infancy narratives, we may often wonder why God did not act in a more direct and clear way. Yet God acts through events and people. Joseph was the man chosen by God to guide the beginnings of the history of redemption. He was the true "miracle" by which God saves the child and his mother. God acted by trusting in Joseph's creative courage. Arriving in Bethlehem and finding no lodging where Mary could give birth, Joseph took a stable and, as best he could, turned it into a welcoming home for the Son of God come into the world (cf. Lk 2:6-7). Faced with imminent danger from Herod, who wanted to kill the child, Joseph was warned once again in a dream to protect the child, and rose in the middle of the night to prepare the flight into Egypt (cf. Mt 2:13-14).

A superficial reading of these stories can often give the impression that the world is at the mercy of the strong and mighty, but the "good news" of the Gospel consists in showing that, for all the arrogance and violence of worldly powers, God always finds a way to carry out his saving plan. So too, our lives may at times seem to be at the mercy of the powerful, but the Gospel shows us what counts. God always finds a way to save us, provided we show the same creative courage as the carpenter of Nazareth, who was able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting always in divine providence.

If at times God seems not to help us, surely this does not mean that we have been abandoned, but instead are being trusted to plan, to be creative, and to find solutions ourselves.

—Pope Francis, *Patris Corde*, Apostolic Letter for the Year of St. Joseph



© Saint Joseph's Archdiocese of Seattle

The Saints on St. Joseph:

"I wish I could persuade everyone to be devoted to the glorious St. Joseph, for I have great experience of the blessings which he can obtain from God. I do not remember that I have ever asked anything of him which he has failed to grant."

—St. Teresa of Avila

A prayer to St. Joseph:

Glorious Patriarch Saint Joseph, whose power makes the impossible possible, come to my aid in these times of anguish and difficulty. Take under your protection the serious and troubling situations that I commend to you, that they may have a happy outcome. My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power. Amen.

—A 19th-century prayer from France, a favorite of Pope Francis

FOR REFLECTION:

- Pope Francis uses the phrase "creative courage" to describe St. Joseph. How does Joseph demonstrate "creative courage" in the Gospels? Can you think of other examples of "creative courage" from the Bible, or the lives of the saints—or people you know?
- What are the challenges we are facing right now in our families—our parishes—our Church—our nation—our world? Can we see these challenges as opportunities? How might God be trusting us "to plan, to be creative, and to find solutions ourselves"?