



ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL
PENTECOST
May 23, 2021

ORDER OF CELEBRATION

The Solemnity of Pentecost

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION (Sunday 5:30pm)

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

- + Masks continue to be mandatory. Your mask must cover both your nose and your mouth at all times.**
- + The clergy and readers are permitted to remove their masks 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.**
- + Thank you! We can all help each other stay safe and comfortable by following these common sense guidelines.**

The Introductory Rites

PRELUDE

Come, Holy Spirit, Lord God, BWV 651
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

ENTRANCE

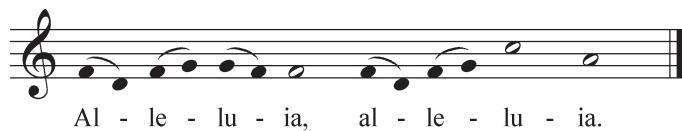
Come, O Creator Spirit, come
VENI CREATOR

Come, O Creator Spirit, come, And make within our hearts thy home;
To us thy grace celestial give, Who of thy breathing move and live.
O Paraclete, that name is thine, Of God most high the gift divine;
The well of life, the fire of love, Our soul's anointing from above.
Thou dost appear in sevenfold dower The sign of God's almighty power;
The Father's promise, making rich With saving truth our earthly speech.
Our senses with thy light inflame, Our hearts to heavenly love reclaim;
Our bodies' poor infirmity With thy strength perpetual fortify.
Our mortal foe afar repel, Grant us henceforth in peace to dwell;
And so to us, with thee for guide, No ill shall come, no harm betide.
May we by thee the Father learn, And know the Son, and thee discern,
Who art of Both; and thus adore In perfect faith for evermore.

Archbishop Rabanus Maurus (c780–856)

RITE OF SPRINKLING WITH BAPTISMAL WATER

Vidi aquam
David Hurd (b. 1950)



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 2:1-11

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 104

Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

Lord, send out your Spi-rit, and re - new the face of the earth.

SECOND READING

I Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Galatians 5:16-25

SEQUENCE

Veni sancte spiritus
Mode I

Come, thou Holy Spirit, come!
And from thy celestial home
Shed a ray of light divine!

Come, thou Father of the poor!
Come, thou source of all our store!
Come, within our bosoms shine!

Thou, of comforters the best;
Thou the soul's most welcome guest;
Sweet refreshment here below;

In our labor, rest most sweet;
Grateful coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.

O most blessed light divine,
Shine within these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill!

Where thou art not, we have naught,
Nothing good in deed or thought,
Nothing free from taint of ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour thy dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away:

Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.

On the faithful, who adore
And confess thee, evermore
In thy sevenfold gift descend.

Give them virtue's sure reward;
Give them thy salvation, Lord;
Give them joys that never end. Amen. Alleluia!

ALLELUIA

Dom Gregory Murray, OSB (1905-1992)

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

GOSPEL

John 20:19-23 or John 15:26-27; 16:12-15

HOMILY

Father Michael G. Ryan

PROFESSION OF FAITH (except Sunday Evening)

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.

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

CALLING OF THE CANDIDATES

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES OF THE CANDIDATES

PRAYER OF CONFIRMATION

ANointing with Chrism

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)



The Liturgy of the Eucharist

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND THE OFFERINGS

(10:00 & Noon)

Come down, O Love divine, Seek thou this soul of mine,

And visit it with thine own ardor glowing;

O Comforter, draw near, Within my heart appear,

And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing. (Bianco da Siena, trans. R. F. Littledale)

Come down, O Love divine
William H. Harris (1883-1973)

SANCTUS

Compostela Mass
Gustav Holst (1874–1934), adapt. Fr. Michael G. Ryan

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of Hosts,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - - - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - - - est.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Holst, adapt. Ryan

Save us, Sa - vior of the world, for by your cross and res-sur -
rec - tion you have set us free, you have set us free.

AMEN

Holst, adapt. Ryan

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

LORD'S PRAYER

AGNUS DEI

Holst, adapt. Ryan

Cantor or Choir: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

1., 2. have mer - cy on us.
3. - grant us 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

Suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind
in the place where they were sitting, alleluia; and they were all filled
with the Holy Spirit, and announced the great things God had done, alleluia, alleluia.

(10:00 & Noon)

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in the place where they were sitting, alleluia; and they were all filled
with the Holy Spirit, and announced the great things God had done, alleluia, alleluia.

Factus est repente

Mode VII

Factus est repente
William Byrd (1540–1623)

Regina celi
chant.

Re - gí - na cæ - li læ - tå - re, al - le - lu - ia,
O Queen of hea - ven, be joy - ful, al - le - lu - ia,

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

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

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

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

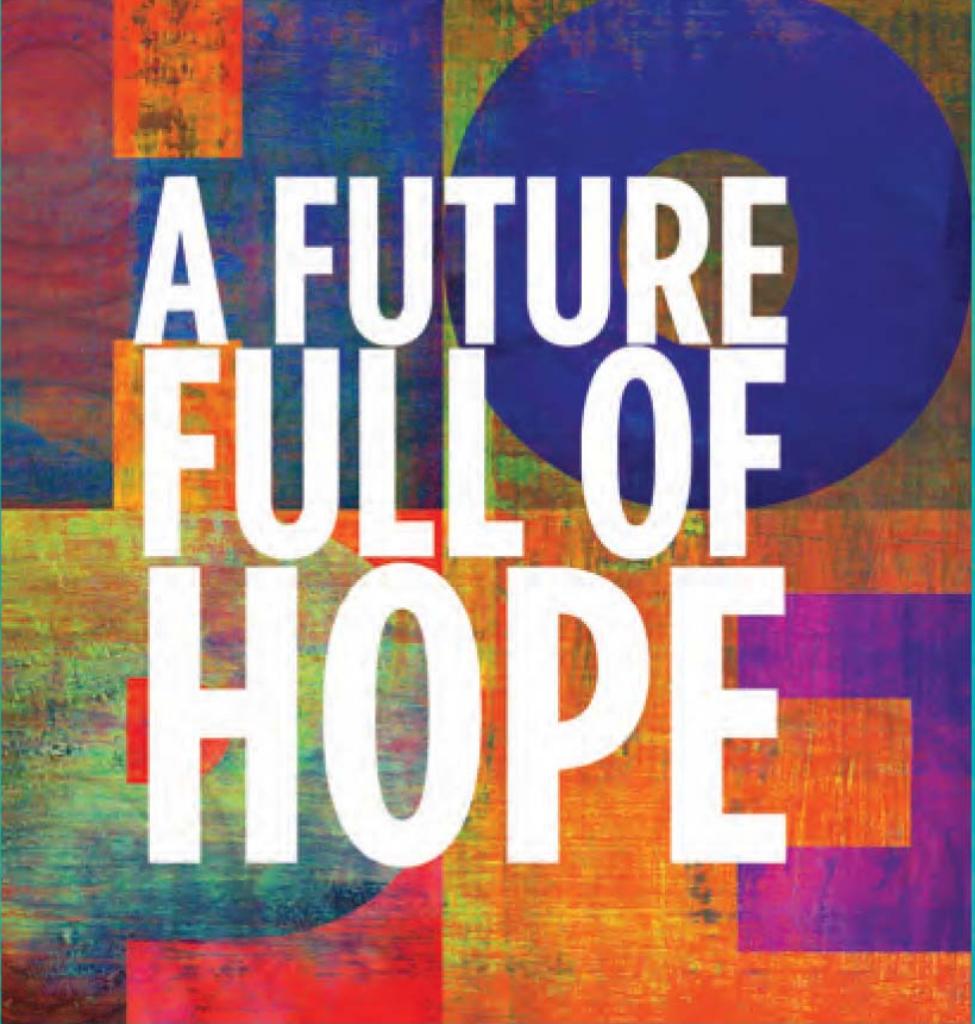
Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PROCESSION

Veni creator Spiritus
Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986)

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

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.

PENTECOST

May 23, 2021

ON THE COVER Come, Holy Spirit, come! And from your celestial home shed a ray of light divine. Icon of Pentecost. 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. JAMES CATHEDRAL IS SEEKING TO HIRE A COORDINATOR OF CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

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.

TEXT TO GIVE The Cathedral is now equipped for you to text donations! Simply text the amount you want to donate (e.g. for \$25, just the number 25) to **206-312-3452**. You'll be invited to click on a link to connect to your existing Our Sunday Visitor account or you can make a one-time gift without logging in or setting up an account. An easy way to make a spontaneous gift!

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 Holy Spirit in Kent and St. Madeleine Sophie in Bellevue.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL THANKS YOU Early in the pandemic, a woman lost her job at a medical clinic when her employer laid off staff and then permanently closed the office where she worked. She cares for a teenage nephew who has a compromised immune system. Terrified that her nephew could easily get COVID-19, they self-quarantined at home for many months. The nephew did his school work remotely. His aunt left the apartment only to go to food banks and a grocery store. With no earned income, they were dependent on unemployment benefits to pay their bills. Then those benefits stopped. By the time the aunt called the SVdP Helpline (206-767-6449), she had almost no cash left and was behind on nearly two months rent. Thanks to your donations, we told her we could pay almost a full month's rent. She said, "Nobody's ever done anything for me. That's so merciful. I'm so thankful. I think I'm going to cry." And she cried until this most tender of visits was nearly over. Your support for SVdP at the Cathedral eases burdens many are facing and leads to remarkable moments of grace – thank you! *Information*, Jo Ann Wiesner, 206-291-4012 or wiesnerjo@gmail.com

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES DURING THE PANDEMIC

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.



Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

JANUARY 23—FEBRUARY 1, 2022

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, but the pilgrimage is filling fast. *Information*, Maria Laughlin, 206-382-4284 or mlaughlin@stjames-cathedral.org.

Musical Prayer

with our Youth Music Program

Livestreamed Friday, May 28, 2021 at 6:30pm

Throughout the last year, our Seraphim, Schola Cantorum, and Jubilate! Young Women's Ensemble choirs have continued to meet weekly on Zoom for music education and camaraderie, led by Stacey Sunde, Director of Youth Music. Musical Prayer for May 28 will be a broadcast featuring our Youth Music Program that includes a newly produced "virtual choir" video that students recorded of Lenten and Eastertide songs, some smaller musical projects, and highlights from 2020's virtual Readings and Carols. Tune in on Vimeo or Facebook and hear what our choir kids have been up to!

A NEW PHASE TO THE HOMELESSNESS CRISIS IN SEATTLE HAS BEGUN

Over the last couple of weeks, for the first time since the pandemic began, the City has undertaken a series of "sweeps" of homeless encampments in Seattle. These sweeps displace many vulnerable, houseless individuals from the residences they have occupied for the nearly two years, without providing for adequate safe alternative places for them to go. The St. James Housing Advocacy Committee calls for prayers from our parishioners. Prayers for those displaced homeless people, that they may find new homes, as well as prayers for our leaders, that they find a more compassionate way to deal with the crisis of people living on our streets. *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.

Sacred Steps

REST IN PEACE Please pray for the repose of the souls of *Maralyn Blume, Stephen Harrison, Bob Busse, and Edward Parker*.

ST. JAMES IMMIGRANT ASSISTANCE

There were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem – Acts 2:5

Today's Pentecost story is one of surprise. The story starts with the apostles gathered indoors, where they receive the Holy Spirit, whom they did not yet know. They are still figuring out who Jesus of Nazareth is; why this new revelation of God?

Suddenly, the scene moves outdoors to a gathering of immigrants from all over. The long list of peoples – Parthians, Medes and Elamites – and places – Mesopotamia, Cappadocia, Pontus, Pamphylia, Egypt, etc. – encompasses the whole known world in every direction. These places are far away from Jerusalem, weeks of dangerous journey by land or sea, too far from pilgrimage (tourism was unknown in the ancient world). The crowd gathered at Pentecost were immigrants to Jerusalem.

It is among this gathering of immigrants that the meaning and the mission of the gift of the Holy Spirit is revealed. *God as Holy Spirit is present within us and in every person of every culture.*

How at this time were there devout Jews in all these other countries? Centuries before Jews had *emigrated from* Jerusalem, escaping the chaos and poverty of an occupied city at the crossroads of conflict, seeking new life in other countries and cultures. After Jerusalem was conquered and occupied by the Romans, many Jews from all over the Mediterranean world *immigrated to* Jerusalem for trade, work, or were forced to move as displaced people or as slaves.

It is among this gathering of immigrants that the meaning and the mission of the gift of the Holy Spirit is revealed. *God as Holy Spirit is present within us and in every person of every culture.* In the four Gospels, the people of Israel meet God revealed in Jesus in their own homeland and their own Jewish culture, and beginning with Pentecost, the Acts of the Apostles tells the story of encountering Holy Spirit among all peoples, *especially immigrants*, whether in Jerusalem, Ephesus, Corinth, Rome or beyond. ***For Peter, Paul, and other Apostles, they come to know the Holy Spirit more fully as the encounter people of other cultures, by sharing their questions, their faith, their meals, and their homes.*** With this meaning comes a mission: to honor and welcome people of every culture as they are and to invite them to belong, to renew, and to re-fashion the communities of faith we call home.

- A reflection by Joe Hastings

Experience Encounter as a Volunteer

Help an immigrant learn English, prepare for their citizenship interview, provide support to staff, or share your expertise. Check out our website for more information and/or email Tammi Murray at tmurray@stjames-cathedral.org.



St. James Immigrant Assistance

Join our GroopIt team to keep up to date on ways to help our immigrant and refugee brothers and sisters. Email ckoehler@stjames-cathedral.org



Stay up to date by receiving our Immigration Updates and Alerts.

Go to www.stjames-cathedral.org/immigrant and scroll to the bottom of the page.

The immigrant assistance ministry at St. James strives to promote an inclusive society and advance justice for refugees and immigrants through education, advocacy, building solidarity, and by helping refugees and immigrants to learn English, become citizens, and connect to community resources.

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>

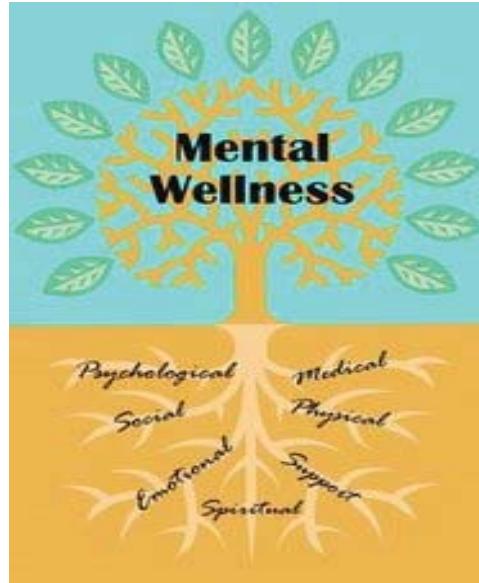
Livestream the prayer service:

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

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

St. James Cathedral Mental Health & Wellness Ministry

HEALING MONDAYS



Weekly Presentations about Emotional and Mental Health

Every Monday at 7:00 PM Online via Zoom

* Educational Talk *Discussion *Q & A with Experts

Presented by Blessed Sacrament parishioners and psychiatric providers:

Antonina Kozlowska, ARNP and Ava Kozlowska, ARNP

Topics through June 2021:

- 5/17 My children don't listen to me
- 5/24 How to cope with too much stress
- 5/31 What are hallucinations?
- 6/07 Mindfulness: Ways to increase our awareness by observing
- 6/14 How to be nonjudgmental
- 6/21 Mental health benefits of spirituality
- 6/28 Connection between food and our emotions

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83364268237?pwd=Q3ZyeTJPRjBrKzRxTVIHRE1GaTA0Zz09ZOO>
Mtg. ID 833 6426 8237 Passcode: Healing

Information, info@healingtms.com or Nancy Granger, ngranger@stjames-cathedral.org

ST. JOSEPH

Patron of Workers

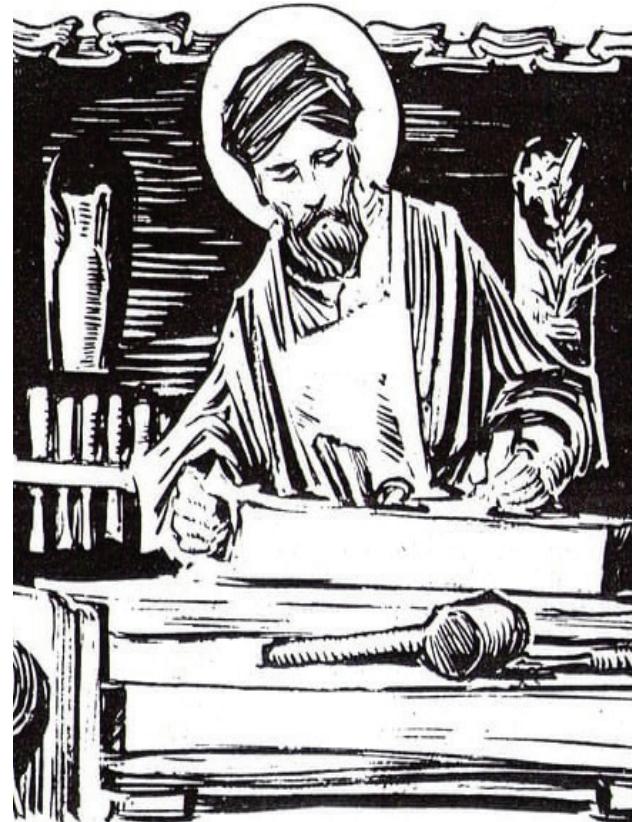


Saint Joseph was a carpenter who earned an honest living to provide for his family. From him, Jesus learned the value, the dignity and the joy of what it means to eat bread that is the fruit of one's own labor....

Work is a means of participating in the work of salvation, an opportunity to hasten the coming of the Kingdom, to develop our talents and abilities, and to put them at the service of society and fraternal communion. It becomes an opportunity for the fulfilment not only of oneself, but also of that primary cell of society which is the family. A family without work is particularly vulnerable to difficulties, tensions, estrangement and even break-up. How can we speak of human dignity without working to ensure that everyone is able to earn a decent living?

Working persons, whatever their job may be, are cooperating with God himself, and in some way become creators of the world around us. The crisis of our time, which is economic, social, cultural and spiritual, can serve as a summons for all of us to rediscover the value, the importance and necessity of work for bringing about a new "normal" from which no one is excluded. Saint Joseph's work reminds us that God himself, in becoming man, did not disdain work. The loss of employment that affects so many of our brothers and sisters, and has increased as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, should serve as a summons to review our priorities. Let us implore Saint Joseph the Worker to help us find ways to express our firm conviction that no young person, no person at all, no family should be without work!

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



"Roman missal - St. Joseph Worker" By Royal Griffin licensed under CC BY-NC 2.0

The Saints on St. Joseph:

"Work was the daily expression of love in the life of the Family of Nazareth. The Gospel specifies the kind of work Joseph did in order to support his family: he was a carpenter. This simple word sums up Joseph's entire life."

—Pope St. John Paul II

A prayer to St. Joseph:

O God, Creator of all things,
who laid down for the human race the law of work,
graciously grant that by the example of Saint Joseph
and under his patronage
we may complete the works you set us to do
and attain the rewards you promise.
Through Christ our Lord.

—*Roman Missal, Prayer for the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker*

FOR REFLECTION:

- Imagine Joseph and Jesus in the carpenter's shop. What might Jesus have learned from Joseph, in addition to a useful trade and a way to make a living?
- Have you ever been unemployed—or had a parent or family member who was unemployed? How did this impact your own mental and spiritual well-being? How did it affect the whole family?
- Do you work? Do you find satisfaction in the work you do? How do you bring your faith to bear on the way you carry out your work?
