

ORDER OF CELEBRATION FOR

The Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

PRELUDE

Andante with variations

Mendelssohn

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE

New songs of celebration

RENDEZ A DIEU



1. New songs of cel - e - bra - tion ren - der To him who
2. Joy - ful - ly, heart - i - ly re - sound - ing, Let ev - 'ry
3. Riv - ers and seas and tor - rents roar - ing, Hon - or the

has great won - ders done; Awed by his pow'r his foes sur -
in - stru - ment and voice Peal out the praise of grace a -
Lord with wild ac - claim; Moun - tains and stones, look up a -

ren - der And fall be - fore the might - y One.
bound - ing, Call - ing the whole world to re - joice.
dor - ing, And find a voice to praise his name.

God has made known his great sal - va - tion Which all his
Trum - pets and or - gans set in mo - tion Such sounds as
Right - eous, com - mand - ing, ev - er glo - rious, Prais - es be

friends with joy con - fess, God has re - vealed to ev -
make the heav - ens ring: All things that live in earth
his that nev - er cease: Just is our God, whose truth

'ry na - tion His ev - er - last - ing right - eous - ness.
and o - cean, Make mu - sic for your might - y King.
vic - to - rious Es - tab - lish - es the world in peace.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Missa de Angelis

Vatican VIII



Have_____ mer - cy on us.

(10:00)

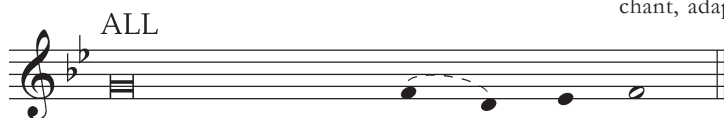
Theresien Mass

Haydn

GLORIA (Sunday Evening) *Missa de angelis*, **No. 341 in Worship hymnal**

(all other Masses)

chant, adapt. Lee



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 people of good will.
we adore you,
for your great glory.
O God, almighty Father.
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
have mercy on us;
receive our prayer;

have mercy on us.

you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ,
in the glory of
God the Father, Amen.

(10:00)

Theresien Mass
Haydn

COLLECT

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Wisdom 9:13-18b

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 90
Englert

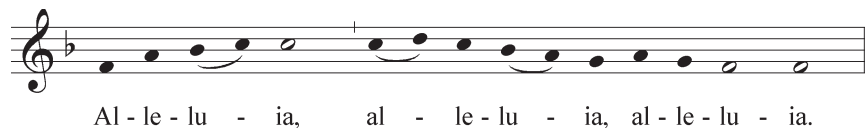


SECOND READING

Philemon 9-10, 12-17

ALLELUIA

chant, Mode VII



GOSPEL

Luke 14:25-33

HOMILY

Father David A. Brant

CREED

**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

Berthier



THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND THE GIFTS

Offertory (10:00)

I waited on the Lord
Mendelssohn

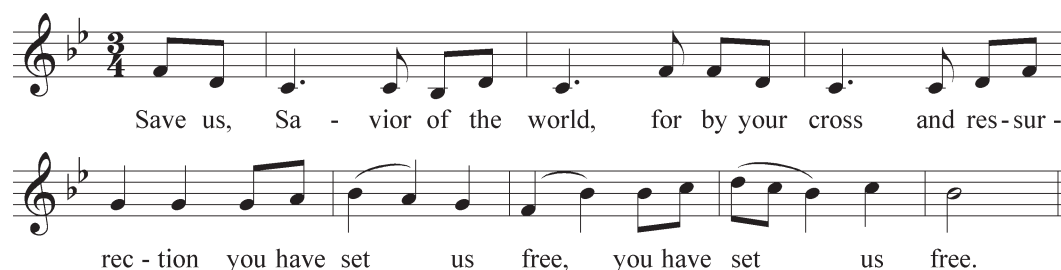
SANCTUS

Compostela Mass
Holst, adapt. Ryan



MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Holst, adapt. Ryan



AMEN

Holst, adapt. Ryan



THE COMMUNION RITE

LORD'S PRAYER

AGNUS DEI

Missa de Angelis

Vatican VIII



COMMUNION

Make vows unto the Lord your God, and accomplish them, chant
all you who gather round him to present offerings; to the awesome
God who takes away the life of princes; he is greatly feared
by all the kings of the earth.

(10:00)

See what love

Mendelssohn

Upon returning to your place after Holy Communion, please **kneel or be seated**.
Low-gluten hosts are distributed at the credence table near the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

HYMN OF PRAISE **No. 634 in Worship hymnal**

Take up your cross
to the tune TALLIS CANON

THE CONCLUDING RITES

PROCESSION

“Allegro maestoso” from *Sonata No. 4*
Mendelssohn

St. James Cathedral - Seattle

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL

The Most Reverend J. Peter Sartain, Archbishop of Seattle

PASTOR

The Very Reverend Michael G. Ryan

IN RESIDENCE

The Reverend David A. Brant, The Reverend Richard J. Ward

PASTORAL ASSISTANT for ADMINISTRATION

Lawrence N. Brouse (206-382-4280)

FAITH FORMATION

TerryAnn Bowen, Director of Religious Education (206-382-2018)

Lita McBride, Children's Faith Formation (654-4658)

Brenda Bellamy, Children's RCIA/Confirmation (206-274-3108)

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

FAMILY MINISTRY

Suzanne Lee, Director (206-654-4640)

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

Bev Mauser, Louise Mennella, Wedding Coordinators

LITURGY

Corinna Laughlin, Pastoral Assistant for Liturgy (622-3559 x3996)

Peter Burns, John Marquez, Stephen Pace, sacristans

MUSIC MINISTRY (206-382-4874)

Dr. James Savage, Director of Music

Joseph Adam, Organist (206-382-4597)

Dr. Clint Kraus, Associate Organist

Stacey Sunde, Director of Youth Music

Thomas Thompson, Coordinator of Special Projects

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRIES

John Simpson, Pastoral Care Minister (206-274-3173)

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

SOCIAL OUTREACH and ADVOCACY

Patty Bowman, Director (206-382-4515)

Caitlin Lanigan, Outreach Ministries, Young Adults (206-382-4235)

Teddi Callahan, Carol DeMatteis, Cathedral Kitchen (206-264-2091)

ST. JAMES ESL/MINISTRY to IMMIGRANTS (206-382-4511)

Christopher J. Koehler, Director

Cecilia Erin Walsh, ESL Coordinator; Glenda Caldwell, ESL Specialist,

Jim Hodges, Citizenship

STEWARDSHIP and DEVELOPMENT

Maria Laughlin, Director (206-382-4284)

YOUTH MINISTRY

Joe Cotton, Director (206-264-2082)

PARISH OFFICE

Sister Mary Slater, SNJM, Bookkeeper (206-382-4564)

Jane Mueller, Receptionist (206-654-4650)

Lee Bedard, Administrative Assistant (206-622-3559 x3971)

FACILITIES and GROUNDS

Tang Nguyen, Facilities Manager (206-622-3559)

CELEBRATIONS of the SACRAMENTS

MASS

Sundays 8 - 10 - 12 & 5:30 pm

Weekdays 8:15 & 5:30 pm

Saturdays 8:15 & "Vigil" 5:30 pm

LITURGY of the HOURS Weekdays at 12:10 pm

VESPERS and BENEDICTION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

Sundays at 4:00 pm.

BAPTISM Communal celebrations are held monthly. A preparation program for parents and godparents is required. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

RECONCILIATION Saturdays, 4:00 - 5:00 pm. A communal celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated four times yearly in preparation for Christmas and Easter.

MARRIAGE A formal program of marriage preparation over a period of several months is required, however, registered parishioners may begin the scheduling process 14 months in advance.

ANOINTING of the SICK A communal celebration is held regularly. In other situations (anticipated surgery, emergency) please call the parish office.

"TAIZÉ" ECUMENICAL PRAYER, Fridays at 6:30 pm.

TOURS of the CATHEDRAL Wednesdays at 1:00 pm. Groups of 4 or more may arrange a tour by calling Corinna Laughlin, 206-622-3559

CATHEDRAL BOOKSTORE Open 11:00 am to 3:00 pm weekdays, after Masses on weekends. Call 206-382-4500 for information

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL PARISH

804 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104

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

Website: www.stjames-cathedral.org

Emergency Number: 206-467-3049

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

WELCOME! *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. Thanks, in part, to the generosity of visitors like you, we are able to celebrate the Church's liturgy here in a fitting and beautiful way. We are also able to offer a wide range of services to needy people living in the central district of our city.*

FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR are offered in memory of Kathleen Marshall on her 56th birthday.

REGISTRATION FOR CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION (CFF) will be TODAY September 8, and September 15 and 22 in the Cathedral Hall after the 10:00am and 12 Noon Masses. CFF sessions will start on September 29. We look forward to seeing your dear families again, and to welcoming new families to our Children's Faith Formation programs! *Information*, Lita McBride, 206-654-4658, lmcbride@stjames-cathedral.org or Theresa Van De Ven, 206-219-5822, tvandeven@stjames-cathedral.org.

THE CATHEDRAL ESPRESSO CART is back from its summer hiatus! Please come by after the 10:00 and Noon Masses. All proceeds for the month of September benefit Children's Faith Formation. The Espresso Ministry is also looking for volunteers willing to run the cart after the Noon Mass. Training provided. *Information*, Katherine Berry, 425-772-0897.

HUNTHAUSEN DINNER AND AUCTION Why not join this fun event on Monday, September 16 at 5:00pm at Newcastle Golf Club? It's for everyone, not just golfers—and it supports Cathedral outreach ministries! Please consider being a part of it. *Information*, Maria Laughlin, 206-382-4284 or e-mail mlaughter@stjames-cathedral.org. To register, visit www.stjames-cathedral.org/golf.

GRIEF AND LOSS SUPPORT GROUP Wednesdays 10:30am–12 Noon beginning September 11. This Christian faith-based grief support group will be facilitated by an experienced pastoral counselor, John Baumann, MDiv, LMHCA. John has over 20 years of pastoral care experience. A free will offering to the St. James Mental Health Ministry of \$15 per session is suggested. All interested individuals are strongly encouraged to attend regardless of ability to pay. You may join the group for as many sessions as desired. *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 remember in prayer the parishes of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta in Woodinville, St. Rose of Viterbo in Longview, and St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church in Seattle.*

IRISH HERITAGE PLAYERS You're invited to a fundraiser on Saturday, September 14 from 6:00-9:00pm. Festivities include Irish Dance, silent auction, and the Seattle premiere of a new play by Kevin Moriarty. *Correction: this event does not benefit St. Anne School as indicated in last week's bulletin.* Information, www.irishheritageplayers.org.

OUR CATHEDRAL YOUTH MUSIC PROGRAM starts fall classes this month. We have two training choirs (St. Gregory and St. Cecilia), our advanced children's choir, the Schola Cantorum, Jubilate!, our young women's choir, and St. Edward's Vocal Ensemble for young men. For information regarding schedule, auditions, tuition, scholarships and performances visit www.stjamescathedral.org/music. or contact the program director, Stacey Sunde, musicooffice@stjames-cathedral.org or 206-941-9450.

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS WRAP begins September 22! Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) guides participants through the process of identifying and understanding their personal wellness resources ("wellness tools") and then helps them develop an individualized plan to use these resources on a daily basis to manage their mental health and increase daily happiness. Helen Nilon will lead an 8-week WRAP Workshop at St. James beginning Sunday September 22, from 2:00-5:00pm. Information, Helen Nilon, 206-257-6840 or mentalhealthaction.wa@gmail.com; or Nancy Granger, RN Parish Mental Health Nurse, 206-382-4269 or ngranger@stjames-cathedral.org.

NOW IS THE TIME TO JOIN THE BISHOPS IN SUPPORT OF IMMIGRATION REFORM Congress returns to Washington this month, so this is the time to urge lawmakers to pass comprehensive immigration reform. Read the two-page bulletin insert from the Washington State Catholic Conference in this week's bulletin, and then go to our website (www.stjames-cathedral.org/ESL) or the Justice for Immigrants website (www.justiceforimmigrants.org) for ways to contact your representatives. Information, Christopher Koehler 206-382-4511 or ckoehler@stjames-cathedral.org.

YOUNG ADULTS "THIRD SUNDAY" On the third Sunday of every month join other young adults in the parish at the 5:30 Mass. This month we will be at Mass on September 15. After Mass, join us for a reception in the courtyard on the corner of Ninth and Columbia. Hope to see you there!

FLAG FOOTBALL, FRISBEE, AND MORE If you are a young adult (20's and 30's) join us on September 25th at 6:45 at Volunteer Park. We will be in the open grass area just southeast of the Conservatory and northwest of the Asian Art Museum. We will have a game of flag football, frisbee, cornhole, bocce, and any other games you may want to add to the mix. Can't find the group? Call Tom, 503-989-3463. Information, Caitlin Lanigan, clanigan@stjames-cathedral.org.

CALLED TO PROTECT FOR MINISTRIES This three-hour training is designed to teach participants how to recognize the signs of abuse, how to respond to suspected abuse, and how to keep our ministries and programs safe. This class is *required* for volunteers with ongoing unsupervised contact with minors and vulnerable adults and is *recommended* for all Cathedral volunteers. Sunday, September 15 from 1:30pm to 4:30pm at Cathedral Place, 2nd floor. Register online through at www.seattlearchdiocese.org, or contact Theresa Van de Ven, 206-219-5822.

COFFEE HOUR HOSPITALITY NEEDS YOU! Our Coffee Hour hospitality ministry is in need of extra hands. We are looking for several outgoing people to help serve and clean up during and after coffee hour. Please consider joining this is a very important ministry of welcome and hospitality. It is a fun ministry with a small time commitment. Information, Caitlin Lanigan, 206-382-4235 or clanigan@stjames-cathedral.org.

WINTER SHELTER TRAINING We will soon begin our 22nd season partnering with St. Martin de Porres Shelter to provide overflow sleeping space for our neighbors without homes. From Friday night through Monday night, from October through April, we provide a warm refuge in Cathedral Hall for 10-15 men. Nearly 100 cathedral parishioners serve as overnight hosts and breakfast cooks. Please consider joining our Winter Shelter Team. Training for returning volunteers will be held Sunday, September 22 from 3:30 to 4:30pm in Cathedral Hall and training for new volunteers will be held Sunday September 22 from 6:30-8:00 in Cathedral Hall. Information, Caitlin Lanigan 206-382-4235 or clanigan@stjames-cathedral.org.

BABYSITTING CORNER is looking for a new or gently used play kitchen and new or gently used toys and books for the nursery. Also, a mini fridge in good condition is needed. Information, Margaret Lynch in Family Ministry at 206-382-4288 or mlynch@stjames-cathedral.org

REMEMBER THE CATHEDRAL IN YOUR WILL The generous bequests of parishioners and friends is critical to fulfilling the mission of St James Cathedral. Each year, we rely on bequests to help us carry out our mission of prayer and outreach here on First Hill. Information, Maria Laughlin, 206-382-4284 or e-mail mlaughter@stjames-cathedral.org.

Sacred Steps

Sacramental Celebrations at St. James

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD'S

BLESSINGS to Paula Horner & Kristopher Harper, married in the Cathedral on Saturday, August 24; and to Elizabeth Joy Smith & Sean Prendergrast; and Kristel Crame & Troy Williams, both married in the Cathedral on Saturday, August 31. Please pray for these young couples.

Relics of St. Thérèse of Lisieux

“I would like to preach the Gospel on all five continents at once....”

This September, the Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States are sponsoring a tour of relics of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, the Patroness of the Missions. This will be a rare opportunity to come close to one of the best-loved saints of modern times. **UPDATE:** At the request of the Sisters of Thérèse’s Carmel in Lisieux, France, the tour will focus on just one major relic of the saint—the writing desk where she wrote many of her works, including her autobiography *The Story of a Soul*.



Saturday, September 14, 2013

St. James Cathedral

804 9th Avenue | Seattle, WA 98104

Opening Prayer, **10:30am**

Viewing of the relics, **11:00am–1:00pm**

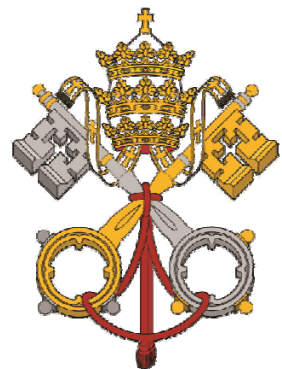
Rosary and Concluding Prayer, **1:00pm–1:30pm**

Sunday, September 15, 2013

St. Cecilia Church

26900 – 78th Avenue NW | Stanwood, WA 98292

Viewing of the relics, **10:00am–11:00am** (following 9:00am Mass), and **12:00pm–1:00pm** (following 11:00am Mass)



PONTIFICAL MISSION
SOCIETIES IN THE US

Sponsored by the Missions Office of the Archdiocese of Seattle
and the Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States

Information, Corinna Laughlin at St. James Cathedral, 206 622-3559, claughlin@stjames-cathedral.org

www.stjames-cathedral.org

St. James Cathedral presents
the Archbishop Raymond G. Hunthausen

Benefit Dinner & Auction

Supporting St. James Cathedral's outreach programs,
especially the Cathedral Kitchen

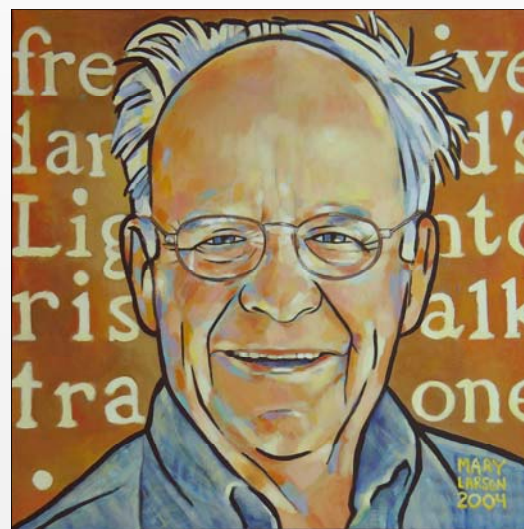
Monday, September 16, 2013
The Golf Club at Newcastle
Newcastle, Washington

Please consider joining the Archbishop Hunthausen Benefit Dinner and Auction, on the evening of Monday, September 16, at the Golf Club at Newcastle. **We are completely full on golfers, but we still have plenty of spots available for the fun dinner and silent auction in the evening!**

As you know, this event raises urgently needed funds to support the Cathedral's many outreach ministries to the homeless, in particular our Cathedral Kitchen.

The evening begins with wine and cheese and a silent auction at 5:00pm. Dinner is at 5:45pm. The evening will conclude about 7:30pm. The cost is \$50 per person.

This is a great way to meet fellow parishioners in an incredibly beautiful setting—and support a great cause.



Information, Maria Laughlin, 206-382-4284
or visit www.stjames-cathedral.org

BENEFIT DINNER & AUCTION

Please print

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

- ☐ Bill my VISA/Mastercard
(circle one)
☐ Check Enclosed

Name as it appears on Credit Card

Credit card number

Expiration date

\$
Amount



Cathedral Blood Drive

Tuesday, October 1, 2013
Pastoral Outreach Center

12:30pm to 6:30pm (closed 3:00pm-3:45pm)

A Unique Gift

What could be a more personal, caring and meaningful gift than the gift of blood to someone in need in our community? The urgent and ongoing need for blood donors invites us to give of ourselves in a way that is essential to life itself. This year's Blood Drive is in memory of Frank Robl, a founding member of the Health and Healing Ministry. Frank died January 20, 2013 after a long battle with cancer.



Who needs blood?

It is very likely that someone you know at St. James has had a need for blood. People who need blood include those who have been in accidents or require surgery or chemotherapy. In our community, that blood would have come from donors to the Puget Sound Blood Center. To meet the needs in our community, over 900 people must donate blood through the Puget Sound Blood Center every weekday.

St. James & the Puget Sound Blood Center

St. James has been sponsoring Spring and Fall blood drives since 2006. The Puget Sound Blood Center is enthusiastic about our partnership in this effort, especially about the number of new donors at our blood drives. **We ask those who have not yet donated to consider donating for the first time. We ask those who have generously donated in the past to please consider doing so again.**

Sign up at coffee hours on 9/15, 9/22, 9/29.

Or e-mail jsimpson@stjames-cathedral.org to sign up or to find out more. Or call 206-274-3173.

At left: St. Luke the Physician. *Madonna & Child with Saints* (detail), Neri di Bicci, ca. 1456

Sponsored by St. James Cathedral's Health and Healing Ministry



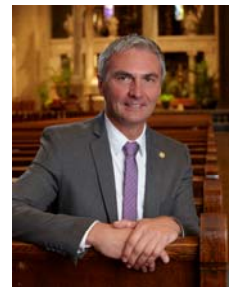
Symbols that Surround Us

THE ART OF SACRED SYMBOLS A WORKSHOP WITH DR. JOHAN VAN PARYS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2013 | 7:00PM | HOLY NAMES ROOM, PASTORAL OUTREACH CENTER

We are surrounded by Christian symbols. We place them in our towns, our churches, our homes, and even hang them around our necks. These symbols speak of our faith and they are constant reminders of the hope that results from our belief in the Resurrection. Many people have lost the art of interpreting these symbols and thus have lost access to these daily reminders of our Christian faith, hope and love. In this workshop we will look at the origin of some of the most important Christian symbols, and the role they have played in our history. And we will discuss ways in which to return these symbols to their due place of importance in our lives. Do Christian symbols, imagery, and ritual gestures from the time of Jesus still have meaning to us today? What do the symbols mean? Why are they so important to the Church? And how can you use them to help you grow in faith?

JOHAN M. J. VAN PARYS, PH.D., a native of Belgium is director of liturgy and the sacred arts at the Basilica of Saint Mary in Minneapolis. He is the curator of the Basilica's Pope John XXIII art gallery and directs the archival efforts of the Basilica of Saint Mary. In addition, Johan teaches Pastoral Liturgy in the School of Theology of St. John's University, Collegeville, MN and he is the founding art director of www.EnVisionChurch.org, an on-line resource in liturgical art, architecture and spirituality. Johan has served as liturgical consultant to numerous dioceses and parishes, both in the USA and abroad. His publications include many articles ranging from art history to liturgical theology. His book, *Symbols that Surround Us* was published by Liguori Publications in 2012. He has lectured throughout the country on liturgy and art.



INFORMATION, Maria Laughlin, 206-382-4284 or e-mail m laughlin@stjames-cathedral.org
ART CREDIT. Pelican feeding her young. East Clerestory stained-glass window, St. James Cathedral.

St. James Cathedral | 804 9th Avenue | Seattle, WA 98104 | www.stjames-cathedral.org

CATHOLICISM

A SIX-WEEK SERIES EXPLORING WHAT WE BELIEVE



Mondays beginning October 14 Holy Names Room, Pastoral Outreach Center

You are invited to discover Father Robert Barron's extraordinary multimedia presentation of the faith. Traveling to more than fifty locations in sixteen different countries, Barron brings our Catholic tradition and teaching to life. We'll watch one episode each week and have time for discussion. Come for one episode or for all six!

Monday, October 14, 7:00pm

Amazed and Afraid: The Revelation of God Become Man

Monday, October 21, 7:00pm

*The Ineffable Mystery of God:
That Than Which Nothing Greater Can Be Thought*

Monday, October 28, 7:00pm

A Vast Company of Witnesses: The Communion of Saints

Monday, November 4, 7:00pm

The Fire of His Love: Prayer and the Life of the Spirit

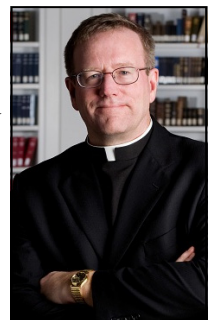
Monday, November 11, 7:00pm

*Word Made Flesh, True Bread of Heaven:
The Mystery of the Liturgy and the Eucharist*

Monday, November 18, 7:00pm

Happy are we: the teachings of Jesus

FATHER ROBERT BARRON is an author, speaker and theologian. He is also the founder of the global media ministry Word on Fire (www.WordOnFire.org), which reaches millions by using the new media to draw people into or back to the Catholic Faith. Father Barron is the creator and host of *CATHOLICISM*, a groundbreaking, award winning documentary series about the Catholic Faith. The series has aired across the country on PBS, and has been seen and broadcast in parishes, universities, schools and media outlets throughout the world.



Information, Maria Laughlin, 206-382-4284 or
mlaughterlin@stjames-cathedral.org

www.stjames-cathedral.org

The Washington State Catholic Conference (WSCC) represents the Catholic Bishops of Washington State: Archbishop J. Peter Sartain of the Archdiocese of Seattle; Bishop Blase J. Cupich of the Diocese of Spokane; Bishop Joseph J. Tyson of the Diocese of Yakima; and Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Seattle.



Immigration Reform: Seeking Truth in Charity

The Human Face of a Currently Deficient System

After emigrating from the Philippines to the U.S. to pursue better economic opportunities, Joseph and Bernadette petitioned to have their five adult children join them when they became U.S. citizens. After waiting many years, they petitioned again on behalf of their oldest daughter. They are still waiting for her to join them, along with their four other adult children who still reside in the Philippines.

To find work and escape poverty, Francisco's parents brought him to the U.S. when he was a small child. He has become an exemplary leader in youth ministry at his parish. He had to return to Mexico in 2011 in order to comply with the immigration process after his petition for permanent residence was accepted. He has been in Mexico for more than a year waiting for an immigration judge to waive the 10-year penalty he incurred as a child for entering the country illegally, so that his green card can be granted.

These Newcomers are Known to Us

We hear stories like these every day, as we pastor immigrant families living in Washington, a state that has become home to an estimated 230,000 undocumented immigrants. The vast majority of immigrants come here because they are poor and desperately need work to support their families. But they also come because we need their labor. Washington State ranks in the top ten among states that rely on undocumented workers for their workforce. They harvest our produce and crops. They clean our hotel rooms and serve food in our restaurants. They care for our children, tend our lawns, and take on the manual labor we are unable or unwilling to do for ourselves. But they also are professionals – lawyers, physicians, technicians, priests, sisters, mechanics, builders – and even soldiers serving our country. Immigrants, both documented and undocumented, are employed in virtually every sector of our economy.

But immigrants are much more than affordable labor. They are also our neighbors, our friends, the classmates of our children and our parishioners. Many of the largest parishes in our three dioceses have primarily Hispanic congregations. Each year our Catholic Schools make room and increase the amount of scholarship assistance for immigrant families, and our Catholic Charities offer innovative and helpful programs that provide them with social services and housing. Through the Church's ministry, we encounter

their suffering on a daily basis, suffering caused by a broken immigration system. Through the eyes of those we pastor, we see first-hand how the lack of comprehensive immigration reform results in unequal enforcement of laws, the break-up of families, and the exploitation of laborers -- in abuse at the hands of ruthless smugglers and, tragically, in thousands of deaths in the deserts of the American Southwest during the past two decades.

A Response In Keeping With Our American Heritage

It is out of respect for human dignity, a value at the heart of our discipleship in Christ, but also in keeping with the unique soul and character of America, that we urge elected officials and all citizens to work to end this totally preventable human suffering. In advocating for comprehensive immigration reform, we do not ignore the complexity of the situation or the number of conflicting values. We recognize the full range of national and international economic, political and social causes involved, from the lack of living-wage jobs in nations with stifling international debt to the absence of basic infrastructure to support economic activity; we recognize both our government's responsibility to secure our borders and the great need for workers on the part of American employers.

Yet it is precisely because the situation is so complex that we must choose the promotion of human dignity as the starting point for bringing about a reasonable, humane and comprehensive solution to this broken system. We have it within our means to fix the problems which bring so much suffering to immigrants and which, if left unaddressed, have the potential of separating us from our proud American heritage. For centuries we have boldly proclaimed to the world that we welcome "your tired, your poor, your huddled masses," because we measure others by their God-given dignity and the quality of their hopes for the future, not by the circumstances of their birth.

An Honest Assessment

Many raise the concern that immigrant populations place a burden on American taxpayers, take jobs from Americans, and strain our social services. Yet studies show that over time immigrants are net contributors to our economy. American businesses need immigrant labor, and over a lifetime even those who enter the country illegally contribute more to the economy through labor, taxes and purchases than they

The vast majority of immigrants come here because they are poor and desperately need work to support their families. But they also come because we need their labor.

consume in services. Undocumented immigrants are never entitled to government-sponsored health and social services, and even legal immigrants do not qualify for welfare or health care for the first five years of their residency in the U.S. In truth, undocumented workers pay billions each year in sales, income and social security taxes, supporting safety-net services they cannot receive. Comprehensive immigration reform would bring these workers out of the shadows, force them to register, and thus contribute even more to support essential public services than they already pay.

Enforceable and Effective Laws & Worker and Family Protection

We join our brother bishops in the United States in urging continued bi-partisan cooperation for comprehensive immigration reform. We are convinced that the overall benefits of legislation being proposed outweigh the burdens of our current system, which relegates millions to life in the shadows and subjects them to family separation, detention, and exploitation. We favor moving forward legislation that includes the following considerations:

1. The path to citizenship should be made more affordable and accessible for undocumented immigrants and their families. We oppose legislation that eliminates or makes inaccessible a path to citizenship.
2. Family unity should be enhanced in the legal immigration system.
3. A viable and robust program for low-skilled workers to enter and work legally should be included, with appropriate worker protections.
4. An increase in the number of visas should be made available to reduce backlog and help reunify families. Such a measure would not only be more compassionate but would promote immigration in a safe, legal and controlled manner, freeing resources needed to enforce border security measures aimed at drug and human traffickers, smugglers and would-be terrorists.

5. Reform must include both adequate border security and protection for the due process rights of immigrants.
6. The root causes of migration should be addressed through changes in U.S. trade policy, strategic investments in international economic aid, debt relief and other initiatives which would reduce the number of people forced to migrate in order to survive.

We Invite You To Partner With Us

Some Catholics and others may question how comprehensive immigration reform impacts the rule of law. The U.S. immigration system is deficient for everyone: taxpayers, employers and immigrants alike. We, the Catholic Bishops of Washington State, support the rule of law and the need for just laws in a civilized society. In our view, comprehensive immigration reform will restore the rule of law by creating an immigration system that facilitates legal entry and presence. Our current system fails to do that sufficiently to meet our nation's security, economic and social needs.

People like Joseph and Bernadette came to the U.S. in search of economic opportunities and have followed the rules, yet the system prevents them from uniting their family. Francisco is a victim of circumstances arising from his parents' undocumented migration to the U.S. when he was a small child. Long waiting times could keep him separated from his family, friends and community for many years while he pursues legal status.

The time has come for comprehensive reform of our deficient system. We urge our fellow Catholics and all citizens in Washington State to contact their U.S. senators and representatives and urge them to support humane immigration reform. Working together in a spirit of compassion, we can — and must — create a system that promotes human dignity, enhances respect for our nation's laws, and reflects our proud heritage as a nation of immigrants.

It is out of respect for human dignity, a value at the heart of our discipleship in Christ, but also in keeping with the unique soul and character of America, that we urge elected officials and all citizens to work for comprehensive immigration reform.

