

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL

Christmas, 2016

Dear Friends,

Along with our Archbishop, Most Reverend J. Peter Sartain, I welcome you to St. James Cathedral on this wonderful feast of Christmas.

For many of you, St. James Cathedral is your home. You are a member of this large and marvelously diverse parish. For others, celebrating Christmas at St. James is a long and cherished tradition; still others will be coming here for the first time. All of you are welcome! And I hope you will discover in this holy place what people have always discovered at St. James: a great cathedral alive with the presence of God and a vibrant community of people who not only pray together in this place, but also carry out an almost dizzying array of outreach ministries to the poor and needy of our city.

I never cease to marvel at how many people find a home here at St. James Cathedral and how many meet Jesus in this place. They meet him in the Eucharist that is celebrated here, in the Word that is preached here, in the community that gathers here and, day after day, they meet him in the poor people who have always found a home here — maybe the only place they can really call home.

Week after week, Sunday after Sunday, thousands of people gather here to pray and then go forth from this beautiful place to live their Christian faith. In welcoming you here today, I invite you to become a part of this wonderful community, part of the life and mission of St. James Cathedral by joining us for Sunday Mass and, if possible, by involving yourself in one of the many ministries and activities that are the hallmark of this place. The pages which immediately follow in this booklet will give you some idea of what goes on at St. James Cathedral the other 364 days of the year.

Each Christmas we celebrate the wondrous mystery of a God who found a home among us poor humans, a home in our own flesh and blood. Ever since that world-changing event, Christmas has been not only a moment in the far-distant past, but an event in the present and a constantly unfolding mystery. What happened in a lowly stable in Bethlehem two-thousand years ago happens over and over again in our time as we open our lives, our hearts, and our homes to the God who takes delight in dwelling among the members of the human family.

May you and all your loved ones be touched by the great Mystery we celebrate this day; may the thousands of people throughout the region who will experience the Midnight Mass on KING-5 Television be uplifted by our prayer, and may the blessings of Christmas — deep peace, abiding love, and overflowing joy — be yours in abundance.

Sincerely in the Lord Jesus,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael Ryan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Ryan".

Father Michael G. Ryan
Pastor of St. James Cathedral

WE ARE THE CATHEDRAL FOR THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE and its Archbishop, the Most Reverend J. Peter Sartain. We are also a parish church for a vibrant faith community with a long history that reaches back to Seattle's early days. We are an inner-city parish with an outreach to many who live on the edge of poverty and loneliness. We are a diverse community that welcomes, accepts, and celebrates the differences we all bring. We exist in the heart of the city, yet sometimes our parishioners come from considerable distances to worship here. St. James Cathedral is a crossroads where ideas and challenges both old and new are explored in the light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our Cathedral is also the center for many cultural and ecumenical events which both reflect and help to shape a vital metropolitan community. Above all, St. James Cathedral is a community of prayer.

Cathedral Ministries

A snapshot of how the Gospel is lived out year-round at St. James Cathedral.
Call 206-622-3559 or visit www.stjames-cathedral.org for more information.

Liturgy and Music

LITURGICAL MINISTERS More than four hundred volunteers are involved in the liturgical ministries of the Cathedral as Ushers, Altar Servers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Readers, Psalmists, Cantors, and Choristers.

CHOIRS Six Cathedral choirs, including four adult choirs and two children's choirs, and the Cathedral organists provide a rich range of musical offerings at the Cathedral liturgies as well as at special concerts. In addition, Resident Ensembles offer sacred music concerts throughout the year.

ST. JAMES YOUTH MUSIC PROGRAM The Schola Cantorum brings together children ages 8-14 who are exposed to the great tradition of Catholic liturgical music and learn musicianship skills. Jubilate! Young Women's Ensemble is a choir for young women ages 14-22 who perform repertoire at an advanced level. Each summer, the Schola Cantorum Choir Camp draws children from around the region for a week of learning and music-making.

Formation in the Catholic Faith

BECOMING CATHOLIC For adults who have never been baptized or who have been baptized in other Christian churches, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is an open-ended, no-strings-attached process to ask questions and learn more about the Catholic faith.

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION Opportunities for young people age 4 through 8th grade include special liturgies and celebrations; ongoing Faith Formation (Sunday School), including a class for children with special needs; preparation for First Communion; and preparation for older children who want to become part of the Catholic Church through Baptism.

RCIA SPONSORS Sponsors accompany those who are becoming part of the Catholic Church, providing spiritual companionship and prayerful support.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION Faith Formation is a lifelong process. The Cathedral offers a variety of programs to enrich and deepen understanding of the Catholic faith including Bible study, retreats, workshops

and guest speakers.

YOUTH & ADULT CONFIRMATION Preparation classes are offered each year. Youth Confirmation preparation for teens aged 16 and older begins in February. There is also a program for adults of any age who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

WELCOME BACK TO RETURNING CATHOLICS Programs help non-practicing Catholics explore Catholic teaching and return to the sacraments and to regular Mass attendance.

Families & Young Adults

YOUTH MINISTRY empowers the youth of St. James Cathedral to BE the hands and feet of Christ, inviting them to embrace their baptismal priesthood and build the Kingdom of God through activities, events, and programs designed to inspire joyful service, particularly with the poor.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY is a community of parishioners in their twenties and thirties who come together to share their Catholic faith, explore their spirituality, serve those in need, and build relationships.

WEDDINGS Couples preparing for the sacrament of marriage are provided with in-depth preparation, including one-on-one interviews and gatherings with other engaged couples.

INFANT BAPTISMS Each year, nearly one hundred infants and young children are baptized at the Cathedral. A group of staff and volunteers provide training for parents and godparents and prepare them to celebrate the sacrament of Baptism with their children.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT The Cathedral helps couples strengthen their marriages by providing information and resources, and by sponsoring events that foster community among our married parishioners.

MARRIAGE TRIBUNAL ADVOCATES are trained ministers who provide pastoral care to individuals seeking to clarify their marital status and freedom to marry in the Catholic Church. Advocates assist in the preparation of marriage cases presented to the

Archdiocesan Marriage Tribunal.

Outreach & Pastoral Care

CARE FOR CREATION COMMITTEE seeks to educate, inspire, and motivate parishioners to a deeper reverence and respect for God's creation.

CARETEAM MINISTRY WITH PEOPLE LIVING WITH AIDS Cathedral CareTeams offer practical care, emotional support, and nonjudgmental listening to several people living with AIDS through Samaritan Center of Puget Sound.

CATHEDRAL KITCHEN For nearly 40 years, the volunteers at the Cathedral Kitchen have prepared and served a hot dinner to 150 of our low income or homeless neighbors, Monday through Friday.

CATHEDRAL KITCHEN GARDEN Volunteers cultivate fresh produce for our Cathedral Kitchen dinner program.

IMMIGRANT ASSISTANCE helps immigrants to learn English and civics, apply for citizenship and other immigration benefits, and connect to community resources.

FUNERAL AND GRIEF SUPPORT The Cathedral supports parishioners who have experienced a loss through preparation of the funeral liturgies, hospitality for families and visitors after funerals, and regular grief support offerings.

HOUSING ADVOCACY COMMITTEE An Action Alert Network and a variety of other activities provide ways for parishioners to advocate for an increase in low-income housing and an end to homelessness in our community.

LIFE, PEACE, AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE promotes the full spectrum of Catholic Social Teaching through educational and advocacy opportunities.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS MINISTRY This parish ministry provides preventative and supportive mental health care individually and in groups, and also educates to dispel the stigma and myths surrounding mental illness.

OPERATION NIGHTWATCH HOMELESS MINISTRY For decades, Operation Nightwatch has helped people experiencing homelessness in Seattle. Cathedral volunteers support this important program by preparing and serving meals on the first and third Tuesdays of the month and serving meals on the second Sunday of the month.

PARENTING AND PREGNANCY SUPPORT MINISTRY Volunteers provide ongoing practical assistance and emotional support to pregnant and newly parenting women in need.

SANDWICHES FOR ST. MARTIN de PORRES SHELTER On the second, fourth, and fifth Mondays

of the month, volunteers make sandwiches for the men staying at St. Martin's.

SOLANUS CASEY CENTER The Cathedral's drop-in center, located on James Street at Terry Avenue, provides information, referral, and ministry of presence to homeless persons.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY The Cathedral conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society serves the downtown and First Hill areas. Volunteer Vincentians offer information referral, spiritual support, and financial assistance to low income neighbors through home visits.

SUNDAY MINISTRY TO THE ELDERLY & HOMEBOUND Drivers provide transportation to and from Sunday Mass for elderly neighbors, while other volunteers prepare audio recordings of the Mass and bring Holy Communion to those who are homebound.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES Through Catholic Community Services, Cathedral volunteers help elderly and disabled people remain safely in their own homes by helping with basic household tasks, such as cleaning and grocery shopping.

WINTER SHELTER For over 25 years, the Cathedral has provided overflow shelter for homeless men from St. Martin de Porres Shelter four nights per week. More than 70 volunteers serve as overnight hosts or prepare a hot breakfast.

YOUTH TUTORING PROGRAM is a partnership with Catholic Community Services that matches parishioners with K-12 students living in six different public housing sites across Seattle. Volunteers tutor the same student for an hour per week for at least 6 months. There is an ongoing need for tutors.

Hospitality

COFFEE HOUR HOSPITALITY After the Sunday morning Masses, parishioners, visitors, and neighbors in need are invited to gather in the Cathedral Hall for a time of fellowship. Volunteers prepare and serve freshly-made muffins, coffee, and juice.

CATHEDRAL ESPRESSO Volunteers prepare and serve espresso beverages after Sunday morning Masses, with the proceeds benefiting different Cathedral programs each month.

CATHEDRAL BOOKSTORE Located in the Archbishop Murphy Courtyard on the south side of the Cathedral, the Cathedral Bookstore, staffed by volunteers, offers a wide range of Catholic reading and gift items. Open 11-3 Monday - Friday and after weekend Masses.

WELCOME MINISTRY IN THE CATHEDRAL

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES. PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY ARE NOT PERMITTED DURING THE LITURGY. RESTROOMS, including wheelchair-accessible family restroom, are located in the northeast vestibule. ASSISTIVE LISTENING SYSTEM available; please ask an usher.