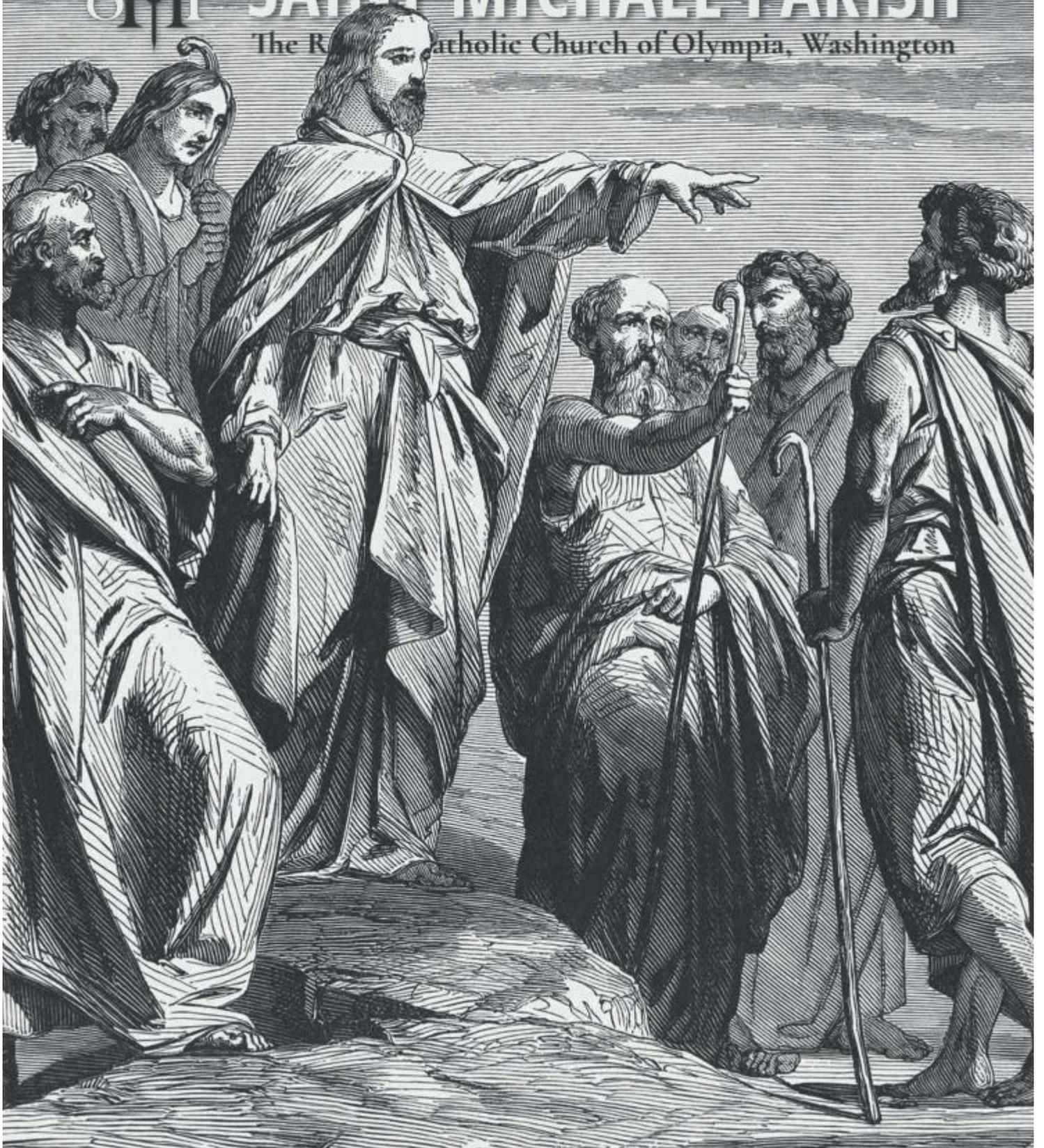




# SAINT MICHAEL PARISH

The Roman Catholic Church of Olympia, Washington



JULY 11, 2021 | 15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1208 11th Ave. SE, Olympia 98501  
(360) 754-4667  
www.saintmichaelparish.org

**OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday–Thursday: 9AM–5PM Friday: 9AM–1PM**

**CALVARY CEMETERY** (360) 292-7138  
3850 Cleveland Ave., Tumwater 98501

**ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL** (360) 754-5131

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

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*General assistance:* stmichaelsvdpoly@gmail.com  
*Office closed until further notice*

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*Donations only Sat. 9AM–1PM*

**PREGNANCY AID** (360) 956-7413

**M & F 2–4PM Wed 9AM–12PM**

**PASTOR:**

*Fr. Jim Lee*

**PAROCHIAL VICAR:**

*Fr. Thomas Tran*

**DEACONS:**

*Rob Rensel*  
*John Bergford*

**MASS TIMES:**

**DOWNTOWN:**

1055 Boundary St. SE

**Monday–Thursday: 12NOON** (*Mondays at 9AM holidays*)

**Friday & Saturday: 9AM**

**Saturday: 5PM**

**Sunday: 7:30AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM & 5PM**

**WESTSIDE CHAPEL:**

1835 Overhulse Rd. NW  
*Closed until further notice*

**RECONCILIATION TIMES (DOWNTOWN):**

**Thursdays: 11AM–NOON | Saturdays: 3–4:45PM**

**MISSION**

*Our mission is to place God first in all things, to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to grow in holiness through prayer, sacraments, and service.*

 follow us on facebook @saintmichaelparish

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 Download our app! Text **smpgive app** to **(833) 602-2200**. Text **smpgive** to **(833) 602-2200** for simple online giving

*mass intentions*

**7.12 MONDAY**

12NOON JJ Lewis †

**7.13 TUESDAY**

12NOON Maria-Del-Pilar Ornelas †  
Almonte

**7.14 WEDNESDAY**

12NOON Enrique Granados † Facebook

**7.15 THURSDAY** (*Reconciliation 11AM–NOON*)

12NOON Donna Rainville †

**7.16 FRIDAY**

9AM Dante Cristobal Bernal †  
Winilyn Nogar Bernal †

**7.17 SATURDAY** (*Reconciliation 3–4:45PM*)

9AM Connor White †

5PM Stefan Alexiu †

**7.18 SUNDAY**

7:30AM People of SMP

9:30AM AJ & Hallie Sites YouTube

11:30AM Miro Bodsky †

5PM Maria Lucia Raposo & Jose Correia †



**Wednesdays at 6PM**  
**Prayer & Music**  
JOIN US FOR  
**Vespers**  
IN PERSON

**Please note the change to Saturday reconciliation times and the addition of reconciliation again on Thursdays!**

**SCHEDULE YOUR HOLY HOUR!**

We now have an online Eucharistic Adoration scheduler. Set up your weekly Holy Hour at <https://smpoly.weadorehim.com>

Cover: Thomaz Scheuchl, *Jesus Sends Out the 12 Apostles*, 1907

## **A NEW PASTORAL YEAR**

Each July 1, we begin a new Pastoral Year. This is how our budget runs according to the guidelines of the archdiocese. This may seem a bit confusing because we run our Stewardship of Treasure according to the calendar year—January 1 to December 31. Our bimonthly reports to you on your pledge and giving are calculated according to the calendar year. We hope that these letters are both informative of what is happening in the parish as well as an opportunity to make sure that we have your financial giving accurate. If there is ever any discrepancy, please contact Chris Peterson or Mona Bishop at the parish office.

This brings me to a number of thanks. Thank you for your continued faithfulness and generosity in the stewardship of your time (prayer), talent (service) and treasure (financial giving). During this last pastoral year, as we have faced many challenges in the parish and school, so many of you have been so very faithful. It is hard for me to put into words my gratitude for your continuing to further the mission of Jesus Christ here at Saint Michael Parish.

Thank you for your faithfulness in coming to Mass, wearing face masks, sanitizing your hands, sitting “socially distanced” and trying to figure out how best to make it work. Thank you for your graciousness to one another and caring for one another.

Thank you, parents, for entrusting your children to us at Saint Michael Parish School, both virtually and in person. Thank you, parents, for journeying with us and our Family Faith Guides as we had to do faith formation via Zoom. Thank you for not giving up when you felt disappointed because of COVID regulations and restrictions.

As we emerge from these restrictions, let us do so with a renewed spirit and trusting hearts, seeking not merely to “return to the way things were,” but rather to be open and discerning to where the Holy Spirit is leading us at this time. Let us hold one another in prayer. Let us encourage one another to return to celebrating the Sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation. Let us continue to invite those who have not yet returned or who may have grown complacent with online Mass or, even worse, not practicing their faith at all.

We need each other. This is the meaning of the Church, that we are a community of disciples following Jesus together under the guidance of our local bishop in communion with the pope and Catholics throughout the world. This solidarity is made possible and real

by the presence of the Holy Spirit who has sustained the Church for more than 2000 years and will continue to do so until Christ comes again. Let us be one with each other on this journey of faith.

## **ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**

On behalf of Archbishop Etienne, I wish to thank all those who have participated either financially or through prayer in this year’s Annual Catholic Appeal. As of July 1, there were 798 participants who have pledged \$348,983. We have reached both the archdiocesan goal and our own stretch goal. Thank you for your generosity once again. This enables us to reach out and serve those beyond our parish boundaries and to truly be missionary disciples.

If you have yet to make a pledge, you can do so online on our parish website. If you are unable to participate financially, please do make a pledge of prayer. This is such a powerful instrument in the ministry of the Church in Seattle. May all that we do behalf of the work of the Church and the archdiocese bring forth much fruit for the kingdom of God.

## **TRANSITIONS**

After four years of ministry with us, Andrew Casad, Steward for RCIA, Marriage and Alpha has accepted a new position at St. James Cathedral. We are grateful for his contribution these past years and pray that the gifts he possesses from God will bear much fruit in his new ministry in our cathedral parish.

Marriann Tefft is our new Steward for RCIA. Marianne has been on staff at different times over the last 12 years. She was Steward for Adult Faith Formation and most recently Steward for Confirmation as we sought to transition from high school to seventh grade, following new guidelines from the archbishop. We are grateful for her presence in this new position.

## **PRAYERS**

I humbly ask for your prayers for a small group of priests who are getting together with Bishop Mueggenborg this coming week. We will be on retreat from Tuesday evening until Thursday noon. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will open our hearts so that we might be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ and servants of his people. We so need and depend on your prayers.

May the summer days be a time of rest and renewal for you and your family. Remember: M. A. S. S.—Make All Sundays Sacred.

In Christ, through the intercession of Blessed Pier Giorgio, I love you.

*Fr. Jim*

# Pursue Beauty This Summer

by Fr. Michael Metz, *Word on Fire*



*For beauty is a source of strength for man. It is inspiration for work, a light that guides us through the darkness of human existence and allows us to overcome all evil, all suffering, with good, since hope in the Resurrection cannot be misplaced. All men know this—every man and woman knows this—for Christ is Risen! The Resurrection of Christ initiates the renewal and rebirth of that beauty which man has lost through sin.*

—Pope John Paul II, *A Meditation on Givenness*

I HAVE found that hiding leads to death, but longing leads to life. It seems important that the first thing we humans did after the fall was to immediately hide. Adam and Eve fashioned loincloths to cover themselves, and when the Lord called, “The man and his wife hid themselves from the Lord God among the trees of the garden” (Gen. 3:8). The concupiscent knee jerk reaction is to guard, mask, and protect ourselves from being seen and from seeing. Fear and insecurity drive us to construct impressive walls that give us a safe place to hide. This is both a great success and a terrible victory: a great success because we do indeed remain hidden and safe; but a terrible victory because we also remain isolated, unseen, and unknown. But if we desire light, life, and love we must possess a defenseless self-forgetfulness, which is a huge risk.

What compels people to take this risk? What compels an individual to step beyond their walls? More personally, what compels you to risk love? When I reflect on this question, experience reveals a consistent answer—beauty. Beauty compels me to risk love. And I don’t mean the abstract idea of beauty or exclusively a narrow view of beauty such as a piece of art or music; I mean beauty that has a face, a name, a color, a sound, a shape, a look, a walk, a smell, a cadence, a tone, a story, a spirit. A beauty that radiates from creation being

fully alive; like a massive mountain range that leaves us speechless, a peaceful lake that calms an unsettled heart, a true friend that helps us rest. A beauty that has a personality so wild, attractive, and out of my control that I have to get out from behind myself to actually encounter it. We children of Adam can hide behind our ramparts and, at times, peek our heads over just enough to catch a glimpse of the splendor of beauty. But one day, our fleshy hearts will cry out “I can’t take this no more!” à la Michael “Squints” Palledorous in *The Sandlot*. And into the deep end we fall, drawn out of ourselves by beauty and thrust into life.

Fear and safety demand that we remain hidden. A deep longing is needed to compel us beyond our walls. But both fear and beauty compete to be heard; fear shouts to us while beauty sings. And the process of liberation is by no means black and white, only fear or only longing. The two forces fight for our hearts. Thomas Dubay says:

*In his masterpiece *The Brothers Karamazov*, Fyodor Dostoyevski placed on the lips of one of his characters the observation that “Beauty is the battlefield where God and Satan contend with each other for the hearts of men.” The one is supreme Glory; the other is supreme ugliness. Though our free wills make the choice, it is beauty that provides the powerful attraction to the only victory that ultimately matters in this peak of all combats.*

Fear and beauty simultaneously reverberate in the heart. Fear commands that we protect ourselves. It encourages pusillanimity, telling us to burrow deeper into isolation. In his novel *East of Eden*, John Steinbeck expertly depicts its effects in the antagonist Cathy (Kate) Ames. In telling how fear mangels her heart and plunges her into a spiral of despair, Steinbeck writes:

*Kate got up from her bed and took a heavy dose of bromide. From that time on the crouching fear had always been at her side. . . . She had never gone out in the town very much, but now she developed a reluctance to go out at all. . . . Then she built the leanto and had it painted gray. She said it was because the light troubled her eyes, and gradually she began to believe the light did trouble her eyes. . . . She believed that the light pained her eyes, and also that the gray room was a cave to hide in, a dark burrow in the earth, a place where no eyes could stare at her. Once, sitting in her pillowed chair, she considered having a secret door built so that she would have an avenue of escape. And then a feeling rather than a thought threw out the plan. She would not be protected then. If she could get out, something could get in—that something which*

*had begun to crouch outside the house, to crawl close to the walls at night, and to rise silently, trying to look through the windows.*

Fear constricts, beauty expands. Beauty ignites desire and beckons us to a life of magnanimity. In this way, beauty instigates an awareness of our poverty, of our lack, of our self-insufficiency. She challenges the nature of our existence. “You can live, but now that you have seen me in my splendor, what is life without me? Can you truly exist without me?” Beauty invites us to lower our defenses and encounter “the other,” but she does not promise safety. The tough but saving fact remains: Embracing beauty requires an unmasking. Oftentimes beauty calls, but we allow her to pass us by. We stare out into the menacing yet marvelous world, protected but aching, safe but suffering. We cry out, inviting beauty into our fortress, but she will not enter because she will not be possessed or controlled. Beauty challenges our familiar comforts in order to liberate our humanity.

But then there are other times, moments of grace, when longing overwhelms fear, and beauty compels us to take a risk. We are led into the unknown, the “out of our control,” and the authentically human. J.R.R. Tolkien, in his trilogy *The Lord of the Rings*, puts flesh on this experience. He describes a subtle but definitive affective movement felt by his protagonist Frodo: “He did not tell Gandalf, but as he was speaking a great desire to follow Bilbo flamed up in his heart—to follow Bilbo, and even perhaps to find him again. It was so strong that it overcame his fear: he could almost have run out there and then down the road without his hat, as Bilbo had done on a similar morning long ago.” Reality beckons and we must go. And when we answer her call, who do we find? Others! We see other people looking back at us open-eyed; we encounter people being human. They are not acting; they are not deceiving; they, too, are following the voice of beauty. At this point, a great paradox is revealed: the voyage out of ourselves moves us deeper into ourselves, into our humanity. This journey leads us into relationship with others.

Now liberated, the people we encounter begin to bear real fruit in our hearts because relationships are a gift. They allow us to know others and to be known, to see and be seen; relationships allow us to love and to be loved. These authentic relationships lead us into an experience of communion. As John Paul II states in *A Meditation on Givenness*: “The yearning of the human heart after this primordial beauty with which the Creator has endowed man is also a desire for the communion in which the sincere gift of self is manifested. This beauty and this communion are not goods that have been lost irretrievably—they are goods to be redeemed, retrieved; and in this sense every human person is given to every other.” Truly genu-

ine encounters with beauty free us to love and lead us to communion, which is the essence of the Trinity, a perfect communion of persons in a relationship of intimate love. St. Peter tells us in his second letter that we are invited to share in this nature, in God’s divine life (2 Pet. 1:4). A person, freed by beauty, has the capacity to engage others as a fluid instrument of God’s grace. This openness to reality forms a docile heart to the presence of God, whose grace begins to transform life and saturates our essential manner of being. Beauty liberates and leads us to *communio*, which begets life eternal.

I finish this essay with a personal story that helped me to notice the necessity and workings of beauty in my own life. It is a story of grace, so it is at once subtle and simple, yet permanent and undeniable. While visiting home one weekend, I convinced my family to watch the latest Terrence Malick flick, *A Hidden Life*. For those who haven’t seen the movie, it is long and—I imagine—insanely boring if you don’t enjoy artsy existential-type films. Luckily I do, and I found *A Hidden Life* to be stunningly beautiful, both in its cinematography and its heroic narrative. I was excited, but admittedly, a bit nervous when the family agreed to invest three hours on a Friday night to watch it. Thank goodness, they were captivated, and it was clear that each person was moved by the experience. When the movie ended, nobody spoke. When the silence gradually broke, discussion ensued. Different impactful scenes were remembered, insights were shared, and meaningful questions were pursued with real curiosity. We were collectively caught in a cloud of wonder. It was late and the night was drawing to a close, so people slowly trickled off to bed, and I thanked God for how special the night had been, thinking his grace had already run its course.

I awoke the next morning to a note on the kitchen counter: “Out by the fire. Grab a coffee and join!” So I poured a cup o’ Joe, headed to the backyard, and found Mom and Dad in the cool morning air watching the sun rise, chatting around the bonfire. I sat down and discovered that they had picked up the discussions from last night. I was so pumped! My little sister quickly joined us, then a brother, then a few more siblings, and soon the whole family was sitting around the morning burn, delighting in conversation. Mom eventually grabbed a skillet and cooked some breakfast on the open fire. We sat out there for hours eating and talking, enjoying the fire, captivated by life, dwelling in communion.

Beauty beckoned and we followed. Beauty led Mom and Dad to be more human, and their authentic humanity generated a substantial and graceful communion of persons.

This summer, pursue beauty and she just might lead you to communion—and point you toward eternal life.



**A PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND**

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*Feb 14<sup>th</sup> -- 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022*



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**Deacon John & Leanne**  
**[jbergford@saintmichaelparish.org](mailto:jbergford@saintmichaelparish.org)**

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## Vacation Bible School

Our *Treasured VBS* is already full for the scheduled **August 16–20** session. If you have kids who you'd like to have attend, please visit our website and place their names on the waiting list. We frequently have cancellations so it's still possible we'll have room!



**CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION REGISTRATION ARE NOW OPEN FOR CHILDREN AGES 3-12.**

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is the primary method of faith formation for our children. For more information or to register, just visit our website.

Contact: Elizabeth Lyons at [elyons@saintmichaelparish.org](mailto:elyons@saintmichaelparish.org).

# FAITH FORMATION



## Financial Peace University

Jesus continues to send us into the world as his disciples. In our FPU work with others, we build this community of faith and financial wellness. Invite others to share in our financial peace journey.

Class begins mid-September on Thursday evenings for nine weeks. All are welcome! Cost is \$50 with materials and resources. Scholarships available for parishioners.

**FPU Alumni Meeting July 24, 10AM–NOON** via Zoom. Discussion of impact of new Long Term Care insurance required for payroll beginning January 2022. Bring your expertise! Sign up for alerts in SMP Connect (Group: Financial Peace University).

### Resources:

Info at [saintmichaelparish.org/financial-peace-university](http://saintmichaelparish.org/financial-peace-university) or FPU Core Team: [fpu@saintmichaelparish.org](mailto:fpu@saintmichaelparish.org). Our SMP ministry team is here—how can we help?

Facebook: Saint Michael Parish, Olympia—FPU Alumni Closed Group

A graphic invitation for a Youth Ministry Fair. It features a photograph of a group of young people sitting in a circle on a grassy field. The background is light blue with gold polka dots and a yellow ribbon. The text reads: "Youth Ministry Fair", "You're Invited!" (in cursive), "Saint Michael Parish School Field", "July 24 – 12 to 4pm", and "For families with children in 5th - 12th grade." At the bottom, it lists activities: "mobile gaming unit, dunk tank, food, music, competition, bounce house, and more!"

Youth Ministry Fair  
*You're Invited!*  
Saint Michael Parish School Field  
**July 24 – 12 to 4pm**  
For families with children in  
5th - 12th grade.

mobile gaming unit, dunk tank, food, music, competition, bounce house, and more!



# Music Ministry

## NEEDS YOU!

God gave you great gifts! Use them to bring beauty to His Church!

As things begin to reopen, the music ministry is in need of new volunteers to serve once or twice per month, including cantors, choral singers, string players, or those with experience or interest in chant.

All new volunteers are invited to an on-boarding retreat on **Saturday, July 10 from 9–11AM at the downtown church.**

Contact Andrew Goldstein, Steward for Music Ministry, at [agoldstein@saintmichaelparish.org](mailto:agoldstein@saintmichaelparish.org).

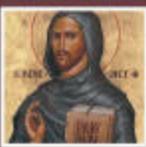
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\$20 SUGGESTED DONATION ~ RSVP BY AUGUST 7th

RSVP/Questions: [saintbenedictoblates@gmail.com](mailto:saintbenedictoblates@gmail.com) ~ 360.970.0464



Pray  
Reflect  
Share



WHAT TO BRING: Note pad/Journal and a pen/pencil ~ Breviary/Prayer Book/Liturgy of the Hours ~ Brown Bag Lunch ~ Chair/Blanket

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# SMP Hiking Groups

## FRASSATI & RISE UP

The **Pier Giorgio Frassati Group of South Puget Sound** is a hiking/service/prayer group for Young Adults. Follow their Facebook page for info on upcoming hikes and service projects. They recently held a "meet & greet" (photos below). To the heights!

**Rise Up** is a new group for all ages and families, with hikes at many levels, plus prayer and service opportunities. Sign up for this group on *SMP Connect*—all details about upcoming hikes will be emailed to the group.

Contact Bene at [breece@saintmichaelparish.org](mailto:breece@saintmichaelparish.org) or (360) 292-7143 if you have questions about these groups.



## Clothing Bank

Another successful Mobile Clothing Bank took place on June 10! We joyfully distributed 800 items to 101 grateful neighbors (a new high regarding neighbors served). We once again "sold out" of men's jeans, men's shoes, blankets, pillows, sleeping bags, backpacks and propane vouchers, and also distributed more women's underwear and bras than ever. These are the items we are most in need of as we solicit and screen donations. Of course, men's and women's coats plus other long-sleeved clothing appropriate for the out-of-doors are very popular, but we fortunately get a sufficient amount of those regularly donated by our generous community. Folks now know what it means when the U-Haul pulls up, and we are developing name/face familiarity with more and more of our needy neighbors.



## Rachel's Corner

*"The pain of loss feels helpless because it comes from the past, and the past is a place where we have no power. We can't do anything about the past, because it is already over. It no longer exists for us to control. Loss is very painful until we cross over. We must cross over for the past to the present, from what we had to what we have."* – *The Black Swan* by Susan Anderson

Have you been suffering from that pain of loss since the day of the abortion decision? Contact Project Rachel and invite healing into that wound.

**Call for a compassionate, confidential conversation.**

English: (206) 920-6413 / Español: (206)-450-7814

Email [projectrachel@ccsw.org](mailto:projectrachel@ccsw.org) or visit [ccsw.org/projectrachel](http://ccsw.org/projectrachel) or [facebook.com/projectrachelww](https://facebook.com/projectrachelww).

Project Rachel is a program of Catholic Community Services. *You are loved with an everlasting Love!*

## Grief Support

Are you carrying a heavy heart? This has been a difficult year and we invite you to join us for an 8-week grief support group. Starts **July 12**, 10–11:30AM in person at Saint Michael Parish.

More info by contacting Bene Reece at [breece@saintmichaelparish.org](mailto:breece@saintmichaelparish.org).



## The Three Conversations

**WHAT'S YOUR STORY?**

Coming together in prayer, sharing ourselves, our struggles, and moments of grace are wonderful ways to build community within a large parish, as well as to support and inspire one another. This kind of prayerful connection is needed now more than ever!

If you have been moved by Fr Jim's videos about the Three Conversations and taken up the challenge to engage in one or all of these conversations, please let us know.

**Email your experience with the Three Conversations to Kellie at [kpatton@saintmichaelparish.org](mailto:kpatton@saintmichaelparish.org) or call (360) 292-7102.**

## FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK



In some way or another, we have all been affected by Church scandals. In this episode of The Search Continues, Chris Stefanick and Dr. John Sehorn discuss how we are to respond to these evils. In doing so, they remind us to fight for the Church and perpetually call her members to live up to their callings.

Sign up for free at [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup)

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 Donations Received as of June 27, 2021	
Sunday Stewardship	\$21,322
Online Giving	\$28,425
Sunday Loose Donations	\$416
Holy Days	\$65
Youth (Little House)	
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$50,229</b>
Total Year-to-Date	\$3,198.602

*please pray for:*

Russell & June Hendrick  
 Kayla Bishop  
 Vic & Liz Kaufman  
 Jeanne Wittman  
 Pauline Nault  
 Heather Brooks  
 Lisa & Jolane Zander  
 Antoinette Wilcoxson  
 Tom Hackstadt  
 Kathy Catterson  
 Bonnie Stover  
 JCA & Raoul Titus  
 Sue Holt  
 Suzanne Heaps  
 George Domonique  
 Deonne Clesi  
 Pat Pickett  
 James Sharp & family  
 McCarthy Family  
 Leonard & Vanessa Brammeier  
 Valorie Kolarik  
 Debbie  
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 Ramon S. Borromeo, Sr.

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 Carlos Lara  
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 Colleen Hays  
 Pati Lieninger  
 Joan & Leslie Anne Bykonen  
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 Michael "Mick" Milasich  
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 Shantell Rodriguez

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 Gabriel Rodriguez  
 Albert Lopez  
 Neil Blubeck  
 Clarissa Rodriguez  
 Chris Erickson  
 Sylvia Sandobal  
 Chelsea Lopez  
 Paul Rodriguez  
 Roman Luckey  
 Lorenzo Jones  
 Bev & Jim Heggie  
 Rhonda Davis  
 Linda Ruiz  
 Dina McBride  
 Deveda Puckett  
 Mike Smith  
 Rita Brown  
 Nancy Cosgrove  
 Andrea Bell  
 Baby Olive  
 Sherry Santo  
 Greg Cina  
 Jerry Robert Stiles

To submit prayer requests, call the parish office at (360) 754-4667 or submit your request via our website. If you or someone you know is homebound and wishes to receive regular calls to check on their welfare and even pray with them during this crisis, please call Benedetta Reece at (360) 292-7143.

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