

NORTHWEST CORNER CATHOLIC

Fourth Sunday of Easter · April 26, 2026



A PROUD PART OF WHATCOM CATHOLIC (PARISH FAMILY #2) · WHATCOMCATHOLIC.ORG · STJOSEPHFERNDALE.ORG



St Joseph
5781 Hendrickson Ave, Ferndale
SCAN TO GIVE



St Anne
604 H Street, Blaine
SCAN TO GIVE



St Joachim
4180 Lummi Shore Rd, Bellingham
SCAN TO GIVE

PARISH OFFICE: Myra@stjosephferndale.org · 360-384-3651

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE MASSES

WHEN: May 23 and 25
WHERE: Holyhood, Gethsemane, Calvary and St Patrick cemeteries

Join us for Memorial Day Remembrance Masses at all four of our Associated Catholic Cemeteries to pray for the souls of our fallen veterans and for the faithful departed.

LEARN MORE: archseattle.org

SPRING INTERCULTURAL ENCOUNTER POTLUCK

WHEN: May 30, 6:30–9:30PM
WHERE: Large Isaac Orr Conference Room

Join cultural communities from parish families across the Archdiocese of Seattle for a gathering to listen, learn and celebrate our shared Catholic faith as we share a meal that represents the many cultures of the Church in Western Washington

LEARN MORE: archseattle.org

MARINERS FAITH & FAMILY DAY

WHEN: Saturday, August 1, 1:10PM
WHERE: T-Mobile Park

Enjoy a fun faith and family day at T-Mobile Park with the Archdiocese of Seattle — special group pricing, a postgame concert and player speaker series. Join us!

LEARN MORE: gofevo.com

PARISH NEWS

PASTOR'S NOTE

LISTENING SESSIONS

I attended the Listening Session at Sacred Heart last Sunday and hope to attend at least three more. (Thank you to everyone, especially the PFAC, who have done such incredible work to make these successful.)

As with the many Listening Sessions I attended at Assumption (for the Archdiocesan Pastoral Plan, the Synod on Synodality, and pre-Partners), I am always impressed by how positive people find the experience. Yes, it seems very artificial to go around in a circle with 2.5 minutes each; and yes, many of us far prefer the dynamics of a back-and-forth dialogue; and yes, something the questions seems a little off the nose – BUT, when I talk to people afterwards, they always seem so thankful to be able to speak deeply and openly with their fellow parishioners on important topics.

It is not too late to attend a Listening Session this round: <https://www.whatcomcatholic.org/sessions>

CONFIRMATIONS

We hosted our first of two Confirmation Masses with Bishop Elizondo last Thursday. This one was in Spanish. I am told around 80 people received the sacrament. That is a lot of extra Holy Spirit in Whatcom County, praise God!

FAITH COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS

I want to explain again (as I did in 2025, 2024, and 2023) how our parishes support our Catholic elementary school.

The Catholic school is often the largest and most expensive ministry of a parish (meaning it ought also to be the most

impactful, something I continually have front of mind). Because it is a ministry, the parish uses some of its collection money to fund that ministry, just as we fund non-school faith formation programs, prayer groups, retreats, and the like.

Most parishes across the Archdiocese simply write the school a large check each year which gets deposited into the school's general operations account. In return, parish families get a slight discount (~15% off tuition), as a recognition that their church (and presumably their tithe) was partially funding the school. Until the early 2000s, only Assumption Parish was funding Assumption School, so only Assumption families got this "in-parish" rate; but as the Archdiocese began requiring parishes without a school to contribute to their local Catholic schools, that "in-parish" tuition rate transformed into a "Catholic" tuition rate.

When I became Pastor of Assumption, I had a few objections to this common system. First, I could see that the school was long-term more financially viable than the church, so we needed a system whereby the school budget was independent of parish support, in case the parish had to reduce or end its funding. Second, I see the Catholic school as FIRST a ministry to Catholic families and only SECOND a ministry to non-Catholic families. The "write a big check" model, even paired with the Catholic discount, still saw the church funding the education of many families who did not participate in Catholicism or parish life.

To that end, I switched Assumption School to a scholarship model for the 2023–2024 School Year. Now, Catholic and non-Catholic families all pay exactly the same tuition (which is tied directly to the cost to educate each student), and the churches "fund" the school by providing scholarships to Catholic families to make the school more affordable for them. (These are called "Faith Community Scholarships" because, theoretically, the local Orthodox or Lutheran church could provide a similar scholarship to their families to attend our school, though no other local church has jumped on board yet.)

I *really like* this new system, for a host of reasons. My favorite reason, though, is that it allows me to directly recruit families from our pews to our school, using money that I approve directly. I can think of at least 7 families I have recruited this way (most from our Spanish Masses), who were *super* involved in our churches but who thought they could never afford Catholic school. The school exists *especially for them* and I am thankful that we can ensure the school lives up to that mission. A solid, Catholic education for our most involved parishioners is the surest and most

impactful way to raise the next generation of Catholic leaders for our world and our Church, and this is especially true for our immigrant communities.

Unfortunately, you start using scholarships to recruit families who could not otherwise afford Catholic school, and things start to get expensive. Some of these families require the maximum scholarship (50% tuition) for multiple children, and this adds up. Across our Whatcom County churches, we have budgeted \$185,000 for these scholarships, and the asks this year are already at \$208,000. Rather than cut everyone's scholarship amount by 10%, as I did last year, **I am wondering if we have any parishioners who might be willing to sponsor our most impacted families?** It takes about \$4,000 each year in Faith Community Scholarship money to send one child from these recruited families to the school. If you would like to provide that scholarship in place of the church, please let me know and we can follow up with a conversation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGIONAL OFFICE SUPPLY NEEDS

The regional office annex is in need of 2 portable (used) air-conditioning units to ensure a workable environment in the summer months. In addition, the office is in need of a lightweight portable vacuum cleaner, while the regional staff enjoy the arm workout from the 1980s vacuum cleaner, a lighter weight option would be helpful in keeping the space clean. If in your spring cleaning you find a air-conditioning unit or a vacuum that needs a new home, please consider donating it.

CONTACT: Olivia Phillips · olivia@whatcomcatholic.org

PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL

LISTENING SESSION QUESTIONS

The three questions that are being asked during the listening sessions are:

1. What challenges do you see that exist in the wider Whatcom County community?
2. What challenges do you see that exist in the parish family?
3. What opportunities do you see to more effectively serve and accompany others?

To help answer these questions, we've compiled a Metrics & Viability Report. For more information and additional resources, visit WhatcomCatholic.org – Partners in the Gospel. We hope to see you soon!

CHURCH EVENTS

ROOF RECOVERY APPEAL

Last fall we completed a necessary roof replacement to prevent further water damage and protect our parish facilities. This work was essential to avoid much larger, long-term repairs. Contributions are gratefully accepted.

RAISED: \$2,305.55

GOAL: \$73,000

For full details, read Fr. Moore's complete letter on the [St Joseph Website](#).

MORNING GLORY CONSECRATION

INTRO SESSION: April 26, School Gym

FIRST SESSION: May 3, Teacher Staff Loung

SECOND SESSION: May 10, School Gym

THIRD SESSION: May 17, School Library

FOURTH SESSION: May 24, School Gym

CONSECRATION MASS: May 30, 10AM, Sacred Heart

This Sunday, April 26th, Danila van Veen and Michele King will host the Consecration to Mary with an Introduction Session. We hope to see many parishioners from Whatcom County. Some books are still available when you come to the first session. Remember to sign up on the forms at each parish, so we have an accurate count of who is participating in person or at home.

If you have questions, call or email Michele or Danila.

DANILA: danilavanveen@hotmail.com

ST JOSEPH RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE

DROP-OFF: Friday, May 15, 9AM-2PM

SALE: Saturday, May 16, 8AM-2PM

WHERE: St Joseph, Ferndale Social Hall

Time to spring clean. Are there items in your home collecting dust or clothes you haven't worn in a long time? A good way to clear your home of clutter is to donate clean usable clothing and items.

We are unable to accept televisions, computers, electronics, baby car seats, Christmas trees, large furniture and appliances.

Hot dogs, sodas, and baked goods will be available. Sponsored by St Mary's Guild.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

When one of our parishioners is unable to attend mass for an extended period of time we have a well-established ministry in all of our Whatcom Catholic locations to provide an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to take Eucharist either to their home or one of our Care Facilities. We offer support and training for this important ministry. We are currently actively recruiting new Homebound Ministers. If you feel called to this ministry please contact Dr. Kathy Ernst.

EMAIL: kathy@whatcomcatholic.org PHONE: 253-356-5623

ST ANNE ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

St Anne is seeking new altar servers to assist at the liturgy.

CONTACT: Terry Aiello · 360-223-9090

ST ANNE HOSPITALITY MINISTERS NEEDED

While hospitality ministers can and should greet people as they enter the church, their primary role is to identify people who are not often at our churches and to greet them specifically. No one who rarely enters our church should go without a greeting, which both helps them feel welcome and also gives them an opportunity to ask questions.

A good hospitality minister:

- Reaches out to the lost, shy, and confused.
- Recognizes regular parishioners.
- Prioritizes visitors, to the point of interrupting conversations with regular parishioners to make sure every visitor gets a greeting.
- Knows how to make visitors welcome, walking them to a pew, showing them how to use the Word and Eucharist missal, and knowing where to find information about the parish staff and programs.

CONTACT: Terry Aiello · 360-223-9090

ST MARY'S GUILD LUNCHEON & MEETING

WHEN: Wednesday, May 6, Noon

WHERE: St Joseph, Ferndale Hall

Please come and enjoy a Potluck Lunch and learn about the amazing projects the Ladies have planned. All Women are invited to attend.

ST JOSEPH ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING

WHEN: Saturday, May 2, 10:30AM
WHERE: St Joseph, Ferndale Hall

Please come and learn what activities and projects the guilds have planned for this year. Like the Rummage Sale, Basket Raffle, Bake Sale, and Family Fun Evening. All Ladies are welcome to attend.

SCHOOL NEWS

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Employment Opportunities for 2026–2027 School Year will be posted this week. Assumption School is looking at this time for a Middle School Math teacher and an Elementary School Teacher (3–5th grade). If interested, please check our website online, call the office or inquire online. Mr. Ramos, principal, will be taking applications through May or until positions are filled.

PHONE: 360-733-6133
ONLINE: school.assumption.org

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

CCS COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Why Volunteer in Hope House or Lynden Food Bank? By volunteering your time, you not only provide essential support to those in need but also become a part of a caring community dedicated to making a difference. Whether you can spare a few hours a week or a month, your efforts are invaluable. Together, we can create a stronger, more supportive environment for everyone in our community! Reach out to the program managers on how to get involved.

HOPE HOUSE: 360-671-8702
AGAPE FOOD BANK: 360-393-8926

COMMUNITY AND SANDWICHES TOGETHER

Since 1999, this Outreach ministry has served a simple bag of food on the streets to anyone in need of a meal (over 9,000 each year). Catholic parishioners help on Mondays. We could use more volunteers. Either by preparing the sandwiches and supplies at 4:30PM at Our Saviour Lutheran or transporting to and serving downtown from 6:00 to 7:00 PM behind the public library at the Arches of Healing and Reconciliation. It is also a good way to build community with others in the church. If interested, please contact Dan Larguer with how you would like to help. You can also donate financially to this worthwhile ministry by going to the Interfaith Coalition website/donations/drop down to CAST.

EMAIL: dflarguer@yahoo.com
PHONE: 360-296-3591

NORTH CASCADES COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

The North Cascades Community Orchestra will perform its annual spring concert on Thursday, April 30. The program features Giuseppe Verdi's *Nabucco Overture*, Charles Gounod's *Funeral March of a Marionette*, and Igor Stravinsky's *Danse Infernale*. The orchestra will also perform Arturo Marquez's *Danzon No. 2* and *Dance of the Paper Umbrellas* by Kate-Chernin.

Admission is free, and donations are welcome. Refreshments will be served following the performance.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

BEAVERTON, OR May 1–3
SPOKANE, WA Oct 2–4
TACOMA, WA Oct 9–11
SEATTLE, WA Nov 13–15

Put Spring into your marriage! The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a chance to look deeply into your relationship with each other and with God. It offers married couples an opportunity to learn a technique of loving communication that you can use for the rest of your lives. Sign up today to attend one of the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends.

CONTACT: Jeff & Sandy Corneil 360-903-2321
INFORMATION: wwme.org
INSTAGRAM: [@worldwidemarriageencounter](https://www.instagram.com/worldwidemarriageencounter)
FACEBOOK: [@worldwidemarriageencounter](https://www.facebook.com/worldwidemarriageencounter)

WHATCOM PREGNANCY CLINIC WALK FOR LIFE

WHEN: Thursday, May 16

The Whatcom Pregnancy Clinic was co-founded by members of the Catholic community, and Bellingham parishes have historically provided significant support for its mission. Parishioners are invited to participate in the annual Walk for Life or sponsor a walker to help sustain this ministry. Registration materials and further information are available on the posters and sign-up sheets in the church entryways.

UPCOMING

Tuesday, April 28 — *Easter Weekday*

6:30PM Listening Session St Joseph

Wednesday, April 29 — *Memorial of St Catherine*

3:30PM Faith and Fun St Anne

4:30PM Teen Adoration St Joseph

5:30PM Middle School Youth Group St Anne

6:30PM Reach Moore Training St Joseph

Thursday, April 30 — *Easter Weekday*

8:20AM Divine Mercy St Anne

8:30AM Confessions St Anne

9:00AM Funeral Mass *Hildelisa Alvarez* St Anne

5:00PM Mass St Joachim

5:30PM Sacrament Classes St Joachim

6:30PM Men's Bible Study St Joseph

Friday, May 1 — *Easter Weekday*

9:00AM Mass[†] †*Maurice & Alta Reilly* St Joseph

Saturday, May 2 — *Memorial of St Athanasius*

3:00PM Listening Session Assumption

3:00PM Confessions St Joseph

4:30PM Confessions St Anne

5:00PM Mass *Christy Schroeder-Lloyd* St Anne

Sunday, May 3 — *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

8:15AM Confessions St Joachim

8:30AM Mass *Shane Weg* St Joachim

10:30AM Children's Mass* MAY CROWNING St Joseph

Noon Youth Group St Joseph

*The Rosary is prayed 30 minutes before the Mass.

†The Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed following the Mass.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

THE 10:10 CHALLENGE

WHEN: Thursdays, April 23–June 25, 10:30AM–Noon

WHERE: St Anne, Blaine Hall

In John 10:10, Jesus tells us why he came: “that they may have life and have it more abundantly.” The 10:10 Challenge is an invitation to strengthen ten core practices that Jesus lived which make up the ever-ancient yet ever-new way of discipleship. Daily readings and prayer guides will fuel our weekly discussions as we grow together in community as Jesus’ disciples.

CONTACT: Christy Lloyd

PHONE: 360-332-2210 EMAIL: pilgrimsquill@yahoo.com

ST JOSEPH SMALL MEN'S GROUP

WHEN: Thursdays, 6:30–8:30PM

WHERE: St Joseph, Ferndale, Disciples Den

Looking for a place to grow in faith, build strong friendships, and dive deeper into God's Word?

Come be part of our Men's Small Group at St Joseph in Ferndale. We will be meeting every Thursday in the Disciple's Den. We read and discuss the Bible, encourage one another, and strengthen our walk with Christ in a welcoming and supportive environment. We are currently reading through the Ignatius Study Bible and we will be starting on the Epistles of John.

Whether you're new to Scripture or have been studying for years, all men are welcome. No pressure—just honest conversation, shared faith, and a chance to grow together.

CONTACT: David Day · 360-594-9426

CATHOLIC DATING WORKSHOP

WHEN: Saturday, May 9, 9AM–Noon

WHERE: 910 Marion St, Seattle

All single young adults are invited to a Catholic Dating Workshop, “Preparing Our Hearts and Minds for Love in the Modern World.” Led by Nicole Brown, LMFT, attendees will learn and discuss some of the crucial aspects of finding more success in their dating experience.

LEARN MORE: archseattle.org

SEAFARERS CENTER'S GOLF TOURNAMENT

WHEN: Friday, May 29, 8AM
WHERE: 910 Marion St, Seattle

Join the Seattle Seafarers Center's 2nd annual Golf Tournament on May 29 at West Seattle Golf Course—an energizing morning of golf supporting care and ministry for seafarers in our region. Co-sponsored by the Archdiocese of Seattle's Seafarers Ministry.

LEARN MORE: archseattle.org

RACHEL'S VINEYARD HEALING RETREAT

SPANISH: Friday, June 5–Sunday, June 7
ENGLISH: Friday, Sept. 25–Sunday, Sept 27
MEN'S RETREAT: Saturday, Oct. 10–Sunday, Oct 11

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

ENGLISH: 206-920-6413 SPANISH: 206-450-7814
WEB: ccsww.org/projectrachel
EMAIL: projectrachel@ccsww.org
FACEBOOK: [@projectrachelww](https://www.facebook.com/projectrachelww)

REGISTER FOR CYO SUMMER CAMPS

Youth in grades 3–12 are invited to a summer of adventure, friendship and faith at CYO Summer Camps. CYO Camps offers classic camp fun, all while learning and growing in the Catholic faith. Two locations are available, and options include day camp, overnight camp, horse camp and more.

MORE INFORMATION: cyo.camp

TRIBUNAL ADVOCATE TRAINING AVAILABLE

SESSION 1: September 10–12
SESSION 2: November 12–14
WHERE: Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center, Palisades

Tribunal Advocates assist parishioners navigating the process of investigating the validity of a marriage. This ministry requires a balance of technical aptitude and pastoral care. Candidates must be adults in good standing who are patient, reliable, and committed to maintaining strict confidentiality.

Participation requires attendance at two training workshops this fall. Those interested in serving as an advocate should contact Dr. Kathy Ernst to schedule an initial meeting. All candidates must receive approval from Fr. Moore.

PHONE: 253-356-5523 EMAIL: kathy@whatcomcatholic.org

JESUS DAY CAMP

WHEN: June 22–26
WHERE: St Joseph, Ferndale

Save the Date for Jesus Day Camp.

VIKING CATHOLIC

WEDNESDAYS: 5PM, 714 N. Garden St
SUNDAYS: 5PM, Sacred Heart, 1110 14th St

Viking Catholic is open to all young adults ages 18–25. We offer Catholic community, bible studies, retreats, service opportunities, and more. Find your people, grow in faith. Join us on Wednesdays for Mass at 5PM and dinner after (714 N. Garden St.) or Sunday Mass at 5PM and dinner after at Sacred Heart. We can't wait to get to know you!

WEBSITE: vikingcatholic.org INSTAGRAM: [@vikingcatholic](https://www.instagram.com/vikingcatholic)

THE STORY OF DIVINE MERCY

In 10 episodes Fr. Michael Gaitley (33 Days – Consecration to Mary) tells the dramatic history of God's love and mercy as interwoven through the transformative message of St Faustina, Poland's place in Catholic history, the miraculous appearance of Mary at Fatima, the witness of Maximilian Kolbe, and the world-changing papacy of Pope St John Paul II. Watch or listen on iPhone, iPad, or computer on the Catholic FORMED website.

WATCH: formed.org