

In Your Midst

A JOURNAL FOR ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL PARISH



Heroes of Faith
November 2012

In Your Midst

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*"I am in your midst as one who serves."
From the great oculus high above the altar of
St. James Cathedral, these words of Jesus
communicate His abiding presence among us.
This inscription gave us the name for our
Journal and continues to be our guiding
inspiration.*

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*In the sculptor's studio: a wax model of the statue of
Blessed Pope John XXIII is seen in the foreground,
with the original small "maquette" in the background.*

Heroes of Faith

*Parishioners reflect on the Saints (and saints)
who have guided their faith journey*

On September 30 of this year, we had the privilege of blessing a new shrine honoring one of my heroes—the great and Blessed Pope John XXIII. Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli, born to humble sharecroppers in a backwater northern Italian village, was hardly a likely candidate for Pope. He was old, for one thing, and while he had served the Church faithfully, he had done so in mostly marginal, second-rung assignments. When it came to Vatican politics, he was an outsider. When Roncalli was elected Pope at the age of seventy-eight, it was widely thought he would be a “caretaker” Pope. Imagine, then, the shock waves the new Pope unleashed across the world when, only three months after his election, he announced his intention to call a major Ecumenical Council—the first in more than a hundred years!

It was a dream come true for me to honor him in this Cathedral church and in this parish with a permanent shrine. To my way of thinking, both the Cathedral and the parish reflect in many ways Pope John’s remarkable vision for the Church. The Cathedral speaks of a his dream of a Church renewed, a Church where the people participate in worship actively and consciously and joyfully, a Church where all are welcome; and this parish community reflects his dream of a Church with a broad mind and a big heart, a Church committed to generous, wholehearted service to the world, especially the poor.

In this issue of *In Your Midst*, we explore the theme of “Heroes of Faith.” I’ve just said a word about one of my heroes. In the essays that follow, your fellow parishioners share stories of the Saints (and saints!) who have inspired them on their faith journey. I hope this will get you thinking about your own favorite Saints (and saints!).

Father Michael G. Ryan

St. Teresa was in my life long before I had any connection with the Church. When I was quite young I saw the famous Bernini statue in the Church of Santa Vittoria in Rome, which portrays the saint in a physical ecstasy from her contact with God. At the time, and for many years thereafter, I regarded the statue as an aesthetic object, and was perfectly opaque to any sense that God can touch us directly through our bodies.

Later, when I began writing fiction I used St. Teresa as a ghostly presence in the life of one of my characters. As an aid in this work I read her autobiography. Even though I was a registered heathen at the time, I could not help being affected by the simplicity and radical honesty of her style. It is possible to fall in love with a style.

What is most remarkable about her story was that although she had entered the convent when she was twenty-one, she was a failure at religious life until she was past forty, wracked by illness and a pervasive sense of her own sin. Then, the miracle: God spoke to her in the depths of her misery and she became the woman we know as St. Teresa. But she stayed herself—passionate, earthy, simple.

My favorite Teresa story of the many told is the one about her sisters discovering her missing from her cell one night. A search party found her in the kitchen, eating a pheasant. They stared at her. She asked what was wrong and they said they were surprised to see her there, for they imagined she would be at prayer. She replied, “When it’s time to pray, pray. When it’s time for eating pheasant, eat!”

The idea that saints are sometimes not naturally good people but quite wicked people transformed by grace was a inspiration to me then, and remains so in my spiritual life.

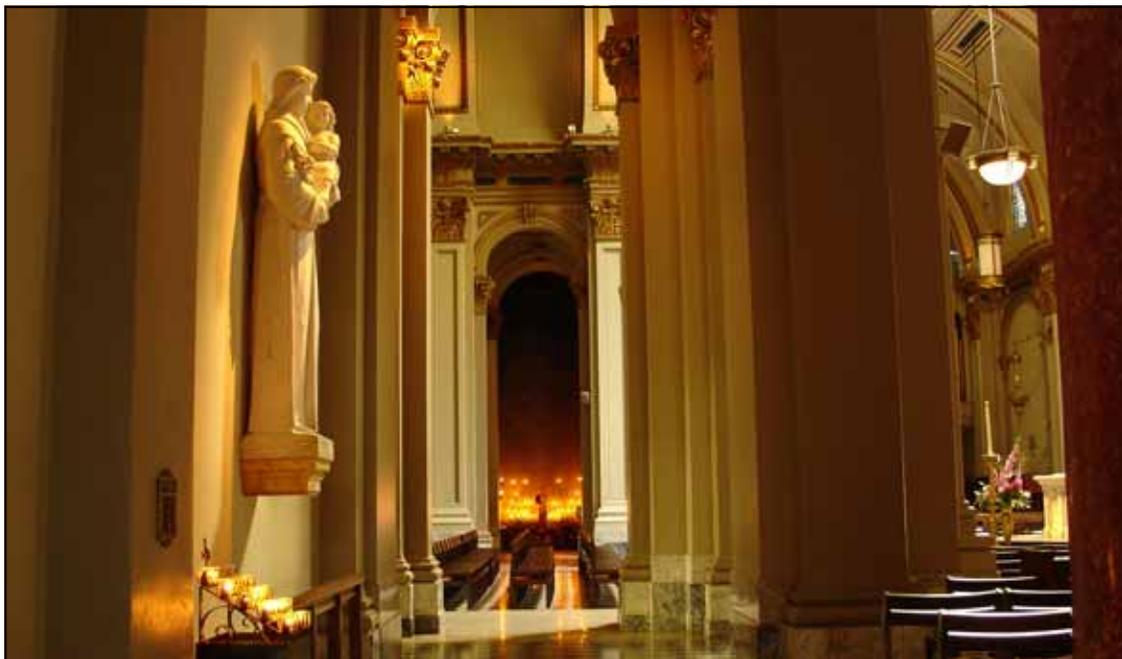
Michael Gruber

Of the multitude of Saints/saints, there are three I consider my friends and confidantes: Saint Thérèse, Saint Anthony of Padua--and Virginia Pullin.

Saint Thérèse and I share a common name, hers is in French and mine in Spanish. She is my adviser. When I am faced with a tough decision to make, I ask for her intercession. When in doubt, pray to St. Thérèse. She’ll send you a sign. My other friend is Saint Anthony. It seems that I’ve been calling on him more lately because things go missing and no matter how hard I search, I’ll never find them on my own. He has never failed me (although he still has to help me get back those three very dear items of sentimental value which went missing at the Cathedral Kitchen a few years back!).

And then, there’s the modern day saint, Virginia Pullin. I met her when I joined the EMs (Extraordinary

Ministers of Holy Communion) in 1992. She was my model EM, pious, holy, prayerful, down-to-earth, and humorous. Yes, she had more than one funny bone in her body. She always had a funny story to tell every Sunday before the noon Mass. This lady, a former nun, was gentle yet strong, spiritually and physically. Her devotion to the Blessed Mother



and her Son was amazing. She left the convent to raise the orphaned children of her sister and to take care of her aging parents. Although she left her religious order, she remained a nun, living her vows and performing her religious duties, praying and meditating. She lived simply, volunteered at the local food bank and attended to her neighbors' needs. She walked from her apartment downtown to St. James to attend Mass and other services. Her death left a deep void in my life. Like Dorothy Day, Virginia shunned praise and public attention. She must often have "entertained angels" unknowingly for she treated strangers the same way she treated friends. Like Thérèse, Virginia "spent her heaven doing good on earth."

Teresita Guerrero

At my mother's funeral 29 years ago, the priest prayed that she might join the company of the saints, including "Saint Willis." Willis was my father.

Baptized Presbyterian, he became an Episcopalian in his late teens, much to his father's consternation, and eventually an Anglican priest. Later, though, he became convinced that only the Catholic Church could claim true authority, and, in the midst of the Depression, he converted. He's the main reason that I'm still Catholic. I probably felt that his searching was good enough for me, and I never really had serious doubts about my faith.

A few years after his conversion, he married my mother, a daughter of Irish immigrants. My father was a "back to the land" adherent, and we lived on a very small farm growing vegetables and raising animals

even as he taught at Notre Dame. We three children all had our farm chores. We said Compline almost every night. My parents loved each other very much, and I never heard a harsh word between them.

Once in the Church, though, my father wanted to change it. He was active in the Vernacular Society, promoting English in the liturgy, and he saw in Vatican II much of what he had wanted for the Church.

He was drawn to the National Catholic Rural Life Conference, and there he encountered Dorothy Day, who saw the rural life as a way to help the urban marginalized. Dorothy sometimes stayed with us when she visited South Bend.

But most of all, he and my mother were always there for me. I remember several years when I, their youngest, had them mostly to myself. That was wonderful! They never did anything that I ever saw as wrong or selfish. They were the saints who still guide me in life.

Ted Nutting

I have Holy Ones for all the seasons of my life.

St. Eanswythe of Folkestone: As a child I played in the stream that she, a young Anglo-Saxon abbess, stubborn and radical for her time, had miraculously made run uphill to bring water to the first women's monastery in England. I was confirmed in her church 1350 years later.

Thomas Merton: A holy man full of contradictions. His *Asian Journal* expanded my vision of what catholicism might be. "This new language of prayer has to come out of something which transcends all our traditions, and comes out of the immediacy of love."

Bishops who spoke out and paid a price: Bishop Pierre-Marie Théas protested the deportation of Jews in France; Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen, a living saint, withheld half of his income tax to protest the stockpiling of nuclear weapons; Archbishop Oscar Romero spoke out on behalf of the poor.

St. Benedict, whose Rule I studied with the help of Benedictine sisters, teaches me to know that all work is prayer, but more, that I come to God through working on my relationships with family and community, with any stranger who crosses my path.

St. Augustine of Hippo: his *Confessions* is an honest memoir and prayer offered up to God. I'm reminded to think of my art making and writing in the same way.

St. Mary Magdalene: An enigma, after studying her story. She has come to 'symbolize' the complexity and mystery of women's role in the Church. Her icon is on my wall.

Thérèse de Lisieux was a prolific letter writer, as I seem to be becoming! She has been teaching me about the Presence of Christ in small and apparently insignificant actions. As I grow old I've come to love her "Little Way."

Elizabeth Winder

The "Communion of saints"--Christ's jewels enriching our lives! Saints like Thérèse of Lisieux, Thomas More, Anthony of Padua, and Mother Cabrini, discovered Jesus as their hearts' home and gave him their all. Now enjoying perfect life, they inspire and guide us on our heaven-bound earthly pilgrimage. I recently met a new heavenly friend who has brought this truth home to me.

Once when I was at home, quite ill, the sound of a baby crying from a television movie distracted me. I was more and more fascinated as the story unfolded: a young, dying mother had left her child outside of a church, and then collapsed. She was taken to the hospital, where she was treated by an extraordinary doctor named Giuseppe Moscati. He was tirelessly devoted to easing the suffering of his patients. He not only treated them in the hospital; he transformed his home into a clinic for the indigent, needy and malnourished. Often paying for their groceries and prescriptions out of his own pocket, he also sold the paintings from his walls in order to continue to give his free services. He became known as the "Doctor to the Poor."

As I watched, I thought: "This person is a saint; he should be canonized!" The movie's ending thrilled me: "Giuseppe Moscati, born 1880, died 1927, beatified 1975, canonized 1987!"

Sick but uplifted, I went out to get my medication. Arriving home after narrowly avoiding an accident, I gratefully touched the Divine Mercy icon and asked Giuseppe's intercession. Within the next hour I was almost better and steadily recovered. Deo gratias! I know that Christ, our Divine Physician, touched me through Dr. Giuseppe!

Exceptionally successful as a doctor, professor, and scientist, Giuseppe embodies Christ's selfless, loving service, teaching us that it's not our laudable accomplishments that lead us home to God but the love with which we use our talents and become Christ's loving presence to others. Giuseppe's deep faith, charity and devotion to the Eucharist deepened the faith of those whom he served, and even brought miracles, including some impossible cures. St. Giuseppe, Doctor to the Poor, pray for us!

Lita McBride

On May 17, 1968, nine protesters used napalm, the incendiary substance used by the US in Vietnam, to burn draft board records. They were sentenced to jail in a highly publicized trial.

One of them was my first saint.

Daniel Berrigan, SJ has been protesting war for decades. His health has been compromised by long stretches in jail.

How many other saints have been on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted Fugitives List?

Father Berrigan, like Archbishop Hunthausen, declined to pay war taxes. Father Berrigan, Archbishop Hunthausen, Oscar Romero and Dorothy Day led me to the Gospel. Years later I had the honor of telling Father Berrigan he was part of my Master's thesis.

I attended my first anti-war protest in 1964. They are still on my calendar fifty years later.

A few years ago my wife Kathy, ever wise and caring, noticing that I was becoming increasingly depressed about war and violence promoted by our society, counseled that I needed to get back to my roots. And Patty Bowman recommended the writings on the spirituality of peace by John Dear, SJ, another trouble-making, peace-loving Jesuit who like his friend Daniel Berrigan, has spent decades getting jailed for protests. My spirits have soared ever since!

Sister Miriam Spencer of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace was 84 when she was sentenced to six months in prison for protesting the School of the Americas in Georgia, where Central Americans are taught torture techniques. I told Sister Miriam how much I admired her for her witness. Her response: "I don't know what the big deal was. I made so many great friends in

there!” Kathy and I recently became Associates of the Sisters.

As much as these wonderful witnesses to peace lift my spirits, I also find them unsettling, as I seem not to be willing to sacrifice the way they have been.

Daniel Berrigan wrote:

“The Gospel of Jesus is spoken in a world intoxicated with death...convinced of the necessary rule of death... Jesus says no to this omnivorous power.

Max Lewis

How wonderful that the saints intercede for us! It is a great comfort both in good times and bad. Tops on my list of favorites is Saint Anthony of Padua. I seem to call on him almost every day. Maybe it’s because as I grow older and experience more birthday “wonders”—wonder where my keys are, my sunglasses, that piece of paper that I just had in my office... I find myself in great need of his intercession. Faithful Saint Anthony is the patron of finding lost things. A friend gave me a plaque of Saint Anthony and the Christ Child. It resides in my office, a reminder that I can ask his help throughout the day. I also admire deeply Anthony’s dedication to Christ, his great knowledge of the scriptures, and his gift of preaching. During the last choir pilgrimage, we stopped in Padua and sang in the church where the jaw bone of St. Anthony is preserved uncorrupted. It was a very special moment that strengthened my faith.

Carolyn Graves

When I first learned about St. Padre Pio, the thing that struck me most about him was his sheer devotion to the faith, and despite all of the suffering he endured throughout his life he always remained faithful to God. This is just one thing I’ve learned from Padre Pio that I must work on, always, no matter what the circumstances; remain faithful to God, for he will always be with you.

Another lesson I’ve learned from Padre Pio is patience. Patience in life and patience with God, for not all good things come right away. When I’ve read about how Padre Pio would sit in a confessional booth for ten to twelve hours per day hearing people’s confessions I stand and think in amazement of his great patience. Also, his endurance and patience throughout all of the criticism and rebuke thrown at him during his life amazes me to no end. But out of everything St. Padre Pio dealt with throughout his life, his endurance, patience, and faithfulness to God with the stigmata (the wounds of Christ on the cross) will always be the

greatest, and the greatest lesson of all for me to learn. St. Padre Pio, I ask you, pray for us.

August Bruno

When I was asked to write about a Saint/saint in my life, a huge picture revealed itself like a tapestry in my heart, memory, and emotions. My first saints were my mom and dad and their profound faith in our simple and sometimes difficult life on the farm. When a hailstorm wiped out our entire crop for the year in just a minute, my dad said, with tears streaming down his face, “We just lost everything, but God will provide.” Twice mom almost died in childbirth; when she received the Sacrament of the Sick, she recovered immediately.

Mary and Joseph were the only saints I knew of as a child. When I read about great women like Saints Catherine of Siena and Teresa of Avila, I was so inspired. Those holy women of courage spoke out to the hierarchy and gave me hope for women in the church as do many women today.

Pope John XXIII called Vatican Council II six days before I entered the convent at twenty. We were always updated with each new document as it came out of the Council. The Pope soon became one of my saints. So did Father Paul Anderson, pastor in my first parish as a nun, who later became Bishop of Duluth. He was a Jesus figure to me and helped prepare people with the latest on the Council, as well as explaining why the nuns changed the habit. Mother Carmelita, later head of our religious community, the Presentation Sisters, was my business teacher in college. I never believed I would know a perfect person on earth until I met this wonderful loving woman of God.

This parish, with the prayerful leadership of Father Ryan, has brought me new hope when sometimes I was on the brink of little hope. Jesus said to pray always. When we can talk to Jesus as a friend, believing that nothing is impossible for God, life is experienced at a higher, deeper level, and hope is renewed for a better world! TNKUGOD, as my license plate says!

Shirley Adler

St. Vincent de Paul, a 17th-century priest known for his service to the poor, is a familiar name to most of us. Blessed Frederic Ozanam is perhaps a less familiar, though no less important name.

As a 20-year old college student in the 1830s, Frederic Ozanam had his Catholic faith challenged when discussing the role of faith and charity in Catholic life. Frederic realized that he could provide few, if any, examples of putting his faith in action, and

there began his life's work—founding the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to promote Catholic lay persons' service to the poor.

It's only recently that I've come to know Frederic Ozanam and Vincent de Paul. But learning about them and their service to the poor has helped to open my eyes to the saintly people I meet daily, and also cast a new light on some of the saints of my past, including my own mother, a "saint" who continues to inspire me.

I didn't make the connection in my youth, but both Ozanam and my mother reflected similar values in making service to the poor a priority. Each was able to clearly see the goodness of people, and recognized that all individuals are people of God, regardless of situation or status.

My mother often provided rides for those needing transportation around our north Everett neighborhood. I recall some of the passengers that shared my mother's car as we drove to Mass or ran errands: the widowed lady from Mexico who struggled with depression (and introduced me to homemade tamales!); the crippled Scottish writer, who would often ask to stop by the market after Mass to buy one 16-oz beer (and when I asked about this, I was told that hopefully that drink would provide some relief from her arthritic pain); the nearly penniless but devout Romanian woman with what seemed to me such a lonely and spartan life, and yet she was so full faith and happiness; and the immigrant Vietnamese family who waved and smiled so broadly whenever she approached and came to call my mom her "mudder."

I would sometimes complain about going out of our way to pick these people up (and would sometimes resent being relegated to the back seat), but I can reflect back now and appreciate how privileged I was to be able to meet and spend time with these individuals. I can also look back and better recognize the "saint" my mother was to many people, providing face to face (or door to door!) service to those who need it, in the same spirit as Fredric Ozanam and Vincent de Paul. All saints worth aspiring to!

Rob Millar



I went into the Oratory of Saint Joseph in Montreal as a tourist, simply to see a beautiful church, but I came out a Christian. Saint Brother André Bessette, who founded the chapel on the site of what is now the world's largest shrine to St. Joseph, was said to have cured countless thousands through his prayers to St. Joseph. He insisted for 25 years that he was no miracle worker, but was only able to uplift the sick and broken-hearted through his prayers; it was God and St. Joseph who did the curing. He was not easy on those who sought him out. He demanded of them, "Do you have faith?" and told them, "Do not seek to have these trials lifted from you. Instead, ask for the grace to bear them well."

To this day I can't explain the mystical experience I had in that church, but when I walked into the chapel, which contains the tomb of Brother André and is covered in crutches and canes, I felt an overwhelming call to go towards the light of Christ. (I joined RCIA when I returned from that trip.) Brother André, now Saint André of Montreal, through his tireless dedication to the sick of heart and body, continues to inspire me. His good works ensured many years later that I would have the courage to regain my spiritual self and receive the grace to cure my own broken heart.

Elise Gruber

Honoring Good Pope John

An album of the creation of our new shrine



On this page: artist John Sisko presents a small maquette of his proposed design. Once this is approved, he sculpts the larger image (almost life size) in clay. On the next page: a cardboard mockup in the Cathedral helps the design team envision the finished shrine. The image is cast in bronze, and treated by the artist with a polychrome patina, giving it life-like colors. The framework is gilt in 23 karat gold. Architect Steve Lee puts finishing touches on the shrine a few days before the dedication. The new shrine is blessed at the 10:00am Mass on Sunday, September 30.



Annual Report to the Parish

A look back at the Fiscal Year 2011-2012

Every year we publish an annual report on the financial condition of the parish. As you decide what your financial commitment to the parish will be this year, we hope that the information contained in this report will help inform your decision. The report details not only the dollars and cents, but also the rich array of activities and ministries made possible by your financial support.

Dollars and Cents

Our fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, our total parish income was **\$4,001,579**. This came from:

- Sunday and Holy Day collections
- Annual Catholic Appeal rebate
- Various gifts, grants, bequests and fundraisers
- Business income (including rental of parking spaces and reception rooms, Cathedral Bookstore income, etc.).

Total expenses for the year were **\$4,088,506**. They included:

- Salaries, benefits and other personnel-related expenses
- Our parish's assessment by the Archdiocese
- Our annual assessment to support five central area Catholic schools
- Various operating costs for the maintenance and improvement of the Cathedral, other parish buildings, and the grounds.

This left us with a deficit of \$86,927. While we were able to pay all our bills by drawing on our modest savings, this deficit is clearly a matter of serious concern to me and to our Finance Council, and I'm sure it will be a concern to you as well. As people continue to suffer the adverse effects of the recession, the demands on the services we provide have increased. Thanks to your generosity, we have thus far been able to meet those demands.



Our annual procession with the Blessed Sacrament on Corpus Christi is a wonderful expression of the vibrancy our parish family

Our Life as a Parish, 2011-2012

We continue to be a dynamic and vibrant parish with 2,591 registered households, comprising 5,414 individual members. Our parishioners come from more than 180 ZIP codes. Well over 1,000 volunteers are involved in more than forty different parish ministries.

During the past fiscal year, almost 1,300 Sunday and regular daily liturgies were celebrated, not counting special liturgies for Holy Days, the Sacred Triduum, and ecumenical and interfaith services. Seventy-three infants and children and twelve adult catechumens were baptized; fourteen more made a Profession of Faith and were received into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church. Around forty adults are currently enrolled in our RCIA program, preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation in the Catholic Church. Nineteen confirmations were celebrated; 28 children received their First Communion. During the year 48 weddings and 35 funerals were celebrated.

Liturgy and Music

As the Cathedral Church, we are privileged to host special events which gather Catholics from across Western Washington. Some special events this year included our observance of the tenth anniversary of the

terrorist attacks of 9/11; a special celebration of the Centennial of Maryknoll; a Funeral Mass for Governor Albert Rosellini, to name a few. Numerous Archdiocesan liturgies were celebrated, including the Chrism Mass, Ordinations to the Priesthood, the Madre de las Americas celebration with the Hispanic community and the traditional Filipino Advent celebration, Simbang Gabi. The Cathedral also hosted Baccalaureate Masses for Holy Names Academy, O'Dea High School, and Seattle University.

Over the course of the year, there were numerous special concerts, recitals and other musical events held in the Cathedral, including a wonderful staged presentation of *Carissimi Prophets* by Resident Ensemble Pacific MusicWorks. The Cathedral Music Program continues to be a tool for evangelization, drawing in people of all ages and all walks of life to experience the beauty of the Cathedral and of our tradition of sacred music. In addition, the Schola Cantorum Choir Camp in August of each year has become a magnet for children from parishes across the Archdiocese.

Faith Formation Opportunities

More than 170 of our Cathedral children participated in Sunday School classes, offered September through June. Special offerings for adults in 2011-2012 included bulletin inserts and workshops that prepared us for the implementation of the new translation of the Roman Missal on the First Sunday of Advent, 2011. Other offerings included a four-week series on the history of the Mass, *From Age to Age. Keys to the Council*, a four-week Lenten series celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Opening of the Second Vatican Council; and our Vatican II Lecture series, which began in March, 2012, with a lecture by Father Paul Janowiak, SJ, and continues through November, 2012. In addition, the Camino Seattle, a five-week walking and prayer adventure, began in June, 2012, and concluded on the Feast of St. James. Hundreds of parishioners walked on their own or joined others for walks around the city.

Outreach and Pastoral Care

The Cathedral Kitchen has continued to grow, with 150 people of all ages and races sharing a hot, nutritious meal, lovingly prepared and served in the Cathedral Hall each weeknight. This year a sack lunch program feeding forty people each day was added to our kitchen program—bringing our total number of meals served to nearly 50,000 a year!

The English as a Second Language program provided 5,964 volunteer hours and served 481 students (an increase of 44 over last year). This program also helped 74 people become US Citizens (compared to 21 last year). St. James Winter Shelter



Seventy-three beautiful infants were baptized in the Cathedral from July, 2011-June, 2012

provided overnight shelter to 10-15 men for 120 nights. Thousands of sandwiches were prepared by our parishioners and distributed through St. Martin de Porres Shelter and Operation Nightwatch. And, for the fourth time, we were happy to be able to host the SHARE shelter for approximately twenty homeless men and women every night in Cathedral Hall.

The Solanus Casey Center, a joint effort with Catholic Community Services and Catholic Housing Services, has grown over the past eight years into a marvelous resource where needy people in our neighborhood can get the referrals and help they need.

Our new Mental Health Ministry, which is a joint effort with the Order of Malta, has grown over the past year, with about a hundred client contacts monthly.

Our outreach programs to the elderly transported seniors to Mass each Sunday and conducted monthly "senior trips." Many homebound parishioners receive communion in their homes each week, allowing them to remain connected to the liturgical life of St. James. In addition, regular communion services were conducted by our ministers at Exeter House, Horizon House, and Faerland Terrace. Finally, about 35 of our seniors were regularly assisted in their homes by the Volunteer Chore Program. Cabrini Ministers visited many others in hospitals, nursing homes and retirement centers.

All this was made possible by your generous contributions. We want you to know that there has been careful and competent stewardship of the financial resources of the parish. We look forward to accomplishing even more with your support and with the help of God's grace in the coming year. ♦

Choir Camp 2012

A summer camp where kids pray, learn, have fun... and make music



Clockwise from upper left: Singing is the heart and soul of Choir Camp. Stacey Sunde, Director of Youth Music, introduces the kids at a special performance for our neighbors at Skyline at First Hill. Jake Finkbonner makes a visit. A brief concert for Archbishop Sartain—and a t-shirt.

Choir Camp is a unique week of prayer, learning and fun. During one short week, a group of kids from around the region become a great choir, and they learn about everything from fencing to singing in medieval French. Special guests include rugby players, archbishops, and even a boy who experienced a miracle at the age of five which led to the recent canonization of St. Kateri Tekakwitha! Most of all, it's a week where kids share their faith with the parish and with one another in a fun, fearless, and supportive environment. This year Director of Youth Music Stacey Sunde invited the kids

Maria Laughlin is Director of Stewardship & Development at St. James Cathedral.

to think about the miracles in their own lives. The following are some of their answers.

"I thought about how truly blessed I am every day. For all that I have, and for having such a wonderful family, and friends. From the little things like having food on the table, and that I can come home safely to people that I love and that love me. Little miracles can happen every day."

"Everyday life itself! The odds that you would be you, living as you are, where you are, when you are, are nearly impossible. Every person, place and thing you meet is a miracle."

"I was thinking about the miracle of when a friend turns on you and then they are truly sorry for what they've done."



Scenes from the *Play of Daniel*. Clockwise from upper left: holy children in the fiery furnace; the evil counselors conspire against Daniel; the Queen and her court make a grand entrance; Daniel in the Lion's Den; an angel; satraps in Belshazzar's court drink from the sacred vessels.

“I am extraordinarily blessed, but I don’t think of it as miraculous, though it’s as good as miraculous.”

“I get to kiss my mom and dad. I have a family. I have a brother. I got a dog. I have an awesome grandma. I have friends.”

“A miracle that happen everyday is *giving*. Everyday, everywhere, people are giving their time, love, hope, prayers, and money to help make our community stronger.”

“I think that when my mommy had cancer and I prayed every day that she would be healed. Then God gave me that great miracle. My mommy was healed. This made me so grateful and I think it’s a miracle.”

“A daily miracle is having a wonderful day. Some people don’t get the chance to have a great day, but we do.” ♦

Life, Peace, and Justice

Creating a parish deeply rooted in Catholic Social Teaching

What do climate change and homelessness have to do with each other? How does immigration reform relate to the right to life? What does the war in Afghanistan have to do with world hunger? And what does any of this have to do with our faith? The answer, in short, is Catholic Social Teaching, a body of church teaching that speaks to certain fundamental principles of our faith and which informs how we, as Catholics, should respond to the economic, social and political issues of our time. With such an array of complex public issues, it's good that, here at St. James Cathedral, we have a group of informed and engaged parishioners to help bring some guidance in this area.

The Life, Peace and Justice Committee was formed in late 2009, with the following mission: *The St. James Cathedral Life, Peace and Justice Committee works to create a vibrant parish deeply rooted in Catholic Social Teaching, as embodied in the consistent ethic of life. We accomplish this by integrating education and understanding of Catholic Social Teaching into all aspects of parish life, and encouraging respectful dialogue about social justice issues. Our mission is to foster parishioners' commitment to and involvement in social ministry and advocacy for justice.*

To better understand the work of the committee, it's helpful to look closely at this mission statement. The first thing that stands out is the name of the committee: the Life, Peace and Justice Committee. In many parishes, there is a divide between the groups working on pro-life issues and groups interested in peace and justice issues. Here at St. James, the Life, Peace and Justice Committee is dedicated to promoting the full spectrum of Catholic Social Teaching, emphasizing the consistent ethic of life in all its manifestations. Respecting life means not only respect for the unborn, but also for the poor, the homeless, victims of war and violence, the elderly, the sick and the powerless. Since the committee's formation, there has been "an increased emphasis on life issues, particularly abortion," says committee member Ted Nutting. But that issue does not stand in isolation, and the committee seeks to find ways to help parishioners see the value of life in all its stages.

Another important piece of the mission statement is the commitment to "integrating education and

understanding for Catholic Social Teaching into all aspects of parish life." "I see the committee as a catalyst for incorporating the Gospel and the church's social teachings integrally into the life of the parish, through our prayer and worship, faith formation, advocacy and action," says Sr. Judy Ryan, also a committee member. "We support individuals and groups already active at St. James and assist in creating new ways to 'walk our talk,' thereby bringing our faith to the world that cries out for God's mercy, justice and compassion." One of the educational efforts of the committee was the *Living the Gospel* small group series held during Lent of 2011. Through that small group process, parishioners were able to make connections between the weekly Scripture readings and the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, thereby relating the Gospel to today's justice issues.

The committee also looks for ways to connect charity with justice. We are blessed to have so many parishioners involved in our many social outreach ministries. The Committee seeks to find ways to support these hands-on ministries, but also to help the volunteers in those ministries make the connection between their work and the larger issues of social justice those programs touch on. For example, we can respond to hunger by volunteering to cook and serve at the Cathedral Kitchen, but also by supporting advocacy efforts to eliminate domestic and international hunger through our Bread for the World offering of letters. Helping parishioners make these kinds of connections really helps us to live out the call to practice both charity and justice.

Finally, the committee promotes advocacy for justice, and is involved in a variety of advocacy efforts: promoting Faithful Citizenship, Catholic Advocacy Day, the Dialog for Justice, and the March for Life, all of which seek to connect parishioners with public officials to bring our concern for the poor and the marginalized to those in power. The committee also serves as an umbrella group for other issue-specific advocacy efforts here, including the Housing Advocacy Committee, the Environmental Justice Committee, and the Justice for Immigrants campaign.

Given the complex issues in our contemporary world, there is no end of work for the Life, Peace and Justice Committee. We're open to your thoughts—please feel free to contact us! ♦

Patty Bowman is the Director of Outreach at St. James Cathedral. She can be reached at 206-382-4515.

From the Archives

Vatican II Begins

One of the latest additions to the Cathedral archives is an especially timely one: a copy of *L'Osservatore Romano*, the official newspaper of Vatican City, for October 11, 1962—the date of the opening of the Second Vatican Council.

Though no one knew what kinds of changes or insights the Council might bring, the souvenir issue makes it clear that everyone was agreed on one point: it would not be business as usual. There are extensive articles about Vatican I and how Vatican II would be different. There are reflections (many of them by cardinals of the Church or noted historians) on the laity, ecumenism, the Church in the East, liturgy, and the missions—all themes which would be taken up in the course of the Council. There are greetings from heads of state in Europe, Africa, and the Americas, including President Kennedy—we “have followed with sympathetic and lively interest” the preparatory work for the Council, he writes, and “we hope that the Council will be able to present in clear and persuasive language effective solutions to the many problems confronting all of us and, more specifically, that its decisions will significantly advance the cause of international peace and understanding.”

The souvenir issue also includes many advertisements aimed at the thousands of bishops, priests, theologians, newspaper reporters, and others who were in Rome for the Council: Japan Air Lines, Alitalia, and even an ad for Hertz rental cars—in Latin! “Liberissima optione novae automobiles, quacumque amplitudine, omnibusque numeris absolutae, apud Hertz, quod Roma” (Unlimited choice of new cars! Any size! Any number! Come to Hertz in Rome!)

On the cover of the issue, below the color portrait of Pope John XXIII, are words written in his own hand: “Ecclesia Christi—*lumen gentium*” (The Church of



Christ – light of the peoples). Three years later, Pope John’s words would be echoed in the Council’s Constitution on the Church, *Lumen Gentium*.

A special thank you to Peg Haggerty for making this fascinating glimpse of an historic moment, the opening day of the Council, a part of the Cathedral Archives in this fiftieth anniversary year. ♦

Corinna Laughlin is the Director of Liturgy at St. James Cathedral.

The Pew Next to You

*Farewell to Marianne Coté
Meet the Ryan family*

Of all our wonderful staff members here at St. James, the one who has served here the longest is Marianne Coté. Marianne was hired in January, 1979, as the cook for some half dozen priests who lived in the Cathedral rectory, and a wonderful job she did not only as cook but as trusted confidant to a house full of priests. She was serving in that capacity when I arrived here in 1988. A couple of years later, when there were only two priests still living in the rectory, it was no longer realistic to have a full-time cook and that's when, to my way of thinking, Marianne discovered her true calling! After a little friendly persuasion on my part (and a lot of hesitation on hers!), she agreed to take responsibility for our children's faith formation program.

The rest is history, as the saying goes. And what a great history it is! When Marianne took over, we had no more than a large handful of kids involved in Sunday school. Thanks to her untiring efforts and her marvelous ability to reach out to children and their families, the program began to grow by leaps and bounds. Then, after the Cathedral renovation was completed in 1994 and the parish began to attract families from all over the region, Marianne more than had her hands full. But she carried on wonderfully – recruiting more and more volunteer catechists and attracting more and more children. But she did more than grow the numbers: she brought to the program a heart and a soul. She endeared herself to a whole generation of kids and their families with her warm-hearted, no-nonsense, tell-it-like-it-is approach. More



Thank you, Marianne Coté! Photo by Theresa Van De Ven

importantly, she helped to inspire in them a deep love for the Lord as well as a genuine love for the poor and the needy. In a word, she made the Catholic faith come alive for them.

Now, after nearly thirty-four years, Marianne has decided it's time to retire. Well, not completely. Happily, she intends to continue to involve herself in the children's faith formation program as a volunteer, and for that we can all be grateful.

Marianne, in the name of this parish community that you have served so long, so faithfully, so lovingly, and so effectively, a huge THANK YOU and an assurance of prayers now and in the days to come.

Father Michael G. Ryan

If you're looking for Alice and Peter Ryan, it's a safe bet you'll find them on Sundays at the noontime Mass sitting in the south transept. Sometimes they may slip in a few minutes late after finishing up their volunteer duties with the Children's Faith Formation Program.

Pete and Alice met in high school. They started dating at the University of Michigan and got married soon after they graduated. Alice went on to earn her MSW at Western Michigan University while Pete worked in advertising at Kellogg's in Battle Creek. They moved to Seattle in the late 1990's when Pete was recruited to work for Microsoft. Noah was born in July, 1999; Isabelle followed less than a year later.

Alice is a clinical social worker, who provides counseling and outreach to grieving families Children Hospital and also serves on the field faculty of the UW

School of Social Work. Her professional focus on children and families in hospital settings developed largely as a result of the family's experience when Isabelle was born prematurely.

In June, 2000, when Alice was 24-weeks pregnant, she started to hemorrhage. Five days later, Isabelle was born weighing just 1-pound, 10-ounces. Her eyes were still fused shut. Surgery to close an open heart valve left her susceptible to infection. Her weight dropped below a pound. She could wear Pete's wedding ring around her arm as a bracelet. Pete found refuge for prayer in the cathedral. Slowly, she improved. And finally, exactly 100 days after her birth, Isabelle went home.

That next summer, the Ryans started attending the cathedral. Father Ryan noticed the new family right away and came over to introduce himself and they immediately hit it off. Having the same last name led to lots of jokes about being long-lost cousins.

A pivotal moment came when Noah started Children's Faith Formation (CFF). In the beginning, Pete and Alice would wait in the hall, holding Isabelle and peeking inside the classroom to see what the kids were doing. Then Pete and Alice realized they could do more. Lita McBride, Pastoral Assistant for Children's Faith Formation, gradually drew them in. (Alice calls Lita the "Holy Spirit Warrior.") At first Alice helped out in the kindergarten room, later assuming responsibility for her own class. Pete became a member of the CFF Welcome Team. He jokes that he started out as Assistant to the Assistant Door Guard and eventually worked his way up to running the operation.

Noah's and Isabelle's commitments to the parish have grown too. They've joined the ranks of altar servers, choir members, and youth readers. During last



Above: The Ryan family: Peter, Alice, Isabelle and Noah. Below, the tiny Isabelle, born three months premature (wearing her father's wedding ring!)

summer's choir camp production of *The Play of Daniel*, Noah played Captain of the Satraps and Isabelle played a princess (see page 13!).

A student at Eastside Prep, Noah knows what he likes best about the cathedral. "I love Father Ryan's homilies. I look forward to them every Sunday. He says a lot of things that increase my spiritual awareness."

For Isabelle, who attends Forest Ridge, it's the St. James community. "It's very friendly."

Her mother agrees. "Every time we walk in there is always someone with a smile, extending a hand and saying "Welcome to St. James." The ushers are really amazing! We always say, "Gosh, they are so nice!" Looking around, we see all those Filipinos, and I love for my kids to be exposed to

my culture. Growing up in little town in Michigan, I didn't have that opportunity."

"I came to the cathedral," Pete says, "because of the ceremony as well as the organ music. I was raised by classical music types. I've grown to like the church because of the diversity, the focus on family. And Father Ryan is the heart of St. James. The parish is a reflection of the broader church. There are disputes within the church and there are different points of view. The nice thing about St. James is our ability to embrace all those diverse points of view and to welcome each person from every background. That makes us feel so at home here."

Alice sums it all up: "I love what the oculus says. Our family mantra has become, *I am in your midst as one who serves*. That message--right in the center with the light going through--is so awe inspiring. We take it to heart. Volunteering and serving others has not been compartmentalized in our lives. It's just what we do."

Suzanne Lee

Cathedral Almanac

Snapshots of life at St. James Cathedral, May, 2012-November, 2012

May

12. Twenty-eight beautiful children celebrated their **First Holy Communion** at the Noon Mass.

12. Archbishop Sartain celebrated the **Sacrament of Confirmation** with twenty-one of our young people and adults.

14. A unique moment in the life of the parish: our parishioner **Jerry Cronkhite** professed his vows as a hermit. Jerry will live a life of poverty, chastity, and obedience in the world.

24. We celebrated the **Holy Names Academy** Baccalaureate with 159 bright, motivated, faith-filled members of the class of 2012.

27. The great feast of **Pentecost**. In his homily for today, Father Ryan said: "Pentecost is often called the Birthday of the Church. Exactly fifty years ago when the great and Blessed Pope John XXIII started a fire by opening the Second Vatican Council, he very aptly referred to his Council as a New Pentecost. Here was a Pope who was not afraid of fire, who believed that God would be in the fire speaking in new ways; here was a Pope who trusted deeply in the Spirit, who believed that truth was not a monopoly of the few but God's gift to the many: God's gift to the entire Church - to all the baptized - a gift to be discovered in prayerful listening and painstaking dialogue."

30. We celebrated the 87th annual Baccalaureate Mass with the Class of 2012 of **O'Dea High School**. Congratulations, gentlemen!



From top to bottom: First Holy Communions, May 12; O'Dea High School Baccalaureate, May 30; the Ministries Dinner, June 21; and the Corpus Christi Procession, June 10.

June

1. Our weekly Taize ecumenical prayer was dedicated to prayer for the **healing of our city** in the wake of terrible violence.

3. Nearly two hundred people joined in a walk for **peace and nonviolence**. They walked from St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral to St. James.

9. The Cathedral was filled as **Jose Alvarez** was ordained to the priesthood for service in the Archdiocese of Seattle.

10. We observed the traditional feast of **Corpus Christi** with a procession around the block complete with trumpets, bagpipes, and banners.

17. Our annual "**All-Parish Choir**" of over a hundred parishioners provided music at the 10:00am Mass.

21. The **Ministries Dinner** was a lively celebration of the wonderful volunteers who make St. James Cathedral what it is. As for the past several years, the feast was provided by parishioners Armandino and Marilyn Batali as a gift in gratitude to the Cathedral's volunteers.

24. **Camino Seattle**, a five-week walking/hiking and prayer, kicked off today. Parishioners set a goal and walked on their own or joined "hosted" walks around Seattle and even further afield. Each participant set a prayer goal as well, and collected stamps throughout the journey to mark their progress. Well over two hundred parishioners participated.

28. We were privileged to have **Father William Treacy**, the senior priest of the Archdiocese of Seattle, share

his story as part of our Vatican II Lecture series. Father Treacy was (and is) a pioneer in ecumenical and interfaith relations.

July

17. As part of a series of events relating to **Camino Seattle**, we welcomed Rev. Dr. Sandy Brown, pastor of First United Methodist in downtown Seattle, who with our own parishioner Martha Crites shared a personal story of the Camino de Santiago. **29.** We celebrated the **Feast of St. James** with a festive picnic on Terry Avenue. Camino Seattle concluded today with a special blessing of our pilgrims after the 10:00am and Noon Masses.

August

13-19. **Choir Camp**, under the direction of Stacey Sunde, was an exuberant week of prayer, music, and fun for more than 50 young people. The week concluded with a stages presentation of the Play of Daniel. (see article on page 12.) **19.** Archbishop Sartain celebrated the Noon Mass, praying in a special way for **Catholics teaching in public schools**.

September

1. We were privileged to welcome hundreds of members of the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** from around the country to the 5:30pm Mass. They were in Seattle for their annual national gathering. **10.** Our Vatican II Lecture series continued with a talk by **Bishop Robert McElroy**, auxiliary of San Francisco, on *Gaudium et Spes* and religious liberty. **17.** Our 16th Annual **Hunthausen Golf Tournament** was held at Inglewood Golf and Country Club in Kenmore. Thanks to the support of our chairs, parishioners Matt and Mike Galvin, and many corporate and individual sponsors, the tournament raised \$74,000 to support the Cathedral's outreach ministries.



From top to bottom: Choir Camp's *Play of Daniel*, August 17; Archbishop Hunthausen at the blessing of our new shrine honoring John XXIII, September 30; ordination of Deacons, October 27; John O'Malley, SJ, October 29.

23. A new **portable organ** found a home in our Cathedral Chapel. The "Esther" Organ is the gift of several generous parishioners.

29. At **Liturgy Day**, our ushers, readers, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion come together to be renewed in their ministry.

30. Father Ryan blessed our **new shrine honoring Blessed Pope John XXIII**. (See album on page 10). We were privileged to have our beloved retired Archbishop Raymond G. Hunthausen with us for the celebration. At the end of Mass, he said: "My dear friends, so good to be with you. You touch my heart. It's wonderful to pray with you in this glorious liturgy. A few words to express my special privilege to be part of this day. I congratulate you for choosing to bless this new statue of Blessed John XXIII, my hero. He has touched all our lives in ways that we perhaps are unaware of. It's my hope that you continue, as a faith community, as God's holy People, to live in the spirit of good Pope John, to live in the spirit of Vatican II. You have certainly done a wonderful job so far, but there's so much more to bring to our troubled world. So may you be gospel people and live the life of the disciple, asking John to be with you and to direct us all to our Savior, Jesus Christ. I shall pray for you. Please remember me."

October

2. Our own parishioner **Patty Repikoff** offered another in our Vatican II Lecture Series, speaking on the great document on the Church, *Lumen Gentium*.

7. On **Respect Life Sunday**,

our young people prayed a special rosary for life following the Noon Mass.

27. Archbishop Sartain ordained twenty-two men to the **permanent diaconate**.

29. Cathedral Hall was packed for world-renowned historian **John O'Malley, SJ**'s lecture on the Second Vatican Council, *What Happened at Vatican II*. ♦

The Year of Faith

On October 11, 1962—the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of Vatican Council II—Pope

Benedict XVI opened a special Year of Faith, which will continue until November, 2013. The Year of Faith is a time to deepen our understanding of our faith, and to help share that faith with a world in need. The official logo for the Year of Faith uses the ancient image of the Church as a ship, guided by Christ through calm and through storm. The official prayer for the Year of Faith is the Nicene Creed, the ancient expression of the core of Christian belief. What will you do to observe the Year of Faith? Here are some possibilities.

1. Learn the Nicene Creed by heart.
2. Read a little Scripture every day. Start with the Mass readings for Sundays or weekdays. Dip into the Bible. Don't feel you have to start at the beginning!
3. Get to know the saints, starting with your patron saints.



4. Stop by the Cathedral Bookstore and find something that intrigues you. Read about your faith.
5. Explore the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, along with other resources that make it even more accessible: the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*, the *Compendium of the Catechism*, or the catechism for young people, *YouCat*.
6. Invite someone to come to Mass with you.
7. Volunteer as a sponsor in RCIA to walk with someone who is exploring the Catholic faith.
8. Put your faith into action by volunteering for one of our outreach ministries.
9. Make a pilgrimage to a holy place, near or far.
10. Get to know the Second Vatican Council, especially the four Constitutions. As Pope Benedict XVI said recently, “The documents of Vatican Council II are, even in our own time, a compass guiding the ship of the Church as she sails on the open seas, amidst tempests or peaceful waves, to reach her destination,” and the four Constitutions are “the four cardinal points of our guiding compass.” ♦