

# Never Isolated in Christ

YOUR ~~WEEKLY~~ SPORADIC VIEW BEHIND THE MASK OF ASSUMPTION PARISH  
SEPTEMBER 22, 2020

*When it was evening, the disciples approached him and said,  
"This is a deserted place and it is already late;  
dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages  
and buy food for themselves."*

*Jesus said to them, "There is no need for them to go away;  
give them some food yourselves."*

*But they said to him,  
"Five loaves and two fish are all we have here."  
Then he said, "Bring them here to me."*

*-Matthew 14:15-18*

## Pastor's Note

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Dear Assumption Parishioners,

As I was preparing this letter, I received the news of the death of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, which shocked and disheartened me. I, of course, have mixed feelings about Justice Ginsberg. On the one hand, she was a dedicated and zealous public servant, who deeply loved her country and gave much of her life in service to this nation and her fellow Americans. On the other hand, she consistently authored and endorsed opinions on the Court which upheld abortion-on-demand and other policies which perpetually put her at odds with the public policy objectives of the United States bishops.

In truth, my shock and dejection came because I knew exactly what this meant for our families and our communities over the next couple of months: increased anger, division, and hatred. We are already alienating each other over politics, and the appointment of a new Supreme Court Justice, especially one that could shift the precarious ideological balance of the current Court, is just going to intensify our frustrations and our animosity.

I plan to preach on voting this weekend by briefly explaining the guidance of the U.S. Bishops in their document ["Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship,"](#) a document which is always worth reading in full. However, I would also encourage our parishioners to consider signing the U.S. Bishops' ["Civilize It" pledge](#), a campaign to get Catholics to agree to *civil dialogue*, even and especially in our disagreements. I hate seeing the Body of Christ divided, especially by civil politics, and I am not looking forward to the next few months. But I am hoping that our shared faith in Christ and love for each other can at least allow us, here at Assumption, to disagree *in love*, as Jesus would have us do.

May the Lord preserve our unity in faith!

*F. Moore*

# Parish News

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## Dress Warmly for Church

Even as the weather gets colder, our COVID-19 safety procedures still require that we keep the windows of the church open to ensure our indoor air is continually circulating. This will quickly become uncomfortable, so please remember to bring a jacket to church, and to pray for the end of the COVID-19 crisis!

## Stained Glass Windows Article

The company who refurbished our sainted-glass windows recently write a blog post about the process. Check it out! <https://stained-glass-window.us/our-work-for-church-of-the-assumption-in-bellingham-washington/>

## Social Justice

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### Voting Registration

If you still need to register to vote: <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/>

If you need to confirm or check your registration: <https://voter.votewa.gov/>

### Knights of Columbus Food Drive

The Knights of Columbus are joining Knights all over our nation for “**Food for Families**,” an effort to benefit our local communities. In our case, all food donations collected at Assumption will be given to the Bellingham Food Bank.

Food will be collected on Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> before the 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. Masses. One or two Knights will meet you under the covered area next to the gym. Look for the signs that say “Food For Families—Knights.”

Please bring canned food, peanut butter/nut butters, dry beans, rice, and pasta: under 2lb containers. Please do not bring perishables, oversized or glass containers.

### Care for Creation

#### Parish Novena

##### Season of Creation – Jubilee for the Earth Novena

The Assumption Care for Creation team invites you to prayer and reflection for the nine days before the Feast of St. Francis. They will meet online from 6:30 – 7:00 p.m. beginning Friday September 25th. Each evening begins with a short reflection followed by breakout groups for sharing.

Please RSVP for Zoom Link - <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUuf-2prjgHNSqPD1CqRDH5sdMBZw183y6> or send request to [kd.delbecq@gmail.com](mailto:kd.delbecq@gmail.com)

## Archbishop Etienne Conference

### SAVE THE DATE

The St. James Cathedral Care for Creation team invites you to celebrate the Season of Creation.

**Laudato Si' at 5 Years, and Beyond**

**Archbishop Paul D. Etienne**

**Monday, September 28, 6:30pm—7:30pm**

*Registration and Zoom invitation:*

Patrick Barredo, Director of Social Outreach & Advocacy,

[pbarredo@stjames-cathedral.org](mailto:pbarredo@stjames-cathedral.org)



[www.stjames-cathedral.org](http://www.stjames-cathedral.org)

## Disaster Relief Collection

At the request of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), we will be taking up a special second collection for disaster relief on the weekends of Sept. 26/27 and Oct. 03/04.

The funds collected in this special appeal will become part of the Bishops' Emergency Disaster Fund and will be used to support the efforts of Catholic Charities USA and/or Catholic Relief Services, the official relief agencies of the U.S. Catholic Church, as they and their local agencies respond to immediate emergency needs for such necessities as water, food, shelter, and medical care and aid in long-term rebuilding and recovery efforts. Funds will be distributed where they are most needed, including in response to Hurricane Laura and the West Coast wildfires.

We will place a second basket in the gathering space for Masses on those weekends. You can also give directly to [Catholic Charities USA](https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/). Thank you for your generosity.