



Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord August 6, 2023

Weekend Masses: Saturday (Vigil) 5:00 PM Sunday
8:30, 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM* (Summer Mass Time*)
Reconciliation: Friday: 9:15 AM & Saturday: 3:00-4:00 PM
or by Appointment (Call Main Office)
Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration - See pg 2

Parish Office (253) 631-1940
Faith Formation (253) 631-6175
13055 SE 192nd Street Renton, WA 98058
www.ststephenslife.com
Listing of Parish Staff on the back inside page

It is good for us to be here

Upon Mount Tabor, Jesus revealed to his disciples a heavenly mystery. While living among them he had spoken of the kingdom and of his second coming in glory, but to banish from their hearts any possible doubt concerning the kingdom and to confirm their faith in what lay in the future by its pre-figuration in the present, he gave them on Mount Tabor a wonderful vision of his glory, a foreshadowing of the kingdom of heaven. It was as if he said to them: "As time goes by you may be in danger of losing your faith. To save you from this I tell you now that some standing here listening to me will not taste death until they have seen the Son of Man coming in the glory of his Father." Moreover, in order to assure us that Christ could command such power when he wished, the evangelist continues: Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter, James and John, and led them up a high mountain where they were alone. There, before their eyes, he was transfigured. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as light. Then the disciples saw Moses and Elijah appear, and they were talking to Jesus.



These are the divine wonders we celebrate today; this is the saving revelation given us upon the mountain; this is the festival of Christ that has drawn us here. Let us listen, then, to the sacred voice of God so compellingly calling us from on high, from the summit of the mountain, so that with the Lord's chosen disciples we may penetrate the deep meaning of these holy mysteries, so far beyond our capacity to express. Jesus goes before us to show us the way, both up the mountain and into heaven, and – I speak boldly – it is for us now to follow him with all speed, yearning for the heavenly vision that will give us a share in his radiance, renew our spiritual nature and transform us into his own likeness, making us for ever sharers in his Godhead and raising us to heights as yet undreamed of.

Let us run with confidence and joy to enter into the cloud like Moses and Elijah, or like James and John. Let us be caught up like Peter to behold the divine vision and to be transfigured by that glorious transfiguration. Let us retire from the world, stand aloof from the earth, rise above the body, detach ourselves from creatures and turn to the creator, to whom Peter in ecstasy exclaimed: Lord, it is good for us to be here.

It is indeed good to be here, as you have said, Peter. It is good to be with Jesus and to remain here for ever. What greater happiness or higher honour could we have than to be with God, to be made like him and to live in his light?

Therefore, since each of us possesses God in his heart and is being transformed into his divine image, we also should cry out with joy: It is good for us to be here – here where all things shine with divine radiance, where there is joy and gladness and exultation; where there is nothing in our hearts but peace, serenity and stillness; where God is seen. For here, in our hearts, Christ takes up his abode together with the Father, saying as he enters: Today salvation has come to this house. With Christ, our hearts receive all the wealth of his eternal blessings, and there where they are stored up for us in him, we see reflected as in a mirror both the first fruits and the whole of the world to come.

Father, at the Transfiguration in glory of your Only-Begotten Son, you confirmed the mysteries of faith by the witness to Jesus of the prophets Moses and Elijah.

You foreshadowed there what we shall be when you bring our sonship to its perfection.

Grant that by listening to the voice of Jesus we may become heirs with him, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Source: Office of Readings, <https://universalis.com/20230806/readings.htm>

Weekly Readings

August 6 Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9

August 7 Monday of the 18th Week in Ordinary Time

Nm 11:4b-15; Ps 81:12-17; Mt 14:13-21

August 8 Memorial of Saint Dominic, Priest

Nm 12:1-13; Ps 51:3-7, 12-13; Mt 14:22-36

August 9 Wednesday of the 18th Week in Ordinary Time Nm 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26a-29a, 34-35; Ps 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-23; Mt 15: 21-28

August 10 Feast of Saint Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr

2 Cor 9:6-10; Ps 112:1-2, 5-9; Jn 12:24-26

August 11 Memorial of Saint Clare, Virgin

Dt 4:32-40; Ps 77:12-16, 21; Mt 16:24-28

August 12 Saturday of the 18th Week in Ordinary Time

Dt 6:4-13; Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51; Mt 17:14-20

August 13 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Ps 85:9-14; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

Parish Calendar

Sunday August 6

8:30 am – 9:30 am
11:00 am – 12:15 pm
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Mass
Mass
Mass (Summer Mass Time)

Monday August 7

9:00 am – 9:30 am
10:00 am – 11:45 am
6:30 pm – 7:15 pm

Darling Dusters
Food Bank (drive by only)
Mass (live-streamed)

Tuesday August 8

10:00 am – 10:45 am
6:30 pm – 7:15 pm
6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Rosary Group
Mass (live-streamed)
Girlfriends: Lit & Latte
RCIA

Wednesday August 9

8:00 am – 12:00 pm
4:00 pm – 5:45 pm
6:30 pm – 6:45 pm
7:15 pm – 7:45 pm
7:30 pm – 9:00 pm
7:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Campus Crew
Food Bank (drive by only)
Mass (live-streamed)
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena
Young Adult Group
Adoration & Reconciliation

Thursday August 10

8:30 am – 9:30 am
7:00 pm – 7:30 pm
7:00 pm –

Mass (live-streamed)
Precious Blood of Jesus devotion
Respect Life Ministry

Friday August 11

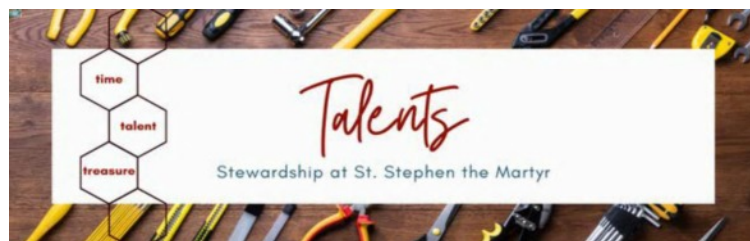
6:30 am – 7:30 am
8:30 am – 9:30 am
9:00 am – 10:00 am
10:00 am – 11:45 am

Men's Prayer/Reflection (Doors open at 6:15)
Mass (live-streamed)
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Food Bank (Drive by only)

Saturday August 12

7:30 am – 8:30 am
8:30 am – 9:30 am
12:00 pm – 3:00 pm
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
5:00 pm – 6:15 pm

Exodus 90 in Social Hall
Mass (live-streamed)
Block Party!
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Vigil Mass (Outside: Mass on the Grass)



Share your Gifts and Talents at St. Stephen's

Here are a few needs at our parish. Contact Beth Nieva for more information (253-480-7105, bnieva@ststephenslife.com).

Screen Operator - Once a month run the screens at the Saturday 5 PM Mass or Sunday 8:30 AM Mass. Ideal candidates are comfortable using a PC, attentive to the action of the liturgy, able to confidently "go with the flow." **Thank you to the parishioners who stepped up to fill every Sunday at the 11 AM Mass!**

Collection Counters - Monday mornings a fun team counts the weekend collections. If you are proficient with 10-key and like numbers, we need you. Contact dbleakey@ststephenslife.com

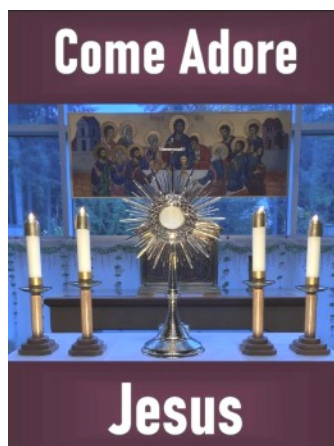
Eucharistic Minster to the Homebound - Sunday morning Communion is brought to the residents at Benson Rehab and the Chateau. If you assist with this valuable opportunity please contact Marijean at mheautmaker@ststephenslife.com

Food Bank - Helpers needed to unpack and pack large orders of Food on Thursdays.

Parish Financials - Included are last weekend's collection, the week- end before, and the fiscal year to date through the last full month.

Weekly Collections	July 22 & July 23 2023	July 15 & July 16 2023	FY To date July 1 2022-June 30 2023
Collections-actual	14,279	14,846	1,042,290
Collections-Budget	12,314	14,965	1,096,071
Variance	1,965	(119)	(53,781)
*EFT-Actual	8,529	8,099	484,743
*EFT-Budget	8,316	8,354	505,898
Variance	213	(255)	(21,155)
Total Collections	2,178	(374)	(74,936)
Variance			

*EFT= Electronic Funds Transfer (Online Collections) New Fiscal Year began 7/01/2023



Adoration Invitation

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Stephen's is now perpetual!

- Jesus is exposed daily from midnight to midnight
- No adoration during regularly scheduled Masses
- To sign up or for more information: visit the website:

<https://ststephenslife.com/eucharistic-adoration> or visit the adoration table in the Narthex after Mass. All hours have room for more adorers. Call one of the coordinators: Tina (206) 715-8462 or Bernie (206) 427-6085

Liturgy of the Hours <https://ststephenslife.com/holy-mass-live-stream>

Mon - Fri 6:30 -7:30 AM Holy Hour, Office of Reading Morning Prayer
Mon - Fri 12:00 PM Angelus
Mon - Fri 3:00 PM Divine Mercy
Mon - Fri 5:30 PM Evening Prayer
Sat - Sun 7:30 PM Evening Prayer

Faith Formation Programs



Children and Teen Faith Formation and Sacrament programs K-12th grade continue! For updates on our programs please access our website at: <https://www.ststephenslife.com/faith-formation>. **Families - We need Volunteers! Please ask in prayer: are**

you called to help in some way? If God says, "Yes!", then let us know. We will find the right place for you. We look forward to meeting you!! For our Faith Formation Office contact Maria Trejo at mtrejo@ststephenslife.com or at (253) 631-6175, ext. 115. For K-12th grade and our overall Director, contact Shannon Battles at sbattles@ststephenslife.com or at 253-480-7112.



Baptism Classes In-person classes to prepare for Infant Baptism are now available. **Pre-registration is required to attend.** Class size will be limited, and you must have proof of pre-registration to be admitted. Please, only 2 parents, baby, 2 godparents (5 total) per family. Pre-register by calling or emailing Anne Merklin at 253-480-7108 or AMerklin@ststephenslife.com.



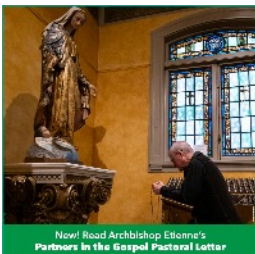
Parents: Please sign-up for Flocknote so you can get program and parish news, as well as emergency updates! To sign up for Flocknote, go to bottom of the first page of our website: ststephenslife.com.



Girlfriends - Please join the Girlfriends at our upcoming events. All women (age 18+) are invited! The **Lit & Lattes** group is meeting on **Tuesday, August 8 at 7:00 pm** to discuss The Reading List by Sara Nisha Adams. We will be meeting in Classroom 130 and also have a Zoom option. Please RSVP to Vicki Kennerud at vkennerud@comcast.net if you will be in person or via Zoom. New members are welcome!



Day Custodian Position Open Now Description: 30 hours per week; benefit eligible. Responsible for opening campus gates and building exterior doors as well as restroom cleaning, garbage, vacuuming, cleaning worship spaces, offices, and other common spaces. Works as a team with the Custodial Crew. Works to support the mission and ministry of the Church. Hours start at 7:30 am. Possible flexibility in hours per day working 5 or 6 days a week will be determined upon mutual agreement. Pay range is \$15.74 to 16.58 per hour, D.O.E. Benefits include, PTO, medical, dental and vision. Requirements: Speak, read and write English; Able to lift 50 lbs.; Able to work independently and with volunteers; Support parish safety policies; Assist with room preparation and set-ups; Basic computer skills; For an application or questions, please contact Kim Anderson at kanderson@ststephenslife.com or Tom Jones at tjones@ststephenslife.com.



Pastoral Letter from Archbishop Etienne

All are encouraged to read Archbishop's Etienne's latest pastoral letter on Partners in the Gospel. Click the image to view the PDF at https://archseattle.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Pastoral-Letter-Partners-in-the-Gospel_English.pdf

Partners in the Gospel - As part of the Partners in the Gospel strategic pastoral planning process, we have launched the Current Reality Report.

- This report provides a snapshot of the archdiocese today and outlines data and trends – as well as forecasts for demographic changes over the next decade. It also outlines the urgent need for change and why we must re-envision parish life.
- The Current Reality report is available online at the Archdiocese of Seattle website – and we have a link to it on our own website as well.
- I highly recommend that everyone take time to read this report or watch the online video presentation. This will help ground all of us in the reality we share before we begin the process of reviewing potential parish family configurations this fall. For all Partners in the Gospel parish materials: <https://archseattle.org/for-parishes/forparishespartners/> Current Reality Report link: <https://archseattle.org/partners>

St Stephen's Nears ACA Goal - Current Total: \$186,000

Please support the Annual Catholic Appeal. Can you give \$1 a day? If you have already turned in your pledge- Thank you! We are almost there. Please consider making your gift online at www.archseattle.org/GiveACA



Do You Receive the Weekly Parish Update?

Receive the latest and most time-sensitive news from St Stephens directly on your computer or phone! Simply sign-up with Flocknote (see below) and you'll be in the know with upcoming events, changes in scheduling and other important details. All parish Flocknote subscribers receive the St Stephens Update!

Save the Date: Saturday, August 12!



BLOCK PARTY!

Join Us!

FOOD MUSIC GAMES

12:00-3:00

Featuring Danny Vernon
"Illusion of Elvis"

Mass on the Grass 5:00 PM!

Block Party Returns August 12! Last Summer's Block party was such a success that we have invited Danny Vernon to return as Elvis on Saturday August 12! In addition to great music, there will be delicious food, games and to top things off, all are invited to come back for **Mass on the Grass at 5:00 PM!** RSVP at <https://ststephenslife.com/block-party>



"Seek and you will find,
knock and the door will be
opened to you."

- Matthew 7:7

BECOMING CATHOLIC

**Wondering about Becoming a
Catholic Christian?**

**Do You Know Someone Who
Might Be Interested in Becoming a
Catholic Christian?**

**Join Us for Inquiry Sessions
Starting Tuesday, September 19th,
7:00-9:00 PM in the Social Hall**

Inquiry Sessions are the first step in RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). These Sessions are for adults interested in exploring the Catholic Faith in a non-judgmental atmosphere, these include:

- Seeker and Inquirers who want to learn about the Catholic Faith, Traditions and Sacraments.
- Adults from other Faith Traditions who are interested in joining the Catholic Church.
- Baptized Adult Catholics who haven't received all their Sacraments.

For Information or Questions contact: Anne Merklin at AMerklin@ststephenslife.com or 253-480-7108 (126).



August 6 - Feast of the Transfiguration: In the Gospel, the Lord's voice says: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." The disciples were afraid, but Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." Know that in making your financial donation to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you are listening to Christ, and helping others not to be afraid.



Faith Insights from Bishop Fulton Sheen - Precious things: To value only what can be "sold" is to defile what is truly precious. The innocent joy of childhood, devotedness of a wife, the self sacrificing service of a daughter - none of these have an earthly market. To reduce everything to the dirty scales of economic values is to forget that some gifts, like Mary's, are so precious that the heart that offers them will be praised as long as time endures.



Darling Dusters - We Need Your Help! The Darling Dusters, who serve the church by helping to keep it neat and tidy, need more helpers. Please join us for an hour on Mondays, starting at 9 am. If you are interested in serving in this ministry, please call Betty in the church office (253-631-1940).



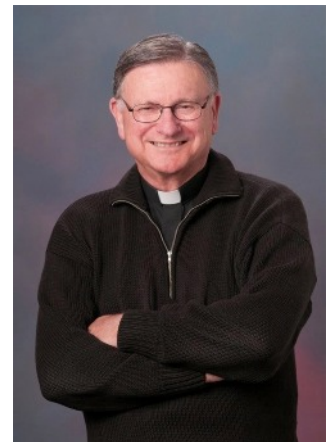
St. Stephen Housing Association is gearing up for its November 4th Wine Tasting and Auction Fundraiser "HOPE FOR HOUSING". We are looking for auction items, such as tickets to events, rounds of golf, and restaurant and spa gift certificates, or brand new items you've just never used, just to name a few. Or if you love to make gift baskets and would like to make one for the auction, we would be thrilled! Do you have a skill you would be willing to donate that could be auctioned off? If you have something to donate that could be used in our auction to raise money for homeless families, we would love to talk to you! Please contact us at 253-638-9798 or SSHAfundraiser@gmail.com. Thank you!



Grief Ministry - If you are grieving the death of a loved one, come find strength and compassion with the St. Stephen's Grief Support Meeting on Sunday, August 20th at 1:00pm. The meeting will be held in the Chapel as well as on Zoom. Our topic will be "Guilt—If Only....". For more information and to register, please contact Sharon Rasmussen at srasmussen910@yahoo.com. "He will wipe every tear from their eyes...for the old order has passed away." Revelation 21, 4

Dear parishioners,

I know that many of you at St. Stephen the Martyr Parish have heard of my cancer diagnosis and may be wondering how I am doing. Rather than give a simple answer, I thought it better to share with you the back story that has led up to today. Let me begin with my niece whose brother-in-law who was so sick with terminal cancer that he went right into Hospice Care. However, he had heard the story of a man who had the same kind of cancer he had. He shared his condition with a veterinarian friend who told him of a medication that he used to de-worm animals that in studies was shown to be effective in curing cancer in mice. Even though the F.D.A. had never approved *fenbendazole* for human use, the man, knowing he had nothing to lose, decided to try it anyway. He said that in his first pet-scan the cancer in his body lit up like a Christmas tree. So he took the medication every day along with his chemotherapy treatments. At his next pet-scan a few months later, nothing lit up at all. His cancer was gone! With nothing to lose, my niece's brother-in-law decided to take the medication as well. A few months later, the Hospice caregivers said they could no longer care for him because he was no longer sick. For this reason, my niece came to see me to share this amazing story. Since my cancer was terminal, and since the medicine had no apparent negative side effects, and that I, too, had nothing to lose, I decided to try it as well. I informed my oncologist who understood where I was coming from. I took my first dose on Easter Sunday and then daily after that. I didn't know if it would work or not, but I trusted that when I died I was confident that I would be worm-free. My initial pet-scan had lit up showing my cancer had metastasized to my hips, ribs and vertebrae. Five days after my follow up pet-scan was finally taken, my oncologist called me with the results. This is what she said. "It looks good. Nothing lit up on the scan. There were spots on the bones that won't go away, but they didn't light up." In other words, it appears that I may well be cancer free! What kind of story is this? A miracle story? Some would say so, but it may be a mystery story of Divine Providence at work. If my niece's brother-in-law hadn't heard of this other guy's story, I would never have heard of it either. Or is it a story about the power of prayer? I can't argue with that at all. So many have been so generous in their support and prayer that I can't help but think of God working through them. It's hard for me to think of this as a good luck story as too many things had to come together all at once. One thing is for certain. For me, one indispensable detail of this story is that you became a part of it yourselves through your faith and hope in an unseen power that holds us together, the one who is Love Itself. At many levels, I see this story as a love story. Thank you for helping to carry me with your faith, your hope and your love.



With my grateful love,
Fr. Tom

P.S. For the man's story, go to "My Cancer Story Rocks" on the internet.

Parish Information

New to St. Stephen's? Welcome! Learn more about our vibrant community by visiting our web site at www.ststephenslife.com. Registration forms are online or may be obtained from the ushers and put in the collection basket or mailed in. **Bulletin Notices:** The **content deadline is 12:00 PM on the Friday** a week before the weekend you wish it to appear (8 days in advance). Notices about parish events or items of interest to the parish are welcome, however posting cannot be guaranteed. Email notices to: ourbulletin@gmail.com.

Main Office Phone: TEL 253-631-1940 / FAX 425-255-2943 Ten digit phone numbers listed below are direct lines.

Pastor	Fr. Edward G. White	For Fr. Ed contact his assistant, Betty Mencke 253-480-7103 (100)
Parochial Vicar	Fr. Robert Antony	253-480-7111 (132) FatherRobert@ststephenslife.com
Deacon	Dec. Carl Chilo	ssmdeaconcarlchilo@gmail.com
Deacon	Dec. Sonny Ungco	sonny.ungco@gmail.com
Deacon	Dec. Ike Tarabi	ike.tarabi@outlook.com
Director of Parish Operations	Tom Jones	253-480-7114 (103) tjones@ststephenslife.com
Pastoral Associate	Anne Merklin	253-480-7108 (126) AMerklin@ststephenslife.com
Pastoral Assistant for Outreach	Darlene Simpson	253-480-7121 (127) Dsimpson@ststephenslife.com
Office Manager/Pastor's Assistant	Betty Mencke	253-480-7103 (100) bmencke@ststephenslife.com
Liturgy Coordinator	Janet Denby-Stewart	253-480-7115 (102) JStewart@ststephenslife.com
Pastoral Care	Marijean Heutmaker	253-480-7116 (106) Mheutmaker@ststephenslife.com
Bookkeeper	Debbie Blakey	253-480-7113 (101) DBlakely@ststephenslife.com
Facilities & Parish Life Coordinator	Kim Anderson	253-480-7120 (129) KAnderson@ststephenslife.com
Director of Faith Formation/Baptism	Shannon Battles	253-480-7112 (114) SBattles@ststephenslife.com
Youth Ministry	Michael Joseph	253-480-7110 (113) mjoseph@ststephenslife.com
Young Adult Ministry/Talents Ministry	Beth Nieva	253-480-7105 (123) bnieva@ststephenslife.com
Evangelization & Communications	Bill Swedberg	253-480-7107 (121) bswedberg@ststephenslife.com
Marriage Coordination	Anne Merklin	253-480-7108 (126) AMerklin@ststephenslife.com
Faith Formation Support Coordinator	Maria Trejo	253-631-6175 (115) MTrejo@ststephenslife.com
Choir Director	Nina DeJesus	253-236-2882 (137) ndejesus@ststephenslife.com
St Stephen Housing Association		253-480-7122 office@ststephenhousing.org
SVDP Help-Line		206-767-6449
Lead Custodian	Luke Sanchez	Lsanchez@ststephenslife.com

Marriage: Couples seeking Marriage must contact the church 9 months before their wedding date. Some preparation and Parish Registration are required before a date can be set. Contact See contact information above to reach a Staff person for Marriage or Baptism.

Annulments: (for those who are divorced): For compassionate and confidential answers to your questions and for help through the annulment process, please contact our parish Tribunal Advocate, Veronica Smith-Casem, at vsmithcasem@gmail.com or 425-301-0356.

Baptism: Preparation and Parish Registration are required for both Parents and Godparents/Sponsors. Baptisms are held monthly. Contact the Faith Formation Office for details (253-631-6175).

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) For adults desiring to become Catholic, including those needing baptism. Contact Anne Merklin 253-631-1940 ext 126. sstmassociate@gmail.com

Praying For Sick

Renato Desiderio, Linda Marie Parker, Grace Ragonesi, Kelley Chaves, Angelina Rivera, Leila Rivera-Abada, Jojo Castillo
If you or a loved one would like to be included in the bulletin listing please contact Betty Mencke at 253-631-1940.

Recent Deaths

Joseph Marci, Adrian Perez, Walter Joseph Koczor, brother of Mary Kasprzyk, Terry Strom, Rose Heryla, Jim Steckler,
Violeta Castaneda, Mary Claire Duncan and Adrian Abada, Robert Paulsen, Ingeborg Hoffman (Brier), Kay Boyle, sister of Mike Nolan

Serving in the Military

Captain Philip Clay, LT Luke Carpenter (deployed), Major Stephen Snelling, Jack Cullers US, Zenaida Roth, Joey Buslon Poland,
Pv. 2 Anthony Vogeler, Fort Carson, Colorado Springs

To add names to the box, please email ourbulletin@gmail.com, or contact Betty Mencke, 253-631-1940.

To contact the Prayer Chain, please see Teresa Wright, at 425-255 0301 or teresa2pray@gmail.com



Rachel's Corner: Hope and Healing After Abortion *The Lord sets prisoners free; the Lord gives sight to the blind. The Lord raises up those who are bowed down.* - Psalm 146: 7-8. When thoughts come to your mind regarding the day you were involved in an abortion decision, do they make you feel blind to hope, entrapped in regret and burdened with shame? Call for a compassionate, confidential conversation, and be free again. **Registering now for our Virtual Healing Series.** English: (206) 920-6413 / Español: (206)-450-7814 Email projectrachel@ccsww.org Visit us at www.ccsww.org/projectrachel or www.facebook.com/projectrachelww Project Rachel is a program of Catholic Community Services. **You are loved with an everlasting love!**



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