



Kickoff Event

At our first meeting Father Ignacio spoke about the mission, vision and pillars; Solidarity, Spirituality and Symbols of Identity of the Nazareth group. [Follow this link to see the full Nazareth document.](#) We spent time introducing the families in attendance and sharing a bit about ourselves.

At each meeting we will have a speaker talk on a specific topic. Our upcoming topic is Hospitality, which will be given by Greg and Debbie Sherwood. At the first meeting, couples quickly shared what hospitality means to them; some ideas included: opening your home to guests, simply welcoming someone new to the St. Michael community, or making meals for someone in need.

To end our kickoff event we drew names of families we would commit to pray for before our next meeting. This is a practice we will continue to do at each event. If you haven't reached out to the family you are praying for, we encourage you to do so, they might have a special prayer request you could offer them.

Nazareth Family Day

[Our Nazareth family date has changed!](#) The new date is Sunday, Sept 11th after the 10am mass. The Waldron's have graciously offered to host at their house.

We will send out the address as well as driving directions and details for food to those who indicate they are able to attend. We hope to see everyone there but understand if you can't make it.

Please follow this [link](#) to let us know if we will see you there :)

Family Corner

Each newsletter we will highlight a family in our Nazareth community. For our first newsletter we are going to highlight the Core Team and their families. Each family in our Core Team comes with a unique story and family dynamic, just like our Nazareth community. The hope is to get to know each family in the community, find families who enjoy similar things, and ultimately grow closer.



Our first Core Team family is the Lancasters. Tom and Aixa have been together for 5 years and married for 3.5 years. They first set eyes on each other in the PDX airport, but they had been talking over

Catholic Match for a month beforehand. They have two children, Isabella, 2 ½ years old and their newest addition is Michael, 5 months. Tom and Aixa made the move from St. Patrick's to St. Michael's when the St. John's Society took over. You will normally see them at the 10am mass where they are regulars at the coffee and donuts since Isabella loves getting some snacks and running around. The Lancasters have a long list of fun activities that they enjoy like going to the beach/pool, going for walks, reading, playing 2 truths and a lie, watching movies, going out to eat and reading.

Fun fact: Tom has 6 siblings, all sisters and Aixa has 3 siblings, all brothers.



Our second Core Team family is the Earlywines. Kyle and Amanda have been together for 3 1/2 years and married for just over a year. They met at a mutual friend's

Christmas party, where I can only hope there were ugly Christmas sweaters, but I will leave it up to you to find out all the fun details. They have been attending St. Michael's for one year and can be found attending either the 10am or the 7pm mass. The Earlywines also have a good list of things they enjoy doing; eating out, exploring neighborhoods, watching trash TV, going to movies, hiking and traveling (which they just got back from a 2 week trip to Europe).

What they enjoy about Nazareth: They love the people, the authenticity of being able to glean wisdom and sanctity from the experience of other couples.



The last Core Team family is ours, the Kassmans. Ty and I have been together for 9 years and have been married for 3 years. We met each other at Oregon State University in the Country

Western dance class but were really excited to see each other attending the Newman Center on campus. We have an almost 5 month old daughter, Ellie. Like the Lancasters, we have been part of the St. Michael's community ever since the St. John's Society took over and made the move from St. Patrick's. We can be seen attending the 10am mass or 10:45am mass at St. Clare's, if Ellie decides to have a late morning. We love doing almost anything outside, hikes, walks, sitting in the hammock on our back deck, traveling, cooking together, dancing (though we haven't gone out and danced in ages), and watching Masterclass to improve our cooking abilities.

Fun fact: Ty and I were a part of a bowling league while we were engaged and because of that experience we own our own bowling balls.

We look forward to seeing you at future events and continue to expand the St. Michael's young family community!

Upcoming events

- August 6th (1st Saturday) - 2nd Event
- ~~August 14th~~ **[New Date]** September 11th - Family Day (details to come)
- November 5th (1st Saturday) - 3rd Event
- February 4th (1st Saturday) - 4th Event