

PRIEST'S MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 258:30 a.m. Jack Meyer/*Family***Tuesday, January 26**

8:30 a.m. Priest's Intentions

Wednesday, January 278:30 a.m. Kim Wilkerson/*Veerkamp Family***Thursday, January 28**8:30 a.m. Charles Diedling/*Lois & Cliff Kist***Friday, January 29**8:30 a.m. Krissy Haun/*Colleen Haun***Saturday, January 30**4:30 PM Loraine Haberthier/*Buede Family***Sunday, January 31**8:30 a.m. Frank Hoerst/*Worship Commission*

11:00 a.m. For the Parish

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday, January 30, 4:30 PM Mass**Servers:** A. Toelke, H. Murphy, L. Smith**Lectors:** Elaine Reardon, Steve Bissmeyer**Eucharistic Ministers:** Philip Bissmeyer, Teresa Gagnon, Shirley Fehrenbach, Larry Fehrenbach, Frank Sunderhaus, Kathy Wood**Sunday, January 31, 8:30 AM Mass****Servers:** J. Moeller, M. Karwisch, D. Karwisch**Lectors:** Betty Dirr, Bob Reynolds**Eucharistic Ministers:** Sue Siegert, Grace Severt, Lisa Severt, Phil Moore, Sandi Kasee, Meghan Gabriel**Sunday, January 31, 11:00 AM Mass****Servers:** B. Jung, E. Gardner, B. Gardner**Lectors:** Nisrene Langenbrunner, John Gilmore**Eucharistic Ministers:** Amanda Naciff, Jorge Naciff, Megan Threm, Terri Molony, Tabitha Peters, Mike Burke, Cathy Mersch, David Benkert, Janet Lees, Michael Droppelman

PREPARE TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Readings for January 31, 2016**Jeremiah 1:4-5. 17-19**

The Lord gives us the strength to carry out our calling to follow him.

1 Corinthians 12:31 – 13:13

The greatest of God's gifts is love.

Luke 4:21-30

Jesus enrages his audience by telling them his mission is not restricted to them.



STEWARDSHIP

"Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared..." (Nehemiah 8:10)

Ezra's instructions to the people show us that God does not forbid us from enjoying the good things in life, he wants us to be happy! However, He expects us to generously share our blessings with those who are in need, without expecting anything in return.

Through the power of the Spirit, Jesus proclaimed his mission. How are you carrying on that mission today? (Luke 1:1, 4:14-21)

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THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday, January 25

Mass, 8:30 a.m., Chapel
Adoration, 9:15 a.m., Chapel
Monday Martha's Group, 9:30 a.m.
Rosary, 7:00 p.m., Chapel

Tuesday, January 26

Mass, 8:30 a.m., Northgate Atria
Young Adult Group, 7:00 p.m., POMR #2

Wednesday, January 27

Mass, 8:30 a.m., Chapel
Mom's Bible Study Group, 8:00 p.m., GS

Thursday, January 28

Mass, 8:30 a.m., Chapel
Joseph's Group, 9:00 a.m., POMR #2
Shopping Cent\$, 9:00 a.m., POMR#1
Thursday's Martha's Group, 3:00 p.m.

Friday, January 29

All School Mass, 8:30 a.m., Church

Saturday, January 30

Reconciliation, 2:30 PM, Reconciliation Chapel
Mass, 4:30 PM

Sunday, January 31

Mass, 8:30 AM
Mass, 11:00 AM

St John's School is hosting Annual Scholastic Book Fair in the School's Library.

The Book Fair will kick-off at the School's Open House on Thursday, February 4 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM. In addition, the book fair will be open before and after 11 AM Mass on Sunday, February 7 and on Sunday, February 14 from 12 - 2 PM. Please consider supporting the School's Library by shopping the Book Fair. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Karwisch at mkarwisch@cinci.rr.com or Jeana Wiesman at jd Wiesman@fuse.net.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

There is still great need for volunteer leaders and helpers for the children's liturgy during our weekend Masses. The requirement is for one Mass per month and can be for the Mass you normally attend. **Please** contact Deacon Ken at 385-8010 for more information or to sign-up.

PARISH INFORMATION

Senior's Meeting

Wednesday, February 3

1:00 - 3:00 PM in the Gathering Space

Entertainment provided by St. John's Kindergarten Students.

Please bring a dessert to share.

Attention All Moms

Starting Wednesday, January 27 at 8:00 PM in the Gathering Space, all Moms of the Parish or School are invited to join together to draw closer to God and to connect with each other. There will be intro music, brief Gospel reading, short talk, small group reflection, social time, snacks and coffee. Meetings will be held on the second and forth Wednesday of each month from 8:00 - 9:30 PM in the Gathering Space. We look forward to seeing you there!!

Parish Library Spot

Recently we acquired some CD titles from Lighthouse Catholic Media. They include Contemporary Sainthood (Mark Hart), Help Me God (Dr. Scott Hahn), How to Get the Most Out of Mass (Dr. Scott Hahn), and The Bible Made Me Do It (Tim Staples). They are located in the kiosk in the Parish Library off the Gathering Space. Donation for each CD is \$3.00. Check it Out!!



Dinner for Pastoral Council

For the months of March, April, May and June, we are inviting parish families to help us provide dinner for Pastoral Council. Council meets on the 2nd Monday of each month and many members come straight from work. To show our appreciation for their commitment, we would like to provide the Council (12 members) with a "**light dinner**" at the start of their meeting (*example of light dinner would be lunch meat sandwiches and chips*). If you are interested in sponsoring a dinner one or more of these months, or if you have questions, please contact Terri Reder in the Parish Office at 385-8010. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCE

JANUARY 17, 2016 COLLECTION REPORT

Adult Collection (<i>includes Electronic Donations</i>)	\$	11,192.40
Children Collection	\$	2.85
Debt Reduction	\$	166.00
Christmas	\$	25.00
First Offering	\$	67.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	65.00
This Year to Date	\$	433,910.08
Last Year to Date	\$	428,569.98
Comparison to Last Year	\$	5,340.10
Adult Envelopes		223
Children Envelopes		3
Electronic Donators		66
Thank You!		

SHOPPING CENTS

Don't forget to use Shopping Cent\$ for all your grocery, gas, and retail needs. Shopping Cent\$ profits go to the school keep tuition cost down, helping all school families save a money! Stop by the Bell Tower before or after weekend masses or send your order in through school on Thursday.

Looking to way to give your time to the parish and meet new people? We need one more new volunteer to sell 30 minutes before and after 4:30 Mass on the third Saturday each month. Please leave a message on the hotline (699-6960 ext. 240) if you would like to join the Shopping Cent\$ volunteers.

TIDBITS BY TERRI REDER

DID YOU KNOW that so far 72 hymnals and 7 choir books have been donated in memory of or in honor of a loved one? What a great way to remember and honor a loved one. If you are interested, forms are at the Welcome Center.

DID YOU KNOW that we have a group of eight parishioners who volunteer to work in the office? They are Marilyn Meyer, Sharon Parker, Gene Culman, Sue Tragesser, Sue Sunderman, Diane Henschen, Michelle Burke and Megan Haun. Thanks to these very generous folks we have been able to cut staff and maintain a high level of service to the parish.

DID YOU KNOW that the United States has a national motto? The inscription on our coins and bills – “In God We Trust” – is our official motto approved by Congress on July 30, 1956. What a declaration of faith!



2016 **CMA** CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL
Annual Support of Local Ministries

2016 Catholic Ministries Appeal – Commitment Weekend

This is Commitment Weekend for the 2016 Catholic Ministries Appeal. Please join with Catholics in every parish throughout our archdiocese who are sharing their blessings and changing lives through local, Catholic ministries which depend on our help each year. If you have already responded by mail or online, or if you brought your completed pledge card to place in the offertory today, thank you! To make a pledge securely online, please visit CatholicAppeal.net. Or, **Text to Donate: Text the phrase "2016CMA" to 555-888** (standard data and message rates may apply). Thank you!



MUSICIAN'S NOTES

BY DOUG SCHMUTTE



By now you've most likely seen either an insert or a specific page in the bulletin informing you that our parish is purchasing new hymnals. You may ask yourself, "With all of the expenses that we have as a parish, are new hymnals really a priority for us?" Or, "Isn't our current hymnal good enough?" Those are very legitimate questions to be raised.

Before I answer either of those questions, let me give you a little history of the worship aides we have used since I began here at St. John's in September 2000. When I started, we were using a yearly worship aide which came in two books, one was called *Music Issue* and the other was a missalette. One advantage to that resource was that each year, some new pieces were added, and older pieces that were not used as much by parishes were taken out. The number of hymns added each year, however, was minimal. So really, even though it was marketed as a fresh new yearly resource, the amount of new material was very insignificant. We were spending approximately between \$3,000 and \$4,000 a year for this resource.

So, in 2002, I presented to Pastoral Council the idea that we purchase a hardbound hymnal for our parish. The hymnal that I recommended that we purchase was our current hymnal *Gather Comprehensive*. I felt it was the best choice for our parish from the many hardbound hymnals available at that time. The biggest reason I chose *Gather* was a report that was given to me when I was first hired here at St. John's. In that report, the number one thing parishioners wanted from music ministry was more spirited music and liturgies. I found *Gather* to be the best resource for that longing of the parish. It was a hymnal that had a 70/30 split between contemporary and traditional hymnody. I felt like it was the best fit for our parish. So, in 2002, we purchased the *Gather Comprehensive* hymnal for St. John's.

Now, the question that naturally arises is cost. As I stated above, we had previously been spending between three and four thousand dollars a year for our yearly resource. It's now 2016, so we have had our hymnal for 14 years. If we had continued using the same yearly resource, we would have spent almost \$42,000 over these years. The upfront cost of approximately \$13,000 for our current hymnal. So,

over the span of 14 years, the parish has saved approximately \$30,000.

So, now let me answer those two questions. Our hymnal was published in 1994.

Much liturgical music has been published in the 22 years since then, not to mention the new translation of the Mass. Also, not only are our hymnals old in terms of publication, but they are also VERY worn from natural wear and tear.

To make an analogy here, it is recommended that we replace most major purchases for our homes every 10 – 15 years. The "life expectancy" of most major appliances is between 10 and 15 years. Whether it be a refrigerator, washer, dryer, or even a car, we replace our most-used appliances in that time span.

So, just like other well-used items, how much more important is it that we replace something we use in the most important event of each week, to use a "church" term, that which is the source and summit of our lives. Everything we use in our Masses should be worthy of our use and in excellent condition.

So, after 14 years of service, it is time to purchase a new hymnal. It is the most recent edition of our current hymnal. *Gather, Third Edition* is very similar to our current one. It is basically a 70/30 split between contemporary and traditional hymnody. The amount of contemporary hymnody that has been published since 1994 is staggering. I believe you will come to love this new edition just as much as we do our current hymnal.

The upfront cost is going to be around \$15,000, but over another 14 years, that's a little more than \$1,000 a year. Or about \$20 a week. I would like to suggest that \$20 a week is a worthy sacrifice for the gifts our God has bestowed upon us.

I hope you understand why this change is not only necessary, but a wonderful one for our parish.

Next week I will discuss more about what this new hymnal will mean for our weekly celebration of the Eucharist. If you have questions, please feel free to email me.

Have a great week!!



The JOY of the GOSPEL



“Consequently, an evangelizer must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral!

Let us recover and deepen our enthusiasm, that “delightful and comforting joy of evangelizing, even when it is in tears that we must sow... And may the world of our time, which is searching, sometimes with anguish, sometimes with hope, be enabled to receive the good news not from evangelizers who are dejected, discouraged, impatient or anxious, but from ministers of the Gospel whose lives glow with fervor, who have first received the joy of Christ.”

This is the second section of paragraph 10 of Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation “Evangelii Gaudium.” Vatican Translation. Emphases my own.

Office of Christian Formation

Amanda Weickert

aweickert@stjohnsdr.org

It would be my joy to meet with you and discuss our beautiful faith! Please feel free to call or schedule an appointment any time!



VIRTUS online bulletins

Volunteers, please complete your VIRTUS bulletins online. Make sure when you go to VIRTUS.org you log in and then complete the training bulletin. If you do not log in and click on the article link under the training tab you may be mistakenly taking the weekly survey question which appears on VIRTUS' homepage instead of the required training bulletin. Thank you!



to LOVE as GOD LOVES

By Amanda Weickert

Since I began working here at St. John's in June the parish council, commissions, and staff have been working on how our community can better live out our mission statement: **“We love God. We love others. We make disciples.”** As I have reflected on how to live out this mission I have begun to see that I truly am called, together with you and the whole parish community, to be an evangelist: to make disciples and spread the good news and joy of Christ.

Saint Paul reminds us in today's second reading that we have unique roles within the Church. We are all blessed to serve God's children in a particular way through our lives. Whether we are a spouse, teacher, carpenter, manager, or retired person God invites each of us to *be* evangelists, showing God's love, mercy, and generosity in everything we do, strengthened by his grace.

It is new and often difficult for me to see myself as an evangelist. I know my own love for God but struggle to see how I can share this most intimate of my own relationships with others in a meaningful way. I pray for the grace to be open to God working through my life even if I do not recognize that he is doing so. Maybe we are all better at sharing God's love than we know!

For the past several months I have highlighted quotes from Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation “The Joy of the Gospel.” I hope that Francis' joy and desire to spread the good news of God's love to all people will inspire your own growing sense of being an evangelist. I will continue to highlight selections from “The Joy of the Gospel” for the next two weeks and encourage you to read the full document. Copies of the full text are available online for free and in print. Also, as we prepare for Lent in the next couple of weeks I will highlight two initiatives which we hope will strengthen our parish community's evangelization: Prayer Apostles and small faith sharing groups. As I share more about these opportunities please prayerfully discern whether God is calling you to participate in either ministry.

Holy Spirit, breath of love between the Father and the Son, breathe into us your courage, strength, and kindness. Grant us the grace to see all those we meet as your beloved children and to recognize your unfathomably deep love for us. Help us to generously live out the gospel confident that you will always provide for us abundantly. Amen.



STRENGTH & *Beauty*

A NET Ministries Retreat about our unique call as
Sons and Daughters of God

THE DETAILS

7th and 8th Graders

Feb. 20, 2016

10am to 4pm

St. Ann Parish

2900 W Galbraith Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45239

Cost: \$15, lunch will be provided

Please contact Rod Dunlap at 385-8010 to sign-up

Young Adult Ministry

This past Tuesday, our young adults gathered for a night of gospel reflection, awesome conversation, and great fellowship. The group meets at 7pm every Tuesday night and they are all excited for this upcoming 2016 Year of Mercy! **Also, come and check out the group after 11am Mass on Jan. 31 to say HI! We will then all go out to lunch afterwards.** If you are interested in joining our Young Adult Group here at St. John's, please contact Rod Dunlap at rdunlap@stjohnsdr.org.



High School Ministry

This past Sunday, our high school youth continued on being "CHOSEN". Please continue to pray for our high school youth as they begin this journey of drawing closer to Christ and learning more about themselves. We will meet again on Sunday, Jan. 31 at 7pm in the Youth Ministry room. If you are in high school and interested in joining us, please contact Rod Dunlap at rdunlap@stjohnsdr.org or 614-1789.

Preparing for Lent: Part One

Anthing worth doing is worth preparing for. Just imagine that this Lent is going to be different from every other Lent we've experienced. Imagine that there will be many graces offered me this year. Let's even imagine that God is going to help transform our lives, with greater freedom, greater joy, deeper desires for love and service.

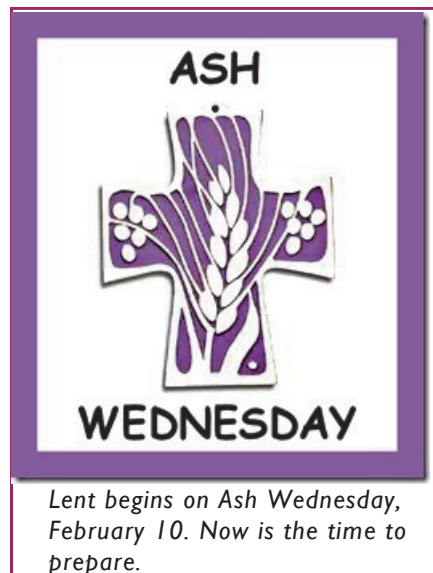
If we want it, we will choose it. Lent will be this wonderful season of grace for us if we give ourselves to it. And, we will give ourselves to it to the degree we really want it badly. So, in these days before Lent, we need to prepare our hearts. We need to prepare by realizing how much we want to grow in freedom, how much we need to lighten our spirits and experience some real joy, and how much some parts of our lives really need changing.

So, preparing our hearts is a process of preparing our desires. This means practicing our sense of anticipation. If I imagine Lent as an "ordeal" or a time I dread in some way, then I've already pre-disposed myself to not get very much out of it. These days before Lent are a time to start anticipating something

wonderful that is about to happen.

Our sense of excitement and anticipation will grow more easily if **we begin to imagine what God wants to give us.** There is really something coming that we can truly look forward to. If we get too focused on ourselves, and

what we are going to do or not do, we could risk missing the gift God wants to give us. We have to keep aware of the fact that grace comes from God. This is about God's great desire to bless us. Then, it is easier for us to imagine that what we really *want* to do is place ourselves in a space to *receive* what God wants to give us.



What to do with last year's palm?

**BRING YOUR OLD
PALM TO CHURCH**

**Put it in container in the
Gathering Space**

**It will be burnt to make the
ashes for Ash Wednesday**

ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 10



**Ashes will be distributed
at the 8:30 a.m. and
7:00 p.m. Masses**

**ASH BURNING AND
MARDI GRAS PARTY**

Tuesday, February 9 6:00 p.m.

**St. John Neumann
12191 Mill Road**

Let us be a part of your child's future!!!



St. John the Baptist Catholic School

Why St. John the Baptist Catholic School ...

- ❖ A Christ-Centered Education
- ❖ Personal Attention from Faculty & Staff
- ❖ Promoting Independence and Responsibility
- ❖ Preparing Students for High School and Beyond
- ❖ Accelerated Math and Reading Classes
- ❖ National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence
- ❖ Preschool - 8th Grade on one campus
- ❖ Advanced Technology in All Classrooms
- ❖ Foreign Language Offered in grades 6-8
- ❖ Wide Range of Extra Curricular Activities

Open House

Thursday, February 4, 2016

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Personal tours for new families will be offered from 6 - 7 p.m.

Tours will begin in the school at the main entrance - blue awning.

Welcome New Students!!!

Registration for next school year begins on February 8. Registration materials will be available at the Open House.

To learn more about the quality Catholic education offered at St. John the Baptist School, or to schedule a personal tour of the campus, call 385-7970 or visit www.stjohnsdrschoool.org.

Children entering kindergarten - third grade from low-income families may qualify for the Ohio's Income-based scholarship program, Ed Choice Expansion Scholarship, which may cover full or partial tuition at St. John the Baptist school.

St. John the Baptist † Corpus Christi † St. John Neumann

A Pastoral Area School: Three parishes...One commitment to Catholic Education

St. John the Baptist School Preschool



About Our Preschool Program

General Information & Requirements

- ◆ Prospective students must be 3 or 4 years old by September 30. Students **must** be toilet trained before the first day of school.
- ◆ Prospective Pre-K students must be 5 years old by November 30.
- ◆ Medical Exam must be current at the time of admission. Physicals are valid for one year and must be kept valid while student is enrolled.
- ◆ Parents are expected to take turns providing healthy daily snacks and drinks.
- ◆ Our preschool is accredited by the Ohio Department of Education
- ◆ There is a maximum of 12 three-year-old students, 14 four-year-old students, and 16 Pre-K students enrolled in the program.
- ◆ There is always a full time teacher and aide.

Schedule for the Year

- ◆ School year calendar follows the same as K-8, but ends on the week prior to Memorial Day.
- ◆ 3-year-olds will meet on Monday/Tuesday, 12:15 p.m.-2:45 p.m. or Wednesday/Thursday, 12:15 p.m.-2:45 p.m.
- ◆ 4-year-olds will meet on Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday, 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. or 12:15 p.m.-2:45 p.m.
- ◆ Pre-K program will meet on Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
- ◆ Daily class schedule is as follows:
 - Choice time at learning centers - Religion, Math, Language, Science and Social Studies.
 - Group activity – songs, games, discussions, poems, guest speakers, etc.
 - Story time
 - Large muscle activity period
 - Snack break – snacks provided by parents.
- ◆ Preschool students also participate in school activities that are appropriate and take place during school time.
- ◆ There will be two to three field trips per year that will incur additional cost.

Registration & Tuition Costs

- ◆ Registration fee is \$100 per student and is non-refundable.
- ◆ Registration will be from February 8 until February 19, 2016.
- ◆ Registration Forms will be available in the preschool rooms and the school office.
- ◆ For the 2016-2017 school year tuition is \$972 for 3-year-olds and \$1458 for the 4-year-olds, \$1872 for Pre-K program.
- ◆ Payments are due the first day of each month through FACTS Management Company.
- ◆ First payment will be due in July.

Open House on Thursday, February 4, 2016 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

- ◆ New families are invited to attend from 6 - 7 p.m. for a special "family hour" to speak with teachers and staff.
- ◆ Open House will continue until 8:00 p.m. Please feel free to attend whenever is most convenient for you.
- ◆ The entire school will be open for a tour.

For more information, or for questions, please call the
School Office at 385-7970. Thank you.

PASTORAL COUNCIL JANUARY UPDATE

Pastoral Council and the Commissions met on Monday January 11th.

Ms. Catie Blum, School Principal, gave a State of the School presentation to council. She shared that the current enrollment is 418 students with 315 from St. John the Baptist, 35 from Corpus Christie, 48 from St. John Neumann, and 20 who do not belong to one of these three parishes. Projected enrollment for next year is 415 as the 2016/2017 budget process is in full swing. Ms. Blum spoke of the various curricular programs in place, possible new state mandates, marketing efforts, new staff for the current year, textbook updates, building maintenance, and information about where our graduates go for their high school years with almost 95 % going on to a Catholic high school. All are asked to help support the Open House coming up on Thursday, February 4th. Please encourage new families to attend between the 6:00 and 7:00PM for personal guided tours and for all parishioners to come during the 7:00 to 8:00PM time. Please do come and view this wonderful school and do all you can to encourage new families to send their children.

Terri Reder stated that we still would very much like to have census information from all parishioners to help us do a better job of planning for the future. We have over 600 families who have not responded. Please call Terri at 385- 8010 to provide the information. It only takes a few minutes.

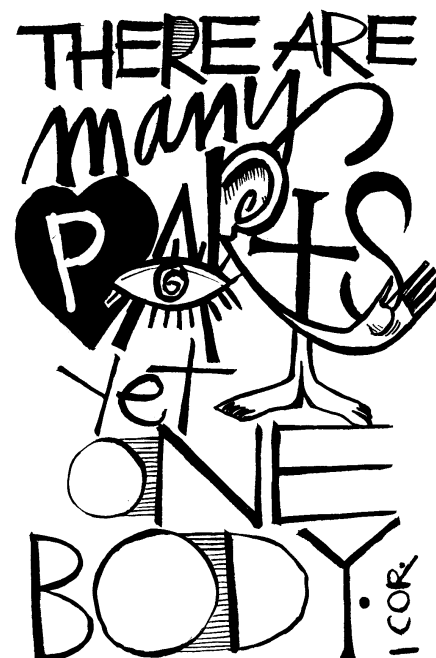
Please remember that the St John the Baptist Annual Fund Drive (AFD) will continue on until June 30, 2016 even as the Archdiocesan Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA) just started on January 17th. Both appeals are very worthwhile; however, also keep in mind that we do need your support at the local level to make ends meet for our parish especially in light of all the HVAC units dying or on their last legs. Please pray over your decision and do what you feel is best for you and your family.

As stated last month, pastoral council will have one open seat for the 2016/2017 meeting year (starting September, 2016). If you are interested in being considered for this seat please call me at 245-9943 or Fr. Tim at 385-8010.

This month's commission highlight is the Development Commission. The Development Commission creates, implements and sustains the development process. The Commission works closely with the Parish Office. The Commission's main purpose is to help create the roadways, avenues, and vehicles to meaningfully involve the parish community. If you are interested in serving on the commission please call Heather Smith (Chairperson) at 923-2893 or myself at 245-9943. We need your help and ideas.

In closing, as time goes on, I become more and more amazed at the many parishioners who give so much of their time, talents and treasures for our parish. You are truly appreciated in our worldly eyes but I am very confident our Lord has a very special appreciation for everything so many of you do. If you are not actively involved in the parish at this time, please consider doing so. Just give Fr. Tim or me a call and tell us how you would like to help. We will find the proper place for you to give of your time, talents and treasures.

Respectfully,
Al Grote, Chairperson





Food Pantry News

Thanksgiving and Christmas Programs a Success!

The Food Pantry was able to provide Thanksgiving meals to 285 families/901 people. Through the church collections and folks dropping off food at the pantry, the call for food for our Thanksgiving dinners was amazing. Thank you!

For Christmas many of you from St. John the Baptist, St. John Neumann and Corpus Christi provided gifts and dinners to 282 families. 378 children in these families received 2 gifts each from the many donors. All those gifts were a sight to see! Thank you!

On the back of this newsletter are several thank you notes we received from clients who participated in our Holiday Programs. We thought you'd like to see these. They made us smile!

A **very special thank you** to all of our Food Pantry volunteers who put in endless hours and worked so hard to make our Holiday Programs so successful.

Calling all Vegetable Gardeners! Remember this request last Spring?.....

Many home gardeners in the three parishes provided over 400 pounds of home grown produce to the Food Pantry this past year ranging from tomatoes, zucchinis, beans, cucumbers, peppers and many other items. Our clients truly enjoyed receiving fresh produce! Thank you to everyone who donated items from their gardens.



Children's Magazines – Thank you to families who dropped off Children's magazines to entertain our smallest clients to the Pantry. They are truly enjoyed!



REACH Magazines, Valpaks –

Occasionally in the REACH magazine and Valpak envelopes there are St. Vincent de Paul or Salvation Army store coupons for a percentage off of purchase. We would love to have these coupons at the pantry for our clients. Just cut them out and put in an envelope marked Food Pantry and drop in the collection basket at mass.

**Thank you so much for your continued generosity
and support of our Pastoral Food Pantry!**

The Food Pantry is located in the basement of Corpus Christi Parish Center, 2014 Springdale Road
Phone # 825-0618, Ext. 114

Hours of operation: Monday & Thursday 10:00a - 11:30a and Tuesday 6:00p - 7:30p

Merry
Christmas
+

Happy New Year!

Thank you:
Corpus Christi, St. John the Baptist,
St. John Neumann
Catholic Church Communities
for all the kindness
help & food. Sincerely,

I don't know. I wish to offer
than to say Thank you for all
you do.

A Big & appreciate you.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for all the
gifts you brought us,
and the meals you have
provided for us.

We pray that the Lord
will bless each of you in
a special way every day.

May the New Year
be filled with many
graces!

Holding you in our
daily prayers.

St. Dan and Joan Bar
Olivia Sisters

Thank you

Dear Sisters of the Corpus Christi Food Pantry, St. John the Baptist and the St. John Neumann Catholic Church Communities,

Thank you for your generosity this holiday season. The Christmas dinner and gifts were a blessing to our family. The sleepers for the children are adorable and they will enjoy playing with the educational toys for many months to come. Most of all, it was wonderful to receive the Walmart gift card to buy the additional necessary items to finish the Christmas list.

God bless your organization and what you do for the community!

With much appreciation,

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time C 1

*Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10***Family History**

Whenever you open up an old family photo album, you may be struck with the power of ancestry. You realize you come from a people who shared with you their beliefs, their possessions, and their past.

When you look at old photos, you may want to learn more. "Who were these people? Where did they live? How did they live? What part of me have I inherited from them?" If you can converse with older members of your family, you can ask these questions directly. But for others, only the photos exist to tell the tales.

In the Old Testament, Ezra the priest came before the assembly of people and brought out for them an old book that had been lost. It was too early in history, of course, for a photo album. But he now possessed a record of the holy words revealed by God to their ancestors. Now that the book had been discovered, its contents were proclaimed to the people.

They listened attentively. These were the words that shaped the lives of their ancestors. As they heard them, they learned what was important to the people who gave them life.

The Bible has been revered by many of our ancestors. It contains a record of the stories they told and the values they held. When you take that old book off the shelf at your home, the word of God, you can meet the people who gave you life.

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Third Sunday in Ordinary Time C 2

*1 Corinthians 12:12-30***Body Block**

It is hard for some people to get along. We think the worst of strangers in our way. We get tired of people we work with every day. Kids in the family fight with one another. It is hard to get along.

There are many reasons to work at it, though. Fighting creates tensions we do not need. It puts us on edge and violates the interior harmony we seek. Work gets done more smoothly, learning happens more peacefully, love is shared more fully, when people get along.

Paul tells the Corinthians that they should think of themselves as one body, not as different people. Earlier on in this letter, he already complained about the divisions in their church. The one community was splintering as people took sides under different natural leaders. They intuited that they were one community, but they lived as though they were many who were not getting along.

Paul urged them to think of themselves as one. "The body is not a single part, but many." The foot and the hand get along. So do the ear and the eye. They do not compete with each other. They do not claim to be the only part in the entire body. "If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy."

It is easier to get along when we start from this premise: We are already one.

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