

St. John the Baptist Parish

5361 Dry Ridge Road • Cincinnati, Ohio 45252

(513) 385 8010 • www.stjohns-dr.org



Dear Fellow Parishioners,

We, your parish staff, are happy to present to you the seventh edition of our St. John's Guide Book & Directory for 2012-2013. This book will be a valuable resource for you. It will not only help you to contact the Parish Office, but will also assist you to become involved in our parish ministries, as well as getting to know other members of our parish community.

On behalf of the pastoral staff, I invite you to use this book to become involved in one or more of the many ministries that make St. John's a vibrant parish. Contact information is provided for the various ministries in the pages that follow, but feel free to contact me or someone else on the staff if we can be of any assistance.

I would also like to thank the advertisers who have made this book possible. Their generosity has enabled us to provide this book for you free of charge.

With over 1400 parish families, we work hard to keep accurate and up-to-date records, but mistakes do occur. If you find any mistakes within this book, please contact the Parish Office so we can correct our records. Thank you.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Tim". The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent "F" and "T".

Rev. Timothy S. Kallaher
Pastor

P.S. Thank you to Printcraft for the image cover and Mark Zerhusen for redesigning this year's cover.

Stewardship in Our Lives...

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” 1 Peter 4:10

A Parish Community Called to Stewardship

My church is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver.

It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I invite and bring them. It will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a church with a noble spirit if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things.

Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my church to be.

“Christ has no body now on earth, but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which He is to go about doing good; yours are the hands with which He is to bless people now.”

St. Teresa of Avila

Parish Mission Statement

We, the Saint John the Baptist Catholic Community of Dry Ridge serve our members and the wider community. We gather and share Christ’s sacramental life, and evangelize to form disciples in the Lord. We minister to and serve people of all ages and states of life in the Lord’s name. All this we do in the spirit of Jesus Christ, who came not to be served but to serve and to give his life that all might have life in all its fullness (John 10:10).

Parish Staff

Pastor Fr. Timothy Kallaher
Pastoral Associate/DRE Patricia Crowder
Business Manager Donna Sunderhaus
Music Director Doug Schmutte
Development Director David Kissell
Parish Office Manager Terri Reder
Parish Administrative Assistant Michelle Zerhusen

Contact Information

Parish Office Phone 385-8010
Parish Office Fax 385-8080
Parish Website www.stjohns-dr.org

Parish Office Hours:

- Monday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Wednesday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Office Closed Saturday & Sunday.

St. John the Baptist School

Principal..... Ms Catie Blum
 School Office Phone..... 385-7970
 School Office Fax..... 699-6964
 School Website..... www.stjohnbluejays.org

Parish Information & Schedules

Mass Schedules

Saturday 4:30 p.m.
 Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Daily Mass

Monday 8:30 a.m.
 Tuesday 8:30 a.m.
 @ Northgate Park Retirement Home
 Wednesday 8:30 a.m.
 Thursday 8:30 a.m.
 Friday 8:30 a.m.

Archdiocesan Decree on Child Protection

In accordance with Archdiocesan policy, anyone working with children is required to complete a child protection orientation session, and be fingerprinted. Check the bulletin for dates and times. *Contact: Pat Crowder, Pastoral Associate/DRE (385-6239).*

Sacraments Sacraments of Initiation

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): This process is for non-baptized adults who seek baptism and for those baptized into another church who seek full communion with the Catholic Church. RCIA takes place Sundays between Masses. *Contact: Keith Young (741-8324).*

Christian Initiation of Infants (Baptism): Baptisms may be celebrated at a regularly scheduled Mass or at 12:30 on Sunday afternoon. *Contact: Fr. Tim Kallaher (385-8010).*

Baptism Preparation: Baptism preparation is a one-time class for those wanting their child to receive the Sacrament of Baptism. Volunteers to facilitate this class are always welcome, and training is provided. Classes are on the second Tuesday of each month. *Contact: Shannon Wilt (942-2361).*

Confirmation: The Sacrament of Confirmation is celebrated annually. Preparation begins during the seventh grade school year and is facilitated through the Office of Christian Formation. *Contact: Pat Crowder, Pastoral Associate/DRE (385-6239).*

Eucharist: This sacrament is usually celebrated for the first time during a child's second grade year. Enrollment can be done through the Office of Christian Formation. *Contact: Pat Crowder, Pastoral Associate/DRE (385-6239).*

Sacraments of Healing

Reconciliation: The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available for all parishioners on Saturdays at 2:30 p.m. and at any time by appointment. Seasonal communal celebrations are scheduled throughout the year. *Contact: Fr. Tim Kallaheer (385-8010).*

Anointing of the Sick: The sacrament of anointing is celebrated with those who are dangerously ill or seriously weakened by old age. This sacrament can be celebrated anytime. *Contact: Fr. Tim Kallaheer (385-8010).*

Sacraments of Vocation

Matrimony: Couples intending to be married at St. John's should call the Parish Office well in advance of the wedding. Six months of preparation are required. *Contact: Fr. Tim Kallaheer (385-8010).*

Holy Orders: Those wishing to be ordained a priest or deacon should contact the pastor for further information. *Contact: Fr. Tim Kallaheer (385-8010).*

Parish Governance Pastoral Council

Pastoral Council serves as the primary advisory body of the parish by assisting the pastor and staff in the financial and spiritual well being of the parish. Meetings are held the second Monday of every month except, July and August, at 8:30 p.m. in the School Cafeteria. *Contact: Tom Pohl, Chair (741-1576).*

Worship Worship Commission

Worship Commission concerns itself with all aspects of the liturgy: environment of worship, liturgical planning, liturgical art, spiritual growth, and increased knowledge of our faith. Meetings are the second Monday of each month. *Contact: Daryl Sandy (385-7190).*

Lectors: Lectors proclaim the Word of God in the midst of the parish community. A formation program is offered periodically to prepare parishioners for this ministry. *Contact: Doug Schmutte (385-8010).*

Mass Coordinator: The Mass Coordinator facilitates the preparation for the weekly Eucharistic celebration. The Mass Coordinator fulfills this ministry by setting out the wine, bread, cups, bowls, etc. used at Mass. This ministry requires only a half-hour before and a few minutes after the assigned Mass. *Contact: Anne Johns (245-0496).*

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: These ministers assist the presiding priest with the reverent distribution of Communion during Mass. Ministers may take Communion to the sick of the parish. This ministry is open to men and women who are in the eighth grade or older. There is an hour training session. *Contact: Marcia Schmidt (741-2808).*

Servers at the Table: To ensure the dignity of the liturgical ritual, young men and women of the parish serve in this role. Responsibilities include the weekend liturgies and liturgies celebrated on special occasions. Servers are scheduled upon completion of training. *Contact: Bob Carle (851-8213) or Doug Schmutte (385-8010).*

Ushers: Ushers provide hospitality, safety, and structure to the parish liturgical celebrations. Men and women are invited to assist in this ministry. *Contact: Les Langenbrunner (245-0509).*

Greeters: Serving once or twice a month, a greeter commits to arriving 20 minutes prior to Mass, recruiting gift bearers, distributing bulletins after Mass, and assisting those in need. *Contact: Bob Engel (741-7406).*

Environment: This ministry calls for people with giving spirits and willing hands to enhance liturgy by caring for our surroundings. This includes the cleanliness and decoration of the worship and gathering spaces as well as the linens, garments, and much more. *Contact: Patti Rice (385-5410).*

Martha's Group: Martha's Group is a group of volunteers (men and women) who regularly clean the church. New volunteers are always welcome. Work is done on Monday from 8:30-10:30 a.m. and Thursday from 4:00-6:00 p.m. *Monday Contact: Carolyn Engel (741-7406); Thursday Contact: Ken Wurzelbacher (738-4278).*

Music Ministry: Any parishioner interested in becoming part of St. John's Music Ministry or who would like more information on any of the groups listed should contact the Music Director at the Parish Office during normal office hours. *Contact: Doug Schmutte, Music Director (385-8010).*

Children's Hand bell Choir: This choir is open to children in grades 6 – 8. *Contact: Mary Lou Veerkamp (385-6062).*

Adult Choirs: Two adult choir groups exist to lead the singing at one of the Sunday morning liturgies.

Saturday Contemporary Ensemble: This group leads the assembly in song at the Saturday 4:30 Mass.

Presiders in the Priest's Absence: Presiders lead prayer for the assembly when the priest is not available for Mass. This ministry is open to men and women of the parish who have been faithful to their Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist and have fulfilled the necessary in-service requirements. *Contact: Bob Carle (851-8213).*

Leaders of the Children's Liturgy of the Word: Leaders in the ministry proclaim the Word of God with the children during the Saturday and Sunday Masses. *Contact: Pat Crowder, Pastoral Associate/DRE (385-6239).*

Education

Office of Christian Formation

The Office of Christian Formation provides informational and formational activities that facilitate our spiritual development. Programs within this office support and foster community, social justice, proclaiming the Good News in our lives both at home and at work, and sacramental participation as a ministering community. *Contact: Pat Crowder, Pastoral Associate/DRE (385-6239).*

Faith Formation Commission

The Faith Formation Commission provides events, programs, and resources that foster and nurture the faith life of parishioners of all ages. The Commission meets the second Monday of every month (Sept. – June) at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. *Contact: Pat Crowder, Pastoral Associate/DRE (385-6239).*

Early Childhood Program: This program, for 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds, develops the child's awareness of self and God's world around them. Classes are held October thru May during the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday. *Contact: Pat Crowder, Pastoral Associate/DRE (385-6239).*

Sunday Religious ED Program: This Faith Formation program is open to any student in grades K-8. Classes take place between the Sunday morning Masses each week (9:45 – 10:45 a.m.) and run September through May. Cost is \$50 per child to cover the cost of books and materials. Volunteers are welcome to help teach. *Contact: Cheryl Dorsch (245-1091).*

Summer Religious Education Program: Formerly known as the Parish School of Religion (PSOR), this program, for students in grades 1 – 8 not attending a Catholic school, enables students to grow in their relationship and understanding of God. Classes will be held June 16 – 27, 2008. *Contact: Pat Crowder, Pastoral Associate/DRE (385-6239).*

Vacation Bible School: Events in Jesus' life and ministry are explored through age-appropriate songs, stories, crafts, games, and mission/service activities. The half-day sessions run for five days and are open to children ages 4 through fourth grade. Vacation Bible School is usually held in mid-July. *Contact: Anne Johns (245-0496).*

Lending Library: St. John's Parish Library is located in the Church, in the room to the right of the main entrance. There are books, audios, and videos available for adults and children to borrow. There are also many free pamphlets. The library is self-service. Donations of Catholic books or tapes are gratefully accepted. *Contact: Mary Lou Miller (385-8425) and Ginny Baringhaus (851-0586).*

Prayer

Eucharistic Adoration: Eucharistic Adoration takes place on Mondays following the morning Mass and ends with recitation of the rosary. Twenty-four hour adoration takes place on the third Monday of each month in the chapel. (See bulletin for details.) *Contact: Joyce Behrmann (385-9125).*

Rosary: Parishioners pray the rosary on Monday evenings. *Contact: Diane Cecardo (385-3134).*

E-Mail Prayer Network: This prayer network sends prayer requests via e-mail. To be added to the list to receive these requests, send an e-mail to stjohns@stjohns-dr.org (please type "Prayer Network" in the subject line).

Saturday Morning Men's Fellowship: Prayer and Bible study for men in the Daily Chapel on the first and third Saturdays of the month. *Contact: Bob Kopp (385-8849).*

Proclamation

Ministry Formation: These sessions support individuals in their ministry, provide additional insight and expertise, and assist them in seeing their ministry in the context of the God who called them and of the community they serve. *Contact: Pat Crowder, Pastoral Associate/DRE (385-6239).*

Marriage Encounter: The Marriage Encounter Weekend assists couples to communicate better with each other, be sensitive to each other's needs, and feel comfortable in being open and supportive of each other. Marriage Encounter Worldwide offers weekends on a regular basis. *Contact: Gene & Linda Culman (385-6669).*

Marriage Preparation (FOCCUS): FOCCUS (Facilitating Open Couple Communication, Understanding and Study) marriage ministry prepares couples for the Sacrament of Matrimony. Married couples work with an engaged couple to discuss pertinent issues that the couple will encounter. *Contact: Marcia & Jerry Schmidt (741-2808).*

Spiritual Formation: Periodically, retreats, parish missions, and days of reflection are offered by the parish and in institutions supported by the parish. All parishioners are invited to attend. *Contact: Pat Crowder, Pastoral Associate/DRE (385-6239).*

Pastoral Area School St. John the Baptist School

St. John the Baptist School is a pre-K–eighth grade Catholic elementary school serving the parishes of St. John the Baptist, Corpus Christi, and St. John Neumann. The school is located on our campus at St. John the Baptist.

The school was founded in 1846 as an Archdiocese of Cincinnati parochial school. Our educational ministry exists to instill the values and teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. We partner with parents and the parish community to provide a quality Catholic education. St. John the Baptist School fosters the development of every aspect of the whole child – spiritual, academic, physical, emotional and social.

Basic Information

School Office	385-7970
Attendance Line.....	385-2095
Cafeteria.....	923-2900
School Nurse	699-6978
Computer Lab.....	699-6972
Library	699-6971

To leave a voice mail message for a teacher/staff member:

Call 699-6960 and access the spell-by-name directory.

School Staff

Principal	Ms. Catie Blum
Pre-School	Mrs. Jenny Kahny Ms. Sarah Ferrier
Kindergarten	Mrs. Vicki Borgman Mrs. Donna Hayes
Grade 1	Mrs. Kathy Sellers Mrs. Mindy Sander
Grade 2	Mrs. Erin Reder Mrs. Norma Rapien
Grade 3	Laura Peter Mrs. Pam Zipperer
Grade 4	Mrs. Elaine Shotwell Mrs. Shannon Peters
Grade 5	Mrs. Brigid Schneider Mrs. Barb Vest
Grade 6	Ms. Vikki McKendry Mrs. Anita Jester
Grade 7	Mrs. Donna Haun Mr. Tony Acito
Grade 8	Mrs. Sharon Green Mrs. Chris Smith
Jr. High Religion	Mrs. Eileen Molulon
Physical Education	Mrs. Stephanie Fay
After School Care Dir.	Mrs. Anne Johns
Music	Mrs. Lauren Neeley

Art	Mrs. Carrie Smith
Computer	Mrs. Debbie Robbins
Math Lab	Mrs. Catherine Donohue
Secretary	Mrs. Cathy Dreyer
	Mrs. Linda Threm
Librarian	Volunteer based
Development Dir.	Mr. David Kissell
Cafeteria	Mrs. Karen Hasselbeck
	Mrs. Clair Knipper
	Ms. Cheri Lang
	Ms. Marilyn Klein
Maintenance	Mr. Brad Hasselbeck
	Mrs. Tina Rose
	Mr. Jerry Hasselbeck
	Mr. Ron Fehr

Services Provided Through State/Federal Funds

Reading	Ms. Betsy Wuest
Instructional Math	Ms. Judy Gerwe
Speech	Mrs. Shannon Wilt
Nurse	Mrs. Brenda Hummel
Psychologist	Ms. Julia De Greg
Intervention	Mrs. Beth Kimble
Autism Speech	Ms. Erin Herman

Tuition – for the 2012-2013 school year

Parishioner

\$1,495	Half-day Kindergarten
\$2,980	All-day Kindergarten
\$2,980	1 child (grade 1-8)
\$5,860	2 children (grade 1-8)
\$8,640	3 children (grade 1-8)
\$8,740	4 children (grade 1-8)

Non-Parishioner

\$2,000.....	Half-day Kindergarten
\$4,000.....	All-day Kindergarten
\$4,000.....	Each child (grade 1-8)

School Governance Board

The Area School Governance Board is comprised of members from St. John the Baptist, Corpus Christi, and St. John Neumann Parishes. The Board serves as an advisory group to the school's administration and works to help develop policies that enable the school to accomplish its goals and objectives. The School Board meets the first Thursday of every month during the school year. *Contact: Adam Dengel, Board President (520-9516).*

Parent-Teachers Organization (PTO): PTO is committed to many activities that both enrich the physical environment of the school and enhance the learning atmosphere for students. Officers are elected annually. Membership is open to all parents of children at St. John's School. Open meetings are held three times a year, and board meetings are once a month. *Contact: Jill Eddings (851-8780) & Tracy Rawlings.*

St. John's School Alumni Association: The school alumni association keeps in touch with graduates of St. John's school. It sponsors periodic class reunions and other social events. It also publishes a newsletter called *The Time Line*. *Contact: David Kissell, Development Director (385-8010 ext. 119).*

Finance & Administration

Finance Commission

The Finance Commission advises the pastor, the business manager, and the pastoral council on sound fiscal policies to run the parish. They monitor the budget and assist in setting goals and priorities for the growth and maintenance of the parish facilities. *Contact: Sharon Bachman (385-8267).*

Building & Grounds Committee: By regular inspections, the Building and Grounds group notes needed repairs and improvements and brings these to the attention of the pastor and pastoral council. *Contact: Dale Bosse (825-7344).*

Joseph's Group: The Joseph's Group (open to men and women) meets on Thursday morning, from 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., and performs the minor repairs and improvements for the church and school. *Contact: Dale Bosse (825-7344).*

Planning & Involvement

Development Office

The Parish Development Office works to advance the mission and vision of the parish through initiatives and processes that meaningfully involve the parish community. Guided by the principles of Christian Stewardship, development efforts call on parishioners to give of their time, talent, and financial resources for the betterment of St. John's Parish. *Contact: David Kissell, Development Director (385-8010 ext. 119) and Michelle Zerhusen, Administrative Assistant (385-8010 ext. 103).*

Development Commission

The St. John the Baptist Parish Development Commission is a group of dedicated and committed parishioners who create, implement, and sustain the development processes. The Commission works closely with the Parish Development Office. The Commission's main purpose is to help create the roadways, avenues, and vehicles to meaningfully involve the parish community. *Contact: Rob Trap (738-4980).*

Welcoming Team: The Welcoming Team works with activities and events to welcome new parish families to St. John's. New members to the Team area always welcome. *Contact: David Kissell (385-8010).*

Electronic Contribution System: This system provides families with a way to make their collection contributions with a credit card or through an electronic checking account deduction. Enrollment forms for this system are available at the Parish Office. Contributions can also be set-up online at www.stjohns-dr.org/electronic_contribution.htm. *Contact: David Kissell, Development Director (385-8010).*

Fellowship (after weekend Masses): Fellowship is a "continental breakfast" that features a different parish organization each month after Masses. Fellowship is usually held on the third weekend of the month. *Contact: David Kissell, Development Director (385-8010).*

Hospitality Team: The Hospitality Team prepares and serves food/refreshments during the monthly Fellowships. Time commitment is about one hour per month (20 minutes before Mass, and 30 minutes after Mass). New team members are always welcome. *Contact: Diane Henschen (385 – 3704)*

Help-A-Student (HAS): Help-A-Student provides financial assistance with the cost of tuition to needy parish families who attend St. John's School. The primary goal of the program is to ensure that no parishioner is denied a Catholic education at St. John's based on financial hardship. *Contact: David Kissell, Development Director (385-8010).*

Resource Development: Resource Development exists to minister to the parish school by inventing and managing fundraising programs which aid in education and increase community involvement. *Contact: David Kissell, Development Director (385-8010).*

Shopping Cent\$: This is a year-round fund-raising effort. Shopping Cent\$ purchases gift certificates in bulk at a discounted rate and resells them at face value to participants. Certificates are available for a variety of grocery stores, retail stores, and restaurants and are sold at several times and locations. Shopping Cent\$ volunteers meet either on Thursday mornings between 9 and 10, or before and after weekend Masses. *Contact: Debbie Rumpke (385-4876) & Linda Threm (741-8660).*

Magazine Drive: This is a fund-raising activity where students take orders for magazine subscriptions. Current subscriptions may also be renewed through this drive. The drive occurs in September. *Contact: Amy Eyers (741-0490) & Diane Bissmeyer (923-2633).*

Market Day: This on-going fund-raiser offers a wide variety of food items at fair prices. Market Day is open to the entire parish. Pick-up is in the school cafeteria the third Tuesday of the month (except July & August) from 6:30-7:30 p.m. *Contact: Sean Gardner (741-2072) or Michelle Zerhusen (923-2308).*

Fashion Show: Men and women of the parish model the latest fashion trends while the women sit down to a luscious dinner served by the men. It's a great ladies night out! The next show will take place in the Spring of 2013. *Contact: Stephanie Stegmuller (741-3775).*

Communication Communications Commission

The Communications Commission of St. John the Baptist Parish serves to communicate the good things going on in our parish not only to our parishioners, but also to the broader community of Colerain Township. The Commission utilizes all available media in the most effective way possible. *Contact: Cara Reeves (245-2031).*

The Torch: This is the parish newsletter that is published quarterly. *Contact: David Kissell, Development Director (385-8010).*

Parish Bulletin: The bulletin is published weekly and is available in the Gathering Space after weekend Masses. Deadline for bulletin articles is Monday at noon. *Contact: Terri Reder (385-8010), treder@stjohns-dr.org.*

Parish E-Mail Newsletter: A weekly newsletter/information bulletin is sent weekly via e-mail. To be added to the list for receiving this newsletter, send an e-mail to development@stjohns-dr.org.

Parish Web Site: www.stjohns-dr.org

Parish FaceBook Page: www.facebook.com/StJohnDryRidge

Parish Blog Page: www.stjohns-dr.org/parish_blog

School Web Site: www.stjohnbluejays.org

Parish Outreach & Service

Helping Hands: A group of volunteers offering short-term “hands-on” assistance to parishioners in the areas of childcare, transportation, meal preparation, light housework, minor home repairs, and yard work.

Soup Kitchen Service: A group of parishioners prepares and serves lunch at Tender Mercies in Over-the-Rhine.

Peace & Justice Ministry: Through concrete works of charity, justice, education, and peacemaking this ministry offers parishioners opportunities to put the social justice teachings of the Church into action. *Contact: Betty Dirr (385-3954).* Justice sponsors the following:

Advent Giving Tree – program to provide Christmas gifts to needy.

Easter Baskets for Needy Children

Just Faith

Lenten Sacrificial Giving Program – during Lent, parishioners give alms to the needy around the world.

Pantry Cart – canned food, paper products, and baby and personal care items for the needy are accepted at any time in the “Pantry Cart” located in the Church Gathering Space.

“Twinning” – ongoing mutual exchange relationship with Tekakwitha Native American Mission, Houck, Arizona.

Right To Life/Pro-Life: St. John’s is connected to the Pro-Life committee of the Archdiocese. Parishioners are asked to pray and donate monies and items throughout the year. Baby care items can be donated through the Pantry Cart.

Bereavement Committee: Bereavement members meet with the bereaved to help prepare the funeral liturgy and to act as liaison between the family and parish staff. Other group members serve as lectors or extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, provide “house sitting” services, and help with receptions as needed. Babysitting during visitation is also available. New members are always welcome. *Contact: Pat Crowder, Pastoral Associate/DRE (385-6239).*

Communion to Sick/Shut-ins: When someone is sick or shut-in, it is important for the parish community to show its concern. Eucharistic ministers go out after Sunday Masses to take Communion to these individuals. New ministers are welcome. *Contact: Pat Crowder, Pastoral Associate/DRE (385-6239).*

Cemetery Board: The cemetery committee provides a dignified, Christian burial in our parish’s cemetery. It also oversees the care and maintenance of these sacred grounds on our parish campus. *Contact: Gene Culman (385-6669).*

Hospital Visitation Ministry: This ministry reaches out to persons and their families who are involved in a hospital stay. Activities include support for the individual emotionally and spiritually and support for the family. *Contact: Pat Crowder, Pastoral Associate/DRE (385-6239).*

Nursing Home Visitation Ministry: This ministry is for people interested in visiting parishioners living in nursing homes. If you know of someone living in a nursing home or would like to participate in this ministry, *contact Pat Crowder, Pastoral Associate/DRE (385-6239).*

St. Vincent de Paul: This national/international organization is committed to the assistance of persons and families that are in need. Membership is open to all parishioners with a desire to help the disadvantaged. For assistance through St. Vincent de Paul or to join St. Vincent de Paul, contact the Parish Office (385-8010).

Community Organizations

High School Youth Ministry: This ministry works with high school students to help them grow in their faith through worship, service, fellowship and sharing of the gospel. High School Youth Ministry meets every Thursday at 7:00 PM in the Parish Office Basement. *Contact: Mike Burke (385-4972), mmburke@fuse.net*

Junior High Youth Ministry: This ministry is open to all seventh and eighth grade students of St. John the Baptist Parish. Currently, the group is looking for a core group of parents to lead its efforts. If interested in serving, please contact Pat Crowder at 385-8010.

Garden Group: The Garden Group works to make our facility beautiful and welcoming. Gardening is done around the school, cemetery, church, and the pastor's house. The group works mainly on Tuesday mornings and Saturday mornings at 9:30. *Contact: Mary Ann Bowling (874-3749) and Carolyn Engel (741-7406).*

Catholic Youth Organization (CYO): This group provides the parish youth with the opportunity to participate in athletic activities. Students attending St. John's School or the Summer Religious Education Program are eligible for participation. *Contact: Rich Wessler (825-1979).*

Athletic Boosters: The St. John-Bevis Athletic Boosters serves boys and girls, regardless of race, color, or creed, in the St. John's Parish and the greater Bevis geographical areas. Its programs cover baseball, softball, basketball, and soccer. *Contact: Rich Wessler (825-1979).*

Scouting: The scouting organization of St. John's is active in four arenas: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Brownies. The scouting program at St. John's helps young boys and girls grow into good and moral citizens. *Boy Scouts Contact: Ed Fisher (385-8058); Girl Scouts Contact: Beth Hassel (741-1303).*

Liturgical Dancers: The Liturgical Dancers ministry is an opportunity for young teens to participate in worship services. It is also a chance for the parish community to experience a new way to praise God. *Contact: Mary Lou Veerkamp (385-6062).*

Performing Arts Troupe: Open to the youth of the parish, this group puts on theatrical performances throughout the year. *Contact: Nancy Huey (741-4178).*

Foresters: The Foresters promote family activities and youth activities. They meet on the second Thursday of each month from 8:00-10:00 p.m. in the cafeteria, and sponsor various events throughout the year. *Contact: Nick Severt (245-9029).*

Seniors' Group: All mature parishioners are welcome to come to the Seniors Group to have fun, visit, and enjoy one another's company. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the Church Gathering Space. *Contact: Mary Lou Veerkamp (385-6062).*

Women's Familia: Women's Familia offers mothers of all ages the opportunity, in a small group setting, to listen and learn what the church teaches, reflect on the gospel, and study the Catechism of the Catholic Church regarding the sacrament of marriage, the dignity of women, and the family. *Contact: Machell Kroner (741-9994).*

Men's Familia: The Men's Familia group fosters growth in awareness of our Catholic faith and in so doing, brings us into closer relationship with God and a more enriching relationship with our wives and children. *Contact: Mike Middendorf (851-6105).*

Splendor of Love: Splendor of Love is an apostolate program of the Regnum Christi movement for

married couples who desire to grow in their understanding of marriage and the family from a Catholic perspective and in their understanding of the relationship between contemporary society and the family. Couples meet monthly to pray, reflect on the Gospel, and discuss John Paul II's Theology of the Body. *Contact: Nellie Jung (737-2185).*

Challenge: The Challenge Ministry is a network of clubs and camps for girls. The ministry is girls ages 10 – 16, and helps them form a friendship with Christ. *Contact: Nisrene Langenbrunner (245-0509).*

Annual Parish Events

Parish Family Picnic: The Parish Family Picnic is an annual event held at Stricker's Grove, a near-by amusement park, on a weekday evening in June. *Contact: Pat Crowder, Pastoral Associate/DRE (385-6239).*

St. John's Day Celebration: This is an annual event to celebrate the feast of our parish patron, St. John the Baptist. It takes place on the grounds in front of the church on a Sunday afternoon close to the feast day (June 24). *Contact: David Kissell, Development Director (385-8010).*

Annual Spaghetti Dinner: This is a family event sponsored by the Pastoral Staff. The dinner is held on a Sunday evening in the fall, usually in October. *Contact: Pat Crowder, Pastoral Associate/DRE (385-6239).*

Breakfast in Bethlehem: This is a PTO-sponsored Advent celebration. The day begins with prayer, and then the group travels to "Bethlehem" (the cafeteria). Breakfast is served, along with singing, crafts, story telling, and a theatrical re-enactment of Joseph and Mary's journey to Bethlehem. *Contact: Janet Lees (385-8452).*

Festival: The parish holds an annual festival (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) on the weekend of the third Sunday in August. Proceeds from the festival provide a portion of the parish income for the year. *Contact: John & Missy Bick, Chair (255-7489).*