

On Eagle's Wings

July, 2011



St. John
the Evangelist
Catholic Church



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Once again it is that time of the year when we are gearing up for our Parish Family Festival. What a great time of the year. So many people have been working behind the scenes to get everything in place so we can have a successful festival. I believe this is one of the times we can shine as a parish. To make the weekend a great one we need lots of hands to make everything run smoothly. There are many needs from set-up to volunteering in one of the booths, to clean-up to tear down on Sunday night. I am so amazed to see so many people giving of their time for the good of our parish family.

You may be the only thing missing from the picture. Perhaps this is the year for you to step up and lend a helping hand. I am grateful to all parishioners who work the festival! It creates a wonderful sense of ownership in the parish. I spend a lot of time on the grounds during the festival and always manage to spend my fair share while I am there. For me it is great to make connections with people, share some laughs and of course great food. There a few new things this year that definitely have gotten my attention. See me during the festival and I will tell you which ones they are.

I am starting my fourth year here at St. John and I keep wondering where the time has gone. This also begins my first year as your Pastor. I have been blessed in so many ways here at St. John. I am truly humbled by the Archbishop naming me to shepherd this wonderful parish. I will be the best I can be for the good of this parish family. We have so many hard working and active parishioners at St. John. So many of the people that serve on the Festival Committee or volunteer during the festival are also the people that you see involved in our many ministries throughout the year. We continue to have great people step up time and time again to show the face of Christ to others around us.

So it is time to get ready for the festival! Buy those chances, sign up to help during the weekend, buy those early tickets for the baskets and most importantly, pray for good weather. God bless each of you as you go through your summer. The parish doesn't take the summer off - we are still here and there is always room at the table for liturgy. We are just not the same when you are not with us. We are all the Body of Christ and we are called to witness that in the world. Thank you for your support and see you at the festival. Have an awesome month!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Doug". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Parish Festival Time!



From the Business Manager

There is only one possible message from me to you this month. Get out there and volunteer, donate or attend our annual Parish Festival! Your support is critical to its success. We are so thankful to all of our parishioners and friends who help to make our festival one of the best in the area! See you on August 5th, 6th and 7th!

Kathy Mack

School Supply Collection for Reach Out Lakota and Campton

July 16/17, 2011 (Truck in Church Lot)



We will be collecting school supplies before and after all Masses on July 16 and 17 for Reach Out Lakota and the Campton Mission.

Items needed include loose-leaf paper, spiral notebooks, colored and regular pencils and pencil boxes, folders, pens, glue sticks, composition notebooks, tissues, backpacks, scissors, erasers, washable markers, watercolor paints, dry erase markers and hand sanitizer. If you have any questions, please contact Jerry Barney at jbarney@stjohnwc.org.

Mission for St. Leo the Great

July 23/24

During all of the Masses on the weekend of July 23/24, we will hear Father Jim Schutte speak about his parish, St. Leo the Great. St. Leo serves their poor urban neighborhood of Cincinnati in many ways. Not only are they a wonderful Catholic Parish, but they provide many needed services to their community. They run a busy food pantry, have Masses in other languages, provide an active English as a Second Language program and serve many refugees who come to Cincinnati seeking peace and stability in their lives. As a matter of fact, Father Daniel, who is here from Tanzania serves as an interpreter and counselor to refugees from Burundi who are part of the St. Leo Parish. St. John has a history of providing support to St. Leo Parish. I know you will enjoy hearing from Father Jim and I hope you will prayerfully consider giving to Saint Leo the Great this year.

We Want to Listen to You!



Pastor Don West, the Pastoral Staff and Council at St. John want to hear what you have to say about how we function as a parish and how we should prepare to move into the future! These "Listening Sessions" are for parishioners who want to help guide their parish into the next phase of its life. It is important to hear what you have to say! At the Listening Sessions, you will break into working groups to discuss several key questions. Then, the groups will come back together to present their ideas to Father Don and the other groups. We only need a couple of hours of your time! The dates of the Listening Sessions will be:

August 15, 23, 31 and September 8

7-9pm in Favret Hall

In order to register for one of the sessions, please email Joan Seibenick at jseibenick@stjohnwc.org. Thank you so much for your time and input. The future of our parish depends on the input from parishioners like you!



It's Time to Register Your Children for 2011-2012 Religious Education Opportunities

PSR - Our Parish School of Religion classes meet from 6:15-7:30 on either Tuesday or Wednesday evenings during the school year. As of May 1, the fee is \$70 per child. Forms are available in the parish office or online.

Early Childhood Program - Our "Sunday School" program for children ages 3 through Kindergarten (as of September 30) meets during the 9:30am Mass on Sundays from the end of September through April in the Education Center. Early bird registration (\$60) ends May 31st. As of June 1, the fee will be \$70 per child. Forms are available in the parish office and online.

Volunteering! We rely on our volunteers in order to put on all of our Religious Education Programs. If you would like to learn how you can help, please contact Barb Conway or Sharon Miller in our parish office at 777-6433 or bconway@stjohnwc.org or smiller@stjohnwc.org. There are many ways to help!



The Faith Formation of your children is in your hands! We are here to help! Call the Parish Office if you have any questions about your children's Faith Formation!

CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH *****SAVE THE DATES*****

Women's Weekend – September 17-18, 2011, Men's Weekend – January 28-29, 2012



YOU have a wonderful opportunity available to help build upon YOUR Christian faith and contribute to the Spiritual Growth of our St. John's community by attending a two-day program called Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP!

The CRHP weekend is held on St. John's church grounds. The program begins at 8:30 a.m. Saturday and ends around 4:00 p.m. Sunday. Women and men over 21 years old are invited to attend. All are welcome, no matter where YOU are on YOUR spiritual journey. The CRHP weekend provides opportunities for private and communal prayer. A Reconciliation Service and Celebration of the Eucharist are included for those wishing to participate. The entire weekend is mostly very casual and relaxing. YOU will meet new people, reflect on YOUR life and have a chance to slow down and enjoy a bounty of delicious food. There is no cost for the participants to attend the weekend. The renewal weekend is a GIFT to YOU from the parish and the CRHP giving team. It is a GIFT that YOU give yourselves so that GOD can give YOU new life.

For more information, please contact either Lorraine Benson, the Invitation Coordinator for Women's CRHP Team 33 at (513) 755-9176 or blapo@fuse.net, or Scott Steinke, the St. John CRHP Coordinator at (513) 777-6433 or ssteinke@stjohnwc.org.



St. John the Evangelist

FAMILY FESTIVAL

August 5-6-7, 2011

Friday,
August 5
6pm-12am

Saturday,
August 6
5pm - 12am

Sunday,
August 7
4pm - 10pm

BASKETS:

You can be a part of the Basket Bonanza Booth by contributing a gift item or gift certificate that helps create themed baskets. Don't know what to get? Our designers will do the shopping for you. You can drop off all donations at the church weekday or weekend office. Be sure to indicate that they are for the Basket Bonanza Booth. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Paige Schehr at schehrs@yahoo.com. Thanks!



We Have It All !!

- Basket Bonanza - the BEST in town!
- Major Award Raffle (New Car or \$10,000 Cash)
- Live Music Nightly
- Great Food - pulled pork, pizza, tacos and lots more!
- Fun Rides for the Kids
- Children's Games - Funky Monkey, Plinko, Duck Pond, Ring Toss, etc.
- 18+ Games - Cards, Racing, Bars and Bells, etc.
- Huge Silent Auction

VOLUNTEERS:

Help Wanted! Our festival has always been a success because of YOU! We need volunteers to assist with pre-event setup, working the booths during the festival, nightly clean-up and final tear-down. Give just two hours (or more if you are able) and we'll give you an experience to remember. Great fun, great people, great food. Please sign up online! Go to our parish website, click on the link and then select the booth you'd like to work and enter your contact information and the date/time of your choice. If you are 16 or under, include your age after your name so the booth captain can plan to have an adult in the booth as well. If you don't have web access, feel free to contact our volunteer coordinators, Joan Seibenick (jseibenick@stjohnwc.org) or Sharon Hall (ssajh@aol.com). Thanks for your help!



MAJOR AWARDS:

Grand Prize: 2011 Hyundai Elantra 4-Door Sedan from Columbia Hyundai/Acura or \$10,000 Cash!

2nd Prize: \$1,000 Cash

3rd Prize: \$500 Cash

Tickets are \$5 each or 6 for \$25!



Live Music!
Friday - DV8 Band
Saturday - The Remains Band
Sunday - Band tbd

The early bird drawings with a prize of \$250 will be held on Monday, June 27th and Monday, July 25th. Buy your tickets now to be eligible for these drawings! Tickets for purchase will be mailed to parishioners. Or, feel free to stop by the parish office to buy your tickets today!

BOOTH SPONSORSHIP:

Do you own a business or are you a professional in or around West Chester? We have a great way for you to advertise your business to thousands of locals while also helping your parish. Become a Booth Sponsor! Each year, the St. John Family Festival is known for its great food, fun games and exciting prizes! In order to defray the expenses of putting on our festival, we ask local business professionals to help sponsor the festival by advertising at the festival. We have four levels of sponsorship, starting at \$150, to meet your needs and budget. Contact Joel Sodano at joelsodano@yahoo.com for more details. Thanks for your support and we'll see you at the festival!



SILENT AUCTION:

Our 4,000 square foot booth is packed with hundreds of new and pre-owned treasures located in both the Pavilion and the outdoor tent. Help the Silent Auction by donating your items now! Most household items are accepted, including appliances and furniture. (We can't take computers, monitors, old non-hdtv televisions, exercise equipment, mattresses, organs or clothing.) Dropoffs will be accepted at the Parish Education Center from 12:30-3PM on Sunday June 26, July 10, July 17 and July 24. Please contact our Silent Auction Co-Chair, Michelle Coughlin at meech@errick.net or 755-6589 for more information or to make arrangements.



Parish Festival - Major Award Raffle

It is that time of the year again! Mark your calendars for our Family Festival on August 5th, 6th and 7th. This is one of the most productive fund raisers that our parish has all year and one of the best family events of the summer. It is exciting to have such a great family event and large fund raiser all rolled into one good time. Keeping the fund raising in mind, let's talk about the Major Awards Raffle! Our prizes this year include:



- Grand Prize: 2011 Hyundai Elantra 4-Door Sedan from Columbia Hyundai/Acura or \$10,000 Cash
- 2nd Prize: \$1,000 Cash
- 3rd Prize: \$500 Cash

Additional tickets may be purchased after Masses, at the church office or during the festival. There are two Early Bird Drawings. One was on Junen 27th and the other will be on July 25th. Tickets received by July 24th will be included in the second Early Bird Drawing. The lucky winners will receive \$250 cash!

Parish Festival - August 5-6-7, 2011

We would like to thank the following local businesses for supporting our 2011 St. John Family Festival Silent Auction. If you would like to become part of this growing list of donors, please feel free to contact Nancy Ward at saintjohnfestival@yahoo.com. We would love to see your business' name added!

Gold Merchants - donations over \$300 in value

- Advanced Sports Marketing
- Cassinelli Shanker & Biddle Orthodontists
- Community Montessori School
- Hyland Family Chiropractic
- Jag's Steak and Seafood
- McDonald's - Liberty Centre & Tylersville
- R.J. Rice Photography

Silver Merchants - donations \$100-\$299 in value

- Bob Sumerel Tire & Service
- Buckner Martial Arts
- Children's Garden Photography
- Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park
- Cincinnati Reds
- Curves
- Dave Gold
- Hairvantage
- Hampton Inn & Suites
- Kutney Automotive/GoodYear
- Liberty Veterinary Hospital
- Mason Family Pet Hospital
- Portrait Innovations
- Riley's Furniture.com
- Teasdale Fenton
- The Little Gym
- Usana Health Sciences - Katie Hoffman
- Vonderhaar's Catering, Inc.

Bronze Sponsors Donations up to \$100

- A Book Nook
- Ambience Salon Spa
- Arby's
- Bruster's Real Ice Cream
- Cincinnati Landmark Productions
- Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
- Creative Memories - Nancy Ward
- Domino's Pizza
- Donatos Pizza
- Flower Lady
- Glamour Shots
- Graeter's Ice Cream
- Hamilton County Park District
- Harding's Lake Monroe
- Jet's Pizza
- Lakota Family Y.M.C.A.
- Martinizing Dry Cleaning - 747
- Mike's Express Carwash
- Mindful Wellness Massage and Bodywork
- Monster Mini-Golf
- Nancy's Hallmark
- P.F. Changs
- Paint-n-Play
- Pampered Chef - Nancy Ward
- Petals & Things Florist
- Prestige Nails & Tans, Inc
- Skatetown USA
- Skyline Chili - 747
- Smash Burger
- Sonic Drive-in
- Statements in Hair
- The Web
- Tire Discounters
- UDF, Corp.





A Sense of Belonging

"It's summer time and the living is easy!" These words from a classic old song don't really ring true anymore. Our lives just do not seem to slow down to a relaxing pace.

One of our needs to be a happy, fulfilled person is a sense of belonging, we desire it for ourselves and for our loved ones. Parents especially want a child to be known and loved by others: family, church community, school and possibly neighborhood. How does a feeling of belonging happen? Part of the answer to the question is participation, giving of time and effort for something or someone beside ourselves. Giving this gift of oneself to our parish is what forms a church community.

Here at St. John there are so many ways to give and develop a sense of belonging. For our children and young adults the many avenues of faith formation are great ways to not only grow in love and knowledge of Jesus but to be a participating part of a community. Helping with the Parish Festival is a wonderful opportunity to serve and meet other members of the parish. It is a great community builder! It may add in a way to our hectic lifestyle, but what a reward! Let's enjoy the summer, the festival and growth in the Lord.

Barb Conway, Pastoral Associate for Children's Faith Formation



FESTIVAL SPONSORSHIP: Would you like to join the growing list of sponsors? Please contact Joel Sodano, Sponsorship Chairperson: joelsodano@yahoo.com or 885-1926.

St. John's Family Festival August 5-6-7, 2011

Platinum Sponsor - \$500

Cassinelli & Shanker Orthodontics
Mike's Car Wash
Mueller Parker Funeral Home
Schmidt, Dhonau, and Kucner Funeral Homes
West Chester Family Dentistry

Super Sponsor - \$250

IST International
Vonderhaar's Market and Catering

Sponsor- \$150

Donald Reisenberg CPA
Lakota Hills Animal Clinic
Newtown Farm Market
Phelan Insurance
Roth & Hassett CPAs
RTF Fire Protection
Schmidt Builders
Werling Roofing and Siding
West Chester Towing and Repair
Your Window Cleaning Company

Our Prayers & Sympathy Go Out To ...



MAY

Jim and Elaine Skelton on the death of their grandchild
Joseph DeBrunner on the death of his father
Collette Fischer on the death of her mother
Janet Berger on the death of her husband

www.stjohnwc.org

(513) 777-6433



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