

On Eagle's Wings

June, 2011



St. John
the Evangelist
Catholic Church

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"For on the night he was betrayed he himself took bread, and giving you thanks he said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take this, all of you, and eat of it: for this is my Body which will be given up for you. In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice, and giving you thanks he said the blessing, and gave the chalice to his disciples, saying: Take this, all of you, and drink from it: for this is the chalice of my Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant; which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in memory of me."
(Taken from the Third Edition of the Roman Missal)

I love the Eucharist! Whenever I get the chance to speak about it or comment on it I do. There are very few homilies that I give that do not have a strong reference to the Eucharist. It is the source and summit of our church.

I chose to begin this month's article with the words of institution that will be prayed from the Third Edition of the Roman Missal. Does it sound different? Yes it does. Why the change? We are getting a text that is closer to the original Latin and is more scripturally based. In many cases it is a richer language than we might be accustomed to. There are things that might take us out of our comfort zone. Some of us have been praying the Mass we celebrate for forty years. That is a long time to be praying the same way. Come Advent this year that

will all change. I believe the presider will be the one who experiences the most change; next will be the musicians and finally the people taking in this change in our Eucharistic experience.

But the changes to our text do not change what happens in our Eucharistic experience. What Jesus gave us at the Last Supper is still what we are called to be about in Mass. Jesus gave us his body and blood for our salvation. He loved us so much that he paid the ultimate sacrifice for our sins. When we gather as a people of faith and hear the words of remembering at Mass we are at once reminded in a profound way what Jesus passed on to us. As we come before the altar we humbly accept this most precious gift of Jesus; his body and blood. Our response is "Amen" which means "I believe." As Jesus comes into our lives we are forever changed. We become at one with the Lord in this special sacrament.

The Eucharist can never be taken for granted; it is a gift. If you find that you have been taking it for granted why not see the Eucharist with new eyes. Be grateful for what Jesus did for us and continues to for us. We are so lucky to have Jesus as our Lord and Savior. Why not find ways to let others know of the gift that is before us. Take time to appreciate the Eucharist. Jesus offers himself to us and we are called to respond. As we get closer to the Third Edition of the Roman Missal let remember it is all about the liturgy and about the Body and Blood of Jesus. Let us all pray for a smooth transition. God bless you all!

The Holy Eucharist



From the Business Manager

As you know, volunteers here at St. John have formed a St. Vincent de Paul Society. Their Mission Statement is: "Inspired by Gospel values, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a Catholic lay organization, leads women and men to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering in the tradition of its founder, Blessed Frederic Ozanam, and patron. St. Vincent de Paul."

This group is meeting regularly in preparation for their ministry. This new ministry is a continuation of the outreach ministry that has been a part of St. John Parish for many years. We have a long history for helping the poor in our area including parishioners. St. John's Reach Out Fund will be turned over to the St. Vincent de Paul Society to be able to continue this valuable ministry. The Parish will retain some funds to provide assistance when SVDP cannot or is not readily available.

I have been blessed to have been able to minister to those who need help when they experience financial difficulties. I will continue to work with the St. Vincent de Paul Society to support their ministry.



Budget season is in progress. We have capital expenses this year which includes a new roof for the Center, a large black top project and major repairs to the Church doors. The budget will also include many maintenance repairs and replacements due to the aging of our property. We continue to contain our costs and look for ways of generating income.

The Festival is a large part of our income, approximately \$140,000. To achieve this each year, we depend on many volunteers. Without volunteers, the Festival cannot be successful. Please consider being a booth captain or working in a booth. We need your help!! The Annual Budget needs your help. Happy Father's Day to all the dads in our parish and have a great June!

Kathy Mack

Pentecost Praise and Worship Services

Wednesday, June 8, and Thursday, June 9

7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in the Chapel



Pentecost

Please join us on one or both nights to pray, praise God, and hear wonderful speakers share their experiences of the Holy Spirit in their lives. Wednesday night will feature Jeanne Hunt, the charismatic presenter at our last Lenten Mission Retreat. Thursday night will feature testimonials from members of our own parish. This is a great opportunity to prepare for Pentecost and to grow in your own experience of the Holy Spirit. If you have questions, or need childcare during this event, contact Jerry Barney at 777-6433 or jbarney@stjohnwc.org for more information. We hope to see you there! Don't forget to wear RED.

Reminder! Annual School Supply Collection! Mark your calendars for the weekend of July 16/17. That is the weekend we will be collecting school supplies for Reach Out Lakota and the Campton Mission. More details will be available in the parish bulletin and in next month's Eagle's Wings.



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 - Dix-Z-Highway Band
Saturday - The Remains Band
Sunday - DV8 Band

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.



News from St. Gabriel Consolidated School June, 2011 - From Joe Epplen, Principal

Our Spring at St. Gabriel Consolidated School continues to be a time for showcase opportunities as well as student recognition. Annually, our 6th through 8th grade students are encouraged to participate in an architectural endeavor where they are exposed to an architectural theme, build on the theme and then judged by a certified architect. The most outstanding choices are displayed at the Main Public Library in downtown Cincinnati where they are judged further. This year's theme "Sacred Spaces" gave our students the insight to replicate sacred spaces in the downtown area. Churches, peace gardens and other unique spiritual places could be used for design. The following students, their recognition and areas of concentration are presented: Honorable Mention: Julie Lazonczyk, Ryan Laib, John Hendy, Justin Chess; Juror's Choice: Eric Yonchak; Master Craftsman Award: Lauren Pham, Emily Crowe, Meredith Karbowsky; Most Successful Use of Green Design Solutions: Catherine Ceccoli, Jane Honerlaw, Katherine Strecker; Future Architect Award: Franklin Cassidy; Most Creative Use of Materials: Alyssa Montgomery.

In mid-April we also had a very successful annual Grandparents Day. This day has evolved into a wonderful day for students in grades 2, 3 and 4 as over 200 grandparents began their day in the celebration of the liturgy with grandkids by their sides. Mass was followed by a musical presentation of songs sung, recorders played while accompanied by students who played a number of ORFF instruments recently purchased by our PTO. Grandparents had the opportunity then to visit classrooms where they participated in a number of activities including lessons on computers and smart boards and then relaxed with refreshments distributed by our 5th grade hosts and hostesses along with parent volunteers. We were also treated to a generous surprise as one of our grandparents offered up a generous donation of \$5,000.00 for our music program from the James Cox Family Foundation. We will certainly add additional instrumentation to our growing music program. As we close out the school year we are forever grateful for the opportunity to challenge students and for the gift of supportive parents and grandparents in our daily endeavors.

Parish Festival - August 5-6-7, 2011

The Festival Committee has been hard at work planning this summer's Parish Festival. Mark your calendar for the dates of the Festival this year: **August 5-6-7**. If you are interested in chairing a food or game booth, please contact Joan Seibenick at 777-6433 or jseibenick@stjohnwc.org. We would like to thank the following local businesses for already 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

Cassinelli Shanker & Biddle Orthodontists
Community Montessori School
Hyland Family Chiropractic
R.J. Rice Photography

Silver Merchants - donations \$100-\$300 in value

Buckner Martial Arts
Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park
Hairvantage
Hampton Inn & Suites
Liberty Veterinary Hospital
Portrait Innovations
Riley's Furniture.com
Teasdale Fenton
The Little Gym
Vonderhaar's Catering, Inc.

Bronze Merchants - donations up to \$100

Ambience Salon Spa
Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
Creative Memories - Nancy Ward
Domino's Pizza
Hamilton County Park District
Mike's Express Carwash
Mindful Wellness Massage and Bodywork
Pampered Chef - Nancy Ward
Skatetown USA
Skyline Chili - 747
Tire Discounters





A Reflection on the Eucharist

by Michael Dailey



When I graduated from the eighth grade, I stopped going to Mass regularly. I felt that it was boring, irrelevant to my life, and I felt that God was too big and too distant to care about me.

My attitude changed dramatically one day after an Old Testament class in my sophomore year of high school. Our teacher gave a lesson about the Israelites' encounter with God in the Book of Exodus that profoundly changed my life:

The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob – the God who created the Universe, the heavens and the earth, sea and sky, the God who is, who was and is to come – God gave Moses His name at the burning bush because He wanted the people to relate to Him and He to them. He gave them a promise – to free them from their slavery to Egypt so that they may worship the Lord in freedom. He who the world could not contain chose to be contained in the hearts of His people. (He expounded on this and began to relate it to Jesus.)

When God sent His only Son to us, the encounter with the divine became even more intimate. The Word became Flesh. His Son gave his life at Calvary so that we might be saved from death. He gives us his Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity so that we might be united with him in his Life, Death and Resurrection. The God who is, who was and is to come, offers Himself to us in Bread and Wine so that we may dwell with him for all eternity.

That lesson lit a fire underneath me to go back to church. The weekend after that lesson, I went to a Sunday evening Mass. The communion hymn was Gift of Finest Wheat. Here is the text of the fourth verse: "The mystery of your presence, Lord, no mortal tongue can tell; whom all the world cannot contain comes in our hearts to dwell." Needless to say, I started going to back church regularly!

The Eucharist is first and foremost about God's love and care for us – as a chosen people and as individuals whom he calls as his own. The Word becomes Flesh as the Scriptures are read, bread and wine are transformed, and we receive Jesus' Body and Blood. God loves us and wants us to dwell with Him for all eternity. He invites us to join

Campton Mission Trip

June 22-25

Every summer, dozens of our high schoolers travel to Campton, Kentucky to put on a summer day camp for under-privileged youngsters. This camp has proven to be a moving and meaningful experience for our teens. If your high schooler is interested in joining us for the camp this year, please contact Debbie Kreiner at dkreiner@stjohnwc.org or call 777-6433.

Changes to the New Roman Missal

Beginning this Advent, we will see many changes to the wording of our Mass due to the implementation of the New Roman Missal. We have been including information about these changes in the weekly bulletins at least one to two times per month. To view all of these inserts, go to the "New Roman Missal" link on the left side of our parish website at www.stjohnwc.org. Here are the article titles: "Answers to Questions You May Have"; "How Does the Liturgy Shape Our Lives"; "Liturgical Participation" and "Praying the Mass with Body, Mind and Voice". If you have any questions about these changes, feel free to contact Scott Steinke in the parish office at 777-6433.

Our Prayers & Sympathy Go Out To ...



APRIL

Jim Nowicki on the death of his sister
Dorothy Green on the death of her son
Ian Hopkins on the death of his mother

MAY

Maureen Hanekamp on the death of her husband Dr. John Hanekamp
Darlene Hunkler on the death of her father
The Shelley family on the death of Raymond Shelley Sr.
Doug Davis on the death of his father

www.stjohnwc.org

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