

# On Eagle's Wings

May, 2011



St. John  
the Evangelist  
Catholic Church

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The month of May always brings thoughts of May Crowning. I remember when I was in junior high, back then it was just called the seventh and eighth grade, trying out for the choir. Being a chosen a choir member meant singing at all the "special liturgies." One of those special liturgies was May Crowning.

I was selected as a member of the choir as I had a pretty nice voice back then and I could reach the high notes for four part harmony. I was honored to be able to be with the choir both my 7th and 8th grade. The last celebration that I sang with the choir was during my 8th grade year. It was a warm sunny day and everyone was dressed up for the ceremony. It was a Sunday afternoon a perfect day for the occasion. The song that I will always remember is "Salve Regina" a simply beautiful hymn. The choir never sounded better than they did that day.

Mary was always important in my grade school. We always had to put JMJ on our papers (Jesus, Mary and Joseph). Most every class started with an Our Father, a Hail Mary, and a Glory Be. The sisters of Charity who taught at the school always witnessed a deep love for Jesus' mother, Mary. She is a woman who really models to us what faith and trust are

all about. Mary's profound "YES" when the angel Gabriel came to her, brought to her a life that was filled with great joy and sorrow, but it was a life always focused on doing the will of God.

Mary is our mother. She watches over us and cares for us as only a mother can. Mary was given to us by Jesus, to care for us as she cared for him. From heaven she still watches over us and tries to protect us from the evil in the world. May was a special month when I was younger, but the honor for Mary has never gone away. Her role in bringing the savior into the world is something to remember and honor her for. Mary's simple yes began the final chapter of our salvation history. As we enter into this month of May, let us turn to Mary and let her know how grateful we are for that yes. May she be a role model for us to respond to the will of the Father and what he has in mind for each of us. Mary is always ready to open her loving arms to bring comfort to us and to encourage us to follow her Son. What a gift we have in the Blessed Mother. What a great example of faith she shows us. Let us remember her this month. Perhaps it might be time to bring out the rosary and pray it. Just take time to find your "YES" to God.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Fa. [unclear]". The signature is enclosed in a simple oval border.

Mary, Mother of God



## From the Business Manager

In April, parishioners returned their annual Stewardship Forms, letting us know what activities and ministries they are interested in! But, it is never too late to turn in stewardship forms! You can drop your form at the parish office any time or you can even complete one online from our website [www.stjohnwc.org](http://www.stjohnwc.org) under "Parish Forms".

On March 30, we made a debt payment of \$34,000. This brings our debt balance down to \$381,000. Thank you to everyone who contributes to our debt reduction fund!

As many of you know, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati announced in April that Pope Benedict XVI has appointed the Rev. Joseph R. Binzer, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and pastor of St. Louis Church in downtown Cincinnati since 2003, the new Auxiliary Bishop of Cincinnati. An Auxiliary Bishop is a bishop assigned to a Catholic diocese or archdiocese to assist the diocesan bishop. Bishop-elect Binzer succeeded Bishop Moeddel as vicar general, a post he will retain as auxiliary bishop. He will be ordained to the episcopacy on June 9 at the Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains.

May you have a blessed month of May and I wish a very Happy Mother's Day to all of our moms!

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### Parish Festival Planning Has Begun! August 5-6-7, 2011

Spring has sprung and the Festival Committee has already been hard at work on 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](mailto:jseibenick@stjohnwc.org).

Silent Auction Donors - 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](mailto: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





## 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. Early bird registration ends on April 30th (\$60). As of May 1, the fee will be \$70 per child. Forms are available in the parish office or online.

**LORETO** - This is the parish's "home school" version of the Parish School of Religion. Students in grades 1-8 attend a two-week session during the summer (June 13-17 and 20-24) and 3 follow up sessions (two Generations of Faith events and one other short meeting) and this fulfills the year's PSR requirement. Deadline is May 1st and the fee is \$70 per child.

**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.

**Vacation Bible School** - A summer "fun week" for children entering Kindergarten through 5th grade. July 11-15, 2011 from 9:30-Noon in the Parish Center. Registration deadline is May 31 and the cost is \$10 per child.

**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](mailto:bconway@stjohnwc.org) or [smiller@stjohnwc.org](mailto:smiller@stjohnwc.org). There are many ways to help!

### First Eucharist Schedule 2011

May 7	First Eucharist Retreat
May 15	First Eucharist - 9:30 Mass
May 21	First Eucharist - 5:00 Mass
May 22	First Eucharist - 11:30 Mass
May 28	First Eucharist - 5:00 Mass
May 29	First Eucharist - 11:30 Mass



### YOUTH CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE 2011

May 1	Meeting #9.....Special Activity/Meeting/Pizza Party
May 8	NO MEETING..... Mother's Day
May 14	Saturday, Rehearsal, 10 AM at Church
	ALL CANDIDATES & SPONSORS MUST Attend
	5 PM Mass ~ Confirmation Celebration
	(Candidates be in Chapel at 4:30 PM.)



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!



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

St. Gabriel Consolidated School continues to receive recognition from a variety of sources. Our librarian, Gail Motz (an active St. John Parishioner), and her school library program, has been featured in the Winter/Spring, 2011 Newsletter of the Greater Cincinnati Chapter of the Catholic Library Association. Gail has spent the past 17 years encouraging young readers to enjoy the fruits of reading so that life long reading habits become part of their daily lives. The school continues to purchase grade appropriate high interest books for our children. Over the past three summers, Gail has opened the computer lab three times during the summer so that our young people have the opportunity to take tests for our Accelerated Reader Program. Typically 75-90 students show up for each of these opportunities in June, July and August.

Our school also continues to receive kudos for our Blue Ribbon Recognition. On April 11th, principal, Joe Epplen and Assistant Principal, Kerry Shelton, who authored the majority of the Blue Ribbon Application, were recognized by the State Department of Education for our Blue Ribbon designation. St. Gabriel Consolidated School was one of 50 private schools in the country and one of 18 schools in Ohio to receive this designation in the Fall of the 2010-2011 school year. We are grateful for the recognition received and thankful for the support given to us by the parents and parishes who send us students willing to be challenged by the rigor of course work and the relevance of materials presented to them. St. Gabriel Consolidated School, a 2010 Blue Ribbon School of Excellence continues to grow in academics as well as in the blessings God has given to us.

St. Gabriel Consolidated School ([www.stgabeschool.org](http://www.stgabeschool.org) or 513-771-5220)

### Welcome New Stephen Ministers!

Seven people have completed the fifty hours of training to be Stephen Ministers for our Parish. They are Mike Barker, Colleen Brown, Tom Kilgour, Debbie Pearson, Robin Reckers, Sue Stempky, and Stan Welling. The commissioning for the new Stephen Ministers will be at the 11:30am Mass on May 15. They, with other Stephen Ministers, have made a commitment to listen and offer Christ's love in a caring relation to any who are in need. Please welcome our new Ministers and if you know someone who could use a Stephen Minister contact Scott at 777-6433 ext 115.

### CRHP SAVE THE DATE

Ladies! Are you searching for a way to kick start or grow in your personal faith formation? The Christ Renews His Parish weekend retreat is for you! You deserve to spend 2 days focused on YOU and YOUR relationship with God. Mark your calendar! The next Women's weekend is **September 17/18, 2011**. For more information, contact Lorraine Benson at [blapo@fuse.net](mailto:blapo@fuse.net) or 755-9176.

### May Crowning - All Are Welcome!



The Ladies' Ministry of St. John May Crowning of the Blessed Mother will be **Tuesday, May 10, 11:30 AM in the St. John Chapel**. Please bring cut flowers for the vases. After the May Crowning, please come and share a lunch with us at Rafferty's on Floer Drive off Union Centre Blvd. For lunch reservations, please call Agnes Biehle at 777-6007 or Mary Hack at 777-6426 by May 9. We hope to see you there!



## Career Path Ministry

### Free Job Seeking Skills Training Program

Thursdays, May 5-June 9, Favret Hall - 6-8PM

Career Path Ministry will offer six sessions to run one night per week focusing on the following areas important for "job seekers": self esteem and careers, job search planning, resume writing skills, applications and behavioral question interviews, interviewing skills, and the sixth session is open to participant's questions and review. These classes are free and open to anyone interested. The meetings are conducted by HR volunteers from our parish and will be held on Thursday nights 6:00PM-8PM. Program dates are May 5 (RMs D & E): May 12, 19, 26, June 2, 9, 2011 at Favret Hall, South Wing. For further information contact Terry Wurst at 779-7578, Marianne Fernandes at marianne\_fernandes@trihealth.com or Jerry Barney at 777-6433, x121.

## God's Gardeners - Spring Spruce Up



We are in need of volunteers to help out on **Saturday, May 7th beginning at 9am**. The generous gift of your time can save the church thousands of dollars in landscaping costs! We will meet in front of the church at 9AM for a light breakfast. We eat before we dig our hands into God's green earth! Be sure to bring wheelbarrows, shovels, gloves and other gardening equipment that you have. In the case of heavy rain, our rain date will be Saturday, May 14th (same time/place). If you want to volunteer or have any questions, please contact Kirt Robb at 777-6433 or [krobb@stjohnwc.org](mailto:krobb@stjohnwc.org). THANK YOU for your time and assistance!



## God's Loving Cup! WOMEN OF THE WORD

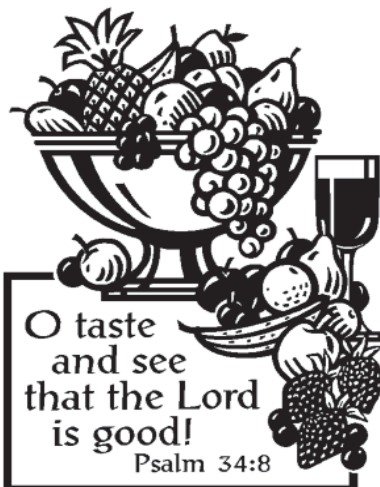


*Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord!*

*Come Let God WOW You - AGAIN!  
Friday, May 6, 2011, 6:30pm-10:00pm  
St. John the Evangelist Favret Hall*

*Light Dinner and Dessert Served  
\$10 per Person*

*We are saving a place for you!  
However, space is limited, so please  
RSVP ASAP by Monday, May 2nd to  
Joanne McClain 265-3162 or [wow.rsvp@yahoo.com](mailto:wow.rsvp@yahoo.com)*



*O taste  
and see  
that the Lord  
is good!  
Psalm 34:8*

# WOW XI



## Thank You From the Youth and Teen Choirs

Dear St. John's Parishioners,

A big thank you to you for letting the Youth and Teen Choirs visit Washington D.C. for the Pueri Cantores Festival. It was an amazing experience that we will never forget. Seeing all of those monuments (and the marvelous hotel) was worth the eleven hour bus ride and the lengthy practice at the Cathedral. Speaking of St. Matthews Cathedral, it was a remarkable place to be able to sing. The architecture was delightful. One of our chaperones made us learn facts about the famous Cathedral. Several are: The funeral Mass for President Kennedy was held there; the dome of the building is over 35 tall, it was named after Saint Matthew or my fact, it is located in Washington D.C. Overall, the Mass was fantastic.

After the Mass, the Teen Choir got to go to Hard Rock Café for dinner. Following our meal, the Teen Choir rode the Metro Train. It is worth telling about because it was a thrilling experience (and it made walking to the Lincoln Memorial a little easier). The monuments at night time were beautiful. Not to get all sappy, but the way the National Mall glistened by the city light was stunning. When you're at the Lincoln Memorial, all you want to do is scale the statue and sit on his lap.

The next day, we skipped seeing the Smithsonian to see something bigger. The White House! I am not talking about Lincoln's Waffle Shop, which just happens to be white. I am talking about the actual house where the president lives and the one with all the snipers on the roof. It was a once and a life time experience to actually tour the White House garden. Since we are technically still children, we took a picture of all of us acting like ninjas with the White House in the background. Another Experience not everyone can say they have done is to be able to sing at the White House. Both Choirs sang "America the Beautiful" on the South Lawn. It sounded pretty good, except for some pretty pitchy chaperones.

I just want to thank you again for letting all of these memories flow through our minds. Seeing the Cathedral, the monuments and the White House all are so overwhelming to do in one weekend, but it was worth it.

**With Thanks, Samantha E. and the Teen and Youth Choirs**



**Pentecost**

## Pentecost Praise and Worship Services

Wednesday, June 8, and Thursday, June 9

7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in the Chapel

Please join us on one or both nights to pray, praise God, and hear from some of our own parishioners RE: their experience of the Holy Spirit in their lives. 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](mailto:jbarney@stjohnwc.org) for more information. We hope to see you there! Don't forget to wear red.

## Stewardship 2011 Change Our Hearts, Oh Lord!

This year's stewardship forms were mailed in mid-March. The forms can be returned to Mass on the weekend of April 2/3 (or dropped at the church office any time). This spring, we will focus on only Time and Talent and we will have our annual financial campaign in September. Please prayerfully consider how you can contribute to you parish community through the gifts of your time and talent. Forms can be completed and returned to the Parish Office any time. The form is also available for completion online!





## “Change Our Hearts” Adult Faith Formation Opportunities for May, 2011

### **An Introduction to the New Roman Missal: Why the change? What is it?**

**Wednesday, May 4, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**

Our speaker is Jeremy Helmes, Pastoral Associate for Music and Liturgy at St. Max church. Jeremy has an M.A. in Theology degree and serves on the Archdiocesan committee charged with implementing the New Roman Missal for our Archdiocese.

### **Catholics Returning Home**

**Wednesdays, from 7 – 9 pm, April 27 through May 25.**

**St. John - Staff Conference Room (basement of Favret Hall)**

Do you know someone who has drifted away from the Church? Most of us don't have to look very far to find non-practicing Catholics in our circle of family and friends. Many of us are concerned about these loved ones, but we don't know how to help them. Obviously, most of them are searching, but how can we help them find their way home? As baptized, practicing Catholics, we have a precious gift of faith and love from the Lord that needs to be shared with our non-practicing brothers and sisters. First, we need to pray for them. Next, we need to extend a personal invitation to them to come home to the Catholic Church. Most are just waiting for an invitation to return – mistakenly, they think they've been excommunicated and are not welcome to return for a variety of reasons. Are negative feelings toward the Church or its members keeping our brothers and sisters away? Many carry with them a tremendous amount of guilt and misinformation about the Church and are afraid of approaching the Church for fear of being rejected. You can make a dramatic difference in someone's life simply by reaching out to them and telling them that we miss them and want them to come home to our Church family. Please note: You do not have to attend each session. For more information contact Deacon Jerry Barney at 777-6433, ext 121 or [jbarney@stjohnwc.org](mailto:jbarney@stjohnwc.org).

### **Adult Confirmation Celebration**

Adult Confirmandi will be confirmed into their Catholic faith at the 9:30am Mass on Sunday, June 12. Please pray for our Confirmandi as they prepare for the celebration of this sacrament.



### **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 underprivileged 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](mailto:dkreiner@stjohnwc.org) or if you would like to join us as an adult chaperone, please contact Jerry Barney at [jbarney@stjohnwc.org](mailto:jbarney@stjohnwc.org) or call 777-6433.

# Our Prayers & Sympathy Go Out To ...



## MARCH

Karen Barnes on the death of her mother  
Carol Lucidi on the death of her husband Robert  
The uncle of Rocco Baldasare  
The brother-in-law of Debra Tetzloff  
Rachelle Ward on the death of her husband Todd  
Kristi & Kara Ward on the death of their father

## APRIL

Brittney Ruppert on the death of her fiancé'  
John Rider on the death of his uncle  
The Weisbrod family on the death of John Weisbrod Sr.  
The Junker family on the death of William Junker  
Julie Brankamp on the death of her uncle  
Angela Farris on the death of her mother Betty

[www.stjohnwc.org](http://www.stjohnwc.org)

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