

September, 2010

On Eagle's Wings

## Faith Formation

"I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to the infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will." (Matthew 11:25-26 NRS)

I love these two verses from Matthew's gospel. I look to them when I think I am getting a bit too smart for my own good. But as I reflect on these two verses today I am struck how much we are like the infants that Jesus refers to in this passage. There is a simple truth of who Jesus is and what he offers us. It doesn't take a lot of super intelligence; it takes the mere child-like response to the will of the Father.

When have we allowed ourselves time to be child-like before the Lord? When have we sat at the feet of the Lord and listened to what he has to say to us? Or do we think we have become too wise and intelligent and feel we already have all the answers? Maybe we need to set aside some time to sit before the Lord and allow him to touch our hearts with his loving wisdom. Simple is always better when it comes to our relationship with God. We are the ones who seem to make it more difficult than it really is.

As we begin a new school year, why don't we make plans to learn more about our faith; our relationship with God. In this issue you will find the upcoming opportunities for Adult Faith Formation for the year. Why not pick out one, two, three or more programs and make it a point to attend.

When we are open for new things to learn about our relationship with God, the gifts can be endless for us. We are indeed "infants" longing to be nurtured by an all-loving, all-giving, all-knowing God who wants so deeply to be a part of our life. Try not to get in the way of the Lord teaching you what it is he has planned for you.

Ongoing Faith Formation

*In Ula*





# From the Business Manager

The festival was a success again this year. The weather was great! Fun was had by all! .Financially, the weekend results were better than last year. It's too soon to know exactly what the bottom line will be after all the bills are paid. We are so grateful for all the volunteers and committee members. The following emails from volunteers say it all.

From Joel Sodano, Festival Committee Member: *"Wow! I think it took me until today to fully recover but I feel GREAT now! What an awesome job we all did. It's fantastic working with such a hard working and dedicated team. Despite all the hard work, everyone always had a smile on their face. When a radio message came out for help there were more people jumping to help than was needed. Our efforts this past weekend and this past year really demonstrate what a powerful team we are. When I first joined the committee, I thought the measurement of success was financial. I realize now that it's much more than that. Our festival touched many of our parishioners. So many folks stepped up to help us out and really enjoyed doing it. We build a sense of community across all of St. John that few other ministries and organizations can duplicate. That's a powerful thing and I'm glad that I was part of it. It's also not bad that our festival was a financial success too. I wanted to give you all an update on sponsorships. We hit a new record. We've got pledged almost \$9,000. The previous high was \$8,400. I'd like to ask you for one more favor. During the course of this year, if you see these sponsors, please thank them for their support. If you need a new dentist, consider one of our sponsors. If you need car care, consider one of our sponsors. If you need any service provided by one of our sponsors, consider using them. When you do, tell them you saw them at the St. John Festival. Thanks again!"*

From Sue Hare, Festival Committee Member: *"I certainly agree with your sentiments, Joel. In fact, I think the major reason that we are so successful financially is because the festival runs in such a way to promote community. The wide variety of entertainment, games and food (at reasonable prices), the wonderful baskets and the copious amounts of silent auction items all draw people in – but it is what happens when they get to the festival that makes the difference. Somehow a culture of family has always permeated this festival, such that even folks from out of town or out of the parish feel like they belong. I can't say how this feeling of belonging may result, but I think it is, at least in part, that the committee and volunteers genuinely desire for the people at the festival to enjoy themselves – not just spend their money. Very few issues that we see as insiders are visible to the attendees because of the organization, dedication and response of the committee members and volunteers. Great job everyone!"*

The CMA (Catholic Ministries Appeal) results for this year are in. Our goal this year was \$46,483.00. The amount our parish pledged is \$33,910.71.

Dottie Barker has chaired the Annual Craft Show for the last several years. Dottie has informed us that after this year's craft show, she will be moving on to other volunteer positions. A HUGE thank you goes out to Dottie for all that she has done in making our Craft Show one of the best in the area! If you are interested in chairing this event, please call the parish office. We would love to have someone in place this year to shadow Dottie. Thank you!

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## Register for 2010-2011 Parish School of Religion Classes Now!

PSR begins on Tuesday, September 14 and Wednesday, September 15th. Parish School of Religion classes for grades 1 through 8 are from 6:15 until 7:30 on Tuesday or Wednesday evenings during the school year. Register now online or by picking up a registration form at church or in the parish office. Teachers and Assistant Teachers are also needed for PSR. Please contact Jodie Bender at [jbender@stjohnwc.org](mailto:jbender@stjohnwc.org) or 755-4974 for more information. We'll see you in September!



## Thank you to our 2010 Festival Silent Auction Donors!

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Many thanks to the local businesses and organizations who have generously donated to the 2010 Silent Auction! Please thank these businesses with your patronage, and be sure to thank them for their donation when you visit!

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### Justice for Immigrants: a Journey of Hope



The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and Archbishop Schnurr have asked Catholics to prayerfully consider signing a pledge card and mailing it to Congress calling for the humane reform of immigration laws. The pledge card reads: "I am a concerned constituent and agree with the U.S. Catholic bishops that the U.S. immigration reform legislations that keeps immigrant families together, adopts smart and humane enforcement policies, and ensures that immigrants without legal status register with the government and begin a path toward citizenship. Our families and communities cannot wait!" The option to sign and mail the pledge cards will be after all masses the weekend of September 18 and 19 in the Gathering Space.



## News from St. Gabriel Consolidated School September, 2010 - From Joe Epplen, Principal

Every six years, every Catholic School in Ohio goes through an accreditation renewal process which is organized through the Ohio Catholic School Accrediting Association. St. Gabriel Consolidated School will have this opportunity during the 2010-2011 school year.

This process enables our school to self reflect on our goals and mission while gaining input from all of our stakeholders – students, parents, staff and community. Most of our internal study occurred during the 2009-2010 school year by using a variety of staff teams, surveys and interviews to enable us to look at our strengths and shortcomings as well as to do some visioning for future goals and programs.

During the winter of 2010-2011 an external team of school administrators chaired by a person from another diocese in Ohio will spend two days at the school to observe, review printed materials and interview staff, students and parents to be sure that our goals are authentic and that we are in concert with the mission of our school.

At the conclusion of this exercise, we hope to be accredited for the next six years. We look forward to this undertaking and thankful for the opportunity to show the visiting team “our best practices.”

Joe Epplen, Principal

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

### Christ Renews His Parish

Women's Weekend - September 18-19, 2010

Men's Weekend - January 29-30, 2011



We are offering you an opportunity to increase your Christian Faith and contribute to the Spiritual Growth of the St. John community by attending a two-day weekend program called Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP). Both Weekends will be held on Church grounds, mainly in Favret Center. The weekend begins at 8:30am Saturday and ends around 4:00pm Sunday. Women and men over 18 years old are invited to attend. All are welcome, no matter where you are on your spiritual journey. CRHP is an ongoing process for personal renewal that results in the renewal of the parish community. There are opportunities for private and communal prayer. A Reconciliation Service and Celebration of the Eucharist are included. Mostly, the entire weekend is very casual and relaxing. You will meet new people, reflect on your life, and have an opportunity to slow down and enjoy a bounty of delicious Food! There is no cost to participants for the weekend. The renewal weekend is a GIFT to you from the parish and the giving team. For more information you may contact Scott Steinke, the CRHP Coordinator, at 777-6433 or [ssteinke@stjohnwc.org](mailto:ssteinke@stjohnwc.org) or Bonnie Garay, the Invitation Coordinator for the Women's CRHP Team 32 at 777-5701 or [garay\\_family@yahoo.com](mailto:garay_family@yahoo.com).

### Scripture Study

Learn to make the Psalms of Trust, Wisdom, Lament and Descriptive Praise your own prayer. The Thursday Morning Scripture Study will be exploring the Little Rock Bible Study – Psalms I & Psalms II. The group will meet for 12 weeks beginning on September 9th in the Hospitality room of the Church from 9:30-11:00a.m. The cost of the materials is \$23.90. To register call Lauren Rider at 779-1442 or Jeanne Gavigan at 779-9830.

### RCIA: A Formation Process for Catholics and “Converts to Be”



Have you ever thought about becoming a Catholic? If so, the RCIA is for you. It is a formation opportunity that offers time for prayer, reflection, and discussion of Catholic beliefs, which helps participants discern whether or not they wish to enter our church. “Cradle Catholics” can also benefit from this process, and can serve as spiritual companions for the Candidates. We meet weekly on Thursday nights from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in the Rectory starting September 16 until shortly after Easter. We also meet during the 9:30 mass on Sundays from December until Palm Sunday. Please call Jerry Barney for further information, or to register at 777-6433, x121.



## Our Own Formation in Flight



Have you ever been to an air show, watching different types of planes flying around above you, doing all sorts of tricks and maneuvers? It is something that can be quite amazing to watch and no doubt enjoyable! I can remember going to an air show with my family when I was younger, enjoying a full day of bi-planes, jets, huge carriers, and some planes that were so small you wondered how the pilot even got in to fly it.

One of the things I remember the most about that day was the show put on by the Blue Angels. It was spectacular! I was very intrigued with their skills and abilities in performing the tricks they did. But what impressed me the most was their well known formation. In other words, I was taken aback at how well they flew through the air so close to each other, making this great formation, all together. They turned together, they moved together, and they sped up and slowed down together. It looked as if all of these different planes formed one great and graceful entity...one graceful Formation!

This got me thinking about our own formation. I look back at those six Blue Angel jets and see that in our formation, each plane in a way represents a part of it...our spiritual, our personal, our educational, and our social formation. Each of these individual parts has to work together in our lives in order to "form" a spectacular and graceful "Faith" within us. Just as each pilot, in each plane, is skilled to the best of his/her ability so that the entire formation becomes one, so too must each part of our own formation do the same. Without each part doing its best, and without us polishing each one of these areas of our faith throughout our lives, the formation falls apart.

So the next time you think of or see the Blue Angels flying in formation, think of your own formation in flight. Hopefully then it will remind us to do the best we can in order to form a spectacular, graceful, and faithful flight within us!

Blessings,  
*Scott Steinke*

### Early Childhood Registration

Would you like your preschool or Kindergarten aged child to have some fun while learning about God? Have them come to "Sunday School" and join in on all the fun! Registration has begun for the 10/11 school year!



*Sunday School Start-up*

**When:** During 9:30 Mass  
End of September through April  
**Where:** St. John's Education Center  
**Who:** Children turning 3 by September 30, 2010  
through those entering Kindergarten  
in the 2010/11 school year  
**Cost:** Registration fee of \$65

If you already have a child in the program, forms have been sent home with your child. Forms are also available in the weekday or Sunday office and on our website. Volunteers are needed to teach our children. The cost is waived for teachers and assistants although the reward for working with the young children in our parish is priceless! For more information, contact Jodi Krusling at [JKrusling@stjohnwc.org](mailto:JKrusling@stjohnwc.org) or 860-0233.

### Career Path Ministry – Free Job Seeking Skills Training Program

Career Path Ministry will offer five more sessions to run one night per week focusing on the following areas important for "job seekers": job search planning, resume writing skills, applications and behavioral questions, reviews, interviewing skills, and the sixth session is an open forum for participants' questions. These sessions are free and open to anyone interested. The classes are conducted by HR volunteers from our parish and will be held in the South Wing of Favret Hall from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. on the following Thursdays: September 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30. For further information contact Terry Wurst at 779-7578, Marianne Fernandes at 874-3464 or Jerry Barney at 777-6433, x121 or [jbarney@stjohnwc.org](mailto:jbarney@stjohnwc.org).



## FESTIVAL SPONSORS!

Thank you to the following businesses and individuals for generously donating to the St. John's Festival as booth sponsors in 2010.

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## THANKS to Our Festival Volunteers!!

Thank you to all of the Booth Captains (over 60 of them!) and all of the hundreds of volunteers who helped to make our 2010 Festival a huge success!

Did you know that just during the festival, we rely on volunteers to work 45,790 hours? When you add in all of the setup, cleaning, cooking, creation of baskets, moving of silent auction items, stringing of electrical and lighting, etc. we accumulate over 60,000 hours of time from our volunteers! That is 7 and 1/2 years of time! If you were one of the people who gave at least an hour of your time, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Sincerely,

The 2010 Festival Committee

Diane Biehle, Matt and Julie Blackburn, Carey Bush, Errick and Meech Coughlin, Jeanenne Denzler, Tom Deutsch, Jeremy Fauber, Jim Fenton, Sharon Hall, Sue Hare, Lindsey Horlander, Tim and Julie Hunter, Hank, Korb, Ken Krusling, Roz & Fred LaChance, Mike Ludwig, Kathy Mack, Mark Noe, Debbie & Steve Meinhardt, Kathleen Morton-Strauss, Ron Porter, Andrew & Paige Schehr, Joan Seibenick, Joel Sodano, Barb Stifter.



In Concert

Presented by  
the St. John Music Ministry



# ROMANS

*Contemporary Catholic Music*

September 12, 2010 - 7:00 PM

St. John the Evangelist Church

## **Opportunities In the St. John Music Ministry**

Our parish choirs and ensembles will begin the 2010 – 11 season in September. Now is a wonderful opportunity to join one of our groups! If you are interested in joining any of these groups, contact Michael Dailey at 777.6433x128 or [mdailey@stjohnwc.org](mailto:mdailey@stjohnwc.org) for more information!

The **Parish Choir** rehearses Wednesday evenings from 7:30 – 9:00 pm. During Advent and Lent, we rehearse from 7:00 – 9:00 pm to prepare for Christmas and Holy Week/Easter celebrations. The group sings a wide variety of choral repertoire spanning the centuries at the 9:30 am Mass, the Christmas Mass at night, and Holy Week.

The **Contemporary Choir** rehearses on Thursday evenings from 7:30 – 9:00 pm and sings at the 5:00 pm and 11:30 am Masses, the Christmas 5:30 pm Mass and Holy Week & Easter Celebrations. This group sings mostly contemporary Catholic and Christian music.

The **Youth Chorus** is open to singers in grades 3 – 8. Rehearsals are Monday evenings from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. Now entering our eighth season, we have a very exciting year ahead of us, singing for 11:30 am Masses once a month, Breakfast in Bethlehem, the Christmas 3:00 pm Mass, and the Easter Sunday 11:30 am Mass. The Youth Chorus has also been invited to sing at two Youth Choir Festivals this year at Saint Peter-in-Chains' Cathedral, Cincinnati, and at the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle in Washington, D.C.!

The **Parish Orchestra** is open to all instrumentalists aged 14+. At least two years of lessons and/or band experience is required. Ability to sight-read is necessary! We play for the 11:30 am Mass and Feast Days.

The **Parish Handbell Choir** rehearses on Monday evenings, and rings for 1 Mass per month + Christmas and Easter Masses. While a musical background is helpful, it is not necessary.

# Our Prayers & Sympathy Go Out To ...

**July**

*Gary Sartini on the death of his father*

*Mary Askren on the death of her brother-in-law*

*Roberta Beaty on the death of her mother*

*Joyce Bertsch on the death of her mother*

*Tim Bertsch on the death of his grandmother*

*Rita Oelker on the death of her husband Clifford*

*Marco Bertaso on the death of his brother*

*Maureen Polakowski on the death of her sister*

**August**

*Mary Hack on the death of her husband Jerry*

*Mary Chaney on the death of her husband Eugene*

*Young Kim on the death of her husband*

*Bob Ausdenmoore on the death of his father*

*Carol Berger on the death of her brother*

*Barb Meckstroth on the death of her uncle*

*Don Meiners on the death of his sister*



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

(513) 777-6433



**St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church**

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