

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

April 12, 2020



He is risen!

WELCOME TO ALL!

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, no matter what your current family or marital situation, no matter what your past or present religious affiliation, no matter what your personal history, age, background, race, or color—you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved, and respected at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church.

CONTACT US

Phone 513-777-6433 • Fax 513-777-9741 • info@stjohnwc.org • www.stjohnwc.org



St. John the Evangelist Church, West Chester

Parish Phone Numbers

Pavilion 513-755-4973 • Parish Center 513-755-4973 • For emergencies, please call 513-777-6433 and press 5.

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:30am - 5:30pm
Friday 8:30am - Noon

Saturday (Church Office) 3:30pm - 6:00pm
Sunday (Church Office) 7:30am - 1:00pm

Pastoral Team

Rev. Don West **Pastor**
Ext. 133 dwest@stjohnwc.org
Sarah Chivers **Director of Communication**
Ext. 116 schivers@stjohnwc.org
Caitlin Cipolla-McCulloch ... **P.A. of Adult Faith Formation**
Ext. 121 ccipollamcculloch@stjohnwc.org
Lynn Meisberger **P.A. of Music**
Ext. 128 lmeisberger@stjohnwc.org
Annie Mesewicz **P.A. of Youth Ministry**
Ext. 114 amesewicz@stjohnwc.org
Mary Montour **P.A. of Children's Faith Formation**
Ext. 118 mmontour@stjohnwc.org
Joan Seibenick **Business Manager**
Ext. 124 jseibenick@stjohnwc.org
Scott Steinke **P.A. of Liturgy**
Ext. 115 ssteinke@stjohnwc.org

Parish Staff

Katie Behrle **Early Childhood Coordinator**
..... kbehrle@stjohnwc.org
Karen Hake **Office Manager**
Ext. 110 khake@stjohnwc.org
Brigid Loebig **Bookkeeper**
Ext. 119 bloebig@stjohnwc.org
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Ext. 132 fmerritt@stjohnwc.org
Kirt Robb **Facilities Manager**
Ext. 122 krobb@stjohnwc.org
Karen Simmons **PSR Administrative Assistant**
Ext. 111 ksimmons@stjohnwc.org
Deacon Jerry Barney **jbarney@stjohnwc.org**
Deacon Rick Reder **rreder@stjohnwc.org**
Darren Coe **Maintenance**
Ellen Krumme **Weekend Office Assistant**
Janet Raters **Weekend Office Assistant**
Bette Vorbroker **Weekend Office Administrator**

Fiscal Year-to-Date Amount as of April 9:

Actual: \$1,014,234 versus budget of \$1,040,000.

We are currently 2.5% behind budget. Please continue to give! Thank you to those who are continuing to give in this unsettled time! Please consider giving, if you are able. You can mail a check or drop it off in the parish office lobby. Or you can give online through the donate button on our website.

Don't forget your Easter donation. Easter giving is available on our website. Thank you and we are praying that your family is safe and healthy!

FATHER DON'S REFLECTION

JN 20:1-9

"Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell the disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him.' Behold, I have told you."

The women are overjoyed by the Good News: Jesus has risen from the dead. They have seen the empty tomb and now they become the bearers of the news of Jesus' resurrection. They are commanded to tell the disciples to head for Galilee. On their way, they are encountered by the risen Christ. It is a powerful thing that Jesus' first disciples to see him risen are the women. They announce to the disciples the news that had to be almost too good to be true.

You and I are much like the women at the tomb. We are searching for Jesus. We can understand the physical death of Jesus. A horrible death that brought such deep sadness that our sins could cause that much pain to one person: The Son of God, Jesus. Now we are challenged like the women at the tomb to see the place where he laid. Could Jesus actually have risen from the tomb? We saw the miracle of Lazarus being brought back from the dead, but this is different. Jesus is now walking around as the women discover him on their way to the disciples. They are not seeing a ghost. Jesus is alive in flesh and blood. They embrace him and do him homage. Their faith is affirmed. We may not have the same encounter, but Jesus is present among us today. But, if we don't believe the tomb is empty, we can't hope to see the risen Jesus among us.

We are part of the Body of Christ. He dwells among us; he is in each of us. He is in the breaking of the Bread, the blessing of the cup. We are Eucharistic people; we are a part of the resurrection. We are saved by Jesus' unselfish act of dying and rising from the dead. For those who believe and see the tomb as empty and Jesus alive, we shout Alleluia and praise God for salvation has come to us. Like the women and the first disciples, we are to make this news alive in our world. It is not something that we can hold in for just our own personal joy. The joy of the risen Lord shouldn't be contained; it must be shared over and over again. No tomb could possibly keep the Lord confined. His mission was to die for our sins and rise from the dead conquering both sin and death.

This Easter we will only celebrate with our small family units, but know that the good news goes beyond you and me. Yes, this will be a unique Easter and we are left to watch Mass on our computers. Yes, you may have to receive spiritual eucharist, but we are still united; we are still all a part of the Body of Christ. No virus can take that away from us. Make the risen Jesus alive in your hearts. Pray for one another and please, please stay healthy. From the parish staff to all of you we love you, we miss you and hope to be together soon. Know if you need us, we are a phone call away. I am praying for you, please pray for me. I know the spirit of God is in this somewhere. Happy Easter! Have a great week.



PRESIDER SCHEDULE:

April 18 / 19

SATURDAY

5:00 p.m.....Fr. Don West

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m.....Fr. Don West

9:30 a.m.....Fr. Don West

11:30 a.m.....Fr. Don West

Please note that this schedule is subject to change.

Readings for This Week: Apr. 13-17

Monday	ACTS 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16; MT 28:8-15
Tuesday	ACTS 2:36-41; Ps 33; JN 20:11-18
Wednesday	ACTS 3:1-10; Ps 105; LK 24: 13-35
Thursday	ACTS 3:11-26; Ps 8; LK 24:35-48
Friday	ACTS 4:1-12; Ps 118; JN 21:1-14

Next Weekend: April 18/19

First Reading: ACTS 2:42-47

"Many wonders and signs were done through the apostles."

Second Reading: 1 PT 1:3-9

"You may have to suffer through various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith may prove to be for praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

Gospel: JN 20:19-31

"Do not be unbelieving, but believe."

A PRAYER FROM YOUR PARISH STAFF



Staying Connected with St. John

We miss you! Though the Church building is closed, the Church is still open. Let us not forget, as our parish theme says, to BE the Body of Christ for others. We Are The Body of Christ, regardless of where we meet.

While you're home, be sure to connect with St. John with the following communications:

Follow us on **Facebook** at 'St. John the Evangelist, West Chester.'

Make sure that your e-mail is updated with your parish record and you opt-in to our **Weekly E-Memos!** You will receive reminders for any upcoming events, announcements and updates for parish groups and activities.

Be sure to access the weekly **Bulletin** on the St. John website to stay up-to-date with our parish. The Bulletin will contain regular communication for groups of our parish, Gospel reflections and upcoming readings, and more information on resources and outreach available at St. John.

Check out the St. John **Website** (www.stjohnwc.org) for nearly anything you may need! Read about our parish staff or organizations, listen to weekend homilies, find local resources, read about our parish history, and much more.

As always, feel free to contact our parish office if you have any questions or if you need anything. You can call at (513) 777-6433.

A PRAYER FOR EASTER EYES

My Lord, Jesus,
You have risen to new life!

Give me new eyes...

with which to recognize your presence in the world around me.

Sharpen my vision...

so that I see beyond the ordinary events of each day and into the extraordinary reality of your grace.

Brighten my view of the world...

with renewed hope in the coming of your Kingdom.

Soften my gaze...

so that I view others with the kind of tenderness and compassion you showed to so many.

May each day of this Easter season provide glimpses of your glory.

In your sacred name, I pray.

Amen.



He is Risen!

An Easter Preparation Checklist for Families

☑ Watch “New Life” Grow

Early spring is the perfect time for spotting spring blooms. Depending on the climate of the region in which you live, you can do an activity with your child to inspire conversations about new life.

Before Easter, plant a fast-growing seed with your child. You could do this in a planter in your home, outdoors, or in a greenhouse. A bean plant is an excellent choice to see almost immediate results, but pumpkins and wildflowers also germinate quickly and are a beautiful addition to a yard or garden. After planting, explain to your child that although it may look like nothing is happening, a planted seed is getting ready to germinate. If conditions are right, a plant will grow from it: a beautiful sign of new life. Observe your plant growing together.

In addition or as an alternative to planting a seed, you could also share an age-appropriate children’s book about seeds to spark a conversation, or go on a family nature walk in search of plants beginning to grow and flower.

Help your child connect the germinating seed with the liturgical movement of the Triduum. After Jesus died, his body was placed in the tomb. It wasn’t until Easter Sunday that he rose to new life.

☑ Bring “New Life” To Others

Part of celebrating the Easter season is recognizing the gift that God gave us in the Death and Resurrection of his Son. An important way to celebrate Easter as a family is to go out together to be a gift to others in the world. Your family members can make a plan to impact your community in a meaningful way as you share the Good News of Jesus Christ with neighbors in need.

As a family, brainstorm ways that you could go out and bring the hope of the Resurrection to someone or a group in need. Once you have considered some options, decide on one and make a plan. Perhaps you will volunteer together at in a community garden and donate the produce that you helped grow to a homeless shelter. Whatever you choose to do, continue your commitment to serving others weekly until Pentecost.

☑ Commit to Family Prayer

Throughout the Easter season, commit to gathering together for nightly prayer and devotions. Praying as a family is an essential part of celebrating the Easter season. Gathering around the table and sharing our prayers helps us grow closer to God and to one another. Choose a time that works best for your family, whether it is before you have dinner together, or before bedtime.

Celebrating Easter from Home **WITH OUR PARISH STAFF**

"We all had to find Easter baskets when I was young early before Mass. It was a tradition that went well into being young adults too. Later that day after Mass, it was off to Good Old Gram's house for an Easter egg hunt with my cousins. You always had to eat at least one egg for good luck. The best part it was all about family and being together. My favorite Easter basket treat? Opera cream eggs and speckle malted milk eggs.

FR. DON WEST, PASTOR

"A big Easter tradition in our family is kite flying. My mom and dad would put kites in our Easter baskets, and they had to do it every year because we would either lose them or break them before the next Easter Sunday rolled around. It was always so much fun! Windy day or not, we'd fly them somehow. This tradition passed down to their grandkids and still goes on this day. Nothing like an air to air kite fight at home on Easter!"

SCOTT STEINKE, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE OF LITURGY

"This egg right here has been in my life since I was a little kid. I forgot about it for a long time and when I bought my own house my Mom pulled it out and gave it to me for my first Easter in my own place!"



**CAITLIN CIPOLLA - MCCULLOCH,
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE OF ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

"When I was younger, we would wake up early to check if the Easter bunny came! We would check our front porch and see if there were any big bunny footprints or not - no surprise we always saw footprints! We would go to Easter Day Mass and then come home and search the entire house and yard for our Easter baskets filled with candy and other fun little toys!"

ANNIE MESEWICZ, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE OF YOUTH MINISTRY

"Easter was the one Holiday all my siblings and their families would be together at my mom and dad's, still have the group pictures taken each year, which was fun to see the families increase, kids grow up. We went from one pew to two pews and finally to three pews at church. Easter egg hunts for the kids who insisted on them even at high school and college age.

BRIGID LOEBIG, BOOKKEEPER

"My kids, husband and even the dog always wait for their Easter baskets. Although my kids are 20/23, the dog is 16 and my husband's age is undisclosed, they all act like they are 5 and under come Easter morning. Family being together what a wonderful thing."

KAREN SIMMONS, PSR ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.



Celebrating Easter from Home

WITH OUR PARISH STAFF

"Every year my mom would take us downtown (Buffalo) to the Broadway Market, where we would get our Easter ham, butter lamb, and placek, in addition to some homemade candies. We saved the "store bought" placek for our Easter basket to be blessed and made more placek at home to eat during the week after Easter. This recipe is not my mom's but from memory, it is very similar."

BUTTERMILK PLACEK (BUFFALO RESIDENT RECIPE)

- 1.) ½ c Crisco
- 2.) 2 c sugar
- 3.) 2 eggs
- 4.) 4 c flour
- 5.) 1 tsp baking soda
- 6.) 1 tsp salt
- 7.) 3 tsp baking powder
- 8.) 2 c buttermilk
- 9.) 1 tsp vanilla

TOPPING (KRUSZYNAKE)

- 1.) 2/3 c sugar
- 2.) 2/3 c flour
- 3.) 6 tbsp butter

DIRECTIONS

Mix all placek ingredients together in order, then put in two loaf pans or one 9-1/2" x 13" pan. Mix kruszynake ingredients and put on top of placek (before baking bread). Bake at 375 degrees for 45 min or 350 degrees for 1 hour (depending on your oven).

MARY MONTOUR PASTORAL ASSOCIATE OF CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

"When I was growing up, we always went to grandma and grandpa Ziegler's house for a giant ham feast. As my sisters and I had our own children, we created our own tradition of an Easter egg hunt with at least 200 eggs hidden for 8 kids. It seems like those plastic eggs were multiplying every year. As our children became adults, the contents of the eggs changed, but we still do the egg hunt! It will be strange this year without it!"

JOAN SEIBENICK, BUSINESS MANAGER

"My Mom was one of nine so I had 33 first cousins growing up. Every Easter we would go to one of my aunts and uncles' house for dinner and a huge Easter egg hunt."

LYNN MEISBERGER, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE OF MUSIC



"My favorite Easter memory was four years ago when my husband officially became Catholic at the Easter Vigil. Ever since, we have gone to the Easter Vigil to show our support and love for the RCIA candidates who are being welcomed into the Catholic Church. It's my favorite day of the year!"

SARAH CHIVERS, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATION



Youth Ministry

Youth Group Meetings via Zoom: Since we will not be meeting in person for the next few weeks, let's gather together in spirit through the Zoom app. Download the app on your smartphone, tablet, or computer and create an account. This free app is going to help us stay connected and in community! I hope everyone is staying safe and getting creative!

Teen Reflections

Online: Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to find a collection of reflections, prayers and thoughts from Annie, your Youth Minister, during this time.



The Church building will be open from 8:00am-3:00pm Monday-Thursday for individual prayer. It will also be open from noon-3:00pm on Good Friday.

Spiritual resources and physical copies of the bulletin will be available in the Gathering Space during these times. These materials are regularly sanitized, and sanitation stations are present.

Don't Forget Your Priest!

Tell him...

You're grateful for his prayers.

You're keeping your faith.

And you're including him in your prayers.



Thank you and God bless you!

Rx for Body and Spirit

For Your Body

Wash your hands often.

Avoid close contact with other people.

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.

Stay home if you're sick (except to get medical care).

Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue.

For Your Spirit

Make an Act of Spiritual Communion.

Pray the Rosary.

Participate in a televised or live-streamed Mass.

Take time for family prayer.

Practice Lectio Divina.

Don't forget to help your parish with donations.

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas.

We fly to you today as your beloved children. We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of your holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.

Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind.

Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy.

Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms, help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

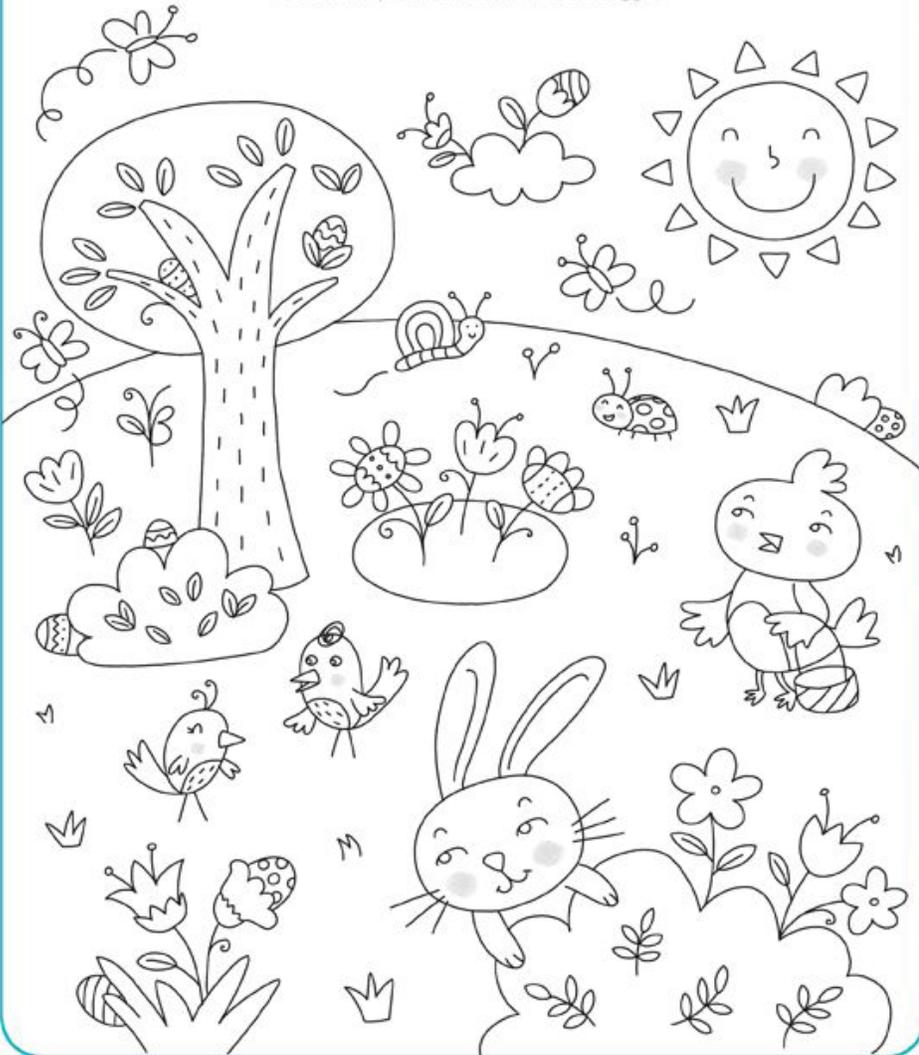


Getty Images



Easter Egg Hunt

Can you find how many eggs are in this scene?
Color in the picture and find all of the eggs!



Children's Faith Formation

Continue faith formation from home at the following links:

ENJOY A FAMILY NIGHT

<https://teachingcatholickids.com/9-activities-for-family-night/>

LOYOLA PRESS FAITH, FAMILY AND FUN

<https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/family/family-faith-and-fun>

COOKING WITH CATHOLIC MOM

<http://catholicmom.com/tag/cooking-with-catholicmom-com/>

TEACHING CATHOLIC KIDS

<https://teachingcatholickids.com/>

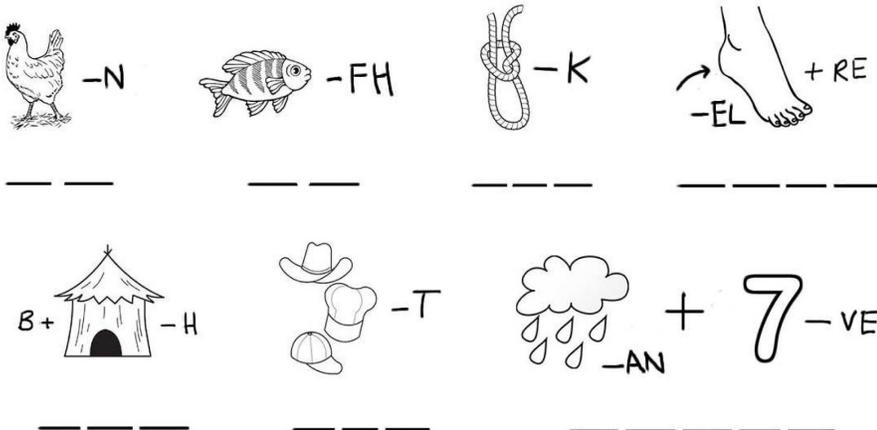
SAINT OF THE DAY

<https://www.smp.org/resourcecenter/calendar/day/2020/3/23/#saint>

FRANCISCAN MEDIA SAINT OF THE DAY

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/source/saint-of-the-day/>

Figure out the secret message!



PARISH OUTREACH, RESOURCES & ORGANIZATIONS

Parish Ministries

Baptism

Caitlin Cipolla-McCulloch 513-777-6433, ext. 121

Communion to the Sick/Shut-Ins

Julie Chapman 513-807-8004

Companions on the Journey

Grief support for those who have lost a loved one; meets the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month in the Hospitality Room at 7 p.m.

Ron Meyer 513-376-1277

Confirmation Preparation

Annie Mesewicz 513-777-6433, ext. 114

Funeral Preparation

Scott Steinke 513-777-6433, ext. 115

Hospital Notifications

If you know that you are going to the hospital and would like to be remembered at Mass or have a pastoral staff member visit, please call the parish office at 777-6433. We are no longer notified by hospitals or chaplains about parishioners who are ill.

Liturgical Ministry

Opportunities available as Altar Attendants, Eucharistic Ministers, Hospitality Ministers, Lectors and Sacristans.

Scott Steinke 513-777-6433, ext. 115

Meal Ministry

Joan Seibenick 513-777-6433, ext. 124

Music

Opportunities available in the Adult Choir, High School Choir, Youth Choir, or as Singers & Instrumentalists.

Lynn Meisberger 513-777-6433, ext. 128

Prayer Network

If you or someone you know is struggling w/ a difficulty or crisis, contact the Prayer Network. They will ask members of the Network to pray.

..... prayernetwork@stjohnwc.org

Margaret Kellogg 513-777-4253

Mary Moore 513-492-9015

RCIA Fullness of Joy / Ministry to Returning Catholics

Caitlin Cipolla-McCulloch 513-777-6433, ext. 121

Sacrament of the Sick

Contact the Parish Office 513-777-6433

Small Church Communities (Journey of Faith)

Caitlin Cipolla-McCulloch 513-777-6433, ext. 121

St. Vincent de Paul

Guy Lavergne 513-777-6433, ext. 120

Stephen Ministry

Scott Steinke 513-777-6433, ext. 115

Wedding Preparation

Fr. Don West 513-777-6433, ext. 133

Formation & Education

Early Childhood Program (during 9:30am Mass)

Katie Behrle kbehrle@stjohnwc.org

Liturgy of the Word with Children

Scott Steinke 513-777-6433, ext. 115

PSR (grades 1-8), 1st Eucharist, 1st Reconciliation

Mary Montour mmontour@stjohnwc.org

St. Gabriel Consolidated School ... stgabeschool.org

..... 513-771-5220

St. Gabriel Consolidated School in collaboration with our three parishes, St. Gabriel, St. John - West Chester and St. Maximilian Kolbe, in partnership with the families of our diverse student body believe Christ is the center of all that we do.

Shaylen Gettelfinger Marketing Coordinator

513-578-3640 segettelfinger@hotmail.com

Amy Tanaka Parish Representative

..... 513-702-8361

Parish Organizations

Boy Scouts Troop #940

Steve Bush 513-206-2937

Festival Committee

Kevin & Gina Kohls 513-256-8934

Finance Committee

John Insco 513-755-7594

Girl Scouts

Laura Smith 513-378-6709

Knights of Columbus

Patrick Leeper 513-604-4449

Knights of Columbus Membership

Bob Heglin 513 509-6537

Justice & Peace Commission

Tony Klimek 513-787-0038

Pastoral Council

Dan Woods pastoralcouncil@stjohnwc.org

Spirited Seniors

Deacon Fred Merritt 513-777-6433, ext. 132

Worship Commission

Scott Steinke 513-777-6433