



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

April 19, 2020

2ND
SUNDAY
OF EASTER

**“ DO NOT BE
UNBELIEVING,
BUT BELIEVE. ”**

- JOHN 20:27

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
Deacon Fred Merritt **Senior Ministry**
Ext. 132 fmerritt@stjohnwc.org
Kirt Robb **Facilities Manager**
Ext. 122 krobb@stjohnwc.org
Karen Simmons **PSR Administrative Assistant**
Ext. 111 ksimmmons@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.

Thank you and we are praying that your family is safe and healthy!

FATHER DON'S REFLECTION

JN 20:19-31

I don't know about you, but I like Thomas. He is my kind of guy. He wants proof of something truly unbelievable. The disciples, his friends, are telling Thomas something amazing: Jesus visited them. He is alive, risen from the dead. 'Come on you know we wouldn't lie about something like that. We saw him, he walked right in here with the door locked like it was nothing. He offered us his peace not once but twice. He gave us a command; he gave us the spirit. We're not making this up, it's true.'

For Thomas, it is too much to take in at the moment. He needs to have exactly the same thing that the disciples had - living proof. A week later he gets his wish. He receives the peace of Christ and then Jesus calls Thomas out. "Come here and stop your unbelieving."

Many of us are not much different than Thomas. We want that proof that Jesus is alive and dwelling among us. We want him to come and ease our fears. We are called to see Jesus in the breaking of the Bread and the blessing of the Cup in the Eucharist. He comes to us every time we are gathered to celebrate Mass. Even if we can't receive the Eucharist in this time of the pandemic, we still recognize Jesus in the Mass we view. We still have a spiritual communion that we take part in. Jesus comes to meet our doubts and fears.

Some may ask where God is in all illness and death with the coronavirus that is taking over our country and the world. I believe that God is in the midst of it all. He comes to meet our fears and doubts with the gift of hope. Hope allows us to see that Jesus is once again breaking through locked doors to give himself to us all. We see Jesus in the nurses and the doctors who are on the front line of the disease. We see Jesus in those who are in the stores and keep the shelves stocked as best as possible. We see Jesus in the many people who watch out for neighbors and shop for them. We recognize Jesus in the story of the priest who gave up his ventilator for another person so that they may live. The priest died shortly after that.

We have been challenged to sacrifice a lot of our freedoms. We are called to remain home and keep our distance when we are out in public. This is a time when we can see Jesus resurrected all around us and among us in the very home we live in. Don't miss this opportunity to see the risen Christ. He comes to calm our fears and hold us tight. Let him in and see the goodness of the Lord among you. We might not actually see the risen Jesus, but his love is all around.

"Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Jesus final words to Thomas. Let us never lose sight of Jesus in our lives. He is right there in front of you. Let Jesus ease your fears and doubts. He loves you and wants you to feel his peace and his spirit. What comfort that can be to us all in this time of trouble. Peace be with you. Have a great week! He has risen, Alleluia!



Readings for This Week: Apr. 20-24

Monday	ACTS 4:23-31 Psalm 2 JN 3:1-8
Tuesday	ACTS 4:32-37 Psalm 93 JN 3:7B-15
Wednesday	ACTS 5:17-26 Psalm 34 JN 3:16-21
Thursday	ACTS 5:27-33 Psalm 34 JN 3:31-36
Friday	ACTS 5:34-42 Psalm 27 JN 6:1-15

Next Weekend: April 25/26

First Reading: ACTS 2:14, 22-33

"God raised this Jesus; of this we are all witnesses."

Second Reading: 1 PT 1:17-21

"You were ransomed from your futile conduct, not with perishable things like silver or gold but with the precious blood of Christ."

Gospel: LK 24:13-35

"Some women from our group were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find [Jesus's] body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive."



**"Humanity will not find peace until it turns trustfully to divine mercy."
(St. Faustina's Diary, p. 132)**

Divine Mercy Sunday originated when Our Lord appeared to Saint Faustina, a humble, Polish sister. During these visions, Jesus asked specifically that the Feast of Divine Mercy be established so that all people would turn to Our Lord and find refuge in him and in his unfathomable mercy. Jesus told Sister Faustina:

"This Feast emerged from the very depths of my mercy, and it is confirmed in the vast depths of my tender mercies. Every soul believing and trusting in my mercy will obtain it. Let all mankind recognize my unfathomable mercy. It is a sign for the end times; after it will come the day of justice."

Jesus told Sister Faustina of his great desire to have a Feast of Mercy established on the first Sunday after Easter. He also instructed that the Feast be preceded by a Divine Mercy Novena that begins on Good Friday and ends the day before Divine Mercy Sunday.

During one of the visions, Jesus asked Sister Faustina to paint the image of Divine Mercy pouring forth from his heart:

"Paint an image according to the pattern you see with the signature: Jesus, I Trust in You. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish."

In the Divine Mercy image, Jesus is portrayed with one hand outstretched blessing the world, while his other hand rests on the side wounded by the soldier's spear. From the wound in his side stream blood and water. Below most images of the Divine Mercy are the words, "Jesus I Trust in You." When the first image was painted, Sister Faustina cried because the image was not as beautiful as the Jesus who appeared to her. Jesus comforted her by saying,

"Not in the beauty of the color, nor of the brush is the greatness of his image, but in My grace."

How To Pray Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Optional Opening Prayers:

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls,
and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world.

O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy,
envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

(Repeat 3 times) O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!

Our Father, Hail Mary and the Apostle's Creed

For each of the five decades *(On each "Our Father" bead of the rosary, pray)*

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

(On each of the 10 "Hail Mary" beads, pray)
For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Concluding prayer *(Repeat 3 times)*

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Optional Closing Prayer

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

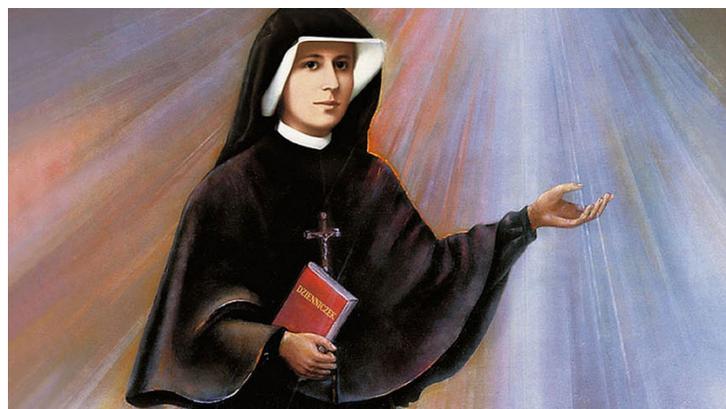
Learn More About St. Faustina Kowalska

Helenka Kowalska was born in 1905 in a small Polish town, one of 10 children born into a poor family. She left school after third grade and never learned to write or read very well. She dreamed of becoming a nun and was very sad when her parents would not give their permission. They needed the money she earned as a housekeeper for other families. She was obedient to her parents, but her desire to enter religious life never left her.

When she was 19, the young woman said she had a vision in which God told her to go to a large city in Poland to enter the convent. It is said that she took the next train to Warsaw. Helenka tried to join several religious orders, but they turned her down because of her lack of education. Finally the mother superior of the Servants of Our Lady of Mercy decided to give her a chance. Helenka was given the name Sister Maria Faustina of the Blessed Sacrament.

Sister Faustina was blessed by visions of Jesus, who gave her a special mission. He wanted her to spread devotion about the Mercy of God and to help people remember that God our Father is merciful and loving to all people, even those who have turned away from him in sin. In another vision, Jesus asked Sister Faustina to have a portrait painted of our Lord as the King of Divine Mercy. Jesus also asked Faustina to be an example of mercy for others and to imitate Christ by making sacrifices for others. Faustina did everything Jesus asked.

Her spiritual adviser told Faustina to keep a diary about her experiences and her visions. Because Faustina had such a poor education, the diary was difficult to read, but after her death in 1938, the spelling was corrected and her work was sent to the Vatican. It took many years and arguments, but finally, in 2000, Sister Faustina was declared a saint. Divine Mercy Sunday is now celebrated the first Sunday after Easter every year.



Spring Cleaning? Donate to the Parish Festival!

Are you keeping yourself busy by cleaning or de-cluttering your home? Save items for the Parish Festival! Sunday drop-offs will be held from noon to 3 p.m. starting at the end of June. Small items may be accepted in early May by appointment. Contact Julie at 513-400-5504 or e-mail stjohnwcfestival@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

WE ACCEPT:

- GENTLY USED/NEW INDOOR AND OUTDOOR HOUSEHOLD ITEMS
 - FURNITURE
 - HOLIDAY
 - TOYS
 - HOME DECORATIONS
 - KITCHEN
 - BIKES
 - VEHICLES, BOATS, CAMPERS, TIME SHARES, ETC.
- SIGNIFICANTLY ADD TO THE SUCCESS AND EXCITEMENT.

WE CANNOT ACCEPT:

- CLOTHING
- BOWLING BALLS
- EXERCISE EQUIPMENT
- COMPUTERS
- CAR SEATS
- CRIBS
- MATTRESSES
- ORGANS
- ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS
- NON-HD TV'S



This year's parish festival will be on August 7-8-9. We always look forward to our festival, but especially this year! But, before that weekend happens, our Festival Committee spends time on so many activities. We decide on the layout, games, food and beverages. We configure electrical lines, order prizes; determine how many booths and tents and grills we need. We advertise, set up a volunteer website, go shopping for baskets and find sponsors and donors. The list is pretty endless. Luckily we also have a team of about 20-25 people who make this all happen as seamlessly as possible. I am honored and privileged to work with this group of people.

As many of you know, when you give of your time and talent, the rewards that you receive are greater than the time and energy that you give. And, as exhausted as we are on Sunday night at 9pm on the first full weekend in August, we get up and do it again each year. Why? Because we love it and also because we know how much it means to our parish. A full 10% of our parish income comes from these three days each August. Last year, we earned \$160,000 in net income from our festival. That is an amazing feat accomplished by an even more amazing team of people. You can imagine how important our festival income will be this year!

If you are interested in serving on our festival committee, we have several positions open this year: Prizes Co-Chair, Basket Co-Chair, Grounds Co-Chair, Entertainment Co-Chair. We also have several booth captain positions open. All committee meetings will be remote for the next couple of months. Please consider helping! We need you. Contact jsibenick@stjohnwc.org to volunteer.



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,
WEST CHESTER

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
MUSIC MINISTRY

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
YOUTH MINISTRY

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
#13608 COUNCIL

ARCHDIOCESE OF
CINCINNATI

JOIN THE
'YOGA FOR THE SPIRIT -
ST. JOHN COMMUNITY'
FACEBOOK GROUP

Stay Connected with St. John

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

Download the **MyParish App** and add St. John the Evangelist.

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** (www.stjohnwc.org).

The Church building is open from 8:00am-3:00pm Monday-Thursday and 8:00am-noon on Fridays for individual prayer. Please practice safe social distancing.

As always, feel free to contact our parish office at 777-6433 if you have any questions or if you need anything.



Covid-19: A Prayer of Solidarity

For all who have contracted coronavirus,
We pray for care and healing.

For those who are particularly vulnerable,
We pray for safety and protection.

For all who experience fear or anxiety,
We pray for peace of mind and spirit.

For affected families who are facing difficult
decisions between food on the table or public safety,
We pray for policies that recognize their plight.

For those who do not have adequate health
insurance,
We pray that no family will face financial burdens
alone.

For those who are afraid to access care due to
immigration status,
We pray for recognition of the God-given dignity
of all.

For our brothers and sisters around the world,
We pray for shared solidarity.

For public officials and decisionmakers,
We pray for wisdom and guidance.

Father, during this time may your Church be a sign of
hope, comfort and love to all.

Grant peace.
Grant comfort.
Grant healing.
Be with us, Lord.

Amen.

Visit www.usccb.org for more prayer resources to bring
you peace during this pandemic.

Share-A-Lunch

The ministry lead team will be holding a bulk food drive in
the parking lot by the Pavilion between 9 & 9:30 AM on
4/26. Demand at our pantries is very high, and supplies
are currently very low. If you could donate to St. Francis
and Reach Out Lakota, it would be greatly appreciated!
Questions? Please contact Diane Claytor at 513-374-3349.

Needed items:

- Cereal/Oatmeal Packs/PopTarts
- Canned Tuna/Meat
- Ramen Noodles/Mac 'n Cheese/Other Boxed Pasta
- Canned Fruit and Veggies & Fruit Cups
- Granola Bars/Cheese & Peanut Butter Crackers
- Soup (all kinds)
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Canned Pasta (Chef Boyardee)
- Canned/Boxed Helpers (Manwich, Hamburger Helper)

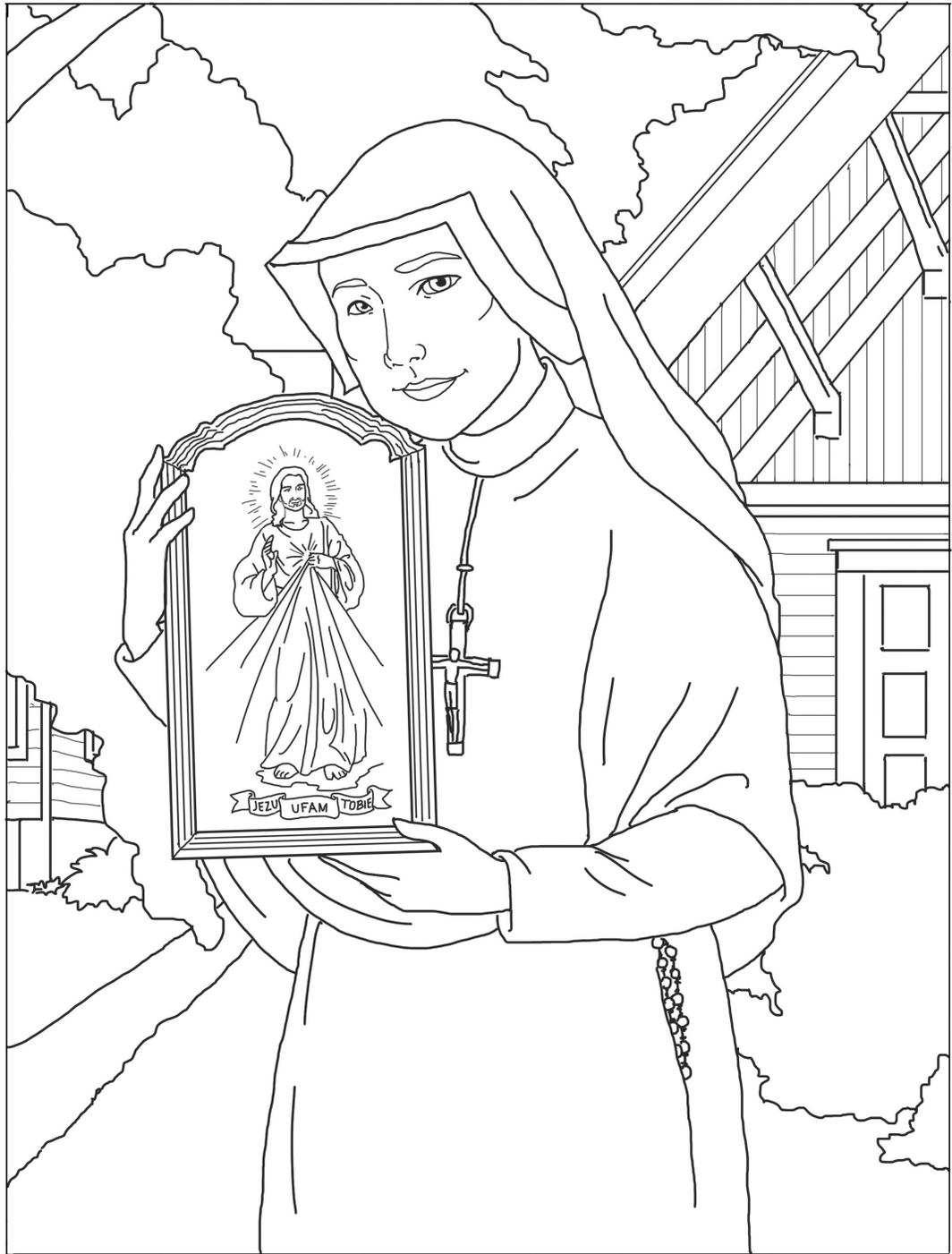


Teen Reflections

Scan the QR code with your smart-
phone camera to find a collection
of reflections, prayers and thoughts
from Youth Minister Annie during
this hectic time.



S A I N T F A U S T I N A



HONOR ROLL STUDENTS

Congratulations to the following students from St. John who have made their respective schools' honor rolls:

Conarroe, William
Grode, Jacob
Haas, Aaron
Lloyd, Carson

Meyer, Henry
Morton-Strauss, Brennan
Reed, Alexander
Strecker, Christopher



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 Insko 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