

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

May 31, 2020

PENTECOST

HOLY SPIRIT COME

“ Receive the
holy spirit. ”

- JOHN 20:22

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
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 as of May 12, 2020

Actual Sunday Offerings.....\$ 1,169,090
Budgeted Sunday Offerings.....\$ 1,196,000
Over/(Under) Budget.....(\$26,910) -2.25%

Total Month-To-Date Amount:

Actual: \$ 51,784 (as of May 12)
Budget: \$130,000 (month of May)

Thank you to all who are able to give!

FATHER DON'S REFLECTION

John 20: 19-23

“And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues of fire, which parted and came to rest on each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.” (Taken from the first reading Acts)

Happy birthday! That is right, the feast of Pentecost is a time when we celebrate the birth of the Church. Jesus promised that he would send the Spirit and he did so, some fifty days after his resurrection. The vision that we see in the Acts of the Apostles is one that is very descriptive in nature. We see that the apostles are able to communicate with everyone who is gathered in Jerusalem. Each person was able to hear the message given in their own native tongue. While surprised by the fact that Galileans were speaking, they were opened up to the “mighty acts of God.”

Could you imagine the energy that was there that day as the Pentecost experience was unfolding? The light bulb went off in the apostles’ heads. They were no longer afraid. The Spirit gave them the power and gift to go out and proclaim the good news. They now had the courage to bring the message of Jesus that was instilled in their hearts. It all made sense to them and they now knew what their mission was and what they had to do to make it a reality. In the book of Genesis, at the time when the Tower of Babel was being built, the world all spoke one voice. Back then, God confused their language so they could no longer communicate with each other. They all scattered to the ends of the world, each with those they could still communicate with. Pentecost reunites all under the one person of Jesus Christ – all could hear the message given by the apostles that day.

In the Gospel, John brings the gift of the Spirit to the apostles on that first day of the week; Easter Sunday. “...he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.’” Jesus brings the apostles a true sense of peace. Not once but twice he offers the gift of peace to them. I believe that peace is something that they in turn were to offer to the world for the forgiveness of sins. It is the foundation of the church, rooted in what Jesus had done for the world. We are called to embrace the message of the mission of the apostles given by Jesus.

What is our mission? How are we to live the Pentecost experience? It begins by proclaiming the message of Jesus. He died for our sins and calls us to respond to that gift. Come to him and allow him to heal us and make us whole. Once that fire has been set in us, we are called to ignite it in others. It is not enough to have the spirit inside us. We must allow that spirit to flow through us into the world around us. The language is universal. Not in spoken words but by deeds of kindness and acts of charity - doing what Jesus would do in every part of our life. When people recognize the spirit of Jesus dwelling inside us, the church can only grow stronger.

In these times of the virus we might be limited in what we can do, but we must show that the Spirit is alive and well in the church. Do not miss an opportunity to shine on to others the gifts that dwell inside each of you. We are a very blessed community with many gifts among us. Do not hide these or keep them to yourself. Allow them to flow into the community and beyond. Peace be with you. Receive the Holy Spirit. Have a great week. Welcome Home!!



PRESIDER SCHEDULE: June 6 / 7

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

10:00 a.m.....Fr. Don West

(Please note that this schedule is subject to change.)

Readings for This Week: June 1-5

Monday	GN 3:9-15, 20; Ps 87; JN 19:25-34
Tuesday	2 PT 3:12-15A, 17-18; Ps 90; MK 12:13-17
Wednesday	2 TM 1:1-3, 6-12; Ps 123; MK 12:18-27
Thursday	2 TM 2:8-15; Ps 25; MK 12:28-34
Friday	2 TM 3:10-17; Ps 119; MK 12:35-37

Next Weekend: June 6/7

First Reading: EX 34:4B-6, 8-9
“The LORD, the LORD, a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity.”

Second Reading: 2 COR 13:11-13
“Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.”

Gospel: JN 3:16-18
“God so loved the world that he gave his only Son.”

St. John Parishioners:

Worship at Mass resumed on Monday, May 25. Our parish will offer one public Mass per day until further notice. Here is the current schedule:

Monday-Friday8:30am in the Church
Saturday 5:00pm in the Church
Sunday.....10:00am in the Church



Please remember that the faithful have been dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Thus, those who wish to participate in Mass and receive Holy Communion can do so by attending a Mass any day of the week. Those who are at risk or fearful that they or their family might become sick are encouraged to join us for a Mass that is live-streamed online each day.

Appropriate social distancing and the regulations put forth by public health authorities must be observed. Here are the guidelines for St. John:

- We are limited to a maximum of 500 people in the Church
- Entry doors will be open for you to have a touch-free entry into church and the Nave.
- Hand sanitizer will be available as you enter. Please use it.
- We are asking that everyone who is able, please wear a mask. This is for the protection of everyone around you.
- Use all available (every other row will be marked for usage) space in the Nave, including the back two sections behind Fr. Don and the Ambo. Families who live together may sit together. All others must be spaced at least 6 feet apart (front-back-side).
- No physical contact at the Our Father or Sign of Peace.
- No Holy Communion from the chalice by the faithful. Communion will be done by sections, please wait for guidance before coming forward. You will stay 6 feet apart from every individual as you approach for Communion, following the floor tape as a guide. (A family with small children can approach together, keeping 6 feet from other parishioners.) There will be two properly spaced Eucharistic ministers per section. Eucharistic ministers will do their best to drop the host into your hand without touching. Please be attentive so this can happen easily. Eucharistic ministers will be wearing masks and will sanitize their hands prior to distribution of communion.
- You will notice that we will not be using choirs. We may use a musician or cantor at Mass, but not groups that sing together.
- Fr. Don will be presiding at Mass without a server.
- A disposable Mass program will be used on Saturday and Sunday, as always. These programs will be handed out individually by an usher who is wearing a mask and has sanitized his/her hands. Following Mass, we ask that you place your program into the recycle bins, or take them home. The bins will be available as you exit the Nave.
- In order to have only one person using the ambo microphone (Fr. Don uses his own microphone, but does stand at the ambo), one reader will lector the first and second readings and the petitions. Fr. Don will be handling our announcements.
- Our nursery/cry room will not be available during any Mass.
- There will be no passed collection baskets during Mass. As you enter or exit Mass, there will be a collection basket in the Gathering Space. Please make use of that. We appreciate your gifts so much during this difficult time!
- Designated ushers will be handing out bulletins after Mass. They will wear masks and will have sanitized their hands. Bulletins are also available online.
- The church will be sanitized every day so that it is clean and ready for the next Mass.

During the first two weeks of public Masses, we will be counting attendees and making any adjustments that are needed. So, we may have further changes and share additional communications on this. Remember, the responsibility to keep others healthy is one that we all share. If you are sick or have been exposed to someone who is sick, please consider joining us for Mass online. If you do come to Mass, please wear a mask and use hand sanitizer. This is for the protection of those around you. Most importantly, always be kind and patient. We are in a confusing and sometimes overwhelming situation. Your parish is doing its absolute best to help you, protect you and share our love for Christ with you. Please show your love of Christ by being Christ to others!

St. John Family Festival Update for 2020

This year, we will not be holding our traditional Family Festival in August. In normal years, we are blessed to host the largest parish festival in the area. In fact, our festival brings in 10% of our annual income in one weekend. That is all due to the hard work and dedication of our festival committee, booth captains and volunteers! Another part of that blessing, though, is the fact that we draw between 5,000 and 10,000 people to our festival per day. All of these community members play games, eat food and listen to music in very close proximity to each other. We want to protect our volunteers, parishioners and community members, and the safest course of action this year is to cancel the festival. We are broken hearted over this. Our Festival Committee is still hard at work trying to create a fun and safe mini event for our parishioners this year.

Even though we will not be having the festival, we WILL be doing two things related to the festival. Our **Grand Raffle** and **Basket Bonanza** will both still be happening. We will share what we know right now...but just like everything this year, some changes are likely!

A letter with Grand Raffle tickets has been mailed to all parishioners. The tickets are \$10 each, or 6 for \$50. You will be mailed 12 tickets, just like previous years. Without the full festival, our income will be very limited this year. So please consider buying all your tickets if you are able! You will also be able to buy additional tickets online. As always, we will have two early bird drawings for \$250. On Friday, August 7th, we will go live online to draw the three large prize winners for the Grand Raffle. The three prizes are \$1,000, \$2,000 and \$10,000 and we hope that you win!

Our Basket Bonanza will be as amazing as ever! Janet Raters and our basket workers do an absolutely astounding job at putting the baskets together. We will let you know when tickets will be available online. You will be able to buy your tickets and choose which basket to put your tickets into online. Our current plan is to have a basket preview on Saturday and Sunday, August 1 and 2. You can view the baskets in person and purchase tickets then as well. We will also have evening hours for the basket viewing that week (August 3-6). Then, the weekend of August 7-8-9 (what would have been our festival), we are hoping (fingers crossed) to have the Basket Bonanza open for a few hours a day and also have burgers, dogs, chips and drinks for sale. We will keep you posted on hours and more details as we get closer to those dates.

How can you help?

- You can purchase **Grand Raffle** tickets! Buy them early and often (that's a line often used by Fr. Don).
- You can make a donation to our **Festival Fund**. We will use it to help replace our festival income.
- You can be a part of the **Basket Bonanza**! Please use this link <https://a.co/emjwGhi> to see the Amazon wishlist for needed items for the baskets. We will also have a non-Amazon wishlist on our website at www.stjohnwc.org. Please drop these items off at the church office. If you have wishlist questions, call Joan or Brigid in the parish office at 513-777-6433.

Thank you for always supporting our annual Family Festival. Thank you for helping us to get through 2020 safely. Thank you for being a wonderful parish to work for! And, in the words of Fr. Don, "be safe out there!"



St. Vincent de Paul

Fear and discouragement keep us from being our best. Pentecost reminds us of the gifts that the Holy Spirit bestows on each one of us, to actively find courage and joy. Jesus' love is stronger than our problems and sins. We continue the mission of Jesus in our personal lives, families, work and service to others. Thank you for your continued prayers and support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Without you, we could not do what we do! If you are in need of help or you would like to join us in our service of hope, contact us at 777-6433, ext. 120 and one of our Vincentians will return your call.

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

MARY MONTOUR • MONTOUR@STJOHNWC.ORG • 513-777-6433, EXT. 118

Parish School of Religion (PSR) Home Study PSR

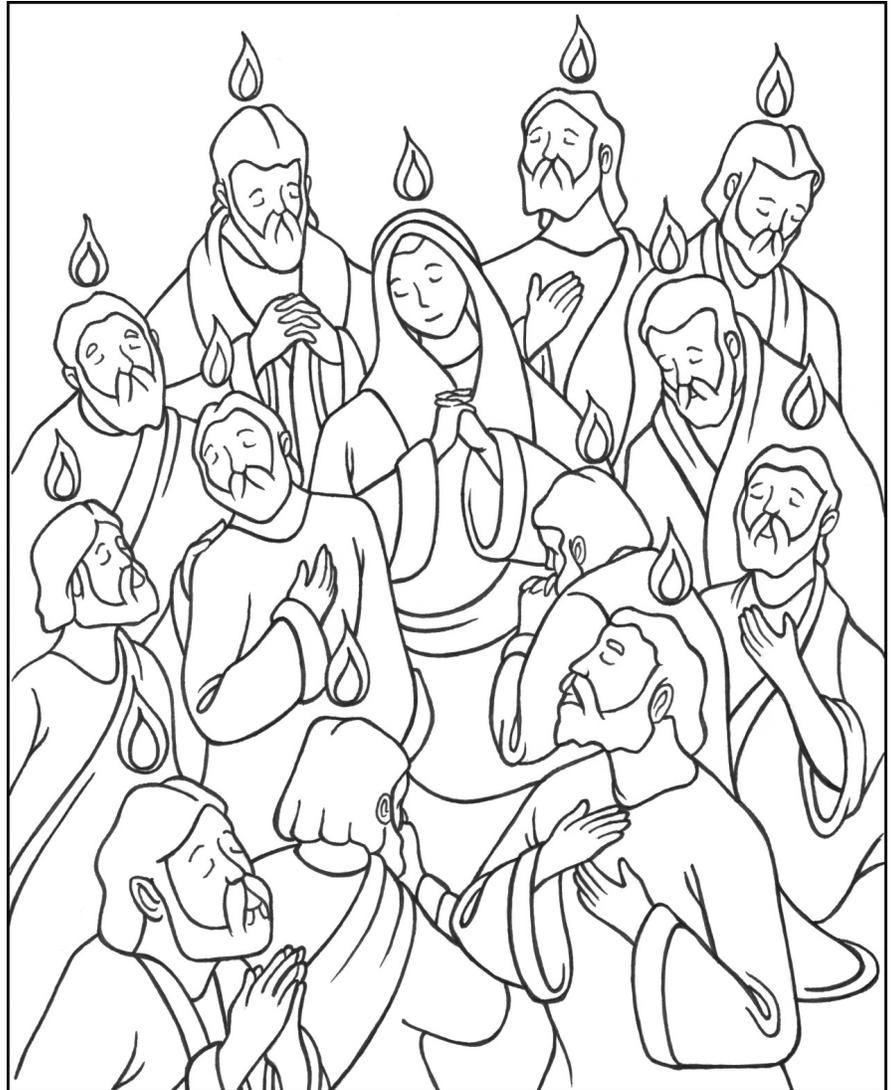
We are looking forward to a new beginning to PSR in September! Registrations will be available online beginning mid-June.

Cancellations/Changes!

First Eucharist

Some families still need to reschedule your child's First Eucharist Mass (recently rescheduled for September, 2020). All families were notified to choose a Mass; please check your email and respond as soon as you can. Questions? Contact Mary Montour (mmontour@st-johnwc.org).

VBS is cancelled for this year. We will go forward with **Rocky Railway: Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through** in June, 2021.



3rd Glorious Mystery: Descent of The Holy Spirit - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



Please continue to pray with your families for all of those affected by COVID-19. Pray for those who are ill and for the frontline workers!

Inspiration

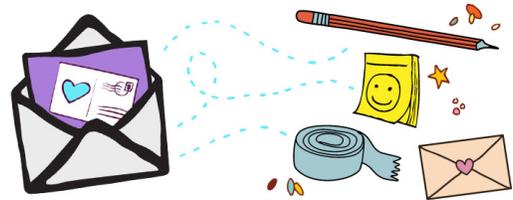
I found this poem while I was searching for inspiration to write a reflection. When I stumbled upon it, I was brought to tears with the beauty and simplicity of the message. I hope this brings you as much joy and courage as it did for me!

Pandemic Lynn Ungar 3/11/20

What if you thought of it
as the Jews consider the Sabbath--
the most sacred of times?
Cease from travel.
Cease from buying and selling.
Give up, just for now,
on trying to make the world
different than it is.
Sing. Pray. Touch only those
to whom you commit your life.
Center down.
And when your body has become still,
reach out with your heart.
Know that we are connected
in ways that are terrifying and beautiful.
(You could hardly deny it now.)
Know that our lives
are in one another's hands.
(Surely, that has come clear.)
Do not reach out your hands.
Reach out your heart.
Reach out your words.
Reach out all the tendrils
of compassion that move, invisibly,
where we cannot touch.
Promise this world your love--
for better or for worse,
in sickness and in health,
so long as we all shall live.

Youth - Refugee Pen Pal Opportunity

Catholic Charities of Southwest OH and Saint John are pairing up for another Cross Cultural Experience. We will be assigning pen pals between refugee teens living in Ohio and students at St. John that are interested in participating. For all students who are interested in this project, we will be handing out letter writing packs with stamps, paper, cards, envelopes, and prompts for writing. To express interest please go to <https://www.stjohnwc.org/ym-service-survey.html>.



Cancellation Notices:

Campton Mission Trip (Hope Mountain Camp) scheduled for June 17 – 20, 2020 is now officially cancelled.

Junior High Summer Camp scheduled for June 23 – 26, 2020 is now officially cancelled as well.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, we will not be able to ensure social distancing and proper health measures for the kids and teens for these events.

**We look forward to JHSC and
Campton in 2021!**



YOUTH MINISTRY

ANNIE MESEWICZ • AMESEWICZ@STJOHNWC.ORG • 513-777-6433, EXT. 114

Thank You Notes!

Thank you to the Festival Committee for their hard work on finding solutions for us to celebrate in some way this year. They have had to make very difficult decisions and we are so grateful for their leadership.

Thank you to the generous donor who gave us shares of Facebook stock valued at \$4,200. Your charity and kindness are appreciated!

A huge thank you to our front office pair of Karens! Karen Hake and Karen Simmons welcome people, answer phones and do so many other tasks, that it would take a day to list them. They are the face of our office and we are blessed to have them both!

Thank you to all of the vendors who have worked through this pandemic to help us maintain and upgrade our campus. Our sign vendor, painter, and HVAC contractors have really done great work.

Thank you to Arlene Hall and Joyce Rigling who have made and dropped off masks for our parishoiners! If you need a mask, please call the parish office at 777-6433 for a touch free pickup.

Thank you to everyone who assisted with donations for St. Francis Seraph and Reach Out Lakota last weekend through our Share-A-Lunch program. You are the best!

Every day during this Pandemic, our parish staff has seen an overwhelming amount of kindness and charity. Have someone to thank? Email Joan at jseibenick@stjohnwc.org and let us know.

Parish Advisory Board

St. John is transitioning to a Parish Advisory Board to replace Pastoral Council this year. In 2020, we will not have the usual discernment process for Pastoral Council (PC). Instead, Fr. Don will ask the four remaining members to stay on as part of the newly formed Parish Advisory Board (PAB). The PAB will be a team of 6-9 members who are hand selected by the Pastoral Staff and approved by Fr. Don.

The PAB will serve a more specific need for the parish, as key advisors to Fr. Don. They will be invited to attend the Building and Grounds Walk Through every spring. In this walk through, we review all of our buildings and grounds to determine which updates or repairs are needed. The Pastor, Business Manager and Facilities Manager will then prioritize these updates and repairs according to need and available budget.

When large projects or changes are needed, the Pastor will invite the PAB in to meet and discuss these items. Events including but not limited to large building projects, Mass time changes, significant changes in staffing or ministries are all examples of items that the Pastor may ask for the PAB's input.

The PAB will meet at least twice per year. Once in the spring for the building and grounds walk through and then an early November "check in" meeting to share any feedback, concerns or commendations with the Pastor and Business Manager. Membership will consist of parishioners who have played a significant role in parish committees or ministries, or who have specific skills or talents needed for parish input. Questions? You can email jseibenick@stjohnwc.org or dwest@stjohnwc.org.

Stay Connected with St. John Parish

As always, be sure to stay connected to St. John through the following communications:

- Follow us on **Facebook**: St. John the Evangelist, West Chester.
- Download the **MyParish App** and add St. John the Evangelist.
- Make sure that your e-mail is updated with your parish record and that you opt into 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** at www.stjohnwc.org.
- The **Parish Office** will now be open during regular office hours. Monday through Thursday from 8:30am - 5:30pm and on Friday from 8:30am until Noon.
- We are going to continue to have copies of the bulletin and other items available in the church Gathering Space.

As always, feel free to contact your parish office at 513-777-6433 if you have questions or if there is anything that you need.

PARISH OUTREACH, RESOURCES & ORGANIZATIONS

Parish Ministries

Baptism

Scott Steinke 513-777-6433, ext. 115

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 / Ministry to Returning Catholics

Scott Steinke 513-777-6433, ext. 115

Sacrament of the Sick

Contact the Parish Office 513-777-6433

Small Church Communities (Journey of Faith)

Annie Mesewicz..... 513-777-6433, ext. 114

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

June

Chapel.....CHA	Pavilion.....PAV
Church.....CHU	Plaza.....PLZ
Conference Room.....CR	Reconciliation Room.....RR
Center.....CTR	Staff Conf. Room.....SCR
Favret Hall.....FH	Spirit House.....SPH
Gathering Space.....GS	South Wing of FH.....SW
Hospitality Room.....HR	Youth Room.....YR

MONDAY, JUNE 1

8:30am..... Mass.....CHU
 9:30am..... Bible Study.....PAV
 9:30am..... Boy Scout Meeting.....PAV

TUESDAY, JUNE 2

Fr. Don's 30th Priesthood Anniversary

8:30am..... Mass.....CHU
 6:30pm..... Justice & Peace Commission.....SCR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

8:30am..... Mass.....CHU

THURSDAY, JUNE 4

8:30am..... Mass.....CHU
 7:00pm..... St. Vincent de Paul.....PAV

FRIDAY, JUNE 5

8:30am..... Mass.....CHU

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

7:00am..... Men's Group.....HR
 4:00pm..... Reconciliation.....RR
 5:00pm..... Mass.....CHU

SUNDAY, JUNE 7

10:00am..... Mass.....CHU



Mass Intentions

Weekday Masses - June 1-5

Monday..... in memory of Louis Hunt
 Tuesday..... in memory of Maureen Hanekamp
 Wednesday..... in memory of Paul Thomson
 Thursday..... in memory of Gayle Doyle
 Friday..... in memory of Ann McPherson

Saturday, June 6

5:00pm..... in memory of Pat Keefer

Sunday, June 7

10:00am..... in memory of Helen Hill