

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Est. 1884



120 West Main Street, Front Royal, VA 22630

Office: 540-635-3780 | Fax: 540-635-2683 | Email: stjohns@sjtb.org

WELCOME

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church is an epicenter of Catholic activity. Within our parish boundaries there are numerous Catholic enterprises and educational institutions. From these organizations a strong Catholic community developed around St. John's. Many of our parishioners have moved to the Front Royal area specifically for the Catholic kinship and to raise their families in a supportive Catholic atmosphere. The fruit of this robust Christian hamlet is a vibrant, active, devout and growing Catholic population and many religious vocations. St. John's often has the largest number of seminarians and sisters in formation than any other parish in the Diocese.

St. John's currently has 5 priests, 2 permanent Deacons, 25 Masses per week, 12 weekly confession times, 1959 registered households and 5880 individual parishioners!

We encourage you to become an active member of our parish by sharing your gifts, talent and prayer for the good of your neighbor and for the Glory of God.

*"As generous stewards of God's manifold grace,
put your gifts at the service of one another."*

1 Peter 4:8-10"

OFFICE INFORMATION

Monday - Friday: 9:00am - 6:00pm
Closed for Mass & lunch: 12:00pm-1:00pm

(540) 635-3780
Fax: (540) 635-2683
www.sjtb.org

PARISH PRIESTS

Rev. Daniel Gee - Pastor
fathergee@gmail.com

Rev. James Joseph - Parochial Vicar
frjoseph@sjtb.org

Rev. Michael R. Duesterhaus - Parochial Vicar
frmrd@sjtb.org

Rev. Brian B. McAllister - Parochial Vicar
frbrian@sjtb.org

Rev. Tom Shepanzyk - In Residence
frtom@sjtb.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Sundays: 7:00am | 8:30am | 10:30am | 12:30pm
| 2:30pm (Spanish) | 5:30pm

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm

Weekdays:

Monday-Saturday: 8:30 am

Monday-Friday: 12:00pm

Wednesday: 7:00pm (Spanish)

CONFESSIONS

Monday-Friday: 8:30 am

Monday-Friday: 6:30 pm

Saturday: 8:30 am | 3:30 pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Weekly Monday 8:00am until Saturday 7:00am

Held in the Adoration Chapel

PARISH SOFT

Sign up for a Parish Soft online giving account at:
<https://sjtb.org/donate>

OTHER GIVING OPTIONS

Please consider one of the many other ways of giving to support the parish:

- Cash or Check (Use in-pew envelopes)
- Planned Giving
- Gifts of Stock & Securities
- QCD from your IRA

If you have questions, please contact
Deacon David Wallace at dwallace@sjtb.org
or call the parish office at (540) 635-3780.

PARISH EMAIL ALERTS

Sign up for St. John's email alerts by registering
at <http://eepurl.com/djz4OT>

Parish Liturgical Ministries

Altar Guild

Caring for altar linens.

Contact: Marlene Lunberg 540-635-0541

Altar Servers

Ages 10 - 18

Contact: 540-635-3780 stjohs@sjtb.org

Church Flowers

Enhancing worship spaces with flowers and holiday decor.

Contact: Julie.thedaughter@protonmail.com

Lectors

One month rotation schedule.

Contact: mkmoose@comcast.net 540-635-7628

Sacred Music

Choirs for adults and children.

Contact: music@sjtb.org

Ushers

Greet individuals and provide welcoming environment.

Contact: Parish Office 540-635-3780

Please reach out to any of the Liturgical, Outreach or Congregational Ministries if you have any questions or would like to join or volunteer in some capacity.

Parish Outreach Ministries

Feeding Our Neighbor

To-Go Dinners prepared and distributed by area organizations for those in need. St. John's is responsible for the first Thursday of each month.

Contact: tracy.terwilliger@comcast.net

Homebound

Visit or call those who are homebound or in nursing homes, seeking ways to assist them, including rides to Mass.

Contact: andariega1591@gmail.com

Prison Ministry

Wednesday evening visit to the RSW Regional Jail bringing the light of Christ to those who are incarcerated.

Contact: dr.c.manion@gmail.com

Social Outreach

Act as the steward of the parish Social Outreach resources serving those in need within the community.

Contact: outreach@sjtb.org

St. Agnes Basement

Accepts donations of furniture and appliances and redistributes to those in need.

Contact: andariega1591@gmail.com

St. John's Food Pantry

Collects and distributes food and other critical items for those in need.

Contact: stjohnthebaptistfoodpantry@gmail.com

Legion of Mary (Adult)

To glorify God through the holiness of its members developed by prayer and active cooperation under ecclesiastical guidance.

Contact: Andrew Armstrong - 540-631-4620

Legion of Mary (Young Adult)

Contact: ourladyofvictory.praesidium@gmail.com

Legion of Mary (Junior)

Junior league ages 5-14 engaging in prayer and corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

Contact: vivianofrsn@aol.com

Parish Congregational Ministries

Divine Mercy for the Dying

Pray the Divine Mercy chaplet for dying parishioners, either privately or at the deathbed.

Contact: mmbodoh@gmail.com

Eucharistic Adoration

Perpetual Adoration from 8:00a.m. Monday through 8:00a.m. Saturday in the Adoration Chapel.

Contact: adoration@sjtb.com

Fasting Brothers

Men committed to fasting one day a week for the sole intention of a specific Parish Priest.

Contact: SevenSistersArlington@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus Council #7771

Catholic men supporting our parish and community.

Contact: jlashkofc7771@gmail.com

Lay Dominicans

Contact: Martha Smith - 540-222-5869

Little Flowers

Monthly club for girls in grades 1-5 aiming to practice holiness one virtue at a time.

Contact: littleflowersofsjtb@gmail.com

Parents Support Group for Children with Special Needs

Sharing resource information and personal experiences.

Contact: Laurie Adams 540-683-1767 or Winnie Ehlinger 540-636-1688

Prayer Chain

Parish prayer chain via email for parishioners' special intentions.

Contact: setonmom@gmail.com

Religious Education

Catechetical formation through the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd - pre-school through 12th grade instruction including two-year sacrament preparation classes for First Penance/First Communion and Confirmation.

Contact: dwallace@sjtb.org

Seven Sisters

Women committed to one holy hour per week for the sole intentions of a specific parish priest.

Contact: SevenSistersArlington@gmail.com

SJTB Seniors Group

Meets once a month for ages 55+.

Contact: sullme@comcast.net

St. Anne's Fertility

Support and resources for those experiencing infertility or repeated loss.

Contact: info@fertilityministry.org

St. Columba's Place

Catholic library located in the Frassati House.

Open Monday 10:00am - Noon; Saturday and Sunday 9:00am - Noon; Wednesday 2:30pm - 5:30pm

Contact: stcolumbasplace@gmail.com

St. John's Athletics

Offers all parish youth the opportunity to participate in sports within a Catholic culture.

Contact: vcriste@sjtb.org

St. John's Drama

Offering monthly workshops and 2+ productions a year.

Contact: stjohndramaclub@gmail.com

St. John the Baptist Moms Group

Helping Catholic moms find community within the Parish through monthly spiritual and social meetups.

Contact: sjtbmomsgroup@gmail.com

St. Monica Club

Prayer group that meets once a month to pray for loved ones who have lost the faith.

Contact: dkaralow@gmail.com

That Man Is You!

Addresses pressures men face in our modern culture, transforming men to become the best versions of themselves.

Contact: Vivianofrsn@aol.com

Welcoming Committee

Welcoming new parishioners through gatherings and welcome information packets.

Contact: kathybruski@gmail.com

Wonderfully Fashioned

Faith, fashion and fun for young ladies ages 14 - 18.

Contact: acrownofroses@protonmail.com

Widows Fellowship

Meeting once a month for prayer, support and fellowship.

Contact: Nancy Supples - 571-330-4460

Women of St. Johns

Helping women find community and support within the parish; offering monthly speaker series, meal chains for families in need and general parish information.

Contact: thewomenofstjohn@gmail.com

Young Adult Events

Social and service activities for ages 20 - 30.

Contact: youngadultsofstjohnthebaptist@gmail.com

Catholic Schools-Educational Institutions

Chelsea Academy

Liberal arts education in the Catholic tradition - grades K-12.
www.chelseaacademy.org

Christendom College

Catholic liberal arts college.
www.christendom.edu

Divinum Auxillium Academy

Classical liberal arts education with a Montessori foundation on a farm campus.
www.divineassistanceacademy.org

John Paul the Great Montessori Academy

Rethinking Catholic Education | Spiritual and Academic growth for your kids.
www.jpgma.org

John XXIII Montessori Center

Offering multiple programs for children ages 1-17.
www.john23mcc.org

Our Lady of Champion Academy

A classical hybrid homeschool academy for grades K-5 on Tuesday and Thursday.
www.ourladyofchampionacademy.org

Padre Pio Academy

Cooperative-style supplement for parish homeschooled students grade K-12 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
www.padrepiolearning.org

St. Joseph the Just School for Boys

Independent boys' high school in the Catholic tradition
www.stjosephthejust.org

St. Edith Stein School for Girls

Independent girls' high school in the Catholic tradition.

www.stedithsteinschool.org

Seton Home Study School

A christ-centered, academically strong program designed for the Catholic homeschooling family in today's world.

www.setonhome.org

Community Resources for Those in Need

C-CAP (Congregational Community Action Project)

Providing services for those with limited financial resources.

Contact: 540-636-2448 www.ourccap.org

Catholic Charities

Serving the poor and vulnerable at Front Royal Location.

More information: www.ccca.net

Front Royal Pregnancy Center

A non-profit medical clinic dedicated to helping women who are experienciing unplanned pregnancies.

Contact: 540-635-6181 frontroyalpregnancy.org

Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry

Food distribution to those in need within the community.

Contact: 540-252-4320. Christina.bearden@ccda.net

Hope and Rest Temporary Shelter (HARTS)

A community-based organization that provides a winter homeless shelter to adult men and women.

Contact: hartsofwarren@gmail.com www.hartsofwarren.org

St. Luke's Clinic

Offering medical assistance to those in need in the community.

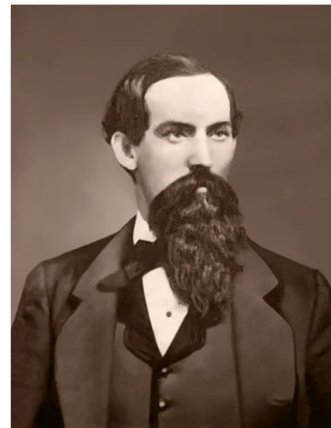
Contact: 540-636-4325. www.saintlukeclinic.org

Parish History

The origins of St. John's Church

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church is unique in that it was built as one of the very few "memorial" Catholic churches in the United States dedicated to an individual. That individual is a man named John Carrell Jenkins. The Jenkins family history is traced back to some of the earliest Catholic pioneers to come to America in the 1600's.

John "Carrell" Jenkins was born on June 14, 1834 in Baltimore, Maryland. Described by family as "easy in manner and gentle in voice...generous to a fault, especially to those in distress; ever ready to defend the unfortunate or to repel an unkind word."



As a young man in his 20's Carrell joined the prestigious Maryland Guard to help quell the violence and protect certain parts of Baltimore. Locally and nationally the unrest came to a head in 1861. Carrell was caught up in America's Civil War for only four months before contracting typhoid fever. On the morning of October 11, 1861, John Carrell Jenkins passed away in Warm Springs, Virginia.



Approximately 20 years later, the Jenkins family requested that a chapel be built somewhere in western VA in memory of Carrell. The request was granted by Bishop John Keane of Richmond and the corner stone was laid on October 7, 1883 in Front Royal, Virginia. The Jenkins family paid for the entire church to be built and provided the pews, bell, altar, sacred vessels and vestments. Some of these items are still in use at St. John's Church today.

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church was dedicated on September 7, 1884. A marble tablet was placed on the wall of the Church where it remains today, reading:

*Pray for the Soul of John Carrell Jenkins
Died October 11, 1861
Out of Whose means Principally
this Church has been Erected*

Mission Church then Parish

For over 50 years, St. John's was a mission church with priests from Winchester coming once a month to administer the sacraments and celebrate Mass. On July 6, 1940, St. John's was designated as a parish, with its first pastor being Fr. Martin T. Quinn.

On June 24, 1998, a new larger church was dedicated next to the original, under the pastor Fr. William Ruehl. The original church was designated part of the Front Royal Historical District in 2003 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A renovation of the original church was undertaken in 2006-2007 and it continues to serve as an Adoration Chapel to this day.

As the number of Catholic Hispanics in our area began to grow, the need for a Spanish Mass and Catholic fellowship became apparent. In 2008, St. John's began a weekly Sunday Mass in Spanish. The community has been growing ever since and we currently serve approximately 300 Hispanic families.



Parish Buildings



Parking is **permitted** on Luray Avenue, Lee Street and Oak Street as well as behind Padre Pio Hall. Parking is **prohibited** in the lots behind the Old Front Royal Polic Station and the Aparments on Lee Street. Parking is also **prohibited** at Maddox Funeral home and the Methodist Church. Please be respectful of our neighbors.



St. John the Baptist

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Revision: July 2026