

## **WELCOME TO ST JOHN'S CHURCH!**

Saint John's 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 the Baptist Church, which has grown to attract large families and young adults alike. Many of our parishioners have moved to the Front Royal area specifically for the supportive Catholic atmosphere. The fruit of this robust Christian community is an active, growing Catholic population.

This booklet contains contact information and a brief explanation of our parish organizations and ministries, various Catholic community organizations, schools and local charitable organizations; and ends with the history of our church and a map of the church grounds.

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

Welcome and May God bless you!

For more information, updated events and past bulletins, go to our website: [www.sjtb.org](http://www.sjtb.org)  
Sign up for St. John's email alerts by registering at <http://eepurl.com/djz4OT>

### **Organizations and Ministries**

*"As generous stewards of God's manifold grace, put your gifts at the service of one another" (1 Peter 4:8-10). Please reach out to any of our ministries and organizations if you have any questions or would like to join or volunteer in some capacity. Thank you!*

#### **Altar Guild**

Caring for altar linens

Contact Marlene Lundberg: 540-635-0541

#### **Altar Servers**

Ages 10 –18

Contact the parish office: 540-635-3780 or [stjohns@sjtb.org](mailto:stjohns@sjtb.org)

#### **Children's Holy Hour**

Thursday 3pm in Adoration Chapel

Contact [blessedmommy1998@gmail.com](mailto:blessedmommy1998@gmail.com)

**Church Flowers & Decor**

Enhancing worship spaces with flowers and holiday décor

Contact Julie Litterio: [Julie.thedaughter@protonmail.com](mailto:Julie.thedaughter@protonmail.com)

**Coffee Social**

Serving refreshments and baked goods after Sunday morning Masses

Contact Betty Belk: [bettybelk@gmail.com](mailto:bettybelk@gmail.com)

**Divine Mercy Ministry for the Dying**

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

Contact Michelle Bodoh: [mmbodoh@gmail.com](mailto:mmbodoh@gmail.com)

**Dominicans Third Order**

Lay Dominicans (formerly Third Order or Dominican Tertiaries)

Contact Martha Smith: 540-222-5869

**Fasting Brothers**

Men committed to fasting one day a week for the intention of a specific priest

Contact [sevensistersarlington@gmail.com](mailto:sevensistersarlington@gmail.com)

**Feeding Our Neighbor**

Dinner served by area churches and organizations for those in need; St. John's is responsible for making and serving the meals on the first Thursday of each month

Contact Tracy Terwilliger: [tracy.terwilliger@comcast.net](mailto:tracy.terwilliger@comcast.net)

**Eucharistic Adoration**

8am Monday –8am Saturday in our Adoration Chapel

Contact Catherine Briggs: [adoration@sjtb.org](mailto:adoration@sjtb.org) 540-635-0645

**Homebound Ministries**

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

Contact: [andariega1591@gmail.com](mailto:andariega1591@gmail.com)

**Jordan River Theatre Company**

Ages 18+

More information: [jordanrivertheatrecompany.wordpress.com](http://jordanrivertheatrecompany.wordpress.com)

**Knights of Columbus Council #7771 - John Carrell Jenkins**

Catholic men supporting our parish and community [www.kofc7771.org](http://www.kofc7771.org)

Contact: [jlashkofc7771@gmail.com](mailto:jlashkofc7771@gmail.com)

**Lectors**

Contact Mary Kay Moose: [mkmoose@comcast.net](mailto:mkmoose@comcast.net) 540-635-7628

**Legion of Mary (adults)**

To glorify God through the holiness of its members developed by prayer and active co-operation under ecclesiastical guidance

Contact Andrew Armstrong: 540-631-4620

**Legion of Mary (young adults)**

Contact OurLadyOfVictory.Praesidium@gmail.com

**Legion of Mary (juniors)**

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

Contact Viviano Rodriguez: [vivianofrsn@aol.com](mailto:vivianofrsn@aol.com)

**Lenten Soup Nights**

Each Friday in Lent the parish community provides soups and pastas to raise money for parish outreach programs

Contact Cathy Remmers: [remmers66@gmail.com](mailto:remmers66@gmail.com)

**Little Flowers Girls Club**

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

Contact: [littleflowersofsjtb@gmail.com](mailto:littleflowersofsjtb@gmail.com)

**Meals for New Moms/Postpartum Support**

Contact: [thewomenofstjohn@gmail.com](mailto:thewomenofstjohn@gmail.com)

**Music & Choirs**

Sacred Music Choirs for adults and children

Contact Dr. Jeffrey Alban: 540-635-3780 or [music@sjtb.org](mailto:music@sjtb.org)

**Natural Family Planning: St. Anne's Fertility**

Contact: [info@fertilityministry.org](mailto:info@fertilityministry.org)

**OCIA**

Classes open to all parishioners and non-Catholics looking to learn more about the Catholic Faith

Contact the parish office: 540-635-3780

**Parents' Support Group for Children with Special Needs**

Sharing resource information and personal experiences

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

**Prayer Chain**

Parish prayer chain praying for parishioners' special intentions

Contact Marlicia Fernandez: [setonmom@gmail.com](mailto:setonmom@gmail.com)

**Religious Education**

Pre-school - 12th grade instruction including two-year sacrament preparation classes for First Penance/First Communion and Confirmation

Contact Subdeacon David Wallace, DRE: 540-635-3780 or [dwallace@sjtb.org](mailto:dwallace@sjtb.org)

**Senior Group**

Meets once a month. Ages 55+

Contact Mary Ellen Sullivan: [sullme@comcast.net](mailto:sullme@comcast.net)

**Seven Sisters Apostolate**

Women committed to 1 holy hour per week for the sole intentions of a specific priest or bishop

Contact [sevensistersarlington@gmail.com](mailto:sevensistersarlington@gmail.com)

**Spanish Ministries**

Contact the Parish Office: 540-635-3780 [jreyes@sjtb.org](mailto:jreyes@sjtb.org)

**St Agnes Basement**

A place to donate furniture/appliances or take what you need

Contact: [andariega1591@gmail.com](mailto:andariega1591@gmail.com)

**St. Anne's Fertility Ministry**

Peer support and resources for those experiencing infertility or repeated loss

Contact: [info@fertilityministry.org](mailto:info@fertilityministry.org)

**St. Columba's Library**

Located at Frassati Hall

Open Saturday & Sunday 9am-12pm; Wednesday 2:30-5:30pm

Contact: [stcolumbasplace@gmail.com](mailto:stcolumbasplace@gmail.com)

**St. John's Athletics**

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

[www.saintjohnsathletics.com](http://www.saintjohnsathletics.com)

Contact: [vcriste@sjtb.org](mailto:vcriste@sjtb.org)

**St. John's Charities**

Provides resources and limited financial assistance to people in need within the community

Contact: [outreach@sjtb.org](mailto:outreach@sjtb.org)

**St. John's Community Newsletter**

Online newsletter with goal to build up the body of Christ in Front Royal by the exchange of goods/services/ideas

Contact Michael Turner: [michael@StJohnsCommunityNewsletter.com](mailto:michael@StJohnsCommunityNewsletter.com)

**St. John's Drama Club**

Offering monthly workshops and 2+ productions a year for ages 13-18

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

Contact: [stjohnsdramaclub@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsdramaclub@gmail.com)

**St. John's Food Pantry**

Collecting/distributing food and critical items for those in need

Contact: [stjohnthebaptistfoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnthebaptistfoodpantry@gmail.com)

**St. John's Social Outreach**

Acts as the steward of the parish Social Outreach resources serving those in need within the community and encourages all to participate in Works of Mercy

Contact: [outreach@sjtb.org](mailto:outreach@sjtb.org)

**St. John the Baptist Moms Group**

Helping Catholic Moms find community within their parish through monthly spiritual/social meetups

Contact: [sjtbmomsgroup@gmail.com](mailto:sjtbmomsgroup@gmail.com)

**St. Monica Club**

Meets 1x month to pray for loved ones who have lost the Faith

Contact Delane Karalow: [dkaralow@gmail.com](mailto: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 Viviano Rodriguez: [vivianofrsn@aol.com](mailto:vivianofrsn@aol.com)

**Ushers**

Contact the Parish Office: 540-635-3780

**Vocations Awareness**

Contact Cindy Rhodes: [sjtbvocations@gmail.com](mailto:sjtbvocations@gmail.com) 443-440-0121

**Welcoming Committee**

Welcoming new parishioners through gatherings and welcome information packets

Contact: [kathybruski@yahoo.com](mailto:kathybruski@yahoo.com)

**Widows Fellowship**

Meets once a month for prayer and fellowship

Contact: 571-330-4460

**Wonderfully Fashioned**

Faith, Fashion and Fun for young ladies ages 14-18

Contact: [acrownofroses@protonmail.mail](mailto:acrownofroses@protonmail.mail)

**Women of St. John's**

Supporting each other and offering a monthly speakers program

Contact: [thewomenofstjohn@gmail.com](mailto:thewomenofstjohn@gmail.com)

**Young Adult Events**

Social and service activities for ages 20's-30's

Contact: [youngadultsofstjohnthebaptist@gmail.com](mailto:youngadultsofstjohnthebaptist@gmail.com)

**Catholic Schools / Educational Institutions**

*within our parish boundaries*

**Chelsea Academy**

Liberal arts education in the Catholic tradition - grades K-12

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

**Christendom College**

[www.christendom.edu](http://www.christendom.edu)

**Divinum Auxilium Academy**

Classical liberal arts education with a Montessori foundation on farm campus

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

**John Paul the Great Montessori Academy**

Rethinking Catholic Education / Spiritual & Academic growth for your kids [www.jpgma.org](http://www.jpgma.org)

**John XXIII Montessori Center**

Offering multiple programs for children aged 1 - 17 yrs

[www.john23mcc.org](http://www.john23mcc.org)

**Our Lady of Champion Academy**

A classical hybrid homeschool academy for grades K-5 meeting on Tues/Thurs

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

**Padre Pio Academy**

Cooperative-style supplement for parish homeschooling families, students in grades K-12  
meet Mon/Wed/Fri

*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*

**For those who find themselves in trying circumstances, *and for those who would like to volunteer to help them*, our Front Royal community offers the following charitable organizations:**

**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.cdda.net*

**Front Royal Pregnancy Center**

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

*11 S Royal Ave 540-635-6181 frontroyalpregnancy.org*

**Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry**

Catholic Charities food distribution to those in need

*Contact Tina Bearden: Christina.bearden@cdda.net 540-252-4320*

### **St John the Baptist Church Food Pantry**

Providing food assistance Wednesdays 5-7pm Saturdays 10-noon Padre Pio Hall basement  
[stjohnthebaptistfoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnthebaptistfoodpantry@gmail.com)

### **Hope and Rest Temporary Shelter (H.A.R.T.S.)**

A community-based organization partnering with local churches to provide a winter homeless shelter to adult men and women during the winter months

*More information: [www.hartsofwarren.org](http://www.hartsofwarren.org)*

### **St. Luke's Clinic**

Offering medical assistance

316 N Royal Ave 540-636-4325

[www.saintlukeclinic.org](http://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 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.

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 4 months before contracting typhoid fever. On the morning of October 11, 1861, John Carrell Jenkins passed away in Warm Springs, VA.

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. 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.

Saint 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 Church 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 2006-7 and it continues to serve as an Adoration Chapel to this day.

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

St. John's total number of parishioner families is over 1900.

### **St. John the Baptist Catholic Church of Front Royal**

Diocese of Arlington Virginia

Bishop: Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge

Pastor: Rev Daniel Gee

Parochial Vicars: Rev Tom Shepanzyk, Rev Michael Duesterhaus, Rev Brian McAllister

# St. John the Baptist Parish buildings

