

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
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

Children's Holy Hour

Thursday 3pm in Adoration Chapel

Contact blessedmommy1998@gmail.com

Church Flowers & Decor

Enhancing worship spaces with flowers and holiday décor

Contact Julie Litterio: Julie.thedaughter@protonmail.com

Coffee Social

Serving refreshments and baked goods after Sunday morning Masses

Contact Betty Belk: 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

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

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

Eucharistic Adoration

8am Monday –8am Saturday in our Adoration Chapel

Contact Catherine Briggs: 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

Jordan River Theatre Company

Ages 18+

More information: jordanrivertheatrecompany.wordpress.com

Knights of Columbus Council #7771 - John Carrell Jenkins

Catholic men supporting our parish and community www.kofc7771.org

Contact: jlaskkofc7771@gmail.com

Lectors

Contact Mary Kay Moose: 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

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

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

Meals for New Moms/Postpartum Support

Contact: thewomenofstjohn@gmail.com

Music & Choirs

Sacred Music Choirs for adults and children

Contact Dr. Jeffrey Alban: 540-635-3780 or music@sjtb.org

Natural Family Planning: St. Anne's Fertility

Contact: 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

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

Senior Group

Meets once a month. Ages 55+

Contact Mary Ellen Sullivan: 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

Spanish Ministries

Contact the Parish Office: 540-635-3780 jreyes@sjtb.org

St Agnes Basement

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

Contact: andariega1591@gmail.com

St. Anne's Fertility Ministry

Peer support and resources for those experiencing infertility or repeated loss

Contact: 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

St. John's Athletics

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

www.saintjohnsathletics.com

Contact: vcriste@sjtb.org

St. John's Charities

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

Contact: 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

St. John's Drama Club

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

www.stjohnsdrama.org

Contact: stjohnsdramaclub@gmail.com

St. John's Food Pantry

Collecting/distributing food and critical items for those in need

Contact: 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

St. John the Baptist Moms Group

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

Contact: 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

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

Ushers

Contact the Parish Office: 540-635-3780

Vocations Awareness**Welcoming Committee**

Welcoming new parishioners through gatherings and welcome information packets

Contact: 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

Women of St. John's

Supporting each other and offering a monthly speakers program

Contact: thewomenofstjohn@gmail.com

Young Adult Events

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

Contact: 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

Christendom College

www.christendom.edu

Divinum Auxilium Academy

Classical liberal arts education with a Montessori foundation on farm campus

www.divineassistanceacademy.org

John Paul the Great Montessori Academy

Rethinking Catholic Education / Spiritual & Academic growth for your kids www.jpgma.org

John XXIII Montessori Center

Offering multiple programs for children aged 1 - 17 yrs

www.john23mcc.org

Our Lady of Champion Academy

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

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

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

St. Luke's Clinic

Offering medical assistance

316 N Royal Ave 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 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

