



To Grow, Heal, and Serve

Week of May 3, 2026

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Ways to Grow

Spirituality of Money: Giving It Away

With many, many good causes out there, how do followers of Jesus make prayerful decisions about where to donate money? Join us for the next installment of our ongoing conversation about living faithfully with money, when a panel of St. John's members will share their discernment about giving. We'll meet on Sunday, May 3, at 10:15 a.m. in Kilbourne Hall. Sunday school, Youth Roundtable, and nursery care are offered at the same time.

Chat SJW returns

Back by popular demand -- Chat SJW (aka Chat St. John's Worthington) is returning to St. John's. Do you ever wonder what brought your pew mate to St. John's? Or who else shares a passion for your hobby? Join us at the May 17 coffee hour to find out. We'll offer some low-key conversation starters to practice talking with and listening to each other – and have a little fun along the way. Listening to and learning about each other is a key part of Invite, Welcome, Connect (IWC) so come listen with us! Questions? Contact Mary Wachtel or Mary Bailey.

Next Date for Baptism

St. John's will celebrate the sacrament of Baptism on Pentecost Sunday, May 24, at both 9:00 and 11:15 services. If you are interested in Baptism for yourself or your child--or you don't know what that is and you'd like to learn more--please speak with Gia or David. Preparation involves meeting with a priest for about an hour.

Sign up for VBS at St. John's!

Vacation Bible School will be offered all five Mondays in June, 6:00-7:30 pm. Our theme this year is "Animals in the Bible." We'll have fun learning about different animals in the Bible in stories about people like Noah, Jonah, Daniel, and David. We'll also learn how Jesus spoke about animals and what animals played a role in

Jesus's life. Kids aged 3 to 11 are welcome to join us for stories, games, crafts, music, and science at Vacation Bible School. You can sign your kid(s) up for all 5 sessions or as many as fit your schedule here.



2026 Women's Fall Retreat

2026 Fall Women's Retreat will be Oct 9-10th at the Transfiguration Spirituality Center in Cincinnati, OH. The theme for this year's retreat is Birthing Holy Hope. Our Facilitator will be Katherine Murphy. The cost will be \$100. Please watch the announcements for future details. Contact Donna DeRemer-Hissrich at 614-203-3562 or email me at donna.hissrich@gmail.com.

~Donna DeRemer-Hissrich

Ways to Heal

COHI Volunteers Available

Winter is finally behind us, and the trees, flowers, and birds reflect this wonderful change. We're able to get out more and enjoy each other's company, visiting and meeting at church and for lunch. It's a beautiful time of year.

But for some of us spring can be a lonely time. Maybe we can't drive any longer, or physical ailments keep us inside. We've lost dear friends, and family might live far away.

If this resonates with you or a loved one, please know that St. John's provides a group of caring church volunteers, whose mission it is to provide an empathetic listening ear. This may include visits to your home, telephone calls, eucharistic visits, and even meeting at a restaurant of your choice for a nice meal and conversation. If you, or someone you know are interested in receiving a phone call, visit, etc. from a trained volunteer, please contact Gia or David. Enjoy your spring! - *Beth Hall*

Ways to Serve

More Than a Meal at Huckleberry House

Providing a home cooked dinner at the Huckleberry House Crisis Center means so much more than just a meal. Any teen aged 12 – 17 experiencing crisis or housing instability can walk through the doors and find a safe, caring alternative to the streets. Huck House's Teen Crisis Shelter doors are always open. St. John's Outreach and Social Justice Committee organizes and funds home cooked meals for guests at the Shelter. Our next scheduled dinner donation will be on May 4th. Please contact Jean Duncan at jeanduncan59@msn.com or 215-534-7290 with questions or interest in supporting this ministry. Find out more about the many resources provided by Huckleberry House and how you can get involved at HuckHouse.org.



Sacred Stitches

Sacred Stitches will meet May 7, Thursday, in St. Johns Atrium. We will work on prayer shawls and baby blankets for baptisms, since we may have a few during Pentecost. If anyone is in need of yarn, there is some to take in the Atrium bench. Sacred Stitches also has a small budget for purchasing yarn. If anyone is interested, please let Bonnie Ross or Jocelyn Leiberfarb know.

Blessing Bags: Sharing Care and Compassion

Join the Outreach and Social Justice Committee May 10 in Kilbourne Hall between services for our Blessing Bags outreach, a hands-on opportunity to show care and kindness to our unhoused neighbors. Participants are welcome to help assemble Blessing Bags and/or take bags with you to share in the community.

This ministry is a joyful and meaningful way to live into St. John's mission: to grow, heal, and serve with God's wisdom, love, and joy. As we head into warmer weather, each bag will include deodorant, a toothbrush and toothpaste, socks, water, sunscreen, body and alcohol wipes, adhesive bandages, and a snack.

Each bag costs approximately \$4.50. Financial gifts are warmly welcomed and may be made to St. John's with "Blessing Bags" noted in the memo.

This is a vital outreach program, and many past participants have shared how grateful and moved they were to be part of it—and how eager they are to return. Questions? Contact Melissa Stanton at 614-519-5194 or melissacorrin@gmail.com.

Sign up now for Nehemiah Action

BREAD Columbus is an organization made up of over 40 faith congregations in Columbus. The Nehemiah Action is the culmination of many months of work by BREAD to choose, research, and address an important local issue. We show up in numbers to let our public officials know that people care about this issue and want action! This year's issues are protecting the urban tree canopy and a livable wage. Join us on Tuesday, May 12, for optional dinner in the undercroft. We will leave from there to the Celeste Center on the fairgrounds for the event which begins at 6:40

p.m. Sign up at the tables in the Atrium starting April 19 when there will be a bread-themed coffee hour and get your FREE tickets! Thank you for your participation!

Friendship Dinner

🍷 FRIENDSHIP DINNER - Thursday, May 14 | 6:00 PM

Join your Worthington neighbors for an evening of good food and fellowship.

Dinner Menu

- Tossed Salad
- Corn Bread
- Pulled Pork
- Coleslaw
- Brownies

Vegan, vegetarian, and allergen friendly options available

No children's menu this month

Volunteers Needed

We are seeking 9 volunteers:

- 3 for food preparation
- 3 for setup
- 3 for cleanup

Sign up sheet available in the atrium

Questions? Email or text:

✉️ jbross53@gmail.com

📱 (847) 254 1821

News From Habitat for Humanity!

St. John's is one of fourteen churches forming the Northside Partnership (NSP). We support Habitat for Humanity Mid-Ohio in several ways. Our financial sponsorship and construction volunteers support new home builds for deserving families.

Members of the NSP were in attendance for a new home groundbreaking ceremony on March 31st. The lot is located at 1277 22nd Avenue, Columbus. It will be home to the Camara family. Mom is originally from Guinea. She and her 5 children are looking forward to having a safe, affordable place to call home in the Fall.

Foundation digging and framing are expected to begin in early May with contractors completing the roofing and siding installation. Volunteers will be working on interior finishes and storage shed construction in the Summer. St. John's volunteer workday is tentatively scheduled for August 29th. Please be on the lookout for more information about signing up to volunteer. All training, tools and materials are supplied. Volunteers must be over the age of 16 and accompanied by an adult if under 18. No previous experience or skills are required.

Please contact Jean Duncan at jeanduncan59@msn.com on behalf of the Outreach and Social Justice Committee with questions or interest.



The Food Pantry

In April, I attended 'Pastries at the Pantry' at the Worthington Resource Pantry (WRP). This was a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the Pantry's mission and operation, take a tour of the whole facility at their new and bigger location, and also participate in a small service project. The choice pantry is set up to serve small, medium, and larger families, and I was able to see firsthand how both our food and toiletry donations and our financial donations help serve our hungry neighbors. Our donations of cereal, chunky soup, and other food items increase the range of choices in each food category, and our financial donations enable the Pantry to purchase \$4 worth of food for every \$1 donated, helping to keep the shelves well-stocked.

Volunteers play a very important role in the operation of WRP. In addition to sorting donations, stocking shelves, and repackaging diapers and feminine products, volunteers might answer the phone, deliver food to seniors, or help with a special project. When I attended Pastries at the Pantry, we assembled a couple hundred sacks of healthy snacks for the three libraries in Worthington, to be available for teens visiting the library after school and other hungry neighbors. WRP is very grateful for everything their volunteers do to make sure our neighbors have access to healthy food to feed their families. If you would like to volunteer at WRP, visit worthingtonresourcepantry.org/volunteer to learn how to get involved.

You can also donate financially to WRP at worthingtonresourcepantry.org/donate. YOUR financial contributions or donations of food and toiletries help WRP serve our hungry neighbors - thank you!

May 3 – spaghetti; shampoo
10 – tuna; toothpaste
17 – cereal; body wash
24 – peanut butter; toilet paper
31 – baby food, formula; diapers (4-5-6)

~ Mary Bailey

Around St. John's

Sunday, May 3 Celtic Service 4 pm in the Atrium

Please join us on May 3 at 4 pm for a lovely spring Celtic service that celebrates how God reveals His presence in the renewal of life's abundance in this season. The Celtic service is a quiet, meditative service with music, prayers of concern, the lighting of candles, a time of silence, and affirmations of faith based on the liturgy of the *Iona Abbey Worship Book*. The service is 40 - 45 minutes long and is followed by a time of fellowship and hospitality. We do hope you will join us as we welcome the return of light, warmth, green fields and trees, and birdsong, the precious gifts of God.

The Celtic Fellowship

Singles Dining Out

Our May Singles Dining Out gathering will find us at the Worthington Tavern on Wednesday, May 20, at 6:00 pm. The Worthington Tavern is located at 671 High Street in Worthington. You can find Worthington Tavern's menu at www.worthingontavern.com/menus. RSVP to Dana Whitley at danalw3@gmail.com so she can let Worthington Tavern know the size of our group. We may need to be at smaller tables of 4 or 6 to avoid 'group checks,' so please let Dana know ASAP if you can come. We hope you can join us!

Singles Dining Out is an informal group of St. John's parishioners and friends, always happy to welcome new participants. Singles and married individuals who will be attending without their spouse are welcome to participate, and feel free to invite a friend who is not a member of St. John's. ~Mary Bailey

Columbus Pride 2026

VOLUNTEER AT COLUMBUS PRIDE 2026

This summer, the Diocese of Southern Ohio will be back at Stonewall Columbus Pride, showing up the way we try to each year, with openness, care, and a real welcome for whoever comes our way. This year's theme, "Until We're All Free," connects with our call to Becoming Beloved Community and the promises we make to seek justice and respect the dignity of every person. And with Pride weekend beginning on Juneteenth, it feels like an important moment to remember the work of liberation that's still unfolding. If you're able, come be part of it, whether that's marching, volunteering, or just showing up and being there.

**REGISTER BY FRIDAY, JUNE 5, USING THE QR CODE
OR VISIT TINYURL.COM/DSOPRIDE**



- **Festival: Friday, June 19, 4:00 - 10:00 PM**
- **Pride March: Saturday, June 20, 10:30 AM**
- **Festival continues: Saturday, 11:00 AM - 8:00 PM**

Questions? Reach out to Darien McCoy (*he/him*) at lgbtq-columbus@diosohio.org



Flowers

Flowers are given in thanksgiving for the life of Pam Zych by her family.

Newsletter Submission

Are you looking to submit an article for the newsletter? Click the link below! Deadlines for the articles are due by Tuesdays at 12 noon and can be sent in no earlier than Monday of the same week.

Submit Here

Readings for This Sunday

Acts 7:55-60

Readings for Next Sunday

Acts 17:22-31

1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21
Psalm 66:7-18

[Click here for the Lectionary page](#)

Centering Prayer – Mondays, 1:00 pm. Click this **Zoom link** (Meeting ID: 865 0593 1410; Passcode: 922699; +13017158592,,86505931410#,,,,*922699#). If you are interested, contact Teri Foley-Nelson, at foleynelson1@sbcglobal.net.

Do You Have Family or Friends Who You Want Included on the Weekly Prayer List? If so, please contact the office at Bellao@stjohnsworthington.org or 614-846-5180, with their first names. Names will remain on the list for three weeks unless there are additional instructions. If you want longer term prayer by the intercessory prayer group, please contact Mary Bailey (614-619-1803 or mphbailey.3@gmail.com) or Jo Pascoe (614-306-7983 or twopas@aol.com).

Pastoral Care Concerns - If you have a pastoral care concern, please contact one of the clergy. Gia may be reached at 614-846-5180, ext. 302, 220-219-1880, or GiaHM@StJohnsWorthington.org. David may be reached at 614-846-5180, ext. 308, 220-219-1880 or, DavidB@stjohnsworthington.org. 220 area code is a local number.

People for whom prayers have been asked

And we pray for:

Lynn
Phil
Eric
Emary
Rick & family
Annette, & Jean
Shawna
Eryeya
Jack, Julie, and the
Stewart/Ellison Family
Sheridan
Sarah & family
Jenny
Skip
Mike
MaryLou
Erik
Katie & Jacob
Brenda
Paul
Jadyn
Linda
Crew of Artemis rocket
Caleb
Annette & Jean

Jeanne
David
Kathy
Jo Anne
Aby
Curt and the family of
Georgia
Michelle
Brian
Sally
Beverley

For our service men and women and all first responders

(Allow time for others to pray)

For those who are unemployed or underemployed

(Allow time for others to pray)

For all who experience fear or exclusion

(Allow time for others to pray)

For those in prison or bondage – in body or spirit

(Allow time for others to pray)

For peace and for all those who suffer from war, including the people of Ukraine, Sudan, Afghanistan, Armenia,

Heather & Jerry
Elaine
Sue

Israel, Palestine, Lebanon,
Iran, Venezuela and all
places of conflict in the
world.

Parish Cycle of Prayer

John Herbert
Eve Herold
Ellen and Tom Hitch

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

St. Patrick's, Dublin
Our Bishops

We Give Thanks

For the people of St. John's and for their ministries
For the life of Pam Zych

The Departed

St. John's Episcopal Church | 700 High Street | Worthington, OH 43085 US

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