



To Grow, Heal, and Serve

Week of May 17, 2026

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Ways to Grow

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. Sign-up [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*

Give Blood, Save Lives, Celebrate Sunday Funday!

St. John's will host a community blood drive on Sunday, June 7, from 12:30 to 5:30 pm, in Kilbourne Hall, with Versiti Blood Center, the main blood supplier for the Ohio State University Wexner Centers and The James Cancer Center. This event coincides with Worthington's Pride Sunday Funday, making it a perfect day to worship, give back, and celebrate! After church, stop by to donate blood, then enjoy the vibrant activities, food, music, and booths celebrating our local LGBTQIA+

community. People need people! When we give blood, we give hope and we save lives! Blood donation promotes the values of solidarity, compassion, and community. Our goal is 20 donors, including both parishioners and Sunday Funday visitors. Together, we could save up to 60 lives! Want to help greet donors? Contact Mary Bailey at 614-619-1803 or mphbailey.3@gmail.com. You can sign up for a time to donate at donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11637241. Let's show the power of faith and compassion in action!



Ways to Serve

In the Garden May Dinner 5/24

Thanks to all who contribute time and food to this downtown ministry. A sign-up sheet and pans and recipes are on the atrium table through next Sunday. You can bring food and/or join the St. John's team at Trinity to serve this meal. Your support for this ministry is so very much appreciated by hungry folks in Columbus!

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 17 – cereal; body wash

May 24 – peanut butter; toilet paper

May 31 – baby food, formula; diapers (4-5-6)

~ Mary Bailey

Around St. John's

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.worthingtontavern.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

Incense on Pentecost Sunday

St. John's will use incense at the 11:15 service on Pentecost, May 24. Those who are particularly sensitive may wish to attend the 9:00 service on this feast day.

Pentecost Ice Cream Social

Sunday, May 24 at 10:15am in the Undercroft

Join fellow parishioners in the undercroft between services for an Pentecost Ice Cream Social. Ice cream and a variety of toppings will be provided. Vegan, vegetarian, and allergen friendly options will also be available.


VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SET-UP AND SERVING!

- 2-3 Volunteers to set up the tables and chairs in the undercroft Saturday afternoon at 1 PM
- 2-3 To help scoop and serve the ice cream immediately after the 9:00 service, or if you plan to attend the second service come early and help scoop ice cream.

Sign up sheet available in the atrium.

Questions? Email or text:

 jbross53@gmail.com

 (847) 254 1821

Appreciation for Stephen Sollars

Stephen Sollars, who has served as St. John's organist for the past five years, will step down from his staff position this summer as he prepares to begin seminary studies. Stephen's last Sunday on the organ bench will be Sunday, May 31, though we will continue to see him in the pews for a couple more months. We will save the farewell celebration for late July or early August, right before Stephen's departure for Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, VA.

St. John's will send Stephen off to seminary with some of the books he will need for his degree. To make a contribution, write a check or make an online donation to St. John's by June 30 with the note that it is for the Sollars gift. (And if you'd like to purchase a book for Stephen on your own, that's perfectly fine--just please tell Gia the title so she can avoid duplicate gifts.)

Sunday Funday: Worthington PRIDE Is Just Around the Corner! Sign-up Now!

Sunday Funday: Worthington Pride welcomes all to celebrate diversity and love in all forms. The Outreach and Social Justice Committee hope YOU will join us in the fun by representing St. John's at our table in front of the church on Sunday, June 7th! We will greet visitors and have fun giveaways to hand out.

If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up on the sheet located on the table in the Atrium. List your Name, E-mail contact, and the Timeframe that you wish to volunteer between 1:00 and 4:00. Chairs and bottled water will be available for

volunteers, and you will be contacted prior to the event with more details. Please reach out to Jean Duncan at jeanduncan59@msn.com or 215-534-7290 with questions.

The 5th Annual Worthington Pride event is kid friendly and will have lots of great booths highlighting LGBTQIA+ organizations, hands-on activities and crafts, food and local shopping specials, and live music and entertainment!

Consider helping with this outreach ministry or attending this community event. Hope to see you there!



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](https://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



Columbus Pride Mass, June 11

PRIDE Mass 2026



The Episcopal Churches of Central Ohio invite you:

June 11, 6:30 PM

Trinity Episcopal Church on Capitol Square

125 E. Broad St. Columbus, OH 43215

Katie Forsyth, Canon for Communications and Governance,
Diocese of Southern Ohio:

Preacher

The Rev. Olivia Hamilton, Vicar, Grace Episcopal Church,
Cincinnati:

Celebrant



**Diocese of
Southern Ohio**

Reception to Follow
ALL are welcome!

Congratulations to the Congredi Quartet!

This group of young musicians – two flutes, oboe, and viola – just won the Gold Medal in the junior wind division at the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition. The Congredi Quartet is part of the Chamber Music Connection (CMC), which is home to the talented young musicians who play lovely music for the preludes and postludes at our worship services once a month. This is the first time a CMC group has won Gold in CMC's 27 history of entering the competition! The Congredi Quartet will perform on Friday, May 15, at 7:15 pm to open the Cavani String Quartet concert at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 35 E Stanton St, 43214. CMC has made its rehearsal home at St. John's since 1998, under the direction of parishioner Deborah Barrett Price. You can read more about the mission of CMC and the wonderful accomplishments of its students at www.chambermusicconnection.org.

Flowers

Flowers are given in celebration of the life of Bill Weatherholt by Linda Weatherholt.

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 1:6-14
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11
Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

Readings for Next Sunday

Acts 2:1-21
or Numbers 11:24-30
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
or Acts 2:1-21
John 20:19-23
or John 7:37-39
Psalm 104:25-35, 37

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:

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

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

Melissa
Pat
Alan
Ruth
Amya
Rt. Rev. Thomas Breidenthal
Vivian
Kyme
Nancy

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

Parish Cycle of Prayer

Jonathan Johns
Maureen Kay
Greg Kellison

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

St. Mark's, Upper Arlington
Our priests

We Give Thanks

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

The Departed

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

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