

St. Barbara Strong!

What a year...full of Mass restrictions, no Mass, Mass with many restrictions and the question of mask or no mask. Meetings and gatherings cancelled. Rocktoberfest cancelled. We could all get pretty down if we let it all get to us. But not here at St. Barbara! We are stronger than that! Thank God we are all able to gather for Mass again!



But, unfortunately, we had to make the decision to cancel Rocktoberfest for the safety of our people. It was NOT an easy decision. Our festival committee is so dedicated that, when we met, I could see the sadness on their faces. BUT, we decided that we should still do our annual T-shirt. And after much discussion, guess what was decided for this year's shirt slogan: ST. BARBARA STRONG!



How appropriate, I thought. After all that we have been through this year, this parish is strong as ever. Our faith and fellowship have held us together. And, God willing, the fun will return with our festival next year. If there is one good thing that has come from this pandemic, it is a general return to deep prayer for most. Let us thank our God for all that he continues to do for us and let us pray that God will continue to hold us together as we look forward to better times.

~ God Bless You All!
Father John

Rocktoberfest Postponed

Though not surprising it is with much regret that we have made the decision to postpone Rocktoberfest until 2021. Our first thought was the safety and health of the parishioners of St. Barbara and believe this was the right decision.

Despite the postponement, the committee will continue to work together and gear up for next year to officially celebrate our 10th year and make it the best festival ever. We want to thank you for considering your donation during this time.

Any supporters that have already donated can choose to have it held for our 2021 festival event or have the donation returned. Those supporters will be contacted directly to make arrangements. Please contact Tina Bowen at 859-640-8766 or the church office 859-371-3100 with questions.

There is a light at the end of the tunnel and we will get through this together through our faith and fellowship that is the foundation of our parish.

Thank you again for your past donations and consideration for this year. Together we can look forward to Rocktoberfest 2021!

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This Year's DPAA Campaign

By Jim and Jackie Koop, Parish Chairs

The DPAA 2020 campaign is well underway, and the need will be greater than ever. The theme this year was chosen before the pandemic arrived.

The theme is taken from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans, "Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts." Hope is needed now, and always. Hope is given to the needy through the charitable gifts of those who have been richly blessed.

We encourage all parishioners to support the 2020 DPAA with a pledge or donation of any size. One hundred percent of all gifts collected over our goal will be returned as rebates to the parish for projects and ministries.

The DPAA video and secure online donation form can be accessed at covidio.org/stewardship-missions.

Pledge envelopes are also available on the table in the Parish Welcome Center. Thank you for giving, and considering your gift to the DPAA. God bless!



Join Us for the Eucharist at Church

We understand that you are being cautious during this time regarding the attendance of Mass and while it is convenient to remain at home and watch the live broadcast, you are not able to participate in the source and summit of the Mass which is the Eucharist. We have plenty of space available and have all of the social distancing parameters in place. Our Sterling Event Center is open for viewing the live broadcast and communion will be distributed. We can hold 120 people in the event center and 160 in the church. As a reminder we are asking all those who join us to wear a mask and be considerate of others.

First Communion

After months of preparation, 42 of our young parishioners finally celebrated their long awaited First Holy Communion.

At a special Mass on June 27, each of our CCD first communicants was able to have a church pew for immediate family, joined in spirit by additional guests in the Sterling Event Center and others watching live streaming at home.

On July 26, two other children received the sacrament during Sunday Mass. Several of our parishioners who attend St. Henry School received the sacrament with their classmates at St. Henry Church on July 26 and August 2.

Due to distancing restrictions, the traditional group photo was not possible. We congratulate all of the children upon receiving Jesus for the first time.



Congratulations, 2020 First Communicants:

Ben Brueggen, Roxy Carter, Allison Eten, Connor Fangmeyer, Audra Forste, Aubree Goldsberry, Simon Greenwald, Ava Hacker, Josie Hall, Haley Jamison, Lucas Jump, Amelia Klaene, Hudson Klare, Charlotte Lageman, Evelyn Lee, Bradley McIntyre, Jacob McMillan, Matthew Menke, Cade Mohr, Blake Neace, Chase Northcutt, Savannah Piper, Brennan Salyers, Aidan Smith, Reid St. John, Reed Stringer, Emma Rust, Andrew Williams, Blake Williams, Daniel Stephens, Julie Stephens, Emma Middendorf, Josie Moore, Sydney Nelson, Ashley Selm, Zoey Williams, Teagan Aylor, Hadley Ball, Brady Miller, Dani Powers, Dalton Williamson, Dylan Williamson

Pandemic Ponderings

A parishioner recently shared some thoughts about the pandemic.

For me walking into a church is always a special event. It doesn't have to be Easter or Christmas. This recent time of lock-down has driven that home for me. Even though my prayers are very personal, walking into church elevates my spirit because as I walked into church with my grandfather he would lean down and say to me, "This is God's house. In here you say 'Thank you' for everything you have because He has given it all to you. If you want to 'beg' for something, talk to Santa."

Thank you for sharing this, Dave Agee! Email your thoughts to us at crosstalk@stbarbaraky.org.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Our RCIA candidates and catechumens were initiated into the church and received all of their sacraments on June 14.

Please pray for our newest members and welcome them to our parish family. We look forward to the next class beginning September, 2020.



Congratulations, 2020 RCIA: Craig Bluemlein, Cory Evans, Zachary Ferguson, Sandra Fossett, Jesse Ortiz, Bob Salyers, Brandon Staggs, Bradley Hunter Sturdivant, Ashley Marie Thomas and Danielle Zevely.

Ministry Spotlight: Hearts and Hands Health Ministry

By Courtney Mueller

In 2004, Mimi Trenkamp and Jennifer Hasekoester joined together with a team of St. Barbara's parishioners to form a ministry that extended both hearts and hands to members of their faith community. From delivering meals to parishioners to providing blood pressure screenings, the Hearts and Hands Health Ministry truly share their talents to help parishioners maintain good health.

The ministry is probably best known in the parish for providing blood pressure screenings. On the weeks when these screenings are provided, the members of Hearts and Hands also provide fruit. In addition to this, the ministry puts inserts into the bulletin with health-related information.

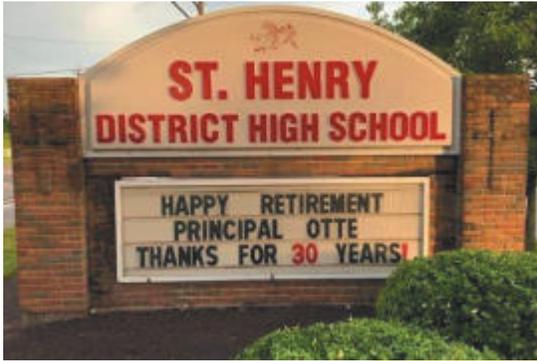
Members of the Hearts and Hands also make prayer blankets that are distributed to those who are suffering illness. Through the Elizabeth Ministry, the members of the Hearts and Hands give gifts to newborn babies of the parish and give Bath & Body Works products and devotionals to new mothers. The ministry also delivers meals to members of the parish who are ill or who have recently become parents. In addition to these activities, the ministry also sends greeting cards to new parishioners to welcome them to the parish, and holds bunco fundraisers (the proceeds of which are donated to deserving organizations throughout the community).

For more information, or to get involved in the Hearts and Hands Health Ministry, contact Mimi Trenkamp or Anna Schack at heartsandhandshealthministry@gmail.com. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month during the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November.

CRU View

By Peggy Casey

St. Henry District High School started a new chapter in July following the retirement of Mr. David Otte, who served as principal for 30 years.



The new leadership team of Mr. David Gish, principal, and Mr. Grant Brannen, assistant principal, hit the ground running to ensure SHDHS is ready to welcome students back on campus for the 2020-2021 school year.

Over the last 32 years, David Gish has served as a teacher, athletic director, and assistant principal at SHDHS. "I look forward to this opportunity and am grateful to work with an incredibly talented faculty and staff," said Gish. "We will continue to educate our students to live the Catholic faith, be active in their faith community, and to be leaders in developing their academic talents."

Grant Brannen has taught in public and parochial education for the last 17 years. He is "excited to be a part of the Crusader family, a great Catholic school which is rich in history, tradition, and academic excellence."

To learn more about the great things happening at SHDHS throughout the year, visit shdhs.org or facebook.com/StHenryCRU.

Learn about Our Parish Council

The members of Parish Council provide the necessary guidance and recommendations that the other parish committees require to be successful in their endeavors within the parish. We are thankful for the time and talent each Parish Council Member contributes.

Three voting member seats are available each year and members serve for three years. The current members of our Parish Council are:

Voting members: Bill Dorsey, Bill Engel, Laura Hegge, Barb Osborne, Diane Wendeln, Marybeth Bosko, Penny Kramer, Kathy Dorsey, Julie Hermes, Beth Penn.

Non voting members: Father John Sterling, Deacon Chuck Melville, Coordinator of Religious Education Jackie Koop, Youth Minister John Kidwell.

We are grateful for the service of retiring members Larry Arzdejewski, Barb Griffin, and Jim Wendeln!



Committed to Our 3 C's

By Dennis Wolff, Principal

We're experiencing challenging times right now, that's certain. But at St. Henry School, we have a long, rich history, one that includes overcoming challenges, seeing opportunities and becoming even more St. Henry Strong as a result. Our parish has made it through a pandemic, the Great Depression, World Wars and more. We'll make it through this.

During the 2020-21 school year, we remain committed to our 3 C's: connected to God and each other, growing in confidence, and contributing to the community. We will achieve this promise, regardless of the form that school takes, by being creative and focused on our goals.

We've been working hard to prepare for students returning to school this year, and are excited to welcome them back to campus. To get through COVID-19 and come out stronger than ever, the following core principles will be true for all St. Henry Crusader families going into the 2020-21 school year:

- We will prepare to keep everyone safe and healthy
- Excellent education that maintains our 3 C's
- Flexibility in all areas

We'll be praying for you, and we ask that you pray for us. St. Henry, pray for us!

Stay connected with us at facebook.com/st.henryschool and our website sthenryschool.net.

Catholic Women's Bible Study

This fall, Walking With Purpose will look a little different here at St. Barbara Parish. Due to the restrictions placed on us during the pandemic, we will not be meeting in the Sterling Center. All of our lessons will be held virtually or at an in-home setting; whichever you feel more comfortable doing. While this is disappointing, we are excited to continue our program and expand upon the tremendous success we experienced during our first year!

Walking With Purpose is a Women's Bible Study that will take you on a spiritual walk with our Lord. This program would like to help you enjoy a deeper personal relationship with Jesus Christ, nurtured through personal Bible study and small group discussions created just for women. It is parish-based, approved by parish leadership, and supported by the Walking With Purpose national staff, and welcomes everyone irrespective of faith background, age, or marital status. The program incorporates at-home Scripture study, weekly small group discussion, and monthly talks on relevant study material. Our small group leaders are volunteers who have received training to help facilitate discussions among the women in the group. Learn more at walkingwithpurpose.com.

More detailed information will be coming soon about this year's program! Contact Laurie Munson at lauriemunson22@gmail.com with questions.



What's Happening to My Church?

By Deacon Chuck Melville

During this time of pandemic, those of us who plan and lead worship are struggling to balance the needs of our communities with the limitations on what churches can provide to people. For two months this spring, we couldn't come together for Mass or to receive the Eucharist. Father John and I had only some photos taped to the back of the pews to remind us of the community celebration we were sharing. We were eager to have people back and present at the Mass.

Now we are back but with some changes that aren't readily accepted by all. We are keeping each other safe with masks and social distancing guidelines. Fewer parishioners are allowed in church. We have limited contact, like at the sign of peace. Singing has been discouraged and even prohibited. Holy water was removed from our church. Why is all this happening? Is it the work of the devil or a government gone wild? Without our routines and rituals, how can we feel connected as the church? What are we expecting?

So, are we looking for liturgy to be predicable, reliable, unchanging? Do we look to liturgy to be provide steady guidance and orientation in a mixed up world made more so by a virus beyond our control? Are the temporary changes overshadowing the real reason we are coming to Church? When we come to liturgy looking for stability, are we doing so in order simply to escape to the familiar? Or are we looking for the stability that characterizes God's steadfast love? God's love stands firm in the face of chaos and the disorder of sin. It denounces racism. It calls out sexism. It seeks to trouble the waters of unequal access to healthcare. Or is coming to Mass an exercise in "it's all about me"? Are we seeking comfort in the familiar or seeking God's will in our lives?

**Good liturgies shine
even when we are struggling
to make sense of the chaos
all around us.**

Father John's homily on July 26th spoke of asking God for the gift of an understanding heart. We naturally resist change, that's human nature but we also need to look beyond ourselves and strive to understand God's plan and to balance our personal desires and the good of our brothers and sisters in God's family.

We don't know what will happen in the immediate future. We are wondering if the churches will be shut down again to delay the spread of the coronavirus. We can pray that the Holy Spirit will bestow on each of us a little extra of His gifts of wisdom, understanding, and fortitude. We surely need it now.

To learn about stewardship opportunities at our parish, please go to the Ministry tab on our parish website or app.

Who inspires you? Share the good news!

Suggestions for the Stewardship and Ministry features are welcomed and can be sent to crosstalk@stbarbaraky.org.

Inspiring Stewards Among Us

By Anita Randall

I joined St. Barbara Church approximately 25 years ago. I came from St. Boniface James Parish in Ludlow, KY.

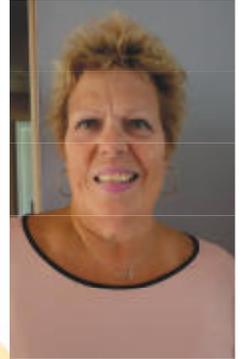
Prior to coming to St. Barbara, I had been a lector at my previous parish, and I was eager to continue at my new parish. There is always a need for additional lectors, and I enjoy being able to fill that need.

For many years, I have also served as a Eucharistic Minister and a sacristan. As it happened, I inquired about the sacristan position just as one of the other sacristans decided to step down, so I was able to fill that need. I love the closeness this position provides with both God, and other parishioners. Doing this work in God's house makes me feel closer to Him, and allows me to get to know other parishioners every week as they attend Mass.

I am also a member of the Altar Society. We clean the church every Saturday from 10:30 am to 12 pm. We have a great time every week cleaning and socializing and all are welcome to join us.

About ten years ago I also joined the Holy Dames. It is a great way to meet more women of the parish. I am currently the treasurer of the group. I encourage all women of the parish to join us at 7 pm on the first Tuesday of the month from September through May.

In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my husband of 36 years, Don, our sons, Donnie and Drew, and our grandchildren, Bodhi and Hunter. Neither of our sons live locally, but I love travelling in order to spend time with them. I keep my sanity by doing yoga 4-5 times per week. I like to walk and be outdoors. I love to hang out with my friends. I have also served as a legal assistant at Busald Funk Zevely P.S.C. for 31 years.



Our Parish Family

New Parishioners

Joshua & Jill Beckerich

Craig Bluemlein

Eric & Louise Canter

Joseph & Danah Hacker

Mary Riegler

Bradley & Danielle Sturdivant

Newly Married

Anne Deis & Brian Duggan

Caitlin Neuhaus & Clayton Buckner

In Memoriam

Patricia Whitton

Jerome Sweeney

Robert Nienaber

William Bishop