



RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

October 1, 2023

Prayer Service

Please join us in the Memorial Garden for the Unborn for a short, community prayer service commemorating the souls of the children we were never able to hold.



Our next gathering will be on Sunday, October 8th following 9AM Mass.

All Are Welcome!

It's Respect Life Month

We consider more deeply why every human life is valuable and reflect on how to build a culture that protects life from conception to natural death. Join Catholics nationwide in celebrating Respect Life Month! Respectlife.org/celebrate

Interactive Display

In October, we will be hosting an interactive Respect Life display in the front entry area of the church. All parishioners are invited to participate. For more information, please stop by the display.

Baby Bottle Campaign



We are organizing a baby bottle campaign for InnerVisions HealthCare, a local unplanned pregnancy and STD medical clinic. Their mission is to empower women in vulnerable situations to choose parenting or adoption. To learn more about their two clinics and life-affirming mission, visit www.ivhcare.org. You will find baby bottles in the front entry area of the church; please take a bottle, fill it with change, cash, or checks. Please return the bottle by October 22nd. Or you may leave a donation in the large baby bottle, donate online www.IVHCare.org/donate/, or with Venmo @ivhcare. If you have any questions, please contact Bryan Gonzalez at 515-280-4706. Whatever offering you give will help the mother and the child. Thank you and God bless you all!

We're grateful for Caldwell Parrish Funeral Home for matching a portion of the proceeds that are donated to InnerVisions baby bottle campaign this year!

"Radical solidarity compels us to come alongside vulnerable mothers in profound friendship, compassion, and support for both them and their preborn children. It requires us to address the fundamental challenges that lead an expectant mother to believe she is unable to welcome the child God has entrusted to her. We must do all we can to provide mothers, children, and families with the support they need to flourish. This cannot be accomplished by laws or policy alone, but requires the continual transformation of our own hearts." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities | Respect Life Reflection: "Radical Solidarity" (respectlife.org/radical-solidarity-reflection)

More information on activities of our committee may be found at
www.stjohnsadel.org/respect-life-committee



NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC RENEWAL

1ST INVITATION: REINVIGORATING WORSHIP

Are you wondering why there has been a few little additions in the celebration of the Mass at St. John's? The USCCB (The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) have invited each parish to participate in the National Eucharistic Renewal, which is a momentous, three-year initiative. We are now in the 2nd year, the Year of the Parish Renewal (June 2023 - July 2024). It is hoped that parishes will experience profound renewal while participating in this grassroots efforts inspired by the four invitations of the Renewal for this year.

Beginning with the source and summit of the Church's life and mission, the first invitation is "reinvigorating worship" with a special attentiveness to the art of celebration in the liturgy. This is celebrating the liturgy beautifully, with faithful attention to making the Light of Christ shine more brightly in our celebration of the Mass and help us encounter Jesus in a personal way and as a parish community.

So, if you notice a slight addition in the celebration of the Mass, it is to help us draw closer to Christ and orient our minds and hearts to the beauty that is taking place at the Mass. For example, the singing of the hymn Sanctuary as Fr. Remi is distributing the Eucharist to the ministers and servers. The purpose of this is to help prepare us to receive the Eucharist, the true body and blood of Jesus Christ.

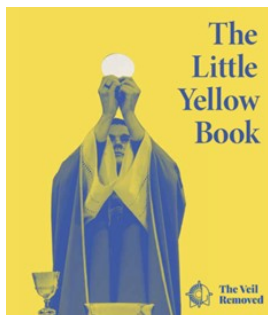
This moment in the life of the Church is a tremendous opportunity to kick start the renewal of our parishes, beginning with and pointing back to Christ's true presence and saving action in the Eucharist.

St. John's Parish Wide 30 Day Reflection

If you did not get your copy of *The Little Yellow Book*, please pick it up in the gathering space. We started on Sept. 18th, but it's not too late to join in.

Parishioner's Personal Reflection:

"The thing that stood out to us this last week was the reminder that the priest kisses the Bible because the 'word was made flesh' and Jesus is alive in the Gospel. He is speaking to us personally."



Why Ring the Bells?

You've probably noticed that bells are being rung during Mass. The Roman Catholic Church has a long history of ringing bells on the Altar to draw attention during the

Consecration of the Holy Eucharist. Since the time of the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965), the Mass has been offered in the language of the people (*vernacular*), rather than in traditional Latin. Thus, bell ringing was determined to be optional, since everyone in the parish congregation can understand and follow what is being prayed on the Altar. Fr Remi and other St John's parish leaders have decided to bring back the ringing of the Altar bells during the Liturgy of the Eucharist, especially during this year of "Eucharistic Renewal" for all Catholics. In drawing attention during the Consecration - at the Epiclesis, the elevation of the Host, and the elevation of the Chalice - it is hoped that our parish family will be drawn ever closer into the wonderful gift and reality that our Lord Jesus Christ has given His real body and blood to us in the Eucharist.

Sanctuary

Lord, prepare me
to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy,
tried and true.
With thanksgiving,
I'll be a living
sanctuary
for You.

All are invited to join us in song at each Mass to prepare to receive the Eucharist, the true body and blood of Christ.

Sanctuary lyrics can be found in the front cover of the missalette.



We welcome Chuck Maffin into full reception of the Catholic Church. May God bless you, your family, and your journey of faith.