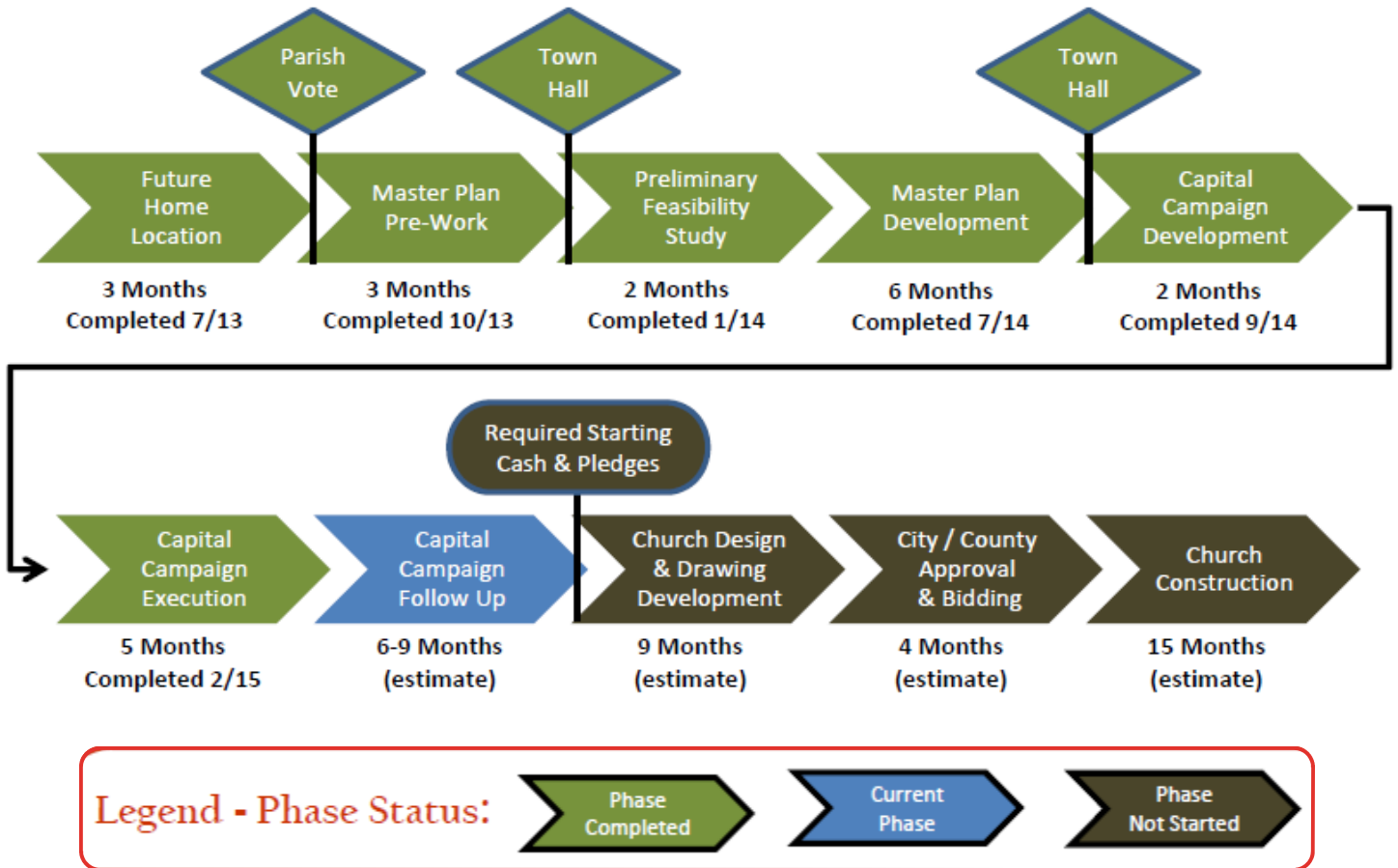


2015 CROSSROADS



Process Timeline



It has been a busy summer for the St John Future Home Committee, but if you aren't a committee member you might wonder what the heck has been going on.

We have continued our fundraising, reaching out to those we have not yet heard from. Those efforts are ongoing. To date, we have heard from 911 families and received 505 gifts. Pledges and funds raised total \$6,123,951. If you and your family have not yet made a gift to the campaign please prayerfully consider it. We need you!

We have also met with contractors interested in building our church. Following the initial interviews we prepared a proposal request document for interested contractors. The Archdiocese of Cincinnati assisted us in preparing the request for proposal document.

Contractor bids were recently received. The committee is now in the process of selecting 2 or 3 finalists who will be individually interviewed by Fr. Kemper, Paul Roell and our committee members. We hope to select our contractor sometime in October. Then we will work with the contractor, and the architect, to begin the design and specification process. The goal is to begin site improvement work next spring. The next step after that is church construction. That is planned for 2017 if things remain on schedule.

We'll provide another update after the contractor is selected. Thank you for your contributions and prayers.

Salvadoran's Come To Visit

On Wednesday, July 29th, through Saturday, August 8th, St. John the Baptist was blessed with a visit from members of our sister parishes, Our Lady of Guadalupe, and Santa Cruz, El Salvador. They came to spend time with us and share here in the solidarity which has grown through our annual visits with them.

From each parish we were blessed with their pastors coming, along with the pastoral leaders who lead the scholarship programs for the children we have been sponsoring. The persons who came from Our Lady of Guadalupe were: Pastor, Padre Joaquin Melendez, Mario Ramirez and Guillermo Araujo. Coming to visit us from Santa Cruz were: Pastor, Padre Jorge Grande, Jose Neri Arias, Maria del Carmen Melendez and Jose Lius Villalobos. Also coming with them was Elba Moreira who works with CRISPAZ, (Christians for Peace in El Salvador) which is the non-profit organization that works with us every year to provide the food, lodging and transportation services for our visits to El Salvador. Elba, who is a Salvadoran resident, is fluent in both Spanish and English and she serves as our delegation leader and translator during our visits. She agreed to come and visit us here, to spend time with us, and provide her translation services during their visit.

The group from Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish arrived first on Wednesday evening, July 29th. On Thursday the group, together with members of St. John's, visited the Art Museum in Mt. Adams since Padre Joaquin is an avid student of fine art and was looking for the opportunity to explore what we have here in Cincinnati. That evening we had dinner at the home of Dave and Cathy Grimm. Bishop Joe Binzer, who is a friend of the Grimm family, came and joined us that evening.

On Friday we began with Mass and breakfast at St. John's which was followed by a visit to the homebound of our parish so that our friends from Our Lady of Guadalupe could meet them. We then had lunch at the home of Don and Mary Meiners. After lunch we met at St. John the Baptist to reflect on the scriptures for the Feast of the Transfiguration. The word "El Salvador," as we know, means "The Savior," in English and that feast, on August 6th, is the patronal feast for their country. The country of El Salvador is essentially closed down that week to celebrate the feast. In the evening we attended the Cincinnati Reds vs. the Pittsburgh Pirates game, which was the first time that our friends from Our Lady of Guadalupe had seen a professional baseball game in the United States.

On Saturday morning we visited the Fire Museum in Cincinnati. The tour was led by former firefighter, Dave Grimm. After that visit we went to Findlay Market and our guests enjoyed a morning of shopping there. Our guests from Our Lady of Guadalupe shared Mass with us at 4:00 p.m. while our guests from Santa Cruz were arriving at the Cincinnati airport. Our friends from both parishes, along with all three of our priests and members of our parish who have been to El Salvador, met for dinner at El Mariachi in Harrison.

On Sunday, August 2nd, we all celebrated Mass together at 11:00 a.m. with readings in both languages and we were pleased to listen to the words of the pastors from both parishes. Sunday afternoon we met at the Knights of Columbus Hall for a welcoming party. Guillermo Araujo, from Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, who is a talented artist and works with the children at his parish, did an art project with children who came from St. John's and all enjoyed the get together. For dinner we gathered at St. John's for a grill out.

On Monday, August 3rd, we took our guests to the Hofbrauhaus in Newport, Kentucky. Since this is the only Hofbrauhaus in the United States, they enjoyed a taste of our German heritage. Then we took the Duck Tour across the river to Cincinnati that enabled them to see our downtown. Then we visited Smale Riverfront Park in Cincinnati. We all ate dinner at the Cabana in Sayler Park joined by many of the members of St. John the Baptist Parish.

On Tuesday we all gathered for brunch at the home of Denny and Patty Schultz. Then we traveled to Su Casa, the Hispanic ministry center in Cincinnati, and met with several Salvadorans who have come to the United States who discussed their journey and the issues that they encountered when they came here. Their stories were familiar ones to our guests from El Salvador who are aware of families within their parishes who have had loved ones travel here to the United States. After dinner at Monk's in Harrison we gathered at the Youth House for a discussion with Hub Martini, our Youth Minister, and many of the young people who have participated in the activities of the youth group. Our friends from El Salvador enjoyed hearing of the activities that our young people are involved in and how they live out their faith.

On Wednesday morning our friends from Our Lady of Guadalupe went to the airport to go home, but our friends from Santa Cruz stayed on for the rest of the week. We treated them to lunch at Skyline and then joined had a

discussion at St. John's about the relationship between the two parishes. Dinner that evening was at LaRosa's and then we came to St. John the Baptist for, "Breaking Open the Word" which takes place in the church every Wednesday evening led by Eric Hollis.

On Thursday we met for breakfast at St. John's with our friends from Santa Cruz Parish and participated with them in an exercise of scriptural reflection known as, "Lectio Divina" involving the Feast of the Transfiguration which we celebrated that day. Afterwards, we watched the Cincinnati Reds play the St. Louis Cardinals, and it was also the first visit to a professional baseball game for our friends from Santa Cruz Parish. Unfortunately, it rained much of the game and dampened a bit of the fun. At 7:00 p.m. that evening we celebrated at St. John's, the Feast of the Transfiguration, with the readings, again, in both languages. Some of the liturgical songs were sung by the Salvadorans using traditional songs which are part of their country's celebration of this feast. It was a great opportunity for us to share our faith in prayer with them on this special day.

On Friday morning there was a visit to the homebound for our friends from Santa Cruz Parish. We had lunch at Kreimer's in Miamitown and then the afternoon was left open for shopping, and the opportunity for all to engage in whatever activities they would like. For dinner on Friday evening, Hub and Sue Martini hosted a party at their home which was well attended by members of the parish, and we had the opportunity to present to our Salvadoran friends much of what we do at St. John the Baptist to live out our faith. It was a great concluding activity for the visit.

On Saturday, August 8th, our friends from Santa Cruz went to the Cincinnati airport and we bid them a fond farewell until we see them again when we visit on our annual trip, the first week of February, 2016.

We were blessed by this visit. As part of our twinning relationship we help to bring members of both parishes up to visit us every three years so that they can share the faith as we live it here, just as we get the opportunity to share their faith as they live it there on our annual visits. God has blessed us with this relationship. We are all members of the Body of Christ, members of the universal "Catholic" church. God wants us to transcend the borders and languages which separate us and have us come together in faith and love. These visits help to do that.

We encourage all St. John's parishioners to continue prayer and solidarity with our brothers and sisters in El Salvador. We have been blessed by so many St. John's parishioners who participate in sponsoring children in the scholarship program in both of these parishes. The cost per year is \$400 and we thank those who have sponsored children in the past and we hope that you will continue to do so. We are now collecting money for the next school year and if anyone individually, or together with others, would like to sponsor a child, we thank you for that. Please make the check payable to St. John the Baptist and you can drop it at the office of Deacon Don Meyer or at the Parish Office.



Friends in Faith 2015

Saturday, August 15, 2015, was our third annual “Friends in Faith” day. The weather was wonderful, complete with a nice breeze under the big tent. The Vacation Bible School children opened the day in song. Hearing those young voices sing of the love of Jesus touched the hearts of all. The purpose of the day is to celebrate our common faith in Jesus and everyone in the community is invited. Father Jim Schutte from St. Leo’s, our partner parish, spoke at 2:00 p.m. He talked about when we come to the table of the Lord there are no borders. He brought the Guatemalan band, Ministerio Creacion, and their music had everyone on their feet clapping and praising God! It didn’t matter that they sang in Spanish. Everyone could feel the message and the Holy Spirit was moving. The children were invited to participate in Stations of Faith in the church. They portrayed significant stories from the bible in the church. They made them come alive and real. The adults enjoyed hearing the stories too. Later in the day the children were offered storytelling and puppet making with Joy Gemperline, our Director of Religious Education.



Our own Brenda Behr delighted everyone with her story and sense of humor. She shared her faith in God and a message of hope, even in dark times.

Ron Miller and his sister Janel sang, “I Believe, and the Ave Maria,” woven together. The people loved it and wanted MORE!

We had a young friend in faith, Zoey Eagan, travel from St. Michael’s in Sharonville with her grandmother, Deb Eagan. Zoey sang two songs, “Mary, Did You Know,” and the Christian version of, “Somewhere Over the Rainbow,” to a spellbound audience.

As customary, we had the sacrament of Reconciliation at 3:15 p.m. in the church followed by 4:00 p.m. Mass. Jane O’Donnell sang a prelude piece, “How Beautiful Is The Body of Christ,” and the “body” responded with smiles, tears and applause!

Everyone gathered under the big tent for Monk’s pizza, salad, homemade desserts and fellowship for supper. Drinks and snacks were available throughout the day and Jim Davis kept the hot popcorn coming!

Pastor John Hembree, Harrison Ave. Assembly of God, took the stage and spoke on our partnership with their food pantry. He thanked us for our faithful support and how much it means to those in our community.

Catholic Lay Evangelist, Eric Hollis delivered a message in two parts: 1. Where Do I Fit In? 2. What Should I Do? Send Me! He left us with 23 quotes from the bible. Each one had “one another” in the quote. For example: John 13:34 Love One Another ~ Romans 12:10 Honor One Another ~ Colossians 3:16 Forgive One Another ~ Galations 5:13 Serve One Another.

The Bill Tonnis Band took the stage for the evening and had us all singing along to contemporary Christian music.

As night fell we had a candlelight procession to the church for Taizé Prayer, a reflective, meditative, sung prayer. It is ecumenical prayer that began in 1940 in Taizé, France. Our music director, Michael Johnson, offers Taizé several times a year on Friday evenings.

Friends in Faith is a day of celebrating faith with young and old alike, and different Christian faiths as well. There were Catholics, Pentecostals, Methodists and non-denominational believers as well. We all came together as friends in faith.

“Friends in Faith” will return on Saturday, August 6, 2016. We look forward to sharing this day with more friends in faith!

Friends in Faith 2015



Vendor/Craft Show Registration Form

Sunday, November 8, 2015, 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the School Gymnasium



Name and Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email address: _____

Please give a brief description of what you will be selling: _____

- Cost of each table will be \$15.00. Table and chair is provided.
- Each vendor/crafter is asked to donate an item for our raffle (approx. \$20 retail value).
- Please make check payable to St John the Baptist Church.
- Mail check and signed registration to:

Pam Reiter
9794 Howard Rd
Harrison, OH 45030
(513-738-1710)

Guidelines and Waiver

1. Set up will be, at least, one hour before start of the show. I have also scheduled the gymnasium in the afternoon the day before for set up, if preferred, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. If you plan to set up the day before, please indicate that on the registration, or let me know before that day, so I know who to expect.
2. Vendors can not share spaces. One vendor per registration please.
3. Your space needs to be cleaned of all trash and spills before leaving.
4. Children in attendance need to be respectful of other vendors/crafters. No playing or excessive noise.
5. Payment is due with registration to reserve your space.
6. Signature is required on registration form (see waiver below).

Registration and fee are due back no later than October 23rd, to assure your space. **Fees are non-refundable.**
You will be sent a confirmation of receipt by email.

Waiver: I, the undersigned will participate in the activity described on the Activity Information form and release from all liability and indemnify the Archbishop of Cincinnati (“the Archbishop”), both individually and as trustee for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and all parishes and schools within the Archdiocese (the “Archdiocese”), agents, representatives, volunteers, and employees of the Archdiocese, from any and all liability, claims, judgments, cost and expenses, including attorneys’ fees, arising out of any injury or illness incurred by me while participating in or traveling to or from the activity and further agree not to bring or prosecute or allow to be brought or prosecuted (including but not limited to prosecution through subrogation) in my name, any claims, lawsuits or actions against the Archbishop, and the officers, agents, representatives, volunteers and employees of the Archdiocese. I also understand that my registration fee is non-refundable.

Applicant’s Signature: _____ Date: _____

Note: A turkey dinner will be held in the cafeteria on the same day from 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. You may bring carry-out to your table, or you could enjoy one of the dinners before or after the vendor/craft show.

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER
& VENDOR/CRAFT SHOW

Sunday, November 8th, 2015
11:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Dine-in or Carry-out

Adults \$10, Seniors \$9, Children \$5, Under 6 Free!

Vendor/Craft Show Hours:
12:00 PM - 5:00PM

509 Harrison Ave, Harrison, OH | 513-367-9086



\$500.00 Money Raffle (Christmas Cash)

Raffles ♦ Split the Pot ♦ Family Fun ♦ Good Food

Please bring your donations of cakes, pies, cookies and candy to
the cafeteria on Saturday (11/7), or Sunday morning (11/8).

Thank you!

St. John the Baptist
Fall Festival/Turkey Dinner
Sunday, November 8, 2015
11:00 am – 6:00 pm

\$500 CASH

Name _____

Phone _____

Raffle Tickets:
\$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00
Drawing at 6:30 pm
Sunday, November 8, 2015
(Winner need not be present to win)

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Sunday, November 8, 2015
11:00 am – 6:00 pm

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Drawing at 6:30 pm
Sunday, November 8, 2015
(Winner need not be present to win)

You may return raffle tickets to the Parish Office:
509 Harrison Avenue
Harrison, OH 45030

IN THE SPIRIT OF TAIZÉ

2015 - 2016

November 13th
January 8th
March 11th
May 13th



All evenings begin at 7:30 PM

Take part in a method of prayer that has nurtured the hearts of Christians throughout the world and across denominations!

“When the mystery of God becomes tangible through the simple beauty of symbols, when it is not smothered by too many words, then prayer with others, far from exuding monotony and boredom, awakens us to Heaven’s joy on earth.”

~Brother Roger of Taizé

SONG ❖ SCRIPTURE ❖ MEDITATION

<http://www.stjb.net/taize.html>

Music Ministry at St. John’s

Get involved yourself or encourage someone else!

- Serve your parish community while at the same time benefitting yourself in many ways.
- Form friendships with fellow parishioners and feel more at home in your parish.
- Develop your singing abilities and knowledge of music through singing in the SJB Singers or SJB Choir.
- Learn more about the liturgy and get more out of the liturgy.

Michael Johnson, *Director of Music Ministry*

<http://www.stjb.net/music.html>





Memorial Prayer Service

November 2nd
7:00 p.m. in the church.
We'll remember all those who passed from October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015.

Following the service, there will be light refreshments in the Community Room.

If you'd like to remember a loved one at the service who passed away during the above timeframe and who's funeral did not take place at St. Johns, please call Jessica at the Parish Office, 513-367-9086 ext. 217, with your loved one's name and how many will be attending the service and reception by Monday, October 26th.

Christmas Mass at Shawneespring

This annual Mass will be celebrated in their second floor chapel on Monday, December 28th, at 2:30 p.m. Following the Mass, Christmas Carols will be sung in the lobby around the piano. All Are Welcome!

New Year's Day Masses Solemnity of Mary

December 31th
7:00 p.m.

January 1st
8:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m.



Thanksgiving Masses

November 26th
7:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m.



St. John the Baptist SCRIPS

As you are making your holiday list for gift giving and shopping, remember St. John the Baptist SCRIPS! They're available for many local businesses as well as larger department stores and restaurants. SCRIPS carries and spends just like cash, and the proceeds benefit our entire parish. You can place orders, and pick up your SCRIPS, after the Sunday Masses, excluding the 1 & 7 p.m. Masses.



Advent Reconciliation Service

Several priests will be here to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday, December 9th, at 7:00 p.m. Let us "prepare the way of the Lord!"



Mike Davis Returns For Advent Concert

As part of your Advent preparation to receive Christ at Christmas come to the Advent Christmas Concert with vocalist Mike Davis. Come and enjoy a spiritual evening of music, scripture and prayer. It will be held in the church at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 3rd.

Christmas Masses

December 24th
3:00 p.m.
3:15 p.m. in the gym
6:00 p.m.
12:00 a.m. (Midnight)

December 25th
8:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m.



All are welcome!

St. John the Baptist Christmas CAROLING

Harrison Area

December 15th at 7:00 p.m.
Meet at the Youth House and visit the
homebound.

Shawneespring

December 28th ~ Mass at 2:30 p.m.
Followed by caroling around the piano
in the lobby.

Mother Margaret Hall

Date to be determined at the Sisters of
Charity Motherhouse in Delhi.

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



The RCIA process is a fruit of the 2nd Vatican Council from the 1960's. The RCIA is more than a program. It is a conversion process. It is very personal and very individual. We initiated the RCIA Team here at St. John's under the leadership of Father Edward Shine and Deacon Christopher Lack in 1989. So, it has been 26 years that we have seen the blessings of the RCIA. Over 400 persons have embraced faith in the Catholic tradition at St. John the Baptist since the RCIA began. Not to mention the impact that it's had on the families & friends of those new members and even the broader community. You probably know someone yourself!

The RCIA process is a team effort. There is a coordinator, Laura Noyes, and catechists (teachers) Deacon Don Meyer, Kat Lang, Tom and Nancy Gruber, Mike Re, Connie and Jim Davis, Diane Brockman, Diane Detmer, Eric Hollis and Lynda Noel. Other team members of hospitality and sponsors are Mike Noyes, Steve Dahmann, Pam McLaughlin and Margie Kunze. Team members have come and gone over the years. We've even had RCIA participants join the team after they have been initiated into the church.

The team models the Christian Community in the early days of the church and walks with the person on their journey. If you, or someone you know, would like to inquire about faith in the Catholic tradition, please contact:

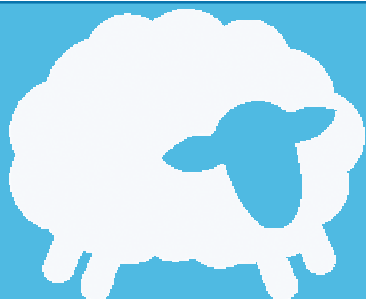
Laura Noyes

513-845-4607 | lauranoyes@roadrunner.com

-OR-

Lynda Noel

513-367-9086 ext. 216 | lnoel@stjb.net



We flocknote. Do you?

Stay current on parish news & events, funerals, cancellations and more! Simply register using the link below and sign up for the ministries you'd like to hear from.

www.flocknote.com/stjb

St. John the Baptist Church
509 Harrison Avenue
Harrison OH 45030

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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47025
PERMIT NO. 115

Parish website: <http://www.stjb.net>
School website: <http://www.sjbharrison.org>



CrossRoads was established to promulgate knowledge, educate and unite St. John the Baptist parishioners in supporting the Parish mission in its efforts to respectfully and positively report the good news. To accomplish this goal, we will focus on the positive happenings in the Parish, in our place in the Community, and the church at large. We seek not to editorialize, but to inform and entertain.

