

St. John the Baptist Church
Leadership Team Report to Commissions

June 7, 2022

Fr. Paul Shovelain, Pastor

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- **Priestly Assignment.** We are excited to welcome Father Joseph Nguyễn as our Parochial Vicar on June 15! He will be assisting me in fulfilling the priestly responsibilities here at SJB. I also plan to have him involved particularly in the school and our youth ministry program. He will also celebrate most of our Masses at care facilities and will serve as Chaplain of our Knights of Columbus Council #14250.
- **Sisters' Departure.** The Dominican Sisters have officially returned to California. I'm very grateful for their service these past three years at Saint John the Baptist School and Church. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped clean the house that served as our convent—it will be on the market by the week of June 6.
- **Chapel of the Angels Renovation.** Thank you for your feedback at the May Commission meeting regarding the chapel renovation project. We are finalizing the design and planning to roll out how the design fulfills the vision in our upcoming communications. Watch for more information, including illustrations, the weekend of June 18 & 19.
- **Thank you for living out of a Generous Spirit.** As we come to the end of the school year and program year, I would like to thank all of our volunteers for the countless hours you put in to help people be Restored to Life. So much good work was completed this past year thanks to your efforts. People were Restored to Life here and grew in their relationship with God. People were Restored to Eternal Life and entered Heaven. God is working here powerfully, and it is a privilege to be a part of that. Thank you for your efforts to build up the Kingdom of God in New Brighton and beyond!
- **Theme for 2022-2022.** As we come out of the Synod after this weekend and look to the future, I sense we are being **Called Forth** by the Lord in our walk with him. It may be that we need to grow in a certain area or a particular virtue. Or maybe we are feeling called to step up and help with a ministry that we have not participated in. Having been Restored to Life, the Lord is calling us forth to share what we have received. As we look to the year ahead, please pray about how the Lord is calling you forth on the path of holiness.
- **Staff Restructure.** Beginning July 1, 2022, staff member Jill Fink will serve as Director of Catechesis at SJB. She has extensive experience in catechesis and has worked at St. Odilia's and Epiphany as the Director of Faith Formation. With this promotion, she will supervise both youth ministry positions and the Sacramental Records Coordinator. She will work in close collaboration with Jessica Balzarini, who serves as the Director of Parish Life. I am grateful for Jessica's leadership and generous spirit, especially in taking on new responsibilities at the end of last summer that allowed me to focus more on my priestly responsibilities. Given our growth with our new youth ministry position as well as our desire to expand our relationship with Evangelical Catholic by hiring an additional Reach More Mission Coordinator, I have asked Jill to focus on catechesis and sacraments to allow Jessica to focus more on evangelization and mission as these four parts to the discipleship process are expanding. I will supervise Jill and she will also serve on my Leadership Team.

Please let me or one of our team members know if you have questions or input in any area of our church and school life together. Thank you!

Jessica Balzarini, Director of Parish Life

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- **Hiring Process.** We are currently in the search process for a new Coordinator of Discipleship for Middle School youth who will be working alongside our current coordinator, Mikayla Anderson. We are conducting first round interviews in June and look forward to God's plan for our youth ministry program as he builds our parish teams. To support our summer offerings for youth, we welcome Max Linnville, the campus minister at Totino Grace, to our youth ministry team as a temporary hire for the summer months. Max is here to support Mikayla and minister to our youth at summer youth group, Catholic Youth Summer Camp, and other events this summer.

As we continue to expand our partnership with Evangelical Catholic, we are beginning the hiring process for a position that will lead the Reach More Mission process at St. John's. This ministry has expanded quickly over the past three years and more staff time is needed to shepherd 50 trained parishioners and to aid the growth of our small group ministry. The job description has been posted and a hiring committee is being selected now.

- **Archdiocesan Synod.** The Archdiocesan Synod took place this past weekend, yet the process is not finished. Please continue to pray for our church leaders as Archbishop Hebda and Bishop Williams and the Synod team as they discern and write the pastoral letter this summer and create a vision and plan for our Archdiocese. The pastoral letter will be published later this fall.
- **Compassion Connect Clinic.** On Saturday, June 11 St. John the Baptist joins other area churches for the second annual Compassion Connect Clinic in New Brighton at High View Middle School. It is a free medical and dental clinic for those in need and many other services are offered as well – vision testing, foot care, haircuts, chiropractic, physical therapy, massage, social services information, childcare for the day, all with lunch provided as well. It is an opportunity to work with other followers of Jesus to be his hands, feet and heart together. St. John's has been well represented with many volunteers in all areas of the day! Please pray for the success of the clinic, for new and lasting relationships and that Jesus would be glorified in all we do.
- **Engaging our Parish Community & Inviting Others In.** Stay connected to our parish community and invite others to meet us at our Summer Revival Events! These are great places to connect with other parishioners and families over the summer and invite neighbors, friends, and extended family to get to know St. John's. See a partial list below, and find more information on our website [here](#).
 - Saturday, June 25 – Celebrate our Parish Feast with Mass at 4:30 pm, Picnic Dinner in St. Joseph's Hall following Mass, and DJ and Ice Cream treats outside at 6:15 p.m.
 - Wednesday, July 27 – Let's serve the poor and fill Feed My Starving Children with SJB families and friends! 7:00-9:00 p.m. in Coon Rapids.
 - Sunday, August 21 - Rosary and Bonfire in the parking lot following the 6:15 pm Mass.

Mark Dittman, Director of Business Operations

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- **Year-to-Date Sunday Giving.** Thank you for your continued financial generosity! As of Week 48 (Sunday, May 29) in our fiscal year (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022) we are \$21,533, or about 1%, below our year-to-date actual projected budget in Sunday Giving. However, we are \$75,494, or 3.7%, above our year-to-date total through the same weekend a year ago. Thank you all for your generosity!
- **FallFest 2022: September 23, 24 & 25.** Our next meeting is Thursday, June 16 at 6:00 p.m. in room 204. If you want information on the festival or want to volunteer to help plan a great festival, contact co-chair Taylor Burns or staff member Teri Shea with this email: fallfest@stjohnnyb.org. Thank you!

- **Positions Posted.** We are presently looking for a [Youth Ministry Coordinator with Young Adult Ministry](#) and a [Reach More Mission Coordinator](#). Both are full time positions that will significantly support our mission and core values. We are also looking for additional PT custodian staff, primarily for evening and weekend work at the parish. If you or someone you know might be interested in these positions, you can find the postings in the links above or on our website here: <https://stjohnmb.com/contact/job-opportunities/>.
- **Administrative tasks.** Despite school being out and great weather, summer is not really a down time in the administration of the parish. The following activities keep the parish office busy all summer: fiscal year end and financial reporting, performance reviews, project oversight, insurance program discount application, program, liturgy and staff planning for the new year and more. In addition, several of our ministries stay active over the summer. And, of course, our staff does take vacations! I pray that all of you find rest, refreshment and renewal in the recreations of summer!
- **Summer Office Hours.** On Fridays the Parish Administrative Offices will close at 1:00 p.m., from Friday, June 10 through Friday, September 2. During those same weeks the church campus will close at 8:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:00 p.m. on Friday evenings. Additionally, staff will be enjoying planned vacations throughout the summer. Staff commitment to serving our parishioners will continue to be high; however, please be aware of these factors when engaging with our staff and otherwise conducting St. John's business or activities.

Ann Laird, St. John the Baptist School Principal

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- **Registration for the 2022-2023 school year** is still open! Information and a registration link can be found [here](#). Enrollment for next year is strong. We currently have a total of 419 Preschool-8th grade students enrolled.
- **Last day of school!** The last day of school for the 2021-2022 school year is Wednesday, June 8. We will celebrate our final all school Mass of the year that day and acknowledge our students as they "move-up" to the next grade level. Come join us for Mass at 8:30 a.m.!
- **Staffing.** The school will be hiring three positions, replacing teachers who are moving on. We are also considering hiring a REACH teacher for our high achieving students.
- **State of the School.** The school's annual State of the School report and our Year in Review will be coming out in mid-June. You will find it on our school's website, <https://stjohnnyb.org/>.
- **School office hours.** Beginning Monday, June 13 until August 12, school office hours will be Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, with some variation in July. The school office will be closed on Fridays during this time.
- **Thank you** as always for your prayers and support for St. John the Baptist School!

A restful and blessed summer to you all!

Thank you all for your reliance on prayer, your willingness to grow, and your generous spirit!

The St. John the Baptist Leadership Team
Fr. Paul Shovelain, Jessica Balzarini, Mark Dittman, Jill Fink, Ann Laird

**Bearing witness to Jesus Christ who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life:
GO. MAKE. TEACH.**