

July 17, 2022 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Our Core Values: a reliance on prayer, a willingness to grow, a generous spirit



New Brighton, MN

Week Focus: Restored to Life to be Called Forth

Parish Staff	
PASTORAL MINISTRY	651-633-8333
Fr. Paul Shovelain, Pastor	ext. 1214
Fr. Joseph Nguyễn, Parochial Vicar	ext. 1213
Deacon Rod Palmer	VM 1298
Deacon Gary Schneider	VM 1288
Deacon John Belian	ext. 1239
Mary Kohlhaas, Pastoral Care Coordinator	ext. 1229
WORSHIP	651-633-8333
Lee Treml, Director of Worship Andy Case, Children's Choir Director	ext. 1212 ext. 1124
Lori Vosejpka, Director of Contemporary Enser	
	/247@msn.com
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Margaret Harmon, Liturgical Admin. Assistant	
OFFICE OF DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSION	651-633-1540
Jessica Balzarini, Director of Parish Life	ext. 1228
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Jen Livermont, Coordinator of Discipleship for	ext. 1234
Deacon Michael Lane, Coordinator of Sacrame	
Jodie Wolla, Administrative Assistant	ext. 1211
YOUTH MINISTRY	651-633-1540
Mikayla Anderson cell 651-529-0526 ok to txi	
Max Linville, Part-time Summer Youth Minister	
SCHOOL & PRESCHOOL (PreK - 8)	651-633-1522
Ann Laird, Principal	ext. 1117
Joy Thienes, Administrative Assistant	ext. 1118
Michelle Barsness, Marketing/Enrollment	ext. 1114
ADMINISTRATION	651-633-8333
Mark Dittman, Director of Business Operations	
Teri Shea, Office & Facilities Manager Michelle Chock, Accountant	ext. 1237 ext. 1224
Maureen Owusu, Parish Bookkeeper	ext. 1255
Rita Arndorfer, Volunteer Coordinator	ext. 1233
Mary May, Development Associate	ext. 1253
Patrick Hinnenkamp, Director of Maintenance	ext. 1203
Melissa Berg, Hospitality Coordinator	ext. 1227
Joseph Huebl, Communications Coordinator	ext. 1217
Micki Hall, Receptionist/Executive Assistant	ext. 1210

PARISH CENTER HOURS

 Monday
 8 AM - 8 PM

 Tuesday
 8 AM - 8 PM

 Wednesday
 8 AM - 8 PM

 Thursday
 8 AM - 8 PM

 Friday
 8 AM - 1 PM

 Saturday
 9 AM - 5:30 PM

 Sunday
 8 AM - 5:30 PM

 PARISH LIBRARY HOURS

Sat. 5:30 PM; Sun. 9:30 & 11:30 AM

Church Nursery: We offer year-round nursery during both the 8:30am and 10:30am Sunday Masses for children ages 1-3. Children play with caring staff while you are able to fully participate in Mass.

Stay Connected:

LIKE OR FOLLOW US on FACEBOOK

https://www.facebook.com/SJBNewBrighton/

Follow us on Instagram: @stjohnnyb_church

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel https://bit.ly/3n9WnGQ

EMAIL: sjb@stjohnnyb.org

Visit our website: www.stjohnnb.com

Archdiocese's Victim/Survivor Assistance Program

651-291-4497 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Schedule of Events

Monday, July 18, 2022

8:00 AM Rosary ~ Church

8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals

8:30 AM Mass (Richard & Yvette Moss) Church

~ Fr. Joseph

9:00 AM Divine Mercy Chaplet ~ Church

3:00 PM Litany of Restoration ~ Facebook

Tuesday, July 19, 2022

8:00 AM Rosary ~ Church

8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals

8:30 AM Mass (Robert & Christine Springhetti +) Church

~ Fr. Paul

9:30 AM Kidz Closet ~ 203

3:00 PM Litany of Restoration ~ Facebook

7:00 PM The Search Adult Study ~ St. Joseph Hall

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals

8:30 AM Mass (Germana Kiang + and Elsa King +) Church ~ Fr. Joseph

9:00 AM Blood Pressure Checks ~ St. Therese

9:30 AM Faithfully Fit ~ 208

3:00 PM Litany of Restoration ~ Facebook

5:00 PM Confessions ~ Confessionals

5:30 PM Mass (Eugene Ecklund +) Church ~ Fr. Paul

6:15 PM Summer Youth Adoration Chapel of the Angels

7:00 PM Knights of Columbus ~ 211

7:30 PM Devoted Extra Social Time ~ St. Joseph Hall

8:00 PM Devoted ~ St. Joseph Hall

Thursday, July 21, 2022

6:30 AM Men's Fellowship ~ St. Joseph Hall

8:00 AM Rosary ~ Church

8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals

8:30 AM Mass (Tom Steveken + and Fern Wiernasz +)

Church ~ Fr. Paul

3:00 PM Litany of Restoration ~ Facebook

Friday, July 22, 2022

8:00 AM Rosary ~ Church

8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals

8:30 AM Mass (Lawrence Arbogast and William Otto +)

Church ~ Fr. Joseph

9:30 AM Legion of Mary ~ 204

3:00 PM Litany of Restoration ~ Facebook

Saturday, July 23, 2022

3:00 PM Litany of Restoration ~ Facebook

3:15 PM Confessions ~ Confessionals

4:30 PM Mass (Gail Kunzer + and John Wiernasz +) Church ~ Missionary Priest

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Sunday, July 24, 2022

8:30 AM Mass (John & Katherine Macnowski +) Church ~ Missionary Priest

8:30 AM Sunday Nursery ~ Nursery

10:30 AM Mass (Bonnie Boutelle +) Church ~ Missionary Priest

10:30 AM Sunday Nursery ~ Nursery

3:00 PM Litany of Restoration ~ Facebook

5:45 PM Confessions ~ Confessionals

6:15 PM Mass (Pro Populo) Church ~ Missionary Priest

From the Pastor: Father Paul Shovelain



"Therefore, if any one is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, all things are made new." ~ 2 Corinthians 5:17

In 1902, Archbishop John Ireland formally established St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in New Brighton, MN. For the last 120 years, Heaven has met Earth here and the love of God has been poured forth on our parish. There have been miracles that have attested to God's intervention, as seen in Tom Pomeroy's story published in the bulletin last week. People have been guided by the truths of the Catholic Faith that they learned and experienced at SJB. With their faith as their guide, they have made the world a brighter place. The bright light of St. John's in New BRIGHTon has guided people to Heaven!

One hundred and twenty years after its establishment, we welcome Archbishop Bernard Hebda for the celebration of the Mass, where once again Heaven will meet Earth. We, as human beings, desire happiness and joy, and the source of all happiness is Christ. In the Mass, joy is realized and given. We are called to bring Christ's joy out into the world and spread it, as we build up God's kingdom, here in New Brighton and beyond.

Why does St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and School exist? Because God has created us and desires to live in relationship with us here on Earth. Through the ministry of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and School, God is revealed and our identity is understood. Wisdom is given us through the teachings of Christ handed on by the Apostles through the Catholic Church. The Holy Spirit continues to guide us as we work together to further God's kingdom.

There have been many beautiful moments here at SJB from Baptisms to First Communions to Weddings to celebrations of many kinds. There have been sad moments from funerals to working through grief and brokenness. In all these moments, Christ is present and supports us along the journey of life.

I turn to you, my dear parishioners, and say thank you. Thank you for your response to the Father's invitation to live in relationship with Him. Thank you for raising your children in the Catholic Faith. Thank you for your commitment to building up Christ's kingdom by being involved as a volunteer and sharing in the ministry of Christ. Christ has done incredible things here for the last 120 years, and I thank you for allowing Him to work through you!

My hope is in 2027, we will have a year long celebration of our parish's 125th Anniversary. In anticipation of that, I would love to update our parish history book, "St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish: Building on a Century of Faith" (published in 2004) with the last 20 years of parish happenings. If you are interested in helping update the history book, please contact my assistant Micki Hall at the parish office.

Please join me in praying for all those who have walked through our doors over the last 120 years; may those who have died rest in the peace of Heaven. May those who are here on Earth experience the love of Christ here and be drawn into deeper communion with the Trinity.

As the Father loves me, so I also love you!

Father Paul Shovelain

Faith Enrichment Opportunities

St. John's FallFest and Booya



Be sure to join us when fall rolls around here at St. John's for our annual FallFest and Booya Celebration! The dates are September 23, 24, and 25. There will be even more fun and excitement than last year, and we want you to be a part of it!



This week we welcome Christy Broszko to introduce us to Marian Apparitions in her talk titled, "The Message of Our Lady of Good Help." Christy is a full-time working mother and new parishioner in our parish. She will share the Church's teaching on Marian Apparitions, stories of some of the most famous apparitions, and the impact they have had on her family. Come ready to experience the beauty of Mary and her constant reminder that we are not alone on our journey to her Son!

Intercessory Prayer Ministry

We often need prayer for family, faith, health, work, relationships, and other challenges in life. St. John the Baptist's Intercessory Prayer Ministry (IPM) teams provide monthly individual prayer ministry one weekend a month after Mass in the Chapel of the Angels. Come to the Chapel of the Angels after the scheduled Mass times below.

Our next Intercessory Prayer Ministry will be: Saturday, July 16, after the 4:30 pm Mass and Sunday, July 17, after the 10:30 am Mass.

"Therefore . . . pray for one another that you may be healed. The fervent prayer of a righteous person is very powerful." ~James 5:16,17

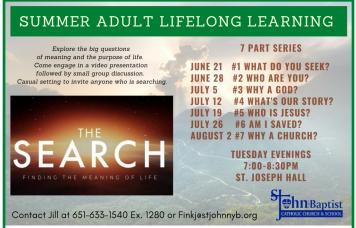
Meet Me at the Park

The next gathering is on Tuesday, July 19. We will meet at 10:00 am and 6:00 pm at the Mounds View City Hall Playground and Splash Pad. Hope to see you there!

Questions? Email Jen Livermont at livermontj@stjohnnyb.org.

Bloodmobile is Coming Soon

Mark your calendars for August 3. The bloodmobile is coming back, and you can sign up to donate or to schedule an appointment by calling 1-(800)-733-2767.



This week in our adult series entitled **The Search** we'll zero in on Who is Jesus? How did this seemingly insignificant carpenter born into poverty in a dusty corner of the Roman Empire become the most pivotal figure in all of history? Everyone is invited this Tuesday at 7:00 pm in St. Joseph Hall.



Men's Fellowship

Thursday Mornings 6:30 - 8:00 am July 14 - August 4, 2022

Forgiven—The Transforming Power of Confession—DVD Series from Augustine Institute

"Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession" shows how this sacrament of mercy reveals the depth and bounty of God's love, by looking at God's revelation of His mercy in Scripture and making a step-by-step examination of the Rite itself. "Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession" provides the Church's teaching about the sacrament of Confession, including a practical "walk through" of what happens in the confessional and how every moment connects to Scripture, Catholic Tradition, and God's passionate desire to be with you.

Come for the donuts, stay for the truth!! Questions, call Dave @ 612-616-4013

All announcements are due by 12 noon on Thursday for inclusion in the weekend pulpit announcements.

Faith Enrichment Opportunities

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

St. John the Baptist will be offering The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd method of faith formation for the children in our preschool, beginning in the fall of 2022. This beautiful program is based on the belief that God and the child are



already in relationship. Our work as adults is simply to provide a place for the child and God to come together and grow. Examples of materials provided for the children include small clay figures of Jesus and the disciples within a model of the Last Supper, art materials, dioramas and figures showing the Annunciation, Visitation, and other important events, detailed interactive maps of Jerusalem at the time of Jesus, a small baptismal font, prayer table, and a child-size model altar.

To learn more, please contact Bri McCaffrey (mccaffreyb@stjohnnyb.org)

Faithfully Fit

Come join us for Faithfully Fit, being held on Wednesdays at 9:30 am in Room 210. You are welcome to join us any Wednesday.



We are a fun group of SJB parishioners who enjoy quality fellowship time together; strengthening our relationship with Christ, while also strengthening our physical bodies at the same time.

Walk 1,000 Miles for Our Neighbors

When: July 31, 2022 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Where: Silver View Park (Silver Lake Road and County Road I)

What: Walk a Mile for Our Neighbors is a fundraising event to support the work of the Community Support Center.

How you can participate:

- Walk a mile...or two...or part of a mile... to support the cause. The path around beautiful Silver View Park is counted as 1 mile. Walking is Free!
- Contribute to the Community Support Center. (Checks to Community Support Center). Every donor will receive one chance to win one of three \$100 VI-SA gift cards.

Baby Gift Tree is Here! Now through July 31

Join our "Respect Life" team in celebrating new life with gifts of baby supplies and clothing for families of limited means. Pick up your copy of the needed items at the Harvest Table. The families and their babies will appreciate your generosity and love for the little ones!



Fall Scripture Studies

Starting in September, the offerings of Scripture for fall are two short studies. Our first session is a new look at the Beatitudes, in the Sermon on the Mount in which Jesus

invites us to discipleship. It is a call to follow Him, using the ideals found in each Beatitude. In today's World, how will we measure up to this call?

The second series leads us into Advent by exploring the Infancy Narratives in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. The hope is that it will deepen our longing for the Messiah, as we encounter Jesus, as Emmanuel, "God With Us!" How do we long for the Messiah, Jesus, in our everyday lives?

Registrations are on the Parish Website with all the information.

HS Summer Service Days

High Schooler's come and bring your friends to summer service days.

Fun filled service projects with our Youth Ministers including SJBC, St. Vincent De Paul Store & Lake City Catholic Worker Farm.

Thursday July 21 & Friday July 22, 2022 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 or 5 pm Food and Transportation provided. Register Online: Fee is \$30.



Legion of Mary

We meet every Friday at 9:30 am in Room 204 at St. John the Baptist Church. We welcome every fellow Catholic and would love to have you join us!

Help for Struggling Couples

Twin Cities Retrouvaille August 5—7, Best Western Hotel, Eagan. Retrouvaille has been a lifeline for troubled marriages. Since 1977, over 40,000 marriages have been saved worldwide. Couples learn the tools to rediscover each other and heal their marriage. 100% confidential. For more information visit helpourmarriage.org

Job Opportunities

Part-Time Custodian

Evening and weekend, flexible hours; on call as needed. Job Purpose: To provide general maintenance and custodial services to all assigned buildings, including cleaning, waste disposal, grounds, and snow removal. For information or to apply, contact Pat Hinnenkamp at hinnenkamp@stjohnnyb.org

Reach More Mission Coordinator

St. John the Baptist partners with Evangelical Catholic to implement Mission Training, a process that guides the continued growth of disciples who are formed more deeply in their relationship with Christ and equipped with the skills of relational and invitational evangelization. This position will help form parishioners for this apostolic mission, thus creating an environment at the parish to foster missionary discipleship. Parishioners will be invited into mission and trained to lead and evangelize in small groups, to engage in one-on-one discipleship mentoring and other modes of personal apostolate. See more online at Stjohnnb.com

Assistant Teacher

St. John the Baptist Preschool is seeking a full-time Assistant Teacher. We are seeking an enthusiastic, nurturing, positive teacher to join our growing preschool. The Teacher will work collaboratively with our team of teachers to support our mission, which is focused on the development of the whole child. Experience working with preschool-aged children preferred. Please contact Andrea Schroeder with questions or to apply at schroedera@stjohnnyb.org or 651-633-1522 ext. 1209

Summer Revival

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Live out of a generous spirit by volunteering at Feed My Starving Children! Please register on the Sign Up Genius!

> WEDNESDAY, JULY 27TH FMSC - COON RAPIDS 7:00-9:00 PM



Perpetual Adoration

"In the Mass and in Eucharistic Adoration we meet the merciful love of God that passes through the Heart of Jesus Christ."

~ Pope John Paul II

Experience this merciful love of God during your scheduled hour of adoration. These are open hours that need to be filled: Monday midnight, 2am; Wednesday midnight, 1am; Thursday 3am; Friday 2am; Saturday 1am, 5am.

Prayer partners are needed Tuesday noon and 10pm, and Friday 1pm.

Call Kathy 763-464-3985 or Mark 651-245-6493, to sign up for your hour or for more information.

Please Pray For...

Those who have entered eternal life:

Shirley Louise Lind, Joseph Schleisman, Scott Longtin

Those who are ill:

Ed Robinson, Sadlovsky Family, Sheehan Family, Cameron Santos, Patricia Roy, John Lundak, Dave Willette, Madi Rippy, Sydney Jo Rippy, Jesse McDonough, Daryl and Rose Stevens, Richard Adams, Geraldine and Gloria Hangartner, Sarah Miller, Emily Dahl, Theresa People, Josephine Schmidt, Erik Engebretson, Chris Natheos, Randy Vogland, Don Lumby, Alex Pearson, Thomas Jones, Jean Isacson, Fulton Francis Dobbs, Susan Welsh, Robert Cuddigan, Jenny Bruening, Annette Foreman, Mary Clare Farrell, Sawyer Anderson, Betsy Brown, Dee Olson, Jim Smith, Jerry Renk, Dale Phillips, Dennis Fox, Kathleen Schopf, Steve Lauinger, Charlotte Thrun, John Riedle, Poppy Craft, Annette Kirwan, Bonnie Norgren, Emma Lutsilili, Beverly Aplikowski, Mary Gormally, Georgianna Warden, Mary Spitzka, Michael Ferdelman, Shirley Hill, Cassie Cramer, Jon Clark, Donna Yenish, John Leibrich, Scott Lemke, Nella Pitzen, Marcy Eder, Doug Brekke, Philip Jarosz, Kay and Gary Mayer, Elaine Loscheider, Diana Goebel, Cindy Chase, Charles Heath, Danielle Pratt, Claire Kriz, Carol Esterley-Ruff Brownrigg, Brigit Voss, Brandon Boss, Cynthia Quass, Ning Mariano, The Viker Family, Robert Lauinger, Phyllis Norbeck and Jennifer Norbeck, Tom Pomeroy, Joseph Wutsch, John Wiggins, Mary Jo Beaudry, Greg Najbert, Colleen Judd, Jacob Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Cele Winter, Paul Jacobs, Mathew Grosiean

Prayer Line 651-633-1618/651-247-4202 Call with your prayer requests. Requests are confidential.

Readings For The Week Monday: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8; Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 12:38-42 Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 85:2-8; Mt 12:46-50 Wednesday: Jer 1:1, 4-10; Ps 71:1-4a, 5-6ab, 15, 17; Mt 13:1-9 Thursday: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Ps 26:6-7ab, 8-11; Mt 13:10-17 Friday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17; Ps 63:2-6, 8-9; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18 Saturday: Jer 7:1-11; Ps 84:3-6a, 8a, 11; Mt 13:24-30 Sunday: Gen 18:20-32; Ps 138:1-3, 6-8; Col 2:12-14; Lk 11:1-13

St. John the Baptist 50 Year Club

Thank you to everyone who attended the June 30th luncheon for St. John the Baptist 50 Year Club. We are also grateful to St. John's Knights of Columbus and the many volunteers who made this memorable event possible.

Look for a list of 50 Year Club members in an upcoming bulletin. We are grateful for their dedication and service!

their dedication and service!



Special thanks to Luncheon Sponsor Benedictine Living Community!



We also thank Hermes Floral and Chenoweth Gardens for their centerpiece sponsorship!



Generous Spirit Opportunities

St. John's Food Shelf Needs Your Help

We are fortunate to have our own food shelf right here in our church, giving us the opportunity to serve the needs of the less fortunate in our area. If you or someone you know is struggling to buy food, we can help. The only requirement is that you live within the Mounds View school district or are a St. John's parish member.

The food shelf is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. We also accept online orders through the St. John's website (stjohnnb.com/community-outreach/food-shelf/) and paper orders available in the kiosk near the welcome desk. Orders may be picked up on Monday, Wednesday or Friday afternoon or evening.

Please remember the food shelf as you do your weekly shopping and drop off your donations of nonperishable food or cleaning or personal care products in one of the boxes at the entrances to the church. We also welcome cash donations. Thank you for your generous support of our food shelf.

Medical | eftovers?

Do you have any medical leftovers after someone no longer has need of them? It is useful and you don't want to toss it, but you don't need it or want to store it? Bring it in to the Pastoral Ministry Office. We will collect and send it down to Rochester to the Rochester Medical Mission who sorts, packs and sends it on to Haiti. So ANY-THING can be useful. Even if it is opened, they can use it up.

If in doubt, give Mary a call at 763.242.4229. In the past, our parish has sent four carloads of goods to Rochester for Haiti. Another carload went to Haiti by way of someone traveling there as well. Another carload went to the Ukraine with a family who still had family members there in need. Know that you are helping others around the world so much, and thank you for passing on the goods they need.

Help Needed for Totus Tuus

To make Totus Tuus a success, we need many volunteers to help with such a large group of students! We have several volunteer positions that we need to fill for our week of Totus Tuus:

- We need two Host Homes for the week of Saturday, July 30—Saturday, August 6. The Host Homes can not have anyone living in the home who is under 18 years of age.
- We need four snack helpers who can prep the snack, help serve the kids and clean up afterwards. (There is no cooking involved.) This would be Monday, August 1 – Friday, August 5.
- We need adults to help in each classroom. Adults
 will not be teaching the content. They will help with
 classroom management, walking from one activity
 to the next, Mass etiquette and supervising recess.
 Students will be entering grades 1-5.
- We need two adults to check kids in each morning. Check-in will take place from 8:30 am—9:30 am.
- Parents of students in Totus Tuus can volunteer to receive reimbursement for part or all of their tuition based upon their volunteer commitment.

If you have any questions or are interested in volunteering, please email Jen Livermont at livermontj@stjohnnyb.org.

"Grace and love are nothing without faith,



since without faith it is impossible to please God. And faith is not conceived unless the word of God is preached."

~ Saint Lawrence of Brindisi (Feast Day July 21)

SJB Year in Review Highlights for 2021-2022 "Restored to Life"

Generous Spirit

- † 154 members of the 50 Year Club were honored for their dedication to our parish at the 50 Year Club Luncheon, July 30, 2021.
- † 110 parishioners were honored for their support of St. John the Baptist Youth Ministry in April, at the Youth Ministry Appreciation Dinner.
- † 363 households turned in Core Commitment forms with their pledges to live out our Core Values.
- † The Preschool added a classroom.
- † Parishioners contributed over \$2 million to building up Christ's kingdom at Saint John's and beyond.
- † The Maternity Closet was made more accessible and was renamed the Kidz Closet.
- t Knights of Columbus hosted multiple meals as fundraisers, including two very successful fish fries that brought people into the community and raised money for important initiatives.
- † Food shelf resumed in-person procedures after being online only during the pandemic.
- t St. John the Baptist received \$23,894 for items listed on the 2021 Wish List, providing water bottle filling stations for the school, a new digital mixer for the church, and other upgrades to our parish and school facilities.
- † Seven generous parishioner families have added their names to the Legacy Society.
- t Compassion Clinic successfully served medical and dental needs to the community.
- + Saint Vincent de Paul had both clothing and food drives and restarted having members do home visits.
- † Provided Tuition Assistance so more children could attend our parish school.
- † Wines to Wishes was held in-person in 2022 and raised more money than ever before.
- t Worked to provide a safe and welcoming environment by addressing leaks in the windows, updating HVAC Controls, heat exchanger, and remodeling restrooms.
- Updated facilities by replacing exterior doors and gutters in the rectory, as well as new windows and sidewalks at the convent.
- t Hosted "Growing through Loss" for people from churches throughout the North Metro and offered support to them in the grief process.
- † 22 volunteers cleaned the Saint John's Cemetery on Cemetery Spring Clean-Up Day 2022.

Mission Appeal for the Diocese of Kabale, Uganda

Father Charles Mugambi will Celebrate Mass with us Next Weekend (July 23 and 24)



Kabale Diocese is one of the 19 dioceses in Uganda located in the southwestern corner of the country—about 280 miles from the capital city of Kampala. We serve a population of about 1.8 million people, and 800,000 are Roman Catholic. The vast majority of the people we serve are located in rural, underserved, and mostly remote areas of the country. Most critical among the challenges they face is healthcare. Leading causes of death in Uganda include neonatal disorders, tuberculosis, malaria, lower respiratory infections, diarrheal diseases, congenial defects, heart disease, stroke, road injury and malnutrition.

Purpose of the appeal

The purpose of my request is to seek financial support toward the development of a hospital for the rural poor—Our Lady of Good Health Hospital Rushoroza. Through the gracious generosity of many, we have managed to complete the initial phase--outpatient department, minor operating room, medical/ surgical ward and small delivery/maternity unit. We are transitioning into the next phase for which we are seeking assistance, a phase that comprises of children's ward, dental, ophthalmology, radiology, medical laboratory units, and expansion on emergency room, operating room, maternity unit, and ambulance services. Our one and only ambulance is 15 years old and almost beyond repair.

We are also seeking assistance to support our long-term Kabale Diocese Orphaned and Vulnerable Children Program, a program I personally helped to establish maintain active involvement. Through our foster home care program, we provide out-reach support to orphaned children the vast majority of whom have lost both parents and are left all alone to fend for themselves. We provide them with shelter, school tuition, clothing, and healthcare. We are currently supporting 540 children out of well over 20,000 greatly in need of help.

Additionally, though very grateful to God for the gift of vocations (seminarians and catechists), we continue to grapple with mounting costs associated with their education, training, and formation. We currently have 72 major seminarians and 830 catechists.

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