

ST. GABRIEL PARISH GUIDEBOOK & DIRECTORY 2023

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My Sisters and Brothers of the St. Gabriel Family,

They say life is a journey—indeed, a very exciting journey. As we look toward 2023, we hopefully learn valuable lessons from the past, and grow stronger every day and in every way. We let go of what is no longer needed or valuable, and hold on to lessons and insights that make us even stronger. We move on with trust in a God who loves us and guides us. We embrace the future with confidence, joy, and a renewed commitment to bring justice, hope and peace to our community, nation and world. As the journey of life continues to evolve, there are two things we can always rely on—our faith in God, and the gift of one another. We walk together as a community, and this Guidebook is one of several tools meant to help us stay in touch with each other and how our community does God’s work.

At the very heart of who we are as a parish, we are a family, and nothing could ever change that. We are the family of God, the Body of Christ, and every person in this community is important in some essential way. Every Sunday, we are invited to come home for dinner with our entire family, to celebrate Eucharist at the Table of the Lord. We are called to take care of each other, to work together to build the Kingdom of God, to celebrate the goodness of God, and to be there to support each other in times of trouble. We have the unconditional promise of our Father that He will always love us and that we will always be His people.

This Guidebook you are receiving is meant to be a valuable tool, along with a number of other forms of communication, to help us continue to grow as a vibrant community of believers, united in the Lord. God calls us to be spiritually united in His love, and to be connected in every way that we can. This book can make you aware of the many ministries that make up our parish, and it can also help us keep in touch with each other as members of this parish family, especially ones who may be alone or we haven’t seen in a while. It is up to each person in our parish to continue to form good relationships, and to share his or her gifts for the good of the whole community, and to announce the Good News of Christ to all people. **You** are such an important member of the family of St. Gabriel. Please don’t ever forget who YOU are, and how vital you are as a member of the family of St Gabriel. I say to each and every one of you, **WELCOME HOME**. And I encourage you to offer that same genuine and heartfelt greeting and reality to every member of our parish that you encounter. Peace and blessings.

In God’s love,

Fr. Fred Pausche
Pastor



PASTORAL STAFF

Deacon.....Deacon Ronald Adkins
 Volunteer Coordinator.....Mrs. Allison Capella
 Deacon (Retired).....Deacon Daniel P. Clavin
 Campus Minister.....Mrs. Samantha Coffman
 Music Ministry Coordinator.....Mr. Kevin Donahue
 Pastoral Associate.....Ms. Maureen Dowd
 Deacon/Pastoral Associate.....Deacon Robert Grgic
 Administrative Secretary.....Mrs. Paula Haumesser
 Marketing Coordinator.....Mrs. Alicia Henrikson
 Business Manager.....Ms. Linda Hlebak
 Parochial Vicar.....Reverend Edward J. Janoch
 School Principal.....Mr. Robert Kumazec
 Pastor.....Reverend Frederick F. Pausche
 Learning Loft Preschool Director.....Mrs. Ann Silvester
 Parish Catechetical Leader.....Mrs. Regina Skrtic
 Parochial Vicar.....Reverend David Stavarz
 Supervisor of Facilities.....Mr. Michael Ulrich

PARISH ADDRESSES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

The Catholic Community of St. Gabriel

9925 Johnnycake Ridge Road
 Concord, OH 44060
 440-352-8282
 440-354-7558 (fax)
 www.st-gabriel.org
 phaumesser@st-gabriel.org

Office Hours (visit our website to confirm)

Mon-Thurs.....8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
 Friday.....8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Saturday.....9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
 Sunday.....8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

St. Gabriel School

440-352-6169
 440-639-0143 (fax)
 www.st-gabrielschool.org
 sgsoffice@st-gabrielschool.org

The Learning Loft Preschool

440-354-7574
 440-350-9311 (fax)
 asilvester@st-gabriel.org

Parish School of Religion Office

440-354-7551
 440-354-7559 (fax)
 rtroha@st-gabriel.org

SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday.....5:00 p.m.
 Sunday... 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Weekday Masses

Monday.....7:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration with
 Benediction on the First Monday of the month.
 Tuesday.....7:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.
 Wednesday.....7:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. School Mass
when scheduled
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration with
 Benediction on the Third Wednesday of the month.
 Thursday.....7:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.
 Friday.....7:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., Eucharistic Adoration
10:30 a.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet
 Saturday.....8:30 a.m.

Reconciliation

Saturday.....3:45 to 4:30 p.m. or by appt.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT....

Marriage

Engaged couples should contact the Parish Office at least 6 months before the desired wedding date. Couples must participate in a Pre Cana Day.

Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism is offered at St. Gabriel throughout the year. Participation in the Baptism Preparation Class is required. Contact the Parish Office.

Care of the Sick

In case of serious illness, call the Parish Office immediately. Please let the office know when the homebound or aged are unable to attend Mass and we will bring them Communion.

Funerals

Please call the Parish Office for arrangements prior to publication in the newspaper.

Online Communications:

Websites

Parish: St-Gabriel.org
 Learning Loft & School: St-GabrielSchool.org

Facebook:

Parish: @stgabrielconcord
 Learning Loft: @stgabriellearningloftpreschool
 School: @stgabrielgrizzly

YouTube: St. Gabriel, Concord, OH

Youth Faith Formation: St. Gabriel Youth Faith Formation

Twitter School: stgabrielschool1

Instagram School: stgabrielgrizzlygram

youthministry: @stgabrielyouthministry

Weekly newsletters are emailed on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Please email PHaumesser@St-Gabriel.org to be added to our list!

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Dr. Brian Titus, D.D.S.
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SPECIAL EVENTS

2022

November 1	All Saints Day
November 2	All Souls Day
November 5	Community Day of Service
November 17	Blue Mass
November 27	Advent Begins
December 8.....	Immaculate Conception
December 12.....	Communal Reconciliation
December 24, 11:00pm.....	Christmas Carols

2023

February 22.....	Ash Wednesday
Feb 24, Mar 3, 10, 17, 24, 31.....	Fish Fry
March 27.....	Communal Reconciliation
April 2.....	Passion Sunday
April 6-8.....	Triduum
April 9.....	Easter
May 28.....	Feast of Pentecost
June 1.....	Last Day of School
June 8-11.....	Parish Festival

ST. GABRIEL MINISTRY DIRECTORY

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN - THE VIRTUS TRAINING PROGRAM

Our work with children and vulnerable adults of our community, in whatever form it takes, is indeed a tremendous privilege and an awesome responsibility. St. Gabriel Parish places the highest priority on the safety and protection of our children and vulnerable adults, and is committed to do everything we can to ensure their safety and well-being. Our parish leaders, consistent with national and diocesan guidelines, have developed the policy listed below.

An initial interview is conducted with the program leader in your area of interest. Should the leader and volunteer agree that their gifts can best be used in a particular ministry, the following action items need to be followed:

An Employee/Volunteer application must be completed, along with references

- A copy of a driver's license must be made for your file
- The Standards of Conduct read and signed off
- The Safety First Handbook read and signed off
- The Policy for the Safety of Children in Matters of Sexual Abuse read and signed off
- Adult volunteers must register for a 3-hour training Workshop at www.Virtus.org
- All volunteers must be fingerprinted. Volunteers living in Ohio can be fingerprinted under BCII (conducted on the premises). Those living outside of Ohio for 5 years need an FBI check.
- Your program coordinator will review dates and times at your interview

Any volunteer ages 14 and over must be fingerprinted.

WORSHIP AND PRAYER

Mission Statement: We are called to foster, plan and celebrate prayerful, relevant and welcoming liturgical experiences by engaging the entire community in "full, conscious, and active participation" so that we may go in peace, glorifying the Lord by our lives.

Altar Servers

Girls and boys in grades 5 through 12 have an opportunity to participate in the Ministry of Altar Server. In this ministry, they assist the priest at our weekday and Sunday Liturgies and help all pray and worship well. Training takes place each year for any new servers.

Art & Environment

Our worship space reflects the liturgical seasons and sacramental moments celebrated throughout the Church year. Volunteers share their time and talent to create an environment that supports public worship and personal prayer of the community.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Adults and High School youth lead children ages 5-8 in a special sharing of the "Liturgy of the Word" weekend liturgies. All catechists and youth 14 years and older are asked to participate in all safety policies for Protecting God's Children.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Fully initiated Catholics who are active members of the parish and live a life in accord with the faith of the Church assist the priest with the distribution of the sacred Body and Blood of Christ at all Liturgies and in taking Communion to the sick. All ministers attend a diocesan training and an in-house training before ministering at any given liturgy. In-services are offered for the continued growth and understanding of this ministry and to build the life of faith.

Gift Bearers

Singles, families, and children are encouraged to sign up and take part in this meaningful ritual during their regularly attended liturgy. Gift Bearers carry up the gifts of bread and wine on behalf of the entire community.

Greeters

Women, men and children, along with the Ministers of Hospitality (ushers) welcome parishioners to Sunday Liturgy during their regularly attended Mass. They greet the people who are coming in and welcome them to our parish community.

Heavenly Dusters

This ministry of women and men clean and maintain the beauty of our worship space. They refresh and spruce up our church for Sunday Liturgies as well as before funerals and other sacramental celebrations.

Lectors

Members of the assembly 14 years and older, who possess the gift of proclamation and feel called to lector at our Sunday Liturgies, proclaim the Scriptures, the Prayer of the Faithful and share announcements concerning the work of our parish. Each one receives individual training and receives a lector workbook for each liturgical year.



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Liturgy Planners

Several teams compose the Penitential Act and the Prayer of the Faithful. The teams also make recommendations for the Preface and the Eucharistic Prayer for each Sunday Liturgy. Guidance and training on the principles of good Liturgy are provided.

Ministers of Hospitality (Ushers)

Women, men and teens welcome worshippers and assist with seating, distributing bulletins, facilitating the monetary offering and directing the presentation of gifts at all Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies. Training and recertification in the use of the AED and CPR take place on a regular basis.

Music Ministry

Adult and youth choirs and other small ensembles lead the assembly in song and praise at each Sunday and Holy Day Liturgy. They also share their time and talent for sacramental celebrations, funerals, and other special liturgical gatherings throughout the year. No previous vocal experience is required. Those who play an instrument are encouraged to contact the Music Ministry Coordinator.

FAITH FORMATION

Mission Statement: We are called to serve our community by supporting life-long faith formation and an ongoing relationship with Jesus Christ.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism

Baptism is the first of the three sacraments of initiation in which a new member is welcomed into the Catholic Christian community using the symbols of water, oil, light and a white baptismal garment. Our parish community rejoices in welcoming a newly baptized child into our family of faith. Baptisms may be celebrated during Eucharistic liturgies or Baptism liturgies by a priest or deacon. Baptism classes are required for parents to help them gain an understanding of the sacrament of Baptism. In collaboration with St. Mary, Chardon, joint baptismal catechesis classes alternate between the two parishes.

Reconciliation and Eucharist

Preparation for these sacraments begins with the child's Baptism and continues as the child experiences faith as it is expressed and practiced in the family and home environment. The process of immediate preparation includes catechesis for the child, parent/child sessions, retreats and practices. The sacramental celebrations are scheduled at different times after the preparation is completed.

Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation is a Sacrament of Initiation that completes the grace we received in Baptism. It seals, or confirms, this grace through the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. By choosing to be confirmed, your son or daughter is saying that they are willing to make a lifelong commitment to serve as Jesus did. Young teens who are in the 9th grade or older, and who have received the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist, are invited to participate in the process, which begins in the fall of each year.

Marriage

To adequately prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage, engaged couples should contact the parish office at least six months in advance to schedule their ceremony with the priest or deacon of their choice. The priest or deacon will meet with the engaged couple several times to get to know them and help them prepare paperwork, plan their ceremony, and guide them through marriage preparation.

Pre Cana

Married couples share personal experiences and offer encouragement during a one day program in the spring for couples planning to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony. There are 4-5 team meetings that take place in order to prepare for Pre Cana Day.

RCIA & Children

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a journey of faith process for inquirers who are interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church. Through weekly sessions, prayer, liturgy and apprenticeship in the activities of the parish community, individuals discern their call from God.

Anointing of the Sick

St. Gabriel Parish offers the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick on a quarterly basis as part of the Eucharistic liturgy to provide healing, comfort and strength to those who are dealing with significant health or age-related issues. In addition, parish priests are available to anoint the sick on an individual basis whenever needed.

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

Learning Loft Preschool

The St. Gabriel Learning Loft Preschool provides children ages 2-5 with an age appropriate curriculum combined with an introduction to the Catholic Faith. We seek to help students develop their gifts in order to provide them with a foundation for responding to the lifelong challenge of following Jesus' mandate, "Love one another as I have loved you." We provide opportunities with hands-on activities to experience learning and play within the context of a community designed to practice the love of God and neighbor. The school provides students with opportunities to enhance the development of their spiritual, social, academic and emotional selves.

Good Shepherd Program

This Montessori approach to religious education is for children ages 3-through grade 8. Based entirely on scripture and liturgy, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd resides in a specially prepared environment called the Atrium. The hands-on materials used to present lessons are designed to speak to the children in a special way with a dynamic, interactive, and multi-sensory approach. Stewardship is interwoven into the sessions to instill a strong sense of purpose and service to others. Weekly sessions run from mid-September through April on Sunday evenings or after school on Mondays. Children are grouped into one of four levels depending on their age/grade. Ninety plus hours of specialized training is required of catechists in their respective level in order to provide a theologically sound program (including sacramental preparation in second grade) to encourage and facilitate your child's faith formation.



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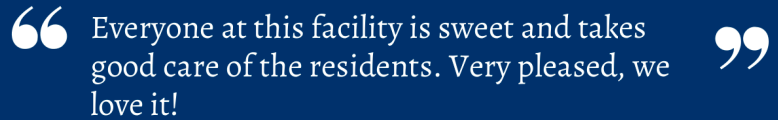
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Richard Johnson - Carol Johnson
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Parish School of Religion (PSR Grades 1-8)

Meeting Wednesday evenings, St. Gabriel PSR for Grades 1-8 is an interactive and inclusive faith formation program for our children attending public schools. PSR classes start in mid-September through the first week of May. Our program meets all Diocesan requirements and provides trained adult volunteers who serve as catechists, assistant catechists, traffic assistants, and hall monitors. Our goal for each young person is to learn, understand and celebrate their Catholic Faith through prayer experiences, interactive lessons, and faith sharing. We provide a strong Catholic foundation for children to build upon.

Friends of Jesus, Adaptive PSR

Our PSR Program for individuals with Special Needs (beginning at age 6), meets on Saturday mornings from 10:00-11:00 a.m. from late September through April. Trained catechists guide children in one-on-one or small group activities to best meet their individual spiritual needs. Children of all ability levels are welcome! Technology, hands-on activities, and music are all integral parts of the curriculum to guide children in an understanding of Basic Catholic Beliefs, Sacramental Preparation as well as Worship and Prayer.

Day School

St. Gabriel School, as part of the Catholic Community of St. Gabriel Parish, lives out the mission of Being CHRIST ~ Every Day ~ Everywhere through teaching, learning, leading and serving. We strive to provide a vibrant center of excellence in youth education and faith formation for children in grades Junior Kindergarten through Eighth Grade, in partnership with parents, guardians, and the Church. We offer a full academic curriculum that follows state standards, with supplemental curricula in Art, Music, Band, Technology/STEM, Physical Education, and Spanish. St. Gabriel School is a proud recipient of the Ohio Department of Education STEM designation. Highly qualified teachers work to foster a culture where students become leaders in faith who will serve others by being responsible, respectful, grateful, and safe. We strive to provide an experience of learning and community that motivates students to grow in mind, body, heart, and spirit as well rounded disciples of Christ.

St. Gabriel Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12)

The purpose of St. Gabriel Youth Ministry is to help provide an encounter with Christ for the youth so that they may grow together personally and spiritually. Our goal is to form virtuous disciples through personal prayer, participation in the Sacraments, and involvement within the parish community. This ministry is for all youth in grades 6-12. We will meet a few Sundays a month from 6-7:30 p.m. beginning with the 5:00 p.m. Mass. Our gatherings will provide social, spiritual, and service opportunities as we walk together deepening our relationship with each other and with the Lord.

CYO Sports

St. Gabriel CYO Sports strive to help our youth develop the values and character of Christ as love, and the outpouring of self for the benefit of others. We teach “no regrets” where success is defined as giving in service to each other and the community.

Booster Club

The Booster Club is responsible for financial support of our growing youth sports programs. Parents of those participating in sports serve as members of the Booster Club. We are looking for members willing to help with nurturing our Parish Community children through attendance at our meetings and participation in our fundraising events. We are looking for people just like YOU. To find out more about us, talk to one of our current Booster Club members or attend our next meeting which is held down in the Community Room of the Parish Life Center. Watch the parish bulletin for our next scheduled meeting.

Parent Teacher Unit (PTU)

The St. Gabriel School PTU is a vital, dynamic community of hundreds of parents and teacher volunteers sharing their time and talent to support numerous educational, social, and fundraising programs. More than 20 different committees coordinate social events for the school (e.g., Family Fun Nights), conduct fundraising events (e.g., Christmas Boutique) to provide financial support to valuable school programs (e.g., COSI, Fine Arts Week), and provide recognition and support to St. Gabriel students, teachers, and families.

Vacation Bible School

This week is designed for children in Preschool and Kindergarten through Grade 4. Youth who are Grade 5 and up take on leadership roles which are assigned based on an interview process. This is a great week of faith enrichment, fun, singing, and dancing. Planning and preparation begin in October prior and continue through the winter and spring months. Registration for both volunteering and attending will open in January. Please watch our website and bulletin for dates and register early. This popular program sells out quickly for both attending and volunteering.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Adult Faith Formation Committee

This committee, coordinated by a member of the pastoral staff, meets to plan opportunities for education, reflection and growth in faith for our parishioners.

Alpha

Alpha Sessions run several times throughout the year. Based around small groups with meals, video, and conversation, journeying through Alpha leads to a deeper relationship with Jesus. Email alpha@st-gabriel.org or visit our website for more information.

Catholic Men’s Fellowship

Men of the parish are invited to pray, socialize, and discuss their faith. They support, affirm, and share insights about situations encountered at home and at work. They seek God’s help in dealing with issues which confront them every day. They gather in an atmosphere of trust and prayerfully support one another.

Evangelization Committee

The Evangelization Committee works with the parish staff and focuses on four goals:

1. Helping people deepen their relationship with Jesus.
2. Learning various ways to listen to others and share the love of Jesus with them.
3. Provide opportunities to share the Gospel.
4. Empower Missionary Disciples through education, formation, and service.

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Mentor, OH 44060

Family Ministry

Family Ministry provides an invitation as well as a pathway back to the church for those who drifted away. Stay Connected - Family Ministry helps families with children from birth through 12th grade stay connected to the parish. A Pathway Home - Family Ministry reaches out to those families that may have lost contact with the parish after the baptism of their child. We reach out to parents and help them to:

- prepare for and receive sacraments they or their children may have missed.
- help with marriage preparation, validation, or beginning the annulment process.
- encourage Mass attendance.

Parent Education and Formation

While our parish Youth Faith Formation programs and Day School do an excellent job reaching our youth, the Family Ministry reaches out to their parents. Parent education experiences are provided during *Sacramental Preparation* for Sacraments of Initiation.

Vocations to Serve the Church

Christian life is about loving and serving as Jesus taught and did. Those called to serve God and the Christian community as bishops, priests, deacons and lay ecclesial ministers have Christ's invitation to love God's people with an unfailing "fatherly" love, rooted in their own dedication to the Lord and His Gospel.

St. Gabriel Parish wishes to provide support to parishioners discerning a religious or lay vocational call for their lives. Priests, deacons and lay ecclesial staff members are always available to meet with parishioners to help guide them in their discernment process. Please call the Parish Office to contact a pastoral staff member for further discussion.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Mission Statement: We are called to serve our parish community by sponsoring and providing a fun, inviting, nurturing, and welcoming atmosphere. We encourage fellowship and participation through social interaction in order to foster a vibrant faith community where all can encounter Christ.

Coffee & Donuts

Several times a year, typically the 2nd Sunday of the month, it is Coffee and Donut Sunday! Please join us for refreshments and fun! Watch for dates to be announced in the bulletin.

Fish Fry

This annual event held during Fridays in Lent is a great deal and is held in our school building. Wonderful food, fun times and a great way to meet people. Eat-in or Take Out.

St. Gabriel Gardeners

St. Gabriel Gardeners are a group of parishioners who volunteer their time and talent in the ongoing beautification of the Shrine and other parish landscaping projects.

St. Gabriel Senior Social Club

This Social Club is an organization for adults who enjoy meeting together and maintaining friendships. Game Nights, Dine-A-Round, and Bus trips have been ongoing and successful clubs. We enjoy a good time and are always looking for new ideas for this organization.

Boy Scouts

Chartered in 1928, Troop 64 has a long history of providing boys from grade six till their 18th birthday with opportunities to grow into young men through scouting. Our boys advance in ranks by earning merit badges, participating in fun activities, and planning and carrying out service projects. Through these experiences they develop confidence in themselves, a sense of duty to help others, and the belief to always do your best and act honorably at all times.

Family Connections

This series of activities provides ways for families with children of all ages to connect and thrive here at St. Gabriel. From toddler play group to Marriage Enrichment evenings, we are committed to the enrichment and to deepening relationships with families in our parish. Visit our page on the St. Gabriel website for current events.

Girl Scouts

Our leaders, co-leaders and volunteers help these girls from kindergarten through high school learn about believing in themselves, and to develop an awareness of others and a sense of personal responsibility. Girls also participate in activities that promote good citizenship and awareness of the world.

Summer Festival

Held just after school ends in June, this 4-day event is the kick-off to summer. Rides, bands, Monte Carlo, and raffles are among the fun-filled events as well as the best pierogies, cabbage rolls and burgers. Don't miss our parish festival - it is a great time!

OUTREACH CARE

Mission Statement: We are called to direct our efforts to supporting, coordinating and implementing ways to reach out and care for the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of parishioners and the community at large throughout all phases of life.

Bereavement Ministry

The caring and compassionate members of the Bereavement Ministry offer support in three very important ways to families who have lost a loved one.

The Funeral Liturgy volunteers assist the priest and family in planning the funeral liturgy and serve during the funeral Mass.

The Bereavement Luncheon volunteers plan luncheons for registered parishioners and serve all invited guests after funerals.

The Bereavement Support group offers sessions throughout the year as well as at special holiday times.

Elizabeth Ministry

This caring group of ministers provides help and a listening ear to anyone experiencing infant loss, miscarriage, loss of child no matter how much time has passed.

Hospital Visitation Ministry

The Hospital Visitation Ministry provides emotional support for hospitalized parishioners and their families. The ministry exists to ensure that hospitalized people are offered the presence of a lay volunteer before and/or after surgery. The ministry also ensures that those who are hospitalized for extended periods receive regular follow-up visits and calls.



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Ice Cream Ministry for Altercare

Offering a friendly face and a sweet treat, this dedicated group of volunteers, both adult and children, visit and distribute ice cream regularly to the residents of Altercare Nursing Home, located next door to St. Gabriel Parish.

Martha Meal Ministry

This ministry offers meals to families that are going through transitions such as a new child, a loss of a family member or an illness. The St. Gabriel family is here to provide support and love.

Ministry of Intercession & Praise

For those who are willing to lift up St. Gabriel and its parishioners in prayer, this group of blessed volunteers receives periodic mailings from the parish with prayer requests, and other information that can be helpful in our at-home prayer ministry. If you'd like to become an at-home prayer warrior, please contact the parish office.

Mission Circle

The Mission Circle meets monthly in the Church Community Room. At these meetings, we plan our annual fundraising events. Proceeds from these events support mission work throughout the world. At the meetings following these events we distribute all of the proceeds. We welcome new members at our meetings. Membership is open all year and meeting attendance is not a requirement.

Prison Ministry

Women and men who have a heart to reach out to the incarcerated adult and youth of Lake County are needed for this ministry. During their regular visits, they lead groups in Bible study and prayer bringing the Gospel message to those looking to turn their lives around. If you have a heart for ministering with this group, please contact Allison Capella at the Parish Office.

Respect Life Committee

Members of the Respect Life Committee work to promote the dignity of all human life by raising awareness, participating in events and raising funds. Members annually sponsor the Lemonade for Life event and "Boomerang Bottles" to support local agencies that offer services to women in need. We also take part in the annual Lake County Life Chain.

The Saint Gabriel Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is comprised of members who enjoy knitting and/or crocheting and use their time and talents to provide shawls as a reminder of God's love wrapped around people in times of great challenge or other significant points in life. There is no cost involved, nor is there any requirement regarding the recipient's religion or locale. All that's needed is the request. In giving a shawl, the Ministry also makes a commitment to remember in prayer all those who receive them. The group meets twice a month (2nd and 4th Thursday mornings) but members who cannot attend are also active, working on their own schedules. We are blessed with donations of yarn, though some people prefer to use their own. New members are always welcome, just call the office or check the parish website for contact information.

Gabriel's Messengers

Gabriel's Messengers is a prayer ministry that meets bi-monthly in Annunciation Chapel to pray with those who seek healing in body, mind, or spirit. Prayer can also be requested privately if needed.

St. Gabriel Closet

The St. Gabriel Closet collects and distributes gently used winter wear in the fall. Our mission is to provide a helping hand to neighbors in need living in our community.

St. Gabriel Food Pantry

St. Gabriel Food Pantry provides food to families in need in our community. The efforts of our many volunteers and donors ensure that food is provided with sensitivity to our brothers and sisters in Christ. We are here to serve with love and compassion. While all of us are susceptible to hard times, we are here to support one another and follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

St. Gabriel Hot Meal Program

The meals offered at St. James are held the 1st, 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month. Preparation begins at 3:30 p.m. followed by serving from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. The fifth Saturday of every month, which comes out to 4 or 5 times a year, a meal is served from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. at St. James.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is an international Catholic lay organization offering person-to-person service to the needy and suffering. Our conference was organized in 1986 and has about 40 members who visit the needy and answer calls from neighbors who need help with food, rent, utilities, medicine, clothing and more. We often refer clients to public and religious agencies and may also provide some financial aid when funds allow. We are mindful to be good stewards of funds entrusted to us. Typical clients are the unemployed, single parents, the sick, the disabled and handicapped. We prayerfully encourage clients to be active in helping themselves when possible.

Welcoming Committee

The mission of the St. Gabriel Welcoming Committee is to meet personally with new parishioners in a friendly and inviting manner, to conduct the enrollment process in a way that enables them to recognize the vibrancy of our parish, to understand the opportunities available for the further development of their faith life, and to invite them to share that faith by becoming involved in one or more ministries now or in the future.



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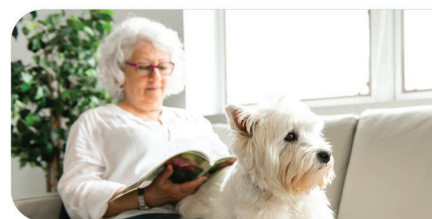
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SERVANT LEADERSHIP & ADMINISTRATION

Mission Statement: We are called to humbly serve our parish and the other commissions through good stewardship, effective leadership, a welcoming environment and an openness to collaboration.

Parish Staff

St. Gabriel Parish Staff work collaboratively with ministry leaders and parishioners to fulfill the mission of our parish in areas which include Worship, Youth Faith Formation, Outreach, Financial and Facility management

Pastoral Council

The purpose of the Pastoral Council is to promote the pastoral growth of the parish and to plan ways for the parish to carry out the mission of the Church. Council consists of 12 discerned members, plus St. Gabriel's pastor. Each member serves a two-year term that can be renewed for another two years. Council is called to listen to the needs of the community, to communicate the needs and concerns to the Pastor and Pastoral Staff and assist in developing appropriate responses to those needs and concerns.

Finance Council

The Finance Council provides expertise and consultation through financial analysis, planning and policy development to aid the Pastor in the administration of parish financial resources, buildings and grounds. Members are appointed based on their skills in finance, administration and law.

Custodial and Maintenance

This group of people is dedicated to the maintenance and upkeep of all the buildings and equipment on the parish property. From parking lots, interior and exteriors of buildings, to the landscaping, snow removal, and sports field maintenance, they are committed to this behind the scenes work.

Marketing & Communications

The Marketing & Communications Team provides support to the Marketing Coordinator who oversees the publication of Pillars (quarterly parish newsletter), Daily & Weekend Mass recordings, special events and communication for the entire community. This team consists of writers, photographers, videographers, and people who have expertise in the areas of public relations. If you would like to help, please contact the parish office.

Parish Nurse

The parish nurse works within the parish to meet people's needs who may not be identified or met through other means. Incorporating the body, mind and spiritual aspect of health, she promotes wellness through prevention, education and screening. She is available to make visits, provide individual health counseling and act as a local community resource liaison. The parish nurse does not provide "hands-on" care. Anyone in need of assistance can contact our Parish Nurse at 440-352-8282.

Safety/Virtus Training Coordinator

The Safety Coordinator prepares Volunteers through Virtus training which is required for any volunteer who will be working with children. More information on the Virtus training can be found on page four of this book.

Stewardship

The Stewardship Committee provides education on ways to serve and opportunities for everyone to do so through our annual Call to Stewardship. We introduce gift discernment tools and work collaboratively to enrich and strengthen our understanding of sharing of Time, Talent, and Treasure. By seeing that everything we have has been gifted to us by God, we reveal a clearer picture of ways we can return these gifts.

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