

# ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



St. John  
THE Baptist  
CATHOLIC PARISH

INFORM | INVITE | ACCOMPANY

Dear members of St. John the Baptist parish,

I hope this finds you well and I thank you for your loving connection to St John's. I would like to share a Scripture with you to begin this invitational letter. It is from St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians:

"As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit, we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit." (1 Cor 12:12-13)

In this Scripture the word "parts" is used, but it could also be translated as "members." This Scripture highlights that our membership in the church begins when we are baptized. When baptized, our original and personal sins are washed away, we become members of the Body of Christ, we receive the Holy Spirit and thus become Temples of the Holy Spirit, and God considers us His adopted and beloved sons and daughters. After being created and born, Baptism is the most beautiful thing that can happen in our lives. Once baptized, the Holy Spirit continues to call us and enable us to live as baptized believers in our daily lives. God calls each of us in unique, yet connected ways, to do this.

"Now the body is not a single part, but many. If a foot should say, "Because I am not a hand I do not belong to the body," it does not for this reason belong any less to the body. Or if an ear should say, "Because I am not an eye I do not belong to the body," it does not for this reason belong any less to the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God placed the parts, each one of them, in the body as he intended. If they were all one part, where would the body be? But as it is, there are many parts, yet one body." (1Cor 12:14-20)

For the Body of Christ, the Church, to be healthy and effective in the work of the salvation of souls, each member must also be active, connected, and spiritually healthy. And like good friends do, we encourage each other to be the best version of ourselves and contribute to the good of others.

Our community is embarking upon a transformational journey of Information, Invitation, and Accompaniment. This resource is our attempt to highlight, communicate, and emphasize what "Active Membership" in our community looks like. I have seen how one active member can change a parish. Can you imagine what a community of active members could do? I'm pretty sure we could change the world. And that is what Jesus calls us to do, change the world by bringing forth his Kingdom of justice, love, and peace. Thank you for embarking upon this transformational journey of active membership in the Body of Christ!

Come, Holy Spirit! St John the Baptist, pray for us!

Respectfully, and gratefully,

Fr. Jim Lucas





## ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



## REGISTERED MEMBERSHIP



## BAPTISMAL MEMBERSHIP



The intent of the Active Membership movement is to accompany you as members of the Catholic Church at St. John the Baptist on our journey toward heaven. Just as any journey has a route that must be taken, the Church has given us a “basic roadmap” for what active membership in the Church looks like. These ways of life are not given to us to be oppressive, but rather to be liberating as we work together for the common good of our families, Church, community, and world. Please join with us in dialogue through this journey. Let us rally together in becoming Saints through our words and deeds!

#### **Our Mission:**

As friends and followers of Jesus, we help ourselves and our communities to visibly live out discipleship through the mission and ministry of the Catholic Church.

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## MEMBER EXPECTATIONS

### As your parish, we promise:

- To provide faithful and inspiring worship services that are centered on the Word and Sacraments.
- To provide education and faith formation that helps all members to grow as disciples of Jesus.
- To create an atmosphere of generous hospitality where all are received with kindness, dignity, and respect, and our buildings & grounds are safe, clean, and beautifully maintained.
- To provide pastoral care to our parish and aid to our community in a variety of ways.
- To be open to dialogue about current and future ministry planning.
- To be good stewards of your financial gifts.

### As an active member of our parish family, we ask you:

- To worship regularly with our faith community by attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
- To grow in faith through personal prayer and devotions.
- To participate in the Sacramental life of the church.
- To volunteer your time and talents in service to our parish and community.
- To tithe your financial resources to support the mission of the church.
- To grow as a disciple by inviting others into relationship with Christ and His Church.

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- ***To worship regularly with our faith community by attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.***
  - The Mass and the Eucharist are the Source and Summit of our Catholic Faith.
  - As Pope Francis says: “We Christians need to participate in Sunday Mass because only with Jesus’ grace, with his living presence within us and among us, can we put his commandment into practice, and thus be his credible witnesses.”
  - Attending Mass is a Precept of the Church, the first in the five basic hallmarks of being Catholic. (CCC 2041-43)
- ***To grow in faith through personal prayer and devotions.***
  - The more we pray, the happier and less anxious we become; we are filled with a greater peace of mind and heart. The more we pray, the more we understand ourselves and God. The more we pray, we begin to see the hand of God acting in our day-to-day life. We begin to see that He loves us personally and desires deeper relationship with us.
- ***To participate in the Sacramental life of the church.***
  - God welcomes us into the Church through Baptism, nourishes us in growth through the Eucharist and Confirmation, calls us to serve one another in the sacrament of Marriage and Holy Orders, and heals us through Reconciliation and the Anointing of the Sick. If there are any Sacraments you have not received or are unsure about, please have a dialogue with us about how we can help you on this journey.
- ***To volunteer your time and talents in service to our parish and community.***
  - Giving of our time and talent in community is a truly Biblical and Catholic characteristic. Our relationship with God and His Church is both sacred and social. (Acts 2:44-47 ; Romans 12:4-8)
- ***To tithe your financial resources to support the mission of the church.***
  - We give to the Church out of a response to God’s Blessings in our lives. The Biblical tithe is literally ten percent of income, a proposed model is to give five percent to the parish and five percent to the poor, as expressed in local and national charities, special appeals, etc. (Lev 27:30; Prov 3:9; Mark 12:41-44)
- ***To grow as a disciple by inviting others into relationship with Christ and His Church.***
  - As Catholics we Discover Jesus through a personal encounter with him.
  - We Follow Jesus by responding to his call to a life of Discipleship.
  - We Love Jesus through a life in the Church, following him in a Sacramental, community-oriented life of transformation.
  - We Share Jesus with others, so that they may Discover Christ for themselves.

# SERVICE

***Giving of our time and talent in community is a truly Biblical and Catholic characteristic. Our relationship with God and His Church is both sacred and social. (Acts 2:44-47 ; Romans 12:4-8)***

As your parish we ask that you consider your family situation allows you to participate in to aid our parish in becoming the vibrant and faith-filled community we all hope it to be.

## COMMITMENT LEVEL

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Babysitting volunteer for parishioners</li><li>• Baker for new members or events</li><li>• Communion to Sick &amp; Homebound</li><li>• Eucharistic Minister *</li><li>• Greeter *</li><li>• Lector *</li><li>• Prayer Shawl Ministry</li><li>• SCRIP Sales (also goes toward school fundraising) *</li><li>• Usher *</li><li>• Vacation Bible School</li><li>• Help serve hot chocolate at Howard Parade</li><li>• Youth Ministry Volunteer</li><li>• Help with the SJB community Thanksgiving dinner</li><li>• Create cards for the homebound</li><li>• Invite others to church or a program with you</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Catholic Women/Christian Mothers</li><li>• Christ Renews His Parish</li><li>• Health &amp; Wellness member</li><li>• Helping Hands Ministry</li><li>• Music Ministry *</li><li>• Sisters of the Heart Prayer Ministry</li><li>• St. Vincent de Paul</li><li>• That Man Is You Ministry</li><li>• Help with Blessfest in August</li><li>• Help serve a meal to the homebound</li><li>• Help with blood pressure screening (need to be certified) *</li><li>• Help someone in the parish with odd jobs or upkeep</li><li>• Audio Visual Ministry</li></ul> <p><i>* This can be done when you attend Mass</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Buildings &amp; Grounds</li><li>• Faith Formation Mentor</li><li>• Faith Formation Aide</li><li>• Finance Council member</li><li>• Forerunners Team</li><li>• Knights of Columbus</li><li>• Pastoral Council Member</li><li>• Site Advisory Board</li><li>• Social Concerns Team</li><li>• Women's Bible Study</li><li>• Join or start a Bible study</li><li>• Attend a CRHP retreat</li></ul> 
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*For many more ideas of the types of service that are available for you to get involved in go to our website ([sjbh.org](http://sjbh.org)) and click on STEWARDSHIP and it will bring you to the Stewardship Booklet. Or scan the QR code above!*

# TITHING

***We ask every parishioner to support our parish to help move our mission forward.***

## WHERE DOES YOUR CONTRIBUTION GO?

- *Helping the parish by providing workshops and pastoral care*
- *Helping and supporting those in our parish and community who are in need*
- *Bringing others to Christ in a variety of ways (retreats, speakers, programs)*
- *Supporting our elderly and homebound*
- *Supporting those in the hospital, in hospice, in nursing homes*
- *Supporting youth ministry and our parish youth*
- *Maintaining campus buildings and grounds*

*Below are some tools that may help you discern and determine what you are able to contribute as an active parish member. We will be providing opportunities for you to ask questions and to have further discussion.*

Amount Per Month	Annual Contribution
\$10	\$120
\$25	\$300
\$50	\$600
\$75	\$900
\$100	\$1200

Annual Income	Per Week			
	2%	3%	4%	5%
\$20,000	\$8	\$12	\$15	\$19
\$30,000	\$12	\$17	\$23	\$29
\$40,000	\$15	\$23	\$31	\$39
\$50,000	\$19	\$29	\$38	\$48
\$60,000	\$23	\$35	\$46	\$58
\$70,000	\$27	\$40	\$54	\$67
\$80,000	\$31	\$46	\$62	\$77
\$90,000	\$35	\$52	\$69	\$87
\$100,000	\$39	\$58	\$77	\$96

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# Active Membership Covenant

## 2022-2023

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Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

First Names: \_\_\_\_\_

### **PRAYER / WORSHIP**

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation is essential, except in grave cases, and I commit to attending.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am currently participating in a Bible study, Holy Hour, or parish program, and practice regular prayer/devotion. If not currently participating, I would be interested in:

\_\_\_\_\_

### **SERVICE**

\_\_\_\_\_ I am currently sharing my gifts and talents with a committee, event, or program at our parish and/or in our Community in the following ways:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am not yet involved in the parish or community. I would be interested in:

\_\_\_\_\_

### **SUPPORT**

When families tithe, our parish is able to raise up disciples of Jesus Christ who positively impact our community by addressing education, mental health, poverty, hunger, homelessness, care for the elderly, and so much more.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am currently supporting our parish financially and comfortable with the amount of my contribution.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am currently supporting our parish financially and would like to increase my contribution.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am reluctant or unable to support our parish financially at this time.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parish Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parish Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date