

St. John Vianney – Family and Parish Life Report 2011

J. Michael Brooks

Family Life Center – Joann Scanlon

Mission

- To offer free and/or affordable programs/entertainment to the parish (plays, camps, sports, etc.)
- Be available to support the Church (Families, Youth, Ladies Club, Men's Club, Scouts, etc.)
 - a. St John Vianney Parish
 - b. Other Catholic Churches (OLSS basketball practice)
 - c. Community (ECHO, Hospice, Daughters of Abraham)
 - d. Non-profits (Human Society)
 - e. Schools & Government Agencies

Highlights

- The Drama Ministry wrote, directed and performed the play "A Path to Fair Play" for Fr. Daly's 60th birthday celebration during the Parish Picnic in August 2010. It was a wonderful day for the parish and a theatrical success for the Drama Ministry. Copies of the play were sold to the parish.
- The Drama Ministry performed "Drinking Habits" in November 2010. It was a comedy and we will have an encore performance in January 2011. (two new hand held microphones were purchased for the theatre)
- The Drama Ministry will perform a play during Lent for the Easter Season. The name of play will be determined at a later date. The play will be performed on April 8, 9, 10, 15, 16 & 17, 2011.
- CYBL program has grown from 300 children in 2009/10 to 350 children in 2010/11 (with a waiting list). We did not advertise, again, this year. The increase in enrollment is by word of mouth. Scholarships available to parishioners. Adult program volunteers are overwhelming. The snack bar is a big hit and a financial successful during the Saturday games.
- First Sunday Breakfast continues to be a favorite monthly event. (Sept thru June)
- Adult Volleyball (Monday nights) and Open Gym (Tuesday nights) continues to be successful programs for the community. Both nights bring in a steady income.
- Soccer fields are well used. The soccer fields showed a profit last year for the FLC. We installed night lights on the fields this past Fall (at no cost to the FLC). We hope to install a coin-operated system this Spring to off-set the cost of electricity. Each team will be charged a \$20 fee to use the lights for one season (until coin operated system can be installed).

- We started a basketball camp the summer of 2010. It was a success and will continue this summer 2011. We will offer Drama Camp and Volleyball Camp, again this summer. Scholarships available to parishioners.
- The 5th grade Rel. Ed. Class performed "A Little Star" Dec. 2010. The play was well received.

Key members

- Building Manager – Joann Scanlan
- Monitors – Dickie Hayes, Conrad White & Al Posey (Open Gym) – Scott Vogan (Monday nights)
- Kitchen – Larry Donnelly
- Sound Booth – Cindy Brown (on sick leave) & Scott Vogan
- Drama Ministry – Rita Leclerc and Gisela Victoria
- CYBL Coordinator – Charlie Russell
- Youth Group – Alle Levitas
- Rel. Ed. – Jan Pedone (Wed. nights)

Strengths:

- Volunteer staff. I depend on them daily.
- Compliments on the building all the time - How clean it is, the beautiful view from the windows, how well events are run, etc. (Many visitors say they never knew the building was back here).

Weakness:

- Keeping building clean and presentable is an every day effort. Too much for one person on a daily basis.
- Weakness is the yearly financial deficit. Programs are doing well (summer camps, CYBL, etc.) but building rentals from outside groups have fallen (Patuxent Playhouse, local schools and organizations).
- The new building in Huntingtown "Ennis Wilson Club House" has hurt our gym rental. The Calverton School rented our gym in the past for basketball practice. But, they have moved to the new "Club House" this past basketball season.

Goals

- To be available for the parish groups/ organizations and assist with their needs. (Space for meetings and events)
- Break even financially at the end of the fiscal year.
- More advertising for the FLC so the community knows what the FLC has to offer. Hopefully this will increase rentals and help with the deficit.
- To sponsor a Summer Soccer Camp (June or July 2011)

- It would be nice to increase parking. Mike Lewnes and I have to schedule events according to the parking spaces currently available. We cannot have 2 big events at the same time.
 - All groups and organizations to submit their yearly agenda on time. This will allow Mike Lewnes and me to schedule events without any conflicts. And, if any changes are made to that original agenda please notify us so we can adjust the master calendar.
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Drama Ministry -- Rita LeClerc

Mission

- The St. John Vianney Drama Ministry offers an opportunity for everyone to nurture and utilize the gifts God has given us and to be involved in the production of plays and musicals dedicated to the continuing advancement of the performing arts within the faith-based community. Our ministry promotes strong moral values, cultural awareness and cooperative acceptance among diverse individuals.

Highlights

- “Journey’s Road” was a big success! It was a big cast and we recruited many new actors. Performances were also on the local cable channel during the Easter season.
- “The Path to Fairplay” by D. Hardy (Happy Birthday to Father Daly) was a hit. The theater was full even people sitting in the aisles and on the floor. Several of the drama ministry members had gotten together to write this one. It ended with a photo tribute to Father Daly done by Phil Leclerc.
- The fall play “Drinking Habits” also a great success, and we are in the process of 2 encore performances on Jan 29th & 30th.
- The last meeting in December we set up 2 dates in February to clean and re-organize the storage room over the theater. We share this space with other organizations and there is limited space. We have had to dispose of many of our sets for lack of space. Since several organizations and individuals have requested to use costumes, etc. we have decided to inventory all items. This way they can be signed out. Many of the borrowed items have not come back or if they are returned – not in the same condition, hopefully we can eliminate this problem.

Key Members

Officers:

President: Rita Leclerc
 Vice President: Gisela Victoria
 Videographer: Harry Gielske
 Chuck Knapper, Carlos Victoria, Linda Pixton, Scott Vogan, Jerry Cleveland, Maria

Queen, Cathy Hogenson, Jason Williams, Jackie Elter, Larry Smialek, Darrell Ahne, Don Mueller, Joe Pilkington, Noah Victoria, Cindy Brown

Goals:

- We will have Easter performance April 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17. We were trying to write it, but we may just find a script to perform instead.
 - There will be a fall performance, but we have yet to decide on what it will be.
 - We are always encouraging St John Vianney parishioners to take part in the drama ministry. Several new parishioners joined or shown interest.
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Men’s Club – Joe Garcia

Mission

- We are a social, devotional and service organization. As such, our function is to support and help the Pastor, staff, and ministries carry out their functions. We also serve as a locus for social interaction for our members and the parishioners of St John Vianney through various scheduled and spontaneous events and functions. Our member contributions in time, expertise and other resources have benefited the parish by reducing costs usually associated with these renovation, maintenance and construction projects.

Highlights of the past year and activities planned for the coming year

- Our members were directly and indirectly involved in the Shrove Tuesday Dinner, Mothers Day Breakfast, Men’s Retreat, cooked for the Parish Picnic, participated in the Youth Work Camp, and the First Sunday Breakfast.
- We also cleaned both kitchens in the Vianney Room and the Family Life Center, helped cook for Safe Nights, helped renovate the house for the retired priest, painted the Vianney Room hall, moved the parish library, financially supported the youth group, the retreat house in Wash., DC, and the pastor’s anniversary party.
- We also sponsored two evening cruises on the Marine Museum boat, several golf trips, held our annual crab dinner in Oct. and our seafood dinner in Dec.
- Some of our members helped move elderly parishioners from their home to other quarters, and helped a disabled parishioner by cleaning, painting and reorganizing his residence after an illness. Two members also helped an elderly couple by supplying meals periodically.

Involved parishioners

- All men of the Saint John Vianney parish are considered members. We define active members as those who lead or assist in at least one function during the year and attend our monthly meetings.

- Meetings: 7:30 PM, first Monday of the month in the Sullivan Room of the Family Life Center.
- Visit our web site in the SJV site sjvc.us/mens club for additional information.

Strengths

- As a social, devotional and service organization our biggest strength is the potential and actual expertise our manpower represents. We stand ready to help the Parish and its programs in any way we can.
- Over the years, our members have participated in and contributed to almost every parish function that required labor and specific expertise held by our members. This has ranged from construction of the new church, Family Life Center, basement renovation, hurricane assistance, painting, moving, grounds keeping, etc.
- Our members also work with other parish programs such as Safe Nights, First Sunday Breakfast, Work Camp and other special events.
- We also sponsor the Shrove Tuesday dinner, a St Valentine's Day Social, the Mothers Day Breakfast, cook for the Church Picnic, conduct the annual Men's Crab Dinner in October, and the Seafood Dinner in December.

Goals

- For 2011 we will continue to sponsor the Shrove Tuesday Dinner, Mothers Day Breakfast, Men's Retreat, golf and boat cruise outing, crab dinner and seafood dinner.
- We also plan to participate in the Parish Picnic and other functions that require our expertise and/or manpower.

Key Members and Officers for 2011

We consider all our active members "key members". Without their participation as leaders and workers, we could not function as a viable club.

President:	Vic Wisniewski
Vice President	Eugene Gonzalez
Treasurer	Scott Vogan
Secretary	Daryl Kupper
Awards	Jack Yatsko
Membership	Joe Garcia
Bylaws	Pete Abresch
Web Master	Jack McFadden
Food Service	Larry Donnelley
Crab Feast	Richard Hayes & George Sullivan

Seafood Dinner	Steve Pedone
Parish Council Rep	Chuck Knapper
	Joe Garcia (Previous President)
Retreats	Maury Mattingly
Spiritual Advisors	Fr. Peter Daly, Fr. Pete Alliata

Ladies Club – Barbara Fallin

Mission:

- To support the parish community, as a dedicated group of women, by providing spiritual and social functions resulting in both personal and community growth.

Highlights from 2010:

- Birthright Gift Pak Drive – February 2010
- Mini Retreat: March 2010
- Made Aprons for women in Nicaragua
- Dinner & Movie (January/June/October)
- Yard Sale in June to help the Family Life Center
- Craft Bazaar and Home Show November 2010 \$2,821.75 to SJV \$3,145.00 to FLC
- Angel Tree Drive- collected 200 gifts for children and 60 for the elderly
- Walnut Home Chest Raffle: \$845.00 to SJV
- Cook Book "Taste of Heaven" \$2,560.00 to SJV

Key Members:

Officers for 2010:

President: Barbara Fallin	Coordinators: Betsy Spittler and Toni Johnson
Treasurer: Rebecca Willis	
Secretary: Barbara Rascon	

Betsy Brooks, Marj Mastrangelo, Barbara Johnson, Kay Sheck, Patricia Hughes, Anne Marie Abresch, Leslie Collica, Linda Dolecki, Angie Rivera. Sharon Robinson, Sandy Sullivan, Joann Scanlan, Sharon Seckens, Delores Esak, Mary Posey, Miranda Jarnot, Flo Ford, and Nancy Waskiewicz

Member in Ladies Club: approximately 50. Meetings: 2nd Wednesday each month

Upcoming events for 2011:

- Dinner & Movie -- January 7
- Saturday Coffee "Learn how to Do Spin - Feb 5
- Mini Retreat "The Oasis in the Desert", Speaker Brother Joseph McCann - Mar 12
- Dinner & Movie – June 3
- Relay for Life – June 17
- Women's Retreat – October 15-16
- Craft Bazaar and Home Vendor Show – November
- Angel Tree Drive – November 20 – December 11

Strengths: we do a variety of things throughout the year for the parish and the community

Relay for Life – Barbara Johnson**Mission:**

- The goal of Relay for Life is to raise money to find a cure for cancer and to provide funds to programs that support individuals dealing with cancer. Although, most of the money does not stay in Calvert County, many cancer patients use services here as well as at other locations.

Team Name: Spirit of St. John Vianney.

Highlights:

- Kickoff for the 2011 year is February 1.
- We presently have 12 registered returning members. Last year our team totaled 32 people.
- The 2011 Relay for Life walk begins Friday June 17 and ends 6 am Saturday June 18. Last year's team raised \$10,200. We will receive a Recognition Certificate at the kickoff meeting Feb 1 for being one of the top ten for 2010.
- 2011 goal is \$7,000. This can be adjusted once our team has a meeting and decides fund raising event. This will probably be the last week of February. In the past we have a yard sale in May and plan to do that again. We also sell raffle tickets for various items, including some that the ACS provides (gas cards, car raffle, etc.) In addition to that, we sell feet/flowers (feet represent loved ones lost to cancer and flowers represent loved one surviving with cancer). We also have raffles on items donated to us such as National baseball tickets, quilt, clock. The church also has been doing a poor box collect for us one weekend in the being of June.
- Each individual team member is encouraged to raise at least \$100. Last year we had three \$1,000 members.

Key Members:

Captain: Barbara Johnson
Co-Captain: Trish Villari

Strengths: Our strength is that we have many supportive people in our parish.

Weakness: Would like to see more individuals involved on the team (2009, 2008 only around 10). As representatives of SJV we receive a large portion of our funds from church members and this has become more difficult competing with all the other fundraisers.

Natural Family Planning -- KC Schnitcker**Mission:**

- To share the Church's teaching on the meaning and purpose of human sexuality. To instruct married and engaged couples in Natural Family Planning so they can morally plan their families and receive the Graces they need.

Key Member:

Mrs. Schnitker is in charge of the NFP program at SJV and teaches the "The Ovulation Method" to engaged and married couples at SJV, Jesus the Divine Word and St. Peter's as well as for The Archdiocese of Washington.

Strengths:

- NFP Divorce-proofs marriages (NFP couples have a .2% divorce rate).
- Increases communication between spouses.
- Facilitates a conversion process in the couple and individually in the husband and wife.

Weaknesses:

- Ignorance of Church teaching on human sexuality and morality for many Catholics.
- Lack of awareness of the existence and effectiveness of NFP.

Highlights 2010:

- Father Daly preached about Humanae Vitae and NFP.
- Literature available in the Festival Room.
- Presentation given at RCIA on NFP and Humanae Vitae.
- Classes offered at SJV.

Goals for 2011:

- NFP Parish Mission by NFP Outreach in Spring of 2011.
- NFP/HV Presentation to those working in marriage ministries and a closer cooperation between those in marriage ministry.
- Pro-life and NFP ministries working together.
- NFP literature made available to couples during baptism preparation (when they are literally bombarded with contraception alternatives).

- Continue to raise awareness about the moral, relational and physical hazards of contraceptive behavior through homilies, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and educational outreach.

Scouting -- Joe America, Chartered Organization Rep.

Mission:

The scouting leadership at St. John Vianney is dedicated to providing a safe and secure scouting program, administered in the highest ideals of scouting and the Catholic Church. Our program will allow boys and girls to grow into young adults who will become the leaders, teachers and responsible mentors of tomorrow. Scouting provides a path of guided discovery, which leads youth to a higher understanding of themselves, their world, and their faith.

Highlights: There are now four active scout groups in the church. The groups are Boy Scouts Troop 430 (11 to 18 years old), Club Scouts Pack 430 (5 to 11years old), Cadet Girl Scouts Troop 2552 (13 and 14 years old) and Brownie Girl Scouts (7 and 8 years old).

• **Troop 430:**

- Troop 430 continues to thrive as a boy-lead troop.
- This past year saw one of our scouts achieve the rank of Eagle Scout, with several other boys planning for their Eagle project.
- The troop continues to be very strong, with over 30 boys as active members, guided by an extremely dedicated group of adult leaders.
- The troop continues to plan a camping event each month when possible. This past summer almost every boy participated in either merit badge camp or a high adventure camp.
- This coming summer, a group of about 14 boys and six adult leaders will travel to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico, to participate in one of scouting's premier high adventure experiences.

• **Troop 2552:** Troop 2552 continues to be a dynamic force for positive growth for the young women who make up its membership.

- This group of girls has been together since they were brownies, and this year all 10 girls in the troop started their Gold Project, which when completed is equivalent to achieving the rank of Eagle in boy scouts. Their Gold Projects will both serve and educate their community, and requires a significant effort by the scouts to complete.
- This coming year, the troop will travel to the Kandersteg International Scout Centre in Switzerland. Kandersteg International Scout Centre is a World Centre of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM). The Centre began in 1923 with Lord Baden-Powell, who, after the first World Scout Jamboree, had a dream about a place where Scouts from all over the world could meet.

- **Cub Scout Pack 430 & Brownie Troop 641:** While the cub scouts and brownies may not travel the globe like their older counterparts; they do travel to very many interesting destinations a little closer to home. They participate in day camps, weekend adventures, and numerous service projects under the watchful care of their parents and adult leaders. Their many activities prepare them to take flight as future boy scouts and girl scouts. A strong introduction to camping and other outdoor activities brings invaluable experiences and skills that will serve them well in future years.

• **Brownie Troop 641**

- **Mission:** To develop girls who are strong, confident citizens and are living the spirit of the scout promise in their daily lives: On my honor, I will try: To serve God and my country, To help people at all times, And to live by the Girl Scout Law.
- **Highlights:**
 - Our Brownies are mostly second graders this year so we are hoping to take on more challenges in our community.
 - We have 14 Brownies coming from all over the county to meet on Sunday afternoons at 2:30, three girls (and their parents) are parishioners at SJV and several more are parishioners at JDW.
 - Last year we planted (and tried to keep weeded) the flowerbed in front of the Family Life Center. We planted flowers and herbs for Larry to use in the kitchen. We are looking forward to starting the garden again in the spring and hoping perhaps to expand to growing a few vegetables for the food pantry (if we can find an available sunny space).
 - This fall we held a paper drive in our various neighborhoods and schools for Project Echo, baked and decorated cookies for their holiday party in Dec.
 - The girls will also be working on their Wonders of Water Journey where we will study the ecology of our local water and look at ways they can each help to make our world a better place. At the end of the program they will have completed an ecology service project.
 - We have several girls working on religious emblems, some of the Protestants are working at St. Nicholas Lutheran Church on the God and Me emblem and our Catholic girls will be starting the God and Family emblem in late January.
 - We try and stress service to God and others; we have opened the Catholic emblem up to all the Brownies in the parish.
 - We will also be sending about six girls to the Archdiocese's annual retreat at St. Lawrence Martyr in Landover in March.

Key members/Leaders:

Boy Scout Troop 430

- Scoutmaster Rick Thompson
- Committee Chairperson Rob Gionfriddo

Girl Scout Troop 2552

- Troop Leader Laurie Bryner
- Assistant Troop Leader Kim Stack

Cub Scout Pack 430

- Cub master Kim Malone
- Committee Chairperson Julie Wilson

Brownie Troop 641

- Leader Monica Mower
- Assistant Leader Janel McPhillips

Concerns:

- Keeping our youth safe is always the primary goal of all four of our scouting groups. In this regard we rely on the guidance of our Chartering Organization; Saint John Vianney Church, for the Catholic Youth Protection Program, and the Youth Protection Program provided by the scouting organizations.
- Another big concern for the scout groups is fundraising. With groups as active as ours, fundraising requires a big and continuous effort. We will work with the parish leadership to ensure that our efforts are compatible with the goals and needs of Saint John Vianney Church.

Goals:

- Our goals for the coming year are to continue to provide an active scouting experience for the youth of our parish and community. We hope to continue to lead the younger scouts, and to guide the older scouts, by providing a program that emphasizes camping and other outdoor activities, service to the community, and growth in our faith. We will continue to serve our community through service projects, and we will continue to encourage the youth of our community to join us.

Youth Group – Allie Levitas

Mission:

Three focus points of youth group are Serving of Others, Chastity and Growing in Faith. The fruits of our work and virtues help us to grow in our Catholic faith.

Highlights from 2010 and Activities planned for 2011

- We try to make ourselves visible to SJV parishioners as much as possible, by volunteering to help out and work many different parish events. A few examples are assisting with Sunday Breakfasts, Parish Yard Sale, Safe Nights, Christmas Craft Show, and wherever else needed.

- Activities: March for Life, Ski Trip, Steubenville Retreat, VBS, Catholic Heart Work Camp, All Saints Day Party, and Christmas Caroling. Potential talent show and World Youth Day.
- Try to build up the middle school youth group by meeting with them a minimum of every other month. Ideally, we want to keep them interested so they'll want to join the high school youth group. Last year, we had great fun with meetings that consisted of activities and pizza. Two highlights of the year were Vacation Bible School and the All Saints Day Party. Middle School plays a huge role in Vacation Bible School. There are about 20 middle schoolers who work together months ahead of time to practice plays and musical performances for the week of VBS. They even made their own musical video with the help of Scott Vogan. Middle schoolers really enjoyed the All Saints Day Party. They loved dressing up, playing games, the haunted house, and would like to do it again this upcoming year. Middle school youth group also went on a few outings, such as a Christian rock concert and chastity talk. Gisela Victoria, Maria Queen, and Cheryl Pilkington are the main middle school youth group volunteers.

Strengths & Weaknesses:

- More than half our youth group members participate in the SJV confirmation class.
- We have about 4 active adult parishioners.
- The membership to youth group continues to grow. Last year we had a core youth group count of 5-10 teens. This year's youth group has grown in size, we have about 15-20 teens that attend meetings on a regular basis; sometimes we see more than 20 teens attend.
- Mission work is probably our biggest strength. It's the teen's favorite and a big commitment and directly benefits our community and the needy.
- Earlier on in the year, it was a struggle for me to find adults willing to volunteer during youth group meetings. This was right at the time when youth group numbers were growing. Things have gotten better mainly because Daryl Kupper will stand in when he can. However with the hope that our numbers keep rising, we will need more adult volunteers. We especially need a bus driver, too.
- The main need I can see right now is contributions toward transportation to retreats and activities. This takes up a huge chunk of our budget and fundraising and sometimes needs to be supplemented.
- I think it's important that I continue to make myself visible during confirmation class and after masses. I believe my visibility and weekly announcements play a huge role in keeping the teens and parents informed and involved.