

# WELCOME<sub>TO</sub> ST BARBARA CHURCH



We, the saints and sinners of St. Barbara's Parish, are a Roman Catholic community. Through joyful Eucharistic worship and loving community, we strive through Jesus and the Holy Spirit to build the kingdom of God on Earth as we prepare for the Kingdom of Heaven. We seek to serve others individually and as a parish according to God's plan for us; we are the Body of Christ.

# Welcome to the St. Barbara Parish Family



Contact Me:  
859-371-3100

Email Me:  
[Jsterling@stbarbaraky.org](mailto:Jsterling@stbarbaraky.org)

Welcome to St. Barbara Parish. We are part of God's Family and part of the Roman Catholic church that embraces the people of Erlanger, Independence, Elsmere and nearby neighborhoods. Ours is a parish that dates back to 1967. Over the span of that time we have been blessed with many loving, generous, and holy people. As you enter St. Barbara's we certainly hope you find us to be a warm and welcoming parish. Because of the size of our parish we have many organizations and activities. We invite you to be a part of as many of them as possible and to feel like you were always one of us.

We know that you also have a history. You come with your own unique experiences from previous neighborhoods and parishes. Those experiences are your treasures and we hope that you can share them with us. We certainly hope that we have something to offer you as you enter the parish. May we all be enriched by our union and unity with one another. May God continue to generously bless all of us, and may St. Barbara, our patron, continue to pray for us.

We have put together this welcome packet to provide you with the information you need to become an active part of our parish family. If you should have any questions about the staff or ministries, please contact the parish office or one of the St. Barbara Staff members.

Thank you for becoming part of our family.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "John Sterling". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Rev. John Sterling - Pastor



# Religious Services Provided

## **Baptisms\***

Baptism Preparation classes are required before having your child baptized. Please call the office about classes at least a month before scheduling a baptism. Baptisms are performed on Sundays. Call the office for further information.

## **First Reconciliation, Communion & Confirmation\***

In conjunction with our CCD program we invite the parents of children who are enrolled to attend the necessary preparation programs required to fulfill these sacraments. Children must have a year of religious education before asking to take part in any one of these sacraments. For further information or questions, contact our Coordinator of Religious Education.

## **Matrimony\***

Couples who are interested in being married within the Catholic faith need to follow the Diocesan requirements for marriage preparation. You must contact the office at least six months before planning the wedding celebration.

## **Sacrament of the Sick\***

Those who are confined to their homes or in hospitals can arrange for the Sacraments of Anointing of the Sick, Reconciliation, and Eucharist by calling the parish office. Please notify the office about someone who is ill and in need of a visit.

## **Funerals\***

Please call the parish office to make arrangements. The Bereavement Committee will assist families in planning the liturgy during this difficult time.

## **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

24 hour adoration in the Holy Spirit Chapel.  
1234\* to access Chapel.

*\* Please note you must be a registered parishioner of the parish.*



## Daily Mass Offerings

### **Weekend Masses**

Saturday 4:30 PM  
Sunday 9 & 11 AM

### **Communion Services**

Mondays 10 AM

### **Weekday Masses**

Tuesday - Friday 10 AM

### **Holy Days**

10 AM and 7 PM

### **Reconciliation**

Saturday 3:45 PM  
or by appointment.  
Please call Parish office

# Office and Pastoral Staff

OFFICE NUMBER  
859.371.3100

## **Pastor**

Rev. John Sterling

## **Deacon**

Chuck Melville

## **Administrative Assistants**

Laura Scheben  
Lesley Duggan

## **Business Consultant**

Ted Lorenz

## **Coordinator of Religious Education (C.R.E.)**

Jackie Koop

## **Event Center Director**

Dawn DiVita

## **Parish Development**

John Mikula

## **Youth Minister**

John Kidwell

## **Parish Office Hours**

Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri 9 AM to 3:30 PM  
Wed 9 AM to Noon

## **Office Email**

stb@stbarbaraky.org

## **Website**

www.stbarbaraky.org

## **Facebook**

www.facebook.com/SaintBarbaraErlanger



## DOWNLOAD OUR APP

The St. Barbara Church Mobile App gives our parishioners, staff and visitors, mobile access to important information such as calendars schedules, Catholic prayers, reminders, news and updates. **IT'S FREE AND SIMPLE!** From your smartphone or tablet, search "St. Barbara Church" in your app store or scan the QR code.



St Barbara Church App



### **Select "YES" for Offline Caching**

this allows you to access app info when not in WiFi range

### **Select "YES" to allow Push Notifications**

this allows you to receive important parish alerts and messages



# Our Ministries

We all have gifts from God, and we are all called to serve one another through our Baptism. When we are willing to share a piece of ourselves with others, our gifts unfold, and we, as well as others, benefit in ways that only God knows and directs.

You are invited and warmly encouraged to take an active part in your Parish Community, in particular, to embrace our mission of “living the fullness of Christian life by virtue of Baptism, Confirmation and the perfection of love.” Joining in also means active participation in the liturgies: singing, praying, responding and being attentive. Connecting with those who sit around you in the pews helps to create a familiar atmosphere. Remember that a smile and a hearty “hello” go a long way to make a new parishioner or visitor feel welcome and at home among us.

This welcome packet offers a brief description of each ministry that St. Barbara has to offer. Please read through each description and if you are interested in any of our ministries contact the office for the most current contact information. For your convenience, we list the ministries, current leaders and the standing monthly meeting dates and times in the weekly church bulletin.



# Advisement & Counseling Assistance

## Addictions

Struggling with Addiction to Alcohol or Drugs? There is hope! A parishioner and recovering addict, is available for you to talk to about recovery and healing. Please contact the office for further information.

## Annulments

When individuals have been a party to a divorce, and wish to marry in the Catholic Church, they will need to establish their freedom to marry. The annulment process is complex and currently a committee created by our Holy Father, Pope Francis, endeavors to review the process and perhaps to alter it. For further information regarding the annulment process please contact the parish office and we would be glad to advise you in this process.

## Catholic Order of Foresters (COF)

The Catholic Order of Foresters, established in 1883, is committed to promoting Faith and Fellowship. We support Catholic Education through scholarships and tuition assistance.

We are a fraternal benefit society that helps members achieve financial security, through life insurance and annuities.

The Catholic Order of Foresters has an active presence here at St. Barbara, through our youth group. Our members help organize activities like March for Life, family movie nights, ice cream socials, and our national Outreach Project, - "Feeding the Children."

If you are interested in finding out more about the Catholic Order of Foresters, you can email: [mehman@catholicforester.org](mailto:mehman@catholicforester.org)

# Christian Education

## Bible Study

The bible can be an intimidating book for most people. A St. Barbara Bible Study group helps you understand what you are reading and turns your fears into enthusiasm and a thirst for knowledge. We use the Collegeville Bible Series books as a guide for our group readings and discussions.

Currently we offer two different study groups for your convenience. No prior knowledge of the Bible or experience is necessary. Come, listen and learn together.

## Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD)

The parish provides religious education for the children who do not attend a Catholic grade school. All baptized students in first through eighth grades, whose families are registered and active parishioners of St. Barbara, and are attending public schools or are home schooled should enroll in the CCD Program.

Classes follow suggested guidelines of the Diocese of Covington. These classes are required before students are admitted to the preparation, classes for First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

## CCD Teachers

The CCD program is conducted by volunteers in the parish who wish to share their faith and religious education with the children of the parish. If you have a teaching background, or feel that you can help provide the appropriate guidance/education to school age children then we would love to have you be a part of this program.

## Vacation Bible School

VBS offers religious education incorporated into Bible themes with songs, games, crafts and snacks! VBS is open to all children (ages 5-11) in the community regardless of church affiliation. VBS is held the last week in June on the parish campus.



## Cursillo Movement

As laity in the Church, we are called to be apostles spreading God's word to each person in the environments where He has planted us. The Cursillo Movement was established to help prepare us to live out that mission. The Movement starts with a three day retreat weekend called a Cursillo. During the weekend, presentations given by laypersons and spiritual advisors, help participants gain a better understanding of themselves and the circumstances in other's lives that have influenced their spiritual journey. Following the retreat, participants become members of the Cursillo Community living out their lives sharing the fundamentals of their Christian faith with their neighbors.

The Cursillo Movement's motto is simple: "Make a Friend, Be a Friend, Bring a Friend to Christ."



### **Faith and Fellowship**

Members of the Faith and Fellowship Committee invite parishioners and guests to develop body, mind and spirit through adult education in the Sterling Event Center. The monthly sessions address topics chosen by the parish, such as prayer, conflict resolution and scripture. Previous speakers include medical professionals, Biblical scholars, authors, university professors, religious and community leaders.

### **OCIA**

OCIA, or the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults, is the way that people get initiated into the Christian way of life, specifically in the Roman Catholic Tradition.

Here at St Barbara we generally meet with interested persons from late Summer through Spring but the process is adaptable to allow for a person to investigate the Faith and to proceed at their own pace and to enter into the Church when they are deemed ready by the catechist and the Pastor.



### **Walking With Purpose**

Walking With Purpose is a Catholic Bible Study ministry for women that combines scripture study with Christian fellowship for a truly unique experience. Our participants journey together each week, using the Bible as a guide toward deeper, more personal relationships with Jesus Christ. The program uses a combination of at home personal study and small group discussions to link everyday life, with its challenges and struggles, to solutions given to us in Scripture and the teachings of the Catholic Church. Every woman is welcome, regardless

of faith tradition, experience, age or background. The content of our Bible studies appeals to a wide variety of women, including those experienced at studying Scripture and those just learning to navigate the Bible.

The Walking With Purpose program begins in late September and ends in April of each year. However, you can join at any time since the lessons are each "stand-alone."

### **Women's Welcome**

Welcome (formerly known as Christ Renews His Parish, or CRHP) addresses the everyday questions and struggles we all have, and helps people discover what's missing in their lives and what to do about it. The Welcome experience begins with a weekend retreat held in the Sterling Event Center. During the weekend, strong and faith-filled women of the parish reveal how God encouraged and strengthened them through their struggles. Bible passages are referenced to lend solutions to everyday problems in our lives. The weekend welcomes the women of the parish to enjoy some quiet time away from their busy lives and to be pampered with free delicious meals, uplifting conversations, and lasting friendships. As a result of the Women's Welcome, there are more people who are actively involved in our parish and more engaged in the lives of our fellow parishioners.

Something wonderful is happening in our parish, and Welcome is a part of it!

## **Church Committees**

### **Finance Council**

The finance council of St. Barbara Church is the committee responsible for establishing the annual church operating budget and monitoring how the funds of the parish are generated and spent. The council is governed by the code of Canon Law 537. The council consists of the pastor, deacon, business manager and nine members of the parish who are required to be in good standing with expertise in matters of finance or civil law. In conjunction with the pastor, the Finance Council provide good stewardship of parish finances and ensures that members of the parish receive an understandable annual financial report.

The council is always looking for qualified people with a solid financial background to help keep the parish on the right track.

### **Parish Development**

The mission of the Parish Development is to teach the responsibility and accountability that each of us has to return thanks for all God's gifts by inspiring the members of the parish to commit themselves as true disciples of Jesus Christ. The committee has a responsibility to inspire, enable and encourage parishioners to share their gifts of time, talent and treasure for the good of all.

### **Pastoral Council**

In cooperation with the pastor, the Pastoral Council provides consultation necessary to fulfill the mission of St. Barbara Parish.

The Council is comprised of both voting and non-voting members. The ex officio members are the Pastor, the Deacon, the Coordinator of Religious Education, the Youth Minister, the Deanery Pastoral Council Representative, and one member of the parish finance council chosen by the pastor. Remaining members of the Council are chosen from among parish nominees.

### **Worship Committee**

In order to successfully build the Kingdom of God, the Parish must provide meaningful worship services and Catholic education programs for parishioners and other individuals of all ages. The goals and purpose of the committee is to provide opportunities for parishioners to grow in their faith through liturgical celebrations, programs and activities.

In addition they also are able to focus on the needs of the entire worshipping community and the assembly. They oversee the recruitment, training and evaluation of liturgical ministers and jointly prepare with the Coordinator of Religious Education for all the sacramental celebrations such as baptism, confirmation, first communion, etc. They assist in preparation of the weekend liturgies, for special occasions and Holy Days.

***The Worship Committee is comprised of the following essential ministers:***

**Altar Society Members** - maintain and enhance the beauty of the church each week. No training is needed.

**Teachers of the Children's Liturgy** - present the Liturgy of the Word in age appropriate language to our youngest parishioners during the 11:00 AM Mass.

**Eucharistic Ministers** - assist in the distribution of Holy Communion during Masses. Training is required.

**Special Ministers of Holy Communion** - distribute the Eucharist to residents at two local senior living facilities, Woodspoint and Emerald Trace. As above, training is required.

**Hospitality Ministers** - serve as ambassadors of our parish. They welcome guests with a smile, offer directions and provide assistance to those who need it. No training is needed.

**Lectors** - proclaim the readings at Mass. All confirmed and practicing Catholics can lector after a short instructional class.

**Music Ministers** - include vocalists and musicians who provide this essential element of worship. Those

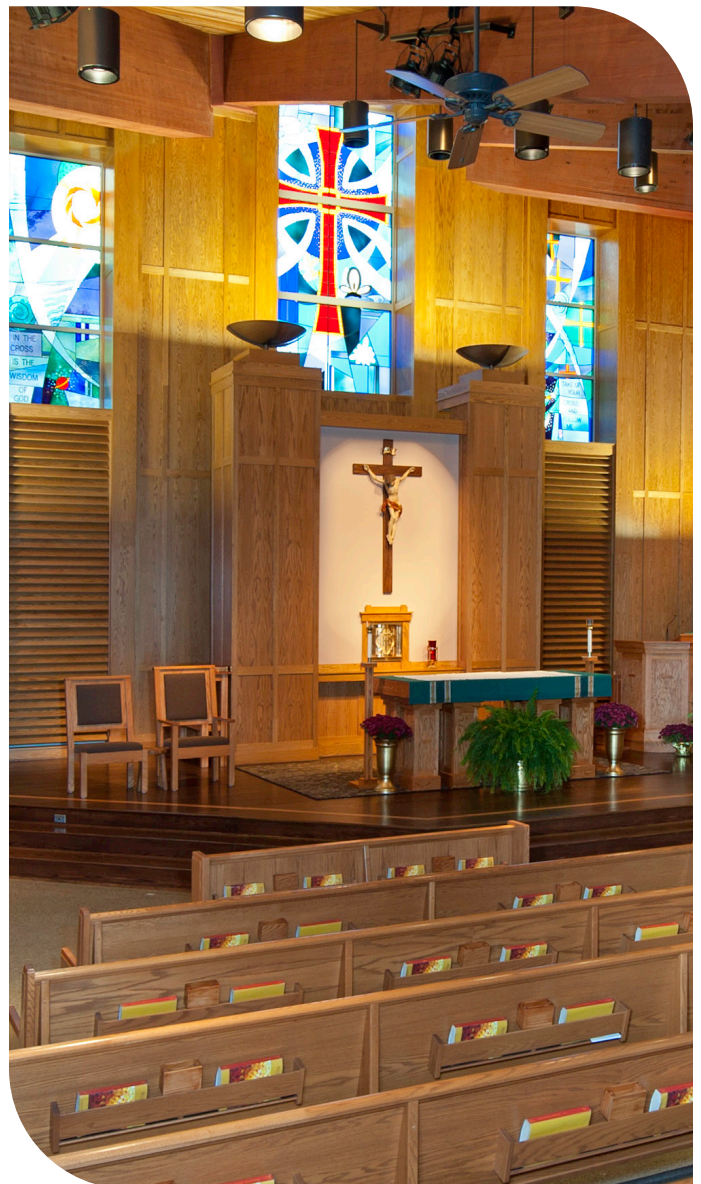
interested in volunteering their musical talents can contact the Coordinator of Music for an audition.

**Sacristans** - are the unsung heroes of every liturgy. The sacristans open the church, prepare the offertory gifts and procession, and ensure that all liturgical ministers are in attendance. Their attention to detail is vital to the celebration of the Mass. Training is needed.

**Altar Servers** - are uniquely positioned to participate alongside the priest and deacons in the preparation of the Eucharist. All parishioners age 10 and over are eligible to become a part of this special ministry. Training is needed.

**Vocations Crucifix Volunteers** - receive a crucifix at Mass, take it home, and pray for vocations throughout the week. They return the crucifix prior to Mass the following week. No training is needed.

## **Fellowship & Social**





# Committees

## **Caring 50+ Club**

The Caring 50+ Club is a group of parishioners who gather together on the last Thursday of the month for the 10:00 mass, followed by a luncheon and time spent sharing conversations, playing cards or just having fun. Join us!

## **Festival - Rocktoberfest**

Rocktoberfest, our annual parish festival energizes parishioners, enlivens spirit, and shares our faith, fun and fellowship with the community. It's a three day event you can't miss. Be a part of the fun!

The festival is always looking for new ideas and talent to keep it a vital part of the fellowship of St. Barbara Church. If interested, please contact the office.. Our planning begins in February for the September festival.

## **Grounds, Maintenance, & Spare Time Parishioner Club**

The campus requires much maintenance and attention to keep it as one of the shining jewels within the Covington Diocese. The Spare Time Parishioner Club has been established as part of the grounds and maintenance crew to allow individuals to use their unique talents and skills. The members of this group (open to all parishioners - men and women) meet after 10:00 mass on Fridays for an hour or so of fellowship and campus maintenance followed by a group lunch at church. All talents and skills are welcomed.

## **Holy Dames**

The Holy Dames are faith-filled women who serve the parish and the larger community. They change the world by doing small things with love and kindness. Through financial assistance and prayers, the Holy Dames support a Maryknoll mission for the marginalized and "differently-abled" in Nepal. The Holy Dames provide desserts for the Lenten Fish Frys and operate the concessions at the Fall Turkey Shoots. They also host the summer Pink Party and the Christmas party. Holy Dames can be found actively involved in almost every ministry at St. Barbara's.

## **Holy Name Society**

The Holy Name Society enhances spiritual enrichment while building a social community of men of the parish and other men throughout the Diocese. They support meaningful liturgy for the parish by providing the altar bread and wine for consecration during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. They financially assist the parish in meeting unbudgeted expenses, especially youth, fellowship and religious programs. They provide assistance to the poor, especially parish members and encourage and promote the stewardship of time, talent and treasure of our members.

This ministry hosts many special events to keep the fellowship of the parish active. The annual Turkey Shoot, Keeneland Trip, Lenten Fish Frys, assistance with the annual Parish Picnic, Spring and Fall campus cleanup and Cursillo sponsorships are just a few ways this ministry lends their service and support.

## **Young Adult Group**

The Young Adult Group is a friendly and faith-filled community of young adults that fosters continued parish involvement throughout our parishioners' lives.

We meet the first Sunday of every month after the 11 AM Mass. Stop by the Baumann Hall to see what we are all about and make some new friends along the way. We welcome ages 18 to 40. See you soon.

## **Youth Group**

The parish Youth Group was established to help young people share God's love on their level and allow them to be involved in church activities. We emphasize the importance of helping within the parish and outside our community to show youth how to have fun while providing service to others. We let kids know it's cool to be CATHOLIC!

There are many events that pop up throughout the year based on need and interest. The Youth Group always has something exciting going on. For the latest events visit the St. Barbara website or stop in the Welcome Center and pick up a flyer.





## Service and Outreach

### Bereavement Planning & Reception

St Barbara extends a hand to help ease the burden after the death of a loved one. The Bereavement Committee interacts with clergy to provide liturgies and opportunities for worship for families of the deceased. In addition the committee contacts the families of the deceased prior to the burial and assists with the preparation of the funeral liturgy, visitation and reception.

### Crosstalk Newsletter

The mission of our parish newsletter is to spread "The Good News from St. Barbara" to our parish family. Each quarter, the Crosstalk is nestled inside the parish bulletin as well as posted on the parish website and app. The Crosstalk is also emailed to all parishioners with an email address on file in the parish database. The issues are normally published mid-month in February, May, August, and November.

Each issue of the Crosstalk typically includes articles from Father Sterling and Deacon Melville, as well as features on our parish ministries and inspiring stewards. To contribute content or suggestions, please email [crosstalk@stbarbarak.org](mailto:crosstalk@stbarbarak.org).



### Families for Life

Families for Life provides a structure through which people of all ages and abilities can channel their energy

and direct their efforts to be involved in pro-life ministry in our parish, diocese and community. Our purpose is to educate and raise awareness for the Church's teaching regarding the sanctity of life, through parish programs, activities, and service projects. They include the Spiritual Adoption Program, Baby Shower for area pregnancy centers, Cross the Bridge for Life, Field of White Crosses, and various other opportunities to foster awareness for respect for life from conception to natural death. Planning meetings are held when needed. All parishioners are invited to become involved.

### GriefShare

GriefShare is a support group led by caring people who have experienced grief and have successfully rebuilt their lives. We welcome anyone who is grieving from a loss of a loved one.

GriefShare meets once a week for 13 weeks. Each session shares encouraging information from recovery experts through videos, group discussions, journaling and personal study exercises.

### Hearts and Hands

The purpose of this ministry is to extend our hearts and hands to our faith community in a professional and personal manner. By sharing the time and talents of this ministry we are bringing an appreciation and understanding of how body, mind and spirit make up the whole person and how they are linked to a spiritual growth and physical well-being.



***The Hearts and Hands Ministry supports the faith community through the following:***

***Elizabeth Ministry*** - provides a welcome gift to newborn babies and their mothers.

***Health Ministry*** - conducts blood pressure screenings.

***Meal Ministry*** - prepares and delivers meals to parishioners who are ill or blessed with a new baby.

***Prayer Blanket Ministry*** - provides prayer blankets to those who are having surgery or suffering from serious illness.

The ministry continually looks for members who are nurses and health ministers (non-nurses) to share their unique talents surrounding good physical and spiritual health. Everyone is invited to share their related talents to this important ministry.



### Parkinson's Support Group

If you or a loved one suffers from Parkinson's we encourage you to join. Patients, family and care givers are invited to learn all about this condition. The Parkinson's support group meets monthly on third Thursday from 6:30 to 8pm. We have various speakers, doctors, nurses, and pharmacist. Q&A, lively and informative discussions.

### Prayer Hot-line

This ministry is a group of parishioners who take specific prayer requests for anyone in need of prayers within our parish or throughout our extended community. Prayers are offered daily by these individual "Prayer Warriors" and all prayer intentions are also remembered by the congregation during each mass.

You can submit any prayer request through the link on the St. Barbara website, the prayer journal (found in the church narthex) or by emailing your request to [prayer@stbarbara.org](mailto:prayer@stbarbara.org).

If you would like to have one of the Prayer Warriors visit your home and bring the Holy Eucharist, you can make that request through the Prayer Request website link or via the email address.



### St. Vincent De Paul

Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (known as "Vincentsians") offer tangible assistance to those in need on a person-to-person basis. It is this personalized involvement that makes the work of the Society unique. This

aid may take the form of intervention, consultation, or often through direct dollar or in-kind service. An essential precept of the Society's work is to provide help while conscientiously maintaining the confidentiality and dignity of those who are served. The Society recognizes that it must assume, also, a role of advocacy for those who are defenseless or voiceless. Some 12 million persons are helped annually by Vincentsians in the United States - more than 1,000 in the St. Barbara Parish boundaries.

## ANNUAL PARISH EVENTS

### February

- Women's Welcome Weekend

### Lenten Season

- Soup & Bread Dinner
- Fish Frys every Friday during Lent

### June

- Vacation Bible School
- Men's Night Out

### July

- Annual Parish Picnic

### August

- Holy Name Grillout
- Holy Dames Pink Party

### September

- Rocktoberfest (Parish Festival)
- Pet Blessing

### October

- Pumpkinfest (sponsored by Youth Group)
- Turkeyshoots (October/November)
- Volunteer Appreciation Event (October/November)

### December

- Holy Dames Women's Christmas Party
- Holy Name Men's Christmas Party
- Lunch with Santa (Youth Group)







# Welcome from St. Henry Grade School

Families who attend St. Barbara and are interested in Catholic education feed into St. Henry grade school just down the road! At St. Henry we are focused on what we call our "three C's": Connected, Confident, and Contributing. We grow connected to God and others, we grow in confidence in our abilities, and we contribute to the community around us. We have amazing staff and teachers ready to welcome your child! We serve children in pre-school through 8th grade and would love to meet you! Call our office or visit our website to schedule a tour.

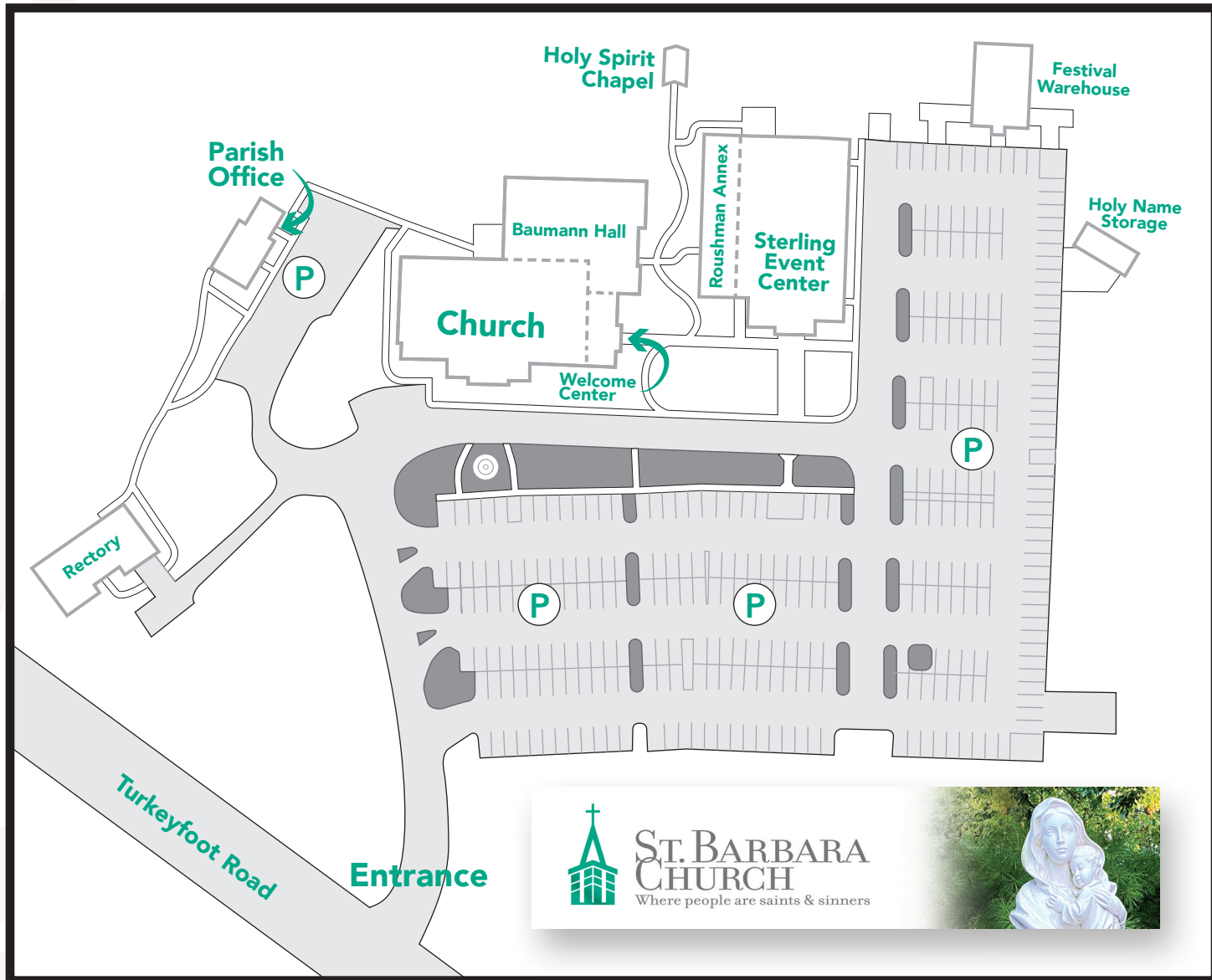
Dennis Wolff  
Principal

**Phone:** 859-342-2551  
**Website:** [www.sthenryschool.net](http://www.sthenryschool.net)





# St. Barbara Campus Map



## Parish Office

**Hours** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9 AM to 3:30 PM  
Wednesday 9 AM to Noon

## Church

### Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:30 PM  
Sunday 9 & 11 AM

### Communion Services

### Weekday Masses

Mondays 10 AM  
Tuesday - Friday 10 AM

### Holy Days

### Reconciliation

10 AM and 7 PM  
Saturday 3:45 PM or by appointment.  
Please call Parish office

## Holy Spirit Chapel

Open 24 hrs. 1234\*

## Welcome Center

Library, Ministry/Event Information, Restrooms

## Baumann Hall

Small Receptions, CCD/Meeting Classrooms, Restrooms

## Sterling Event Center

Receptions, Meeting, Parish Events

## Rushmann Annex

CCD/Meeting Classrooms