

Looking for Resources

Scan the QR code to visit our parish website to view the entire list of resources available.



Catholics in Recovery

Cursillo Retreats

Ava's Grace

Grief Support Group

Courage/Encourage

St. Cyril of Jerusalem Catechetical Institute

Summit Awakening

Springs in the Desert

Alzheimer's Support Group

Walking with Moms in Need

Women's Care Center

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Knights of Columbus

Project Rachel

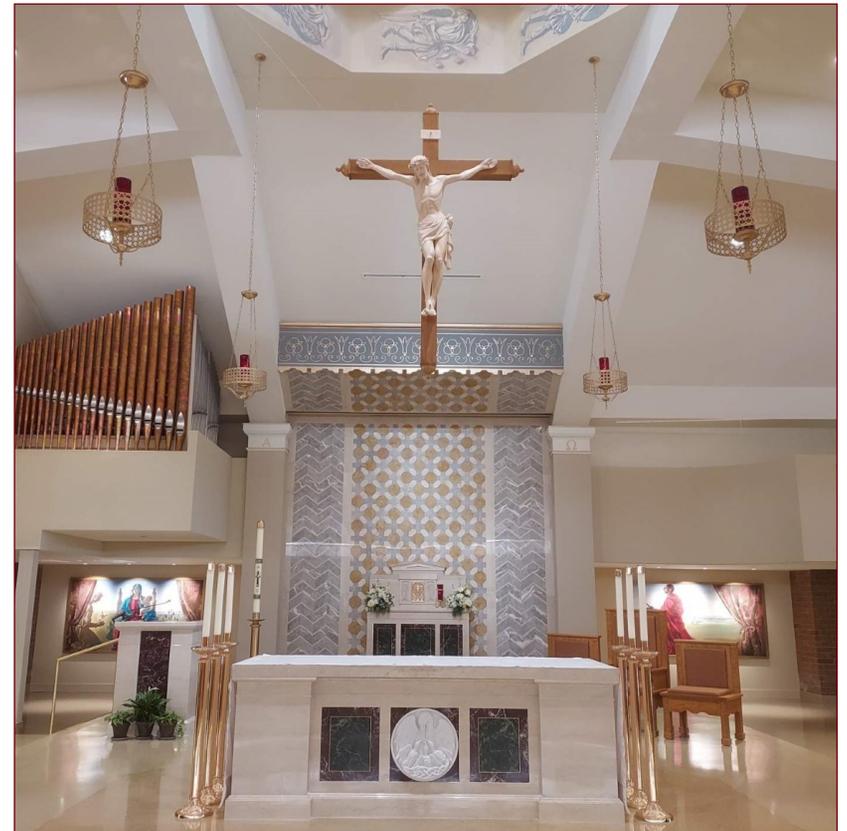
Life Giving Wounds

Eden Invitation

Red Bird

Fem Catholic

Saint Charles Borromeo Catholic Church



Parish Ministry Booklet

Church and Liturgy

Dear Parishioner,

I am pleased to present our parish ministry booklet to you. As can be seen from the listing, our parish is very active. There are many parishioners sharing their gifts and talents with the community. Please refer to the booklet when you need help from a particular ministry. Also, use this booklet as a means of invitation for you to become involved in our parish ministries. May God's peace be with you.

Msgr. Tom Shoemaker
Pastor



St. Charles Borromeo - Patron Saint of Seminarians and Catechists

Charles Borromeo was born into a noble family of Aron, Italy, on October 2, 1538. At the age of 21, he received a Doctorate in Law, and the following year his uncle, Pope Pius IV, appointed him Archbishop of the Diocese of Milan. Charles became a great reformer and helped the Church more than anyone else during the upheaval caused by Martin Luther during the Reformation. He is credited with directing the success of the Council of Trent.

Saint Charles founded hospitals, seminaries, schools for the poor, and the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, historically the first "Sunday Schools". He gave away all his belongings, fasted, and showed himself to be a true shepherd by his self-sacrificing charity and heroism in caring for the sick and dying during the great plague of 1576. St. Charles Borromeo died in 1584 at age 46. We celebrate his Feast Day on November 4.

1. Family Offertory Bearers

This ministry involves taking up the gifts during the offertory at Mass.

Signup to help with this ministry is on the lectern under the right TV in the gathering space.

2. Lectors

Individuals participate as members of the celebrating community by proclaiming the Word of God during the liturgy. Anyone who has a good speaking voice, who feels comfortable reading in public, and who values the Word of God in his/her life may also be a possible candidate as a lector. Please contact **Karen Hope** if you want to help.

3. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion assist the priest with the distribution of Holy Communion at Sunday Mass. If desired, ministers may take Holy Communion to the sick or homebound. Please contact **Karen Hope** if you are interested in this ministry.

4. Servers

Servers assist in liturgical celebrations, especially the Sunday Eucharist. Students, 7th grade or older, who are responsible, may be trained as servers. Please contact **Karen Hope** if you are interested.

5. Ushers

Ushers are responsible for hospitality before, during and after Mass; seating and helping parishioners and visitors in any way. Any parishioner, male or female, may serve as an usher. Children are welcome to usher with a parent.

Contact **Justin Purdy (260) 410-3125** or purdjd01@gmail.com

6. Church Decoration & Design Team

Parishioners with design and artistic skills are welcome to assist this committee in the preparing of seasonal decorations in the Church. Please contact **Karen Hope** if you are interested.

7. Music Ministry

Sunday 9:00 am Adult Choir: consists of faith-filled musicians who praise God and minister to the spiritual needs of the parish through choral singing at the 9:00 am Sunday Mass and at other special liturgies throughout the year. Weekly practice: September through May, Thursdays 7:30 pm-9:00 pm in Church. Please contact **Karen Hope** if you are interested.

Sunday 11:00 am Mass Music Group: musicians and singers minister to the parish at 11:00 am. Sunday Mass in a contemporary mode. This group consists of teens and adults who sing and/or play their instruments. Weekly practice: Tuesdays, 7:30 pm-9:00 pm in the Church. Please contact **Karen Hope** if you are interested.

Sunday 5:00 pm Mass Music Group: consists of young adults (teens and older) who love to sing and/or play instruments for the glory of God. Practices are held before Sunday Mass in the Church from 4:00 pm to 4:45 pm. Please contact **Karen Hope** if you are interested.

Funeral Choir: ministers to grieving families by singing for funerals as they occur. Men and women who are available during daytime hours are encouraged to join this wonderful group of dedicated parishioners. Practices are as needed. Please contact **Karen Hope** if you are interested.

Children's Choir: is a parish-wide choir for children in grades 2-6, sings once a month and Christmas and Easter. Weekly rehearsals: Wednesdays, (September-April) 3:10 pm-3:45 pm in the Church. Please contact **Tim Robison** if you are interested.

Karen Hope (260)-484-6570 **Tim Robison (260)-446-3118**

Faith Formation (Evangelization and Catechesis)

1. Becoming Catholic (OCIA)

This spiritual formation process is for those seeking full incorporation into the Catholic Faith. It is for the non-baptized adult, an adult baptized in another Christian faith, or for those baptized Catholic but were never instructed in the Catholic Faith. A child who is unbaptized (age 7 and older), a child who was either baptized in a Christian denomination, or baptized Catholic but never instructed in the faith; and, consequently, has not received the Sacrament of Eucharist and are seeking full incorporation into the Catholic Faith go through a similar process as the adults.

OCIA involves spiritual formation, instruction in the teachings, traditions, and Catholic teachings, as well as participation in the liturgical celebrations for the different stages of Christian initiation. Contact **Casey Ryan** at **(260) 969-4026**

2. Baptism Preparation Program

This program offers a theological significance of the Sacrament of Baptism and its implications for parents. Parents who are planning to have their baby baptized are required to register for this class before scheduling the Baptism. Godparents are welcome to attend. Refer to the bulletin for specific class dates and times or call the parish office.

3. Children's Religious Education Program

The St. Charles Borromeo Religious Education Program provides Religious Education for those students not enrolled in a Catholic elementary school. The program provides weekly classes for children in grades one through eight throughout the school year. Our Religious Education Program aspires to build a foundation of faith, in partnership with parents, from which our children will continue to grow in their knowledge of God and the Roman Catholic Church.

Contact **Keith Heimann (260) 484-7322** (Director of Religious Education)

4. Vacation Bible School

We offer a week of Bible stories with activities to learn the message of God from each story. For children from age 4 through 4th grade, it is held every year in June. Please refer to the Sunday bulletin for details.

Contact **Keith Heimann (260) 484-7322** (Director of Religious Education)

5. Youth and Young Adult Ministry

Our ministry has opportunities for middle school, high school, college-age, and young adults to be supported in their faith and grow their relationship with God. Participate in peer-led retreats, fellowship gatherings, discipleship groups, pilgrimages, prayer opportunities, and more.

Contact **Stacey Huneck (260) 484-7307** or **shuneck@scbfw.org** or visit the website: **www.stcharlesfortwayne.org/ministry**

6. Marriage Preparation Program

Priests and lay parishioners help couples to prepare for the Sacrament of Matrimony and wedding coordinators help to organize the wedding day. Contact a priest to schedule a wedding and begin the preparation for this sacrament.

Brief History of Saint Charles Borromeo Parish

St. Charles Borromeo Parish was established on June 7, 1957, with Father Edward I. Hession as its first pastor. Membership numbered 252 families.

Fifteen months later, in September 1958, the school opened its doors to 247 students. There were six classrooms, grades 1 through 6, staffed by the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart and lay teachers. Enrollment grew steadily and additional facilities were built in 1959, 1960, 1963, 1965, and 1977.

The convent was completed in 1962, and in 1966 the priests moved into their newly constructed rectory which also housed the parish office.

At midnight on December 28, 1963, a tragic fire gutted the Church. Though damage was extensive, the church was restored through the efforts of Father Hession and many unselfish parishioners. The charred crucifix at the main entrance of the present church is a reminder of this tragedy and a memorial to Our Lord and to all who cared so much and worked so hard.

In 1969 Our Lady of Good Hope parish was established as a daughter church. Nearly 300 of our families became members when new boundaries were established.

St. Charles Parish continued to grow and a larger church was soon needed for the 1,060 families who remained. The first Mass in the new church was celebrated at midnight on Christmas Eve 1975. The church is capable of seating 1,400 but held 2,000 worshippers for its opening services.

In 1986, after 29 years as faithful and beloved pastor of the largest parish in the diocese, Father Hession retired and moved into a home located near the church. Father John N. Suelzer became our second pastor. In 1995 both priests were honored with the rank of Monsignor in recognition of their contributions to St. Charles Parish and to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Ground was broken in 1996 for the Hession Parish Center. It included meeting rooms for parish activities and provided the school with improved office space, a new gym/multi-purpose room, and expanded classroom facilities.

In 2005 a new, larger rectory for the priests was constructed on Reed Road adjacent to the Church and the original rectory was converted to house our parish offices.

On February 14, 2006, our dearly beloved Pastor Emeritus, Monsignor Edward I. Hession, passed away and a large gathering of family, parishioners and friends, along with many of his former Associates, paid their respects at his funeral Mass.

Ground was broken in November 4, 2008, for the building of a new kindergarten wing to be opened for the start of the 2009-2010 school year.

The church gathering space was dedicated by Bishop Kevin Rhoades in December of 2015.

Then on August 24, 2016, our beloved Monsignor John Suelzer, unexpectedly passed away. The St. Charles community paid their respects at his funeral Mass.

Fr. Thomas Shoemaker was appointed the 3rd pastor of St. Charles. On August 4, 2025, Fr. Tom was given the title Monsignor by Pope Leo XIV.

Our parish community now numbers approximately over 2,000 families.



**ST. CHARLES
BORROMEO**
CATHOLIC CHURCH

**The mission of
St. Charles Borromeo
Catholic Church
is to spread the
life-giving message
of Jesus Christ
through the Sacraments,
Prayer and Service
to others.**

School

Our school is an excellent parish school for children in grades Pre-K through 8th grade. We are fully accredited by the Indiana Department of Education and by Lumen Catholic Accreditation. We offer before-school and after-school care along with a full line of athletics and fine arts programs.

Vision Statement: Share faith. Serve others. Seek knowledge.
Mission Statement: To teach, love, live and learn as Jesus did.

Scan the QR code to visit our school website.
If you have further questions or would like to
arrange a private tour of the school, contact us.



Rob Sordelet, Principal (260) 484-3392
Kevin Hoersten, Asst. Principal
Melissa Bullerman, Asst. Principal
Email: schooloffice@stcharlesschoolfw.org
Website: <https://www.stcharlesschoolfw.org>



Fellowship Ministries

Scan the QR code to visit our parish
website. There you will find helpful
information and current events.

www.stcharlesfortwayne.org



Sunday Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm

Daily Mass Times

Monday-Friday 6:15 am, 8:15 am, 6:30 pm and Saturday 8:15 am

Confession Times

Monday-Saturday 7:30-8:00 am

Thursday 7:00 pm and Saturday 2:30-4:30 pm

Mailing Address/Phone

Parish Office	4916 Trier Road, FW, IN 46815	(260) 482-2186
Youth Ministry Office	4916 Trier Road, FW, IN 46815	(260) 484-7307
School Office	4910 Trier Road, FW, IN 46815	(260) 484-3392
Religious Ed Office	4910 Trier Road, FW, IN 46815	(260) 484-7322

Our parish has a subscription to Formed.org

Free access can be gained by downloading the app, selecting, "formed for parishes", then "find your parish subscription", then select St. Charles Borromeo for free access.

Enjoy loads of quality Catholic content for free.

1. Cardinal Fest

Cardinal Fest is our annual parish festival, usually held sometime in early September. Activities include a carnival, a middle school dance, food trucks, an adult beer tent and more.

Contact: stcharlescardinalfest@gmail.com

2. Friends of St. Zelig Mother's Group

The Friends of St. Zelig Mother's group is a community for mothers with young children, offering spiritual formation, fellowship, and support in the vocation of Catholic motherhood. The group meets once a month, with additional social events such as Mom's Night Out and Park Playdates.

Contact **Caela Kleber (717) 609-7712**

Website: stcharlesfortwayne.org/friends-of-st-zelig

3. Euchre Club

Meets every **2nd Saturday of the month** in the Hession Center from 6:30 to 9:00 pm.

Contact **Darlene Simpson (260) 403-3294**

4. Men's Softball

The association was formed for the enjoyment of competition, Christian fellowship, and the physical conditioning of the sport.

Activities: Presently eight St. Charles teams play in a local Catholic League from May through August. All games are played on the St. Charles diamond.

Games: Monday through Thursday at 5:45 pm and 7:00 pm.

Contact **Arlin DeJong (260) 415-5444**

5. Women's Softball

The Women's Softball League is open to all Catholic women over the age of 18.

Games are played weekday evenings at 6:00 pm at St. Charles.

Contact **Alyssa Keys (260) 402-6809**

Outreach Ministries

12. Walking with Moms in Need

This ministry works to ensure that any pregnant woman or new mom can be connected with local resources and support from the St. Charles community. Volunteers walk with moms throughout their motherhood journey, offering Christian friendship and ongoing support. Other ministry events are:

- Church Nursery Staffing
- Drive Thru Baby Shower (Annual event)

Meetings held every 1st/3rd Tues of the month in Bride's Room in the Gathering Space
Contact **(260) 484-3393 x 77** or you can email (wwwmomsinneed@gmail.com) to either volunteer or if you know of a woman in need.

13. Knights of Columbus (Council 451)

The Knights of Columbus at St. Charles is committed to supporting the needs of our community by focusing on faith, family, community and life. We dedicate our time and resources to help with numerous church, school and community activities.

Events supported by the Knights include:

- Aluminum can recycling (supports the Gibault Children's Services)
- Attend Masses together and breakfasts to promote faith and fellowship
- Coffee and Donuts and Fish Fries
- Habitat for Humanity (volunteer our time and labor twice a year)
- Knights Helping Neighbors (help homeowners with various requests)
- Host Red Cross blood drives (5-6 times per year)
- Right to Life and 40 Days for Life Walk

Meetings are held the 1st Monday of the month at 6:45 pm in the Hession Center.

Contact **Dennis Holp, Grand Knight (260) 438-3112** or

Doug Baisinger, Financial Secretary, (260) 450-0804

14. The Parish Pastoral Council

Parish council meets with the pastor monthly, evaluating many aspects of the parish: our ministries, our parish life, and our visions for the future. Members can be of great help in offering varying perspectives, sharing parish memories, providing new ideas, and communicating with the parish at large. Members are discerned for a 3 year term.

Contact **Msgr. Tom (260) 969-4020**

15. Friends of St. Monica

Friends of St Monica pray the rosary & say the Novena to St Monica every Tuesday evening at 6:00 for friends & family who have lapsed or left the Catholic Church.

We do not judge or ask any questions - we simply pray.

Contact **Donna Kaiser (260) 437-7207** or dgmkaiser@gmail.com

Parish and School Staff

Pastor: Msgr. Thomas Shoemaker
(260) 969-4020 fathertom@scbfw.org

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Jery Madathiparambil Paul, O.S.B.
(260) 969-4022 fatherjery@scbfw.org

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Bobby Krisch
(260) 969-4021 frbobby@scbfw.org

Business Administrator: Robert Carroll
(260) 969-4030 rpcarroll@scbfw.org

School Principal: Robert Sordelet
(260) 969-4039 schooloffice@stcharlesschoolfw.org

Director of Adult Education: Casey Ryan
(260) 969-2026 stcadulted@scbfw.org

Director of Children's Religious Education: Keith Heimann
(260) 484-7322 religiouseducation@scbfw.org

Associate Children's Religious Education: Cindy Stults
(260) 484-7322 religiouseducation@stcharlesschoolfw.org

Youth and Young Adult Ministry Coordinator: Stacey Huneck
(260) 484-7307 youthministrystcharles@gmail.com

Associate Youth & Young Adult Ministry Coordinator: Anna Laisure
(260) 484-7307 alaisure@scbfw.org

Co-director of Music and Liturgy: Karen Hope
(260) 484-6570 khopestcharles@yahoo.com

Co-director of Music and Liturgy/Organist: Tim Robison
(260) 446-3118 trobison@scbfw.org

Parish Office Administrative Assistant: Tina Schneider
(260) 969-4024 tschneider@scbfw.org

Parish Office Administrative Assistant: Cece Dunderman
(260) 969-4025 cecedunderman@yahoo.com

Parish Office Accounts Payable: Peggy Lehn
(260) 969-4023 plehn@scbfw.org

Parish Office Payroll Administrator: Judy Smith
(260) 969-4078 [judysmith@scbfw.org](mailto:judy smith@scbfw.org)

Maintenance Supervisor: Steve Springer
(260) 969-4029 maintenance@stcharlesschoolfw.org

Outreach Ministries

1. Catholic Mental Health Ministry

Faith filled environment for cultivating awareness, resources, accompaniment and spiritual support for all mental health related topics. **Meetings held at 7:00 pm every 3rd Wednesday of the Month** in the Hession Center room D.

Contact **(260) 414-6817 or (260) 750-6871** for more information.

2. Christ Child Society

The Christ Child Society of Fort Wayne is a philanthropic organization whose mission is to meet the needs of children and their families in our community. We partner with area organizations (i.e. schools and social service agencies) to identify in-crisis and at-risk children. Programs offered for members are:

- Baby Bottles (**Event** held in January)
- Crib Clubs (Partners with the Women's Care Center)
- Koats for Kids (**Event** held in October and November)
- Layettes (Newborn Essentials)
- "My Stuff" Backpacks (Partners with schools and agencies)
- "Reading Rangers"
- Sewing Committee

Contact **Mary Rose Lorenc (260) 403-7575 or Cathy Jacob (260) 402-3232.**

3. Just Neighbors Ministry

Our organization provides temporary shelter for homeless families with assistance from all faith-based churches in the community. Volunteers make dinners for a full week 3 times a year.

Contact **Lori Stock (260) 341-4113 or (lockstocklori@gmail.com)**

4. Pro Life Committee

The Pro-Life committee fosters a greater respect for the life of each person in our society. There are four goals through which we aim to accomplish this purpose: education, reconciliation, legislative action and communication

Contact **Ann Gillig (260) 450-9553**

5. St. Vincent de Paul Society

The St. Charles chapter of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is a ministry serving those in need in our community. Our members, known as "Vincentians," work to provide support, prayer and assistance to our neighbors facing hardship. How we help others:

- Assist neighbors in need with food, rent, utilities and transportation.
- Deliver Christmas cookies to the County Jail and Juvenile Detention Ctr.
- Deliver Christmas gifts to families in need
- Maintain a parish phone line to assist people in need **(260) 446-3112**
- Support nursing home residents with cards and visits

Contact **Mary Ann Welling (937) 779-0003**

- Thrift store: Collect and sort materials donated by parishioners in the Charity Room at St. Charles. Contact **Jeanette Hatfield (260) 602-3722**
- Call Takers - Maintain parish phone line
- Case Managers visit neighbor's homes to learn about their specific needs.
- Nursing Home - Support residents by delivering greeting cards

Meetings are held at 7:00 pm the 3rd Monday of the month in the Hession Center.

Contact **Linda Gutoskey (260) 437-7398, Kathy Vande Zande (260)-710-5425, or Jill Redding (260) 615-3278**

Outreach Ministries

6. The Legion of Mary

This ministry exists to give glory to God through the sanctification of its members.

- We offer prayers to God to bring back our brothers and sisters who have been away from the church
- We promote Eucharistic Adoration
- We promote Sacred Heart Enthronement in the homes of members
- We visit new parishioners to welcome them into our parish and school

Meetings held Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm in the Bride's Room in the church.

Contact **Brian Hill (260) 241-2949 and Connie Acierito (260) 402-1986.**

7. Rosary Sodality

Our Mother, Mary, is the inspiration of the Sodality which promotes spiritual welfare of women in our parish by performing works of Christian charity and volunteering in various ministries.

Funeral Luncheons: Since 1981, our parish has offered funeral luncheons to support grieving families. Volunteers call for parishioners to prepare and donate food and/or assist with the meal preparation on the day of a funeral.

Contact **Kathy Suever at (260) 710-2395 (kmsuever@gmail.com)**

or **Cathy Jacob at (260) 402-3232 (cathyjacob60@yahoo.com)**

8. Seven Sisters Apostolate

A Seven Sister's Commitment is one holy hour/one priest/each week/one heart in prayer. This ministry is a group of seven women who commit to one Holy Hour on a specific day of the week to pray for a specific parish priest.

Contact **JoEllen Lauer (260) 417-2766 or (jlauer4@frontier.com)**

9. Visiting the Sick and Homebound Ministry

Priests and parish volunteers visit the sick, elderly and disabled parishioners in various assisted living facilities providing comfort, prayer and loving concern. Homebound parishioners will be contacted by phone and greeting cards will be sent.

Contact **Beverly Ade (260) 414-0559** or call the parish office at **(260) 482-2186** to let us know if you know someone who is in need of a visit.

Emergency after hours phone: **(260) 615-0939**

10. Solanus Casey Vocations Society

This ministry encourages, affirms and prays for vocations, including all past, present and future seminarians, as well as those seeking religious life. Members participate in Adopt-a-Seminarian program. Members agree to provide prayer and financial support. Meetings are on the 1st Friday of the month at the St. Vincent's Church Spiritual Center.

Contact **Darren Schortgen (260) 386-7603 (darrenschorrtgen@gmail.com)**

or **Cathy Jacob (260) 402-3232**

11. Vocation Committee

This ministry supports our Pastor and Priests and Seminarians in helping men and women seek their religious vocation. This ministry also organizes the following:

- **Annual Seminarian bake sale.**
- **Host a parish reception** for newly ordained and consecrated religious.
- **Vocation Cross:** Parishioners take the wooden altar cross and prayer book home for a week, praying for vocations. Sign up in the gathering space.