
OFFICIAL ROOM NAMES OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN PARISH

On February 9, 2006, the St. Mary Magdalen Pastoral Council, in consultation with many parishioners who offered suggested names, recommended that the following rooms be dedicated (and renamed) to the following holy men and women of the Catholic Faith. Fr. Charlie Mitchell approved this recommendation.

Old Name _____

New Name _____

Building: Parish LIFE CENTER

Large Gathering Space
Gold Room
Lavender Room

Holy Family Gathering Space
Pope John Paul II Room
Mother Teresa Room

Building: CHURCH

Choir Room

St. Cecilia

Building: ANNEX

Room 5-6 (Scouts)
Room 7

St. George – Patron Saint of Scouts
San Juan de la Cruz (St. John of the
Cross)

Room 11
Room 12 (Child Care Room)
Room 13
Room 14

St. Francis of Assisi
St. Anne
St. Katherine Drexel
St. Ignatius of Loyola (or the Loyola
Room)

Youth Room

St. John Bosco Room

Building: PARISH OFFICE BUILDING

Conference Room
Sitting Room
Kitchen
Copy/Work Room

Espíritu Santo Conference Room
St. John Vianney
St. Anthony
St. Joan of Arc

Building: EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Infant Room

Holy Infant Room

For an explanation on why we named a particular room, please proceed to the next page.

What is in a name.....

As Disciples of Christ, we wish to live and learn our Catholic Faith and foster our Catholic identity in all areas of our parish campus. To honor holy men and women, blessed or canonized by the Catholic Church, we have decided to name the rooms within our facilities after them. Each room will provide information about those chosen so that all may look to them as role models of the faith.

Parish Life Center

There was an overwhelming voice that we honor the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child. The best way we could honor all three was to dedicate the largest room in the Parish Life Center to this most holiest of families. Thus, the Parish Life Center's large gathering area will be called the **Holy Family Life Gathering Space**. One of the busiest places on the property, it is where our parish family celebrates a wide variety of activities from receptions to recitals.



John Paul II

The Gold Room (in the Parish Life Center) will now be called the **Pope John Paul II Room**. Similar to the colors of the Vatican, this room is perfect for small groups doing God's work. John Paul II was a very holy man and a very popular Pope -- familiar to all ages. Totally dedicated to his work, his holiness served

On the same level of holiness, **Mother Teresa** will be honored as the name for the current Lavender Room (in the Parish Life Center). Small of stature, rocklike in faith, Mother Teresa of Calcutta was entrusted with the mission of proclaiming God's thirsting love for humanity, especially for the poorest of the poor. She reminded us to do one small thing with great love and faith . . . that will make all the difference!

Parish Office Building

In the Parish Office Building, the Conference Room will be called the **Espiritu Santo (Holy Spirit) Conference Room**. Throughout the ages, the Church has been guided by the Holy Spirit to discern God's will for her. This room is where Parish Leadership gathers and seeks counsel from the Holy Spirit to discern the mission and direction of the parish.



Our Sitting Room (parlor) in the parish office will take on the name of ***St. John Vianney***, the Patron Saint of Pastors and Parishes. His advice was sought by bishops, priests, and religious; young men and women in doubt as to their vocation; sinners; persons in all sorts of difficulties; and the sick.

The Kitchen in the parish office will be renamed the ***St. Anthony*** Room. Have you lost something you value? Ask St. Anthony for help! At least that's how some folks see him - the finder of lost articles. But the real St. Anthony was far more interested in finding lost souls. An Augustinian monk, he intended to go to northern Africa to preach to the Moors, but illness brought him back to Italy. There he met St. Francis of Assisi, was ordained a priest, and became a Franciscan. A theologian and Scripture scholar, he was also a gentle, persuasive preacher who practiced what he preached and converted many. It is traditional on his feast day, June 13th, to go out and give bread to the poor – that bread is known as “St. Anthony’s Bread.”

The Copy/Work Room will be known as the ***St. Joan of Arc*** Room. She was known as a singularly pious child, grave beyond her years, who often knelt in the church absorbed in prayer, and loved the poor tenderly. She cited a mandate from God to drive the English out of France. She was captured and tried by the English and executed in 1431. She is known to have said that she would give her hand, her heart – her whole self to the Lord! After her trial was determined to be a fraud she was declared a martyr and canonized a saint in 1920.

Annex

The Scouting Room 5-6 in the Annex will be named after the patron saint of scouts, ***St. George***. In “*Scouting for Boys*” Baden Powell wrote of chivalry and the knights of old. He tried to show scouts a new path to chivalry and honor.

Room 7 in the Annex will now be referred to as the ***San Juan de la Cruz (St. John of the Cross)*** Room. St. John of the Cross was born in Spain and educated by Jesuits. When he was 25, he was ordained a Carmelite priest, and shortly thereafter met St. Teresa of Avila. Together they worked to reform their order, eventually breaking away and calling themselves the Discalced (or "shoeless") Carmelites. St. John of the Cross was a mystic and a poet, the writer of such spiritual classics as *The Ascent of Mount Carmel* and *The Dark Night of the Soul*. He was a man worthy of his name, motivated by a spirit of self-denial and a love of the cross.

A very familiar saint, ***St. Francis of Assisi*** will be the name honored in Annex Room 11. “Francis, go out and build up my house, for it is falling down” St. Francis of Assisi heard the Lord say these words in a vision in the crumbling chapel of San Damiano and set to work at once. Renouncing his

father's wealth and privilege, St. Francis embraced a life of radical poverty that found him begging, door to door, for the means to rebuild the church and assist the poor. Friends thought he was mad. But before long, his genuine love for the poor led others to join him. These itinerant preachers who followed St. Francis and lived the Gospel with such simplicity and joy became the Order of Friars Minor, or "*Franciscans*." The life of poverty and humility to which Christ called St. Francis "built up" the Church in ways her could never have imagined that first day in San Damiano.

Annex Room 12 will commemorate *St. Anne* (Mother of Mary). Although not mentioned in the New Testament, stories from other reliable sources portray her life as simple and devote. Married to Joachim, they prayed for years for a child and when at last they were blessed with a daughter, they presented her at the temple at age three and raised her to know that her life was to serve God.

St. Katherine Drexel is a more modern saint born in 1858 and will be honored by us in Room 13 of the Annex. Her parents were wealthy entrepreneurs and philanthropists who taught their children to use their wealth for the benefit of others. Her interest was in aid to the Indian Missions and schools for the blacks and spent millions over the years to help these two groups across several states. She was canonized by Pope John II in the year 2000.

Our Youth Room will honor *St. John Bosco* is the patron saint of youth. St. John Bosco was born in Piedmont, Italy, of a peasant family, and was brought up by his widowed mother. He became a priest, and his particular concern was for the young. He settled in Turin, where, as in so many cities in the 19th century, the industrial revolution was bringing enormous movements of population and consequent social problems, especially for the young men who came there to work. St. John Bosco devoted himself to the care of the young, first of all by means of evening classes, to which hundreds came, and then by setting up a boarding-house for apprentices, and then workshops for their training and education. Despite many difficulties, caused both by the anti-clerical civil authorities and by the opposition of some senior people within the Church, his enterprise grew, and by 1868 over 800 boys and young men were under his care. To ensure the continuation of his work, he founded a congregation, which he named after St Francis de Sales (a saint for whom he had great admiration), and today the Salesians continue his work all over the world.

The last room in the Annex, #14, will recognize *St. Ignatius of Loyola*. He helped to establish Jesuit schools and universities all over Europe and the world. His holiness was in the great love that directed his life to do everything for the greater glory of God.

Church

The Choir Room in the church will be name after the patron saint of music, *St. Cecilia*. At a very early age, according to church history, Cecilia dedicated her life to God with a vow of chastity. Before

being martyred and being of noble birth, she designated her assets to the poor and her home to be used as a church.

Congratulations to those who submitted our winning entries: Gilda Brink, Rose Marie Ferracane, Lottie Joseph, the St. Mary Magdalen School 7th Grade "B" class, John David Salazar, Matthew Salazar, Elizabeth Seaver and Kim Tricker.

Our deepest gratitude to all those who participated in this project.