



Our Lady, Queen of the Apostles Bi-Annual Newsletter

Summer 2025



Mailing Address

285 West Water Street
Chillicothe, OH 45601

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
9:00am to 3:00pm

Office Telephone

740-774-1407

Bishop Flaget School

740-774-2970

Emergency Voicemail

740-701-2552

Websites

www.qlqparish.com

www.bishopflaget.org

*And find Our Lady, Queen of
the Apostles on Facebook*

Mass Schedule

Effective August 18th

St. Peter Chillicothe
Sunday 8:00am

Monday & Tuesday 6:00pm
Thursday & Friday 6:00pm
1st Saturday 8:30am

St. Mary Chillicothe
Sunday 12:00pm
Monday-Friday 8:30am
Saturday 5:00pm

St. Mary Waverly
Sunday 10:00am
Wednesday 6:00pm

*Bishop Flaget School
(during the school year)*
Friday 8:30am

FROM THE DESK OF MSGR. LANE

I'm happy to be in Chillicothe and to serve the community of Our Lady, Queen of the Apostles. The three communities that comprise the new consolidated parish have always been strong and faithful elements of the Church in the Diocese of Columbus, and I'm sure you will continue to be. For the last almost 200 years, the Catholic community, from the Jesuit founding of St. Francis Xavier Church to the present Our Lady, Queen of the Apostles Parish, has grown and flourished through all of the growth pains of the local area and of the country. I'm sure that same resilience and deep faith will propel us forward into another era of experience of the Faith and its entanglement with everyday life. I appreciate the opportunity to be part of this adventure.

There are some changes in the works that concern daily operations in the parish. Working with the parish council, we will have a new daily Mass schedule beginning in mid-August when we can include them on the cover of the bulletin. Basically, there will be two daily Masses each day, five days a week – 8:30am at St. Mary Chillicothe and 6pm at St. Peter Chillicothe four days a week. On Wednesdays, the 6pm Mass will be in Waverly, so Waverly will retain the Wednesday evening Mass. Confessions and Adoration schedules will be adjusted accordingly. All of this will be published in the bulletin a few weeks before the changes take place.

We've had some serious maintenance problems at all the churches, the most dramatic being at St. Peter. The spire on the church has been needing repair for quite a few years. A few weeks ago, we had a very serious storm and water flowed into the choir loft. The organ pipes may well be seriously damaged, and the plaster certainly is as well. We have had three estimates on repairing the spire. They ranged from \$500,000 to \$700,000. Those quotes seemed far beyond the realm of the possible for us within the narrow window of time given to make the repairs. It would cost \$5,000 to remove the spire. The choice seemed fairly clear. If we take the spire down, we can store it and have as much time as we want to decide what to do next. Put the spire back, put part of the spire back, or find an alternative. This has to be done soon to prevent even more damage to the interior of the church. You'll be informed of the other issues at the three churches as we begin to address them. The St. Peter situation is the most critical right now.

There are many activities planned for late summer and fall. They begin with a parish picnic on August 17 at Flaget to an Oktoberfest at Waverly on September 28 to a Hog Roast held at St. Mary Chillicothe on All Saints Day, November 1.

We have many opportunities ahead of us this year. I'm very sure that with commitment to the faith, care for each other, and for our community, it will be a great adventure with much good for everyone along the way. I wish you all many blessings in the months to come, and may we experience a kind of peace that seems to elude the rest of the world!

— Msgr. Frank Lane

Adoration

Adoration Chapel
Tuesday 6:00am to
Thursday 7:00am

St. Peter Chillicothe
Thursday 10:00am-5:00pm
1st Saturday 9:00-10:00am

St. Mary Chillicothe
Friday 10:00am-5:00pm

St. Mary Waverly
Wednesday 5:00-6:00pm

Confessions

St. Peter Chillicothe
Monday 5:00pm
Thursday 5:00pm
1st Saturday 9:15am

St. Mary Chillicothe
Tuesday 9:15am
Friday 9:15am
Saturday 3:30pm

St. Mary Waverly
Wednesday 5:00pm

Faith Formation **(September thru May)**

Monthly classes will occur on the 2nd Sundays of the month in the St. Peter Parish Hall at 9:00am for First Holy Communion and 6:00pm for Confirmation

The Well Youth Group **(September thru May)**

1st and 3rd Sundays of the month in the St. Peter Bosco Room 6:00-8:00pm. Open to all high schoolers.

True Vine Outreach Center (TVOC) by Bridget Rourke

The mission of the TVOC “is to remain steadfastly connected to Jesus Christ, the True Vine, enabling our community to bear abundant fruit through acts of love, service, and spiritual growth.” (ref John 15:1-8) The mission of the Emergency Financial Assistance and Sack Lunch Ministries “is to be the hands and feet of Christ as we provide spiritual support and financial assistance to those in need in Ross County.” (ref Matthew 25:35-41).

After opening our doors on January 1, we have finished our first fiscal year, though only 6 months long. We started with \$5K of seed money from the parish, 19 members, and an average of 15 clients per week in January. Though we have suffered the tragic loss of John Venneman—may his soul rest in eternal peace—our ministry has gained 6 new members over the last couple of months, and we are now averaging 25 clients per week. God has truly blessed this ministry and those whom we serve.

Our Clients

Family Type	Served
Single Adult	268
Parent(s) with children	173
Two or more adults	30
TOTAL Families Served	471

There are 333 children in the families we helped in this six month window

Financial Assistance Ministry

Bridget Rourke—Chair
 Paul Waigand—Vice Chair
 Cindy Thomas—Secretary
 Ned Boggs—Treasurer
 Rich Arnold
 Ed Brown
 Dave Case
 Ann Fisher
 Mary Gatchell
 Judy Harness
 Ann Jones
 Mollie Maimone
 Sharon McCorkle
 Cindy Meeker
 Diane Neal
 Hope Parks
 Mary Lou Pietschman
 Tim Scheeler
 Kathy Senff

Sack Lunch Ministry

Shawn Rourke
 Karen and AJ Hamburger
 Tom and Nancy Day
 Mary Ann Waigand

660.5 Volunteer Hours in Six Months!

Our Income

Parish Seed Money	5K
Junior Civic League Grant	5K
American Legion Grant	1K
Anonymous Benefactor	27K
Parishioner Donations/Fundraisers/Memorials	22.5K
TOTAL INCOME	60.5K

Our Expenses

Administrative Support	\$378	0.97%
Food For Sack Lunches	\$1,309	3.34%
Birth Certificates	\$1,680	4.29%
Rent Support	\$2,454	6.27%
Groceries	\$5,803	14.82%
Clothes and Shoes	\$8,872	22.66%
Utilities	\$17,055	43.56%
Other (car repair, used appliance, Rx,...)	\$1,600	4.09%
TOTAL Obligations and Commitments	\$39,151	

Over 2,000 Sack Lunches for the Homeless!

- * We provided 471 unique “families” services and spiritual support over 571 visits.
- * The majority of our client families these past six months have been single adults. Alvis House and local Recovery Centers have made use of our services to help get their clients vouchers for shoes, clothes, and birth certificates. This category also includes many of the homeless. Many of the single adults that we see have no income, as they are between jobs or just not currently capable of successfully maintaining employment.
- * Families with children account for 37% of our families, and 37% of our overall visits this past term. The families with children generally received a higher level of monetary support, as the parents/guardians are seeking help with utility bills, rent, and groceries.
- * Parish support with the use of the office building at St. Mary Chillicothe, the copy machine, and phone system have allowed us to keep our administrative overhead to an absolute minimum. We are very blessed with this support.
- * From everyone on the team, much thanks to all of you who support this ministry with financial gifts and with your prayers. Please continue to pray for all of our members that we can maintain our health, empathy, and discernment and be able to reflect the joy of living out our faith to those who come to us. Please also pray for those whom we serve, that they can overcome their difficult circumstances and come to better know Jesus. Our current hours of operation are Thursdays 9:30-11:00am. If you would like to make a donation to this ministry, checks can be made out to True Vine Outreach, and mailed to the parish office or dropped into the offertory basket at Mass.

How Should We Educate the Children of God?

by Dr. Derya Rix, Bishop Flaget Principal

*"In faith we truly come to know ourselves.
By sharing our faith, we communicate a complete vision
of the whole of reality and a commitment to truth and goodness."*

- St. John Paul II

Address to Catholic Schools in the United States

The best way to witness the joy of learning is to watch a seven-year-old chase after dandelions or an eleven-year-old marvel as cream turns into butter. That sense of wonder—natural to children—is what educators must strive to preserve and nurture. True education fosters a love for all that is true, good, and beautiful, preparing children not only for temporal success, but for eternal life.

What is now called *Catholic liberal education* is the most effective means to this end. Refined by the Church over two millennia, it has formed young minds and souls through an integrated study of history, culture, and the arts, helping them see the world in the light of the Truth. When education turns the mind, body, and soul of a child toward the eternal, a deep and lasting transformation occurs. Learning extends beyond the classroom, embracing families and, by extension, entire communities.

To understand the aim of education, we can return to Plato's allegory of the cave. Those who are chained in darkness must be freed to see the truth of things and, ultimately, the light of the Sun—which represents Truth itself. This image teaches that truth is desirable for its own sake. The educational journey may be uncomfortable at times, but it is undertaken so that we can rightly order ourselves toward the Truth. Even pre-Christian philosophers intuited the universal longing for this Truth. What Plato glimpsed from afar is fully revealed in Jesus Christ, the Truth made flesh. Christ entrusted His Church with the mission of passing on the Faith, evangelizing the nations, and educating the young.

At Bishop Flaget, we strive to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Our awareness of the eternal Logos—the One who created the universe from nothing—should be the wellspring from which every faculty member, administrator, and student draws. A sacramental life, supported by continual spiritual formation, strong leadership, and a loving community, is essential for cultivating this awareness.

Education, however, is not only about intellectual formation. It must cultivate habits of mind and heart that awaken a lifelong pursuit of truth, goodness, and beauty. Observation, attention, contemplation, and reflection are habits that shape the whole person and prepare students to meet life's challenges with grace and resilience. These seeds of discipline and self-awareness mature into lives of virtue, where the desire for truth leads naturally to prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance.

As the new principal of Bishop Flaget School, I am filled with hope and excitement as we embark on this journey together. It is a profound honor to join a community so deeply committed to forming young minds and hearts in the light of Christ. I am inspired by the rich tradition of education that has taken root here, and I am eager to walk alongside our dedicated faculty, supportive families, and joyful students as we continue to pursue what is true, good, and beautiful. Together, we will cultivate wonder, deepen faith, and form virtuous disciples who are not only prepared for the challenges of the world, but who are also oriented toward the eternal. With God's grace, my family and I look forward to the blessings this new chapter will bring.

Welcome to Bishop Flaget and the Our Lady, Queen of the Apostles Parish Community, Dr. Derya Rix!



Museum of the Bible - 7th/8th Grade Class Trip



Living Stations of the Cross



*Our Mass for 8th Grade Graduation.
Congratulations to the Class of 2025!*

Widow's Book Club by Millie Tanner

The Widow's Book Club has been very busy this past year! The club began in 2022 at the suggestion of former pastor, Fr. Hayes. We gather in prayer, fellowship, and support.

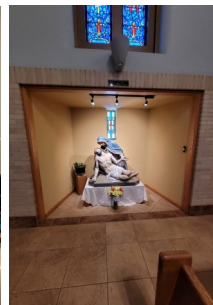
Our first meeting was in October 2022, attending daily Mass at St. Mary Chillicothe, and at that time Fr. Brown blessed our ministry. We had breakfast at Bob Evans, and since then we have been meeting every month for discussion of a book or a special event, one of our latest being a trip hosted by our club and Fr. John to the Our Lady of Consolation Shrine in Carey, Ohio. We welcome all widows to join us. If you have questions or interest in joining us, please call Millie at 513-284-7272.



Top: Celebrating Fr. Tuttle and Fr. John's birthdays
Bottom: Celebrating Fr. Droll's Ordination Anniversary (left) and the Ross-Pike Right to Life Comedy Club Night (right)

Our pilgrimage trip to Our Lady of Consolation Shrine in Carey, Ohio!

So many things happened in the OLQA community over the last 6 months. Below are a few highlights of some exciting events that occurred (though this barely scratches the surface!)



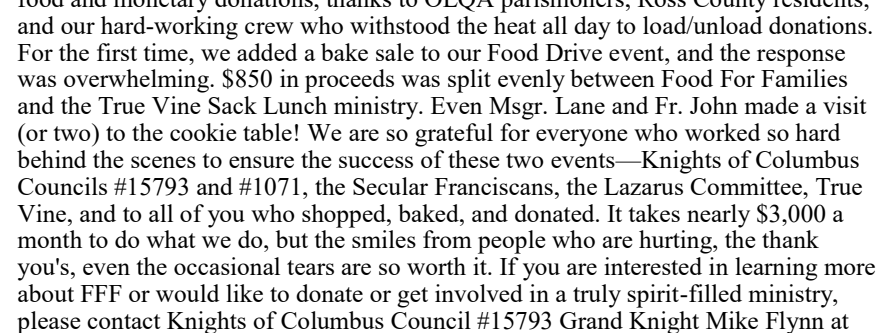
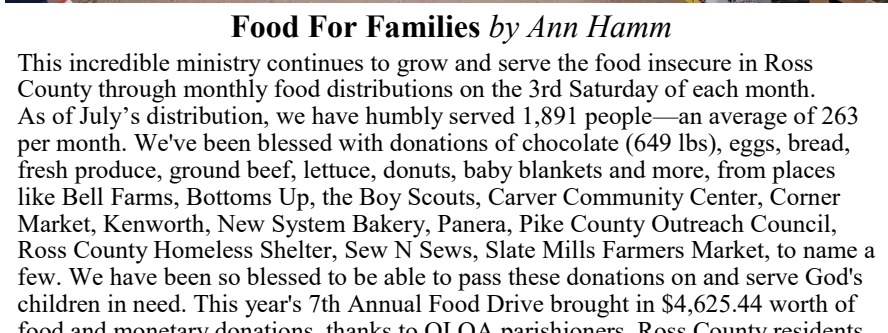
Top Row (Left to Right): We mourned the death of Pope Francis; Gold or white drapes decorate the entry door of every Catholic church to celebrate the election of a new pope; Msgr. Lane began his ministry as the OLQA parish administrator; Sr. Sheena Mary was also welcomed with a brunch!

Bottom Row (Left to Right): Dcn. Reed participated in the St. Gabriel Radio Spirit Drive Cornhole Tournament; We observed Holy Week and rejoiced in Christ's Resurrection on Easter; We learned that 4 is the answer to the question "how many men does it take to lift a Tabernacle"; The original statue of the Pieta that survived the 1947 fire was restored and returned to St. Peter sanctuary; A quiet moment near the Baptismal font at the end of the Easter season.



The Annual Corpus Christi Procession

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd



Food For Families by Ann Hamm

This incredible ministry continues to grow and serve the food insecure in Ross County through monthly food distributions on the 3rd Saturday of each month. As of July's distribution, we have humbly served 1,891 people—an average of 263 per month. We've been blessed with donations of chocolate (649 lbs), eggs, bread, fresh produce, ground beef, lettuce, donuts, baby blankets and more, from places like Bell Farms, Bottoms Up, the Boy Scouts, Carver Community Center, Corner Market, Kenworth, New System Bakery, Panera, Pike County Outreach Council, Ross County Homeless Shelter, Sew N Sews, Slate Mills Farmers Market, to name a few. We have been so blessed to be able to pass these donations on and serve God's children in need. This year's 7th Annual Food Drive brought in \$4,625.44 worth of food and monetary donations, thanks to OLQA parishioners, Ross County residents, and our hard-working crew who withstood the heat all day to load/unload donations. For the first time, we added a bake sale to our Food Drive event, and the response was overwhelming. \$850 in proceeds was split evenly between Food For Families and the True Vine Sack Lunch ministry. Even Msgr. Lane and Fr. John made a visit (or two) to the cookie table! We are so grateful for everyone who worked so hard behind the scenes to ensure the success of these two events—Knights of Columbus Councils #15793 and #1071, the Secular Franciscans, the Lazarus Committee, True Vine, and to all of you who shopped, baked, and donated. It takes nearly \$3,000 a month to do what we do, but the smiles from people who are hurting, the thank you's, even the occasional tears are so worth it. If you are interested in learning more about FFF or would like to donate or get involved in a truly spirit-filled ministry, please contact Knights of Columbus Council #15793 Grand Knight Mike Flynn at 740-774-1407 ext 11, or mflynn@olqaparish.com. We can always use cereal, canned fruit, soup, peanut butter or boxed potatoes, but anything helps. God bless.

HOLY THURSDAY: EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER





HOLY SATURDAY AND EASTER SUNDAY
*Congratulations to Brynlee Hatmacher, Becky Pelletier, Teresa Pelletier,
and Andy Tomlinson for coming into full communion with the Church!*



Our New Parish Religious Education Programs

by Andrea McLean

It is the privilege of a lifetime to be stepping into the role of Director of Religious Education for Our Lady, Queen of the Apostles Parish. This is the Catholic community that so wonderfully welcomed me as a child. It is where I fell in love with Eucharistic Adoration and had some of the most transformative moments in my life. Thank you to so many of you who have had such an impact on my life. Words can't express my gratitude for the hours you poured into my life.

It is impossible to be perfect at any job, but I will strive to constantly point to Jesus and say, "We have found the Messiah" (John 1:42). As St. John Paul II once said, "It is Jesus in fact that [we] seek when [we] dream of happiness; he is waiting for [us] when nothing else [we] find satisfies [us]; he is the beauty to which [we] are so attracted..." The person we all need is Jesus Christ, and He alone is the Savior of the world. Let us run towards Jesus in everything we seek to do this year.

There is so much we desire to give to our parish community, and the reality is that with fewer people and resources, we need an army of volunteers to support those within our churches and those desiring to join the Catholic church: families, youth, and adults. As my mother loves to say, "Many hands make light work." Giving your time on a monthly or weekly basis can be one of the most rewarding opportunities! We are in great need of volunteers in a variety of roles. Some great questions to ask God in prayer about volunteering are:

What are my gifts and greatest strengths? How are You inviting me to serve our parish community? Which age groups do I love to work with: adults, children, teens? Can I give on a monthly or weekly basis?

We have so many areas of need in our faith formation department, all great opportunities to get involved:

Adult Faith Formation

- *The Rescue Project (Tuesdays, August 26 - October 14, 6-8pm)
- *OCIA: Adults who want to begin the process of becoming Catholic (Tuesdays, after the Rescue Project)
- *Future Bible Studies (TBD)

Families and Children

- *Childcare during the Rescue Project
- *Catechists (children ages 3-12, 2nd Sundays of the month, 9-11am)
- *Support parents with young children (volunteer once a month and regularly check in with families parenting young children)

Middle School & High School

- *Adults and High Schoolers needed to help with Confirmation Nights of Formation, 2nd Sundays of the month, 6-8pm
- *Adult and Young Adult volunteers needed for 1st and 3rd Sundays for High School Youth Group, 6-8pm
- *Support parents with teenagers (volunteer once a month and regularly check in with families in the thick of parenting young children)



the RESCUE project

Register Today for an Experience You Will Never Forget!

Sessions will include a meal, video, and small group discussion. All are welcome! We simply ask that you RSVP so we have a head count for meals. Space is limited!

Dates & Times:
Tuesdays 6-8pm: August 26th, September 2nd, September 9th, September 16th, September 23rd, September 30th, October 7th, October 14th @ St. Mary Family Life Center

Retreat Morning 8am-2pm: Saturday, October 11th @ St. Peter Church and Hall

RSVP on our website via the QR code or by calling a parish office today!

THE WELL HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH
The Well will be meeting on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Save the date for Kick-off—Sunday, September 7th, 5-8pm! The theme of The Well this year is "but it did not fall" - based on the end of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 7:24-25). If we build our lives on Jesus' teachings, when the rains, floods, and winds come into our lives, we will not fall. Please continue to pray for our parish youth.

If you desire to support the mission of the program by supplying a meal or sponsoring youth to get to the SEEK conference in Columbus January '26, please contact me!

FAMILY-CENTERED FAITH FORMATION

"As the family goes, so goes the nation, and so goes the whole world in which we live." - St. John Paul II

Parents, do you desire the Sacraments for your children?

Whether it is First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, or Confirmation, please don't hesitate to contact me at 740-774-1407, ext. 8 or amclean@olqaparish.com. First and foremost, I want to meet with you. We want to surround you and your child(ren) with support and resources, especially during these crucial years of preparing for these life-changing Sacraments.

Your role in your child's religious formation is irreplaceable.

According to sociological studies of 230 in-depth interviews and three nationally-representative surveys, "The single, most powerful causal influence on the religious lives of American teenagers and young adults is the religious lives of their parents. Not their peers, not the media, not their youth group leaders or clergy, not their religious school teachers. Myriad studies show that, beyond a doubt, the parents of American youth play the leading role in shaping the character of their religious and spiritual lives, even well after they leave home and often for the rest of their lives." (Amy Adamczyk and Christian Smith. *Handing Down the Faith: How Parents Pass Their Religion on to the Next Generation* [New York: Oxford University Press, 2021] 1).

Pathways is a beautiful approach to faith formation that focuses on the family.

Children flourish in their relationship with God and character development when open conversations about God become normal family discussions. Similar to talking about your favorite sports teams or family hobbies, Jesus wants to be a regular part of our everyday lives. The Pathways Faith Formation program we will be using for Sacramental Prep this year creates simple opportunities to begin these conversations and build positive family memories around your faith. Pathways is a combination of monthly at-church meetings and at-home family meetings.

I am extremely picky about formation content, and this is one of the most beautifully-crafted, simple, and rich resources I have ever encountered. St. Brendan Parish in Hillard has been using Pathways for 5 years with tremendous success. The diocese as a whole has been encouraging parishes to shift to a family-centered formation model for 3 years. In the past, we have highlighted Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS). CGS will still continue at Bishop Flaget. CGS is wonderful; the only thing it lacks is a fruitful way to involve the family as a whole. This integration of our faith into family life is where Pathways excels.

We are actively seeking out volunteers to support our families who are helping their children prepare for the sacraments.

If you are a parent who has adult children and can support young families in our parish, please contact me to ask about what this ministry looks like. More than ever before, we need to support our families. They are the bedrock of our nation and our world.



THE WELL HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Kick off

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025
5-8PM

- 30-minute escape room challenge!
- Tons of Games!
- Free Food!

285 W. WATER ST.
CHILLICOTHE, OH 45601

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION



*CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL OF OUR
YOUTH WHO WERE
INVOLVED IN THESE
HOLY AND JOYFUL
CELEBRATIONS!*

*WE PRAY OVER EACH
OF YOU AS YOU
MOVE ONTO THE
NEXT CHAPTER OF
YOUR LIFE AND
FAITH JOURNEY!*



BACCALAUREATE MASS AND MAY CROWNING



This Year's Tanzanian Trip by Deacon Reed Hauser

As you may already know, Bob Lagnese (from Waverly) and I have been traveling to Tanzania for the past 4 summers, each for a couple of weeks, with Fr. Milton (remember him?) We have been working projects at Mrawi Primary School, which is on the outskirts of a city called Moshi.

Folks have been asking about our trip, so here are some highlights. Also on the trip were several parishioners from Fr. Milton's current parish in Grove City, two ladies who knew Fr. Milton during his days up in Canton, and Dr. Eric L. Bachrach ("Dr. Eric"), who works at the VA in Chillicothe. Seminarian Chris Dixon, who was with us in Chillicothe a couple of summers ago, was also in Tanzania.

Part of the group went on a 5-day safari in western Tanzania, while Dr. Eric climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro. Dr. Eric also examined students at the school for ringworm and paid for medicine to treat it. Parishioners here and in Grove City have been very generous in their financial support of the projects which Fr. Milton has managed at the school. Over the past several years, the improvements at the school have included:

- *A playground/soccer field (with new grass) and purchased playground equipment
- *Most of the campus has been paved with concrete (helps keep the classrooms clean)
- *A former storage area was turned into a new principal's office
- *Plumbing, countertops, and lighting in the kitchen
- *New concrete floors, windows, and LED lighting for the classrooms and offices
- *A large social hall is being completed for the students to meet, which will include living space for a student teacher
- *A small addition is being built to hold supplies for school
- *Roofs of the buildings were coated to prevent leaks

This year, we built a basketball court at the school. See below for pictures of the project! The backboards had to be locally welded together. A 10-ft high hoop and backboard and a 6-ft hoop and backboard were bolted and attached to each post. The backboards can be moved if necessary.

The principal of the school told me that no other primary school in the area has a basketball court, and that the closest basketball court was the nearby Catholic university. Below are some images of the completed court, already being used.

To sum it up: it was a fun, successful trip. And most importantly—everyone returned safely!





Why Latin, Gregorian Chant, and Polyphony Still Belong in the Mass

by Cody Egner, Director of Sacred Music and Liturgy

Why does our parish still use Latin, Gregorian chant, and polyphony in the Mass? These are not merely artistic choices—they reflect the deep and lasting guidance of the Church on the sacred nature of music in the liturgy.

The Second Vatican Council's document *Sacrosanctum Concilium* teaches us that: "The Church acknowledges Gregorian chant as specially suited to the Roman liturgy; therefore, other things being equal, it should be given pride of place in liturgical services" (SC §116).

Gregorian chant is not just one option among many—it is the Church's own native music. Its melodies are prayerful, simple, and timeless, uniquely capable of helping us enter the mystery of the Eucharist.

Similarly, the Church teaches that Latin is to be preserved in the liturgy: "The use of the Latin language is to be preserved in the Latin rites" (SC §36.1).

Latin reminds us that the Mass is not something we create each Sunday—it is something we receive from the universal Church. It expresses unity across the world and the centuries.

Sacred polyphony—like the choral works of Palestrina and other Renaissance composers—is another musical treasure promoted by the Church. These works beautifully elevate the sacred texts and draw our hearts upward toward God. As Pope St. Pius X wrote in *Tra le Sollecitudini* (1903): "Sacred music must... possess in the highest degree the qualities proper to the liturgy, especially sanctity and goodness of form."

Gregorian chant and polyphony meet these standards in a unique way. They are music for the liturgy—not performance pieces, but specific prayers integral to the Mass, set to music.

In our parish, we honor these instructions by incorporating Latin, Gregorian chant, and polyphony regularly at Mass. We do this not out of nostalgia, but because the Church continues to hold up this music as an ideal.

This sacred music helps us worship with greater reverence and awe. It lifts our hearts, focuses our attention, and joins our voices to the universal Church—past, present, and future.

As Psalm 96 reminds us: "Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth!" Let us continue to sing with beauty, unity, and faith—always for the glory of God.

What makes music truly "sacred?"

The Church teaches that Sacred Music must possess three essential qualities: sanctity, goodness of form, and universality.

1. **Sanctity:** Sacred music must be holy in itself and free from anything secular or profane. It should inspire prayer and reverence. Gregorian chant, for example, was developed solely for use in worship and is inseparably linked with the liturgical texts it serves.

2. **Goodness of Form:** This refers to the intrinsic beauty of the music—its craftsmanship, structure, and harmony. Sacred music should be artistically worthy of the divine mysteries it accompanies. It should be solemn and noble, not flashy nor theatrical. The music should never draw attention to itself or to the performer, but lead the listener to God.

3. **Universality:** True Sacred Music transcends culture and time. It is not bound to fleeting styles or trends. Gregorian chant and classical polyphony, for instance, are able to speak to Catholics of all ages and backgrounds because they are rooted in the timeless worship of the Church.

Pope Benedict XVI echoed these teachings when he wrote: "An authentic updating of sacred music can take place only in the lineage of the great tradition of the past, of Gregorian chant and sacred polyphony" (*Sacramentum Caritatis** §42).

These qualities help us to discern whether a piece of music is truly fitting for the Mass. Sacred Music is not meant to entertain—it is meant to *sanctify*. It is music that participates in the action of the liturgy itself, giving voice to the Church's prayer.

This is why we continue to prioritize Gregorian chant, Latin, and sacred polyphony in our parish liturgies. These forms fulfill the Church's vision for Sacred Music and help us all to pray more deeply, to sing with greater unity, and to worship God with the reverence He deserves.

An Update From the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Secular Franciscan Order

by Robin Beery

The members of our fraternity of Secular Franciscans continue to strive to live a life of holiness, prayer, and service modeled after St. Francis of Assisi. We also continue our formation under the guidance of our Spiritual Assistant, Sister Leonard Mary. We currently have 13 professed members, 3 in Formation discerning profession, and have had several interested visitors. We prayerfully ask anyone interested in our fraternity to visit one of our regular meetings, held the last Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the St. Francis Room (2nd floor) of the St. Peter Parish Hall. You may contact our Minister Tess Hatmacher at 740-703-6326 for more information.

Some of the things we do to help our parish and community are cleaning St. Peter Church on Saturday mornings on a rotating basis, filling the Blessing Boxes to feed the homeless, visiting nursing homes and the homebound, and taking Communion to those in need. We manned a bake sale at the annual Food Drive on June 14 and hosted coffee and donuts following the 8:00 a.m. Mass on August 3. We also had a pilgrimage on July 19 to The Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption in Lancaster, Ohio. We are tentatively planning a social event coming in early 2026! Details for this fun event for our parish and the community will be available soon.

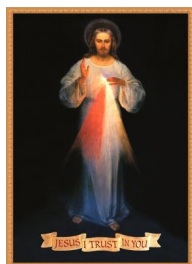
We are always available to assist with any needs in the parish, so please let us or the office know if there is a service that needs met. We are blessed to have this fraternity in our parish, and we want to be a blessing to all of you in return.



Right To Life by Judy Harness

Ross Pike Right to Life held a Comedy Club Night on June 28 at the St. Peter Parish Hall. Headliners were musical performances by MT Space (Meg and Mike Tedesco) and the rising star Tim Kessler on guitar. The jokes were flying when Mike Haller and Fr. Droll took the stage, giving the crowd what they came for: big belly laughs and a great night of fun! The food was provided by our friends at BFI catering (Frank and Debbie Nunziato), Jenny French, and a huge pizza donation by Zanzi's Pizza! John and Rhonda Crowe served drinks, and a significant wine donation was made by Angela Migyanko. Thanks to the Knights of Columbus Councils for donations of beer, which was enjoyed by our guests. And a big thanks for the amazing volunteers of the Ross-Pike Right to Life in our parish for their work and dedication to do all of these things for the defense of life, our most precious gift from God. We were able to raise over \$3,000 for billboards and a future Safe Haven Baby Box!

Come see us at the Ross County Fair! Meetings are the 3rd Monday of each month starting up in August! Check us out on FB and Instagram!



Divine Mercy Cenacle by Judy Harness

OLQA now has 3 active prayer cenacles dedicated to reading, studying, and sharing the Diary of St. Faustyna, as well as the Bible and Catechism of the Catholic Church! If you would like more information about the Divine Mercy Cenacle formation process or would like to have someone come to a bedside to pray for the sick or dying, please contact Judy Harness at 740-649-5256.

MEN'S GROUP OPPORTUNITIES IN CHILLICOTHE AND WAVERLY!

CHILLICOTHE

The Chillicothe Men's Group is taking a break for the summer. We will resume in the fall with a new program of study. Please watch the bulletin for updates on our return.

WAVERLY

All men are invited to join us on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month at 8:30 a.m. at McDonald's in Waverly! We start with a meal, followed by a time of fellowship and morning prayer. For more information, contact Al Koehler at 937-657-9119.

Life As a Maintenance Staff Intern

by Caleb Barfield

Working at the church is exactly what you would expect. There are ruptured pipes, leaking steeples, unstable pews...

Working at the church is hard at times, especially when the church floods, even though God promised not to flood the earth.

Working at the church can be disheartening, especially when one thing breaks after a week of fixing another.

Even with all of the struggles that come with it, I wouldn't trade this job for the world.

Why, you ask? Well, it is simple really.

Working at the church is exactly what you would expect. Having morning prayer and discussing plans for the day over coffee with the maintenance staff is amazing. Getting the honor of shining the Tabernacle. Building a brotherhood for Jesus through (sometimes literal) blood, sweat, and tears. Being pushed to have a deeper relationship with God.

And finally, learning to love God through my words and actions.

Working at the church is exactly what you would expect. And I wouldn't trade it for anything.



Whether they're cleaning the facilities or climbing up into the motor room to repair the organ, we are blessed by Caleb and his fellow intern Scotty Preston, as they work hard to care for the parish (and maintain a good sense of humor when dealing with one project after another!)