

HUMILITAS

Promoting Lives of Virtue, Inspired by the Humility of our Patron St. Charles Borromeo.



ISSUE 14, Christmas 2016

www.stcharlesperu.org

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church

58 W. 5th Street, Peru, Indiana 46970

Building Community: Mission Trip to Haiti

Over New Year's, a group of parishioners and I will be traveling to our sister parish in Haiti (December 28, 2016-January 3, 2017). While our parish has regularly contributed to **St. Anthony of Padua**, it has been over a decade since anyone from our parish visited our sister parish in Vieux Bourg D' Aquin. As Pope Francis has frequently encouraged us, and as the Church has taught us, we must do more than share of our material resources... we must reach out to the poor. Many have asked what we'll be doing, and it's really quite simple: we'll be spending time with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

The **Parish Twinning Program** has been a real story of love and commitment, bringing hope and aid to thousands of people in Haiti and other countries of the Caribbean and Latin America. The Parish Twinning Program of the Americas (PTPA) has been facilitating and maintaining parish linkages throughout the United States through the work of Executive Director, Theresa Patterson, since 1978. For years the parishioners of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church have provided prayer and monetary support to our sister parish, St. Anthony of Padua, which is located in the Diocese of Les Cayes, Haiti.

Thank you to everyone who has faithfully contributed over the years, and more recently to help us provide support to the Haitian people, especially in the wake of Hurricane Matthew. Fortunately, according to **Fr. Claude Jean Charles**, the pastor of our sister parish, no lives were lost in Vieux Bourg D' Aquin, but some buildings were damaged. Through this most recent communication we learned that our sister parish also has a school!



Please pray for the safety of all those traveling with me over New Year's, and sometime after we return you'll be invited to learn more about our trip, and more importantly our sisters and brothers in Haiti. We will be sure to schedule a time to give a presentation to our parish. Thank you again to everyone who helped us with donations and fundraising for our trip, especially Brad Rogers, who has been a champion for us! ~ Fr. Adam Mauman

A Prayer for Disciples and Missionaries (by Pope Francis)

Hail Mary ... Lord you left your Mother in our midst that she might accompany us. May she take care of us and protect us on our journey, in our hearts, in our faith. May she make us disciples like herself, missionaries like herself. May she teach us to go out onto the streets. May she teach us to step outside ourselves... May she, by her meekness, by her peace, show us the way.

Meet Our Catechumens!



Jeffrey (Jeff) Sinkovics is married to Karla Murphy Sinkovics and together they have two daughters, Maegan and Jenna. He is the Chief Deputy Prosecutor in Miami County. Jeff has many interests aside from his work: golf, running, working out at the YMCA, and he is also a “newspaper buff,” reading several different newspapers on a daily basis. When asked about his talents, he said he also likes to cook and often fixes dinner.

St. Charles is not a new place for Jeff; he has attended Mass with his wife off and on for about 20 years. As a child he attended a church where he learned that if you are a good person and believe in Jesus Christ that it is enough. However, within the last few years Jeff began to question this theory; he felt that “something was missing.” That is when he decided to test the waters of the Catholic faith. The timing was also right because his children are getting older and he wants to be a good role model for them.

Karla has been instrumental in his decision to pursue the faith, primarily because of her example. “She is a true witness to her faith and really leans on God during times of trial.” His sister-in-law, Kim Thompson, has also influenced him. Over the years the two of them would have intellectual discussions about faith and “she is a great debater; her arguments were always so convincing.”

The recent *Rite of Welcoming* did for Jeff exactly what it is meant to do. This is the time when those coming into the Church declare their intentions, and the community embraces them. Jeff felt “at home,” especially when several parishioners approached him after Mass and made him feel so welcome.

Jeff is looking forward to the Easter Vigil when he will make his First Communion. “After sitting in the pew for so many years, I cannot wait to receive the Eucharist with my family.” He also recognizes that living a life for Christ will be an ongoing challenge that will take “discipline and self-control.”



Dale Edward John Schoettmer, III is the son of Dale Schoettmer, II, and brother of Shalyn. He is in the fifth grade at Blaire Pointe and likes gym class the best because they get to “play the funnest games.” He also likes art class as long as he is creating the art, but he doesn’t like “looking at famous people’s art—that’s boring.” Dale likes to watch bible videos on TV, especially Old Testament stories. He also likes playing games on his Xbox, especially Black Ops, Call of Duty, Ghost, and Halo 4. Dale wants to be a paleontologist when he grows up.

Dale wants to join the Church because his dad and sister are Catholic. He thinks Father Adam is a good role model to become a good member of the faith, and he looks forward to being baptized because he wants to see “how it changes my life.” Dale thinks “giving up stuff for Lent” is going to be his greatest challenge to being a Catholic Christian.



Joyce Colelli has been married to David Colelli for 6 years. She has five children and 5 grandchildren. Joyce enjoys her job as a relationship banker very much, but when she is not working, her favorite thing to do is to spend time with her family. Joyce says, “They are the greatest enjoyment in my life.” She also likes helping others and listening to music.

Faith has always been important to Joyce. Her family went to multiple churches when she was growing up, but never settled on a particular one. She also has fond memories of her mother reading bible stories to her at a young age. She believes the time is right for her to enter the Catholic Church. Two years ago she lost her mother, and earlier this year she lost a grandson. She found solace in God, and he is now leading her to a deeper relationship with Him. Her father was Catholic, but it was when she came into the Colelli family that she began to see the beauty of the Catholic Church. She loves how faith is at the center of their family unity and she wants to be a part of it.

Joyce feels very welcome in our Church: “It just feels right.” While she is excited to be baptized at the Easter Vigil, she realizes she has so much to learn. She wants to be able to pass the faith on to her children and teach them the right way. She knows that walking with God will help her through all the “detours in life.”

Inquiry/RCIA

Statistics show that personal contact makes all the difference. A simple question like “Have you ever thought about becoming Catholic?” or “Come and see what we’re all about—there are no strings attached to find out.” The key is INVITE, INVITE, INVITE! Inquiry sessions begin the first Tuesday of every month. Anyone who would like more information can contact Rita Cook at 765-473-5543.

Catholics Returning Home

St. Charles Borromeo Church will offer a five week series entitled “Catholics Returning Home” beginning January 11 at 7:00 p.m. in room 8. The sessions are for non-practicing Catholics who are seeking answers to questions about returning to the Church. If you know someone who is currently not practicing the faith, please invite them to join us. For more information, call Rita Cook (765-473-5543) St. Charles Borromeo, pray for us!

YOUTH MINISTRY

Experiencing Antioch

The following was written by Kenny Wilkinson, a sophomore who attended the parish's recent Antioch Retreat:



Going into the Antioch retreat, I'll be honest, I was basically forced to go. I wasn't dragged by my hair screaming, but I was very strongly encouraged to go. I argued with my mom, and after doing this for some time, I decided maybe I should just go. I guess you could say God changed my mind.

I was greeted first by Roo. I noticed how she looked about my age, and I thought she was in the same boat as me. I later discovered though that all of these "weird kids from other schools" were in charge of me. The second person I saw was Dan, A.K.A "Dirtz," who later changed my life and helped me open up. From the moment I saw him I could tell he was crazy; yes he knows he's crazy, but his craziness is fantastic. I wasn't willing to open up at all at first, I just thought "okay I'm just going to get through this weekend, it'll be terrible but I can do it." I was heartbroken when I was told I would lose my snapstreaks (a streak of pictures kept with another person on Snapchat), but Luke came through and assured me they would be kept. I started to kind of get acquainted with everyone, and settled in, and kind of got the gist of how everything worked.

I did not really open my mind until "zilch," a time of focused prayer on Friday night. I thought this event was amazing and just had so many thoughts running through my mind, it really helped me open up. The next day I talked with THE Sheila Schuh, who owes me peach rings and probably won't ever give them to me. She was one of the people I got the closest with. I also met Taylor who had a good story and along with Sheila is one of the nicest people I've ever met. I talked to everyone else and enjoyed their company as well, these girls were just the ones that I became the closest with. Nevertheless, I had so much fun at this retreat; so many memories were made. I doubt that any of us will ever forget about Jimmy's "smooth jazz"; I certainly won't. My mind and eyes were opened, and I have a much better relationship with the Lord because of this retreat, and whether that sounds cliché or not it's the absolute truth. I am so glad I was there.

I listened to the stories each one of these members told, and the emotion they gave their talks with is indescribable. Some of them have just gone through so much unbearable, unimaginable pain, that had brought them so close with Christ and makes me respect them so much. I could've gone to a cross country meet, but instead I went to Antioch, which I thought I'd hate. But I tell you with complete honesty and genuineness that I wouldn't trade this experience for anything.

Some Things We've Been Up to This Year...



MCKEE MISSION TRIP



HIGH SCHOOL ANTIOCH RETREAT



...Can't Forget the Jr High!



Our Lasting Heritage

I'm grateful to all of our benefactors, volunteers and contractors who made the interior renovation project successful. It's hard to imagine that less than a year ago we were moving out of our beautiful, but dilapidated church, and into our temporary worship space! While we still have a few finishing details to wrap up, I was especially excited to hear our historic pipe organ being played for the Solemn Feast of Christ the King! And what a privilege it was to have Bishop Doherty rededicate our church on December 8, 2016. I hope you're as excited as I am to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the church in 2017 (see next page). It has been an honor to be a part of this project, and I continue to pray the Prayer for Our Lasting Heritage, that we may continue to "rebuild our parish and return... to the vigor of our youth", as we pass on the Catholic faith to yet another generation of Hoosiers!

Thank you for your generosity towards our interior renovation project. To date we have received over 400 pledges towards "Our Lasting Heritage". Since we began our capital campaign, 100% participation of all parishioners has been the goal. We understand that not every family can give much, but no gift is too small. And if every donor who originally contributed could donate just 15% more we would quickly surpass our goal. Thank you to the numerous parishioners who have already extended and increased their original pledges!



Actual Construction Costs (to date)

\$2,438,337

Capital Campaign & Fundraising (pledged)

\$2,203,355

Pledges Needed

\$234,982 – Pledges Needed

If you have not completed a pledge, or if you are able to increase or extend your pledge, please contact the parish office by calling (765) 473-5543. If your original donation was \$500, could you give \$75 more? Or if your original pledge was to give \$100/month for 12 months, can you extend your monthly payments, even if for only a month or two? Or, if you previously made a single donation of stock and/or securities in 2015, please consider making another donation before the end of this year (2016), or you may designate your gift for 2017.

Prayer for Our Lasting Heritage

Sacred Heart of Jesus, inflame us with your love, protect us from fear and discouragement, and help us rebuild your church. Most Holy Spirit, draw together your people, rebuild our parish and return us to the vigor of our youth. St. Charles Borromeo, watch over us as we rebuild God's Church, keep safe all who labor and guide those who direct their work. We ask this through Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, Father, in union with your Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

“I HAVE BEEN CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST; IT IS NO LONGER I WHO LIVE, BUT CHRIST WHO LIVES IN ME.” GALATIANS 2:20

How about a retreat that is right here at St Charles? One that will be on Thursdays but last a lifetime? Come join us as the next session of Christ Life begins January 26, 2017. There will be twenty slots available, and we are currently praying that the Holy Spirit is calling you. The schedule is as follows:

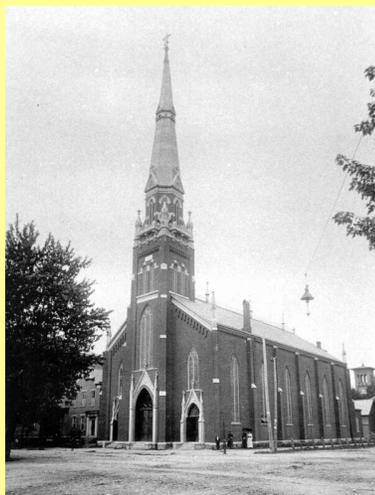
<u>Discovering Christ</u>		<u>Following Christ</u>		<u>Sharing Christ</u>	
January	26	March	30	August	10
February	2	April	6	August	17
February	9	April	20	August	24
February	16	April	27	August	31
February	23	May	4	September	7
March	2	May	13	September	14
March	4	May	18	September	21
March	9	June	Off	September	28
March	16	July	Off		



Remember reservations are required. Call the Parish Office or Wendy Langer today

765-327-1372.

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS DECEMBER 8, 1867-2017



1880 Exterior

St Charles Catholic Church celebrates 150 years since the dedication of the church by Bishop Luers in 1867. Throughout the year, please help us make this occasion a remarkable time. If you have ideas to help with the celebration, feel free to share them with the Parish Office.



Fr. John Guendling's Chalice from 1880. He was the first son of the parish to be ordained, and his chalice was recently returned to St. Charles!

We are on Facebook, check us out. Anything you would like included in the posts just let us know. You are welcome to add related posts as well. The page is found at:

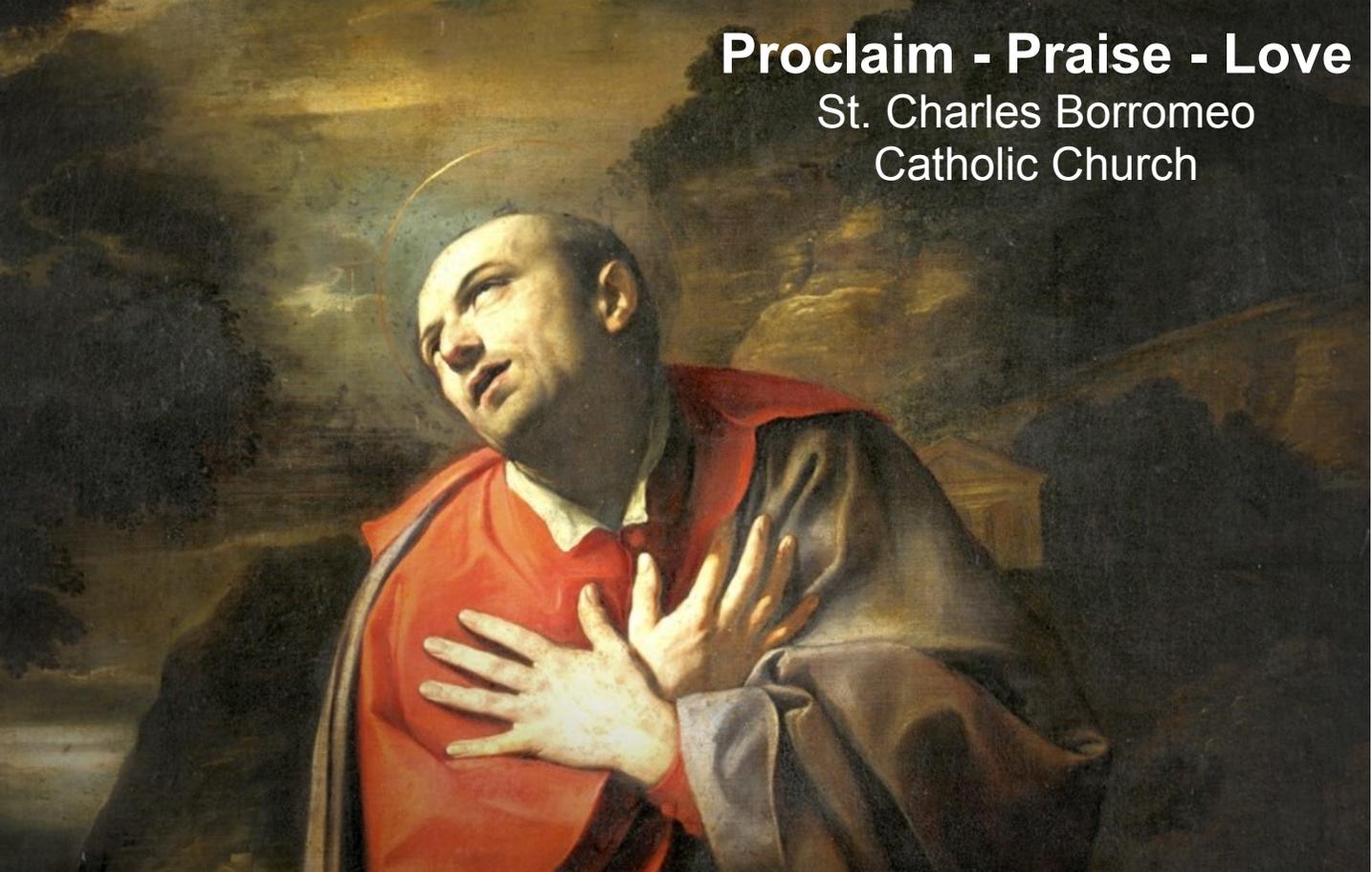
St Charles Catholic Church



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Proclaim - Praise - Love

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