

NOVEMBER 28, 2021

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ALL ARE WELCOME!

511 South Monroe Street Monroe, MI 48161

734-241-8910 www.stjohnmonroe.com

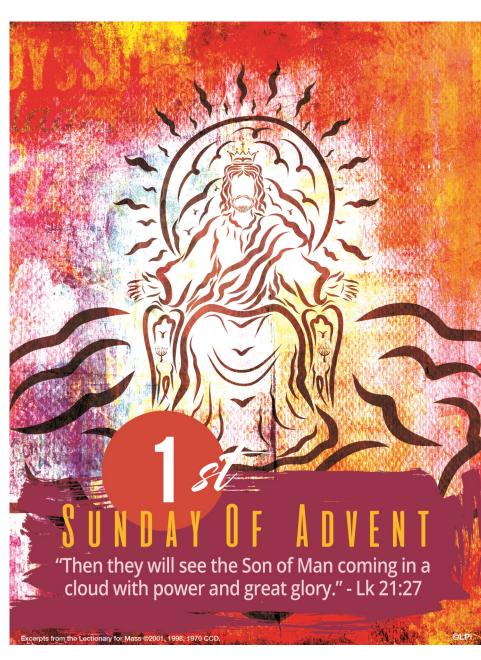
Parish Office Hours

Monday | 9:00am-4:00pm (Closed for Lunch 12:00-1:00pm) Tuesday | 9:00am-3:00pm Thursday | 9:00am-3:00pm Wednesday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday | Closed

MISSION STATEMENT

"St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Community is a growing and welcoming parish family. We proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ by embracing the Word, Sacraments, and commitment to service."

- Rev. Fr. David Burgard, Pastor
- ♣ Rev. Fr. Giancarlo Ghezzi PIME, Associate Pastor
- Rev. Mr. Mike Stewart, Deacon





YOU CAN MAKE YOUR CHURCH OFFERING ONLINE

Go to www.give.aod.org and select "support my parish" then search for St. John the Baptist parish.



A NOTE FROM FATHER DAVID

With the beginning of Advent this weekend, we enter a new church year. Yes, it is about a month different from the secular calendar. It makes sense for us to begin the year with the season that sets our sight on Jesus' coming into the world in our human flesh. Although salvation history began long before Jesus' birth, our Christian faith knows that His coming is the full expression of God's saving plan for the world. Advent is not penitential like Lent, yet is meant to be a time of simplicity, more quiet reflection, and care for others. This is truly countercultural, since our culture is very busy with the materialistic focus of the "holiday season". We can rejoice that our faith points to a new and better way to find fulfillment-not in the things that money can buy, but only in Jesus Himself.

As we begin Advent, notice the quieter tone of the mass-no Glo-

ria, and more instrumental music. The violet color also points to a low-key atmosphere that hopefully is more conducive to serious introspection and prayer. The Advent wreath reminds us of the passage of time, and how God enters into time for our salvation.

The Scripture readings this first Sunday of the season invite us to step back and see the broader view of life and the world. In the midst of the fearful images of the Gospel, we know that God will fulfill His promise to be with His people and have the final victory. As we continue to battle the pandemic and the other challenges of daily living, we welcome this message. I recommend spending time with the Scripture readings for mass during Advent. Pray with them and ask God to touch and renew you through His word.

mitment to going to confession during Advent, especially if it has been awhile since you have gone. In addition to the usual Saturday times, here are opportunities for confession during Advent:

Tues, Dec. 14: after 6:00 pm mass at St. Mary

Wed, Dec. 15: 4:00-5:00 pm at St.

Wed, Dec. 15: 7:00 pm communal service at St. Charles, New-

Thurs, Dec 16: during 9:00 am holy hour at St. John

Sat, Dec. 18: 1:00 pm communal service at St. Michael

Mon, Dec. 20: 3:00-4:00 pm at St. John

Tues, Dec. 21: after 6:00 pm mass at St. Mary

Wed, Dec. 22: 6:00 pm communal service at St. John

Thurs, Dec. 23: after 12:15 mass at St. Mary

It is appropriate to make a com-



Come, Lord Jesus, to your people in all our needs!



LAY LEANINGS... By Deacon Mike Stewart

Angels can fly because they take themselves lightly. G.K. Chesterson

The man sat at the table next to me accompanied by two others. From the minute he sat down, he caught my attention. First, he complained to the others at his table about the wait to be seated. Once seated, he weaved between complaining about the restaurant and just about anything that was brought up by anyone. A bank of televisions surrounding the dining room only added fuel to the fire. As he glanced up at a screen, he immediately launched into an angry rant about something having to do with what was being broadcast, but mostly about sports and about professional athletes. If it weren't so tragic, it would have been comical. The man appeared miserable, and those he subjected to his unhappiness seemed even more worn down by the whole ordeal.

Later in the week, I stumbled upon a quote that seemed to have been aimed directly at that pitiful man in the restaurant. It said, 'For every minute you're angry, you lose 60 seconds of happiness.' If only I could have tracked that man down, I thought to myself.

Despite the complexities of life, happiness is a conscious choice. Some, like the man in the restaurant, choose otherwise. Nevertheless. I acknowledge that it's not as easy as all that. For those who cannot find their way to joy in life, there may well be an underlying issue, such as depression, or perhaps a life circumstance that has left them searching for answers. However, we all know people who steer around happiness every day, even though their lives are free of conflict.

Someone suggested to me recently that it seems there are a lot of unhappy people in the world, or at least from that person's immediate perspective. I'm not sure that people are any less happy these days than they were in times past, but I will admit, there does seem to be a lot of people who

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PARISH DIRECTORY

REV. Fr. DAVID BURGARD, PASTOR 734-241-8910 ext. 105

REV. FR. GIANCARLO GHEZZI, PIME, ASSOCIATE PASTOR 734-241-8910 ext. 115 fathergiancarlo@gmail.com

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DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION
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dffmonroe@gmail.com



St. John Parish Council

Ralph Carducci Eric Kuehnlein Pam Mushung Ray Hartman Angela Venier St. John Finance Council

Don Lieto Peter Fales Peg Mueller Steve Goodman Matt Zwack



MARY STOUT

November 14, 2021

SACRAMENTS

Please contact the parish office or Fr. David with inquiries about the Sacraments at: 734-241-8910 or parishoffice@stjohnmonroe.com.

Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confessions

Saturday, 4:00-5:00pm.
Reconciliation room is in the room at the left side of the altar. In addition to regular confession times, arrangements can be made by calling the parish office.

Marriage

At least one individual must be a member of St. John Church. A minimum of six months previous notice is required before the wedding date. Please phone the parish office for more information.

Sacrament of Baptism

Call the parish office to make an arrangement and baptism dates at least one month in advance.

Rite of Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Anyone interested in inquiring about our faith, or anyone interested in becoming a Roman Catholic Christian please contact the parish office. Meetings on Mondays, from 6:30-8:00pm.

Sacrament of Marriage

By arrangement with the pastor at least six months prior to planned wedding date.

Sacrament of the Sick

The Sacrament is available upon request for persons who are seriously ill, scheduled for a medical procedure, or with a chronic condition. A person can be anointed as often as their condition warrants.



St. John Prayer List

Jim Adams Anita Askam Scott Assenmacher Thomas Barron Pamela Barron Dale Beauch Loretta Brossia Jack Burns Fr. David Carrucci Denise Darin-Clark Tom Clark Thomas Cousino Dan DePuydt Darlene Diekman Barb DuVall Don Fox **David Graves**

Emily Haynes Kate Herr-Maletich Zenda Howell **Evelyn Ibershoff** Larry Kinsey Tom Lindsev Lisa Lliteras Beth Lovett Jerry Messerschmidt Herbert Meyer Cathy Miller Sierra Miller Jeanne Niles Art Oblinger William O'Connell Pat Orr Dave Padot

Zandra Perry
Zayden Perry
Sister Maria Pia
Tony Pollzzie
Cathy Rogers
Robert Rogers
Lillian Sasfy
Mary Slavik
Daniel Sordini
Maxwell Stotz
Kay Thoma
Oscar Vandevelde
Angela Venier
Arlene Walsh

Hal Weakly

St. John's Prayer List exists for the purpose of remembering in our prayers all our parish family and friends who suffer physically, emotionally, or spiritually.

We are hopeful that many on the list have received help and healing through the prayers lifted up by our parishioners. If you are still in need of prayers and would like to remain on, or be added to the list, contact the parish office. Names on the list will remain for a duration of six weeks.

We can only publish the names of people who have consented to be added to the list, please check with the individual before contacting us to protect their privacy.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Brandon Anderson, USAF
SPC Derek Barron, USA
Cpl Michael J. Carrabino, Jr., USMC
2d Lt Alexander L. Compean, USAF
Cpt Andrew J. Compean, USA
CMCR Kyle Cook
Cpt Jonathan A. Dieckman
PFC Andrew Herrick, USA
SR Daniel Kosanovich, USN
SrA Stacy Krzyston, USAF
SSgt Andrea L. Lake, USAF
Cpl Mitchell Layhew, USMC

MSgt Christopher Lindsey, USAF
PFC Anthony Marquette, USCG
AB Dakota Mills, USAF
Sgt Tyler Morrison, USMC
EMI Tad Murphy, USCG
AIC Dalton J. Neff, USAF
SSgt Natalie A. Neff, USAF
TSgt Eric D. Paul, USAF
PFC Donald Puruleski, USA
AB Jeffrey Stead, USAF
MSgt Nicole Stibbe, USAF
Pvt Dawson Wohlgamuth

USA - Army | USAF - Air Force | USCG - Coast Guard USN - Navy | USMC - Marine Corps

Almighty and eternal God, protect these soldiers as they discharge their duties. May the power of your love enable them to return home in safety, that with all who love them, they may ever praise you for your loving care. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

DAILY READINGS & OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, November 28

1st Sunday of Advent

Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12—4:2/Ps 25:4 Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt -5, 8-9, 10, 14 [1b]/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36 9:27-31

Monday, November 29

1ls 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday, November 30

St. Andrew, Apostle

Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10]/Mt Next Sunday, December 5 4:18-22

Wednesday, December 1

Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday, December 2

Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday, December 3

St. Francis Xavier, Priest

Saturday, December 4

St. John Damascene. Priest and **Doctor of the Church**

s 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. ls 30:18d]/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

2nd Sunday of Advent

Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/ Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6



SUNDAY'S READINGS First Reading

I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land. (Jer 33:15)

Psalm

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul. (Ps 25)

Second Reading

Strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones. (1 Thes 3:13)

Gospel

Stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand. (Lk 21:28)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass ©1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. ©LPi

ELECTRONIC OFFERTORY IS AVAILABLE

Forget your envelope on the counter? Forget to stop at the ATM? Ran out of checks before Mass?

Make weekly contributions worry free with electronic funds transfer for offertory. Contributions are deducted from either a checking or savings account on the 15th of each month. Special collection envelopes can still be used in the basket on Sundays.

Please consider this easy option for making your offertory contribution to St. John Church. If interested, please fill out the form below with a voided check included. Place it in an envelope and put in the offertory basket, bring it to the parish office or put in the mail.

I authorize St. John the Baptist to initiate electronic debit entries to my:

☐ Checking ☐ Savings in the
amount of \$ to be withdrawn each month, beginning in the month of
Financial Institution:
Routing #

I acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my account must comply with the provisions of US law. This authority will remain in effect until I have canceled in writing.

Printed Name:
Date:
Signature:

LIVE THE LITURGY: Inspiration for the Week

Any human success requires vigilance. Opportunities and powerful moments of encounter can easily be missed when we are not attentive. It is all too easy today to live distracted and preoccupied lives. There is so much vying for our attention that it can be hard to be selective and really focus. Caught up in this whirlwind of busyness and anxiety, we become tired and almost sleepwalk through life. Advent is a time to selectively focus. These beautiful four short weeks are a time to look backward and forward and be attentive to the human journey and God's revelation. From the beginning of time, God has been seeking our attention. He constantly reminds us of the justice he desires to bring and the promise of his abiding unconditional love. Understanding and growing in these truths requires alertness so that we can be strengthened in our faith and prepared for whatever will come.



FAMILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday

8:15am | St. Michael Church 8:30am | St. Charles Church

Tuesday

8:15am | St. John Church 9:00am | St. Anne Church 6:00pm | St. Mary Church

Wednesday

8:15am | St. Mary Church 8:30am | St. Charles Church

Thursday

8:15am | St. John Church 12:15pm | St. Mary Church

Friday

8:15am | St. Michael Church 9:00am | St. Anne Church (except 1st Friday)

First Friday

8:30am | St. Charles Church

First Saturday

8:00am | St. Charles Church 8:30am | St. Mary Church

Saturday

4:30pm | St. Mary Church 4:30pm | St. Anne Church 5:00pm | St. Michael Church 5:30pm | St. John Church

Sunday

7:30am | St. Mary Church
8:00am | St. Charles Church
8:30am | St. Michael Church
9:00am | St. John Church
10:00am | St. Mary Church
10:30am | St. Charles Church
11:30am | St. John Church
Noon | St. Charles Church
St. John Church
Noon | St. Charles Church
St. Charles Church

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 27

5:30pm | Fr. David Burgard People of St. John Parish

Sunday, November 28

9:00am | Fr. Alan Zobler

† Alethea Armstrong by Beth Pattie

† Living & Deceased IHM Sisters / Lay Persons who teach/taught at St. John School

† Sis locoangeli by Mary Cooley

11:30am | Fr. Alan Zobler

† Valerie Ann Kiley by her Parents

Tuesday, November 30

8:15am MCES Students & Staff

Thursday, December 2

8:15am † For the Poor Souls in Purgatory by the Moore Family

Saturday, December 4

5:30pm | Fr. Giancarlo Ghezzi + Anton Sailer (39th anniv) by Family

Sunday, December 5

9:00am | Fr. David Burgard

† Julius & Muriel Laroy by Family † Stephen Sasfy by Lillian Sasfy

† Rita Beck by Steven & Rachel Lombard

11:30am | Fr. David Burgard

† Annie Germani by Richard Sieb

† Aurelio Taormina by Mary Grassley & Family



LECTOR SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 4/5

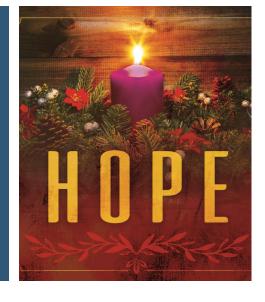
5:30pm Angela Viger

9:00am John Morris

11:30am

Joe & Bridgett Boggs

* 2021-2022 Workbooks for Lectors are available in the St. Anne Sacristy



Lay Leanings, Continued

demand more of life than life can provide them. As I've prayed about that, I've encountered this image of every new day being a fresh, crisp \$10 bill. As we open our eyes in the morning, that new bill is handed to us to be spent any way we choose. We can spend it on things that will bring joy to others; we can spend it on things that will only bring joy to ourselves; or we can spend it on things that will most cer-

tainly lead to unhappiness, anxiety and discontent in our lives. The choice is ours.

That image is how I envision God's offer to us each morning. Each new day is an opportunity to find joy in or bring joy to our world, no matter what the circumstances of life deal us. How will you spend it? Pray about that.

Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. Philippians 4:4



Rest in Peace



MARIE J. TROUTEN

March 31, 1921 November 10, 2021

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Marie who entered into eternal life. Please keep her family in your prayers.

May her soul, and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST MONTHLY MEMORIAL

Ackerman & Ruman Families Bacarella & Venier Families Beck & Wehner Families Angelo Benvenuto Robert & Joan Brennan Fred R. Brossia Family John & Patricia Burroughs Christy Bates Carducci Christy & Mary Carducci Family Joseph J. Carrabino Teresa (Carrabino) Hansen Dominic Cicero, Jr. Chester & Mildred Clark Ann Clark Theodore Colucci Family Saverio & Mary Costello Family Mary Jane Darrow Rev. Albert Robert "Bob" DeSloover Robert A. Dobberstein Pat & Vera Drummonds Family

Kenneth & Wilma Dusseau Family DuVall, Morrin & Cousino Families Tom Gerweck Marion Hatcher Rosemarie Hess-Schindler Anna Hess Lowell B. & Helen R. Hudson Hudson & Gessner Families Lauer & Bicking Families **Gus & Helen Janssens Family** Jonathon M. Keck Thomas K. & Marie C. Keegan **Kelley Family** Julian & David LaRoy Jennifer (Martin) Layhew Jerry E. Loughridge Diane Mack Dorian Mantei William McIntyre Barbara Metz

Robert J. Duffey Family

Armand & Lena Michelin Family Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Miller & Family Marjorie Miller Connie S. Niemi Vincent J. Palazzolo Pancone & Donofrio Family Sebastian & Vincenzina Patania Pollzzie & Bacarella Family Edward J. Roecker John A. Scheich Joseph Scheich Sordini Family Mr. & Mrs. Hubert Steffes & Family Strauss & Grodi Families **Gregory Neil Thoma** Jeffery William Thoma Joseph & Evelyn Thoma Ron Thomas William & Madeline Trawinski Harold & Arlene Weaver

Gerald Windels

FOOD PANTRY

The following items will be collected in the coming months. We also gladly accept monetary donations made out to: St. John Food Pantry.

> December: **Hardy Soups** (Campbell's or Progresso)

> > January: **Canned Vegetables**

> > > February: Mac N Cheese

Non-perishable food is accepted at any time. Please be sure items are not out of date. There are baskets for drop-off in the church vestibule or bring to the parish office. Thank you for your support!

Help is needed in the food pantry. If you can help in this way, please contact Lillian.

For further information about Christian Service or Food Pantry, contact Lillian Williamson at lillianwilliamson@att.net or 734-770-7046.



Greeters are needed for Saturday and Sunday Masses in December. Greeters need to arrive 45 minutes prior to Mass. You do not have to clean after the masses. Please contact Lillian Williamson to be scheduled at 734-770-7046 or lillianwilliamson@att.net

REMINDER

Christian Service Meeting Saturday, December 4

@ 10:30 am

In the Parish Office meeting room. We welcome anyone interested in becoming a member.



THE PHYSICAL GATHERING will be held in Heritage Hall at

St. Mary Parish at 7:00 pm on the following Tuesdays: Nov. 23, 30, Dec. 7, 14, 21

Accompanying prayer booklets are available, but not necessary, for \$8.00 each.

RSVP: St. Mary—parishoffice@stmarymonroe.org or 734-241-1644 St. John—parishoffice@stjohnmonroe.com or 734-241-8910

TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY use the link below to the *Rejoice Study*.

https://ascensionpress.com/collections/rejoice-advent-meditationswith-the-holy-family

The cost of the optional accompanying book is \$12.99 if bought separately, or the e-book is \$9.95.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Preparing the Manger

Where do you fall in the "Christmas-songs-in-November" debate — do you like them, tolerate them, or outright hate them? There's no theological problem with Christmas songs in November outside of worship, even if it's not everyone's cup of tea. But there is a problem with getting so caught up in the baggage of the season — the trimmings, the gifts, the celebrations, all of which are marvelous in their own way - that you forget to prepare the manger.

Every good Catholic knows that



Lent is a penitential season. It's hard to miss that point — Lent doesn't even have any fun songs you can groove to on the radio.

We are pretty good at recognizing that Lent calls us to examine ourselves. To deny ourselves. To give of ourselves. And most of all, Lent calls us to prepare, as a good steward does, for the return of our master.

It's harder for us to remember that with Advent, but Advent is just as much of an opportunity for penance, preparation, and reconciliation to God — and just as much reason, too. The very name of the season — "advent" — encourages us to focus on what is coming, not what is already here. Be on guard, the readings tell us today, "so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and (the coming of the Lord) catch you unexpectedly, like a trap."

So let us not forget — our master's advent is upon us. And let us ask ourselves: how can we prepare the manger?

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS **©LPi**

1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

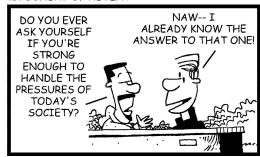


You are invited to an Introductory/Informational gathering to learn more about the Stephen Ministry...

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

SMCC High School (2nd Floor Media Center)

6:30 pm-7:30 pm





CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree can help link Christmas gift-giving to the Christian love that marks all those who follow the One born at Bethlehem.

During the Advent Season, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church will be collecting items to support Crossroad MCMHA, Fairview County Home, Heartbeat of Monroe, and St. John Food Pantry.



The Giving Tree will be located in the church on November 22 to December 19. Remove an ornament from the Giving Tree and purchase the item written on the ornament.

Nicely wrap the item. If it is more than one item please place a tag with the name of the organization on it. Securely tape the ornament on your wrapped gift and place the gift in the niche on St. Joseph side.

Gifts are to be brought to St. John Church by Sunday, December 19, 2021.

For more information, contact Lillian Williamson at 734-770-7046 or the parish office at 734-241-8910

ST. ANNE GRIEF SUPPORT **GROUP**

Journey Through Grief

The "Journey Through Grief" Prayer and Support Group Meetings have resumed. Join us the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm at St. Anne. If you have lost a loved one, please come join us for prayer, support, refreshments and sharing...







MONROE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS 734-241-6335





When you are baptized, God gives you grace to help obey his commandments. These graces are like a pair of shoes with lights on them. They light the way to follow the example of Jesus. You will share your toys. You will take out the trash. You will take good care of your baby sister. The graces of baptism help you to love God above all else. Then God will welcome you into heaven.



Lord, send me graces so I love you above everything.

KYLE KUBIK, Executive Principal

FRANCES JAGIELSKI
Assistant Principal for Academics
& Student Affairs

KAROL APPLIN, St. John Campus Assistant Principal

MELODY SETZLER, St. Michael Campus Assistant Principal

AMBER SCUDDER, St. Mary Campus Assistant Principal

MCES SCHOOL YEAR THEME

Dear Supporters & Friends of the MCES Community,

It is hard to believe our academic year is nearly half over! Though we are still very much weathering the COVID-19 pandemic, we are excited to see our students back in the classrooms fully- seeing their smiling faces and helping them learn and grow. There are many protocols in place to keep our families safe and we do our best to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

We are most excited to welcome our new families and new faculty and staff. First and foremost, we welcome Mrs. Frances (Frannie) Jagielski as our new Assistant Principal for Academic & Student Affairs (pictured below). In her new role, she will support the needs of our faculty, staff and students. I am grateful to have her on the team!

MCES has experienced a 4% increase in enrollment from last school year! In addition, we have seen a 24% increase in preschool enrollment. This is undoubtedly thanks to our incredibly dedicated teachers and staff and to our welcoming families. We are excited for continued growth with the help of our new admissions director, Colleen Flint.

We also welcome multiple new teachers and staff across our three campuses:

Brittany Jaskot, 3rd Grade
Jennifer Musulin, Intervention Services
Diana Costantini, MS Social Studies
Kelly Dotson, MS Social Studies
Larkin Wensink, MS Physical Education
Miriam Sponsler, MS Theology
Jen Carroll, MS Foreign Language
Pat Johnson, MS Art

As we begin this year, we have outlined a strong development program that will help us grow our scholarship funds and provide for our general operations budget. Nearly 2 years ago, I announced the establishment of the Friends of MCES Scholarship and am happy to report we awarded our first (six) \$500 scholarships this fall, as well as seven additional scholarships to MCES staff members who have children attending our schools! We are grateful to the benefactors who made this possible and look forward to continue its growth!

Thank you to everyone who supported our successful Golf Outing in October and our Fall Raffle in November! We look forward to sharing information about our Auction and our new Fun Run in May!

As we continue to advance toward a sense of normalcy, I implore you to join us in our efforts to ensure the strength of Catholic Education in downtown Monroe! I sincerely thank you for your support and ask that you always keep MCES and its students, faculty and staff in your prayers.

God Bless,

Kyle Kubik

MCES Executive Principal