

St. John the Baptist



Catholic Parish

5361 Dry Ridge Road
Cincinnati, OH 45252
(513)385-8010 Fax (513)385-8080
www.stjohnsdr.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:30 pm
Sunday 8:30 am & 11:00 am
Weekday & Holyday - See Bulletin

PARISH OFFICE

Rev. Timothy S. Kallahaer, Pastor
Deacon Ken Schnur, Pastoral Associate
Deacon Vincent Lutz
Douglas Schmutte, Pastoral Associate for
Music/Liturgy
Amanda Weickert, Director of Religious Education
Rod Dunlap, Director of Youth Ministry
Terri Reder, Business Manager
Tom Cunningham, Plant Manager/Maintenance
Supervisor
Michelle Zerhusen, Administrative Assistant

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Al Grote, *Chairperson*, 245-9943
Ryan Vitolo, *Vice-Chairperson*, 519-1518
Valerie Nimeskern, *Secretary*, 288-3254
David Eby, *Member at Large*, 385-7675
Steve Bissmeyer, *Member at Large*, 923-2633
Gene Culman, *Member at Large*, 385-6669
Shannon Meyer, *Member at Large*, 385-6970
John Stehlin, *Member at Large*, 476-9665
Kevin Wood, *Member at Large*, 885-9860
Heather Smith, *Development Commission Rep.*, 923-2893
Betty Dirr, *Faith Formation Comm. Rep.*, 385-3954
Sharon Bachman, *Finance Commission Rep.*, 385-8267
Patti Rice, *Worship Commission Rep.*, 385-5410
Larry Weinheimer, *Communications Comm. Rep.*, 652-2563

RECONCILIATION: Saturday at 2:30 p.m. & Seasonal Service
MARRIAGE: Call the Parish Office at least 6 months prior to your wedding.
BAPTISMS: Call the Parish Office
ANointing of the Sick/COMMUNION: Call Parish Office
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS. Please contact the Parish Office
CURRENT PARISHIONERS: Moving? New email?
Contact the Parish Office.

PRIEST'S MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 11

8:30 a.m. Raymond Schaefer/*Carl & Joan Frey*

Tuesday, January 12

8:30 a.m. Priest's Intention

Wednesday, January 13

8:30 a.m. James & John Jung/*Middendorf Family*

Thursday, January 14

8:30 a.m. Julie Stockelman/*Suzie & Bob Seim*

Friday, January 15

8:30 a.m. Lois Unger/*Harry Kesse*

Saturday, January 16

4:30 PM Roxie Lange/*Judy Kuhl*

Sunday, January 17

8:30 a.m. Shirley Reifenberger/*Walt Tetzner*
11:00 a.m. For the Parish

We extend our sincerest sympathy
to the family and friends of



*Loraine Engel, Robert Krummen,
Edward Broerman, John Flesch
and Steven Metzger*

May God give them strength during this
difficult time.

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THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday, January 11

Mass, 8:30 a.m., Chapel
Adoration, 9:15 a.m., Chapel
Monday Martha's Group, 9:30 a.m.
Pastoral Council, 6:00 p.m., POCR
Pastoral Council/Commissions, 7:00 p.m., Church
Rosary, 7:00 p.m., Chapel

Tuesday, January 12

Mass, 8:30 a.m., Northgate Atria
Young Adult Group, 7:00 p.m., POMR #2

Wednesday, January 13

Mass, 8:30 a.m., Chapel
Senior Meeting, Gathering Space, 1:00

Thursday, January 14

Mass, 8:30 a.m., Chapel
Joseph's Group, 9:00 a.m., POMR #2
Shopping Cent\$, 9:00 a.m., POMR#1
Thursday's Martha's Group, 3:00 p.m.
Confirmation Prep, 7:00 p.m., Chapel
SVdP Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m., POMR#1

Friday, January 15

All School Mass, 8:30 a.m., Chapel

Saturday, January 16

Reconciliation, 2:30 PM, Reconciliation Chapel
Mass, 4:30 PM

Sunday, January 17

Mass, 8:30 AM
Mass, 11:00 AM

SHOPPING CENTS

We want to thank ALL our Christmas Season customers and hard-working volunteers. We especially want to thank Blust Motors, Schneider Brothers Electric, and Twin Dental for their large business orders. Our sales triple during December. Wouldn't it be a blessing if we had the same number of customers and sales volume every month. What a gift that would be to our school and families, helping to offset tuition costs. Pick up gas cards, Meijer gift cards, and restaurant and retail gift cards for all your everyday needs. Thanks again to all your support!

We still need of two volunteers for the 4:30 mass shift on the 3rd Saturdays of the month starting this month. If we don't get volunteers we will not be able to sell gift cards during these weekends. If you attend 4:30 Mass – even if it is occasionally – please consider joining the program and leave a message on the Shopping Cent\$ hotline (699-6960 ext. 240). It's a great way to get involved and get to know other parishioners.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday, January 16, 4:30 PM Mass

Servers: M. Threm, A. Pettinger, V. Smith
Lectors: Elaine Reardon, JoEllen Sunderhaus
Eucharistic Ministers: Al Grote, Marcia Schmidt, Philip Bissmeyer, Teresa Gagnon, Tom Sunderhaus, Mary Ann Lennon

Sunday, January 17, 8:30 AM Mass

Servers: E. Keil, G. Vidourek, S. Keil
Lectors: Chris Dole, John Stehlin
Eucharistic Ministers: Steve Hatke, MJ Gabriel, Dale Bosse, Jessica Brockman, Matthew Fay, Sophie Betsch

Sunday, January 17, 11:00 AM Mass

Servers: M. Zerhusen, D. Eddings, E. Meyer
Lectors: Jack Hart, Matt Molony
Eucharistic Ministers: Madeline Peters, Ben Peters, Jonathan Molulon, Ben Molulon, Alyssa Molulon, Michael Langenbrunner, Joyce Behrmann, Hailey Tensing, Sam Kreimer, Abigail Kreimer

PREPARE TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Readings for January 17, 2016

Isaiah 62:1-5

Isaiah speaks of the extraordinary joy that the Lord takes in his erring, exiled and failing people. It is a divine joy expressed in the language of love, marriage and intimacy.

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

St Paul reminds us that in all our differences, and through all our different ways of expressing the Gospel, we see the work of the one Spirit, active in our midst.

John 2:1-11

The sign worked at the wedding in Cana is named by John as Jesus' first sign, and one that showed the glory of who he was. It is here, in the family intimacy of the wedding, and the exchange between mother and son, that the great gift of God's presence is revealed.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCE

DECEMBER 20, 2015 COLLECTION REPORT

Adult Collection (<i>includes Electronic Donations</i>)	\$	16,732.03
Children Collection	\$	1.79
Respect Life	\$	7.00
Immaculate Conception	\$	235.00
Christmas Flowers	\$	200.00
Christmas	\$	495.00
Religious Retirement	\$	175.00

DECEMBER 25, 2015 COLLECTION REPORT

Adult Collection (<i>includes Electronic Donations</i>)	\$	31,852.00
Children Collection	\$	7.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$	30.00
Christmas Flowers	\$	15.00
Debt Reduction	\$	600.00
Religious Retirement	\$	675.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	300.00

DECEMBER 27, 2015 COLLECTION REPORT

Adult Collection (<i>includes Electronic Donations</i>)	\$	15,002.00
Children Collection	\$	3.50
Peter's Pence	\$	15.00
Debt Reduction	\$	6,000.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	50.00
Christmas	\$	1,185.00
Religious Retirement	\$	5.00

JANUARY 1, 2016 COLLECTION REPORT

Adult Collection (<i>includes Electronic Donations</i>)	\$	690.00
Children Collection	\$	0.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$	1,659.00
First Offering	\$	88.00
Christmas	\$	20.00
Religious Retirement	\$	15.00

JANUARY 3, 2016 COLLECTION REPORT

Adult Collection (<i>includes Electronic Donations</i>)	\$	15,334.50
Children Collection	\$	3.18
Debt Reduction	\$	125.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$	357.00
First Offering	\$	293.00
Christmas	\$	705.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	187.00
This Year to Date	\$	408,684.09
Last Year to Date	\$	407,078.37
Comparison to Last Year	\$	1,605.72
Adult Envelopes		345
Children Envelopes		3
Electronic Donators		50
Thank You!		

ARE YOU AWARE
BY TERRI REDER

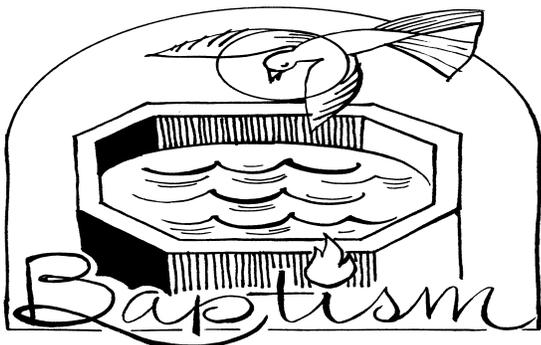
ARE YOU AWARE that the pump for the boiler in Church which heats the undercroft and Parish Office Building has gone out? The pump is rated to last 10 years, but we have used it for 19. We definitely got our money's worth out of it. The replacement cost is approximately \$8,000, which we will split with school. Also, one of the HVAC units in the cafeteria has quit working. We are delaying that replacement until the summer. The cost is \$16,000 which will also be split with school. The good news is that once these are replaced they should last at least 15 to 20 years.

ARE YOU AWARE that the beautiful decorations, Eucharistic ministers, Musicians, Singers, Lectors, Servers, Ushers, Greeters, and Mass Coordinators that made our Christmas celebration so wonderful are gifts of their time and talent? Thank you for these wondrous gifts that you have donated to your parish.

ARE YOU AWARE that our Operations Team keeps the restrooms clean and stock between Masses? Thank you for taking such great care of us! If you are interested in helping, please contact the Parish Office.

ARE YOU AWARE that the Monday morning and Thursday afternoon Martha's Groups have helped make our worship space sparkle and shine? Thank you to these dedicated folks that keep our church clean. If you are interested in helping, please contact the Parish Office. Extra hands are gladly welcomed.

Thank you for your generous donations of time, talent and treasure to the parish! We are truly blessed.





MUSICIAN'S NOTES

BY DOUG SCHMUTTE



Well, it's hard to believe that this weekend we conclude the Christmas season with the Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord. It seems we just celebrated the Lord's Nativity. So, now (after this weekend) we enter back into Ordinary Time. It's called "ordinary" because the Sundays are counted using the ordinals (first, second, third, etc.). But we will be in Ordinary Time for only a very short period. It's hard to believe, but Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent are exactly a month away. Ash Wednesday is February 10! That means we have just four Sundays of Ordinary Time before we are thrust into the great 90 days of the Lent and Easter Seasons.

Before I go any further, let me thank everyone who made our Christmas Masses at St. John's so beautiful, from those who made our church look so beautiful to all those who ministered in one way or another (as a greeter, lector, usher, Mass coordinator, extraordinary minister of the Eucharist and all the music ministers). Thank you for helping to make all our Christmas Masses worthy celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord.

So, yes, today we end our Christmas season, and suddenly next week we will go from hearing about Jesus' baptism to the very familiar story of the wedding feast at Cana. I always like when we hear this story immediately following the end of the Christmas season. To me, it's sort of a segue between Christmas and Ordinary Time.

During the Christmas season we celebrate the manifestation of God coming to dwell with his people – Emmanuel – God-with-Us. Last week we celebrated the Epiphany, today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, and next week we will hear about Jesus' first miracle in John's



"They have no wine."

gospel: the wedding feast at Cana and the changing of water into wine. All three of these celebrations continue to celebrate the manifestation of Emmanuel – God-with-Us. That is why we will sing today and again next Sunday the hymn "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise:"

Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
And a Cana, wedding guest,
In your God-head manifest;
Manifest in pow'r divine,
Changing water into wine;
Anthems be to you address,
GOD IN FLESH made manifest."

And so, as we conclude this Christmas season, it is also fitting that we sing "Joy to the World! The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King."

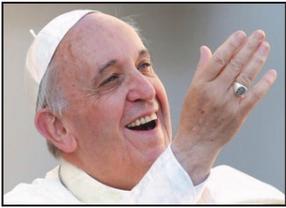
I hope everyone has had a very enjoyable blessed and merry Christmas season!

So, next week as we enter back into Ordinary Time, you will notice many changes in our liturgies. First, of all, all of the poinsettias will be gone. All the Christmas lighting around the altar will be gone. And several other changes will be noticeable, among which will be some musical changes. We will be changing from the Mass setting that we have been using for Advent and Christmas to a "new" setting, but one we have sung previously called "Mass for a New World" by the composer David Haas. This will include the Gloria, Gospel Acclamation and all the Eucharistic Acclamations as well. I am sure it will come back to all of us very quickly.

Let us all, today, celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, and then prepare to enter back into Ordinary Time for just a few short weeks before we enter in the season of Lent.

Have a great week everyone.

The JOY of the GOSPEL



“Goodness always tends to spread. Every authentic experience of truth and goodness seeks by its very nature to grow within us, and any person who has experienced a profound liberation becomes more sensitive to the needs of others. As it expands, goodness takes root and develops. **If we wish to lead a dignified and fulfilling life, we have to reach out to others and seek their good.** In this regard, several sayings of Saint Paul will not surprise us: “The love of Christ urges us on” (2 Cor 5:14); “Woe to me if I do not proclaim the Gospel” (1 Cor 9:16).”

This is paragraph 9, the opening of the section titled ‘The delightful and comforting joy of evangelizing’ in Pope Francis’ apostolic exhortation ‘Evangelii Gaudium.’ Vatican Translation. Emphases my own.

Office of Christian Formation

Amanda Weickert

aweickert@stjohnsdr.org

It would be my joy to meet with you and discuss our beautiful faith! Please feel free to call or schedule an appointment any time!

SEEDS Preschool Program Volunteer Needed!

We need a volunteer to assist our lead teacher during our SEEDs program which teaches 3-4 year olds about our Catholic faith and shares with them the weekly gospel. If you are over 18 and VIRTUS compliant please contact me to volunteer! Multiple volunteers could share this position and trade off weeks. The program cannot run without a second adult each week beginning January 17. Please consider planting seeds of faith with our 3-4 year olds!

VIRTUS online bulletins

Volunteers, please complete your VIRTUS bulletins online. Make sure when you go to VIRTUS.org you log in and then complete the training bulletin. If you do not log in and click on the article link under the training tab you may be mistakenly taking the weekly survey question which appears on VIRTUS’ homepage instead of the required training bulletin. Thank you!

to LOVE as GOD LOVES

By Amanda Weickert

Ordinary Time begins this week with a celebration of extraordinary event - the baptism of the Lord. After preparing for Christ’s coming throughout Advent and welcoming him in Christmas we, as the Church, settle into the daily, ‘ordinary,’ time of the liturgical year.

It is not happenstance that we begin Ordinary Time with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In this extraordinary moment God the Father’s love and the gift of the Holy Spirit come down upon Jesus at the beginning of his public ministry. **This feast beautifully illuminates the mystery that even after the extraordinary gift of God’s presence in our world through the incarnate person of Jesus, God continues to increase his radical presence within our lives! It reminds us that this “Ordinary Time” is suffused with the extraordinary presence and love of God.**

Through all the centuries of the Church to today we participate in this progression of grace - from the Father and Holy Spirit through Jesus to all those he ministers to. Our own baptism initiates us into a new Christ-life; adopted by God we, like Christ, are called to minister to the world and share God’s love with all those we encounter. But in order for us to vividly live the life we are called to in our baptism we must accept the grace and strength of God. This is much more difficult than it appears! I frequently find myself rejecting the grace I have just asked for, choosing instead to serve my own desires rather than God’s people. Lately I have begun praying for the grace to accept God’s grace!

In today’s second reading Paul reminds us of how abundant and crucial God’s grace is for us, writing: “Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live justly... eager to do what is good” (Titus 2:11, 3:7).

God the Father, please give us all the graces we need to live, like Christ, as your beloved children and for the grace to accept these graces! Amen.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



High School Ministry

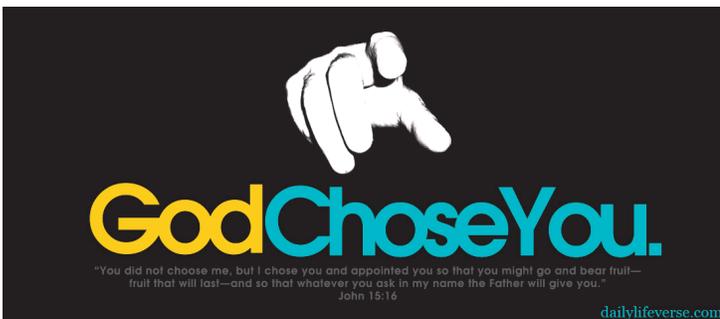
This past Sunday, some of our high school youth gathered to continue a new High School ministry program here called CHOSEN. It was a great night for the youth to get to know one another better as well as begin to pray and think about some difficult life questions such as “Where is God in my life?”. We also had a great time with a gift exchange and Christmas party. Please continue to pray for our high school youth as they begin this journey of drawing closer to Christ and learning more about themselves. We will meet again on Sunday, Jan. 10 at 7pm in the Youth Ministry room. If you are in high school and interested in joining us, please contact Rod Dunlap at rdunlap@st.johnsdr.org or 614-1789.

Young Adult Ministry

This past Tuesday, our young adults gathered for a night of gospel reflection, awesome conversation, and great fellowship. The group meets at 7pm every Tuesday night and they are all excited for this upcoming 2016 Year of Mercy! If you are interested in joining our Young Adult Group here at St. John’s, please contact Rod Dunlap at rdunlap@stjohnsdr.org.

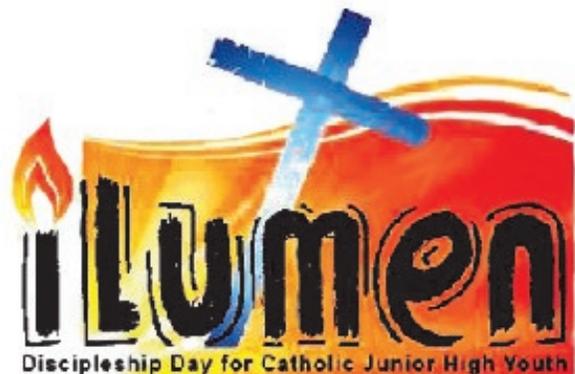
Junior High Ministry

Calling all 7th and 8th graders, there is a junior high retreat coming up here on Saturday, January 16. This retreat is called iLumen and is put on by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. It will take place at St. Michael Parish in Sharonville and is designed primarily for youth who are more serious about and interested in their faith. *iLumen* is a day-long and in depth exploration of Jesus’ call to discipleship for youth in grades 7 and 8. Recognizing they are created for greatness, youth will explore the “super powers” received in Baptism and be challenged to use them to build up God’s kingdom for the life of the world. For more information, please contact Rod Dunlap at rdunlap@stjohnsdr.org or 614-1789.



Junior High Ministry

Just a reminder to all our Eighth Grade students that the next Confirmation Prep meeting will be held on Thursday, January 14 at 7:00 PM in the Gathering Space. We continue to ask all our parishioners to pray for these students as they prepare for this Sacrament.



St. John's Seniors Meeting

Come celebrate the New Year!

Wednesday, January 13

1 pm in the Gathering Space

Any questions, call Mary Lou at 385-6062.

Please note: February meeting will be held one week earlier on February 3 due to Ash Wednesday. Please mark your calendar.



Attention All Moms



- **Who:** Any Mom of the parish or school
- **What:** A time to draw closer to God and connect with other Moms
- **When:** The 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 8:00 pm-9:30 pm starting January 27, 2016
- **Where:** St John's Gathering Space

"Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her. Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all."
Proverbs 31:28-29

What to Expect

- Intro Music
- Brief Gospel reading
- Short talk or reading by a group member
- Small groups for connection and reflection
- Social time, snacks and coffee

What is Liturgy?

Part Four: Tensions in Liturgy

Last Week: Definition of Liturgy: a personal meeting, under the veil of holy signs, of God with his Church in and through Christ and in the unity of the Holy Spirit.

There is tension whenever we, the Church, celebrate liturgy:

- between the present and the future,
- between the personal and the communal,
- between the ideal of the Kingdom and the realities of present experience in the world.

These tensions create energy.

This tension is king, to rule in our the message hearts and in our of Jesus' society.

preaching and work: "The Kingdom is here, in your midst; therefore repent." (Not "have fun!") But even though the Kingdom is here, there is still a world where the Kingdom is not yet in control. We know that the Kingdom will conquer and this knowledge calls us to obedience and mission. This work of God is in process. This means that we never despair; we are called to work for that Kingdom, to allow God to be

While the liturgy is of the present, it points to the future. It is of the present because it celebrates and makes real the presence among us of the God who is saving us in Christ. But that presence makes us painfully aware of how far we are from the Kingdom of God. Thus the liturgy continually challenges us to repent, to be converted, to live a new and different kind of life.



We, the assembly, are changed by the liturgy.

The liturgy teaches us to use the goods of the earth—represented in the liturgy by bread and wine and water and oil—not as goods to be grabbed, accumulated, and consumed, but as sacraments of the Creator himself, to be accepted with thanksgiving, handled with

reverence, and shared with generosity.

In this way the liturgy is an expression of our faith and love, but it also shapes and deepens our faith and love. It teaches us how to live with faith and how to come to a deeper and truer love. It teaches us that faith, hope, and love come to life in the degree that we acknowledge and surrender to the work of God in the world.

Special points of interest:

- ♦ *The tension of the liturgy is the source of its energy*
- ♦ *The liturgy teaches us how to use the goods of the earth*
- ♦ *The liturgy expresses our faith and shapes our lives*
- ♦ *Not only bread and wine are changed in the liturgy, we are changed too.*

- The bread and wine are transformed so that we might be transformed
- We are transformed so that the Church might be transformed
- The Church is transformed continually so that the world itself might be transformed by being rebuilt under the rule of God for the well-being of all humanity.

PASTORAL COUNCIL DECEMBER UPDATE

Pastoral Council and the Commissions met on Monday, December 14. Council's agenda items included topics relating to the parish census, the parish's strategic plan, our annual fund drive, future presentations to council by parish ministries, financial updates for the parish and the school just to name a few.

We were very pleased to have Mrs. Carolyn Engel make a presentation on behalf of the Monday and Thursday Martha's Groups. Carolyn shared with us that these two groups since 1997 come together each Monday and Thursday to clean the church, the gathering space, related restrooms, the daily chapel, and the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. The Monday group consists of six persons and the Thursday group has eight persons. Both groups spend about two hours each time they meet in an effort to keep our worship space and related spaces spic-n-span. We are truly appreciative of the work these 14 people do to provide us with the cleanest church in town. Carolyn shared that the biggest need these two groups have is some extra volunteers since many of the current members have been giving of their time for years and years and are well into their golden years. If anyone can help even if it is one time a month or on a more regular basis, the Monday group works from 9:30AM to about 11:30AM and the Thursday group meets from 3:30PM to about 5:00PM or so. You do not need to call anyone if interested. Just show up and all the items needed to help will be provided to you. Carolyn also shared that all of us can help their efforts by cleaning up after ourselves after each mass and by placing the weekend mass guides back inside the front cover of the hymnals. A very special word of thank you goes out to Carolyn and all the members of the two Martha's Groups. You are providing a tremendous service to all of us.

Please keep in mind that the St. John the Baptist Annual Fund Drive (AFD) is in full swing. It has come to our attention that an email effort to most of us about the AFD ran into some glitches and will be sent out again. We most definitely need the proceeds from our AFD to help meet our annual budget. We are trying to have the bulk of the AFD accomplished prior to the start of the Archdiocesan annual Catholic Ministries Appeal which begins in the middle of January. Please do whatever you can to support our AFD. All contributions, regardless of amount, are greatly appreciated. Even if you have not received the email or

formal letter, simply make out a check to the AFD and place it in the collection basket.

Terri Reder shared that our census efforts have resulted in 792 parishioners responding to the request to update their parish information. This is wonderful; however, we still have 609 families who have not responded even after several attempts to contact them. If you have not responded please call Terri at the parish office (385-8010). It only takes a few minutes to provide the requested information. We will continue to try to connect with the 609 parishioners.

Pastoral Council membership was reviewed in anticipation of the 2016/2017 meeting cycle. Dave Eby, Gene Culman and Al Grote are completing their terms of office as of July 1, 2016. Dave Eby will be leaving council since he is completing his second term and cannot remain on council due to term limits. Gene and Al are completing their first three year term and can remain on council if they so choose. Both have agreed to remain for another three year term. As a result we are in need of one person to join the pastoral council. If you are interested, please call Fr. Tim (385-8010) or Al Grote (245-9943) to express your interest. We are very thankful to Dave Eby for his two terms of office and all the leadership he provided. You will be missed David.

Sincere words of thanks are in order for our five commissions who give a great deal of time and talent to help all of us move forward in our parish and spiritual lives. In addition to the many topics on each of their plates, each commission is also working on the furtherance of our parish's five year strategic plan. We will be preparing a progress report for you in the near future.

This month permit me to take a moment to highlight the Finance Commission. The Finance Commission advises the pastor, the business manager and the pastoral council on sound fiscal policies to run the parish. They monitor the budget and assist in setting goals and priorities for the growth and maintenance of the parish facilities. The Finance Commission meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00PM in the parish office dining room. If you are interested in serving on this commission please contact Sharon Bachman, Chairperson, at 385-8267. Many thanks to all the members of this commission for all your efforts and support.

Respectfully,
Al Grote, Chairperson