

Community Connection



BEACONS OF LIGHT

Article Submitted by Fr. Bill Wagner, Pastor

Beacons of Light is a multiyear process of pastoral planning for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

Rooted in prayer, groupings of parishes will come together as one faith community. These new Families of Parishes will be stronger together, focused more on mission than on maintenance. In the Families of Parishes we will grow closer to God, follow Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit and radiate Christ in our lives.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

1. **Eucharist:** The Mass is the source and summit of the whole Christian life. Accordingly, the Eucharist is the essential moment for building up and strengthening the parish community, along with the sacraments and other celebrations of the paschal mystery—the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
2. **Church:** Each of us is called to actively participate as a member of a parish, the Universal Church and our local Church, led by our archbishop. Parishes continually deepen the bonds of communication with other parishes.
3. **Leadership:** Pastors, in collaboration with parochial vicars, deacons, and lay ministers, according to their proper roles and charisms, share responsibility for pastoral leadership. The spiritual, physical and mental health and ongoing support of ordained and lay leaders is vital for Families of Parishes.
4. **Stewardship:** Families of Parishes are communities of grateful disciples. Recognizing God's gifts, they use their talents, skills and resources to build up the Church and live as Christ's body in the world.
5. **Evangelization:** As centers of missionary outreach, Families of Parishes find new ways to foster discipleship among all the baptized. Schools, parishes, and indeed the domestic Church itself are centers of this essential work.
6. **Love in Action:** Families of Parishes will be communities of charity and justice, serving those most in need and working to change systems that oppress and marginalize.



"Is Giving a Child a Christian Education Important?"

For believers in Jesus Christ, this answer to this question seems obvious: Emphatically, **"Yes!"**

What does the Bible say?

Judeo Christian history reveals many times where God says: **Remember to teach your children the faith.**

Deuteronomy 6:5-8

*"Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. **Impress them on your children.** Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads."*

Deuteronomy 4:10

*"That day you stood before the Lord, your God, at Horeb, when the Lord said to me: Assemble the people for me, that I may let them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me as long as they live in the land and may **so teach their children.**"*

Proverbs 22:6

We are instructed to **"train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."**

Ephesians 6:4

*In the New Testament St. Paul exhorts parents to **raise children in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord."***

Religious instruction is designed to **plant the child firmly on the foundation upon which our lives are based.**

His or her **purpose** is **NOT** to seek riches, pleasures and fame.

Rather, his or her purpose is to become a **mature Christian** who loves and worships God and serves our neighbors.

As Catholic parents, how we authentically live the faith we proclaim is directly related to our children's dedication to their faith.

Developing our relationship with Christ and understanding all of God's gifts and Will for us is a **learning process and journey that lasts their lifetimes and ours.**

REGISTER NOW FOR PSR IN THE FALL
Parish School of Religion for Public and Home School Grades 1-8

Register BEFORE September 12, 2021, and receive a 20% Discount!

Go to www.sttm.org and download:
PSR REGISTRATION FORMS FOR NEW AND RETURNING STUDENTS

~ Article submitted by Becky Ready, DRE



ALL PARISH VOLUNTEERS NEW CHILD PROTECTION PLATFORM

In July 2021 the archdiocese will be moving to SafeParish as the new platform for Child Protection training and compliance. SafeParish is an organization that specializes in training and education solutions for organizations world-wide. They have 20+ years of experience in providing child safe environment training programs. SafeParish will continue to work with our current background check provider – Selection.com. All training and background information in your current VIRTUS account will be transferred to SafeParish. No new live training through SafeParish will be required if you have completed live child protection training through VIRTUS. Ongoing child protection training will still be required for all volunteers and employees and will consist of quarterly interactive video-based training instead of monthly bulletins. As the archdiocese moves closer to the conversion date, additional information regarding your new SafeParish account will be provided. If you have questions, please contact Linda Caskey, our parish's Safe Environment Coordinator at lcaskey@sttm.org.

HOLY WATER

We have been receiving requests for Holy Water. Since we cannot put the water in the fonts, we will begin blessing water you bring in your own container, after each Mass on the **SECOND SUNDAY** of each month. Just come up to the front of church and a Priest or Deacon will bless the water at that time. The weekends for the blessing are: **this weekend, May 8/9, June 12/13, July 10/11, and August 7/8.**



As I See It

Deacon Michael Thomas,
Pastoral Associate



I don't know about you but, here in the parish, May is a very busy month. Besides all of the usual happenings in a parish our size, we have lots of events that only happen once a year and they happen in this month. In addition, we have all had to deal with the challenges of the pandemic. Our school staff has been outstanding helping the young people deal with all the different things that have happened this past year.

On Sunday, May 2nd we celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation for our eighth grade students. As our young people came up to be confirmed, I couldn't help remember them years ago when they first came to our school and PSR. They are all fine young people. I really feel that we do not tell them this as much as we should.

On May 16th, our little children from the school and the PSR will make their First Holy Communion. Let me tell you, these kids are great! They certainly must be like the little ones Jesus used to talk about. How wonderful it will be to celebrate their First Holy Communion with them and to see them return Sunday after Sunday with their families to the Eucharistic Banquet.

On May 26th our eighth grade students will graduate from our school. They are a tremendous group of young people. Along with them our parish High School Seniors will be graduating from McNicholas, West Clermont and other local High Schools. All of them have strived for excellence in their classes, as well as in other activities. They are well prepared to take their place in many different colleges and universities.

As you see these young people throughout the month take a moment to say hi, and tell them you are proud of them and their accomplishments. Our young people are the greatest resource in the Church. Through them, and the working of the Holy Spirit in their lives, the Kingdom of Jesus will grow beyond all of our dreams. Thanks kids! We are proud of all of you!

NEW PARISHIONERS

Joshua Barnes

Christine McAdams

Broc & Courtney Brill

Lauren & London Flannery

Nolan, Holly & Navy Phelps

Jonathan, Maureen & Liliana Martin

Austin, Xiomara, Addyson & Marcus Grow

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Johnathan Edward, son of Scott & Amy Haynes

Madeline Mary, daughter of Gregory & Susan Darnell

Liliana Rose, daughter of Jonathan & Maureen Martin

Charlee Christine, daughter of Carl & Jessica Climer

