

# St. Susanna Catholic Church

616 Reading Road  
Mason, Ohio 45040

## **Parish Office Hours**

Monday - Friday:  
8:30am - 4:30pm

1st Sunday of the Month:  
8:15am - 12:30pm

Phone: 513-398-3821

Parish Office: ext. 3100

School Office: ext. 3108

After Hours Emergency: ext. 3200

Fax: 513-398-2254

## **Bulletin Deadline**

The deadline for all articles for the Sunday bulletin is Friday afternoon, (9) days before the article appears in the bulletin. Please send items, along with the dates they should run, to [bulletin@stsusanna.org](mailto:bulletin@stsusanna.org) for submission.

[www.stsusanna.org](http://www.stsusanna.org)

## REFLECTING WITH THE PASTOR

### SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER • MAY 8, 2016

What does it mean?

This being Mother's Day weekend, all of us are thinking of our mothers and the impact they have had on making us the men and women we are. It has been eight years since my mother died but not a day goes by that I don't think of her, talk to her and wish she were here. May God bless every mother and give them the strength to be witnesses of love, mercy and generosity to their children.

My Mom and Dad are no longer with me like I would like. But I know, in faith, that I will see them again if I, like them, believe and follow the Lord the best I can. The disciples on this Feast of the Ascension, are seen looking up to the sky as Jesus leaves them to go to His Father. They are astonished and frightened thinking that Jesus will no longer be with them the way they want. For the past few weeks we have been hearing Jesus reassure them, "Do not be afraid. I am and will be with you always." The Easter stories showed Jesus trying to assure his followers that they were really experiencing him and not some illusion. He walked, talked, and ate with them. They came to realize that the one who had died on the cross was now alive. Just as I believe my parents are alive with the Lord. I, we, believe Jesus is alive and with us.

The church is now living a new reality. It is no longer acceptable to stare at the sky and dream of the "good old days", "the way we want things to be" or "the way we want things to be". Like those first disciples, our attention is being redirected from one experience of Jesus to a new one... seeing Jesus in everyone we meet. We cannot stand looking up to heaven. We have work to do. If Jesus' message is to be brought into the world, it is now up to us to do it. Just as mothers pass on life and send their children out into the world to use and share their gifts...Jesus blesses us, assures us and sends us to bring his message of life and love, his message of God's Kingdom to everyone we meet.

*Fr. Bob Farrell*



## FR. CHRIS GEIGER

St. Susanna is proud of Fr. Chris Geiger who will be ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, May 21 at 11:00 in St. Peter in Chains Cathedral. Many of you have supported Fr. Chris with your love and prayers over the years. Join him, and his family, for a Mass of Thanksgiving May 29 at the 11:15 mass here at St. Susanna. A simple reception will follow in the Meyer Center. May God bless Fr. Chris as he begins his ministry to the Church!

## MASS INTENTIONS & WEEKEND PRESIDERS

### Monday, May 9

8:15am Judy Clark

### Tuesday, May 10

8:15am Robert Berold

### Wednesday, May 11

8:15am All the Departed Souls of  
the Devassy Family  
6:00pm George Haas

### Thursday, May 12

8:15am John Bamber

### Friday May 13

8:15am Arlene Markham

### Saturday, May 14

8:15am Leonard Hils  
5:00pm (Fr. Farrell) Fr. Dan Schuh

### Sunday May 15

7:30am (Fr. Bishop) Julia Huesing  
9:00am (Fr. Bishop) Danny Heller  
11:15am (Fr. Farrell) Deceased  
Members of the Wagner  
& Dierkers Family  
6:00pm (Fr. Farrell) LaVerne Stratmann

### Holy Days of Obligation

6:30am, 8:15am, 7:00pm

### Reconciliation

Wednesday at 6:45pm  
Saturday at 4:00pm

### Eucharistic Exposition

Wednesday 6:45 - 9:00pm

### First Friday

After 8:15am Mass Friday to beginning  
of 8:15am Mass Saturday

### Rosary/Devotions

Monday through Saturday at 7:30am



## CALENDAR CHANGE

St. Susanna is pleased to be able to offer our beautiful church to area high schools for their Baccalaureate Masses and graduations. Please be aware there will be no mass, confessions or adoration May 25 due to Bishop Fenwick's High School Baccalaureate Mass and June 1 due to the graduation of St. Susanna's 8th grade. We are proud of all our graduates! Keep them in your prayers.

## PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING OVERSEAS!

Mark Anzer  
Alex Back  
Brandon Florea  
Joseph Patrick Fusco  
Ryan Hale  
Thomas Prieve  
Justin Schuh  
Christian Sornfsen  
Winston Troy  
James Wernke  
Rachelle Wernke  
Shane West  
Ryan Whitaker  
Jim Wykoff  
Michael Zeller



## PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN NEED

Dianne Kunkle  
Mother of Kim Rapien

### Nursery Available

The nursery is available for 9am and 11:15 masses. It is located in the undercroft. Call ext. 3126 or email [nursery@stsusanna.org](mailto:nursery@stsusanna.org) for details.

### Children's Liturgy of the Word

For children in grades K-2 September through May 9:00 and 11:15 Masses  
For details, contact Susan Gravely, [gravelys@stsusanna.org](mailto:gravelys@stsusanna.org)

### Spanish Mass

A Mass in Spanish will be held at 4:00pm on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of every month. For details, contact Karla Eysoldt at ext. 3202.

Misa en español es el segundo y cuarto domingo del mes a las 4:00pm.

### Parish Membership

We joyfully welcome new members of our parish community. Information packets are available at the desk in the Gathering Space.

Please register by calling the Parish Office (513-398-3821), online ([www.stsusanna.org](http://www.stsusanna.org)), or after Mass on the first Sunday of the month in the Parish Office.

### Prayer Requests

If you have people to be prayed for and would like to have them in the bulletin, please email [bulletin@stsusanna.org](mailto:bulletin@stsusanna.org) and we will begin publishing them weekly. Those who have died and whose funerals are at the parish will be added automatically.

### Parish Library

The Library is located in the undercroft of the church. Media can be checked out at any time. Stop by the Parish Office for help.

## WORSHIP

### **Our Catholic Faith**

Are you interested in learning more about our beautiful Catholic Faith and perhaps becoming Catholic?

Are you an Adult Catholic seeking Confirmation?

Then please contact Susan Gravely at ext. 3110 or [gravelys@stsusanna.org](mailto:gravelys@stsusanna.org)

### **Baptism Preparation**

Infants - 6 years:

Please find more information on our website. To schedule, please call Josifina Nine at ext. 3100.

For children over age 6:

Please contact Susan Gravely at [gravelys@stsusanna.org](mailto:gravelys@stsusanna.org)

### **Marriage Preparation**

Please contact the Parish Office no later than six months prior to the date of intended marriage.



## EUCHARISTIC MINISTER TRAINING

Come and be trained for the beautiful ministry of Extraordinary Ministry of Holy Communion!

**Saturday, May 14th 9:30 in the Church.** Teresa & Tim Geiger will lead the training. Please e-mail Susan Hack to register at [hacks@stsusanna.org](mailto:hacks@stsusanna.org).

## 2016 WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS



Happy  
Anniversary

A St. Susanna Parish celebration of five and ten year anniversary markers (beginning with year 25) will take place **Saturday, June 11th, at the 5:00pm mass.** Scrolls will be made available for those celebrating these anniversaries. Couples celebrating these milestone anniversaries should RSVP to Susan Hack at [hacks@stsusanna.org](mailto:hacks@stsusanna.org) by June 3.

On **Saturday, Aug. 27th, at 4:30pm** Archbishop Schnurr will be the celebrant for mass at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral for all parishes in Greater Cincinnati. Invitations to the mass at the Cathedral will be mailed to each couple celebrating 50 years of marriage. **Couples celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary during 2016 should notify the parish by June 10, 2016.** Please e-mail Susan Hack at [hacks@stsusanna.org](mailto:hacks@stsusanna.org) to receive a scroll and/or an invitation to the golden wedding anniversary mass.

## WORSHIPPING WELL! - THE GATHERING RITE PART II

If liturgy is something done by everyone together, then it's clear what we have to do. We have to make the church look like the church, act like the church, sound like the church. We have to congregate to make a congregation. We have to assemble to make an assembly. There are lots of times in life to come in here and pray alone. There are lots of times in life to pray alone wherever you are. But Sunday Mass is not one of those times. Sunday Mass is what we do together. That isn't a theory that will work no matter how we look in here, how we sound, how we act. It isn't a theory; it's practice. The church has to get itself together. If we work at it, all of us, maybe we'll come to a time when we'll walk through the door and, without even thinking about it, head for the empty place closest to the altar. If we work at it, we won't have to imagine that we are one in Christ; we'll act like we are. The room will fill from these seats to those seats to those and only as far out as there are people here. The reason, let's be clear on this, is not that there is some special holiness in getting close to the altar; the reason is that there is the holiness of the church in getting close to one another and doing this deed together. So, maybe we can begin. Come forward when we arrive. And if a row is empty, don't sit on the end protecting it — let us take a place in the middle of that row as if inviting others to sit beside us.

There should be graciousness in our gathering. Kindness and hospitality are not the enemies of peaceful assembling. Smiling, nodding in welcome even to those I do not know by name, greeting others warmly: These are building up the body of Christ. Ushers and sometimes other persons have the task of helping us in these first moments together: a greeting, help with getting to a seat, other hospitable deeds. But ushers only specialize in what we must all do for one another: make it clear that all alike are welcome here. That is why we have to do the best we can to make this place welcoming to all of us, those of us with disabilities, those with young children, those who are elderly. (Part III will continue next week!)

*The texts in this series are reprinted from a book published by Liturgy Training Publications in 1992, now out of print, with copyright held by Gabe Huck.*

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION



**Free to all parishioners!!!** FORMED is a "Netflix" of trustworthy and dynamic Catholic teaching. It offers beautiful opportunities for family conversations, faith-sharing small groups, Bible studies, RCIA, youth ministry, marriage prep and marriage enrichment, sacramental overviews for youth and adults, prayer and devotion, and Catholic films about the lives of the saints. FORMED is a perfect way for you to personally explore the beauty and truth of the Catholic faith, or to be better able to accompany your family and friends who have for whatever reason fallen away from it.

Go to [www.stsusanna.org](http://www.stsusanna.org) and click on Formed, create your personal log-in by using our parish code: **f4e66a**.

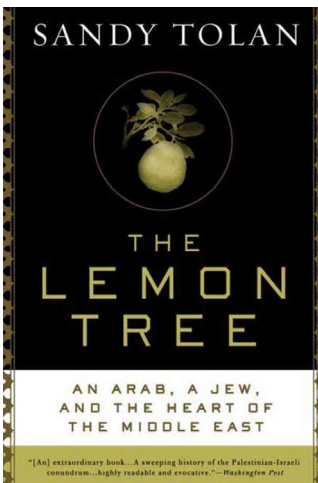


### MAY BOOK CLUB

[The Lemon Tree: An Arab, A Jew & the Heart of the Middle East](#)

Thursday, May 19th at 9:30 AM in the St. Isidore Rm.

Questions? E-mail Susan Hack [hacks@stsusanna.org](mailto:hacks@stsusanna.org)



In 1967, a Palestinian 25 yr. old, journeyed to Israel, with the goal of seeing his former house, with the lemon tree behind it, that he and his family had fled nineteen years earlier. To his surprise, when he found the house he was greeted by a 19 yr. old Israeli college student, whose family fled Europe for Israel following the Holocaust. On the stoop of their shared home, they began a rare friendship, forged in the aftermath of war and tested over the next thirty-five years in ways that neither could imagine on that summer day in 1967. Based on extensive research, and springing from his enormously resonant documentary that aired on NPR's Fresh Air in 1998, Sandy Tolan brings the Israeli-Palestinian conflict down to its most human level, suggesting that even amid the bleakest political realities there exist stories of hope and reconciliation.



### SUBSCRIBE TO MAGNIFICAT!

We are placing orders for bulk subscriptions to Magnificat! Everyday, Magnificat helps you:

[Develop your prayer life](#)

- Morning, evening, and night prayers inspired by the Liturgy of the Hours and adapted to your busy schedule
- First-rate spiritual and biblical essays

[Participate in the Holy Mass](#)

- Readings and prayers of each daily Mass
- Liturgical insights

[Walk on the path of holiness](#)

- Every day, the inspirational life of a saint, providing a model for daily living

[Grow in your spiritual life](#)

- Carefully selected daily meditations drawn from the writings of the Fathers of the Church as well as from recent spiritual masters

[Contemplate inspiring masterpieces](#)

- Full-color reproductions of great works of sacred art, complete with commentary

Register online at [www.stsusanna.org](http://www.stsusanna.org).

Yearly subscription: \$35.00 compared to \$45.00 individual. [Payment and registration due by May 31.](#)

### BABY SHOWER!

*Please donate items for Pregnancy Center East, our Catholic advocate for life!*

Please bring items to the Gathering Space *by May 15th*. Items needed include: Diaper, wipes, baby formula, blankets, bottles, bibs, crib mattresses, car seats, strollers, high chairs, infant seats, large-handled shopping bags, and grocery gift cards!



### YOUNG AT HEART LUNCHEON

Our May luncheon is on *Wednesday May 18th*. Everyone 55 or older is invited for fellowship and a delicious luncheon at the cost of \$12.00. Our speaker this month will be a volunteer from the Warren Co. Parks Dept.

*Deadline for reservations is Friday, May 13th*. No reservations will be accepted after this date. Please call the Parish Office with your reservation or your payment can be placed in the church collection basket on Sunday. Please mark your payment envelope and check for the YAH.

*We continue our food collection for the Schuh Center*. Bring all food donations to the luncheon and a basket will be placed at the top of the stairs. If you have any questions, please call Mary Cox at 513-917-7899.

### SCHUH CENTER NEEDS

#### *Help Beat the Heat!*

With the change in seasons, the hot and humid weather will quickly be upon us. Many in our parish boundaries do not have the luxury of having air conditioning or for that matter even a fan to help battle the summer heat. You can change that by donating new or gently used fans to the Schuh Center. The fans will then be distributed to those in need of one. Fans can be delivered to the Peace and Justice Kiosk in the Gathering Space of church. Direct questions to Mary Jo Burns, ext. 3210 or [burnsmj@stsusanna.org](mailto:burnsmj@stsusanna.org).



#### *Sharing Spring with the Schuh Center*

As you begin to plant your flowers this Spring, think of the St. Susanna Schuh Center. *During the month of May, the Schuh Center would love to be able to give its patrons a potted flower when they come for their monthly shopping trip.*

So... if you have any extra flowers, please consider placing them in small pots and donating them to the Schuh Center. You can bring your donations directly to the Schuh Center during operating hours (T-W-F 9:00-11:00am) or drop them off by the Peace and Justice Kiosk in the Gathering Space of the church. This simple gesture goes a long way in showing respect, kindness and hope to those who are facing challenges at this time in their life. Thank you for your support with this endeavor and bringing a little Spring to those we serve



### WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION PILLOW PROJECT

The Women's Association welcomes all women of the parish to help with a *service project on Tuesday, May 10th at 7:00 PM* in the St. Susanna Room. The group will be stuffing heart shaped pillows that will be donated to breast cancer patients through Christ Hospital. These pillows will provide comfort and cheer to those who are recovering from breast cancer surgery. Ladies are requested to bring needle and thread. For more information, contact :

Fran Kester, 573-0994 or [fkester@cinci.rr.com](mailto:fkester@cinci.rr.com) or  
Jean Robbins, 755-2030 [jeanrobbins27@gmail.com](mailto:jeanrobbins27@gmail.com).

## PARISH GARAGE SALE

*Scheduled for June 24 and 25*

Have you ever wondered what the Women's Association does with the money raised by this annual two-day sale? It is used for special needs for the Parish. A few of the items purchased within the last year include liturgical banners for the Church, lights and remote for the Stations of the Cross, a microphone system for the Meyer Center, and t-shirts for the Children's Choir. Ongoing projects include the Baptismal garments made and embroidered and given to each Baptismal recipient and regular donations to the Schuh Center Food Bank.

Please keep the Parish Garage Sale in mind while you are doing your spring cleanup and set aside all your unneeded and unwanted articles to donate to the sale. Without the generosity of the Parish, the sale cannot be a success.

*Donations will be accepted at the Meyer Center beginning on Saturday, June 18.*

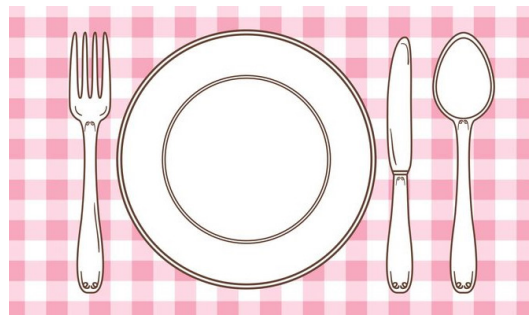
Anything reusable is welcome: Household items, knick knacks, clothing, toys, books, furniture, baby items, tools. Please note that mattresses, refrigerators, freezers, TVs, computers, large exercise equipment, and large office furniture and entertainment centers cannot be accepted. Please contact Christine Phelan at 513-492-7265 or jazzcat1946@aol.com with any questions or to volunteer.



## PARISH COMMUNITY GARDEN

Care for Creation & Participate in Community! Plant a 4x8 raised bed in our community garden. *Enjoy fresh produce! Contribute to Fr. Schuh Center Food Bank!* Plant date for May will be announced.

Cost \$25. Sign up at parish office or contact Barbara Hunt 386-793-7773, bcestari@bellsouth.net



## WOMEN'S ASSOC. SPRING DINNER

The Women's Association will be holding its Spring Dinner on *Monday, May 16th at 7:00pm* in the St. Susanna Room. This event is held to thank the members for their hard work and dedication during the past year. Just bring yourself and enjoy! No cooking is required! Final plans for the June Parish Garage Sale will be discussed. If you will be attending, please RSVP to Fran Kester, 573-0994 or fkester@cinci.rr.com.



*Saturday, May 14, 2016, 9:00am – 1:00pm*

For the Year of Mercy, the Archdiocese is joining with other Christian Communities in serving agencies all over Cincinnati that live out the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. For the last 10 years in May, *an army of volunteers have impacted Cincinnati through various service projects in a one-day, citywide blitz of compassion called GO Cincinnati.*

Join St. Susanna parishioners for this event. Register online at [www.crossroads.net/go-volunteer/cincinnati](http://www.crossroads.net/go-volunteer/cincinnati). Choose the Archdiocese of Cincinnati as the church you are participating with. If you would like to work with the St. Susanna group, when asked which service site you prefer, indicate St. Joseph School—they will be doing landscaping. However, if there is another site that you prefer, please feel free to volunteer for that one. For more information contact April Hoak: [ahoak@cinci.rr.com](mailto:ahoak@cinci.rr.com) or (513) 910-8266 or go to [www.crossroads.net/gocincinnati](http://www.crossroads.net/gocincinnati)

## CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

### **Early Childhood 2015-2016**

Faith formation for 3-, 4-, preK 5-year-olds and kindergartners meets on Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM. For more information, contact Kristen Tell, ext 3135 or [tellk@stsusanna.org](mailto:tellk@stsusanna.org)

### **Preschool**

Weekday Preschool is available for ages 2-5 in the undercroft of church. For more information, contact the Preschool Office, ext 3131 or [baumgardnerc@stsusanna.org](mailto:baumgardnerc@stsusanna.org)

### **CFP**

#### **Grades 1-8 (2015-2016)**

Faith formation for elementary students will be Summer Sessions and Sundays from 10:15 to 11:45 AM and Mondays 6:30 to 7:45 PM. For more information, contact Susan Gravely, ext 3110 or [gravelys@stsusanna.org](mailto:gravelys@stsusanna.org)

### **Saint Susanna School**

The parish school provides a Catholic education for Grades K-8. For more information, contact the School Office, ext 3108 or [cappellap@stsusanna.org](mailto:cappellap@stsusanna.org)

### **Faith Alive**

#### **Grades 6-8 (2015-2016)**

Sundays 4:00pm to 5:45pm in the St. John Bosco Youth Room. For more information, contact Youth Minister Randi Hom, ext 3195 or [homr@stsusanna.org](mailto:homr@stsusanna.org)

### **LIFE**

#### **Grades 9-12 (2015-2016)**

Sundays at 7pm in the St. John Bosco Youth Room. For more information, contact Chip Williamson, 755-2892 or [chameleon@cinci.rr.com](mailto:chameleon@cinci.rr.com)

## REGISTER FOR CFP & EARLY CHILDHOOD 2016-17

Registration for Early Childhood and CFP classes for the 2016-2017 year can be found on the parish web site. *All classes are registered online!*

Families must be registered in the parish to attend Early Childhood or CFP classes. Note: All second graders must register for Sunday morning or Monday evening classes. There is no summer or online Home Study program for second grade.

- In order to begin preparation for *1st Communion*, children must have attended a 1st grade religious education program.
- In order to prepare for *Confirmation*, students must have attended a 7th grade religious education program.

Questions? Contact: Susan Gravely, [gravelys@stsusanna.org](mailto:gravelys@stsusanna.org); ext 3110

## VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Those volunteering with children must fulfill the following requirements:

- must attend a Protecting God's Children seminar provided by VIRTUS
- have a cleared background check of no more than five years old
- must read monthly training bulletins online

*The next seminar at St. Susanna Parish is Wednesday, May 18, at 9:30am.* You must register online to attend - visit [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) to register!

If you have not yet attended a seminar, please contact the parish office before you visit [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) in order to register. We will provide you with a FASTRAX code that will cover the fee for you to complete the process for the background check.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

*Save the Date! This year's Vacation Bible School will be July 18-22.* Registration is on the parish website. Children Age 4 to Grade 5 are invited to attend.

*The VBS Team is seeking volunteers.* There are many tasks of much variety that need your time and talent. Please offer to help.

Contact: Kristen Tell, [tellk@stsusanna.org](mailto:tellk@stsusanna.org), 398-3821 ext 3135



## REGISTER FOR PRESCHOOL NOW!

We have space available in the 2, 3, and 4-year-old classes. There is a waiting list for Pre-K classes. To begin the registration process contact: Chris Baumgardner, [baumgardnerc@stsusanna.org](mailto:baumgardnerc@stsusanna.org), 398-3821 ext 3131



## ST. SUSANNA SCHOOL

**Openings:** We have limited enrollment openings in a few of our grade levels! If you are interested in attending St. Susanna School for the 2016-2017

school year, please call 398-3821 ext 3108 and ask for Pam. She will be glad to give tours to interested families!

## Discover MagnifiKid!

*Every week, MagnifiKid offers*

- All the readings and the prayers of the Mass with explanations of the difficult words and the meaning of the rituals;
- A daily prayer adapted from the Liturgy of the Hours;
- Many suggestions on how to live the entire week with the Lord;
- Various games, a comic, and activities to help children learn about Christian life and culture;
- A page intended for the parents with suggestions for family prayers.

MagnifiKid is for children ages of 6 through 12. *Register online at [www.stsusanna.org](http://www.stsusanna.org).*

## YOUTH MINISTRY

*Calling all high school students for the 2016-2017 school year!* Are you interested in student leadership? We need leaders for the Faith Alive Jr. High Youth Ministry for next year. Applications can be picked up at the Youth Ministry bulletin board or by emailing Randi Hom, [homr@stsusanna.org](mailto:homr@stsusanna.org).



## THIS WEEK...

May 8:  
NO Youth Night (Happy Mother's Day to all the mom's out there!)

May 15:  
Thanksgiving Banquet 4:00 - 5:45pm

## ST. SUSANNA'S 2016 SUMMER VOLLEYBALL CAMP



When?	<i>June 27-July 1, 2016</i>
Where?	St. Susanna School Gym
Who?	Incoming 3rd & 4th graders: 1:30pm - 4:00pm Incoming 5th & 6th grader: 10:00am - 1:00pm
Cost?	\$80.00

The camp is led by St. Susanna's Youth Volleyball. Coordinator and Coach, Linda Pitzer. Linda is a former club volleyball coach, as well as the Junior Varsity Head Coach and a Varsity Assistant Coach at Ursuline Academy for 10 years where they won a State Championship title in 2002. *Go to [www.stsusannatitans.com](http://www.stsusannatitans.com) to register.* Questions? Email Linda Pitzer at [lpitzer@earthlink.net](mailto:lpitzer@earthlink.net) or call her at (513) 515-6895.

## Parish Staff

### Contact 398-3821

Parish Office, ext 3100  
School Office, ext 3108

### Fr. Bob Farrell

Pastor, ext 3101  
farrellr@stsusanna.org

### Fr. Jerome Bishop

Parochial Vicar, ext 3106  
bishopj@stsusanna.org

### Lou Wong

Deacon, ext 3137  
wongl@stsusanna.org

### Chris Baumgardner

Preschool, ext 3131  
baumgardnerc@stsusanna.org

### Karla Eysoldt

Hispanic Ministry, ext 3202  
kaysoldt@catholiccincinnati.org

### Karen Fultz

Business Manager, ext 3121  
fultzk@stsusanna.org

### Susan Gravely

DRE: RCIA & CFP, ext 3110  
gravelys@stsusanna.org

### Susan Hack

CRE School/Adult Formation, ext 3169  
hacks@stsusanna.org

### Kevan Hartman

Principal, ext 3109  
hartmank@stsusanna.org

### Randi Horn

Junior High Youth, ext 3195  
hornr@stsusanna.org

### Judie Kuhlman

High School Youth  
kuhlmanj@stsusanna.org

### Doug Popp

Facilities, ext 3154  
poppd@stsusanna.org

### Kristen Tell

Early Childhood, ext 3135  
tellk@stsusanna.org

### Guy Vanasse

Music & Liturgy, ext 3105  
vanasseg@stsusanna.org

## Organization Contacts

### Boosters

Gina Kelly, 573-9648

### Festival

Parish Office, 398-3821

### Finance Commission

Karen Fultz, 398-3821

### Fish Fry

Scott Kososki, 461-9098

### Health & Wellness

Laura Barbetta, 847-1849

### Knights of Columbus

David Meyer, 262-0287

### Men's Prayer Group

Bill Bross, 518-9594

### Moms Group:

Karissa Cullen, 509-3445

### Natural Family Planning

Tom & Colleen O'Rourke,  
398-3116

### Prayer Network

Kathy Mussman, 777-5981

### PTO

Libby Groskopf, 398-9735

### Risen Life

Roberta Brunck, 777-1476

### School Commission

Tom Mohrhaus, 315-7088

### Schuh Center

Teresa Bolte, 779-8965

### St. Vincent de Paul

John Bennett, 675-3620

### Women's Association

Christine Phelan, 492-7265

### Young at Heart

Dottie Linton, 754-0114

## STEWARDSHIP

May 1, 2016 BUDGET	May 1, 2016 ACTUAL	Over / (Under) Budget
\$66,000	\$56,050	(\$9,950)

Year to Date BUDGET	Year to Date ACTUAL	Over / (Under) Budget
\$2,142,000	\$2,015,229	(\$126,770)



Thank you to the 511 families who have responded with a gift or pledge to the CMA Appeal. Thanks to your wonderful generosity we exceeded our goal! *Your total gifts of \$114,218 represent 105% of our 2016 goal of \$108,404.*

For those still considering a gift for this year, please visit [www.CatholicAppeal.info](http://www.CatholicAppeal.info)

## THE SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

### *Comforting the Sorrowful*

Be open to listening and comforting those who are dealing with grief. Even if we aren't sure of the right words to say, our presence can make a big difference.

- Lend a listening ear to those going through a tough time
- Make a home cooked meal for a friend who is facing a difficult time
- Write a letter or send a card to someone who is suffering
- A few moments of your day may make a lifetime of difference to someone who is going through a difficult time

# Ascension of the Lord

♦ May 8, 2016 ♦

Acts 1:1–11 ♦ Eph 1:17–23 ♦ Lk 24:46–53

In Luke's ascension account from Acts, Jesus admonishes his apostles to stay in Jerusalem and wait for the Spirit because they are witnesses of his mission and message. When the time for his ascension comes, Jesus blesses them, then "was lifted up" (1:9). We don't hear the great commission to go out to, preach to, and baptize all nations as we do in Matthew's Gospel (28:19–20). Instead, Luke's account leaves us with an image of the apostles joyfully returning to Jerusalem: "They were continually in the temple praising God" (24:53).

Returning to Acts, I love that the early disciples' first order of business—even prior to Pentecost—was to gather to pray (1:14). Paul often admonished the early Christians to pray constantly. He knew that prayer grounds us in the Lord and strengthens us to lay down our lives and carry our crosses. Prayer focuses our attention on God's call and our response to it. The apostles' prayer opened them to receive the promised gift of the Spirit and strengthened them for their mission—to let the world know that Jesus is Lord, that the Kingdom of God has come, and that we have been restored through the death and resurrection of Christ.

Thus should our week begin: in praise and worship before God, in gathered prayer. Like the disciples in Jerusalem, the Lord will open our minds "to understand the scriptures" (Luke



24:45). We, too, will be filled with the Spirit and be sent out as joyful witnesses to God's presence and saving work.



## A Word From Pope Francis

*"Do I speak with Jesus, or am I frightened of silence? Do I allow the Holy Spirit to speak in my heart? Do I ask Jesus: what do you want me to do, what do you want from my life?... Speak continually with Jesus, in the good times and in the bad, when you do right, and when you do wrong. Do not fear him! This is prayer."*

—Prayer Vigil with young people at the 28th World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro, July 27, 2013

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