St. Susanna
Catholic Church

a Community of Faith...
a Church in Action!

616 Reading Road
Mason, Ohio 45040

Phone: 513-398-3821
Parish Office: ext. 3100
School Office: ext. 3108
Fax: 513-398-2254

Parish Office Hours
Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 4:30pm

Emergency Phone Number
If you or your family need to contact one of our Parish Priests, please call the Parish Office any time Monday-Friday from 8:30am-4:30pm. However, if your need is urgent and outside of normal business hours, please call 513-398-3821, ext. 3200.

St. Vincent de Paul Helpline
To request assistance, please call our confidential helpline at 513-398-3821, ext. 3500 and leave your name and contact phone number so a St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) volunteer can get in touch with you.

After Hours Adoration
Those wishing to visit the Church for Adoration after regular hours, please contact the Parish Office at 513-398-3821.

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 for submission.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

February 14, 2021
The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lord, If You Wish, Make Me Clean

Most of us until last year, had never been isolated from our dear ones due to health concerns. With the coming of COVID-19, some of us have experienced moments of separation from our dear ones using words like self-quarantine, self-isolation, etc., in order not to infect others or contract COVID-19. This is necessary, but a painful experience. However, this weekend we hear a more disturbing experience in our readings where persons with leprosy (a skin disease) were isolated from the community, not in a humane way like ours today, but isolated from everyone and seen as outcasts. People ended up living in caves, islands, and it was the duty of the priest to declare if the person should be isolated or be re-admitted in the society after his/her skin had cleared. Otherwise, anyone who interacted with such a person would also be declared unclean (Lv 13:1-2, 44-46).

This reading prepares us for Jesus' ministry as we hear in the Gospel (Mk 1:40-45), where He was not afraid to touch a person infected with such deadly disease, that would have made Him also unclean according to people's customs. But in touching this man, Jesus gave him back not only his health, but also restored him back to his family, friends and the whole society. In a way, Christ gave him a vaccine that would protect him from previous and future diseases.

Since healing was part of Jesus' ministry, we know that He entrusted it to His own disciples, sending them to cast out demons, anointing all those who are sick for healing both spiritually and physically (Mt 10:8). Each one of us in a way has some disease that affects our wellbeing. It might be from within your heart such as anger, unforgiveness, lack of trust, lack of faith, lust, selfishness, etc. It could also be a physical illness that affects your own body. In order to heal from such illnesses, we must come to Jesus like this leper and ask Him "If you wish, you can make me clean."

As we prepare for our Lenten season, this is an opportunity for us to embrace the Sacrament of Reconciliation and seek healing. Let us come from our isolation; our comfort zones where we may think that we are living our own lives, and come to Jesus in prayer, fasting and almsgiving which will prepare us to re-unite with God and one another.

Also, whenever you feel weak physically, do not forget to embrace the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. Most of us still consider it as the "Last Rites." Mark 6:13 tells us that those who were anointed got healed and James 5:14-16, remind us to invite the priest for anointing in view of healing and not death. Let us always use this opportunity to invite the priest for anointing when our sick people can still seek for God's mercy and not wait until the last moment. Our prayer should always be "Lord, if You wish, You can make me clean." And He is ready to answer "I do will it. Be made clean." Wishing you a Fruitful Lenten Season.

Fr. Elias

MASS INTENTIONS & WEEKEND PRESIDERS

Monday, February 15
6:00pm* Tudy Abaray

Tuesday, February 16
8:30am* Wilma Rakes

Wednesday, February 17
8:15am Marge Bregan
12:00pm Lorna Morisky
7:00pm Bill Berger

Thursday, February 18
8:15am Jim Wessel

Friday, February 19
8:15am Martha Haas

Saturday, February 20
8:15am Alex Burgess
5:00pm *(Fr. Elias)* Lily Tan - *Special Intention*

Sunday, February 21
7:30am *(Fr. Barry)* Lawrence Staab
9:30am* *(Fr. Elias)* Richard Wischer
11:30am* *(Fr. Barry)* Barbara Ziemiecki

Weekend Mass Times
Saturday at 5:00pm
Sunday at 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am

Mass in Spanish
4:00pm on the 2nd, 4th, & 5th
Sundays of every month

Daily Mass Times
Monday at 6:00pm
Tuesday at 8:30am
Wednesday through Saturday at 8:15am

Reconciliation
Monday after the 6:00pm Mass
Saturday at 9:00am

Holy Hour with Eucharistic Exposition
Monday after the 6:00pm Mass
Benediction at 7:30pm

*Live Streamed Masses:
(www.stsusanna.org/onlinemass)
Mondays at 6:00pm
Tuesdays at 8:30am
Sundays at 9:30am and 11:30am
Spanish Mass at 4:00pm

Celebration Of Baptism
David Gonzalez Cruz
Son of Irasema Cruz Cortez

In Loving Memory
Jane Klare
Wife of Robert Klare

Welcome New Parishioners!
Beck Family
Beitel Family
Blakeman Family
Keefer Family
Schiml Family
Schratz Family
Wellman Family

Prayers for Those in Need
Ray Abaray, Jack Albrinck, Jean Alexander, Julio Argote, Jaxon Aschenbrenner, Sue Back, Florence Bailey, Molly Baker, Rita Bregger, Dan Breniser, Denise Brown, Steve Bruce, Deborah Burkardt, Jean & James Cifuentes, Edward Crick, Darla Dalhover, Filomena DeChellis, Chuck Decker, Lauren Killion Eigner, Lauren Faller, Marcela Farrell, Lorraine Forsythe, Karen French, Jim Gibson, Edna Gilb, Ramona Gordon, Deanna Hamm, Pauline Hammill, Maxine Hefelfinger, Keith Hepp, Bill Horstmann, Elizabeth Huff, Raymond Kissel, Joe Koenig, Janice Koncius, Toni Kuhlman, Denise Landise, Janice Lawson, Jerry Lindsly, Joanne Maggard, Michael McCarty, Mary McLocklin, Lisa Mitchell, Jeanne Mullett, Karen Neff, Angela Orick, Edward Orick, Gabriel Orick, Steven Orick, Bev Oscar, Jeanie Pence, Richard Perez, Christine Phelan, Connie Rave, Mike Reilly, Bill Reynolds, Conner Sands, Leslie Marie Sauer, Becky Schmitz, Doreen Schowalter, Wayne Schowalter, Matt Shawhan, Mary Anne Spanyer, Martha Steigelman, Betty Strzelecki, Marci Tabor, Stephanie Tobiaf, Scott Trapp, Pete Warner, Brian Whitmer, Jennifer Williamson

Prayers for Those Serving Overseas

Alex Back, Joseph Patrick Fusco, Sarah Kaleta, Matthew Kyler Saurine, Zachary Saurine, Justin Schuh, Christian Sorfnsen, Brandon Wesley, Michael Zeller

Sacraments require preparation. Please contact the following for more information:

Baptism
Shayne Reno (ext. 3146)
renos@stsusanna.org

First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion
Kristen Tell (ext. 3135)
tellk@stsusanna.org

Confirmation
Shayne Reno (ext. 3146)
renos@stsusanna.org

Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA)
Joe Schleicher (ext. 3149)
schleicherj@stsusanna.org

Marriage
Cathy Meyer (ext. 3113)
meyerc@stsusanna.org

Holy Orders
Fr. Barry Stechschulte (ext. 3101)
stechschulteb@stsusanna.org

Anointing of the Sick
Sharon Osborne (ext. 3100)
osbornes@stsusanna.org

Parish Membership
We joyfully welcome new members of our parish community. Please register by calling the Parish Office, 513-398-3821, or online: www.stsusanna.org.

Prayer Requests
If you have people to be prayed for and would like to have them in the bulletin, please email bulletin@stsusanna.org and we will begin publishing them weekly.

Things Happening This Week at St. Susanna
If you would like more information about an event listed below, please call the Parish Office at 513-398-3821, ext. 3100.

Monday, February 15
Parish Office and School Closed
CCD: No Classes
7:00pm Christians in Career Transitions (CICT)
7:30pm Spirits with the Saints

Tuesday, February 16
10:00am Adult Faith Group Study:
Consoling the Heart of Jesus

Wednesday, February 17
Ash Wednesday Masses: 8:15am, Noon, 7:00pm
7:00pm Adult Faith Group Study:
Consoling the Heart of Jesus

Thursday, February 18
6:30pm Parish Festival Committee Meeting
6:30pm Immigration Postcard Volunteer Meeting
7:00pm RCIA: *The Virtue of Hope and the Last Things*
7:00pm Church Choir Rehearsal
7:00pm Fish Fry Set-Up

Friday, February 19
6:00am Goetta + Gospel
3:15pm Children's Stations of the Cross
4:30-7:30pm Fish Fry (*Drive-Thru Only*)
8:00pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 20
9:00am Risen Life Prayer Group

Sunday, February 21
Bottles for Babies are Due
10:30am Sunday Café

"By the grace of God go I." This familiar phrase should be a very deep conviction of all believing Christians. But what is the grace of God. As in every spiritual thing, it is harder to explain than to understand. The grace of God is both an objective reality and a subjective relationship. And as such, there are two extremes of misconceiving what grace is. One, that grace is a substance, like little glowing, white puff balls that you receive in varying quantities. This is mistaken because the grace of God is not physical in a material sense. It's not exactly harmful to think of it this way if it helps you grasp the reality of what grace is. However, we can get caught up in the "how much" and miss out on what it does.

Secondly, grace can mistakenly be reduced to a nice feeling, the warmth in your psyche which comforts you. Grace is not a feeling. Grace can cause a good feeling, but it cannot be identified with it. Some say they feel very close to God, yet are far from Him because of sin in their life that they have not recognized and faced up to.

There is something objective about grace. It is a state of your soul. What is called "sanctifying grace" or that which makes you holy, which you received at Baptism, is your fundamental relationship to God. God in His infinite mercy has washed us clean, given us new life, and called us His children, all through the redemptive death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. We have to be aware of this great gift to us and work to preserve and develop this grace. Our conscience, duly informed by the Church and the Scriptures, tells us when we are away from that sanctifying grace, or even cut off from God by a willful act of sin in a serious matter. Mortal sin is death to our souls, and by it, we are separated from God. That relationship must be restored. That's what the Sacrament of Reconciliation is for.

It all goes back on the gift of freedom God has given us as human beings. We have a choice in responding to God's love. In giving us freedom, God took a huge risk, the risk of losing us for all eternity. When we talk about the grace of God, the stakes are very high, yes, even eternal…forever. So, in this light, grace is subjective, this relationship with God is personal. No one can take your place before God. It's all on you.

So, as Lent draws near, and if you haven't done so in a while, examine your conscience and see what is the state of your soul. Don't be deceived by feelings. Don't hide from facing up to the sinful actions in your life that are preventing you from walking in the authentic grace of God. And don't be afraid to inform your conscience as to what actions are or are not pleasing to God. Only then can you truly say "By the grace of God go I."

Fr. Barry

The flowers gracing the Altar this weekend are in honor of
Our Lady of Fatima and all The Holy Angels
from
Adeline & Charlotte Kruschinski

Mass Coordinator Needed!

We have the need for Mass Coordinator for the following Mass:
Saturday, 5:00pm - Week 2

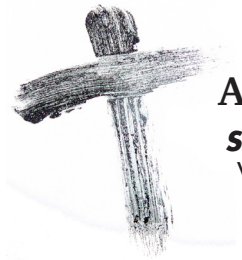
Training will be provided! Mass Coordinators are always needed, both as regularly scheduled volunteers, and to fill in when needed. Volunteers serve on a rotating basis at the Mass they regularly attend. If you are being called to join this vital ministry that serves the worship of the parish, please contact Sharon Osborne at 513-398-3821, ext. 3100 or osbornes@stsusanna.org.

LENT AT ST. SUSANNA

Walk with the Lord

All are invited to join us for Stations of the Cross each Friday of Lent at 3:15pm and 8:00pm in church. The Stations of the Cross are a wonderful way to accompany Jesus on His way to Calvary, reflecting prayerfully on what He suffered to redeem us, using words and images to experience Christ's love for us.

This year, *we have added the 3:15pm time, and encourage parents to attend with their children* after school dismissal... and to pick up dinner from the Fish Fry on the way home!



ASH WEDNESDAY

St. Susanna Mass Times
Wednesday, February 17th
8:15am, Noon, 7:00pm

Our First Parish Fish Fry is February 19th!

4:30-7:30pm Fridays during Lent (February 19th through March 26th)

We will kick off this year's Fish Fry as Drive Thru offering a menu of Freshly Fried Beer Battered Cod, Colossal Shrimp and our Signature Salmon. All meals will come with French Fries, Cole Slaw and Green Beans. A large container of Mac & Cheese and Whole Pizzas are available as well. Entrance to the drive thru is off 4th Street by the school gym. Come check it out!

NEW!!! ORDER AHEAD online at www.stsusanna.org/fishfry.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Please visit www.stsusanna.org/fishfry to sign up. Great opportunity for volunteer hours!

The Schuh Center Is Collecting Donations

Donations are needed to help provide Easter baskets to families that are less fortunate. Items that are needed include:

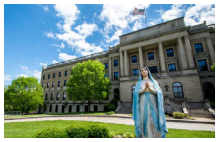
- Completed Easter Basket that individual/family puts together
- Premade Easter Baskets that can be purchased at the store
- Baskets
- Individually Wrapped Candy - Peeps, Tootsie Rolls, Suckers, Chocolate Bunnies, Chocolate Candy (i.e. Hershey's Kisses, assorted Mini Chocolate Bars, etc.)
- Assorted Small Toys - Jump Ropes, Bubbles, Kites, Sidewalk Chalk, Frisbees, Play-Doh, Coloring Book and Crayons, Bouncy Balls, Miniature Stuffed Bunnies

If you are able to provide any of these items, please drop them off at the Peace and Justice Kiosk in the Gathering Space *by March 7th*.

On Wednesday, March 10th at 11:00am, parishioners are invited to come to the Schuh Center to help assemble the Easter Baskets. *To volunteer, please register at* www.stsusanna.org/schuhcenter. In order to keep our community safe, volunteers will need to wear a mask. Baskets will be available to hand out to Schuh Center patrons from March 15th to April 2nd.

Lenten Parish Retreats for Adults

Going on retreat is one of the best things you can do for your spiritual and mental health. To take a few days of quiet and pray, listening to a retreat leader and reflecting on the Scriptures in a peaceful atmosphere away from home, can be just the thing to balance a life on the go. We all need the spiritual rejuvenation that only a retreat can provide. So why not do something different this Lent and sign up for the St. Susanna Parish Retreat? (All COVID-19 protocols will be followed.)



Women's Retreat: "Finding our Spirituality"
Join us Friday, February 26th at 6:00pm (dinner included) through Saturday, February 27th (breakfast and lunch included) at the Holy Spirit Center. The women's retreat will be led by author and speaker Jeanne Hunt. There will also be Mass, meditation, small group discussion, and time to explore the beautiful grounds.

To register: Make a check out to "St. Susanna Parish" for $90 and on the memo line put: "Holy Spirit Center Retreat." Mail or drop off the check to the St. Susanna Parish Office, 616 Reading Road, Mason, OH 45040. First consideration will be given to members of St Susanna Parish, others will be on a wait list. For any further information, please contact Miriam Jackobs at m.jackobs@gmail.com.

Men's Retreat: "The Life of Grace"
Join us Friday and Saturday, March 19th-20th, at the Jesuit Spiritual Center. The men's retreat will be led by Father Barry Stechschulte. There will be time for Mass, personal prayer and reflection in silence, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and sharing with other retreatants. Please contact Don Frericks, don@donfrericks.com, with questions regarding the men's retreat and to register.

DISCIPLES IN ACTION

Being Pro-Life

Each month an important respect life topic is covered by an engaging interview with someone personally affected by the issue. You can find each *Being Pro-Life* column in *The Catholic Telegraph*, but you need to go online to watch the video or listen to the podcast. Check out the link: catholiccincinnati.org/Being-Pro-Life.

Looking for a job? Know someone who is?

Christians in Career Transition ("CICT") helps current or soon-to-be job seekers with planning their job search, creating a resume, leveraging their network, and preparing for interviews.

Our next meeting is Monday, February 15th. This ministry meets the *first and third Monday of each month from 7:00-8:30pm* in the St. Isidore and St. Susanna Rooms located in the Undercroft (entrance is to the left of the main church entrance and just to the right of the Parish office entrance). We will be following social distancing guidelines, so please wear a mask.

While not required, if you are able, please let us know you are coming and RSVP online at www.stsusanna.org/cict.

It's Not Too Late to Order an Engraved Brick!

The St. Susanna Knights of Columbus, St. Susanna Boosters, and St. Susanna Parish have teamed up to raise money to pave the area around the Blessed Mother Shrine behind the church. Honor a loved one or your family with a special engraved brick. For more details and an order form, please see the display in the Gathering Space or visit www.stsusanna.org/brickorders. The new deadline for orders is March 1, 2021. For questions, please contact George Denman at 513-939-9022, or Dana Clendenin at 513-312-5920.

Women's Association Update

The Board of the Women's Association has decided to put off the February 24th service project until a later date in spring after people have had an opportunity to be vaccinated against COVID-19. A wonderful program is still planned for the Day of Prayer on March 20th. And, yes, we still hope to have the Garage Sale. Let us all pray for sick of the parish and a fruitful Lent.

CCM is Coming to a Close

After several years of service to the community, the Charitable Computing Ministry (CCM) of St. Susanna Parish of Mason has announced it has terminated its operations of accepting used computers and refurbishing them for use by local charities for use as they choose, even to share with their patrons. Our decision considered the adverse effects of COVID-19 on the charity community and their ability to interact with patrons in the use of the computer. Thank you for the support you have offered this ministry over the past three years!

Recognizing that CCM provided a valued service, we have *a list of some alternative groups* that may be accepting donated computers at www.stsusanna.org/charitablecomputingministry.

Bicycles Donated to Fr. Elias' Home Parish

The FON Twinning Ministry timed Fr. Elias' visit to Uganda with the distribution of 20 bicycles to the catechists of Our Lady of Perpetual Help (OLPH) parish. These bicycles were purchased with donations that St. Susanna parishioners gave to this ministry.

While in Uganda, the Archbishop and Fr. Elias presided over a special Mass after which the bicycles were presented to the catechists. The catechists were also presented with letters that the FON Committee wrote introducing themselves. The goal of this ministry is to build both relationship and to help fund special projects identified by OLPH that would benefit their community. A video of that day can be found on the St. Susanna YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/c/StSusanna.

STEWARDSHIP

February 7, 2021 BUDGET	*February 7, 2021* ACTUAL	*February 7, 2021* OVER / (UNDER)	*Fiscal Year to Date* BUDGET	*Fiscal Year to Date* ACTUAL	*Fiscal Year to Date* OVER / (UNDER)
$33,000	$41,000	**$8,000**	$1,277,000	$1,189,000	**($88,000)**

This Week, from the St. Susanna Vincentians...

In the Gospel today, Jesus, moved with pity, touched the leper and healed him. Let us pray today for the grace to be generous with our gifts to help those who are suffering. By your gift to the Society of St. Vincent dePaul, you indeed put your faith into action as you bring healing to the poor, hungry and weeping.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Respect Life Corner

What is Project Rachel? It is a confidential ministry of the Catholic Church that offers hope and healing for women (and men) in pain from past abortions.

Project Rachel takes both its name and mission from the Old Testament passage of "Rachel Weeping" (cf Jer 31:15-17) – Rachel weeping for her children "who are no more." In the Scripture passage, the weeping Rachel encounters the merciful love of God who wipes the tears from her eyes and offers her the promise of hope for her future. Today, through the Church's Project Rachel ministry, God's tender love and mercy is offered to those experiencing post-abortion pain, regret and grief.

For the **Confidential** Helpline, call (513) 784-0531 or email: hopeandhealingcinci@gmail.com.

Day of Reflection for others affected by an Abortion Experience
February 20, 2021 – Cincinnati
To register contact the helpline or e-mail address listed above

USCCB Word of Life: "We pray for the sick, especially those nearing life's end: May they be cared for with tenderness and compassion as they prepare to enter eternal life. Amen."

Join us for Sunday Cafe!

We meet every *Sunday after the 9:30am Mass in the St. Isidore Room*. Adults come join us for coffee, discussion, friends and faith sharing! No fee or registration needed.

Current topics:
Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Lively Virtues - Pride, envy, anger, sloth, gluttony, avarice, and lust are all patterns of dysfunction within us that lead to unhappiness. Bishop Barron explains the nature of these sins and offers a corresponding virtue for each one, giving practical advice on how to instill this virtue in your own life.

Conversion: Following the Call of Christ - Explore six Bible stories of Conversion with Bishop Barron. The goal of the Christian life is to grow in loving relationship to Christ, becoming more like Him. The example of these Bible figures inspire and challenge us to follow the Call of Christ and grow closer to Him.

2020 St. Susanna Giving Statements

If you plan on writing off your 2020 contributions to St. Susanna for tax purposes, you will need a Giving Statement. In effort to save on printing and mailing costs, we are encouraging our contributors to simply download their statement. If you have already retrieved your annual statement, please verify it matches the official finalized statement that is available now.

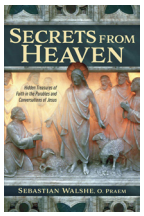
Please visit www.stsusanna.org/givingstatements and follow the simple steps to print or download your Giving Statement. Cathy Meyer at meyerc@stsusanna.org or 513-398-3821, ext. 3113 is happy to help you and answer any questions you may have.

Spirits with the Saints

The next night of culture, faith and encouragement for young dads (25-50) of St. Susanna will take place on *Monday, February 15th at 7:30pm* in the St. Susanna Room with a Mardi Gras theme! We will have a *rum tasting* (three varieties will be provided) and Graeter's Cherry Chocolate Chip *ice cream* (along with a video on how it's made). We will also have a conversation about *St. Valentine* and *how to show authentic love*. BYOB if you wish. Social distancing will be observed.

To RSVP, please visit www.stsusanna.org/dadsgroup or call Sharon Osborne at 513-398-3821, ext. 3100.

The Women's Monthly Book Study is Starting a New Book!



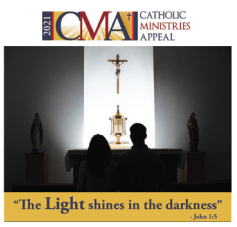
Ladies, please join us for a casual book discussion on the first Saturday of each month beginning at 9:00am and finishing up at 10:00am. Come when you can - the only cost is to buy the book!

*Current Book: Secrets from Heaven - Hidden Treasures of Faith in the Parables and Conversations of Jesus** by Fr. Sebastian Walshe

Our next meeting will be Saturday, March 6th in the St. Jerome Room. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Stefl at barbara.stefl@gmail.com. Please RSVP so we know how many are coming, by visiting **www.stsusanna.org/adultfaith**.

**From the Publisher: In Secrets from Heaven, Fr. Sebastian Walshe helps you break free from stale and familiar takes on the Gospel, giving you new eyes to see and new ears to hear the inexhaustible depths of Christ's wisdom. The Parable of the Sowers, the Good Samaritan, the Prodigal Son, the woman caught in adultery - all these and more come alive in fresh ways, revealing significant details and nuances, scriptural/historical connections, and testaments to Christ's rhetorical and pedagogical genius that you've never noted before. You'll marvel at Jesus' skill as an evangelist; but more importantly, you'll be powerfully moved to faith and love just as those who heard Him in person long ago.*

This weekend is CMA Commitment Weekend



This weekend (February 13th/14th) is Commitment Weekend for the 2021 Catholic Ministries Appeal. Please join with Catholics in every parish throughout our archdiocese who are standing with local, Catholic ministries serving people right here in our communities. These ministries depend on our help each year!

Pledge cards can be found in the Gathering Space for your convenience this weekend. If you have already responded by mail or online, or if you brought your completed pledge card to place in the offertory today, thank you! To make a gift online, visit www.AOCstewardship.org.

YOUTH

Nursery
Sundays at 9:30am and 11:30am
Email nursery@stsusanna.org or call ext. 3126 or for details

Sunday School (Ages 3 - Kdg)
Sundays at 9:30am
Lauren Zinnecker (ext. 3400)
zinneckerl@stsusanna.org

CCD (Grades 1-8)
Sundays 10:35-11:20am
Mondays 6:45-7:30pm
Joe Schleicher (ext. 3169)
schleicherj@stsusanna.org

Faith Alive (Grades 6-8)
Chloé Fasano (ext. 3110)
fasanoc@stsusanna.org

LIFE (Grades 9-12)
Chloé Fasano (ext. 3110)
fasanoc@stsusanna.org

Preschool (Ages 2-5)
Weekdays in the Undercroft
Joette Ewing (ext. 3131)
ewingj@stsusanna.org

St. Susanna School (Grades K-8)
Celeste Griffin, School Secretary
(513) 398-3821 ext. 3108

2021-22 Preschool Registration is Here!

If you are looking for a nurturing environment for your little one with a variety of opportunities to learn & play all while discovering God's wonderful world, St. Susanna Preschool is the place for you! *Registration for our current preschool families AND new families in the community is going on now!* We offer 2s thru Pre-K morning & afternoon sessions. A registration fee of $150 per child ($200 per family) will secure your little one's spot for next school year. Classes fill up quickly, so please enroll early to ensure your class preference this fall! If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tour to see first-hand what being a student at St. Susanna Preschool is all about, please contact Joette Ewing at 513-398-3821, ext. 3131 or ewingj@stsusanna.org.

A Church in Action

In the Fall, Coach Burns 6th Grade Girl's Volleyball Team donated birthday bags to the Schuh Center!

If you would like to share any photos to be featured in future bulletins, please email them with a description to Teresa Johns at johnst@stsusanna.org.

PTO 365-Day Raffle Winners

1/24	Cy Overbeck	$100
1/25	TJ Wells	$40
1/26	Arszman Family	$40
1/27	Suzanne Nemeth	$40
1/28	Carmie Maloney	$40
1/29	Lea Moser	$40
1/30	Cindy Smigels	$40

Parenting Programs

Do you feel like your kids are out of control or maybe you just need a little guidance on fine tuning your parenting skills? Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio offers Parenting Programs that can help you in either area. Some classes are only offered two or three times a year and others run all year round. Call 513-867-7072 or email pbolden@ccswoh.org to let us help you pick which class best fits your personal needs.

Boosters News

Registration is now open for Spring Track! Boys and Girls in grades K-8 are eligible to participate. Register at: www.stsusannatitans.com. If you have questions or need additional information, visit our website or reach out to our Track Coordinator Mike Melchers at mikemelchers@gmail.com.

The Booster Ministry has several position openings for the 2021 school year! Please consider volunteering your time and talents to this Parish ministry! We are seeking volunteers for open Coordinator and Booster Board positions. This is a great way to volunteer within the Parish and meet new people. Each of these positions plays an important role in the overall success of the Booster program. We have a dedicated group of volunteers that are willing to support and mentor interested individuals. Please review the open positions below and reach out to Dana Clendenin, Booster President at: dana.clendenin@yahoo.com if you are interested in learning more! For a detailed description of each position, visit our website at www.stsusannatitans.com.

- *Open Coordinator Positions:* Girls Volleyball Co-Coordinator (1 of 2), Boys Youth Basketball Coordinator, Football Co-Coordinator (1 of 3), Indoor Concessions Coordinator
- *Open Board Positions:* Vice-President, Treasurer, Facilities Director
- *Coaches (Seeking Parent and Non-parent Coaches):* Varsity Head Football Coach (7th and 8th grade), Assistant Football Coaches (all grade levels), Golf Team (A and B Team Coaches), Girls Volleyball Coaches

FAITH & FAMILY

What is Lent?

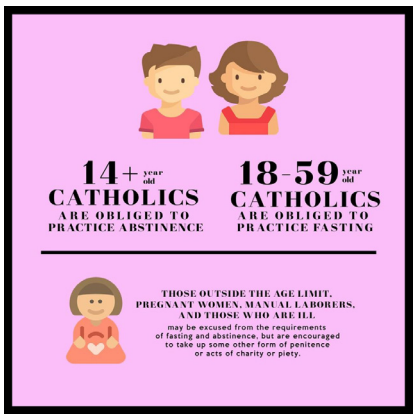
On Wednesday, Catholics around the world begin a 40-day spiritual journey known as Lent. This journey will lead them to the greatest celebration: Easter. Easter celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus, His victory over evil and death. When a celebration approaches, it is normal to prepare your house – your heart – to be ready for it. This is the purpose of Lent.

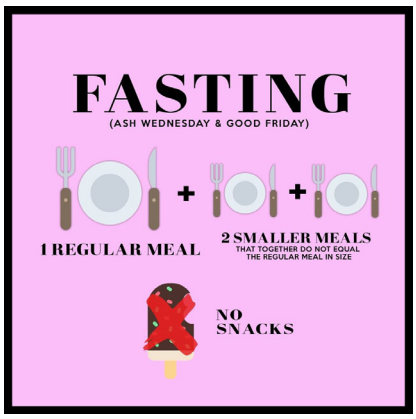
Lent is not a sad and long period. These 40 days are to bring us closer to God with prayer, fasting, and sharing. It takes effort, and even though it is not always easy, the Lord asks us to do it happily, heart to heart with Him! If there are days that seem too hard, ask for His help!

Ash Wednesday & Fasting

Ash Wednesday is a special day that can be marked by fasting. It is a way to enter the simplicity of Lent. This allows the Word of God, which is more important and strengthening than anything else, to echo in us. At Mass, listen as the priest says, "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel," or "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return."

Enter this Season with joy in our hearts. Jesus is with us! He dwells in us, and His Spirit gives us strength and peace we need to begin our Lenten journey. May this time lead us to find the meaning of life, our lives as children of God, who have been saved from death and sin by the goodness of God.





My small steps toward Easter through prayer...

Every day, I will get into the habit of thinking about Jesus. I will think about Him throughout the whole day: when I wake up, when I sit down to eat, when I go to school or work, when I get home, when I go to bed. I just need to turn to Him in my heart and say: "I love You, Jesus; I invite You into my heart and life, today and always."

MASS CARD: February 14th - The 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

What Mass did you attend this week?

☐ *Saturday, 5:00pm* ☐ *Sunday, 7:30am* ☐ *Sunday, 9:30am* ☐ *Sunday, 11:30am* ☐ *Other:* _____

What color were the priest's vestments? _____

What was one new insight the homily gave you? _____

_____

Was there something special you noticed at Mass today? _____

_____

Student Name: _____ Teacher Name: _____

Each student should fill out his/her own Mass Card and turn it in during religion class (St. Susanna School), CCD class (Parish children), or the box in the Our Lady of Guadalupe Room (Homestudy).

BOLETÍN AVISOS EN ESPAÑOL

Servicios en Español

Misa: 2do., 4to. y 5to. Domingo del Mes 4:00 PM

Confesiones: 1er. Sábado del Mes 9:00 AM
1er. Miércoles del Mes 7:30 PM

Clases pre-bautismales: 1er. Sábado del Mes 10:00 AM

Rezo del Santo Rosario (ZOOM):
Todos los Martes 7:30 PM
ZOOM ID 591 598 021 Password: 45040

Horario de la Oficina (Español)
Lunes, Miércoles y Jueves 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Tel. Ministerio Hispano 513-398-3821 ext. 3202 (Deje mensaje)
Es indispensable registrarse en la Parroquia para todos los sacramentos o cualquier trámite que desee realizar.

Adoración Perpetua

Gracias a todos los que se han comprometido a dedicar semanalmente una Hora Santa de Adoración en la recién restaurada Capilla del Santísimo Sacramento. Su oración ante nuestro Señor Jesús es un recurso indispensable y una fuente de gracia para nuestra parroquia.

Hemos cubierto el 51% de las horas de la semana. Durante el día suele haber varias personas en la capilla en oración. ¡Es impresionante!

Todavía tenemos varias horas libres en la madrugada, entre la media noche y las 5:00 am. Aquí es donde tienes que ver en lo más profundo de tu alma y escuchar a Cristo llamándote a estar con él a solas cada semana. Estas son las horas privilegiadas para estar con Jesús en Su vigilia silenciosa por la noche. ¿Podrías ofrecerle una hora como esta cada semana a nuestro Salvador? Inscríbete en el formulario que está afuera de la Capilla o por internet www.stsusanna.org/perpetualadoration.

Estamos tratando de cubrir cada hora de la semana; pero no dudes en inscribirse durante cualquier hora, incluso si otra persona ya lo ha hecho. Múltiples adoradores son bienvenidos para asegurar que la hora esté cubierta si alguien no puede venir ese día.

Sigamos orando fervientemente por nuestro país, nuestra iglesia, nuestra parroquia y nuestras familias en estos tiempos difíciles.

Oh, Santísimo Sacramento, Oh Sacramento Divino, ¡toda alabanza y toda acción de gracias son Tuyos a cada momento!

"Por la gracia de Dios yo voy". Esta frase familiar debe ser una convicción muy profunda de todos los cristianos creyentes. Pero cuál es la gracia de Dios. Como en todo asunto espiritual, es difícil de explicar para ser entendido. La gracia de Dios es a la vez una realidad objetiva y una relación subjetiva. Y como tal hay dos extremos que confunden lo que es la gracia. Una, esa gracia es una sustancia, como pequeñas bolas blancas y brillantes que recibes en cantidades variables. Esto está equivocado, porque la gracia de Dios no es física en un sentido material. No es exactamente perjudicial pensar en ello porque de esta manera te ayuda a comprender la realidad de lo que es la gracia. Sin embargo, podemos quedar atrapados en el "cuánto" y perdernos lo que es.

En segundo lugar, la gracia puede reducirse erróneamente a una sensación agradable, el calor en tu psique que te consuela. La gracia no es un sentimiento. La gracia puede causar un buen sentimiento, pero no se puede identificar con eso. Algunos dicen que se sienten muy cerca de Dios, pero están lejos de El debido al pecado que no han reconocido y enfrentado en su vida.

Hay algo objetivo acerca de la gracia. Es un estado de tu alma. Lo que se llama "gracia santificadora" o lo que nos hace santos, la cual fue recibida en el bautismo, es tu relación fundamental con Dios. Dios en Su infinita misericordia nos ha limpiado, nos ha dado vida nueva y nos ha llamado Sus hijos, todo a través de la muerte redentora y la resurrección de Jesucristo. Tenemos que ser conscientes de este gran don para nosotros y trabajar para preservar y desarrollar esta gracia. Nuestra conciencia, debidamente informada por la Iglesia y las Escrituras, nos dice que, cuando estamos lejos de esa gracia santificadora, o incluso aislados de Dios por un acto intencional de pecado es un asunto grave. El pecado mortal es la muerte para nuestras almas y por ello somos separados de Dios. Esa relación debe ser restaurada. Para eso es el Sacramento de la Reconciliación.

Todo se remonta al don de la libertad que Dios nos ha dado como seres humanos. Tenemos la opción de responder al amor de Dios. Al darnos libertad, Dios asumió un gran riesgo, el riesgo de perdernos por toda la eternidad. Cuando hablamos de la gracia de Dios, las estacas son muy altas, sí, incluso eternas... para siempre. Así que, en esta luz, la gracia es subjetiva, esta relación con Dios es personal. Nadie puede tomar tu lugar ante Dios. Todo depende de ti.

Así que, a medida que se acerca la Cuaresma, y si no lo has hecho por mucho tiempo, examina tu conciencia y ve cuál es el estado de tu alma. No te dejes engañar por los sentimientos. No te escondas de enfrentar las acciones pecaminosas de tu vida que te impiden caminar en la auténtica gracia de Dios. Y no tengas miedo de informar a tu conciencia de como son tus acciones o lo que no agrada a Dios. Solo entonces, puedes verdaderamente decir "Por la gracia de Dios yo voy".

Fr. Barry

Señor, Si Quieres, Puedes Purificarme

La mayoría de nosotros, hasta el año pasado, nunca nos habíamos aislado de nuestros seres queridos debido a preocupaciones de salud.

Con la llegada del COVID 19, algunos de nosotros hemos experimentado momentos de separación de nuestros seres queridos usando palabras como auto cuarentena, auto aislamiento, etc., para no infectar a otros o contraer COVID 19. Esta es una experiencia dolorosa pero necesaria. Sin embargo, este fin de semana escuchamos una experiencia más inquietante en nuestras lecturas donde las personas con lepra (una enfermedad de la piel) fueron aisladas de la comunidad no de una manera humana como la nuestra hoy, sino aisladas de todos y vistas como marginadas. La gente acababa viviendo en cuevas, islas y era el deber del sacerdote declarar si la persona debía ser aislada o readmitida en la sociedad después de que su piel hubiera sanado. De lo contrario, cualquier persona que interactuara con dicha persona también sería declarada impura (Lv 13: 1-2, 44-46).

Esta lectura nos prepara para el ministerio de Jesús como escuchamos en el evangelio (Mc 1: 40-45), donde Él no tenía miedo de tocar a una persona infectada con una enfermedad tan mortal como esa, que lo habría hecho también impuro según las costumbres de la gente. Pero al tocar a este hombre, Jesús no le devolvió sólo su salud, sino que también lo devolvió a su familia, amigos y a toda la sociedad. En cierto sentido, Cristo le dio una vacuna que lo protegería de enfermedades pasadas y futuras. Dado que la sanación era parte del ministerio de Jesús, sabemos que Él la confió a sus propios discípulos, enviándolos a echar fuera demonios, ungiendo a todos los que estaban enfermos para sanarlos espiritual y físicamente (Mt 10: 8). Cada uno de nosotros de alguna manera tiene alguna enfermedad que afecta nuestro bienestar. Puede estar dentro del corazón, como ira, falta de perdón, falta de confianza, falta de fe, lujuria, egoísmo, etc. También podría ser una enfermedad física que afecta el propio cuerpo. Para curarnos de tales enfermedades, debemos acercarnos a Jesús como este leproso y preguntarle: "Si quieres, puedes purificarme."

Mientras nos preparamos para nuestra temporada de Cuaresma, esta es una oportunidad para obtener el sacramento de reconciliación y buscar sanación. Salgamos de nuestro aislamiento; de nuestras zonas de confort donde pensamos que estamos viviendo nuestras propias vidas y vayamos a Jesús en oración, ayuno y limosna que nos preparará para volver a unirnos con Dios y unos con otros.

Además, siempre que te sientas débil físicamente, no olvides de aprovechar el Sacramento de la unción de los enfermos. La mayoría de nosotros todavía lo consideramos como uno de los "últimos ritos". Marcos 6:13 nos dice que aquellos que fueron ungidos fueron sanados y Santiago 5: 14-16, nos recuerda que debemos invitar al sacerdote a ungirnos y verlo de manera de curación y no de muerte. Aprovechemos esta oportunidad para invitar al sacerdote a ungir cuando nuestros enfermos todavía pueden buscar la misericordia de Dios y no esperar hasta el último momento. Nuestra oración debe ser siempre "Señor, si quieres, puedes purificarme". Y Él está listo para responder "Lo haré. Queda limpio". Deseándoles una fructífera temporada de Cuaresma.

P. Elías

¡Biberones para Bebés!

Santa Susana se compromete a salvar a los bebés no nacidos. Estamos organizando un recaudador de fondos, ¡Biberones para Bebés! y beneficiará las obras de Elizabeth's New Life Center. Para participar favor de recoger un Biberón en la Sala de Reunión y llénelo con monedas, dinero en efectivo, o cheques.Devuelva las botellas antes del 21 de febrero. También puede donar por internet en weblink.donorperfect.com/enlc_bfb_st_susanna. Para más información comuníquese con Chloé Fasano (513) 398-3821, ext. 3110 o fasanoc@stsusanna.org.

Proyecto Extendiendo Tarjetas Postales a Encarcelados por ICE

Santa Susanna se ha unido con la Oficina de Acción Social Católica de la Arquidiócesis para enviar tarjeteas postales a los encarcelados por ICE en la cárcel del condado de Butler. El objetivo de enviar una tarjeta postal es para que estas personas sepan que no se les olvida, que se les ama y que se ora por ellas. Sta. Susanna se ha comprometido a enviar un mínimo de 10 tarjetas postales al mes. Se proporcionan todos los materiales: tarjetas postales, nombres de personas y notas sugeridas con traducciones en español, francés y swahili. Para obtener más información o si estaría interesado en proporcionar uno o dos meses para escribir tarjetas postales, favor de comunicarse con Mary Jo Burns, burnsmj@stsusanna.org o Alderey Mendoza, aldereym@gmail.com.

¿Necesita Ayuda?

• Si usted o alguien que conozca está pasando por ***tiempos difíciles y necesita ayuda de despensa, ropa o monetaria, o necesita clases de Inglés Gratis*** o tiene alguna necesidad en especial, por favor llame al Ministerio Hispano. (513) 398-3821 ext. 3202

• ***¿Conoce a alguien a quien el Alcohol y las Drogas Representan Problemas en su Vida?***
Contacte al grupo Nuevo Despertar 513-551-3103,
línea de ayuda en Español en caso de crisis 708-261-2974.
Trabajamos con el paciente y la Familia ayudando en las debilidades humanas, alcoholismo, drogadicción, depresión, etc.

• ***Grupo de apoyo para Sobrevivientes de Violencia Doméstica***
Grupo de Apoyo por ZOOM Todos los Jueves de 3:00 - 4:00pm personas interesadas comunicarse con Anita al 513-977-5542
Teléfono en caso de crisis 513-381-5610

Our Parish COMMUNITY

February 14, 2021
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
Lv 13:1–2, 44–46
1 Cor 10:31—11:1
Mk 1:40–45

Jesus Embraces the Culturally Marginalized

Today's readings are about forced quarantine. On one level they are about diseases that might be contagious. On another level they are about ritual impurity that was contagious. The Israelites believed that to stand before God in worship, one's body had to be physically intact—no fractures or missing body parts, no open wounds, no oozing body fluids. Skin lesions like those associated with leprosy made one ritually unclean or impure. Furthermore, to touch one with such a disease was to become unclean oneself. The ritual impurity was considered contagious, not necessarily the disease. Unclean people were socially and religiously ostracized.

In the Gospel story, Jesus completely neutralized this practice. Touching the leprous and thus unclean man, Jesus not only didn't become unclean himself, but he actually made the man clean again. The issue here is not merely one of healing. It is a matter of reincorporating the marginalized man into society.

Unfortunately, out of fear or a sense of superiority, some people ostracize or marginalize entire groups of people. This bias might be based on gender, race, culture, sexual preference—almost anything. In this way the benefits of society are denied to those who are marginalized. One characteristic of Jesus, obvious throughout the Gospel stories, is his all-inclusiveness. Jesus rejected no one. He was open to those who society ostracized. He interacted graciously with people with diseases, non-Jews, recognized public sinners, and those working with the Roman occupiers—all people considered ritually unclean. As his disciples, can we do less?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- *Which groups of people does society tend to ostracize or marginalize?*
- *What might be done to reverse this bias?*

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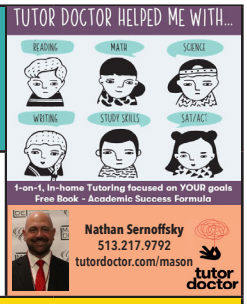

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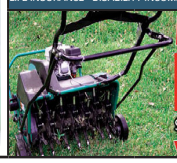

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