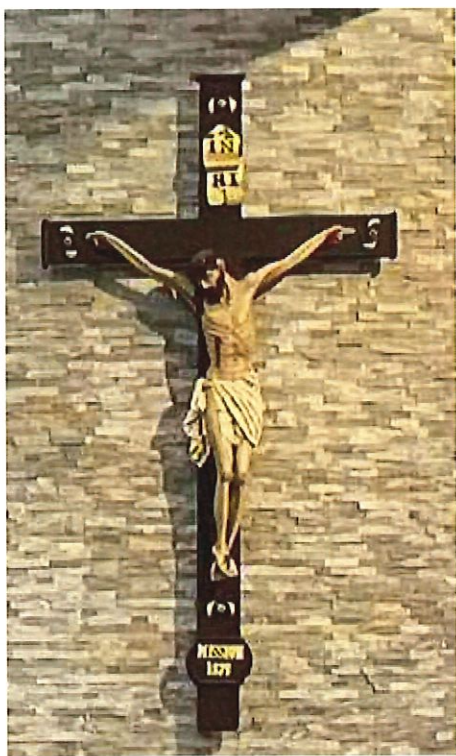


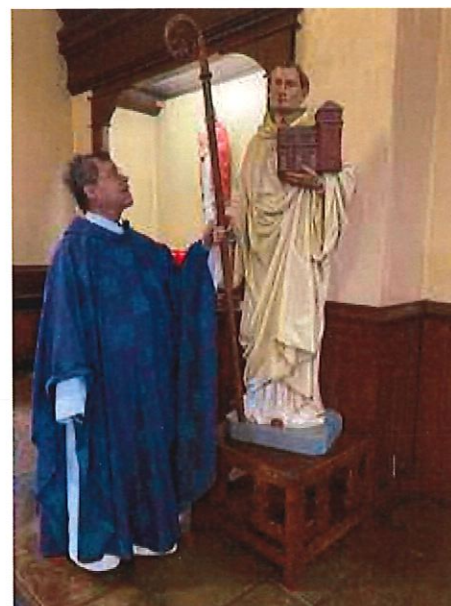
Mary Queen of Heaven Family of Parishes Vision Statement:

“Led by the Holy Spirit and made one through the gift and celebration of the Eucharist, we will point to Jesus in everything we say and do”.

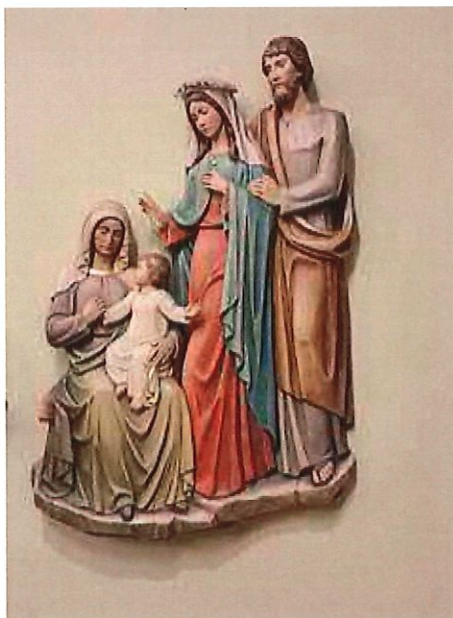


The crucifix at **St. James the Greater** is from the mission Church that St. James once was, and in a very real sense still is, and of which all of us in Mary Queen of Heaven truly share. Think of this: Mission is our beginning, and the last phase of Beacons of Light is Mission. Our goal is right there in the very beginning!

The statue of **St. Bernard of Clairvaux** also belongs to all in Mary Queen of Heaven. It also speaks to both our roots and our future. St. Bernard dedicated his life to the renewal



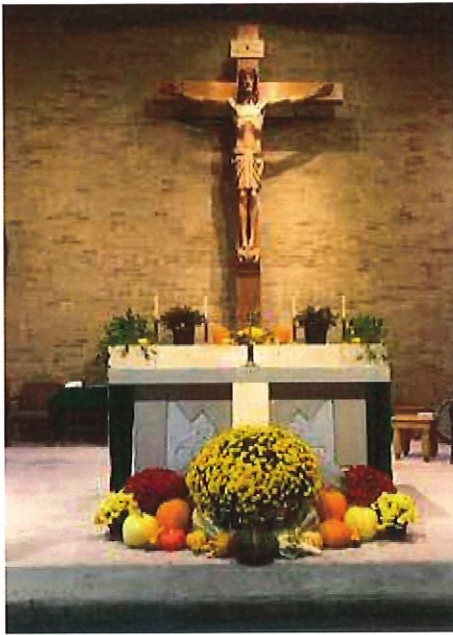
St. Ann has numerous images of a very holy family, Ann and her husband Joachim, Ann together with her daughter Mary who would become the Mother of Jesus, but I think most impressive is this image of Ann as grandmother. She holds the child Jesus as Mary and Joseph look on.



of the Church, the very purpose that we see in Beacons of Light. Notice the Church that he is holding. It is huge! That is you and me. That is all of us committed to our one family. That is our purpose too!



**Mary Queen
of Heaven**
Family of Parishes



Another remarkable crucifix is at **St. Margaret Mary**. It also belongs to all of us. I don't think there is anyone in our family who is not concerned about the future of their home parish. This crucifix speaks to that legacy. It was hand crafted by a parishioner and it depicts the Christ with great power and realism. It is exactly who we are called to be.

A Question From a Parishioner

Q: Will my donations stay with my home parish?

A: Yes and Yes. Until the merger all donations stay with the parish to which they are given, but keep in mind our goal. We are seeking to become one, and not just one as a single parish but one in our relation with the Risen Christ. We need to stop thinking of ourselves as separate and rather more and more as one. If we think of ourselves as celebrating Easter, and not just for one day or even for a season then we have already obtained the very purpose of Beacons of Light

A Poem and a Prayer

This is a poem that I wrote many years ago, but which has gone through many iterations. I think it might be finally done. I offer it now because this Season of Easter is a celebration of all life. We live anew with the Risen Christ.

My Name is Noah

My name is Noah
I sit in the lot
Where grandmother drove
To save my mother from me
Grandma insists its my mother's
choice
I cry out but no one sees
My mother's eyes so cold and dark
And the car remains in park

My name is Noah
My mother loves me
But will not say it.
He will not hear of it.
I pray for him.
That one day he may know me and
I may know him.
But he does not pray for me
And does not know my name.

My name is Noah
Like the man who came through
the storm
When one world ended
And another began.
Like my mother.
She feared her life was ending
Even as mine was about to begin.
But now I rest in the arms of God.

My name is Noah
It is the name my mother gave me
Before she went to a clinic
But I do not fault her.
People say they're pro choice.
She wished she had a choice.
I know she wanted to keep me
But just could not find a way.

My name is Noah
I rest in the arms of God
I was born here
And will always live here.
Now I pray for my mother
That she may one day come to me.
I will rest in her arms,
And she rest in the arms of God.

My name is Noah
It is the name my mother gave me.
It is a sign of her love.

There are many children who have
no names.
But God names them
And loves them
As they wait for their mothers
And as I wait for mine.

My name is Noah.

Inspired by the child, Noah
—James Wedig 2024

And the Prayer:

I am very grateful for all the
prayers being said for me. My
chemo is going well, but I also
know that there are many others
in need of prayer. Many who face
more serious health concerns than
I. Many have been praying for me
but there are those with only five
or ten or none praying for them.
Let us pray for each other, every
day. God calls us to unity and one-
ness in him.

Happy Easter to us all!

Thanks everyone
And may God bless us all.
Fr. Jim