



THE THREE PILLARS OF LENT

*Almsgiving
Prayer
Fasting*



February 2019



The Holy Seasons

Christmas has come and gone, and Lent is just a month away. This year we get about seven weeks between the Holy Seasons. Lent begins a little later this year - Ash Wednesday is March 6, which means Easter is later as well, on April 21. As Catholics, Easter is our most important event and most Holy Season. It is the fulfillment of His birth. Jesus was born with a purpose, to die for our sins, thus restoring our dignity and reopening the gates of heaven. Easter is so important that each Sunday is a mini-celebration of the Easter mystery. The Mass focuses on the life, death, and resurrection of Christ and gives us the privilege of participating in it ourselves for our salvation and the salvation of the world: past, present, and future.

Easter is a glorious Season for many reasons; one, practically speaking, is it occurs in the spring and after a long and cold winter we are more than ready for warmer and sunnier days ahead. Yet before rushing to Easter, the Church provides us with a wonderful opportunity to undergo a spiritual renewal and purification. Lent is a time to focus more intently on being God's children. In many ways it calls us to "get away or withdraw" from those distractions that have consumed our lives to the point of hurting our relationship with God and one another.



If you are like me, at first, Lent doesn't appear to be an opportunity; more like, the longest 6 weeks ever. But that's because none of us like to deny ourselves of the things that we find enjoyable or have become accustomed to, even when we know "they" are not the healthiest things for our mind, body, and soul. Yet, upon further reflection, we admit deep down that we need this season of Lent. What makes these sacrifices more plausible is that we are not the only person doing this. For example: It is hard to lose weight, to give up beer/wine, or sweets. It is hard to commit an additional 10 minutes or half-hour to pray each day. It is hard, given our limited resources, to do almsgiving whether it is from our time, talents, or treasure. But, I personally find doing such things much easier knowing that everyone around me is doing the same, relatively speaking.

The purpose of Lent is not just to "do something or give up something." It is to deepen our relationship with Christ. Yet, this is only possible when we die to self, by making sacrifices, depriving ourselves of things that are not essential for our existence, and are often unhelpful to acquiring spiritual union with God. In other words, whether it is Lent or not, we are called each day to do things or give up things that will make us better disciples, to be worthy of the name Christian. Lent simply reinforces this core message and provides an environment that makes it easier. That is the real beauty of Lent, that we do so as the One Body of Christ to be more unified as the One Body of Christ.

We find hope and encouragement as a community of believers, a parish and as a Universal Church. We are many parts but the same body, each doing what we can to incorporate the disciplines of Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving in a way that works best in our lives. Together, we are working to make that same body stronger, as each does his/her share. Thus, bringing forth good to the Body and the world around us. Despite the different ways each accomplishes or embraces these disciplines, we are doing so with the same goal in mind: a deeper, more enriching relationship with God. Lent reminds us of the need to die to self in order to empty ourselves of what is not good to make room for the One who is All Good.



Therefore, what we get out of Lent is precisely the result of what we put into Lent. But, what we do in Lent is not meant to end with Lent. It is to foster our spiritual growth, to change our lives for the better moving forward. This doesn't mean you can't have a drink again or forever give up chocolate or TV. The point is to develop a greater reliance and awareness of God's love, mercy, and grace in your life. It is to foster an attitude of gratitude; we are thankful for who we are, what we have received and thus desire to share that hope and joy with others. God is not someone we just worship on Sundays or someone we speak to when we are sick, something terrible happens, or we want something from Him. We should be more connected to God than we are to the internet. He and He alone is the source of love, the Truth that guides our lives, and the first person we wish to please. May you have a rewarding Lent and a joyous Easter Season.

In Christ, Fr. Thomas H. McCarthy





The following were
welcomed into the faith
through the
Sacrament of Baptism:

Jay Bao Fox
Elizabeth Jayne Garvey
Jack William Huffman
Zane Richard Kreissl
Luke William Mongan
Anthony Pablo-Gabriel

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Jeanne Bernard

Gloria Capano

Lucille Lampert

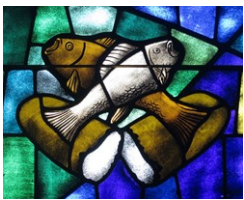
William N. McCarthy, Jr.

Eugene Schiele

May their souls and all the souls
of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God,
rest in peace. Amen



St. Vincent de Paul 4th Quarter Report



After Jesus was baptized, He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and a voice was heard "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." As you help those in need, know the truth of the words, "you are my beloved in whom I am well pleased."

During the 4th Quarter of 2018, your gifts to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul allowed us to assist 100 families, providing 62 bags of food and \$11,775 for utility and rent bills. Additionally, we provided food and \$10 Kroger cards for 119 families at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

The members of St. Ann St. Vincent de Paul thank you for your continued outstanding monthly food and monetary contributions. Without your assistance, none of what we do would be possible. We also thank the men of LaSalle High School and the students at Our Lady of Grace Catholic School for their generous donations of non-perishable food items.

Meet the Rahrigs ~ In 1942, during World War II, it was a patriotic "thing to do" to write friendly letters to men in service. A friend of mine asked me to write to her cousin. She said he was a good Catholic, which was important to me. We corresponded for about two years as Luke was assigned to various posts. Finally, we met at Union Terminal as he passed through via train to Ft. Bragg. We knew it was love for sure. We married on January 22, 1944 when Luke was on a three-day pass, and shared our wedding cake with the soldiers while traveling on the train to Virginia. Ten days later, he was shipped overseas. We never saw each other for the first 22 months of our marriage. However, we continued to write letters by V-Mail (Victory Mail was a military postal system that transcribed handwritten letters to film and back again after sensitive content was censored).

On Luke's return, we bought a five-room house in Delhi Hills and our family began! Maureen was born in 1946, Michele, in 1948, Greg, in 1949 and baby Thad was on the way! We knew we needed a bigger house, so we built on Poole Road in Colerain Township. Our children were educated at St. John's Dry Ridge. They were soon to be joined by Phil in 1954 and Ann in 1961. Infant Anthony, our still born son, was born in 1960. Our family continues to grow with 15 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Our Catholic faith has always been and is today of paramount importance to us. Even with young children, we managed for one of us to attend weekday Mass. Every Sunday, rain or shine, we went to 7:00am Mass as a family at St. John's. We prayed the Rosary as a family nearly every day. When we returned from a two-year temporary job transfer, we decided to join St. Ann because we knew Fr. Dorrman quite well. We have never regretted the change.

We now feel that the parish is growing spiritually and academically with so many ways to learn about and strengthen our faith. We have classes for people of all ages. Mass times have changed to meet the needs of parishioners and confessions are more available. Welcoming the Spanish Community is a great act of love. Since we no longer drive, we are so grateful to those who have offered to help us.

God has blessed us with 75 years of marriage as of January 22, 2019. Fr. McCarthy will offer a Mass of Thanksgiving for us and our family. A dinner will follow for the family.

We hope and pray that we, and all St. Ann people, will honor and love our dear Lord and His Blessed Mother with the same love they have for us.





Parish happenings ...

Our **Mass+...** *Make and Pray the Rosary* event on Oct. 14th was a fun, learning experience for parishioners of all ages.



Our **Fall Festival** on Oct. 20th was a fun time for all ages, there was something for everyone: face painting, balloon animals, food, and drink.



The Hispanic Ministry Youth Retreat was held on November 10th.



Volunteers at the St. Vincent de Paul Thanksgiving distribution on November 15th.

Dcn. Andrew gave a talk during the November 25th **Mass+...** on the meaning of Advent as a time to focus on hope, peace, joy and love.



The parish held an appreciation reception on November 25th for Fr. Wray as his time as temporary administrator at St. Ann was drawing to a close.





On December 2nd families were able to make their own Advent Wreaths during *Mass+...*

Fr. McCarthy shared the story of St. Nicholas with children at the December 9th *Mass+...* Attendees were also treated to a continental breakfast.



Nearly 100 people attended *Mass+...* on December 16th for Fr. McCarthy's talk on *Eucharistic Miracles*.



The parish office staff gathered at the Nativity scene for a group picture in mid-December.



The **Christmas Season** was a blessed one at St. Ann. Thank you to everyone who came and shared your Christmas with us. We are so happy you did!



Come and See!



Lent at St. Ann Parish

St. Ann Parish welcomes all to the events and liturgies of the Lenten and Easter seasons.
Join in preparation for the death of our Lord and celebration of His Resurrection.

The Little Blue Book

This Lent we will have little blue books available for all parishioners to help guide your prayer time. These books contain daily six-minute reflections on the passion and death of Our Lord. Look for the books in the Gathering Space the weekend of February 23 & 24. Please take one book per family. A Spanish edition will also be available.

Fat Sunday

Sunday, March 3 | 10:10 a.m. | MLPC

Join us at *Mass+...* on this last Sunday before Lent for breakfast, kids activities, music and more. Watch the bulletin for details.

Mardi Gras

Tuesday, March 5 | 6:30 p.m. | Church

Come for Evening Prayer at 6:30 p.m. followed by a free evening of food, fellowship, and fun in the Msg. Lunn Parish Center. Watch the bulletin for details.

Ash Wednesday Masses

Wednesday, March 6 | 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. | Day of obligatory fasting and abstinence.

40 Hours

March 29 - 31 | Watch the bulletin for details.

Exposition: Extended Hours

Thursdays | 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Thursday Exposition will be extended until 10:00 p.m. during Lent. Take the opportunity to spend some time with the One who died for you.



Stations of the Cross

Every Friday in Lent | March 8 –April 12| Confession at 6:00 p.m. | Stations at 7:00 p.m.

Lenten Reconciliation Opportunities at St. Ann

Confessions are heard at St. Ann, weekly, on Mondays and Thursdays from 5:30-6:30p.m., and on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the month from 9:00-10:00 a.m.

We will also have Confession before Stations of the Cross on Fridays from 6:00-7:00 p.m. and Sundays during *Mass+...* (10:10 –11:10 a.m.)

The Light Is On For You | Tuesday, March 19 | 7:00- 9:00 p.m.

Most parishes in the Archdiocese will be open for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

St. Ann Lenten Reconciliation Service will be Wednesday, March 27 at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Triduum at St. Ann Parish

Holy Thursday (April 18) No 8:30 a.m. Mass | No Exposition | No Confession

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday (April 19) No 8:30 a.m. Mass

12:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross | 12:30—2:00 p.m. Confession | 3:00 p.m. Good Friday Service

Holy Saturday (April 20) No 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Easter Vigil at 9:00 p.m.

Easter Liturgies at St. Ann Parish

Easter Vigil

Saturday, April 20 | 9:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 21 | 9:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

*He is not here, for He has been raised,
just as He said.*

Matthew 28:6



Our Lord of Hope Parish

Two students from our twinning parish school, Fe y Alegria, in Peru were awarded scholarships through Christian Outreach. Below is the thank you letter written by one of the recipients.

Lima, December 21, 2018

St Ann Parish Brothers,

I express my profound thanks for the generosity of the parish upon awarding me this monetary acknowledgement upon ending my basic secondary studies.

The donation received benefits me much, it will be utilized to pay for my studies. The first year at the university now, for materials or projects that will be required as the time passes.

You can be assured that your help will be very important in my studies. I am very thankful, and appreciate the inner strength I have received during these years with this donation.

I hope that as I have received this donation, you are able to continue helping future students entering my institution, as it is essential for the students to be aware of expenses to become professional. With this help, it is important in life that it helps each one of us.

Cordially,
Ronald Garcia



Ronald Jesus Garcia



Heidy Martinez Chuquiyauri

Lectio: Peter

On January 17, Fr. McCarthy began a 10-week class on the first pope of the Catholic Church, Peter. Please join us in the Trinity Rooms at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday evenings for these remaining classes:

- January 31 *Faith, Not Fear*
- February 14 *Peter, the Rock*
- February 21 *Peter and the Keys*
- February 28 *In the Shadow of the Galilean*
- March 14 *Discipleship at a Distance*
- March 21 *Peter and Pentecost*
- March 28 *Peter and Jonah*
- April 4 *"Quo Vadis?"*



Parents:

Mark Your Calendars
for a Night Out!

Friday, February 1
Friday, April 5



6:00 - 10:00 pm | Msgr. Lunn Parish Center

We'll watch your kids while you enjoy a date night, a night to run errands by yourself, or a quiet night at home.

Kids will have dinner, gym time, games, crafts, movie, and a snack.

Cost: \$5 per child (\$15 family max.)

Parents are encouraged to stay for a 30 minute parent session before heading out to enjoy their night.



1st Reconciliation & 1st Communion

Note the following dates for events to prepare for First Reconciliation and First Communion:

First Reconciliation Retreat for Students and Parents

Saturday, March 16 | 10:30 a.m. | Church

First Reconciliation

Tuesday, March 27 | 7:00 p.m. | Church

First Communion Retreat for Students and Parents

Saturday, April 13 | 10:30 a.m. | Church

First Communion

Saturday, May 4 at 4:00 p.m. Mass | Sunday, May 5 at 11:30 a.m. Mass

Mass, May Crowning, & First Communion Pictures

Monday, May 6 | 6:45 p.m. | Church

Please keep all our parishioners who will be receiving these sacraments in your prayers.

Confirmation

Note the following dates for events to prepare for Confirmation

Candidate Retreat

Sat., February 2 | 10:30 a.m. | Trinity Rooms

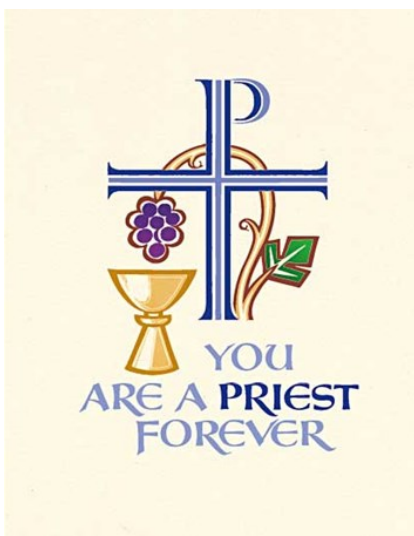
Confirmation Rehearsal

Mon., April 29 | 7:15 p.m. | St. Ann Church

Confirmation

Wed., May 8 | 7:00 p.m. | St. Peter in Chains Cathedral

Please keep all our parishioners who will be making their Confirmation in your prayers.



Deacon Andrew Hess

will be ordained

to the priesthood on

Saturday, May 18th

at the Priest

Ordination Mass

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Cathedral of St. Peter

in Chains

Downtown Cincinnati



Thanks to All Our Greeters



Thanks to the wonderful greeters who open the doors to visitors and parishioners alike every Saturday and Sunday before Mass. They are always ready to say hello and greet you with a smile.

Celebration of Veterans



In honor of Veterans Day, we hosted a pancake and sausage breakfast and held

a special collection for the local USO. In tribute of our veterans and military families,

one of our high school parishioners, Sebastian Losacker, played America the Beautiful on the French horn. Many thanks to Sebastian for sharing his talent with the parishioners of St. Ann.



Formation & Education



Mass+... offers a great opportunity to learn and rediscover aspects of our Catholic faith in a

group environment. It is great to be able to come together and listen to reflections and questions of the presenters and other members of the parish.

A session was held on Eucharistic Miracles. Over 100 parishioners took advantage of this session as Father McCarthy presented miracles including Lanciano, Italy and Buenos Aires, Argentina. We are in the midst of the educational series on Saint Peter, which kicked off during the **Mass+...** session on January 13.

Family Activities



We kicked off the season of Advent with a family Advent wreath activity. Families were given supplies to create a wreath they could use in their home throughout the four weeks of

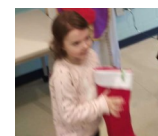
Advent, including prayers for each week. Even Father McCarthy made a wreath for his table!



Children of all ages participated in the St. Nick activity on December 9. Father McCarthy told the story of St. Nicholas during breakfast. Afterwards, the children

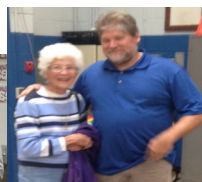


wrote letters to St. Nick and received handmade



stockings. We heard the children received notes back from St. Nick!

Parishioners enjoyed spending time with their family and friends during **Mass+...** activities. Check out the calendar for the upcoming **Mass+...** events for February, March and April. Hope to see you there!



Mass+... February, March, April

February 3

Fr. McCarthy: Vestments & Vessels

Blood pressure screenings
Babysitting
Preschool & child programs

February 10

Formed: Why Do I Need the Church w/Ryan Mahle

Babysitting
Preschool & child programs
Teen program
Youth Choir practice

February 17

Adoration, MOMS Group, Ladies Christ Renews His Parish

Babysitting
Preschool & child programs

February 24

Talk: The Need for and Power of Confession

Babysitting
Preschool & child programs
Teen program
Youth Choir practice

March 3

"Fat Sunday"— Pre-Mardi Gras Celebration

Blood pressure screenings
Babysitting
Preschool & child programs
Youth Choir practice

March 10

Speaker: What is Stewardship?

Babysitting
Preschool & child programs
Teen program
Youth Choir practice



March 17

Formed: The Paschal Mystery

Babysitting
Preschool & child programs
Youth Choir practice

March 24

Questions & Answers on Church Teachings w/ Fr. McCarthy

Babysitting
Preschool & child programs
Teen program
Youth Choir practice

March 31

Formed: Divine Mercy 101

Babysitting
Preschool & child programs
Youth Choir practice



April 7

Fr. Wray: Conversion

Babysitting
Preschool & child programs
Youth Choir practice

April 14

Palm Sunday - Making crosses out of palm branches

Babysitting
Preschool & child programs
Teen Program
Youth Choir practice



April 21

Easter Sunday

Check upcoming bulletins for details
No Babysitting

April 28

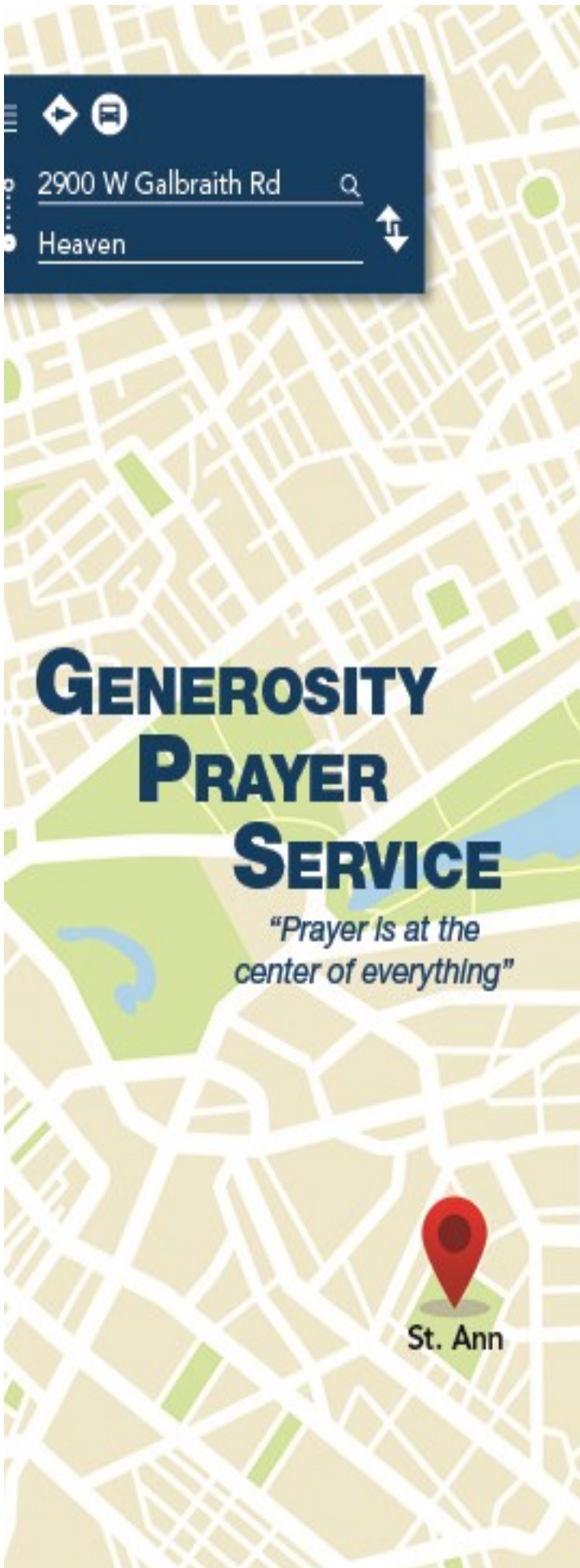
No Mass+...

Join us for the Chicken Dinner immediately following the 11:30AM Mass



Confessions will be available every Sunday during Mass+ through Lent





GPS

Generosity, Prayer, Service

You recently received letters and a brochure asking you to discern about your giving to St. Ann. That ask is just one small portion of GPS.

We chose GPS as a theme because we have come to associate GPS with directions and guidance. All the things that we have done with *Mass+...* and many other things are about guiding all of us along a path to a closer relationship with our Lord. This journey began a couple years ago as we decided to go forward with an engagement process that we started in the Fall of 2017 and conducted the Parish Convocation in the Spring of 2018. We accumulated a lot of input and developed *Mass+...*, which kicked off in August of 2018 as a vehicle to make your Sunday Experience come to life. We invite everyone to take part in the many formation, social, family and learning opportunities that we now provide.

GPS is the continuation of that engagement process. We will continue to invite you and your input in the direction that you want, and the Lord wants, St. Ann to go. As the theme says:

Generosity – the giving of our time, talents and treasure.

Prayer – the center of all we do. A talent we all possess.

Service – to others and the Lord as we are commissioned and commanded to do.

“Prayer is at the center of everything.”



(GPS continued)

Many of the readings, gospels and homilies during the Advent and Christmas season dealt with a journey. The journey of the Jews, the journey of Mary & Joseph, the journey of the birth of our Lord, the journey of the Magi, and as we journey into the Lenten season, the journey of Christ leading His life and ultimately to His crucifixion to save our souls. We, too, are on a journey, a journey into that deeper, personal relationship with Jesus. All that we are doing here at St. Ann is to assist and guide you in your personal journey of faith.

You will see be seeing the development of new ministries, formation opportunities, and new opportunities to share your God-given talents. As good stewards of all the gifts that God has given us, we are called to cherish and tend them in a responsible and accountable manner, share them in justice and love with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.

As disciples of Christ we respond to His call, follow Him, and shape our life in imitation of Jesus.

As our mission statement states, ***“To know, love and serve the Lord in this life and to be happy with Him forever in the next.”***



The DNA of Jesus Christ

Father McCarthy recently discussed Eucharistic Miracles at *Mass+...* In summary, he pointed out the great challenge of our faith to actually comprehend and imagine how the Eucharist and wine are the Body and Blood of Christ. Yet, there are Eucharistic Miracles that assist us in our belief. One miracle he discussed occurred in Buenos Aires...

In Buenos Aires (1996), a priest picked up a Host that was dropped and placed it in water so it would dissolve and be poured down the sacrarium. A week later, the priest discovered the Host had grown instead of dissolving and was covered with red spots that looked like blood. A sample of this tissue was sent to a lab which reported that it found human blood cells and tissue from a human heart.

Three years later, the Church arranged for a noted scientist to conduct further tests; this test also reported the sample was living muscle tissue from a human heart.

Five years later, another test was performed with the same result, though the doctor added the muscle tissue appeared to have been taken from someone whose heart had been severely traumatized or beaten.

At this time, the doctor in Buenos Aires remembered hearing about the Eucharistic Miracle of Lanciano, Italy, where during a Mass in the 8th century a priest at the moment of consecration had a Host turn into human flesh. Those Eucharistic elements had been preserved for over 1200 years.

The doctor in Buenos Aires arranged for the two Hosts to be compared. The experts making this comparison reported that, based on a DNA analysis, the two lab samples came from the same person.

Many people spend a lot of time looking for examples such as these, looking for assurance that the Eucharist is the embodiment of Jesus Christ. Yet, our faith also tells us so.

"What wonderful majesty! What stupendous condescension! O sublime humility! That the Lord of the whole universe, God and the Son of God, should humble Himself like this under the form of a little bread, for our salvation." *ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI*

We hope you can join us and others at Eucharistic Exposition for a single hour of your week in which you can look on the Eucharist, the physical body of Christ. You can also go to confession on Thursday as well.

Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. with Benediction at 6:45 p.m./Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
2nd & 4th Saturdays 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.



BUNCO Ladies Night Out Fundraiser

Saturday, February 23 | 7:00 p.m. | Monsignor Lunn Parish Center
Tickets are \$25.00 and will be on sale in the Gathering Space and Hospitality Room
February 2/3 and February 9/10. Appetizers, desserts and drinks are included.
During the event, chances for our two Split the Pot games will be sold. There will
be a selection of themed baskets for you to buy chances on, as well. Rally your
girlfriends and plan on enjoying a great night out!

If you would like to help with set up or help during the event, please contact Cindy
Withrow (521-8440 ext. 122 or cwithrow@saintannparish.org).

Proceeds benefit the St. Ann Seminary Fund.

Euchre Tournament

Saturday, March 2 | 7:00 p.m. | Trinity Rooms
Check the bulletin and website for more information.

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 6 | Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Obligatory day of fasting and abstinence.
See pages 7 and 8 for Lenten and Holy Week schedule.

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Sunday, March 10 | 2:00 a.m. | Set clocks ahead one hour

Mass+... Stewardship Talk by Tim Clifford

Sunday, March 10 | 10:10 a.m. | Trinity Rooms

Light Is On For You

Tuesday, March 19 | 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Women's CRHP Retreat

Saturday, March 23 8:00 a.m. - Sunday, March 24 1:00 p.m.
Watch the bulletin for details and registration.

Rosary Sale

April 6 & April 7 | Before and after all Masses

Indiana Chicken Dinner

Sun., April 28

1:00 - 6:00 pm

\$13 for adults / \$5 for kids



Awesome Basket Raffle 2019!

Back by popular demand! You get to pick the baskets! All the baskets will be on display in the Gathering Space the weekend of April 6/7 and in the gym the weekend of April 13/14 during the Palm Sunday activity, as well as at the dinner. You can purchase tickets and choose the baskets you wish to win by dropping your tickets in the corresponding container.

Watch the bulletin for more details about the baskets.

First Communion Weekend

Saturday, May 4 ~ 4:00 p.m. Mass | Sunday, May 5 ~ 11:30 a.m. Mass

LIGHT Luncheon

Monday, May 6 | 10:00 a.m. | Trinity Rooms

Mother's Day Flower Sale

May 11 & 12 | Flowers will be sold after all Masses this weekend.

PLANNING AHEAD!

St. Ann Golf Outing | Monday, June 17 | Clovernook Country Club

Totus Tuus ~ July 13 - 20

St. Ann Novena ~ July 18 - 26

Parish Picnic | Friday, August 2 | Stricker's Grove



Saint Ann

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Supporting Your Family's Future and Your Family of Faith.

Learn more about the St. Ann Legacy Society and
Planned Giving on the website at saintannparish.org.

*"As each one has received a gift,
use it to serve one another."*

1 Peter 4:10

If you would like to talk to someone, call Tim or Doug
at the parish office at 521-8440.

