

Gaining a New Appreciation for the Mass

During the Vatican II Council, one of the major changes to occur was in the celebration of the Liturgy; it is still the same Mass, same rituals and special treasures, but presented in a different package. Yet a major problem with the Novus Ordo (New Mass) is that little was done to instruct the priests/laity of this new ritual; many were confused by a different language, as well as what appeared to be changes in the rubrics. As a result, many were – and remain - confused by what to do and still have misconceptions/false beliefs on what the rubrics are. As a perfect example, I often hear, "Why is there Latin in the Mass? The Church got rid of that, didn't they?" But truth be told, the Vatican II documents require that some parts of the Mass be said in Latin and that the people are to be familiar with Latin, particularly at various parts within the Mass. So, to be true to Vatican II, a Mass must have some Latin, since we are of the Latin Rite Church. Sadly, most parishes don't do this and thus, are not conforming themselves to the mind of the Church. There are many, many parts of the Mass that people still find confusing 50 years later: Why do we kneel at some parts but stand and sit at others? Most think the music is to make us feel good, and should be contemporary and uplifting. And although the entire Mass is encouraged to be sung, the music the Church Fathers picked was Gregorian Chant and the instrument, the organ. Even now, people are confused when receiving Holy Communion. I have written several times in the bulletin, and spoken in homilies, that Communion in the hand means using both hands, that a single hand is not allowed due to lack of reverence and fear of dropping the Host, yet there are still a few who continue to do this, and others who complain when the Host is placed on their tongue because they stick out a single hand. Probably, most don't know that when the Council Fathers voted, they voted to continue the practice of Holy Communion on the tongue. It was only years later that the Church gave an indult (exception of the law) for Communion in the hand, but stated two hands be used to make a throne for the Lord. So, the normative practice of the Church is still Communion on the tongue. These are just a few examples of where people are still confused; when these practices are implemented, they think the priests are not doing what Vatican II said when, in fact, what they are doing is adhering to Vatican II. Another perfect example is the saying from the Council, "Full, actual, and conscious participation by the faithful." I have heard people change the word "actual" to "active," thus thinking if they are not physically doing something in the liturgy, they are not fulfilling their duty. But full, actual, and conscious participation has more to do with putting ourselves in a state to allow God's graces to transform us; after all, the primary focus is not what we are doing for God, but what God is doing to us.

The Mass is the meeting of heaven and earth. It is the supreme duty of the people to honor and praise God, to give to God and sacrifice to Him in a response of gratitude for all He does for us. The Divine Liturgy, i.e. the Mass, is the supreme invitation to share in the Life, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord, and it is through this participation that we are able to take part in the work of salvation, to enter into the new and everlasting covenant to be disciples in this world and realize the promise of eternal life in the life to come.

In the past, we have had evening classes on the Mass, once a year I do a walk-through of the Mass for RCIA and invite all parishioners to attend, and we recently had a *Mass+...* on the same topic. But I also realize not everyone is able and willing to engage in these education opportunities, so I thought the best thing to do was to give short talks on the Mass at the conclusion of the Sunday Masses. I did this many years ago at another parish, when the 3rd edition of the Roman Missal came out and people were confused over

the new translation and new responses. Our Seminarian Intern, Ethan Hoying, as well as our deacon candidate, Doug Moore, are required to do presentations as part of their training; so, what better way to accomplish both than for them to do the presentations. These are little lessons on various parts of the Mass, that will begin in February, to serve as education and instruction, so that all of us, together, can learn and better appreciate the awesomeness and beauty of the Divine Liturgy, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. And as we better understand the Mass, the better our worship, and the greater praise and honor we can give to our Almighty Father.





The following were welcomed into the faith through the Sacrament of Baptism: Erick Gomez Perez Ashley Michelle Jimenez Guznian James Steven Morales Crisostomo Dylan B. Oualle Marroquin Arya Louise Ryan Juma Valentina Saucedo Laken Mackenzie Stapf Sussan Temaj Katty K. Velasquez





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

Margaret Bronner Beatrice Gramann Patricia Manegold Dorothy Meyer Marie Nardelli Luke Rahrig Jinny Roll May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

St. Vincent de Paul 4th Quarter Report

The members of St. Ann St. Vincent de Paul thank all who supported us this past quarter. We were able to assist 79 families by providing 65 food bags and rent and utilities in the amount of \$7,456. For Thanksgiving and Christmas, we provided 118 families with \$10 Kroger cards and holiday meals that included turkey and ham.

From OLG students, we received many boxes of food; LaSalle High School provided thousands of pounds of food and some institutional size cans, 10 cases of which were redirected to the Little Sisters of the Poor. The donation from Christ Hospital employees at their Montgomery Road and William Howard Taft facilities was new this year.

Our neighbors are most appreciative of your caring and prayers; many of them pray for you as well. SVDP

is your door to God's poor, suffering and forgotten.

Lastly, to the Vincentians who have donated many hours to serving our neighbors, thank you!



Meet Nichole Flowers

I moved to Cincinnati in February of 2018. As a Catholic young adult, one of my first priorities after moving to the area was to find a good parish. I knew I needed a vibrant parish that would support the growth of my faith and welcome me with open arms. I was born and raised Catholic and even went



to a Catholic elementary school, but as any good Catholic knows, you can never stop growing in your faith.

I began "church hopping" visiting a new parish every Sunday. I eventually found St. Ann's. Walking into church that Sunday, I was greeted with a warm smile and a "good morning" from the hospitality ministry. It might not sound like much, but it really gave a great first impression. St. Ann's instantly felt like home. I continued church hopping for a few more weeks but started going to the Monday night Mass. Eventually, I found myself ending up at St. Ann's every Sunday.

That summer, I kept hearing about this "Mass+" thing that the parish was planning to start in August. I wasn't really sure what it was, so I went onto the parish website for more information. After reading what Mass+ was all about, I knew without a doubt this was the parish for me. I knew that this parish was serious about the formation of the people and seeks to fulfill its mission of making saints! It wasn't long after that moment that I officially registered for the parish.

In the fall of that same year I began going to the Mass+ events, which really helped me to not only learn more about my faith, but to also meet other parishioners. I often find myself bragging about St. Ann's to my friends and family, telling them about all of the great events and opportunities that the parish has to offer. I have felt so welcomed at St. Ann's and am so blessed to have found such a special parish.

On December 31, 2019 Diana

Reckner officially retired after 27 years of dedicated service as our parish secretary. Many parishioners and staff were present at the Holy Family breakfast to wish her well and to thank her personally for being a great asset to us all over these many years.



Diana humbly expressed gratitude to the pastors and parishioners of St. Ann who made her career so pleasant and meaningful. She will continue to sing in the choir and is ready to use some of her newly found free time to volunteer with various ministries in the parish.

We welcome Alicia Bourbeau (mornings) and Kelly Clifford (afternoons) who have signed on to fill the open position. They are both active parishioners of St. Ann, and we are excited to have them on the parish office staff.



Our **Fall Euchre Tournment** on Oct. 19th was a fun time for competitive and social card players alike. After the games concluded, players enjoyed a Skyline Chili dinner.





The **Men's CRHP** group gathered at the DeNamur home on November 16 for a Day of Reflection.



Parents dropped off their kids for some fun on December 6 for **Parents Night Out**.



Kids enjoy a pizza dinner and having some time playing in the gym before settling down for a movie and snack.



On November 30, the Pray, Hope Believe Foundation held their annual **Tony Merk Blood Drive**. Many parishioners participating in donating a life saving gift!



We are always overwhelmed by the support and generosity of our parishioners for the **Giving Tree** Collection.







Our Christian Outreach ministry works very hard to organize the collected **Giving Tree** items and distribute them to families in need.





We hosted a St. Nicholas Breakfast during *Mass+...* on December 1st. This year Father McCarthy was joined by an angelic seminarian!



Children made ornaments and Sparkle boxes during the St. Nicholas breakfast.





Volunteers and parishioners alike enjoyed the pancake breakfast on December 8.







As we continue to focus on education in our faith, Father McCarthy hosted a two-part series on **Understanding the Bible**. Our sanctuary was beautifully decorated for Christmas, complete with family ornaments on the trees.

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!



Fathers of Mercy - February 3-6

We are looking forward to Fr. Louis Guardiola C.P.M. leading our Parish Mission this year. Fr. Guardiola will offer presentations on Monday through Thursday followed by confessions.

Topics Include:

Monday: 4 Last Things Tuesday: Sacraments & Divine Mercy Wednesday: Eucharist, The True Presence Thursday: Mary, Our Mother Morning Session

9:15-10:15am

Evening Session

7:30-8:30pm

Check the website for further details.



Saint Ann Parish

Fish Fry

Dinner served 4:30-6:45pm

Orders taken in the school hallway. Seating in the gym!

Check the upcoming weekly bulletins for more details on the Lenten "Specials"!

After dinner, join us for Stations of the Cross

at 7:00 p.m., followed by a Lenten talk in the church (see page 9).

February 28, March 6, March 13, March 20, March 27, April 3

Lent Happenings

Mardi Gras & Ash Wednesday



We will celebrate Fat Tuesday, Feb. 25, with Evening Prayer followed by fried chicken potluck dinner, face painting, music and games. Join us in church at 5pm.

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 26, is an obligatory day of fasting and abstinence. Masses will be offered at 8:30am and 7:00pm

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Lectoires 5.20

40 Hours & Exposition

Our Lenten 40 hours of continual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be March 13-15. Check the website for details. Thursday Exposition will be extended until 10:00pm through the Season of Lent.

All are welcome!

Lenten Reconciliation Opportunities

Monday & Thursday: 5:30-6:30pm Friday: 6:00-6:45pm 2nd & 4th Saturday: 9:00-10:00am

The Light is On for You: Tuesday, March 24 7:00-9:00pm

Parish Reconciliation Service: Tuesday, March 31 @ 7:00pm

Fridays During Lent

St. Ann Parish Fish Fry Dine In or Carry Out



Standard favorites and feature entree

Confessions from 6:00-6:45pm

Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm Lenten Series following Stations

Holy Week & Easter Activities and Masses

Holy Thursday (April 9)

No 8:30am Mass, No Confessions Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00pm Exposition following Mass

Good Friday (April 10)

No 8:30am Mass Stations of the Cross: 12:00pm Confessions: 12:30pm-2:30pm Good Friday Service: 3:00pm

Holy Saturday (April 11)

No 4:00pm Vigil Mass Easter Vigil Mass: 9:00pm

Easter Sunday (April 12)

9:00am & 11:30am



LENTEN 40 HOURS Friday, March 13 (4:00 p.m.) -Sunday, March 15 (8:00 a.m.)



Sign-ups in the Gathering Space in early March.

Matthew 26:40-41

"So, you could not stay awake with me even for one hour? Be on guard and pray that you may not undergo the test. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak."

SOLEMN EXPOSITION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Father McCarthy reminded us in one of his recent sermons that as the Christmas season closes, Easter and Lent are not far behind. It tests the limit of our faith to fathom that Jesus, who is God, became human, lived among us and provided us the Eucharist to stay among us.

The Eucharist is Jesus truly present - Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. At the moment of Consecration, the gifts of bread and wine are transformed (transubstantiated) into the Body and Blood of Christ. The Eucharist is a miracle, the very presence of God. We celebrate Jesus' gift to us at every Mass when the host is consecrated and transformed from bread into His body. And it is His body that remains in the tabernacle for us and is brought out at Exposition. Through faith we accept that God, Who created the universe, took on human form in the person of Jesus, Who then showed His infinite love for us by becoming a sacrifice on our behalf.

We invite you to take some time to visit with our Lord at Exposition, not just during the season of Lent, but during Ordinary Time as well. Sign up for an hour during our Lenten Forty Hours and rest in the Presence of our Lord, Jesus Christ.



Exposition

- Every Thursday at 9:00 a.m with Benediction at 6:45 p.m.
- 2nd & 4th Saturdays from 9:00 10:00 a.m.



Our candidates who have been preparing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation will be sealed with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit by Archbishop Dennis Schnurr during the 11:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, February 9th. All are invited to attend this Mass.

Please keep our candidates in your prayers.





Ladies Christ Renews His Parish Retreat Weekend will be held on Saturday and Sunday, March 14-15. Experience personal faith conversion, meet amazing women of our parish and build friendships!

No cost for the weekend - Meals included



Our Lenten talk series this year is *The Real Presence: The Eucharist in Scripture.* This video series is presented by acclaimed author and speaker, Dr. Scott Hahn.

Many Catholics do not

believe that the Eucharist is truly the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of our Lord, Jesus Christ.
Through this series, we will deepen our understanding and love of the Eucharist. As you will learn from the series, "no matter how much we read, learn or discuss our faith, the truest way to share is through encounter." Please take advantage during the season of Lent to spend time with our Lord through prayer and Exposition. It is a beautiful experienced you will want to continue after the penitential season is long gone.



This winter, beginning January 16, we are offering classes on the Gospel of Mark. What does it have to offer us that the Gospels of Matthew, Luke, and John do not? Join us in this powerful 14 part series to discover the Gospel of Mark like never before.

• Immerse yourself in this action-packed Gospel that offers Saint Peter's account of Christ's life and teaching.

• Delve deep into the theme of the "way" and true discipleship and see how Jesus reveals his identity in authoritative action and word.

• Consider more deeply Jesus's teaching on the Temple, and walk with Jesus to Gethsemane and the Way of the Cross as Mark describes it.

Thursday Evenings | 7:00 pm | Trinity Rooms

Feb. 13, 20, 27, Mar. 5, 12, 19, 26, Apr. 2

Mass+... & Socials

Formation & Education

Mass+... continues to offer 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.

In November, we invited Sister Marie Cecile from the Daughters of St. Elias, a new Carmelite order stationed in the Over the Rhine

area, to speak about vocations to



the religious life. She had a wonderful message about answering God's call though all vocations. Her focus on *Who are we* and *Where are we going* are powerful questions for all of us.

Fr. McCarthy hosted a session on the vocation of marriage, which delved into the vocation from the essence of its sacramental nature.

Mass+... on the Website

Most *Mass+...* sessions are recorded so parishioners who are unable to attend in person, can still participate. This feature also allows you to check them out at a later date.

If you would like to listen to any of the talks in their entirety, please check out the



parish website. From the home page, select the Live Stream icon, then Streamspot and then Previous Broadcast. The sessions are achieved by date, beginning with most recent.

Celebration of Veterans



In honor of Veterans Day, we hosted a pancake breakfast and held a special collection for the local homeless Veterans.

We invited members of the local VFW post and members of the Knights of Columbus to join us for breakfast.

In tribute of our veterans and military families, one of our high school parishioners, Sebastian Losacker, played America the Beautiful on the French horn.

Thank you to all our veterans!

St. Nicholas Day Activities

Children of all ages participated in the St. Nick activity



on December 1. Father McCarthy, joined by an angel, told the story of St. Nicholas during breakfast. Afterwards, the children wrote letters to St. Nick and received handmade stockings.

Children also had the opportunity to make a nativity ornament. Families were also invited to wrap a Sparkle Box. This box was sent home with the family to fill with slips of paper noting their *Gifts* for Jesus for His birthday. Boxes were returned on Christmas to be

placed under the trees in the sanctuary.

We introduced a new tradition at the parish! Families were invited to create a family ornament at home. Supplied with a simple, glass ball ornament, families



could decorate their ornament and then return it so the balls would be placed on the trees in the sanctuary.

We received 14 ornaments this year and hope to double that number for Christmas 2020!



Mass+... February, March, April

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February 2	February 9	February 16
Catechism - Part 3 - Morality	Speaker: Moral Life	St. Vincent de Paul Presentation
Blood Pressure Screenings	Babysitting	Baptism Class - Part 1
Babysitting & Preschool	Preschool & Youth Program	Babysitting
Youth Program	Teen Group	Preschool & Youth Program
Youth Choir Practice	Youth Choir Practice	Youth Choir Practice
February 23	March 1	March 8
Jesus & Jewish Roots of Eucharist Baptism Class - Part 2 Babysitting	Devotions, Indulgences & Blessings Blood pressure screenings Babysitting	Respect Life Baby Shower Blood pressure screenings Babysitting & Preschool Team Crown & Youth Dressure
Preschool & Youth Program Teen Group & Youth Choir Practice	Preschool & Youth Program Youth Choir Practice	Teen Group & Youth Program Youth Choir Practice
March 15	March 22	March 29
Stewardship	Catechism - Part 4 - Prayer	Input Session / IT Teams
Babysitting	Babysitting	Babysitting
Preschool & Youth Program	Preschool & Youth Program	Preschool
Youth Choir Practice	Teen Group	Youth Program
	Youth Choir Practice	Youth Choir Practice
April 5	April 12	April 19
Holy Week	<i>Easter Sunday</i> Check upcoming bulletins	Mass++ Multicultural Taste of St. Ann
Blood pressure screenings	for details	Babysitting during Masses only
Babysitting & Preschool	No Babysitting	Activity begins after 11:30AM
Teen Group & Youth Program	The Dabysiung	Mass
Youth Choir Practice		
April 26		<i>Mass+</i> offers a weekly opportunity for
No Mass+		fellowship and continued faith formation.
Join us for the Chicken Dinner immediately following the 11:30AM		Check out our range of topics.
Mass		Invite a friend to join you for <i>Mass+</i>





"Prayer is at the center of everything."

We continue to invite you and your input in forming 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.

The 2nd Parish Convocation, as a continuation of our GPS Engagement process, was held on October 30th and although it was not a nice weather night, the input and discussions were outstanding! We established 6 Challenges, discussed them and then broke out into small groups to obtain input on how to solve those challenges.

From there, we have established 3 Implementation Teams that have 2 Challenges to tackle. With the input from the Convocation, they will start developing those ideas into workable solutions to assist St. Ann in moving forward as a vibrant, relative parish. The **Implementation Teams are open to everyone.**

Interested? Contact Tim Clifford—521-8440.

ST. ANN CATHOLIC PARISH

Challenges for Planning Process 2019

- How can we engage and encourage the young families of our parish, and those who do not attend church in the area, to come to Mass and be involved? What can we offer to make it easier for young families to become more involved and, as a result, engage their children in the Faith?
- How can St. Ann better engage the youth of our parish as they move from adolescence into adulthood (i.e. ages 20-30), to ensure their participation as adults?
- 3. How can St. Ann parish best prepare itself for changes, such as in the structure and alignment of multiple parishes to one parish, which will eventually happen How do we make sure that St. Ann remains open and continues to be vibrant? How do we enhance our current successes: *Mass+...* and educational opportunities?
- 4. How can St. Ann better focus on service and mission, thus making a more positive impact on the surrounding community, including our diverse groups within the parish?
- 5. How can we strengthen or improve our current ministries? What ministries do we need to develop that we do not currently have?
- 6. St. Ann has been described as a "welcoming parish," but what does a welcoming parish look like? How can we become a more welcoming, hospitable, and inviting parish?

To solve these challenges, we need your input! Please feel free to send your input to tclifford@saintannparish.org or call him at 521-8440 or join our Implementation Teams.





Watch your mail for information regarding this Pavilion Project! This project is a result of our first convocation to give our youth and young families a place to come together. As the project developed, we realize that it works for the whole parish and community. More details and a special opportunity to help make this worthwhile project happen will be in the mailer you will be receiving or may have already received. Any questions - contact Tim Clifford at 521-8440 or email him at

tclifford@saintannparish.org



Thank you to all of you have signed up for Online Giving!

Those of you who have already taken advantage of using Online Giving will be seeing a new look, when you log on in the near future. It will be easier to navigate and many new features.

If you have not tried using Online Giving yet, please take a look at the new portal. 242 of your fellow parishioners are taking advantage of the ease of using this service that benefits both the parish and you. **<u>Give it a look</u>** - go to www.saintannparish.org and click on the Give button. You will also see a list of those benefits.

Many people say they do not use it because they can't give to special collections, not true. You can donate to all the special collections and register for different programs too. If you need some help, be sure to stop by the Hospitality Room during Mass+... or contact the parish office.

FEBRUARY

Parish Mission - Fathers of Mercy February 3-6 | Morning and Evening Sessions | Church See page 6 for more information.

Confirmation at St. Ann Sunday, February 9 | 11:30 a.m. Mass | Reception following Mass

Bunco! Ladies Night Out Fundraiser - Supports the St. Ann Seminarin Fund Saturday, February 22 | 7:00 p.m. | MLPC

Ash Wednesday Wednesday, February 26 | Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. Obligatory day of fasting and abstinence. See page 7 for Lenten and Holy Week schedule.

MARCH

Daylight Savings Time Begins Sunday, March 8 | 2:00 a.m. | Set clocks ahead one hour

Forty Hours Friday, March 13 (4:00 p.m.) - Sunday, March 15 (8:00 a.m.) | See page 8.

Ladies CRHP Retreat Saturday, March 14 8:00 a.m. - Sunday, March 15 1:00 p.m. Watch the bulletin for details and registration.

Rosary Sale March 21 & 22 | Before and after all Masses

Light Is On For You Tuesday, March 24 | 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Parish Reconciliation Service Tuesday, March 31 | 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.





February 2020 Issue



Indiana Chicken Dinner Sunday, April 26 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. \$13 for adults / \$5 for kids

Awesome Basket Raffle 2020!

Back by popular demand! You get to pick the baskets! All the baskets will be on display in the Gathering Space the weekend of March 28-29, April 5-6 and April 18-19, 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.

MAY First Communion Weekend - May 2-3

LIGHT Luncheon Monday, May 4 | 10:00 a.m. | Trinity Rooms

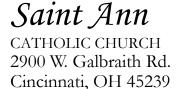


Mother's Day Flower Sale May 9 & 10 | Flowers will be sold after all Masses this weekend.



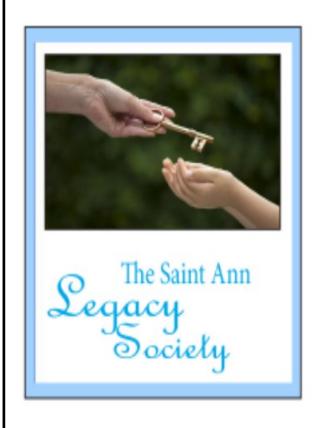
PLANNING AHEAD!

St. Ann Golf Outing | Saturday, June 6| Circling Hills
Totus Tuus ~ June 13-20
St. Ann Novena ~ July 18 - 26
Parish Picnic | Friday, August 7| Stricker's Grove



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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.