



# *HOLY CROSS HERALD*

**Rev. Anthony Ernst, Pastor**  
**Rev. Biju Thomas Parochial Vicar**

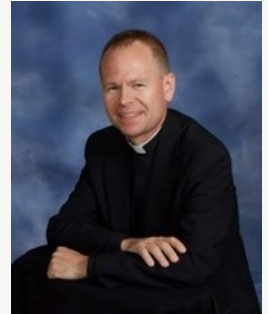
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Dear Friends,

I hope this finds you doing well. It's time for summer! When I was young, everyone told me that the older you get, the faster time goes by. I must be getting old because this past year has really flown by.

Our parishes have been blessed with another great year of formation in the Catholic faith. This formation happens in many ways – through our Catholic schools, our Religious Education Programs, Bible Studies and many other opportunities for spiritual growth. The greater formation, however, happens in our homes with our parents. In my nineteen years of the priesthood, I have observed that our young people are becoming more and more grounded in their Catholic faith. Some of this is definitely a testament to the ministries of our parishes, but it is really an even greater reflection of the families in our community. To all of you who are trying your best to model and pass on the Catholic faith to your children, thank you, thank you, thank you! It is working. Keep up the good work!



I want to take a moment to thank everyone for your generous participation in the Stewards of God's Grace Capital Campaign. All three of our parishes have been blessed with great participation. Now we will begin to experience the fruits of this campaign. We will see blessings from our diocesan ministries and from our individual parishes. With the help of our parish committees, we will discern the best uses for these funds. We will be sure to communicate our plans as soon as any decisions are made. Again, thanks to all who have participated in the campaign. If you were not able to participate at this time but might like to later, that is always possible.

As you have heard, Bishop Thompson has reassigned Father Biju. As of June 14<sup>th</sup>, he will be serving as the Administrator of Holy Name Church in Bloomfield and Saint Peter Church in Linton. We recently traveled to visit these parishes and found them to be very beautiful places. I am certain Father Biju will be loved there as he was here. Father Ambrose Wanyonyi will be serving at our parishes. He was ordained last June with Father Tyler Tenbarger and has spent his first year serving at Holy Rosary Church in Evansville. Please join me in welcoming him to our community. We also want to pray for Deacon John Pfister who will be ordained to the Holy Priesthood on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at Saint Benedict Cathedral. If you are able, please come to celebrate this special day in the life of the Church. Let us continue to pray that more men and women will be open to God's call of service in the Church.

Have a blessed summer. Try to slow down a bit and enjoy time with family and friends.

Love and Prayers,

## PARISH OFFICE NEWS

### NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to our newest Holy Cross members. If you get the chance to greet these people at church, use the opportunity to show them true Christian fellowship, and tell them how much we appreciate them coming into our church family.

✠ Stevenson & Yelena Anderson. They have three children Emily, Ethan and Evelyn.

✠ David & Jane Cueto previously from Canton, OH.

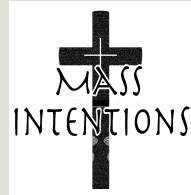
✠ Brian & Bobbi Jo Seib. They have two children, Brody and Blakely.

### HOME COMMUNION

Eucharistic Ministers take Communion to the homebound on Friday mornings. If you have had a recent surgery, a hospital stay, or are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Communion, please contact the parish office by Thursday afternoon.



### 2018 MASS INTENTIONS



The parish office is now scheduling 2018 Mass Intentions. You may schedule up to 3 Mass Intentions per year for a person. Only 1 intention should be used for a weekend Mass, the other 2 for weekday Masses.

### WEBSITES

We are working hard to keep the Parish and School websites current and informative. If you have any information you want to see on the website, contact Peg Hall at hallfamily@iee.org

**Our website pages are:**

**Parish:** [www.holycrossparish.info](http://www.holycrossparish.info)

**School:** [www.holycrossparish.info/holy-cross-school](http://www.holycrossparish.info/holy-cross-school)

### BULLETIN

Would you like to receive your bulletin online? Because of our printing agreement with Liturgical Publications, now you can! Simply log on to SeekAndFind.com and enter our church's zip code in the "NEAR" field and click the red "FIND" button. Select our church from the results and you'll see a listing of our bulletins. You can even sign up to receive an e-mail notification every time a new bulletin is posted to Seek And Find; just click the red envelope link above the bulletins.



### AUTOMATIC ELECTRONIC GIVING

The electronic giving program allows you to electronically have funds transferred directly into the parish's account for your Sunday giving. It is convenient, no cost to you, & helps you stay current on your Sunday giving. You may increase, decrease, or suspend your transfer any time by calling the parish office. Please contact Lisa at 753-3548 or lmay@evdio.org with questions.

### BAPTISM PREP CLASS

All first time parents must attend a Baptismal Class prior to their baby being baptized. Godparents are welcome to attend also. You are encouraged to attend this class before the baby is born. Next class will be on Monday, July 10, Monday September 11. Please contact Liz Hirsch at lhirsch@evdio.org to schedule your class.



### Prayer Chain—Please Pray for the Sick & Suffering

To add someone to the prayer chain, please contact Phyllis Schmits at 753-3858 or call the parish Office at 753-3548. Please contact the parish office at 753-3548 if you or a family member is admitted to the hospital or nursing home, or if you would like to receive the anointing of the sick so that we may notify Fr. Tony or Fr. Biju.

## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL NEWS

### John Hollis, Principal

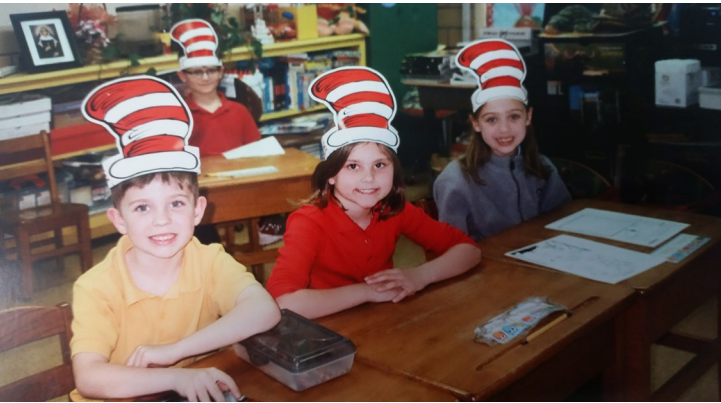
As another school year passes by, now is a good time to look back and thank God for all the blessings we have here at Holy Cross. I'm thankful for all the wonderful families and students. It definitely feels like a family. I'm thankful for our teachers who treat all students with love and want the best for each child. I'm thankful for our priests who are so kind in answering the children's questions about our Catholic faith and allow us to attend Mass twice during the week. I'm thankful for all our parishioners who take a great interest in our church and school. I'm thankful for all those who have come before us for establishing a great tradition here at Holy Cross. We are all truly blessed.

Finally, I want to thank Kenna Dix and Linda Doane for their years of service in our cafeteria. The students always declare how good our food is here at Holy Cross. Kenna will be missed more than she knows. I also want to thank Dani Spindler for her years teaching preschool. She has a gift for making the little ones feel happy. Thank You, God, for all the daily blessings we have here at Holy Cross.



### FIRST GRADE NEWS

We are working as hard and fast as "busy bees" can to the end of school. In math, we are counting money, measuring in inches and centimeters and learning about fractions. In Religion, we are studying about the Ten Commandments and the Seven Sacraments, especially Baptism. We enjoyed having our classroom May Crowning. During our procession, students played bells and maracas while singing "Immaculate Mary". Classmates chose Abbigail Coy and Merexx Kuester to lead the procession and put the crown on the Blessed Virgin Mary's statue.



First graders celebrated the Birthday of Dr. Seuss.  
Carson Jones, Camille Weisheit and Emmy Hoke



Designers of the Holy Cross School Flag  
Merexx Kuester, Nolan Fuhs & Gabe Foster



Dad's Day at Holy Cross. Clint Fuhs playing Bingo with his children Nolan and Emma



On Dad's Day are Craig Kuester & Todd Riggs with sons, Noah and Merexx Kuester & Brody Riggs

Counting money are Gabe Foster & Tes Weber





## *School News Continued.....*

The fourth grade students enjoyed performing in the annual Pioneer and Native American Day program for their parents and special guests. The students acted in plays, sang songs, played their recorders, did readings, and even square danced! They also made projects at school and home to share with their guests and the rest of the school. It was a wonderful celebration!





## SEMINARIANS

As our seminarians and religious life continue to discern a religious vocation, they would certainly welcome your prayers and notes of encouragement. Notes of encouragement can be sent to:

### Deacon John Pfister



**Deacon John Pfister (Holy Cross)**  
St. Meinrad School of Theology  
200 Hill Drive Street  
St. Meinrad, IN 47577  
jpfister@evdio.org

Deacon John said his Priesthood Promises to Bishop Thompson in March at St. Meinrad. He graduated on May 13 from St. Meinrad School of Theology with a Master of Divinity. Preparations for his Priesthood Ordination are being finalized. Please continue to pray for Deacon John as he continues his journey.

### Nicholas Sellers



**Nicholas Sellers (Holy Cross)**  
Bishop Simon Brute College  
Seminary  
2500 Cold Spring Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46222  
nsellers032@marian.edu

Nick has finished his second semester at Marian University. He traveled on a pilgrimage to the Holy Lands from May 8-18 and journeyed to where Christ walked the earth. Please continue to pray for Nick as he continues his journey.

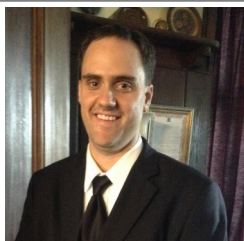
### DEACON JOHN PFISTER'S PRIESTHOOD EVENTS

- † **June 2, 2017**—Evening of Adoration for the Priesthood at 7:00 pm at Annunciation of the Lord Parish--Christ the King Church.
- † **June 3, 2017**—Priesthood Ordination for Deacon John Pfister and Deacon Jerry Pratt at 10:00 am at St. Benedict Cathedral
- † **June 4, 2017**—First Mass at 2:00 pm at Holy Cross
- † John Pfister will be celebrating his first Mass at Holy Cross on June 4 at 2:00 pm. All parishioners are invited to attend. There will also be a reception & meal provided in Kaiser Hall following the Mass. Reservation **for meal are a MUST** deadline for the meal is Friday, May 19. Please call the office to RSVP!

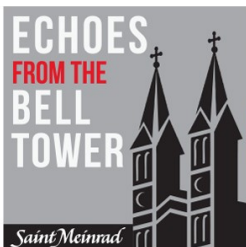


### BROTHER BRIAN WARD

**Brother Brian Ward (Holy Cross)**  
Marian Scholasticate  
3885 Harewood Rd NE  
Washington, DC 20017.  
wardbrian\_1980@yahoo.com



Brother Brian will be vacationing in our area in mid May. He will be taking Latin courses in the summer. Please continue to pray for Brother Brian as he continues his journey.



**St. Meinrad Podcast**  
New *Echoes from the Bell Tower* podcasts are now available at  
<http://www.saintmeinrad.org/seminary-blog/echoes-from-the-bell-tower/podcast-episodes/>

### BROTHER JOEL BLAIZE



**Brother Joel Blaize (Sts. Peter & Paul)**  
St. Meinrad Archabbey  
100 Hill Drive Street  
St. Meinrad, IN 47577  
jblaize@saintmeinrad.edu

Br. Joel Blaize will not be returning to the seminary for priesthood studies in the fall. He will be a part time student and hopes to spend the extra time learning the organ and working with the Benedictine Oblate program. Not all monks become ordained priests. Their primary vocation is to be a monk.

Br. Joel will be traveling this Summer to Rome for 2 weeks to attend a conference for Benedictine Monks in simple vows from around the world. He then will travel to Switzerland for five weeks to visit St. Meinrad's motherhouse (founding monastery) of Einsiedeln Abbey. While he is there, he plans to work on a music research project and to improve his German. Please continue to pray for Br. Joel as he continues his journey.

# ST. MARIA GORETTI YOUTH NEWS *By: Bryan Macke*



## SMG Fresh News

It's been another fresh year in the SMG. A few highlights in the last few months have been HS RockLife, HS Girl Time, Source + Summit, HS Food Fast, and MS Shantytown.



RockLife has seen a boost in numbers this second semester, averaging about 30 youth each night! RockLife meets twice a month on Sunday nights between September and April. We usually have a theme for the lesson part of it and this year we went over "The Battle," a LifeTeen resource focused on spiritual warfare and temptation. We always have time for fresh fun, fellowship, and food. Thanks again to Charlie and Sandy Wilhite for supplying pizzas for every RockLife!



HS Girl Time has grown this year as well. Girl Time happens before RockLife but only from November thru March. Like RockLife, they have time for faith discussion and fellowship, but it's in a "girl way" so I'm not sure exactly what goes on there. LOL, JK...but kinda serious. Thanks to Jamie Baehl, Lisa Bittner, and Christie Mack for your time and effort leading this!!

Source + Summit this year was amazing, held at Memorial HS, March 17-19. Over the last 6 years that I've attended with the youth, I haven't been this impressed and inspired by the speaker line-up. Not to say anything negative about the past retreats, it's just this year had 3 bigtime speakers in Chris Padgett, Leah Darrow, and Nick Davidson. They genuinely connected with the youth through humor, raw life experience, and real faith. SMG brought 42 HS & MS youth to the retreat. God is Good!....

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HS Food Fast was held at Sts. Peter & Paul this year on April 22-23 to help youth empathize with the poor and hungry around the world. 24 youth signed up to fast for 24 hours. Fasting can be a little tough and scary sounding, especially right after Lent just ended! Honestly, I struggle with the idea of not eating for 24 hours. But these young people really did it well; and they did it with joy! We kept busy with a lot of activities such as serving at the House of Bread & Peace, playing bingo with the elderly at Gibson General, collecting canned goods door-to-door, selling Judy Schmitt rolls to raise money for our Unbound sponsor child Angel Mendez, and much more. To begin the fast, Kent Scheller and family came to talk about their mission experience in Guatemala along with their adoption of their daughter Abby (from the same place in Guatemala). They really helped us to be grateful for the material blessings we have, and challenged us to share those blessings with those who truly NEED. After Kent's talk, one of the youth profoundly stated that our 24 hour fast was nothing since we know we have a big feast coming at the end of our event, but those in the developing world deal with hunger on a daily basis.



Lastly, MS Shantytown was held at St. Bernard on May 6-7<sup>th</sup>. 37 MS youth got a small taste of what it's like to be homeless. They served at 2 local shelters and made cardboard box tents to sleep in for the night. Although it's getting warmer outside, the temps got down to the low 40s overnight! A few woke up overnight and had to huddle around the campfire. In the 2 corresponding pictures: boys wrapping cutlery packets for the Evansville

Rescue Mission; girls making shanty tents/boxes to sleep in at St. Bernard.

Watch the bulletin for details on upcoming events. And as always, if you would like to be a part of any youth programs/events I would be very happy to chat and work with you! Contact Bryan at 664-7992 or [bmacke@evdio.org](mailto:bmacke@evdio.org).

## *RCIA* by Gerald Weber

### **The Joy of Easter**

Easter is a time of great joy and celebration in our Catholic Church. We celebrate with great joy that Jesus has risen from the dead, and He assures us that we will also rise to a new life in His heavenly presence. The Easter Vigil is filled with symbolism, prayer and praise as we celebrated our roots and dedicated ourselves to God our Father. We also celebrate with great joy all those throughout the world and especially those at Holy Cross and Sts. Peter and Paul who become new members of the Catholic Church. Seeing the joy of the Holy Spirit magnified in these new members was enough to inspire us all in our faith.

Joining the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil from Holy Cross were Chantel Parshall, Allison Mounts, Glenn Dickenson II. We will welcome Greg Gomez into our Catholic family this summer. We welcome each new member with great pride and attest to their sincerity and progress on their journey. This year we also had the joy of welcoming five beautiful young ladies into our Catholic family. Addison Ruth Martine Arnett, Jaydyn Jean Eva Arnett, Karliana Maria Huante, Emily Anne Vantlin, and Allyson Rachael Vantlin were baptized as children of God. We thank God for this large group who shown with the joy of the Holy Spirit.

Following the vigil, Sts. Peter and Paul hosted a reception to welcome all the new members. Thanks to Sts. Peter and Paul for their warm reception and hospitality. We look forward to hosting the vigil next year at Holy Cross.

We give a big thank you to the sponsors of the new Catholics who played a significant role in supporting the new members of Holy Cross and Sts. Peter and Paul on their faith journey. Without sponsors the faith journey would be more difficult. Many thanks to the RCIA team for their dedication and willingness to share their own faith journey with others. The Holy Cross RCIA team is Peg & Steve Hall, Becky and Deacon Joe Siewers, Monica & Jim Weber, and Betty Sue & Gerald Weber. Also, a special thank you to Clara Mae Hagedorn for coordinating hostesses for faith sharing on Sundays. Thanks to all of our hostesses for presenting a welcoming atmosphere by providing goodies for us to munch on after Sunday Mass.



We are continuing to meet after Mass every Sunday until Pentecost. During this time we discuss the Sunday scripture readings and how we can assimilate the word of God into our daily lives. All Holy Cross parishioners are invited to join us after Mass on Sunday in the Parish Center.

A new Inquiry period will begin in July for anyone having questions about the Catholic Church. Inquiry is a period of searching and reflection on the call of God. If you know anyone that may have an interest of learning more about the Catholic Church have them to call one of the RCIA team members: Peg & Steve Hall, Becky and Deacon Joe Siewers, Monica & Jim Weber, and Gerald & Betty Sue Weber. Please pray that people are open to the call of God in their Lives!!

### **STEWARDSHIP**

by Stephanie Stoll

#### *A Prayerful Parish*

Before Father closes a weekend mass, we pray the Stewardship Prayer. We begin by saying, "My parish is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is. It will be prayerful if I pray." We make our parish what it is, and we say we want to make our parish prayerful. So, what are we as parishioners doing to achieve this goal? Stop for a moment and ask yourself:

**What am I doing to make our parish prayerful?**

**Am I praying?**

**How should I pray?**

**What should I pray for?**

These are the questions the stewardship committee of our linked parishes has been discussing. In an effort to better live the Stewardship Prayer, the committee made a commitment that members will pray daily, in word and action, for a greater awareness of how God blesses us through prayer. Why are we praying? Because God knows what is best for us and He says we should. God commands us to pray in 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. What does this mean to the stewardship committee, and how are we praying in all circumstances without ceasing? Some practical ways to this might be: 1) leaving the radio off in the car and sitting in silence while asking the Lord for direction for the day. 2) walking an extra five minutes and attaching an intention to that sacrifice. 3) doing the laundry or a chore cheerfully while being grateful for the ability to accomplish the chore. In general, before we begin a daily task or give up a convenience usually taken for granted, we make a conscious effort to offer that moment in time for the intentions of our parishes; our priests, our employees, our volunteers, our school children, our married and single people, etc...

By leading a conscious life of intentional prayer for our parish, our committee is being made more aware and appreciative of our blessings. The stewardship committee invites you to join us in this effort. How are you making our parish a parish of prayer?



## *HOLY CROSS HISTORY*

Recently we came across an old book called "Dedication of Holy Cross Church and Rectory" dated May 5, 1957. In this book contains the Explanation of the Windows in the church. We thought you might be interested in checking this out.

1. **NATIVITY** (*Facing Altar on the right, front side, by Station of Cross #13*)  
The main figures are those of Joseph, Mary and the Jesus. At the top can be seen a distant view of Bethlehem; while at the bottom the angels are seen announcing the birth of Jesus to the shepherds.
2. **PRESENTATION**  
The Blessed Virgin presenting the Child Jesus at the temple. Below the figures, two doves represent sacrificial offerings at the temple shown behind the doves.
3. **FINDING IN THE TEMPLE**  
The figure of the Boy Jesus is shown in the midst of the astounded doctors. In the background at the top we can see Mary and Joseph who have come to the temple looking for Jesus. The Pentateuch symbolizes the five books of the Old Testament, and the burning lamp, knowledge.
4. **TEACHING THE CHILDREN**  
Christ seated among a group of children teaching and blessing them. A mother has brought an infant to receive the Lord's blessing.
5. **SENDING APOSTLES TO TEACH**  
The central figure of Christ is shown giving his command to "Go and Baptize ye all nations" to His apostles. Below a Priest, a modern apostle, is shown baptizing converts who come from every race of man.
6. **RESURRECTION**  
It is Easter morning and Christ is shown arising from the tomb in all His power and glory, as He predicted. The phoenix is the traditional symbol of the Resurrection. The four heads at the top border, symbolize the Angle and the three Mary's at the tomb.
7. **ASCENSION**  
The figure of Christ is shown ascending into heaven while a group of apostles are gathered about to witness the miraculous event.
8. **THE LAST JUDGMENT**  
Jesus is shown seated in His throne presiding in judgment. St. Michael is shown carrying the scales of justice & pointing a flaming sword at the damned. The chosen ones are shown in attitudes of thanksgiving and prayer.
9. **THE MATERNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN** (These start on left, front side by Station #1)  
This window shows a traditional "Madonna and Child." The lower section shows "The Annunciation" with the Inscription "Hail Mary Full of Grace."
10. **VISITATION**  
The meeting between Mary and St. Elizabeth. Elizabeth is shown kneeling before Mary and exclaiming "Blessed art thou among women."
11. **THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT**  
St. Joseph leading an ass upon which are riding the "Mother and Child". On the border daggers are shown. These symbolize the slaughter of the innocent. The Sphinx at the bottom of the window symbolize Egypt.
12. **THE ASSUMPTION**  
The Blessed Virgin is depicted ascending into heaven. The Apostles have gathered around the tomb and watch awestricken. The lily symbolizes the purity of Mary.
13. **THE CORONATION**  
The hands of the Father and Son are seen placing the crown upon the Virgin's head proclaiming her Queen. Two angels hold symbols of the Blessed Virgin "Tower of David" and "Rosa Mystica."
14. **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**  
The Blessed Mary is depicted crushing Satan's head who is pictured as a reptile encircling the world. "The Star of the Sea" and "Gate of Heaven" shown below the figure are two appropriate symbols of Mary.
15. **OUR LADY OF FATIMA**  
This window is dominated by the Blessed Mary appearing to the 3 children at Fatima. Her vestments are authentic, while the children are depicted in various states of awe and veneration.



## *HOLY CROSS HISTORY...continued*

### 16. **QUEEN OF PEACE**

Humanity is portrayed taking refuge in the protective mantle of Mary. Below we can see a village suffering the horrors of war. The doves with olive branches symbolize peace.

### 17/18. **PIUS XII -BISHOP GRIMMELSMAN** (These windows are in the cry room)

These two windows contain the Coat of Arms of the Holy Father and Bishop Grimmelsman.

### 19. **BAPTISM** (This window is by the Divine Mercy statue in the back of church)

Baptism is symbolized by the baptismal font, the Holy Spirit and a candle.

### 20. **FAÇADE WINDOW** (This window is in upstairs back of church)

This window is dominated by a huge cross. A strong brilliant light radiates from this cross and it is surrounded by symbols appropriate to the Passion of Our Lord.

Architect—Virgil J. Miller

Stained Glass, Church Lighting, Custom Wood Work, Decorating and Murals, Marble and Mosaics, Sculpture, Metal Ware, Church Seating by John J. Winterich & Assoc. Cleveland, OH

## *FIRST COMMUNION CANDIDATES*



Front row left to right: Allyson Vantlin, Brooke Stodghill, Killian Moore, Cooper Wahl, Jackson Schaefer, Knox Lamb, Trent Dewig, Meredith Mann, Cambria Brokaw, Karlana Huante  
 Second Row: Miss Shelley Weiss, Emily Vantlin, Riley Hopf, Audry Sexton, Donovan Scheessele, Saige Kissel, Emma Fuhs, Ava Martin, Kali Layman and Deacon Joe Siewers  
 Third Row: Fr. Tony Ernst, Owen O'Neal, Addison Arnett, Jayda Hardiman, Paige Schnaus, Kayla Russler, Brooklin Laakman, Fr. Biju Thomas

## *RELIGIOUS EDUCATION* By: Larua Goedde

### **Religious Ed Registration**

Please register now for Religious Ed for the 2017-2018 school-year. Classes will begin on Sept. 6. New enrollees may find the forms on the parish websites or in the back of church. The cost is \$45.00 per student for 1-2 students, 3 or more students in the family is \$35.00/per student. Registration late fees of \$10.00 will begin on June 1. The Late fee increases to \$25.00 beginning July 1. Please make checks payable to your parish. Preschool Religious Ed cost is \$25.00/per student. Please contact Laura Goedde at 812-768-6457 with any questions.

### **Vacation Bible School**

**St. Bernard ~ Holy Cross ~ St. James ~ Sts. Peter and Paul present:**

**"Birthday Blast" A Celebration of Life** - It will be held June 26-30 at Holy Cross. Registration forms are available at the churches, parish centers and on-line at ([www.holycrossparish.info](http://www.holycrossparish.info) and [www.stsppchurch.com](http://www.stsppchurch.com)). Please complete a registration form and return with the fee to your parish office or in an envelope marked VBS in the collection basket. Checks can be made payable to Sts. Peter & Paul. Turn in paperwork by June 1. We need volunteers to help with registration, snacks, preparing craft kits, leading children to daily activities and a teaching. Watch the back of church for a sign-up sheet for snack donations. Cash donations will also be accepted. Contact **Deanna Bullock** 812-677-0290 or **Becky Mann** 812-589-5568 if you would like to help or have any questions.

### **Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia**

We have a week-long list of events planned for June 26-30. The sisters of St. Cecilia will join us to teach Vacation Bible School, Monday evening will be a Youth Mass at Sts. Peter & Paul at 6:30 p.m. followed by a High School Hangout with Q & A with the Sisters. Wednesday evening will be a class for Catechists and potential catechists with the Sisters, Thursday evening will be a Middle School Hangout/Campfire at St. Bernard with the Sisters. Watch the bulletin for more detail!

### **Adult Religious Education**

#### **Scripture Study Classes**

We currently offer classes on Sunday and Wednesday mornings at Sts. Peter & Paul and Tuesday evenings at Holy Cross. This fall we will offer a 14 week study on the Wild Goose Series on The Holy Spirit. The study will begin in September. There is no prior study experience necessary. We will offer another study beginning in January 2018. Watch for registration information in upcoming church bulletins or contact Laura Goedde at 812-768-6457.

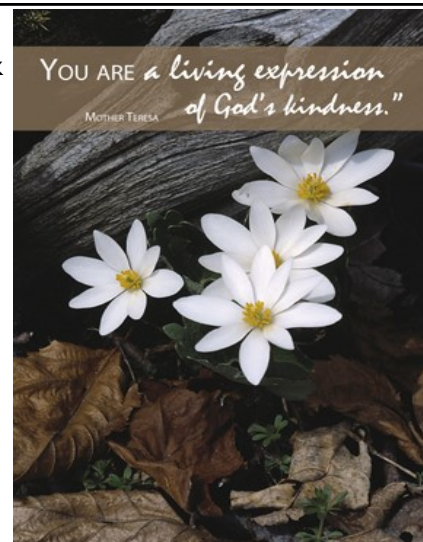
#### **Summer Scripture Study Men's Group**

A men's group will meet this summer to study "Be A Man" by Fr. Larry Richards. If you are interested in attending, please contact Laura at 812-768-6457 or email at [lgoedde@evdio.org](mailto:lgoedde@evdio.org) for more information.

### **Thank You to All Volunteers**

Fr. Tony, Fr. Biju, Laura Goedde, Stephanie Stoll and Liz Hirsch would like to thank all of our dedicated catechists and helpers for a great year in Religious Ed. Enriching the lives of our youth by handing on the faith is a great service and what God calls each of us to do, to evangelize and spread the message of the gospel.

Do you enjoy helping others learn and grow in their faith? Do you feel energized when you realize that you've let the Holy Spirit work through you? Are you open to learning more about your own spiritual journey? Then maybe you should discern teaching in our Religious Ed classes. There are openings for catechists, assistants, Wednesday night helpers, Rosary leaders and traffic duty for Religious Ed this Fall. We will help you get started and have wonderful programs and curriculum to help you teach. Contact me to learn more! Laura at 812-768-7457 or [lgoedde@evdio.org](mailto:lgoedde@evdio.org).





## *RELIGIOUS ADULT FORMATION...continued*



### **Serra Club Youth Award Winners**

Congratulations to this year's Serra Club Youth award recipients. They were selected for their commitment and leadership. They serve as role models to their peers. We thank them for their service, and we thank their parents for teaching them the importance of serving God and others. Holy Cross winners: Amelia Kissel, daughter of Greg & Summer Kissel and Madilyn O'Neal, daughter of Ian & Lisa O'Neal. Sts. Peter & Paul winners: Nicole Bittner, daughter of Eric & Lisa Bittner and Helaena Pfeiffer, daughter of Randy & Susan Pfeiffer. Bob Naas, from the Serra Club of Evansville presented the awards to these 8<sup>th</sup> grade students on April 26 at the final Religious Education class for the year.

## *SACRAMENTS*

### **Confirmation**

We celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on May 13 with Bishop Thompson, Fr. Tony and Fr. Biju. Please keep these young adults in your prayers:

Hailey Anderson, Payton Body, Matthew Cleveland, Drew Dilbeck, Caroline Eichmiller, Mitchell Evans, Lindsey Field, Jaden Fleetwood, Avery Gick, Dillon Hasenour, Maria Hillyard, Alex Hofman, Abbye Huelsman, Morgan Jackson, Luke Johanningsmeier, Emma Kast, Justin Kidd, Elizabeth Kiesel, Alison Kissel, Joshua Kramer, Isabelle Kyle, Beau Lamey, Garrett Martin, Madaline Maurer, Brooklynn Moody, Brendan Murphy, Whitney Norris, Kennedy Obermeier, Mitchell Priar, Kiersten Rexing, Shealyn Riggs, Preston Risinger, Colby Rogers, Katie Rose, Andrew Smith, Mark Sorg, Cameron Spindler, Maxwell Ziller.

### **Baptism**

Our next baptism class is July 10 at 6:30 pm at Holy Cross. All first time parents should make every effort to attend the class BEFORE their baby is born. This allows them to plan their baptism immediately after the birth. Godparents are welcome to attend as well.

### **High School Senior Celebration**

On May 21 our high school senior class will celebrate Mass together at 8:45 at Holy Cross followed by a breakfast. Keep these seniors in your prayers as they continue on their journey and reassure them that they always have a community here supporting them.

## *SOME THOUGHTS BY FR. BIJU*

On the 18th and 19th February 1967 about twenty-five students and University theology professors from Duquesne University got together for a retreat weekend at the Ark and the Dove retreat house outside of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania .

The Saturday night of the weekend had been set aside for relaxation. It was planned to celebrate a birthday party of one of the priests, but the party was rather slow in getting started, so Patti (Gallagher) went to gather people to come. On her way, she stopped in the second floor chapel. She remembers thinking, 'I wasn't going in to pray, just to tell any students there, to come down to the party. But as I entered into the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and knelt there, I was filled with a sense of awe. I had always believed by the gift of faith, that Jesus is really present in the Blessed Sacrament, but I had never experienced His glory. As I knelt there, my body literally trembled before His majesty. I felt really scared and said to myself, 'Get out of here quick because something is going to happen if you stay in the presence of God.' As I knelt there before the Lord, for the first time in my life, I prayed what I would call a prayer of total surrender. I said, 'Father I give my life to you and whatever you want of me, that's what I choose. If it means suffering, then I accept that. Just teach me to follow your Son Jesus and to learn to love the way He loves. In the next few moments, Patti found herself prostrate, flat on her face before the tabernacle. No one had touched her but her shoes had come off. This was Holy ground. She was filled with an awareness of God's personal love, a love so completely undeserved, so utterly foolish, so lavishly given, that the only word that came now was 'stay.'

Though she wanted to remain in the chapel, she knew that if she could experience God's love in such a profound way, others could too. She told the other two students in the chapel, 'I pray that this will happen to you', then hurried to tell the priest-chaplain what had happened. As she left him, a few students asked 'What has happened to you? Your face looks different!' Patti told her story, then took them by the hand to the chapel. There she prayed, 'Lord, whatever you just did for me, do it for them!' Within half an hour, 12 of the 24 students were in the chapel. They stayed singing and praying from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. the following morning and during that night God touched each one in a unique way. Some felt God's love so deeply, that they couldn't do anything but weep. Others laughed and laughed. Some including Patti, felt a tremendous burning in their hands or going through their arms like fire. Others experienced a clicking in their throats or a tingling in their tongues. "You have to remember, we didn't know about the gifts of the Holy Spirit", said Patti. In the weeks that followed, the students gradually learned about the gifts of the Holy Spirit. They told their friends and colleagues about it.



Pope John XXIII's prayer in preparation for the Vatican Council was, "O Holy Spirit pour forth the fullness of your gifts, renew your wonders in this our day as by a new Pentecost." On 8th December 1965, the council ended. A great renewal for the Catholic Church began, a renewal that would encompass the entire Church: clergy, religious, laity. Many believe that this renewal is a direct result of Vatican II and Pope John XXIII's prayer.

This Renewal centers on the renewal of individual commitment to the person of Jesus Christ in His Church, through the power of the Holy Spirit. The commitment begins by the re-anointing with the presence of the Holy Spirit what is sometimes called, "The Baptism in the Holy Spirit." This occurs when individuals ask Jesus Christ, who is the One who gives the Holy Spirit, to stir up the gift of the Holy Spirit within their hearts. Paul said to Timothy in *II Tim 1:6*, "[I remind you to stir into Flame, the Gift of God that you have through the imposition of my hands.](#)" This is primarily the renewal of gifts received in baptism and confirmation. The results are many. Along with the reception of the charisms, people who have experienced this renewal in the Holy Spirit, talk of a new and deeper personal knowledge of Jesus. They find new power and meaning in all forms of prayer, a new love of scripture, a new and deeper appreciation of the Church, of the Liturgy, of the Sacraments, of the Pope, of Mary, of Mass, Rosary and the Way of the Cross. These characteristics of the Renewal have led Pope Paul VI and Pope John Paul II to actively encourage the faithful and the clergy to become involved in the Charismatic Renewal. Clearly, the Renewal is in and for the Church, not alongside the Church. Pope John Paul II met with groups of charismatic people and at one such encounter said, "Remain in an attitude of constant and graceful availability for every gift, that the Spirit wishes to pour into your hearts."

The Bishops of the United States in their pastoral letter to the American Church and the Charismatic Renewal, wrote the following in 1984. "The Charismatic Renewal is rooted in the witness of the Gospel tradition, Jesus is Lord by the power of the Spirit to the Glory of the Father. The gifts are not for the individual but for the whole community. God gives understanding about Himself and the Christian walk: **Wisdom, Knowledge and Discernment**. God acts in His community: **Faith, Healing and Miracles**. God speaks to His people: **Prophecy, Tongues and Interpretation of Tongues**.

The outpouring and manifestation of the Holy Spirit at the first Pentecost continues in the Church today. The gift of the Spirit, as promised by Jesus and sent by the Father, is for all believers. It is God's Spirit that transforms us to be children of God. It is in the power of the Holy Spirit that great renewals, revivals and evangelization occur.



## *PRO-LIFE COMMITTEE* By: Ann Minnis

**HAUBSTADT SOMMERFEST** (June 15, 16, & 17) – to help at the Right to Life booth, call Maureen Ruggles 768-6974.

**\*BEAUTIFUL BABY CONTEST--** To enter baby, 24 Months or younger, call Linda Kissel 812-677-0085.

**GIBSON COUNTY FAIR** (July 9-15) – to help at the Right to Life booth, call Janith Goedde 812-768-6537.

**\*BEAUTIFUL BABY CONTEST--** To enter baby, 24 Months or younger, call Linda Kissel 812-677-0085.

**PARADES** – The extended Jerry Schmitt family will again be pulling the Right to Life floats at the Sommerfest

Special thanks to all who helped organize and support:

**"40 Days for Life"** -- Sts Peter & Paul walked Mar.29 & St. James on March 15.

**St. Patrick's Family-Game and Card Party**—Record profits! Mary Lee Luebbehusen won 2 tickets to the Right to Life Banquet.

**"Cemetery of the Innocents"**—Removed crosses in record time with lots of good help.

**Right to Life Banquet**—Dan Deer and Kurt Paridaen won our VIP tickets & met Lou Holz & got autographs & photos!

Lou Holz presented Robin Stoll with an autographed football & Kelle Goedde with tickets to Notre Dame/Miami game!

You may not know until you stand before the Throne of God how your prayers, actions, words, donations, encouragement, and joy in LIFE make a difference, but keep on doing what is right!

State & National Information: (For more information, see lifenews.com or priestsforlife.org.)

March: Indiana Legislature passed SB 404 to strengthen parental ability to protect their minor daughter from abortion and to strengthen laws regulating abortion clinics & protecting women from sex trafficking. Gov. Holcomb signed the bill into law.

March: The U.S. Senate confirmed pro-life Neil Gorsuch to the Supreme Court!

Pres.Trump signed legislation to allow states to defund the Planned Parenthood abortion business..

May 4: President Trump signed an executive order promoting Freedom of Speech and Religious Liberty, including conscience protections regarding abortion.

The U.S. House passed a bill to defund Planned Parenthood. This legislation now moves to the Senate.

Upcoming Right to Life Meeting Dates: June 13 & Aug. 8. All meetings start at 7:30 pm and are held at the home of Ann Minnis, 115 N.Vine St. Haubstadt. All members and prospective members are welcome!!

*Adoption Miracle: One of our parishioners shared that her brother's family has just adopted a newborn baby girl. This baby was saved outside a St. Louis Planned-Parenthood abortion clinic when the teenaged mom, who was 8-10 weeks pregnant, spoke with a pro-life volunteer! -- Don't ever think your prayers, spiritual adoptions, and presence outside Planned Parenthood facilities are in vain!! Welcome, baby!!*

### **DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA**

#### **CATHOLIC CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION**

*Holy Cross, Sts. Peter & Paul & St. James parishes*

#### **How do we help?!!**

*We support our communities in many ways. We help local people through donations to The Lord's Pantry, GSHS's after prom & Public Library Reading Programs. We donate to our local Bible School programs. We donate to Right to Life of Gibson Country. Our principle charity is the St. Elizabeth/Coleman Pregnancy Adoption Services in Indianapolis.*

*Wonder how we do it?!!*

*Join now and find out!!*

*Becky 812-753-4180, Kris 812-768-6456, Linda 812-677-0085*

*Requirements: You must be at least 16 years old and be a Catholic woman willing to have fun and fellowship once a month!*

**Our Motto: UNITY, FRIENDSHIP AND CHARITY**



Holy Cross Catholic Church  
305 E. Walnut Street  
Fort Branch, IN 47648

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## *AUTOMATIC ELECTRONIC GIVING PROGRAM*

The electronic giving program allows you to electronically have funds transferred directly into the parish's account for your Sunday giving. It is convenient, no cost to you, & helps you stay current on your Sunday giving. You may increase, decrease, or suspend your transfer any time by calling the parish office. Please complete the form below & return to the parish office. Please contact Lisa at 753-3548 or lmay@evdio.org with questions.

### **Direct Debit Authorization Form**

I hereby authorize Holy Cross Church to initiate debit entries for tithing to my/our account as indicated below and the financial institution named below to debit the same to such account. I/We acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my/our account must comply with the provisions of U.S. law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Financial Institution Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name(s) on the Account

Transfer Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for Sunday collection

Type of Acct: ☐ Checking ☐ Savings

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Routing Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Account Number)

Frequency of transfer: Weekly \_\_\_\_\_ on Friday or Monthly \_\_\_\_\_ on the 5<sup>th</sup> (or next business day)

This authority is to remain in effect until Holy Cross has received written notification from me/us of its termination in such time and manner as to allow Holy Cross and the financial institution a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Spouse Name) (if joint acct)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Spouse Signature) (if joint acct)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(E-mail Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**PLEASE ATTACH COPY OF VOIDED CHECK TO THIS FORM**