



HOLY CROSS HERALD

Father Christopher Droste, Pastor
Father Luke Hassler, Parochial Vicar

**Date November
2019**

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“Blessed is the one who will dine in the Kingdom of God.” (Lk 14:15)

When we dine in the Kingdom, which primarily includes the celebration of the Eucharist but also sharing daily meals together, we are experiencing what we will enjoy for all eternity—being in communion. Being in communion with God is not some out of body—mystical experience we long to have in the afterlife, but is something we can begin to experience now through our bodies through simple things like sharing in the Eucharist at Mass and sharing meals at home and abroad together.



Essentially being in communion is being together with the ones we are called to love the most and sharing with them what we have most in common—the food and fruit of our faith—the life of Christ.

Even though all are welcome to share in this feast of life and love, a good number of folks, even those of us who were raised in the faith, complain or make excuses for wanting to be elsewhere or not wanting to eat what’s put before us. Despite being created and called to communion, many times we prefer hiding and eating alone in places where we can be separated from others and uninterrupted by their presence including God’s. We think if we can just stay busy enough and just eat on the run, then we can have a good excuse for not participating in Mass or the next best thing to it, sharing family meals together.

I often hear the excuse from folks that there would be no way to enjoy life with those they love without their frenetic activity and occupation with work. Sure, we all have to work to provide for ourselves and our families but when the goal of work has gone beyond serving needs to wants or if it reaches a point when our work doesn’t allow but little to no time and space to be together with those we love or if our obsession with work or other interests disables us from enjoying the time we do have together, it’s a sure sign that we’ve become slaves to some other master than God. Even more pitiable are those who get drawn away from dining together by their enslavement to entertainment, shopping and sports. (Don’t eat in front of the TV and keep your devices away from the table while your eating together!)

If you struggle to accept the daily invitations you receive from God and others to be in communion, then I encourage you to critically examine the excuses you’re making for denying yourself the best life has to offer. Perhaps there’s some anxiety and fear of God or others that’s keeping you from doing so? If so seek help and healing to be free of those fears. Perhaps you’re more in love with yourself or something else more than God and your neighbor?! If that’s true, it’s ok to be honest. The truth will set you free and admitting the truth about yourself is the first step on the road to recovery and redemption. Confess it in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and go from there.

Another way of dining in the Kingdom is by feasting on the Sacred Scriptures. Dust off your bible or go buy one and find the passage that I included above and you’ll find it’s the beginning of a parable that says something about what I’m talking about. Chew on it a bit and if it’s hard to swallow, chew on it some more, eventually it’ll go down and nourish your soul.

Father Christopher

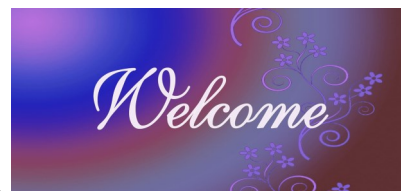
NEW PARISHIONERS

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.

Josh Brand & Mary Hampton. They reside in Fort Branch. They have 5 children, Leah, Matthew, Abbie, Nathaniel and Aaron.

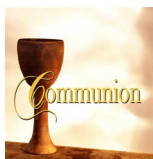
Eric & Lisa Bradshaw. They reside in Owensville. They have 3 children, Ida, and twin sons, Janson and Waylon.

Isaac & Brittani Evans. They reside in Fort Branch. They have a 5 month old girl, Brady Kay.



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.



WEBSITES

Check out our websites for the church and school. There you will find our Bulletin, Parish Calendar, Mass Schedules, school info and much more. Please contact Peg Hall at hallfamily@iee.org

Our website pages are:

Parish: www.holycrossparish.info

School: www.holycrossparish.info/holy-cross-school

FOOD WITH FATHERS

Food With Fathers has been a great success! Thank you to all of the families who have hosted Father Christopher and Father Luke! They have enjoyed getting to meet and spend time with families from our linked parishes.

Father Christopher and Father Luke are looking for opportunities to get to know and spend time with more families from our linked parishes. Hosting a meal for the priests at your home is a great opportunity for them to get to know your family.

During the week, the priests' schedules can get busy in the evenings with meetings and appointments. They have provided the following times slots as a guideline for scheduling a meal with families:

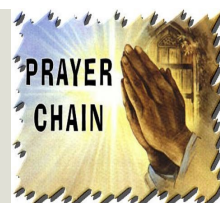


Fridays at 6:00 pm
Saturdays at 7:15 pm
Sundays at noon for lunch
Sundays from 5:00-7:00 pm for dinner



Prayer Chain—Please Pray for the Sick & Suffering

To add someone to the prayer chain or become a part of the chain, please contact Phyllis Schmits at 812-615-5141 or call the parish Office at 812-753-3548. Please contact the parish office 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 Father Christopher and Father Luke



Christmas Mass Schedule and Advent Confessions

Thanksgiving

Wed. Nov. 27 - 7:00 pm at Holy Cross
 Thurs. Nov. 28 - 8:00 am at Sts. Peter & Paul
 Thurs. Nov. 28 - 8:00 am at St. James

Immaculate Conception

(Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year-
 Falls on a Sunday in Advent)

Mon. Dec. 9 - 8:30 am & 7:00 pm at St. James
 Mon. Dec. 9 - 6:30 pm at St. James

Christmas Eve

Tues. Dec. 24 - 4:00 & 10:00 pm at Holy Cross
 Tues. Dec. 24 - 4:00 pm & Midnight at
 Sts. Peter & Paul
 Tues. Dec. 24 - 5:00 pm at St. James

Christmas Day

Wed. Dec. 25 - 8:45 am at Holy Cross
 Wed. Dec. 25 - 9:00 am at Sts. Peter & Paul
 Wed. Dec. 25 - 7:00 & 9:00 am at St. James

New Year's Eve

Tue. Dec. 31 - 4:30 pm at Holy Cross
 Tue. Dec. 31 - 5:00 pm at St. James
 Tues. Dec. 31 - 5:00 pm at Sts. Peter & Paul

New Year's Day

Wed. Jan. 1 - 8:00 am at St. James
 Wed. Jan. 1 - 8:00 am at Sts. Peter & Paul
 Wed. Jan. 1 - 8:45 am at Holy Cross



Regular Confession Times

Sts. Peter & Paul - Mondays 6:00-6:25 pm,
 Wednesdays & Fridays 7:30-7:55 am, &
 Saturdays 8:30-9:30 am & 5:15-5:50 pm
 Holy Cross - Tuesdays-Fridays 7:45-8:10 am,
 Saturdays 4:00-4:20 pm &
 Sundays 8:15-8:35 am
 St. James - 30 minutes before Masses;
 Saturdays 4:00-4:55 pm

Additional Confession Times

Wed. Dec. 11 - 6:30-7:45 pm (Religious Ed classes ONLY at SPP)
 Sat. Dec. 14 - 3:30-4:20 pm at Holy Cross
 Sat. Dec. 14 - 5:00-5:50 pm at Sts. Peter & Paul
 Mon. Dec. 16 - 5:30-6:20 pm & 7:00-8:00 pm at SPP
 Tues. Dec. 17 - 6:00-8:00 pm at SPP
 Thurs. Dec. 19 - 6:00-8:00 pm at Holy Cross
 Mon., Dec. 16 thru Fri. 20 - 6:00-6:55 pm at St. James
 Sat. Dec. 21 - 3:30-4:20 pm at Holy Cross
 Sat. Dec. 21 - 5:00-5:50 pm at Sts. Peter & Paul
 Mon Dec. 23 - 5:30-6:20pm and 7:00-8:00 pm at SPP

Penance Service

Wed. Dec. 18 - after the 7:00 pm Mass at St. James



Prepare to make a good confession by examining your conscience.

Prayer Before Confession

Come Holy Spirit into my soul. Enlighten my mind that I may know the sins I ought to confess, and grant me your grace to confess them fully, humbly, and with a contrite heart. Help me to firmly resolve not to commit them again. O Blessed Virgin, Mother of my Redeemer, intercede for me through the Passion of Your Son, that I may obtain the grace to make a good confession. Amen.

Rite of Reconciliation

Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Penitent: Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been (how long?) since my last confession, and these are my sins: (confess your sins).

Priest: (gives you a penance)

Penitent: (Pray the Act of Contrition):

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against You, whom I should love above all things. I firmly plan, with Your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us.

In His name, my God, have mercy. Amen

Priest: (gives you absolution for your sins)

Penitent: (recite or do your penance as soon as possible)

HOLY CROSS DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

"Be true to your school" is a great way to describe the recipient of the 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award. He and his family have been a lifelong members of Holy Cross Church. His mother was the one responsible for teaching and leading him in his faith. He has been a wonderful role model for the community.

He attended Holy Cross, Fort Branch Community School and Gibson Southern. In high school he ran cross country, played basketball and baseball. In 1979 he was awarded the Most Valuable Athlete Award. He also received the senior superlative for Best Dressed. After high school he went to ISU-E and Oakland City on baseball scholarships. He has great knowledge and love of baseball. He has coached Fort Branch Minor League, Little League and Babe Ruth. He has been the assistant coach at Gibson Southern and head coach at Oakland City College. For many years he gave hitting and pitching lessons to numerous baseball and softball players. He could be seen most summer mornings in the batting cages at the Fort Branch Park.

After graduating from Oakland City with a degree in Business he went to work at Emge's. After Emge's was sold he went back to school and received a degree in education. He taught at Loogootee for 2 years. In 1993 he began teaching 4th grade at Haubstadt Community School. At HCS he coached girls and boys basketball and middle school football.

At Holy Cross he has worked at the Turkey Shoots, set up for chicken dinners, Called Bingo at Casino nights, served on the School Board and made hundreds of turtles. He also ushers, cleans the church and prays the rosary before mass. He is a very active member of the Fort Branch Alumni Association.

While getting his degree in Education and Principal's license his dream was to come back to his alma mater and be principal. That became possible in 2011 when he was named principal of Holy Cross School. He has been a huge asset to the school. He loves all the students and looks forward to greeting them daily. He takes great pride in the school and making sure every student is successful. He always strives to make the school the best it can be.

When most people hear his name the first thing that comes to mind is Dodgers. It was his mother that encouraged his great love of the baseball and the Dodgers. It is not very often one sees him without his Dodger cap on. He is also a fan of the Chicago Bears and University of Kentucky basketball. His hobbies include spending time with his family, going on vacation to Disney and watching sports on TV. Also writing his Principal Ponders in the bulletin. He enjoys cleaning the school in the summer with his custodial staff of Joey Vessels, Nick Sellers and Isaac Sellers. He was born to Jack and Mary Hollis. He has 2 older sisters Jackie and Judy. He married Stephanie Stephens in August of 1986. They have 2 children Andy and Abby. A daughter in law Meagan and soon to be son in law Mark Seibert.

He is a very patient, kind, generous and humble man. He loves his family, Holy Cross Church and School and his community.



Congratulations John and thank you for all you do for our Community!!

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



For this edition, you'll get a brief update on current SMG activities, along with a reflection from a solid young man, Holy Cross parishioner and senior a Gibson Southern, Caleb Sellers.

We've had a good start to the new school year. Our regular Sunday activities include bingo with elderly, RockLife, Girl Time, and Boys Open Gym. Since the Gibson General assisted living floor closed down, we're now playing bingo with the elderly at Transcendent Healthcare in Owensville. So far we've been there twice and both times we've had a packed house full of joy and bingo winners!! RockLife is off to a good start. Our most recent night, 32 youth came to relax and refresh as we played a crazy and super active game of Sabre Ball! We also dug into our faith using the new resources from Ascension Press called *The 99*. These resources focus on the reaching out to the "lost sheep." Most of us know the current state of the Church in America, as young people grow more distant from Jesus Christ and the Church. These resources give a fresh perspective and way to connect with people, while illustrating the awesome power and mercy of our Lord!

Our Girl Time and Boys Open Gym just got started up Nov. 3. The girls went Christmas shopping for needy families and will wrap them on the next get-together in December. We had 16 boys come play some ball, which included a "halftime mantime" session to discuss our faith lives. We will be using some online short videos from Knights of Columbus called "Everyday Heroes."

On Oct. 12th we had our annual Fall Freshtivities event, but this time at St. Bernard. 80 middle & high school youth attended. We played the *All Saints* trivia game and enjoyed a pretty crazy-fun haunted house (high school actors seen in photo after a job well done). We finished the night listening to a few short talks by Maggie Rose, Wade Happe and Caleb Sellers. Their talks were very genuine and relevant to what many young people experience in their faith journey. One of my personal highlights of the night was the fresh impromptu standup comedy hour put on by Jacob Scheller. He had everyone rolling!



Now, a fresh reflection from Caleb...

"To live without faith, without a heritage to defend, without battling constantly for truth, is not to live but to 'get along'; we must never just 'get along'." -Pier Giorgio Frassati

I am afraid we have fallen into a society that "gets along" and does not fight for their faith. Everyday people have a schedule to tend to and an endless list of things to check off. I have found the most life giving thing, is to stand for truth in times that the world tells me I am absurd. One of the places I get to boldly proclaim my faith is in our youth ministry. The beautiful thing about the youth is that they are hope for a future that has to fight for love.

A person that exemplifies what a youth is supposed to be is Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati. Pier lived in Italy during the early 1900s. He was born into a wealthy family and seemed to have his life set up for perfection; however, Pier did not find peace or happiness in his family's wealth. What Pier found happiness in, was standing up for a faith he fell in love with. He would spend his days in the street helping the poor, marching in political movements, and dominating locals in games of pool. Pier died at 24 years old after contracting a disease with a sick person he was tending to. What attracts me most about Pier, is his boldness to stand up for his faith despite what people think of him.

ST. MARIA GORETTI YOUTH NEWS *Continued*

As a young person I see a struggling church, but I also see a chance to stand up for what our faith is. Our faith is the way, the truth, and the life. We have a choice to just “get along” and let our busy lives leave us blind to the life around us or we can stand for truth. Pier Giorgio’s favorite quote was *Verso L’alto* which means “to the heights”. For those who feel like they have done enough, let us keep climbing. There is always more mountains to climb and as we go up, it always gets better the higher we go. Together let us not stand idly by, but stand for truth. As the next opportunity comes to take a step in your faith life, listen to the voice that is telling you to take that leap of faith. Stand up. Climb. To the heights we go. – Caleb Sellers

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.

Like our Facebook page: “St. Maria Goretti Catholic Youth Ministry”

Instagram: “St. Maria Goretti CYM”

Website: smgyouth.com



SEMINARIANS



Nicholas Sellers (Holy Cross)
Bishop Simon Brute College Seminary
2500 Cold Spring Road
Indianapolis, IN 46222
n.sellers.jp2@gmail.com

Hello everyone, I hope you all are well. Life is going smoothly on my end. This semester has been going well, and I am enjoying late nights studying, prayer each day, and laughing and embracing time with my brother seminarians. At the seminary this year, I am the Moral Coordinator, so I get to plan activities and event. We just recently had our Halloween/Saint party. Also, I competed on the Marian University Ethics Bowl team a few weekends ago. In other news, we will soon start practicing for our national seminarian basketball tournament. Go Brute Buffaloes!

Most importantly, I am continuing to grow in my love for Christ and His Church. Please pray for me as I continue discerning God’s will. Know of my Prayers for you.

With gratitude, *Nick Sellers*



Clint Johnson (Holy Cross)
As of August 23, 2019:
St. Meinrad School of Theology
200 Hill Drive Street
St. Meinrad, IN 47577
cljohnson2132@gmail.com

Dear Parish Family: Thank you for all your prayers and support. My first few months here at St. Meinrad have been off to a great start. Coming from a background in architecture, I’m not used to reading and writing so much, but I’m getting used to the routine. I’m taking four classes: Creed, Ancient Philosophy, Latin, and Logic. I think Logic is my favorite.

In October, St. Meinrad attended the annual soccer and volleyball tournament in Conception, Missouri with nine other seminaries. We placed first in volleyball and second in soccer. The Diocese of Evansville represented the team well.

Bishop Siegel, Fr. Alex, and Fr. Tyler came up to visit in early October to check in with us. We are truly lucky to have them. Not only do they support us well, but they are amazing examples of what the priesthood should look like. Since I’ve been here, I’ve really come to appreciate how much our priests do for us because I’m witnessing how difficult the lifestyle can be, but it’s worth it.

Thank you again for your prayers, you’re in mine as well. – Peace, *Clint*

Please continue to pray for Clint as he continues his journey.

Father Deydier House of Discernment By: Father Tyler Tenbarge



August opened the Father Deydier House of Discernment in its second year. Three residents moved in and have begun their discernment: Craig Wilmes from Holy Redeemer who currently works in Evansville as a tax accountant; Michael Mosbey from Good Shepherd currently employed by St. Boniface Parish assisting with maintenance; and Chase Riecker from St. Isidore in Celestine who works part-time at Sherwin Williams while also pursuing a degree online. Clint Johnson from Holy Cross who was in residence last year departed the House in August to begin his first year at Saint Meinrad Seminary for our Diocese.



The House residents and Director recently held a "Day of Recollection" at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Vincennes. There, they visited the grave of Fr. Anthony Deydier, after whom the House of Discernment is named, in addition to praying at the tomb of Bishop Simon Bruté whose cause for canonization is underway in Rome.

Two "Savio Nights" have been held at the House this fall for middle school and high school boys and their dads. Games, dinner and faith formation precede praying together in the Church and heading home. This fall, 68 young men have attended from 17 different parishes along with 18 of their dads. The next Savio Night will be October 26 at 6:30pm for 6th-12th grade guys. Dads are welcome to stay, as well.

Monday Nights are still going strong with more than 125 people regularly attending the Holy Hour & Mass for Vocations at Sacred Heart Church. Many vocational seeds are being planted and tilled there. If you know of a young man (18-30) who might benefit from a Catholic community of prayer and fraternity while continuing his career or college, please have him contact Fr. Tyler

(trtenbarga@evdio.org).

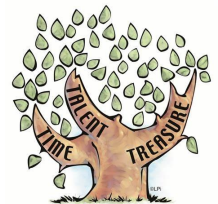


If you would like to support the House by your prayers, please join House residents on Monday Nights at Sacred Heart Church. Adoration is at 6:30pm, and Mass is at 7:30 pm. If you would like to support the work of the House financially, please contact Fr. Tyler.



Stewardship in Your Life

Attention all parishioners ages 19 and older! Join us for the inaugural Tri-Parish Volleyball event. The Stewardship Committee is excited to announce we have begun preparations for a new idea. All parishioners from Holy Cross, St. James and Sts. Peter and Paul are encouraged to join us for an afternoon of sports, and a dash of faith. Please mark your calendars for the following Sundays in January. January 12, at Madden Hall, the 19th, at the Ft Branch Gym, and the 26th, back at Madden Hall. All 3 events will run from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. Please keep an eye out for more information. All details will be shared thru the parish bulletins and on Facebook.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION By Laura Goedde

Faith formation is a life-long activity. In Baptizing your child into the Catholic Faith, you accept the responsibility of bringing your child up in the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church. Our parishes' religious education program helps parents meet this commitment by offering religious education for children as young as 3 years old all the way through high school. Beyond high school, we offer continuing education through Scripture Study, RCIA, Welcome, Cursillo, Marriage Enrichment and other short course studies on the Bible.

We have 2 Seminarians with us from St. Meinrad Seminary this year. Deacon Connor Plessala and 3rd year seminarian Lihn Vu. Deacon Connor is from the Diocese of Mobile, Alabama and Linh Vu is from the Diocese of Cheyenne, Wyoming. Please welcome these gentlemen when you see them and thank them for helping us teach the faith to our children and parish family!

Mark Lutz and Emily Lutz led the students in beautiful song with the Litany of the Saints in honor of All Saints' Day. Students prayed a living rosary in October. Each bead was represented by a luminary and led by the students. Thank you to everyone who participated and made this a wonderful prayer experience!

The Serra Club of Evansville hosts an annual essay contest on Vocations. Students were asked to write an essay, research paper, PowerPoint presentation, skit or poem describing their understanding of Vocations after listening to talks by Matt & Amy Parmer on Marriage, Seminarian Linh Vu and Fr. Luke on Priesthood and Holy Orders, Sr. Irma on Religious Life, and Karen Adams on vowed single life.



This year's winners are Emilee Bullock, daughter of John & Deanna Bullock of Holy Cross, Jack Rose, son of Brian & Mandy Rose of Holy Cross and Aleks Parmer, daughter of Matt & Amy Parmer, Hayden Pennington, son of Todd & Kendra Pennington of St. James and Lilly Schmitt, daughter of Brad & Abby Schmitt of Sts. Peter & Paul. They were honored at a luncheon at the Catholic Center on Nov. 7.

Adult Scripture Study

We are in the process of selecting a study to begin the first week of January 2020. Classes will be offered on
 Sunday at 8:30 a.m. at Sts. Peter & Paul
 Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. at Sts. Peter & Paul
 Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at Holy Cross
 Watch the bulletin for details.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Baptism: Upcoming baptism classes will be on January 13, 2020, and March 9, 2020 at 6:30pm at the Holy Cross parish center. All parents who have not yet attended a class are encouraged to attend prior to their baby's baptism. Godparents are welcome too! Please contact Becky Mann at 812-589-5568 with any questions or to reserve a seat for the class.

Confirmation: Rite of Enrollment for the Confirmation candidates will be on Sunday, January 5, 2020, during the 8:45 at Holy Cross and 10:30 at Sts. Peter & Paul. Please pray for our candidates and their sponsors as they prepare for Confirmation on May 2.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONT.....

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program is again in full swing at Holy Cross. On October 13 Fr. Luke lead our parish in the Rite of Acceptance for those wishing to join our community of faith. We welcomed our candidates Michael Gill and Katerina Sparks and our catechumen Sheila Gill into the RCIA program. Michael, Sheila, and Katerina will be dismissed almost every Sunday morning during Mass to study our Catholic faith until the Easter Vigil. Their studies will consist of various topics of our Catholic faith including the bible, faith and morals, and the sacraments. In addition to these lessons they will meet after Mass in group discussions of the Sunday readings. This combination of studying the teachings of the Church, and how the Gospels relate to their lives help to form their faith.

Michael, Sheila, and Katerina also need the help of everyone in the parish to give them support and welcome them into our faith family. It is the responsibility of the entire parish to help our catechumen and candidates on their faith journey. Each of us must find our own way of helping. A few things that all of us can do are: praying for our catechumens and candidate, encouraging them when we see them, participating in scripture study on Sunday mornings, or offering to host the Sunday morning scripture study. These are only a few ways we can help. With a little imagination we can all help encourage those who are looking for meaning and purpose in their lives.

Faith Sharing is held after Mass most Sundays until Pentecost Sunday. This is an opportunity for everyone to join our catechumen and candidates to discuss the Sunday readings and help apply their teachings to our daily lives. Faith Sharing is held in the Parish Center and is open to the entire parish and is an excellent opportunity to show our catechumen and candidates what our faith means to us and to help them form a faith relationship with the parish.

We are excited and look forward assisting others on the faith journeys as we continue on ours. Please pray for Michael, Sheila, and Katerina for accepting God's invitation, and for the RCIA team.

Sts. Peter & Paul Candidates are – Lora Barton, Cody Campbell, Zachary Frantz, Mike Kelley, Morgan Kelley, Maci Sturgeon, and Kirsten Vogler

Please pray for all those accepting God's invitation, and for the RCIA teams.

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GRIEF SUPPORT RETREAT

The parishes of Holy Cross, St. James and Sts. Peter & Paul will host a Grief Support Retreat on Saturday, January 11, 2020.

- 8:00-8:30 am—Mass in Sts. Peter & Paul Church
- 8:30-1:00 pm—Videos and discussions, a light lunch and time for prayer and reflection will follow Mass in the Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Center Basement.

Suffering touches everyone from the poor to the powerful. It can lead to doubts about God's love, and can leave hearts unhappy for a lifetime. This five-hour retreat is based on the series *Real Suffering: Finding Hope and Healing in the Trials of Life* by Dr. Bob Schuchts.

The retreat will be facilitated by Shawn Bender and Dan Deer, both parishioners of Sts. Peter & Paul, who have experienced loss in their own lives. The retreat will offer insight on the different forms of grief and suggestions on how to deal with it in the way that best fits you. Together, we seek the grace to live with the questions in the confidence that God alone has the answers.

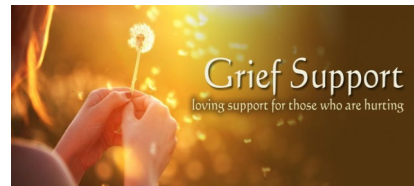
The retreat is open to anyone who is struggling with grief. We hope you will join us! For more information on the retreat, please contact:

- † Shawn Bender at (812) 845-2958 or sibender7@gmail.com
- † Dan Deer at (812) 499-9690 or dandeer@twc.com

Please contact Sts. Peter & Paul parish office at (812) 768-6457

to reserve a seat by Friday, January 3. No cost for the retreat.

Donations are accepted to help support the program.



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL & COMMISSIONS

September 1, 2019—August 31, 2020

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Meeting on the 3rd Thursday of the month

Jan Burger-Faith Formation (2019-21)
Debbie Neufelder– At-Large (2019-21) Vice Chair.
Warren Fleetwood - At-Large (2019-21) Sec
Amanda Southworth- School Council (2019-21)
Darwin Neufelder- Finance (2019-21)
Ryan Bruner- Liturgy (2018-20)
Gerald Weber– Alumni (2019-21)
Roger Johnson-At-Large (2018-20) Chairman
Wanda Englert-LRP (2018-20)
Jason Baehl-Journey Men
SMG Youth – Becky Siewers

Christie Menke - Boosters (2018-20)
Paula Heldt- Stewardship (2019-21)
Monica Weber-At-Large (2018-20)
Carolyn Johnson - Parish & Social Aff. (2018-20)
Laurie Ziliak -Hospitality (2018-20)
Stan May – Building and Grounds
Fr. Christopher Droste - President
Lisa May – Parish Manager
Joe Siewers - Deacon
Joe Hopf-Coord. Parish Operations
Fr. Luke Hassler

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Jay Foster (2017-20)
Melissa Layman (2017-20) President
Jessi Meeks (2018-2021)
Amanda Southworth (2018-2021) Parish Council
Julie Fuhs (2019-22)
Shelly Heldt (2019-22)
John Hollis (Non-voting member) Principal
Nick Ivy (St. Bernard's Rep)

FINANCE COMMISSION

LeAnn Cooper Secretary
Sheila Maikranz Chairman
Steve Hall Vice-Chairman
Bryan Hirsch
Diane Kiesel
Darwin Neufelder Parish Council

PARISH AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION

Stephanie Hollis (2017-20)
Susan Jenkins (2017-20)
Carolyn Johnson (2017-20) Parish Council
Alicia MacMunn (2017-20)
Deanna Bullock (2018-21)
Debbie Lamey (2018-21)
Sue Harrell (2018-21) President
Carrie Martin (2018-21)
Jill Kruse (2019-22)
Kathy Sollman (2019-22)
Lisa Bradshaw (2019-22)

STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

Adam Englert (2017-20) President
Brett Wayman (2018-21)
Paula Heldt (2019-22) Parish Council

MAINTENANCE

Stan May George Robinson Jim Schmitt Jim Oing Devon Kuester

ALUMNI - HCAAF

Sue Harrell- President, Dorothy Karaff – Secretary, Gerald Weber-PC, Glenda Barrett –VP, Ann Georges – Treasurer

LONG RANGE PLANNING

Wanda Englert Tom Wallace Mike Hirsch Randy Kiesel Gerald Weber

CASINO NIGHT COMMITTEE

Sylvia Rose, Lisa May, George Robinson, Greg Perkins, Jan Burger, Peg Hall, Alicia MacMunn, Carolyn Johnson, Jeanne Watkins, Rachael Hileman, Carrie Martin

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Mike Emge Bryan Hirsch Gene Kiesel Darwin Neufelder Jim Rose

FAITH FORMATION

Wanda Englert Kristen Brokaw Jan Burger

LITURGY COMMISSION

Lauren Hirsch (2017-20-President) Fr. Christopher Droste
Ryan Bruner (2017-20)-PC Fr. Luke Hassler
Lisa Bloodworth (2018-21)-VP Deacon Joe Siewers
Brittany Maurer (2018-21) Kyle King/Emily Leonard
Kyle Wallace (2019-22) Lisa Bittner-Decorations
Christy Michel (2019-22)-Sec. Lisa May-Sacristan Coord.

JOURNEYMEN

Chris Cooper President
Brian Rexing Vice-President
Jason Baehl Parish Council
Brian Rose Secretary
Bryan Hirsch Treasurer
Gerald Weber Spiritual Director

BOOSTERS

Kathy Reising Secretary
Lori Spindler President
Libby Ivy Vice-President
Christie Menke Parish Council

HOSPITALITY COMMISSION

Diane Bemis
Greg Perkins
Jodie Paridaen (2019-22) President
Diane Kiesel (2017-20)
Jo Odom (2018-21)
Laurie Ziliak (2018-21) Parish Council
Becky Kiesel (2019-22)

PRO-LIFE COMMITTEE By: Ann Minnis

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 22 – “Indiana March for Life” Day Trip to Indianapolis. \$25. Contact cfrancis@rtlswin.org. Call Ann, too (768-6768)!

Jan. 22 -- 26— “Pilgrimage for Life” in Washington, D.C. See Bryan Macke, bulletin or applications in church for more information. Trip is inexpensive, but priceless in effect. Perhaps this is your year to go – or to send a child or grandchild! Wonderful activities are planned in addition to the huge March for Life. Registrations due in Parish Office by Nov. 25.

Feb. 26 (Ash Wed.)—April 5 (Palm Sun.) “40 Days for Life” Spring campaign –Join us for an hour of walking and prayer to stop the anti-LIFE activities at the Evansville Planned Parenthood Center. (Sts. Peter & Paul’s Day TBA)

Feb. 27 – Oratory and Art Scholarship Contest –Contact Right to Life of Southwest Indiana at rtlswin.org/scholarships, or 812-474-3195. Contests are open to high school students. We have had several winners from Sts. Peter & Paul and other Gibson County Catholic Churches in the past! The theme is “A Baby is a Baby: Born or Unborn.” **Deadline is Feb. 13.**

***March 1, Sunday, after 10:30 Mass--- Respect Life Art Show** featuring art created by our Sts. Peter & Paul School students (Watch the bulletin after Christmas for more information).

Mar. 22, Sunday, beginning at noon – St. Patrick Family Game & Card Party– mark your new calendar!

Mar. 28, Saturday at 9:00 – “Cemetery of the Innocents” –tentative date for removal of crosses.

MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED IN PRO-LIFE WORK THIS YEAR

Fall events included: Golden Heritage Fest booth; “40 Days for Life”; “Life Chain”; erecting “Cemetery of the Innocents”; the “Soup Supper”; and several other important projects. All involved many hours of donated work. Most sincere thanks to all parishioners who prayed, donated, organized, scheduled, volunteered, and participated in any of these activities and events that help defend the most helpless little ones. May God bless you abundantly!

Please pray for your spiritually-adopted baby until Christmas

Watch the bulletin for information about a Baby Shower for Life Choices. Many items are needed for the home and for the young women and babies who are staying there. Please stop to pray at the Memorial Stone “In Memory of Unborn Babies” in Sts. Peter and Paul’s Meditation Garden! The stone commemorates all unborn babies who die too soon, including those aborted.

Safe Haven Baby Boxes Billboard

Have you seen the BILLBOARD on Highway 41 between Haubstadt and Fort Branch? While we do not yet have a Baby Box in Gibson County (but high hopes for one in Princeton), we are excited to promote their 24-hour National Crisis hotline (1-866-99BABY1) to give women the opportunity to talk to a trained licensed professional as they consider safely surrendering their newborn. Right to Life of Gibson County paid for the first 6 months of the billboard campaign and hopes that the community can help support it for a longer period. Carmen Jay is spearheading Right to Life’s involvement in the Baby Box Project. Please contact her or Ann Minnis 812-768-6768, aminnis@twc.com for more information and/or to donate for the campaign. See www.shbb.org or call (888)742-2133 for information about Safe Haven Baby Boxes. And please pray for the mothers and babies in crisis!

Right of Life Meeting Dates:

January 14, February 11, March 10, April 14

All meetings start at 7:30 pm (unless otherwise noted) and are held at the home of Ann Minnis 115 N Vine St. Haubstadt. All members & prospective members are welcome!

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 5th (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