



St. James the Greater Parish Life Newsletter

Fall 2016



The St. James Prayer Chain has been around for a long time. In the last few years it hasn't been very active and we want to reinvigorate it, making it grow and be strong.

How does it work?

People can call the office during business hours and leave a message asking for prayers for a particular circumstance. We have also set up a separate voice mail for the prayer chain. This means that outside of office hours, somebody can still make a request that will be handled the next business day. The number, **741-5300, ext 174**, will appear on the bulletin with all the other phone numbers. A request can be mailed to the office or put in the Sunday collection. If the intention is put in the collection, it should be in a sealed envelope marked "Prayer Chain".

No names will be asked for. No additional information will be asked for. We know that almost all of the requests reflect a very personal concern and it isn't anybody's business to know your business! Anonymity is important to us.

The request (e.g., Somebody has been diagnosed with a serious illness.) is given to Nic Kovatch, our Faith Formation Director, who will email it to everybody on the prayer chain asking these parishioners to pray for that intention for the next month.

What you can do?

The prayer chain presently has 57 links (people) on it. We certainly can increase that number. You can join the prayer chain by sending your name and email address through the mail or collection basket. It may be easier to call the office and give that information. The more people we have, the stronger our prayer. The great thing about this ministry is that there are no meetings, no other obligations.

Our parishioners need our prayers. We can help with our prayers. Let's keep this prayer chain unbroken with more volunteers and prayer requests.



Reminders for Your Hospital Stay

1. When being admitted, be sure to tell them you are Catholic. At the Catholic Hospitals, this should get you on the list for daily Communion.
 2. Due to HIPPA laws, hospitals are unable to call the parish about parishioners who have been admitted. The patient or a family member has to call the parish and this should be done as soon as the person is admitted.
 3. If someone is undergoing planned surgery, he or she should ask for the Sacrament of the Sick at the parish before entering the hospital. The sacrament does not “expire,” so it is good to be anointed a few days or even a few weeks before going to the hospital. If the hospitalization is unexpected, it is appropriate to ask for the sacrament through the chaplain’s office as soon as it is determined that the illness is serious. No one should ever wait until death is imminent to seek the Sacrament of the Sick. Due to the shortage of priests, it is no longer a reasonable expectation that a priest will be available at the last minute.
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The Yearly Reports

By Father Nolker

Once again we are happy to provide the Pastoral Report and the Financial Report for 2015-2016. Each year we use these tools to provide parishioners with a summary of parish life. As you look at the Pastoral Report, please remember that it does not cover all the ministry done in our parish. Also, I ask you to think about the number of people involved in some of those activities. For instance, when you see the number of Sunday Masses, remember that we have anywhere from 70 to 90+ people ministering for each Mass.

As you look at the Finance Report, remember to think about what those dollars provide. Think about the individuals who benefit from these expenses. It isn’t just about the total dollars; it’s about what ministry we are able to provide for people. And from another view, please think about all the ministry done in our parish by volunteers which usually cost us nothing.

Recently someone gave me the yearly reports for the parish from 1924 and 1938-1945. They are interesting. For instance, in 1943 (the parish’s centennial year) they reported 58 baptisms, 20 deaths and 2 weddings. Total income and expenses balanced at \$22,173.07. That was for church and school. The Sisters teaching in the school were paid \$1,625 – for all of them. \$225 was spent on repairs to the school and \$126 for the church. As for income, *Dues* (which was the Sunday offering) brought in \$10,881.98 and *Sitting Fees*, as it was called in the report or what we might call pew rent, added \$2004.95 to the income that year. And they ended the fiscal year with \$7500 in savings. Costs have certainly changed in 73 years.

Far more fascinating are the pages listing every family in the parish with the amount they donated on Sundays and their contribution for Christmas and Easter. We know that *Betsch, Frank and Mrs.* gave \$27.50 in *Dues* and \$7 for Christmas and Easter. *Schulte, Jos. and Mrs.* gave \$13.50 and \$10.00. From this we also know who gave \$0.00. It was a long standing tradition to include this detailed information in the yearly reports. What would happen if we brought this tradition back for 2016? Can I have a show of hands in favor of this?

Pastoral Report

July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

Parish General Statistics

Registered households	1789
Registered individuals	5546
newborn to age 6	325
age 7 to 14	563
age 15 to 20	633
age 21 to 35	1003
age 36 to 50	877
age 51 to 65	1027
age 66 to 80	564
age 80 + older	320
New households this year	59
Households deleted from the census	49
Households contributing financially	1145
Sunday Mass attendance	
(weekly average)	1160
Children's Liturgy of the Word ¹	27
Daily Mass attendance	57
Average at 6:30 a.m.	17
Average at 8:30 a.m.	40

Sacramental Celebrations

Masses celebrated ²	667
Sunday masses	208
Weekday masses	459
Funerals	51
Baptisms	51
Infants ³	49
Adults ⁴	2
Persons received into the Church	
by profession of faith	3
Children ⁵	0
Adults ⁶	3
First Communion	69
Children (2 nd grade)	64
Adults	5
Confirmations	84
7 th grade students	77
adults	7
Weddings	6
With both parties Catholic	4
With one party Catholic	2
Confession Opportunities ⁷	53
Individuals receiving communion	
at home weekly (average)	20

Anointing of the Sick	242
privately ⁸	57
at Sunday Mass	185

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Catechumens	2
Candidates	3

Other Regular Prayer Opportunities

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	49
Marian devotions ⁹	313

Liturgical Ministers

Participants in liturgical ministries	
Communion distributors	139
Adult Choir	22
Adult Cantors	5
Adult Music Ensemble	10
Youth Cantors	5
Youth Choir	11
Children's Choir	19
Readers	48
Servers	47
Ushers	41
Bereavement Ministers	36
Children's Liturgy of the	
Word leadership	25

Educational Programs for Youth

Students in the parish school	543
Families with students in the school	382
Teachers in the school	45
Students in the PSR program ¹⁰	28
Families with students in the PSR	
program	21
Teachers in the PSR program	6
Participants in the Pre-school	
religious education program	20
Teachers in the Pre-School program	3
Catechists certified by the	
Archdiocese ¹¹	3

Adult Faith Formation

Living the Eucharist (Lenten series)	130
Stories in Genesis (series of 6)	20
New Testament (Series of 6)	15

¹ This is the weekly average.

² This excludes weddings and funerals.

³ Under the age of 7.

⁴ Age 7 and above.

⁵ Under the age of 7 with parents making the profession.

⁶ Age 7 and above.

⁷ This includes 1 penance service for the whole parish and 3 for school.

⁸ This number includes those done as emergencies at Mercy Hospital West for non-parishioners.

⁹ This includes prayer services, rosary before morning mass and May crowning.

¹⁰ This covers grade 1 through 7.

¹¹ Total from *basic* through advancement to permanent *catechetical leader* certified this year.

Catholicism 101 (Series of 6)	10
The Virtues (Series of 6)	4
Youth Ministry	
Number of participants	12

Descriptions of Some Activities

Adult Faith Formation:

We put on the *Living the Eucharist* program in Lent for a second year. It involved about the same number of people as last year. It concluded with a retreat, which a lot of people enjoyed. The lecture series of the Book of Genesis was the well attended.

A major part of adult faith formation is the R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) process. This year we had three persons who were already baptized in another denomination received into the Catholic Church and two were baptized. All made their First Communion and were confirmed. Two baptized Catholics also were confirmed after instruction.

This year we began offering FORMED so that religious formation material could be available in every home of the parish. This offers a wide variety of opportunities that families and individuals can access whenever they want. And it's all free!

Youth Ministry:

A lot of things happened throughout the year with the Youth Group and it was successful. They usually meet twice a month for an activity and spiritual reflection. Highlights included the "feed the homeless day" again, which involved giving sandwiches and water to the homeless in Washington Park downtown. The group went ice skating at Fountain Square and learned a little about St. Lidwina (patron saint of ice skating). The volleyball league in the first quarter of the year had good participation, and each game included learning about the virtues as the ministry component. There was a canoe trip in Indiana. The Youth Group prayed the Steps in Mt. Adams on Holy Thursday night.

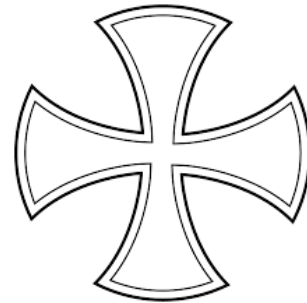
Special Prayer Services

Following the tradition in the parish, Evening Prayer was celebrated with the families of those who were buried from the parish in the last year. Each November the families are invited to this prayer and the names of each of their loved ones are mentioned. Because the number of funerals has increased significantly in the last few years, attendance at this service has also increased. In November 2015 there were over 125 people sharing in this liturgy.

As part of our ongoing Marian devotions, both the school and the St. Mary's Ladies Society celebrated May Crowning. The Ladies Society's celebration concluded with a social.

Religious Education

The Director of Religious Education added several new events to the school program this year. A revised retreat program was introduced this year for the 7th grade students in our school and PSR programs prior to Confirmation. This retreat was directed by members of the National Evangelization Teams (NET). NET also gave a retreat to the school's 8th graders. For the first time two religious field trips were included in the school schedule. The 8th grade went to the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Chains and Old St. Mary's Church and the 7th graders went to Mt. St. Mary's Seminary for the day. All of these were new ventures for our students.



FINANCIAL REVIEW

By the Finance Council

The 2015/2016 fiscal year for the parish closed on June 30. This year Sunday giving showed a \$30,400 increase over the prior year and \$90,000 under budget. Sunday collections totaled \$1,145,613. The average contribution of the 1,168 giving families was \$1,016, same as last year. The parish ended the year with an \$186,088 surplus. The major factor contributing to the surplus was the bequest the parish received in the amount of \$175,145. Of our registered school families 17% of them gave nothing to our Sunday collection. The average donation of our school families was \$865, which was up \$30 from last year.

Again, this year, in an attempt to more accurately account for the cost of operating our school, we have made the following adjustment to the financial statements presented below. Portions of parish office staff salaries and benefits have been allocated to the school to cover cost of the accounting, payroll processing, tuition collection and other services performed by the parish staff for the school. This was done as a percentage of revenue from parish to school. Also, \$15,000 is allocated to the school for their use of the parish gym and church hall. This adjustment was also made in the Budget statement presented below. These are standard adjusts made each year. The parish subsidy to the school this year was \$368,797.

The Festival, Holiday Bonanza & Fish Fry proceeds are not in the parish operating budget and are not allocated for parish operating but for capital improvements. 2015 Festival proceeds were \$45,076; the 2015 Holiday Bonanza made \$16,348 and the 2016 Fish Fry \$19,233. These proceeds were used for the following capital projects:

- o Back Flow Preventer in School-\$3,231
- o Replace glass by elevator in Church -\$2,875
- o Catch Basin/Pipe replacement- \$17,677
- o Fence around storm drain- \$3,279
- o AC replaced in teachers' lounge-\$2,455
- o Retaining Wall & Landscape at Church -\$7,850
- o Sink Hole repair by playground-\$3,327
- o Exterior painting at Church -\$5,300
- o School Masonry Repairs-\$8,820
- o New Server Chairs in Church-\$2,691
- o Parish Ctr. Parking lot lights- \$9,469
- o 1st floor bathroom(school) floor replacements- \$5,772
- o New Exterior door exit ramp at school-\$2,655

Without the support of these fundraisers these items would be in the operating budget, therefore impacting tuition rates. We are very grateful for these successful events and appreciate our volunteers.

St. James Parish has funds on deposit at the Archdiocese of Cincinnati totaling \$599,907.

The funds are composed of:

- St. James School Restricted Fund [school] - \$100,350;
- Koch Memorial Fund [school] - \$38,982;
- Technology Savings [school] - \$88,521;
- Blue Ribbon Permanent Education Endowment Fund [school] - \$48,973.50;
- Mission Certificates - \$6,595.
- John Merritt Scholarship Fund -\$316,467.

These funds are held for specific purposes noted and are **not** available for the operation of the parish.

Thanks to all of you for the generous support of the One Faith, One Hope, One Love Campaign Our parish pledged \$1,522,648 and as of June 30th we have collected \$617,320. The parish has received \$123,464 to date which is the 20% of the campaign that the parish receives. As determined by Pastoral Council, we first paid off the parish debt from the Church Renovation and School Window replacement and the remaining funds are building up the Cemetery Perpetual Care account.

Please take the time to review the accompanying financial report. Any questions or request for additional information may be directed to members of the Finance Council or Amy Klosterman at the parish office.

We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who financially supports our parish. As the Finance Council, we work hard to use your gifts to the Lord responsibly for the good of the Church. Every dollar you give benefits the people of this parish and furthers the work of the Kingdom of God. We hope that you will continue to share your blessings in the Stewardship Commitment for the coming year. Thank you in the name of the Lord.

Financial Statement - For Fiscal Years ending June 30, 2016 and 2015

	Actual 2015/2016 Parish	Actual 2015/2016 School	Actual 2015/2016 Total	Actual 2014/2015 Total
<u>Revenues</u>				
Sunday & Holydays	\$ 1,145,613	-	\$ 1,145,613	\$ 1,115,165
Other Parish Revenues	70,604	-	70,604	72,567
Bequests	175,145	-	175,145	-
School Revenue	-	2,369,939	2,369,939	2,162,552
State Reimbursement	-	215,820	215,820	222,120
Total Revenue	\$ 1,391,362	\$ 2,585,759	\$ 3,977,121	\$ 3,572,404
<u>Expenses</u>				
Archdiocesan Assess	133,824	5,810	139,634	139,728
Salaries/Benefits	309,745	2,362,023	2,671,768	2,565,571
Other Expenses	143,864	221,986	365,850	291,254
Maint Salaries/Benefits	74,899	96,744	171,643	167,545
Other Maint	80,334	141,160	221,494	226,906
Utilities	59,529	58,269	117,798	133,195
Rel Ed Salaries/Benefits	28,372	56,745	85,117	79,599
Other Rel Ed Exp	5,910	11,819	17,729	21,402
Total Expenses	\$ 836,477	\$ 2,954,556	\$ 3,791,033	\$ 3,625,200
Subsidy to School	\$ 368,797	(368,797)		
Excess Revenue - Parish	\$ 186,088			
Combined Excess Revenue (Expense)			\$ 186,088	\$ (52,796)

St. James Parish White Oak 2016/2017 Operating Budget

The operating budget for the 2016/2017 fiscal year projects balanced revenues and expenditures of \$3,886,545, an increase of 9% over the current year's budget.

Revenues:

Sunday and holyday giving is projected at \$1,200,000, with a \$35,000 decrease from this year's budget. Finance chose to decrease this number since we have not reached it for several years. The parish needs on average \$1,073 from every giving family to meet this budgeted amount. This figure is based on 1118 families giving something in 2015.

School revenues are projected to be \$2,624,045 with tuition at \$2,025,985. The major difference being the Jon Peterson Scholarship the school is receiving, but the expenses are also reflected since this income is used to provide the additional services. The hardship allowance is projected at \$75,000 and is included in the parish budget. Included in this amount, there is also money generated by the school envelopes included in our Sunday envelope package and the ESAP money.

The school projection is based upon enrollment of 547. The current year we have 543 students enrolled -this is the first time in several years that we have had an increase in enrollment.

Tuition was increased 2.8% this year the same as last year. The tuition for one child in the school will be \$3,665. For families who pay their entire tuition before August 1st a 2% discount will be given. Tuition for one child with this discount is \$3,541 a savings of \$74.

Expenditures:

Parish - The parish budget is increasing by \$11,581 or 2% from this year's budget. This minimal increase is due to increases in health insurance and a 1% increase to salaries. No other major changes to the budget.

School - The school budget is projected to increase \$211,301 or 10% from this past year's budget. With the increased enrollment in kindergarten an additional staff position was needed. Teachers will receive a 1% increase in addition to their step increase. The Jon Peterson expenses are included in this number but also are reflected and offset by the revenues. The technology fund is budgeted at \$23,500 with an additional \$12,500 for technology supplies.

Maintenance - The total maintenance budget is \$544,847, a slight increase of \$7,308. We continue to take advantage of cost saving rates and we are working with other parishes of the Archdiocese to buy in groups to get better rates on utility and Rumpke contracts. Capital allocations are included at \$20,000, the same as last year. Most major repairs and improvements are covered by holiday bonanza, fish fry and festival profits. There are no holiday bonanza, fish fry or festival proceeds incorporated in the operating budget.

Budget - For Fiscal Year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

	Budget 2016/2017 Parish	Budget 2016/2017 School	Budget 2016/2017 Total	Actual 2015/2016 Total
<u>Revenues</u>				
Sunday & Holydays	\$ 1,200,000	-	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,145,613
Other Parish Revenues	62,500	-	62,500	70,604
Bequests	-	-	-	175,145
School Revenue	-	2,416,185	2,416,185	2,369,939
State Reimbursement	-	207,860	207,860	215,820
Total Revenue	\$ 1,262,500	\$ 2,624,045	\$ 3,886,545	\$ 3,977,121
<u>Expenses</u>				
Archdiocesan Assess	134,000	5,500	139,500	139,634
Salaries/Benefits	327,761	2,420,927	2,748,688	2,671,768
Other Expenses	154,400	189,424	343,824	365,850
Maint Salaries/Benefits	82,402	97,225	179,627	171,643
Other Maint	81,420	143,000	224,420	221,494
Utilities	70,200	70,600	140,800	117,798
Rel Ed Salaries/Benefits	29,195	58,391	87,586	85,117
Other Rel Ed Exp	7,367	14,733	22,100	17,729
Total Expenses	\$ 886,745	\$ 2,999,800	\$ 3,886,545	\$ 3,791,033
Subsidy to School	\$ 375,755	(375,755)		
Combined Excess Revenue	-	-	-	\$ 186,088

Remembering the 12 Apostles

By Fr. Tozzi

Most of us have been Catholic Christians since we were infants. How well do you know the Word of God? Catholics are often weak on knowing scripture for one reason or another.

Here's a simple question: **Can you name the 12 Apostles?**

It may be harder than you think, especially since many of them had other names they also went by and some share the same name! How do we remember the 12 Apostles of the Lord Jesus? One trick is to use the word "**Baptism.**" Each letter will give you the first letter of one or more of the Apostles' names. The J's fall under the I's (just ask Indiana Jones). It may take a little bit of practice to remember but it's always good to try to remember things from the Lord Jesus' ministry we find in scripture. Try writing it out and see how you do! I'm giving you the answer sheet below. Good luck!

B	• Bartholomew (aka: Nathanael)
A	• Andrew
P	• Peter (aka: Simon or Cephas) • Phillip
T	• Thomas • Thaddeus (aka: Jude)
I	• John • James the Greater • James the Lesser • Judas Iscariot
S	• Simon the Cananean
M	• Matthew

MASS OF THE RESURRECTION **by Zoltan Marcsi**

In September we will begin singing the Eucharistic acclamation set "Mass of the Resurrection." All of you are invited to visit the website link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8nPhNVpHe7g> (copy the link into your web browser) to begin to familiarize yourself with this solemn setting composed by Oregon Catholic Press composer Randall DeBruyn. The Gloria, Gospel Acclamation, Holy, Holy, Holy, Mystery of Faith, Great Amen and Lamb of God are all featured on the recording. We will use the first Mystery of Faith acclamation, We Proclaim Your Death.

We will rehearse the entire set on the weekends of September 4 and 11. Let us all sing together our joyful song to the Lord!

Office of Religious Education

By Theresa Hayes, Director of Religious Education

The political climate that we are currently experiencing in our country is almost mesmerizing, isn't it? At times it seems surrealistic – and at other times, entirely too realistic to be comforting in any way.

One thing seems certain though: The opinions and underlying values that are espoused by families with regard to “politics” provide a foundation for the knowledge, learning and development of political perspective for each member of that household. As a matter of usual course, one sees neither “flaming liberals” emerging from conservative households; nor “right-wing nut jobs” from liberal households – unless and until something life-changing causes a change in course.

In this as in virtually all life experiences, our family supports our growth and development with foundation, without which each of us would find our challenges to be even more unsettling and at times perhaps even overwhelming. *Family is the core of our existence, providing the necessities of a fruitful life, and influencing the substance of our earthly existence which determines the reality of our eternal existence.*

By our baptism, we are all called to participate in sharing the gift of our faith. The Catholic Church recognizes the critical role of the family in proclaiming it the “domestic Church” – the very foundation upon which the universal Church works to fulfill her mission in bringing about the Kingdom of God – here on earth, and also enabling continuation for all of us into eternal life.

We are blessed to play an important role in the lives of our Saint James the Greater School families, as well as our Saint James the Greater Parish School of Religion (PSR) families. We are here to support those critical efforts undertaken to ensure spiritual, emotional, physical and intellectual health and well-being. In order for us to be optimally effective in our efforts, we depend upon the strength of the foundations built in the domestic family, and supported by the generous and loving members of our parish family.

It is time for us to thank those individuals who invest their time, talent and treasure to make things happen in religious education here at Saint James the Greater Parish, and to ask for your help in filling several open volunteer slots. Several programs continue to remain available to assist our parents in their most critical role as first-models and guides of the spiritual well-being of their children.

On Sunday mornings throughout the year, five-six teams of leaders, lectors, cantors and hospitality members, coordinated by Ms. Carole Ann Yeazell, serve our families and their children in Grades One through Four in our *Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)* program, where the Sunday readings, psalms, petitions and discussions are focused specifically on delivering the Gospel message at the developmental level of children.

On Sunday mornings during the school year, Ms. Cathy Rizzo organizes the work of leaders and helpers in *Sunday Preschool* faith learning presentations and activities which actively engage the energy levels of our 3-, 4- and 5-year olds during the 10:00AM Mass.

On Monday evenings during the school year, our *Parish School of Religion (PSR)* teachers plan and execute lessons for our public school elementary students (Grades One through Seven) based on the Archdiocese of Cincinnati religion curriculum objectives and participate with their students in several Masses as well as our Parish Advent Reconciliation service. Sacramental preparation is included for Grades Two (First Reconciliation and First Eucharist) and Grade Seven (Confirmation).

During the month of June, children in Kindergarten through Grade Four have the opportunity to participate in the wonder of Sacred Scripture and related lessons and activities in our *Vacation Bible School* program with the help of adults and college, high school and junior high school students.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts to those who volunteer tirelessly in guiding our young people! This includes all those who have participated in these programs in the past, those who are currently serving, and those who will serve in the future.

If you feel that you might be called to volunteer in any of these efforts, please know that your investment will bring blessings not only to your students, but also to you. Currently due to changing circumstances for several of our volunteers, **we have openings for CLOW cantors, Sunday Preschool leaders/helpers, and one PSR teacher.** We need your help to continue God's work.

Thank you and God be with all of us in our efforts to fulfill His holy will.

Adult Faith Formation Fall Lecture Series

What are the Sacraments?

Want to learn about these awesome avenues of grace?

Come to our Lecture Series this Fall

Baptism & Confirmation



Wednesday October 5th, 7-8pm
Thursday October 6th, 930-1030am

Eucharist

Wednesday October 12th, 7-8pm
Thursday October 13th, 930-1030am

Confession & Anointing of the Sick



Wednesday October 19th, 7-8pm
Thursday October 20th, 930-1030am

Marriage



Wednesday October 26th, 7-8pm
Thursday October 27th, 930-1030am

Holy Orders

Wednesday November 2nd, 7-8pm
Thursday November 3rd, 930-1030am



Presented by Nic Kovatch, and guest lecturer
Wed. Evening will be in Marian Room (parish office)
Thurs. Morning will be in Seniors Room (parish office)

 **BAPTISM**

Charlee Elizabeth Blust, daughter of Chelsea Burbrink & Jerrod Blust
Declan Shay Bock, son of Jonathan Bock & Kelley Todd
Lydia Danielle Boerger, daughter of Daniel & Laura
Jackson James Fleming, son of Ryan & Katie
Audrey Ruth Kersjes, daughter of Ryan & Julie
Logan Patrick Kersjes, son of Ryan & Julie
Emma Grace Luckey, daughter of Chelsea Burbrink & Richard Luckey
Avery Michelle Markus, daughter of Michael & Michelle
Landen Miller Markus, son of Michael & Michelle
Frank Eugene Minges, IV, son of Frank & Melissa
Miles Maddox Nelms, son of Jennifer Maynard & Joe Nelms
Madison Ann Reed, daughter of Robert & Katie
Blake Robert Schnur, son of Jason & Alexandria
Theodore Nicholas Stark, son of Richard & Shelly
Cohen Jeffrey Volz, son of John & Kaleigh



Aurelio and Alicia Ausere-Abarca & Family
Peter & Karen Arrabal & Family
Gregory and Julianne Bick & Family
Dan and Laura Boerger & Family
Eliot and Anne Borders
Robert Dickman
Timothy Garrett
Shawn Hamp and Barbara Cook Hamp & Family
Ryan and Julie Kersjes & Family
Jolene Logan
Andrew and Maria Lucas & Family
Steven and Tamara Ludwig & Family
Chris and Kristin Kortekamp & Family

Barry and Christine Miller
Elizabeth Mueller & Family
Rodger and Kristen Mull & Family
Michael and Jennifer Ossenschmidt & Family
Justin and Tracy Register & Family
Amanda Rupp
Robert and Barbara Schroer
Richard and Shelly Stark, Jr. & Family
Kenneth and Catherine Weber
Edward and Jennifer Woodyard & Family



Matthew Graf, 4/6/16
Stanley Decker, 5/3/16
Dale Combs, 5/10/16
Wilma Holthaus, 6/5/16
William Carrelli, 6/11/16
Kay Decker, 6/14/16

Harry Smith, 6/15/16
Joyce Siemer, 6/21/16
Mary Jo Boyle, 7/2/16
Shirley Enneking, 7/6/16
Joseph Menke, 7/30/16



Festival News

The 2016 St. James Festival has come and gone but not without a good time being had by all! We do not yet have final numbers as bills and credits are still coming in. The committee would like to thank everyone who contributed in any way to making our festival the success it has become. The contributions are endless and no matter how small, we want you to know how much they are appreciated. **We would also like to hear your feedback, so let us know what you liked, disliked or would like to see changed by sending an email, calling or send us a letter at the info below.**

It's not too early to start to plan for next year so mark your calendars for **July 21, 22 & 23!** There are five weekends in July next year so we want to make sure that you know that the festival will be on the 4th weekend and not the last. Plan your vacations for the week after the festival next year so you don't miss out on the fun!

You probably didn't notice but this year's festival was especially difficult for the committee. We are being spread way too thin and therefore we are showing signs of burnout! Looking towards the future, to be able to continue to present the best summer party in White Oak, we are going to have to have additional committee members step forward. This year we had a great addition to committee by having James Penny step up for Food. We hope you noticed some of the changes in both our grill offerings! The Children's Committee also added Amy Meyer and the return of Audra Buckley for the second year. If you see them, thank them all for stepping up to a higher level of commitment and check out for yourselves that they actually survived the experience. General and Gambling Committee positions remained vacant. As a result, things were missed. We were able to recover but not without a great deal of anxiety. Tears were shed, patience were tested and angers flared. People did fill in to cover partial requirements but the result seemed disjointed. As we have stated prior, having more than one couple in each of the committee positions would not over burden anyone. Please think about uniting with a few friends and taking this on. Without additional help, sadly our festival might go to the route of other parishes and cease to exist. The Festival is a celebration of our community! Aside from providing financial support to our parish, it allows people to come together as a community, celebrate with each other and work together for a common goal! If you feel the calling to join us to continue with this endeavor call Mary or Kevin Lackman at 385-7409 or 706-0698, email at klackman@cinci.rr.com or check out the website at www.stjamesfestival.com or Facebook at **Saint James Festival**.



St. James School Information

Dear St. James Parishioners,

Happy New Year! In the world of education, the start of a new school year is a time to celebrate and a time for new beginnings. Each August we are thrilled to see our students and staff return to the halls of St. James to begin another year of prayer, learning, growth, and development. And with each new year, it is inevitable that change takes place.

Our maintenance and cleaning crews have been very busy making physical changes to our school. Classrooms have been cleaned, floors have been waxed, and many other projects have been completed. Several places throughout the school got a fresh coat of paint. Through the Panther Prowl walk funds, we were able to refinish whiteboards in each classroom and purchase classroom materials and furniture. Several of our classrooms were moved to different places in the building and our junior high will enjoy two classrooms that moved to air-conditioned spaces.

Another change will be the many new students who have joined the St. James School community for this year. Almost 100 new students enrolled for 2016-2017, causing positive growth in overall enrollment. Enrollment increased from 543 students to 561. We welcome 66 students to our kindergarten program, up from 43 last year. We have increased from two to three kindergarten classes. We look forward to so many new faces and families!

Those new students will not be the only new faces around St. James. We are excited about the new and talented staff members who have joined our team. As last year came to a close, we said goodbye to a number of staff members who retired, pursued other opportunities in education, and stepped away from education. While a change in teachers can be difficult, change can also be an opportunity for new ideas and fresh perspectives. We feel confident that our new teachers and staff, many with years of experience, will continue the long tradition of academic excellence at St. James. We hope that you will help us welcome them to our community.

Our new staff members join a team of teachers who are amazing and are dedicated to our students. Recently, several were honored for their excellence in the classroom. 6th grade teacher, Mrs. Ann Crase, was selected as one of the 2016 Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics Outstanding Teachers. She will be honored at their annual conference in Sandusky in

October. She is the only elementary teacher from Southwest Ohio chosen for this honor. Mrs. Jenny Bates, music teacher, Mrs. Sherry Kembre, 4th grade teacher, and Mrs. Jane Schrott, 3rd grade teacher, were named “The Best of the Best” as 2016 Outstanding Educators by Cincy Magazine. We are proud of these teachers who go above and beyond and are committed to excellence for our students.

Another exciting change to this school year will be our commitment and participation in the School of Faith program for our entire staff. Each month, our staff will come together for a three-hour session of prayer, Bible study, faith development, and relationship building led by a staff member from School of Faith. This program is intended to develop the faith lives of educators in Catholic schools. We look forward to building our relationship with Jesus with one another throughout this year.

Another part of change is planning for the future. Over the past year, we have been working in conjunction with the School Advisory Commission and our staff to develop a five-year strategic plan to guide and focus our efforts. We are excited to roll out this plan this year to work on three big goal areas of 1) Worship, Service, & Faith Formation, 2) Academic Excellence, and 3) Financial Vitality & Facilities Improvements. This plan is our commitment to continuous improvement. We plan to share more about this plan with our parish community this fall.

While there are a lot of changes happening this year, there are some things that will never change. Our commitment to our students will always be our top priority. Our staff continues to work hard to provide them with the best possible education in a faith-filled environment.

While a new school year is just beginning, it may be time for some parents to begin thinking about school for 2017-2018. We are always happy to provide information to our parishioners who are considering a Catholic education for their child. Please feel free to contact the school office at 741-5333 to find out more about our school or to schedule a tour.

Finally, we want to thank you for all of your prayers and support for our school. We feel blessed to be a part of such an incredible community. If you ever have any questions about St. James School, please don't hesitate to contact us. We're excited to begin a new school year!

Sincerely,

Michelle Hinton
Principal

Jeffrey Fulmer
Assistant Principal

The St. James Memorial Fund Masses will be celebrated on the following dates:

2016 - 2017

Aug. 27 – 4:30 pm	Nov. 27 – 12 Noon	Jan. 22 – 8:00 am
Sept. 25 – 8:00 am	Dec. 17 – 4:30 pm	Feb. 26 – 10:00 am
Oct. 30 – 10:00 am		Mar. 26 – 12 Noon

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for those enrolled in the Fund.

The following deceased members have been enrolled in the Memorial Fund:
Mary Lou Burger, David Groh, Ralph Kaiser, Mary Jo Boyle and Shirley Enneking.

Dates to Remember –

Sept. 5	Labor Day – Mass at 8:30 am
Oct. 2	Respect Life Sunday
Oct. 9	Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick at Masses
Oct. 16	Mission Sunday
Nov. 1	Solemnity of All Saints
Nov. 2	Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day)
Nov. 13	Evening Prayer for the Dead
Nov. 20	Solemnity of Christ the King
Nov. 24	Thanksgiving Day Mass at 8:30 am
Nov. 27	First Sunday of Advent