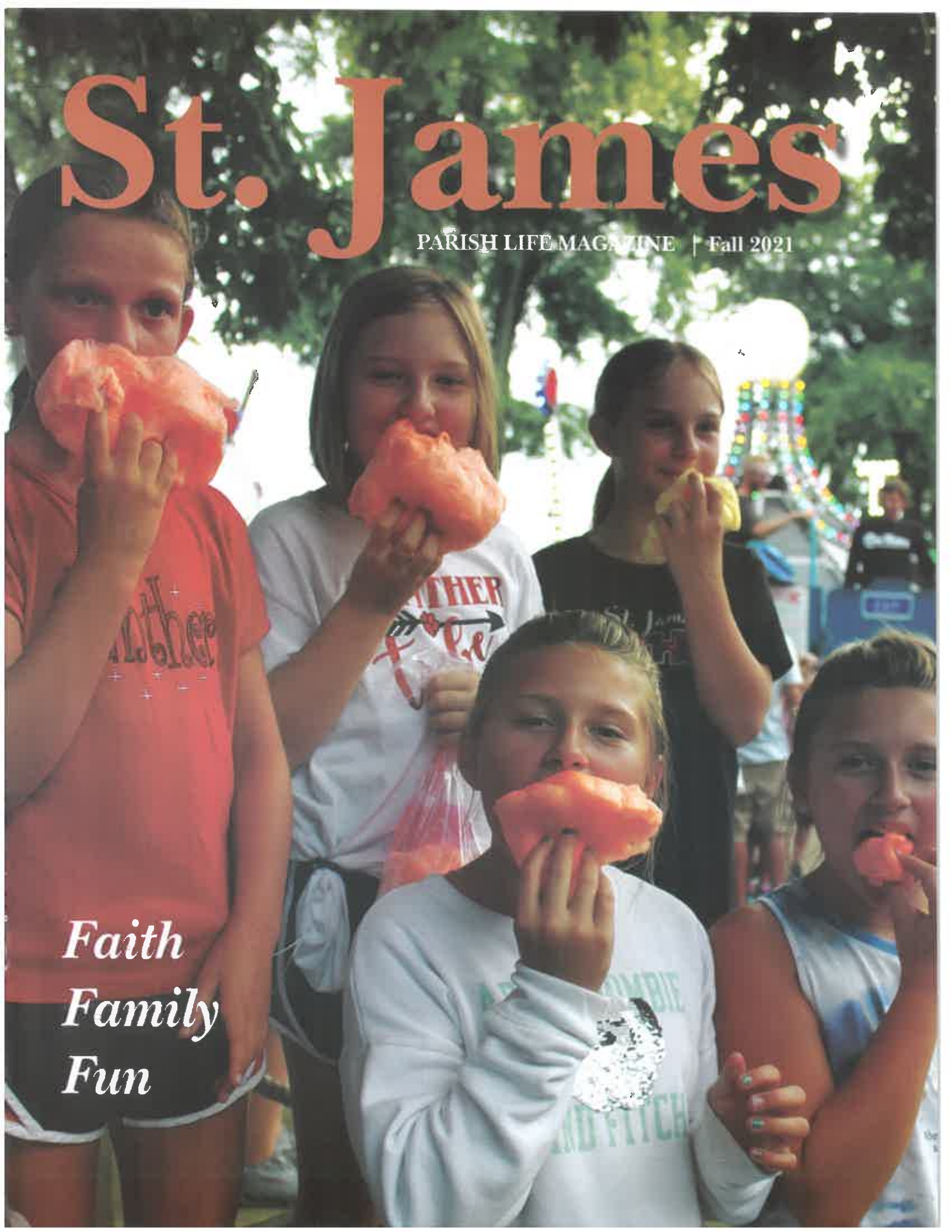


# St. James

PARISH LIFE MAGAZINE | Fall 2021

*Faith  
Family  
Fun*



# It's Time

By Father Nolker

Yes, it's time. We are nearing the time for the next phases of the Beacons of Light process in the archdiocese. In the last months you have been invited to keep informed by signing up for the newsletter



that the archdiocese provides. We have had little concrete information to give you, but that

will change in the next few weeks.

On September 29 the priests will be given the proposed Families of parishes. On September 30 the principals of Catholic schools will be given the information about the future of schools in the Families. At this time, we have been told that nothing is firm enough to communicate with us. We have to wait until the end of September. We do know that before Thanksgiving Archbishop Schnurr will announce the final arrangement of Families.

In the past months we have been told that there won't be any pilot program in which a few parish clusters will try out this process. All Families of parishes will begin clustering and reformulating on July 1, 2022. The number of parish Families to which the 211 current parishes will be reduced is also still fluid.

For one new step of the process, it's time. From October 1 to October 20 there will be a process for public comment on the draft Families.

This will be the time for YOUR input. It's time for all parishioners to participate. We do not know how your input will be gathered. All we have are the dates.

It's also time to think about a new pastor. The establishment of Families will necessitate the reassignment of some priests. The goal of the process is that the Family of parishes will actually become one parish with one pastor, and maybe a priest vicar.

In a letter to priests on July 1, 2021, all priests who will be 65 years of age or older on July 1, 2022 were asked to consider if they have the energy to commit to leading a Family through the full implementation process which is expected to end in 2027. We were asked, "Are you willing to commit to this endeavor for five more years knowing the challenging task that lies ahead?" It was suggested that we consider stepping back from the role of pastor.

I have just celebrated my 75th birthday. Earlier this year I told Archbishop Schnurr that I definitely wanted to stay as pastor at St. James until June 30, 2022. We agreed that taking things one year at a time was wise. In light of being asked to commit to being an active pastor until I am 81, I think it's time to retire next summer. While that is my intention, I will need to hear from the Archbishop that he agrees. (I am pretty sure he will.) Yes, it's time.

It's time for all kinds of changes in parish life. As the great Saint John Henry Newman said, "To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often."



## Saint James the Greater Church

3565 Hubble Road  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45247

Reverend Thomas C. Nolker  
Pastor

Deacon Tim Crooker  
Pastoral Associate

Zoltan Marczi  
Music Director

Amy Klosterman  
Business Manager

Claire Zink  
Coordinator of Religious Education

Chrissy Riggins  
School Principal

### Phone Directory

Parish Office	741-5300
Deacon Crooker	741-5325
Music Office	741-5317
Business Office	741-5320
Religious Ed	741-5339
School Office	741-5333
Cafeteria	741-5338
Cemetery	708-5456

### Sunday Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil	4:30 p.m.
Sunday	8:00, 10:00 a.m.

### Weekday Masses

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday	8:30 a.m.
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### Confessions

Saturday	12:30 to 1:30 p.m.
or by appointment	

### Parish Office Hours

Monday – Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

[www.stjameswhiteoak.com](http://www.stjameswhiteoak.com)  
[info@stjameswhiteoak.com](mailto:info@stjameswhiteoak.com)



Numbers don't tell the whole story, but they do give an indication of a status. People often attribute a rise in numbers with success or growth. This is true of finances and business. Parishes too

things happening here at St. James!

First, take a look at page 11 of this magazine. The last quarter's statistics are listed there. For years, Father Nolker has graciously allowed

member. We look forward to the Children's Liturgy of the Word being equally as full on Sunday mornings.

And let's not forget our school. With enrollment higher than it has been in years, the school continues to provide unparalleled education with sound Catholic teaching instilling values, disciplines and skills to take our students to the next level in education—and life.

One of the most notable increase in numbers is in the quantity of weddings. This year we will celebrate six weddings not including those who have had their marriages convalidated in the Church. St. James is a beautiful church to celebrate the sacrament of matrimony. Couples appreciate beginning their new life together where the community that nurtured and supported them come to worship.

# By the Numbers

By Deacon Tim Crooker

look at numbers as a good indicator that something is going right. The community collectively smiles

me the opportunity to celebrate the sacrament of Baptism with our families. We have often, and privately, made reference to the number of funerals verses the number of baptisms. A quick glance will show you that the number of baptisms are far exceeding the number of deaths in our parish. It is a trend we pray will continue.



The wedding of Kyle Lay and Claire Tonnis

As we mourn the loss of our long-time parishioners who sacrificed much to build and main-



Baptism of the youngest grandchild.

Numbers don't always tell the whole story. There are, of course, many reasons why we are experiencing a rise in these areas. But one thing is

when the pews are full, when the collection is up, when more and more people are attending programs.

Our parish numbers ebb and flow like the sea and the recent 18 months has given everyone cause to be concerned. However, if we look at a few numbers, we can find that there are some wonderful

tain this parish, we are grateful to almighty God for the blessings of young families who will continue the nearly two centuries old tradition of Catholic faith in the White Oak community.

Our programs for young people have expanded too. The Vacation Bible School had more children participate than anyone can re-

for sure, St. James is a parish built on it's people, and it's people are continuing to build the parish!

### Cover Photo

The 2021 edition of the Parish Picnic at Stricker's Grove was a big hit with the young and old alike. A group of friends took a break from the rides to enjoy some cotton candy together.

Since 2005, Children's Liturgy of The Word (CLOW) has been offered to the young people of our parish each Sunday during the 10:00 Mass. CLOW takes place in the Church Hall and is designed for our 1st through 4th Grade parishioners. It allows the children to experience the Liturgy of the Word in a way that is appropriate to their age group at the same time that our other parishioners are celebrating the Liturgy of the Word in our church space. CLOW does not take the place of Mass, it is part of the Mass, and enables the children to participate in the Mass more fully.



## Children Listen to the Word of God

By Carole Ann Yeazell

During Mass, when the Opening Prayer is finished, the celebrant invites the children forward and, after a special blessing, the children process together downstairs to the Church Hall. Each week they are guided by a group of dedicated adult, high school, and junior-high volunteers in hearing the Scripture Readings, Responsorial Psalm, a reflection, and participating in praying the Creed and the General Intercessions. The children then return to their families during the Offertory of the Mass.

First and foremost, CLOW is liturgy, ritual prayer and not catechesis (religious instruction) or childcare. Its purpose is not to give the children activities to do so the adults can listen to the homily upstairs in peace! It is as much a part of the Mass as what the adults are doing upstairs. Because it is a liturgical celebration, all the principles of good liturgy apply. There is active participation and clear symbols

that are appropriate to the liturgical year. The Book of God's Word is handled with respect, the Word is proclaimed clearly and reverently, and the reflections are aimed at guiding the children and listening to what they have heard rather than telling the children what we think they are supposed to hear.

The purpose is to enable the children to take a more conscious and active part in the liturgical celebration that will eventually lead to their full participation with the adult assembly.

We are currently in need of volunteers for all positions! Anyone who is 7th grade or above, who has been confirmed is welcome to join the team. The commitment is one Sunday every five weeks, with training and resources provided. There are five teams that alternate providing CLOW on Sundays. Each team consists of the following:

**Lector** - reads the first reading to the children

**Cantor** - sings the responsorial psalm and Gospel acclamation

**Hospitality/Set Up** - prepares the space and assists the children as needed

**Leader** - leads the prayer, reads the Gospel and presents a reflection, guiding the children in reflecting on God's Word. **There is no cost or registration required for this program.**

For more information or to volunteer to help with CLOW, please contact the parish Coordinator of Religious Education, Claire Zink ([czink@stjameswhiteoak.com](mailto:czink@stjameswhiteoak.com)), or the coordinator for CLOW, Carole Ann Yeazell, ([cayeazell@aol.com](mailto:cayeazell@aol.com)).

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*Carole Ann Yeazell and her husband Chuck are long-time parishioners. Carole not only volunteers as Director of the CLOW program but can also be heard playing the flute at our special liturgical celebrations.*



# Preparing to Prepare



As we watch the seasons of nature change, we too can begin preparing to prepare for Advent so that we are ready to meet Our Lord when he comes.

The liturgical season of Advent will soon be here. Is it too early to be thinking about this season that calls us to prepare our hearts and lives from the coming Christ at Christmas? Not at all. Everyone knows that the calendar is a cycle. Christmas comes every year, and before that is Advent. The parish begins the preparations for the change of liturgical season far in advance.

Advent is a time to prepare for the celebration of the commemoration of Our Lord who entered our world in human flesh (the incarnation). It's easy to get caught up in shopping, parties, decorating and all the wonderful stuff we enjoy about Christmas and forget about the preparation of ourselves. The Church asks us to remember, "Are we truly prepared to meet Christ when he comes?"

Advent is marked with many wonderful events: the beginning of the Church's year, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, "Rejoice" or Gaudete Sunday, the third week of the Season which also celebrates Bambielli Sunday, the blessing of the baby Jesus figurine of the crib scene, and who can forget St. Nicholas's Day on December 6?

## Advent & Christmas Schedule

### First Sunday of Advent (the beginning of the Church's year)

Sunday, November 28

Masses: 4:30 PM (vigil) 8:00 & 10:00 AM

### Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 5

Masses: 4:30 PM (vigil) 8:00 & 10:00 AM

### Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday, December 8

Masses: 7:00 PM vigil (on Tuesday, December 7) and 8:30 & 10:30 AM

### Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete and Bambielli Sunday)

Sunday, December 12

Masses: 4:30 PM (vigil) 8:00 & 10:00 AM

### Confession

Monday, December 13

6:00-7:00 PM

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 19

Masses: 4:30 PM (vigil) 8:00 & 10:00 AM

### The Nativity of Our Lord - CHRISTMAS

Masses: Friday, December 24: 3:00 & 5:00 PM

Saturday, December 25: 10:00 AM & 12:00 Noon

### Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sunday, December 26

Masses: 8:00 & 10:00 (no vigil Mass)

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Saturday, January 1

Mass: 8:30 AM (Obligation dispensed)

### The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 2

Masses: 4:30 PM (vigil) 8:00 & 10:00 AM

### The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Sunday, January 9

Masses: 4:30 PM (vigil) 8:00 & 10:00 AM

### Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 25

Mass: 8:30 AM



A peaceful setting in the heart of White Oak, St. James Cemetery is rich in history and was established in 1843 when the parish was founded. There are early parishioners as well as recent ones buried there. Over the years, the cemetery has expanded to 20 acres in size and still has room to serve the parish for years to come.

There is a section behind the St. James Credit Union where in 2014 a group of bodies that were buried in the earlier years without grave markers was discovered. A scan of the grounds found that bodies were present and a tombstone was erected to memorize them.

The Cemetery also owns the property used by the St. James Athletic



Fields which may be used in the distant future for expansion if needed.

### *The Columbarium at Saint James Cemetery*

Saint James Cemetery now offers interment in a new Columbarium. Located in the center of the cemetery. This provides another option for the respectful interment for those who have chosen cremation. Constructed of Morning Rose granite and situated in the middle of a beautifully landscaped plaza, it is a fitting place for the interment of a loved one's ashes after cremation. The Columbarium is 7 feet high and 6 1/2 feet in diameter. It offers 144 niches which can hold one or two remains. There is also room here for future expansion.

The St. James Cemetery Association continues to meet the parish needs of today and tomorrow offering in-house maintenance, landscaping, as well as the sales, opening, and closing of graves.



### *The Cemetery Flower Policies*

1. *All grave site decorations must be in a permanent vase.*
2. *Fresh cut and artificial flowers are permitted throughout the year.*
3. *Memorial & Holiday decorations will be removed one week after special days.*

*These rules have been established to maintain the dignity of the cemetery.*



# Saint James Catholic Cemetery

Article and photography by Scott Dickman



Pre-planning, as with anything, is the best way to make ones final wishes known. It also eases the burden on loved ones and protects families from having to make stressful decisions during an emotional time. Writing down those wishes and giving them to the people who will carry them out is a good idea. Working with your funeral home of choice is also a good idea. There are many resources posted on the Internet as well.

St James Cemetery has about 1,000 in-ground burial plots available in its two newest sections, Mary, Queen of Peace and Morning Star. Plots are available for purchased for burial of full caskets or cremation urns. People may also purchase in advance and have a grave stone installed at any time.

The cemetery personnel welcomes the opportunity to assist clients in selecting the land burial or columbarium niche of your choice. St. James Cemetery Association also offers a convenient payment plan to enable all to prepare for future needs. For more information visit: [www.StJamesWhiteOak.com/Parish-Info/St-James-Cemetery](http://www.StJamesWhiteOak.com/Parish-Info/St-James-Cemetery) or Contact Frank Bromer at 513-708-5456.

There are several websites that claim to locate where a loved one is buried. As with all heritage information, the data may not be accurate. The St. James parish office can help you locate your loved ones grave site in our cemetery.

There are 4 Catholic Priests buried in St. James Cemetery with 3 of them being Pastors:

**Rev. John H. Schoenfeld:**

Born 1842-Died 1912,  
(Pastor 1875-1912)



**Rev. Louis J. Abt:**

Born 1891-Died 1947,  
(Pastor 1931-1946)



**Rev. Harold A. Thorburn:**

Born 1898-Died 1975,  
(Pastor 1955-1969)



**Rev. Edgar T. Oehler SVD**

Teacher/Researcher/Missionary:  
First Priest from St. James Parish

Born  
1907-  
Died  
1974





*It's late August in Cincinnati. Vacations are over, fall sports have begun, the weather is hot and humid which can only mean one thing. It's time to get...*



Over the summer, St. James School has been preparing to welcome many different people!

We welcomed Mrs. Chrissy Riggins as our new principal, several new St. James faculty and staff, and above all, our students! Everyone was excited to come back for in-person learning, one step towards a normal school day. We welcomed everyone during our Kick-



*Mrs. Warren's Seventh Graders have been hard at work in the science lab.*







*Chrissy Riggins*

off, our first day of school, our Meet-the Teacher nights, and our beginning of school prayer service.

We are excited to gather back together as a St. James community for many things, especially for school mass! We missed celebrating together last year and we are excited to begin this year with our opening school Mass with ALL grades present!

Even though we still have to take safety precautions and be vigilant, St. James Panthers are ready for a year of learning, faith, and fun!



*The students were blessed to be back together again at the opening day prayer service.*

*Miss Junker's First Graders enjoyed a cool popsicle break on a hot day!*



*Opening school Mass brought the whole school together for the first time in over a year and half.*



# Around the Parish

On Sunday, July 4, parishioners gathered after Mass to pray the **Rosary for Religious Freedom**. A giant rosary was suspended from a tall structure in front of the school building facing Cheviot Road. This annual event gives witness to the faith of the parish community and our resolve to protect religious freedom.



During the summer, students worked feverishly trimming trees, edging and mulching beds, and a host of other landscaping duties to prepare the **St. James Athletic Fields** for the massive re-grading project. The result is not only a safe and functioning facility, but a beautiful one as well.

**Vacation Bible School** was a big success! With more children participating this year than in many previous years, the program provided fun, food, and of course many religious themed activities for the young people of our parish. Each year children look forward to this entertaining week to learn about their faith.



Who can forget the **Fish Fry**? Adapting to a challenging situation the dedicated volunteers went out of their way to ensure we all had a delicious meatless dinner during Lent. And what a wonderful drive-through system. Chick-fil-a take note!

**Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)** returns this fall during the 10:00 AM Sunday Mass. With a team of enthusiastic and faithful catechists, this program offers our your students an age appropriate hearing of the Sunday Mass readings with a brief explanation and reflection given by the leaders. All children grades one thru four are welcome.



On March 24 the **Hoxworth Blood Collection** netted 58 units (50 was our parish goal). That translates into 174 potential lives saved! The donors helped ensure that there is an adequate supply for the patients in our community. The next tentatively scheduled date for blood donation is **November 11, 2021 from 1:00 – 7:00 PM.**



## New Parishioners

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Macurio and Stephanie Avalos  
Nick and Kelli Barlow  
Lok Bhattari  
Kyle and Emily Bosse  
Jerry and Joann Brausch  
Lorenzo and Tracey Chaparro  
Michal and Laura Cieraszyński  
Taylor and Morgan Clem  
Drew Connor and Emily Rizzo  
Daniel and Abigail Dicks  
Paul Fieler  
Daniel and Amanda Gehrlich  
Linda Grant  
Rick and Carmen Helmers  
Christopher Jabczynski and Mandea Hood  
John Kearney  
Steven and Janie Kinzer  
John and Sara Koch  
Paul and Rosanne Linden  
Raymond and Kimberly McRoberts  
John and Holly Mercado  
Patrick Millard and Melissa Thompson  
Christopher and Krista Mitchell  
Daniel Neiheisel and Tanya Roberts  
William and Sharon Otte  
Bridget Pierson  
Ryan and Angela Reynolds  
Mark and Kathryn Specker  
Timothy and Jessica Sunderman  
Timothy and Victoria Tate  
Philip and Amber Teufel  
James and Rachael Thinnies  
Krystal Thomas  
John and Erin Timme  
Nick and Brandi Voegele

*Welcome to all our new parishioners.  
May God bless each of you.*

## Recent Deaths

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Joan York	February 23, 2021
Dorothy Henke	May 26, 2021
William J. Sabers	July 5, 2021
James William Cunningham Sr.	July 11, 2021
Raymond Koch	August 20, 2021

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let Your perpetual light shine upon them.  
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful  
departed rest in peace. Amen.*

## Newly Baptized

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Aria Rose Barlow – Daughter of Nick and Kelli  
Callan Michael Aronow – Son of Jeremy and Angela  
Chase James Bosse – Son of Kyle and Emily  
Blake Joseph Pfiester – Son of Zack and Jenna  
Cora Lee Staudigel – Daughter of Thomas and Stephanie  
Owen William Zieverink – Son of Thomas and Lauren  
Roslyn Belle Joerger – Daughter of David and Anne  
Maddox David Joerger – Son of David and Anne  
Nora Elizabeth Mercado – Daughter of John and Holly  
Dominic Kenneth Walsh – Son of Kevin and Veronica  
Gabriel Jeffery Sanner – Son of Paul and Emily  
Hunter Elliott Myers – Son of Joshua and Kendra  
Hubert John Niklas – Son of Andrew and Maureen  
Charlie Robert Bishop – Son of Ben and Danielle  
Vincent Peter Gambetta – Son of Anthony and  
Mary Kathleen  
Remi Mae Millard – Daughter of Patrick and Melissa  
Theodore Michael Rizzo-Connor – Son of Drew and Emily  
Amelia Rose Scherpenberg – Daughter of Adam and  
Stefania  
Karsyn Bailey Webb – Daughter of Brandon and Jordan  
Catalina Marie Schweer – Daughter of Brian and Vanessa  
Elijah James Clem – Son of Taylor and Morgan  
Eva Grace Ritter – Daughter of Trevor and Christine  
Joel Weber Sunderman – Son of Timothy and Jessica  
Hayden Andrew Rost – Son of Andrew and Julie  
Harper Elizabeth Hyde – Daughter of Steven and Kelli

## St. James Memorial Society

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*since last published in our Summer 2021 edition*

Paul Olding  
Anna May Olding  
Bernice Hudepohl  
Bill Sabers

## Join the St. James Magazine Team!

**Do you have the interest or skills to write, interview, photograph, edit or design? Consider joining the St. James Magazine Team. Our quarterly publication promotes the people and events that make St. James a great community. Contact the parish office (513-741-5300) or [info@stjameswhiteoak.com](mailto:info@stjameswhiteoak.com).**

**We welcome your input!**



## SAINT JAMES CHURCH

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## Getting Involved

*There are many activities that make St. James a vibrant parish community. Below are just a few of many groups, organizations, and activities ready to welcome you:*

**FATHERS** (Fathers Accountable to Healthy Enduring Relationship and Spirituality) **Ministry:** is a fellowship of Christian fathers who through mutual encouragement and accountability are seeking God's direction in loving their wives, leading their families, bringing their children up in the discipline and discipleship of the Lord by practical application of biblical principles. Weekly meetings are held at 6:03 am in the Church Hall every Friday morning. Contact Tom Scholtzman at: [toms@victorcorporation.com](mailto:toms@victorcorporation.com).

**Cana Family Institute:** renew yourself so every moment spent with your husband and children counts. Cana Family Institute exists to support you in your efforts to build a strong family life and find the peace of knowing your family is on the right track. Contact Christina Sillies for more information at 513-741-8747 or [silly7@fuse.net](mailto:silly7@fuse.net) or Molly Sillies at 245-0807 or [molly.sillies@gmail.com](mailto:molly.sillies@gmail.com). See website for more information at [www.canafamilyinstitute.com](http://www.canafamilyinstitute.com).

**MOMS** (Ministry of the Mothers Sharing): offers mothers

searching for spiritual growth and development a path through Christian fellowship, religious support, spiritual introspection, spiritual discussions and prayer. By sharing ideas and values, we integrate God's plan into daily lives by raising our children and supporting each other in the many roles as mothers and friends. Contact: Monica Grace (385-4083) or Marilyn Thiemann (385-7553).

**St. James LIFE Ministry:** (Life Is For Everyone): St. James LIFE! Ministry exists to promote respect and protection for life at all stages from conception to natural death. Our objective is to impact our parish families and our community through prayer, guided by the power of the Holy Spirit; through education by being a source of education on Church teaching on the respect for human life; and through action by hosting or participating in events that demonstrate that St. James is a "pro-life" parish. Contact: Monica Grace (385-4083), or Chris Tonnis (741-4250).

**St. Mary's Ladies Society:** All Women of the parish are invited to pray and share fellowship. Some members make baptismal garments for infants. Contact: Pam Meiners (385-1728) and Peggy Rebsch (923-4986).