

The Torch



"Generations Growing in Faith for more than 75 years!"

St. Dominic
Parish

Delhi Township,
OH

December 2018

Pastor's Desk

Advent is upon us! We are in preparation for the great feast of Christmas, as we remember that Jesus Christ is coming again in glory! Signs of Advent here at St. Dominic are the Advent wreath, the liturgical readings about John the Baptist and from the prophet Isaiah, the liturgical songs, the purple banners in the Gathering Space and the purple vestments at Mass. We also know it is Advent because the Giving Trees have been out. We will be gathering the gifts on the weekend of December 8/9 this year, the Second Sunday of Advent. On that Sunday after the 11:30 a.m. Mass, we really need help loading the gifts on the truck and then unloading the gifts at St. Leo. Young people of the parish, we need your strength and energy to complete this good work that we do!

Once again, we will be having a communal celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday evening, December 5, beginning at 7:00 p.m. This is a wonderful way to prepare for Christmas. Come join the rest of us sinners as we celebrate God's mercy and forgiveness.

Mike Davis will offer his Advent evening of prayer, scripture, and music on Monday, December 17 at 7:00 p.m. in church. This is an excellent way to get into the true Christmas spirit!

December 20 will mark the 50th anniversary of my ordination. In those 50 years, I have had many interesting ministries, none of which I asked for. The last eighteen years here at St. Dominic have been the most enjoyable. As a way of saying thank you, on the weekend of December 15/16, we will have punch and cookies in the gathering space after the 4:30 p.m. and 11:30 a.m. Masses, and coffee and donuts after the 7:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Masses. Please no gifts. Say a prayer for me and make a contribution to your favorite charity.

We will begin our celebration of Christmas on Christmas Eve with our Masses at 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., and 11:00 p.m. The White and Hillgrove families will again provide the music at the 3:00 p.m. Mass. At 5:00 p.m., we will have the Children's Mass with the blessing of our Nativity scene and Christmas songs by our children's choir. Once again, this year, our final Christmas Eve Mass begins at 11:00 p.m., with carols by our choir beginning at 10:30 p.m. Christmas Day Masses are at 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. There will be no 7:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas.

For the Holy Day Feast of Mary, the Mother of God, we will have a 4:30 p.m. Mass on New Year's Eve, and a 9:00 a.m. Mass on New Year's Day.

The Wise Men have already left from the East! They are on their way! Can you believe it! God bless you and have a faith-filled Advent and Christmas Season!

Fr. Jim

May They Rest in The Peace of the Lord

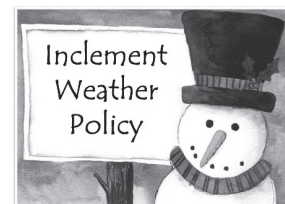
Please pray for the repose of the souls of the following parishioners, as they have entered eternal life.

Marian Conn, mother of Cynthia and Donald Harne, Linda and David McNamara, James and Dianna Conn, John and Nancy Conn and Deborah Conn.

Barbara Wanstrath, mother of Benjamin, Anna, and Audrey Wanstrath and daughter of Audrey Sandman.

Parish Office Hours and Inclement Weather

Please take note that when St. Dominic School is on a two-hour delay, or closed for the day due to inclement weather, the Parish Office will open at 10:00 a.m. and close at our regular time of 4:00 p.m. We feel the need to amend our hours during snow alerts, to ensure the safety of all our employees. We hope that this change in our schedule will not cause any inconvenience. *St. Dominic School follows Oak Hills Local School District for delays and closings.*



Golden Jubilee Celebration

On December 20, Fr. Jim will be celebrating his 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood. Below is a short biography of his life and ministries.

1941 – Born Cincinnati Ohio – Attended St. William Elementary School and Elder High School

1964/1965 – B.A. and M.A. in Philosophy, Athenaeum of Ohio/Mt. St. Mary's Seminary

1968 – Ordained a priest in Rome for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati

1969 – Bachelor of Sacred Theology and Licentiate of Sacred Theology, Gregorian University, Rome, Italy

1969-74 – Associate pastor and high school teacher, freshman basketball coach, varsity tennis coach, Fenwick High School (St. Mary's Middletown) McNicholas High School (St. Matthew's Norwood)

1974-79 – Staff of the Office of Religious Education, Archdiocese of Cincinnati; Directed the Christ Renews His Parish program in the Archdiocese (got 55 parishes started) and began the Ministry to the Separated and Divorced in the Archdiocese. Served two terms as President of the Presbyterial Council (Advisory council to the Archbishop)

1976 – Master's Degree in Religious Education, Loyola University, Chicago, Illinois

1979-84 – Director of the Department of Pastoral Services for the Archdiocese. Supervised the Offices of Evangelization, Family Life, Youth Worship, Parish organizational Development, Campus Ministry, Missions, Spanish Speaking Apostolate. (One of six directors who reported directly to Archbishop Bernardin.)

1984-90 – Rector, Mt. St. Mary's Seminary and President of the Athenaeum of Ohio

1991-93 Staff for the International Office of Renew (New Jersey)

1993-2000 – Executive Director, Seminary Department, National Catholic Educational Association (Washington, D.C.); Consultant to U.S. Bishops' Committee on Priestly Formation.

2000 – Pastor, St. Dominic Parish

2001 – Received the Pope John Paul II "I Will Give You Shepherds" Award for distinguished service to the Catholic Seminaries of the United States.

2005-11 – Dean of the St. Lawrence Deanery

2013 – Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters, College of Mt. St. Joseph, Graduation Commencement Speaker.

On December 15/16, we will have a small reception for Fr. Jim in the Gathering Place after the 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday and all the morning Masses on Sunday. All are invited to join us as we celebrate Fr. Jim.

Early TORCH Deadline

Due to the Holidays, information for the January *Torch* needs to be received in the Parish Office by December 8.

Parish Office Holiday Hours

The Parish Office will have reduced hours during the holiday season. Please note these times so you can plan your business accordingly.

Monday, December 24	8:00 a.m.-noon
Tuesday, December 25	Closed
Wednesday, December 26-Friday, December 28	8:00 a.m.-noon
Monday, December 31	8:00 a.m.-noon
Tuesday, January 1	Closed



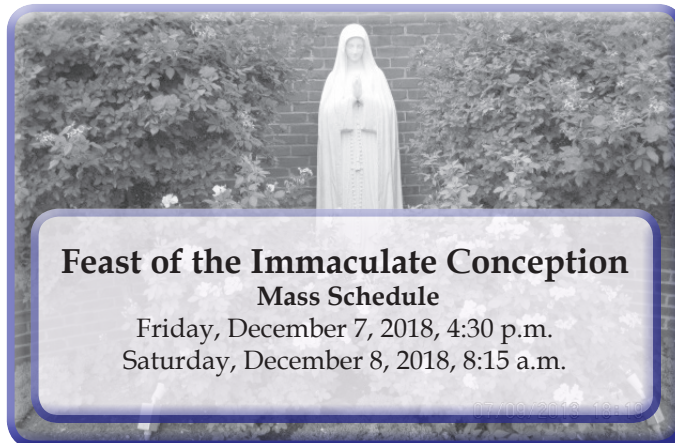
COMMUNITY DINNER
December 20
4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., In O'Connor Hall
Hope to see everyone there!





Advent Concert

Mike Davis' Advent Concert
with Scripture and Prayer
Monday, December 17, 7:00 p.m. in Church
SAVE THE DATE!



Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Mass Schedule

Friday, December 7, 2018, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 8, 2018, 8:15 a.m.

A Perfect Christmas Gift

Christmas is coming soon! Consider purchasing a Gathering Place paver for the person in your life who is hard to shop for.

Pavers are the gift that lets your mother, father, grandparent, child, or spouse know how cherished they are.

Order forms are available at the doors of church and on the parish website at www.stdominicdelhi.org.

(Click on Ministries/General Parish Ministries/Gathering Place Walkway).

You can also stop in the Parish Office to order a paver.

The 4 x 8 bricks allow 3 lines
with 13 characters per line and cost \$40.

The 8 x 8 pavers allow up to 6 lines
with 13 characters per line and cost \$75.

**If you have any questions, call the
Parish Office at 471-7741, ext. 0.**



Each Advent,

John the Baptist calls us to repentance, as we prepare the way of the Lord.

We have a merciful and forgiving God!

Come celebrate that gracious mystery with us!

Wednesday, December 5, 7:00 p.m.

Giving Trees

Thank you to all who took a tag from our Giving Trees, or donated money to help pay for gifts. **Please return your wrapped gift/gifts with the nametag FIRMLY attached by 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, December 9.** If you are available, we would love help loading the trucks and delivering the gifts to St. Leo Church after the 11:30 a.m. Mass. **Please help us by removing the orange suggestion tag before returning the gift.**



Another Way to Support St. Dominic

Are you age 70 ½ and required by the IRS to take annual distributions from your IRA account, also known as Required Minimum Distributions (RMD)? If so, you may consider making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your IRA account directly to St. Dominic Parish. QCDs will satisfy your annual distribution requirement, (RMD), and will not be included in your taxable income for the year. This could be a great way to save taxes and financially support St. Dominic Parish. For more details on Qualified Charitable Distributions from your IRA account, please contact your investment advisor and/or your tax advisor as we cannot give specific tax advice.



We need several people to help us put Las Vegas ticket sheets in the January *TORCH*. This would be a good opportunity for a retired person, a Boy or Girl Scout, or a student who needs service hours. If we get several people, it can be done in a few hours. We will need you to be available one morning right after Christmas, depending upon when the final *TORCH* is returned to the Parish Office. If you can help, please call the Parish Office at 471-7741, ext. 0 or Bob Murphy at 451-5047. THANKS IN ADVANCE! (If you have helped in the past you do not have to respond. You will receive a call asking for your help as soon as we know when the *TORCH* will be ready.)

Parental Preparation for Their Infant's Baptism

Baptisms take place on the first two Sundays of each month at 1:00 p.m. Parents requesting Baptism of their first child are asked to attend a preparation session. During this time, we will look at the history and theology of the sacrament, reflect on our own Baptism, and look at ways to pass the Catholic faith on to our children. Godparents are encouraged to attend as well. Our next session is scheduled for Sunday, January 6, 2019 after the 11:30 a.m. Mass in church. Contact Carole Campolongo at 471-7741, ext. 411, with questions about Baptism or to let us know that you will join us on January 6.



St. Vincent de Paul Society St. Dominic Conference

Thank You to all the parishioners of St. Dominic. Because of your generous donations, from July through September of 2018, the St. Dominic St. Vincent de Paul Society helped 72 families (made up of 241 adults and children) in our service area which includes Delhi, Sedamsville and Riverside. Do you know that as of 2015, Cincinnati was ranked 6th in the country in child poverty and 70% of our neighbors' children live in families who do not earn enough to be self-sufficient? (Statistics supplied by St. Vincent de Paul headquarters.)

Do you realize that St. Dominic's SVdP Conference has NO overhead, personnel or office expenses? Every cent that is donated to St. Dominic's SVdP is used to help our neighbors.

If you wish to make a donation "In honor of" someone, there are envelopes and donation cards at all the entrances to St. Dominic Church. The gift will be acknowledged by a handwritten note to the recipient. The honoree will know you wanted to honor them with a gift to help the needy in our area.

St. Dominic's SVdP's total receipts for the third quarter of 2018 were \$7,656 from the poor box collections, parishioner donations, the school children, and SVdP member donations. Parishioners donated \$3,100.50 by using the St. Vincent de Paul envelopes included with the St. Dominic Parish envelopes. As always, we thank the St. Dominic school children for all the food that they donate each month to help us feed our neighbors.

Because we had money from previous months, St. Dominic's SVdP was able to pay out \$11,533.66 to aid our neighbors during the months of July through September 2018. The breakdown is as follows:

Rent & Mortgage Assistance	\$ 4,371.75
Duke Energy	\$ 3,438.50
Water Bills	\$ 1,080.18
Food and Remke & Kroger Gift Cards	\$ 2,127.98
Beds, Walmart Gift cards and other Services	\$ 515.25

The St. Dominic St. Vincent de Paul Society also sent the Franciscan Mission Office a check for \$60 to have Masses said for the twelve (12) parishioners who died between the beginning of July 2018 and the end of September 2018.

Your brothers and sisters in Christ,
St. Vincent de Paul Society St. Dominic Conference

St. Dominic Men's Society

The following people and businesses were omitted from the Golf Outing Donor list:

Dan Dugan Scotty Lemen Delhi Barbers Joe Feist

Wedding Anniversaries

On Sunday, October 21, St. Dominic Parish honored parishioners celebrating their 60th, 50th, 40th or their 25th Wedding Anniversary during 2018. Our anniversary couples joined by family and friends, were recognized and received a special blessing during the 9:30 a.m. Mass celebrated by Reverend Chris Lack. A reception followed in O'Connor Hall. Fr. Chris presented each couple with a certificate congratulating them on their years of marital commitment.

St. Dominic Parish would like to congratulate the following couples. May God Bless you and smile upon your holy union.

60th ANNIVERSARY COUPLES

Dominic & Jacqueline Bonavita
Al & Betty Ehrman

Don & Charlotte Harpring
John & Mary Pat Luegering

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY COUPLES

Raymond & Patricia Cruse
Paul & Patti Fellingner
Charles & Janice Kleiner
Thomas & Joyce Miller
Robert & Elaine Murphy

Jack & Alice Roch
Donald & Gail Ruberg
Robert & Rita Steinbeck
Charles & Joan Wichmann
Gordon & Carol Yetter

40th ANNIVERSARY COUPLES

Jerry & Pat Adams
Mark & Patty Bardono
Paul & Carol Brinker
Roger & Donna Donahue
Michael & Mary Ann Hegner
Glenn & Debbie Henderer
Jim & Margie Jansing

John & Kathryn Labmeier
Robert & Deborah Morse
Barry & Nancy Pulskamp
Joseph & Madonna Schaber
Patrick & Susan Sedler
Butch & Rose Stertz
Fred & Nancy Wellbrock

SILVER ANNIVERSARY COUPLES

William & Regina Angel
Robert & Kathryn Bacon
Tim & Jenny Berndsen
Steve & Renee Bill
Paul & Katie Chisholm
Mark & Nancy Groszek

Steve & Jeannine Hart
Daryl & Sherri Snodgrass
Tim & Cheri Vale
Joe & Kathi Wanger
David & Karen Wells
Frank & Dorothy Wright

Christmas Floral Decorations

This Christmas Season, we are accepting donations to help offset the cost of decorating the church. Please consider honoring your special loved ones by helping us to prepare a fitting and very beautiful place to welcome the Lord.

Donors and their loved ones will be listed in the bulletin and *The Torch* soon after Christmas.

You may place your donations in the Sunday Collection; please mark your envelope as "Christmas Flower Donation" or bring your gift to the Parish Office. Please submit all donations by Friday, December 14.

Name: _____

Amount: _____

In Memory of: _____

☐ I wish to have my gift noted in the bulletin and *The Torch*

☐ I prefer my donation remain anonymous

ST. DOMINIC CHURCH
4551 DELHI PIKE
CINCINNATI, OH 45238
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cincinnati, Ohio
Permit No. 6356

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE

Monday, December 24

3:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m. – Children's Mass

11:00 p.m. – Final Mass on Christmas Eve
(Carols begin at 10:30 p.m.)

CHRISTMAS DAY

Tuesday, December 25

7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

NO 7:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Day

SOLEMNITY OF MARY

(not a Holy Day of Obligation)

Monday, December 31

4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 1, 2019

9:00 a.m.

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