

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

Pastor's Desk

St. Dominic Parish

Delhi Township, OH

November 2017

November is a month-long celebration of the communion of saints and the remembrance of those who have gone before us. As a parish, we have lost pastors, parents, children, grandchildren, husbands and wives, grandparents, brothers and sisters. We continue to grieve the loss of their physical presence in our lives. In faith, we trust that we will be with them again one day in the heavenly kingdom of God. They are with us when we, as the Body of Christ, offer our worship and thanksgiving to God in the Eucharist. I especially experience their presence in the silence after we have received Christ in the Eucharist. When we are in that silence, may I suggest that you be aware of your communion with Jesus Christ and your loved ones who are also in that communion with Him.

On Wednesday evening, November 8, we will celebrate our Memorial Mass for all those who have died during the past year. We lost some giants and pillars of the parish. All are welcome to join us. This can be a very healing gathering for those who have lost loved ones during the past year. Our Bereavement Ministers, Gene Johnson and Jim Dickman, help us to celebrate a very moving liturgy.

November is also the month we give thanks for all God's blessings. Meister Eckhardt, the great Dominican mystic, has said: "If the only prayer you ever pray is "Thank You," it would be enough." Our thanksgiving needs to be more than just a pious thought of gratitude. It needs to be expressed by what we do with all of God's blessings. We have been blessed as a parish family! Our parish family is a blessing! The saints among us are a blessing! The most important thing we do as a parish is to gather each weekend for Eucharist, i.e. to give thanks!

Say a prayer for our eighth graders who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation and our second graders preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.

An early Happy Advent wish to you! It starts Saturday afternoon, December 2! Mark your calendars for Tuesday, December 5! The Saint Henry District High School Chamber Choir from Northern Kentucky will be with us again for an evening of song and prayer in church beginning at 7:00 p.m. Those who were fortunate to attend last year, gave rave reviews! This choir is celebrated for excellence in the Greater Cincinnati area. It is directed by Eileen Bird. Eileen is Mary Ann Wagner's daughter, who often fills in on the flute at our 11:30 a.m. Mass, when she brings her mother to church.

This will be an enjoyable and uplifting experience. Don't miss it!

Fr. Jim

Memorial Mass

On Wednesday evening, November 8 at 7:00 p.m., all members of our parish who have died this past year will be remembered in a special way at our Memorial Mass. We encourage all families, friends, and fellow parishioners to join us in song and prayer.

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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.

Henry Royer, father of David, Rick, Michael and Thomas Royer.

Arnold Sandman, husband of Patricia Sandman and father of Mary Grace and Mike, Arnold III and Ashley, Heather and Doug and Richard and Sarah.

Rose Whetstein, mother of Carol and Don Corcoran, Jean Ann Whetstein and Greg and Brenda Whetstein.

Leo Spitzmiller, father of Linda and Bill Hassman, Mary and Dennie Valentine, Vivian and Gary Harvey and Rose and Jerry Hennessey.

Michael D. Queenan, Jr., father of Michael "Trey" Queenan III and son of Michael and Martha Queenan.

Marguerite "Peggy" Flannery, mother of Matthew and Chrissie Flannery, Michael and Kathleen Flannery, Shannon Flannery, Colleen and David Wimmel and Mark and Lisa Flannery.

Emma Sturwold, mother of John, Steve "Dee", Tom, Frank, Mark and Kathy, Marsha and Mike and Sharon Sturwold.

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.*



An Evening of Song and Prayer

Please join us on Tuesday, December 5 at 7:00 p.m. as we welcome the St. Henry District High School Chamber Choir from Northern Kentucky. This renowned choir is under the direction of Ms. Eileen Bird. You won't want to miss this joyful and uplifting evening of song and prayer!

Advent Family Night



Start a new family tradition! Join us on Sunday, November 19 at 5:00 p.m. in O'Connor Hall. Each family will make a fresh Advent Wreath and share a Potluck Dinner. We will also provide fun family activities to be used during the Advent season. Please bring your family's favorite dish to share and a pair of yard sheers for the greenery. If you attended the event in the past, please bring your tray for the wreath. RSVPs to Meg Morris (meg.morris@uc.edu or 403-0720) are appreciated but not required.



COMMUNITY DINNER November 16, 2017 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in O'Connor Hall Hope to see everyone there!

THE TORCH

Liturgical Ministers

We need Gift Bearers, Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers for all Masses. The commitment is usually once a month. If you would like more information, or to sign up as a Lector or Eucharistic Minister, please call the Parish Office at 471-7741, ext. 411. To sign up as Gift Bearers, please call John Willenborg at 451-5712. If you are already a Liturgical Minister (Gift Bearer, Server, Lector or Eucharistic Minister) and would like to be removed from the schedule, please call the Parish Office before November 30.

Church Envelopes

This year, we are planning to distribute the 2018 Church envelopes in the Gathering Place after the weekend Masses around the middle of November. Please see the bulletin for additional instructions about how/when to pick them up.

Giving Trees

On the weekend before Thanksgiving (November 18/19) the Giving Trees will be up and at the church doors. Please consider helping by taking a tag. If you are not able to shop for a gift, please consider a donation. Look for more information in the November bulletins.

Goldenaires

ANNUAL DINNER – November 11 – For those who have already reserved their seat. Wine, soda and appetizers will be served at 5:30 p.m. with our catered dinner at 6:00 p.m.

How Lucky We Are: A Prayer of Thanksgiving

I am thankful for the mess to clean up after a party because it means I have been surrounded by friends.

I am thankful for the taxes I pay because it means that I'm employed.

I am thankful for the clothes that fit a little too snug because it means I have enough to eat.

I am thankful for the spot I find at the far end of the parking lot because it means I am capable of walking.

I am thankful for all the complaining I hear about our government because it means we have freedom of speech.

I am thankful for that lady behind me in church who sings off key because it means that I can hear.

I am thankful for the piles of laundry and ironing because it means my loved ones are nearby.

I am thankful for the lawn that needs mowing, window that needs cleaning and gutter that needs fixing because it means I have a home.

I am thankful for my huge heating bill because it means that I am warm.

I am thankful for weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day because it means that I have been productive.

I am thankful for the alarm that goes off in the early morning hours because it means that I am alive.

I am thankful for this opportunity to praise God in prayer for so many things that look difficult because it means I am beginning to see with the eyes of faith.

Amen





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Meet the New Staff at St. Dominic School



Nancy Murray is an educational assistant. Nancy says, "My passion has always been education and I am so looking forward to working with your children and the school staff. My husband, Steve and I have been happily married for 33 years and are blessed with 5 wonderful children. We've been very active parishioners at Our Lady of the Visitation Parish for many years. I've been a stay-at-home mom and am so excited to be one of the newest members of the staff here at St. Dominic."

Ginny Jones is an educational assistant in preschool. Ginny states, "I really enjoy being with the young children at St. Dominic. I

am a retired computer technician. My husband, Greg and I have two sons and two grandsons. We're looking forward to our youngest son's wedding this December."

Marisa Burns is our new librarian. Risa is glad to be joining St. Dominic. She has a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership and has worked in both education and business. She is especially happy to be back in school and working with the students. She and her husband, Steve (Social Studies teacher for 7th and 8th grade) have two grown sons and enjoy the opportunity to work together at St. Dominic.

Christine Gilligan teaches kindergarten. She states, "So far I am having a blast with the students. We are learning together! My husband Brian, and I have one daughter and two sons. We are parishioners at St. Dominic. I have a dual Bachelor's Degree in Elementary and Special Education. I am currently working toward getting my Master's Degree in Special Education and will complete it in 2018."

Mary Ann Prewitt is the new administrative assistant in the school's front office. She states, "I'm looking forward to working with the parishioners of St. Dominic. Stop by the school office and introduce yourself sometime."

School News

Get ready for the Scholastic Book Fair – Saddle up and round up your family and friends and come to the St. Dominic PTO Book Fair to pick up some great books to read!! Head on out to our fall WILD WEST BOOK FAIR!!! The Book Fair will be open on November 11/12 and November 18/19 after the 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday and all the morning Masses on Sunday. Make your way to the reading frontier, also known as the Parish Center, to find fantastic adventure tales and classics. There is something for everyone! Books make wonderful gifts for family and friends of all ages. We hope to see you at the Book Fair!



Mark your calendars and save the date! On Monday, November 13, St. Dominic will have an all-day fund raiser at the Western Hills **Panera Bread** from 11:00 a.m.-9:30 p.m. 15% of all sales with a flyer (available in November 12 bulletin) will be donated back to the Tuition Reduction Program. Dine-in, carry-out, AND gift card sales are included. With the holidays around the corner, Panera Bread gift cards make GREAT stocking stuffers. Please come out and join us for a fun night, with friends and family, and support a GREAT cause. We hope to see you there! If you have any questions or need flyers, please contact Peter Gibbs at pgibbs81@yahoo.com.

Requirements for Those Volunteering with Children

As a reminder, all volunteers are required to attend one VIRTUS live training session. You can attend this training at any location at a date/time that works best for you. Preregistration is required. Find training locations, registration details and steps to create your VIRTUS user account at www.VIRTUS.org.

The second requirement for volunteers is to complete an online background check request. Payment for this is by credit card or "token" at the time of your online request. Contact the organization for which you volunteer to get information on obtaining a token for payment. To initiate the online background check, sign in to your VIRTUS.org user account, click the 'Toolbox" tab. then click the selection.com background check link. Contact Theresa Eagan at teagan@stdominicdelhi.org or 471-7741, ext. 481 with questions.

St. Dominic Men's Scholarship Golf Outing 2017

We had another successful year due to the generosity of our Door Prize Donors and Hole Sponsors. Please patronize our Donors and Sponsors!

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Christmas Floral Donations

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 15.

Name:

Amount: _____

In Memory of:

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

____ I prefer my donation remain anonymous