

The Torch



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

St. Dominic
Parish

Delhi Township,
OH

November 2023

From Fr. Jim

November is a monthlong celebration of the communion of saints and the remembrance of those who have gone before us. As a parish we have lost 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.

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 the Eucharist. The word "Eucharist" is from the Greek and means "to give thanks"!

To all of you who contribute your time, talent, and treasure for the life of St. Dominic Parish, I say "Thank You!"

— 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.

Mary Ann Brandhorst, mother of Kathy Brandhorst, David (Amy) Brandhorst and Greg (Sharon) Brandhorst.

William Kiely, husband of Mavourneen Kiely (nee Flaherty) and father of Douglas (Annie) Kiely, Andrew (Claire) Kiely and Patrick (Sara) Kiely.

James Pardol, husband of Dorothy Pardol (nee Kennedy) and father of Beth (Stephen) Niermann, Amanda (Josh) Ison and Kimberly (Danny) Niesen.

Louise Wells, mother of Ben F. (Judy) Wells, Sr.

Parish Office Thanksgiving and Inclement Weather Schedule

The Parish Office will be closed on Thanksgiving and on Friday, November 24. Please plan any business accordingly.

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. 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.*

Parental Preparation for Infant Baptism

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, December 3 after the 11:30 a.m. Mass in church. Contact Parish Office at 513-471-7741, ext. 0 with questions about Baptism or to let us know that you will join us on December 3.

A Thanksgiving Litany

From the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above,
so we lift our hearts up to You, God,
in praise and thanksgiving.

As we count our blessings, and acknowledge Your goodness,
our hearts go out to those who do not have,
and who are in need.

We thank You for plentiful harvests and full refrigerators
and ask that You supply the needs of those who are hungry.

We thank You for jobs that provide for our families
and supply the needs of our society,
and pray that You would care for those who have no work,
or the dignity and purpose it brings.

We thank You for opportunities and choices,
for meaning and challenges, and pray that You
would give a sense of purpose to those who feel trapped.

We thank You for family and friends who love us and care for us
and pray that You would befriend those who are alone.

The abundance of the harvest
is a symbol of the abundance of Your love in our lives.

May we live in a spirit of gratitude to You
and generosity to our neighbor.

Loving God, in this season and all year long,
give to us the gift of a thankful heart,
so that we may acknowledge You as the giver
of all that is good in our lives.

In the name of Jesus we ask it.

Amen.

Early Torch Deadline

Please note the early deadlines for the December and January Torch. Information for the December Torch must be submitted by Tuesday, November 7. Information for the January Torch must be submitted by Wednesday, December 6. Thank you.

St. Dominic Education Fund

July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

The St. Dominic Education Fund received donations in memory of the following:

Debbie Backscheider, David Beck, Ruth Ann Bittner, Lucy Bruzgulis, Fr. Jim Collins, Vicki Currin, Ed & Linda Deller, Charlotte Harpring, Don Kahny, Barb Lowry, Noemi Lubbers, James & Rose Maloney, Elizabeth Neumann, June Ostmann, Jo Ann Panaro, Dorothy Poettker, Don Reverman, Joan Rokich, Angie Rudolf, Jacqueline Sagers, Joan Sanker, Phyllis Scherra, Mike Scola, Betty Tharp, Mark Young, Bob Younger and Deanne Zimmermann.

The St. Dominic Education Fund received a total of \$18,040.90. Included in this total is \$7,772.52 that was donated by parishioners in the special envelopes in May and October and special donations in honor of the St. Dominic Class of 1967 and the St. Dominic Class of 1972.

The Adopt-A-Student Program had six benefactors including a donation in memory of Marie Davis and the Edna Mae Cappel Memorial Fund, for a total of \$12,520 for 2022-2023.

Currently, 36 students from 25 families are receiving \$42,850 from the St. Dominic Tuition Assistance Funds and 24 students from 17 families are receiving \$24,200 from the Catholic Education Foundation in tuition assistance for the 2023-2024 school year. Thank you to our benefactors for your generous support of our tuition assistance funds and supporting our Adopt-a-Student program.



Giving Trees

November: A Time for Giving Thanks

A great way of giving our thanks at St. Dominic is by participating in our annual Giving Tree program. We are hoping you can help families from our parish as well as those in the area surrounding St. Leo parish by participating in our Giving Tree program this year.

On the weekend of November 18 & 19, three trees decorated with gift tags will be at the church doors. Each tag designates a person who, without help from us, would have a meager Christmas. The ages on the tags range from infants to adults.

The gifts need to be returned the weekend of December 9 & 10 so that they can be sorted and delivered after the 11:30 a.m. Mass. Please consider helping make Christmas a little brighter for someone who may be a stranger to you.



We will not have a Community Dinner in November; instead, we will have a Holiday Community Dinner on

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6.

This special dinner will replace the November and December dinners.

Dinner will be served from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in O'Connor Hall.

Take some time out of your Christmas preparations to relax and enjoy a meal with friends, parishioners, and neighbors.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Adoration and Confession

Join us at St. Dominic on Wednesday, December 6 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. for Adoration and Confession. Come to our Community Dinner and then join us in Eucharistic Adoration in prayer, read the Bible, pray the Rosary, or just sit and relax and enjoy the peace that comes from simply being in the Presence of God. There will also be an opportunity for Confessions with Fr. Jim or Fr. Chris for anyone who is interested.

Grief Support Class

Fr. Chris will hold a Grief Support class to help anyone who has lost a loved one in death. It runs for four weeks, with each session containing an educational/formational component, as well as time for participants to share and listen. Each subsequent session will build on the previous one, so plan on being there for all sessions, please. No new participants will be accepted after the initial session. The program begins on Monday, November 13 and is scheduled for consecutive Monday evenings from 7:00-9:00 p.m. All sessions will be at St. Simon in Plagge Hall. If you have any questions or would like to register, call the St. Dominic Parish Office at 513-471-7741, ext. 0.

Coat Drive for St. Vincent de Paul

It's that time of year again, it's getting chilly outside! As you clean out your closets, please consider setting aside your gently-used coats that you no longer wear to donate to the St. Vincent de Paul Coat Drive. Bins will be in the Gathering Place on November 11 & 12 for your donations. St. Vincent de Paul accepts gently-used and new coats of any size, infant through adult.

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. You can place an order online by going to our website at www.stdominicdelhi.org and click on the green "Online Giving" button on the left-hand side. Scroll down until you see "Gathering Place Walkway Bricks." Order forms are available on our website under Resources or at the doors of church. 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 \$40.00. The 8 x 8 pavers allow up to 6 lines with 13 characters per line and cost \$75.00. If you have any questions, call the Parish Office at 513-471-7741, ext. 0.



All brick/paver orders will be placed twice each year, once in January and once in July.

St. Vincent de Paul Society St. Dominic Conference Report

Attached is the 2023 Fiscal Year Report from October 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023.

The members of St. Dominic Parish were amazingly generous to the St. Vincent de Paul Society and, in turn, the St. Vincent de Paul Society was generous to our neighbors.

The total receipts for the St. Vincent de Paul Society were \$84,177.13 – **all of that came from St. Dominic Parish donations.** Because of your generous donations, we were able to help 459 households with 1,333 individuals.

Thankfully, we had some funds left over from last year, because our total expenses for fiscal 2023 were \$85,844.36. The breakdown of the "direct aid" that SVdP provided is as follows:

Utility Bills (Duke Energy and GCWW)	\$25,381.66
Food and Kroger Gift Cards	\$12,893.12
Rent & Mortgage Assistance	\$34,373.03
"Twinning Help" to neighboring SVdP Conferences	\$11,855.00
Funeral	\$ 500.00
Miscellaneous (rent for a storage unit, car repairs, dues)	\$ 841.55

In addition to this "direct aid," St. Dominic's St. Vincent de Paul provided clothing/household and furniture and bed vouchers from the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Stores worth almost \$17,000.00.

This past year, our members spent over 1,307 hours and drove over 2,900 miles helping our neighbors in need. We bought food and gift cards and stocked the pantry so we could provide and deliver food to our neighbors. We are kept busy answering the phone, listening to, and advising our neighbors.

If you wish to join the St. Vincent de Paul team, please call the parish at 513-471-7741, ext. 290 and leave your name and telephone number. It is a very challenging and very rewarding opportunity.

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

ST. DOMINIC CHURCH
4551 DELHI PIKE
CINCINNATI, OH 45238
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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. You can also make your donation through WeShare. Visit our website at www.stdominichelhi.org and click the green "Online Giving" button on the left side. Scroll until you see "Christmas Flowers." Please submit all donations by Friday, December 8.

Your Name: _____

Amount: _____

In Memory of: _____

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

I prefer my donation remain anonymous.

