



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

Pastor's Desk

St. Dominic Parish

Delhi Township, OH

October 2018

(A number of you asked me to write out my homily for the 23rd Sunday of ordinary time, when Fr. Chris and I talked about the clergy sexual abuse scandal. I wrote out the words below from my homily notes on the following Tuesday. Fr. Jim)

Homily for the 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (Cure of the deaf-mute),

Jesus looked up to the heavens, groaned and said, "Be opened!" When reflecting on this gospel in light of the recent revelations of clergy sexual abuse in the dioceses of Pennsylvania, I see Jesus looking at His church,looking up to heaven.....groaning.....and saying, "Be opened!..... Open the files!.....No more secrets!.....Open your ears!.....No more deafness to the sounds of the pain of the victims of clergy sexual abuse!.....Open your mouths and speak!.....No more silence!..... Bishops, no more cover-up and abuse of authority!"

I thought we were on the way to correcting this after the Boston scandal fifteen years ago. But now a grand jury in Pennsylvania has identified 300 priest abusers and 1,000 victims in the state over the last 70 years! We also learned of disgusting revelations about Cardinal Ted McCarrick. I am sure that other states' attorneys will be investigating the files of dioceses in other states. This is good! The Catholic church needs to be transparent. It is like an infection in the body. The infection needs to be brought to the surface in order to be treated and healed! Jesus challenges us today, "Be opened!"

Brothers and sisters, all of this stirs up strong feelings in me. I feel deep sadness and sorrow for the victims. They trusted that the priest was a man of God, only to have that trust betrayed. It makes me sick! It makes me angry! I am angry at the perpetrators for betraying the trust and harming innocent lives! I am angry at the Bishops for their cover-up! I am angry at the bishops for closing their ears to the sounds of pain from the victims. The bishops were more concerned for the reputation of the institution than for the harm done to the victims. Many of the bishops were never in a parish. They were theology professors, and canon lawyers, and archdiocesan bureaucrats..... concerned with institutional matters, rather than pastors and good shepherds. I am afraid this is still the case with some of them. Maybe it's time to come up with a better way of selecting bishops! All of this evokes feelings of sadness, sorrow, anger, betrayal, and embarrassment!

But God can work through negative feelings! There can be blessings in the negative feelings if we bring them to God! St. John of the Cross, the great Carmelite mystic has said, "Feelings are God's language to the soul!" These are the blessings I've realized in all of this. First of all, I've come to a deeper awareness of the ugliness of sin!.....especially when it is the sin of those entrusted with the care of the flock. That awareness is a blessing! Secondly, these scandals call me back to the core of my faith. I am not a Catholic because of any priest, bishop, cardinal, or pope! I am Catholic because I believe in Jesus Christ who died and rose out of love for me and continues to bless me in the church, especially through the sacraments, and who promises to share His life with me for all eternity! For me, this is not the time to leave the following of Jesus. I am reminded of His words to Peter in the gospel a few weeks ago: "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life!"

Another blessing of these difficult times in the Catholic church is the opportunity to renew my commitment to fight for the church I believe in and which was envisioned in the Second Vatican Council.....a church I have been fighting for for almost fifty years. It is an opportunity to renew my commitment to be a trustworthy leader in the Church.....and to carry out my ministry as Pastor.....and to serve you.....in a manner worthy of your trust!

These are dark days. There have been dark days before. Jesus Christ is with us and still lives and reigns! Thanks for your support during these days. Let us continue to pray for the victims of this terrible abuse of trust and authority. May God give them healing and some peace in all of this!

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.

LaVerne Zoellner, loving mother of Lloyd Zoellner, Jr. and Cynthia

Mary Bruner, wife of George E. Bruner and mother of Jim and Linda Bruner, Bob and Deb Bruner, Don and Thelma Bruner and Barbara and Michael Leik.

St. Dominic Website

Have you checked out our website lately? All the latest happenings in the Parish are listed in the "News and Events" section. You can read both the weekly bulletin and the monthly newsletter – *The Torch* – online. You can also find Liturgical Ministers schedules, a Parish Calendar, contact information for the Parish Staff as well as all our Parish Ministries. Our website is www.stdominicdelhi.org.



Wedding Anniversary Mass

Couples celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 65th Wedding Anniversary in 2018 will be honored at the 9:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, October 21. A short reception will follow the Mass for relatives and friends in O'Connor Hall. Please RSVP by October 8 at 471-7741, ext. 0.

If you did not turn your name in to the Parish Office for your Anniversary last spring, please call the Parish Office at 471-7741, ext. 0, by October 8. <u>If you are interested in helping</u> to serve the reception, please call the Parish Office as soon as you are able to commit. Your help would be very much appreciated!

Memorial Mass

On Wednesday evening, November 7 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.

If you will be attending the Mass to remember a loved one who was not from this parish, please call the Parish Office at 471-7741, ext. 0 by November 1 to have them included.

Hospitalized Parishioners

The local hospitals want to support you spiritually when you are admitted into the hospital. Below are some reminders to help make this process easier.

- 1. Upon admission, let them know you are Catholic.
- 2. Notify the Parish Office at 471-7741, ext. 0, if you are in the hospital. (Hospitals no longer make the call.)
- 3. If you are scheduled for surgery, call the Parish Office at 471-7741, ext. 0, for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick **BEFORE** you go to the hospital.
- 4. Ask your nurse to call a hospital chaplain to offer spiritual care, help answer questions, provide Communion and help contact your parish.

St. Dominic Education Fund

July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018

The St. Dominic Education Fund received \$16,630.00 in memory of the following:

Brenda Flower Evelyn Kraemer Michael Queenan, Jr. Sid Campbell Silos DelaCalzada Cyril Jansing Jennifer Klapper Helen Pachoud Carol Thieman Ralph W. Englert Bill Rasmussen Betty Eilerman George Klapper Lena Kahny Louis Poettker Ruth Rattermann Judith Ann Spenlau Julie Jones Jim Radley Loraine Conroy Thomas Bruns Val Liederbach Mary Weigand Margaret Reif Mary Lou Klapper

Included in this total are special donations from The Greater Cincinnati Performing Arts Society – Education and Scholarship Program (ESAP), David and Geraldine Sandman, Martha Rouse in memory of her parents, Paul and Shirley Plagge, Larry and Chris Bill, a donation in honor of Sr. Patrick Ann from the Sisters of Charity, donations in honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Don and Sandy Evers and Rick and Diana Veid. A total of \$1,424 was donated by parishioners in the special envelopes in May and October. The St. Dominic Certificate Program also contributed \$2,660 in 2017-2018.

The Adopt-A-Student Program had seven benefactors plus a donation from the St. Dominic Men's Society, Marie Davis Memorial and the Edna Mae Cappel Memorial Fund, for a total of \$17,371 for 2017-2018.

For the 2017-2018 school year, 79 students from 50 families received \$50,491 from the St. Dominic Tuition Assistance Fund and 45 students from 23 families have received \$31,950 from the Catholic Education Foundation in tuition assistance. Thank you to our benefactors for your generous support of our tuition assistance funds and supporting our Adopt-A-Student program.



Veterans Day 2018

Military veterans in our parish and School families are invited to come celebrate Mass with the school children on Friday, November 9 at 8:15 a.m. Reservations are not necessary. Just come and pray with the children.

Goldenaires

Inside Music Hall Tour – Friday, October 19. The cost will be \$17, plus your lunch. Those of you who have made a reservation may send your check for \$17, made payable to the *St. Dominic Goldenaires*, to Judy Tensing at 625 Covedale Avenue #2, Cincinnati, OH 45238. As of September 9, we had room for two more. If interested, call Judy at 451-2028. Transportation (bus and cars) will leave Delhi Park n' Ride at 10:15 a.m. for an 11:00 a.m. tour (1-1 ¹/₄ hours long), followed by lunch at Taft Ale House.

THE TORCH



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.



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults – RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation Adapted for Children

St. Dominic's RCIA process continues year-round. Because of this, adults and children can begin at any time. Most who come to the Catholic Church as adults do so because God has called them through other people. If you know someone who may be interested in the Catholic Faith, ask him or her to call us, or ask if he or she would like for you to call and make the first "contact." While new Inquirers can join St. Dominic's RCIA process at any time, because of our lingering "school year mindset," many people begin to consider inquiring about the faith as the new school year begins. Now is a great time to reach out and mention becoming Catholic to someone you know who may be considering it! For more information, contact Theresa at 471-7741, ext. 481 or teagan@stdominicdelhi.org.

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St. Dominic Men's Society

Members of the St. Dominic Men's Society will be selling lottery tickets at the church doors after each Mass through the end of October. Tickets are only \$5 each and will go to our scholarship fund. 100% of the money raised for the scholarship fund goes directly to students attending St. Dominic. Each day in November (except Sundays) a three-digit number will be drawn at random and the winner will receive \$100. Your ticket can win more than once!!

The St. Dominic Parish Men's Society invites the adult men in our parish and school families to attend our monthly meetings. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 8:00 p.m. in Fr. Grimmelsman Hall (the music room). Our meetings this fall will be on October 11, November 8, and December 13. In existence for 80+ years, the St. Dominic Men's Society is a faith, fellowship, and stewardship organization that supports the parish and school through service, financial assistance, and prayer. At our meetings, we discuss fund-raising activities for school scholarships and capital improvements (September – Golf Outing, November – Chances, February – Las Vegas Night), maintenance projects for the school, and other social and service activities. Contact Jason Shattuck at Jason.Shattuck@ kenton.kyschools.us for more information.

First Day of School



Mr. Cavanaugh with the new teachers and staff members on the First Day of School.

Back Row: Mr. Cavanaugh, Mrs. Terri Rosskopf, Mrs. Amy Young, Mrs. Sara Tepe, Ms. Annie Schiller and Mrs. Julianne Sheehan. Front Row: Mrs. Jessica Bonomini, Mrs. Amy Grider, Ms. Carrie Ramsaur, Mrs. Andrea Ray.



Teachers and Staff welcomed the students back with balloons and a "black carpet" on their first day of school



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COMMUNITY DINNER

October 18, 2018

5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

In O'Connor Hall Hope to see everyone there!

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