



Bishop Edward Fenwick, OP

As a young Dominican missionary priest, Father Fenwick celebrated the first Mass in Lancaster two hundred years ago Tuesday at the Garaghty home (now the Fairfield County Foundation) on the Feast of the Assumption, August 15, 1817.

The 19th Sunday of the Year

at Lancaster St Bernadette and Bremen St Mary

August 13, 2017

St Bernadette Parish.

1343 Wheeling Road NE (740) 654 • 1893
LANCASTER, OH 43130-8701

stbernadetteparish.net

St Mary Parish.

602 Marietta Street (740) 569 • 7929
BREMEN, OH 43107

cover picture: [a painting of Bishop Edward Fenwick](#)

Bishop Frederick Campbell will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the first Mass celebrated in Lancaster on the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady into heaven, at 7 PM Mass on Tuesday, Aug 15, the patronal feast of St Mary of the Assumption Parish. Fr Thomas Blau OP will be the preacher. An ice cream reception will follow in the courtyard. We are all invited to attend the Mass and reception.

Fr Edward Fenwick OP, the missionary who planted the Catholic Faith in Ohio, offered the first Mass in Lancaster in 1817. A Dominican friar, passing through Lancaster on the Zane Trace, he stopped here to celebrate Mass in the home of Michael Garaghty. The Garaghty home, which still stands across the street from St Mary Church, now houses The Fairfield County Foundation.

Fr Fenwick later become the first Bishop of Cincinnati in 1822.

our parishes.

Father Thomas Kessler pastor	(614) 634-0499 wonthomaskessler@icloud.com
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at St Bernadette Parish

Jeff Carpenter deacon	(740) 681-9918 carpenter.277@osu.edu
Mark Scarpitti deacon	(740) 438-3970 dcn.mark@frontier.com
Ann Essman pastoral minister	(740) 653-9347 aessman001@att.net
Steve Huber facilities coordinator	(740) 654-3137 shuber57@yahoo.com
Angie & Kent Kerns religious education	(740) 654-2588 kwkerns@gmail.com
Liz Latorre liturgical music	(740) 243-1872 lizlatorre@gmail.com

The St Bernadette Parish office is in the Mary Good Center, across the back parking lot from the school.

Hours are: 9 am-1 pm, MWThF; 11 am-1 pm, Tu.
1343 Wheeling Rd NE,
Lancaster, OH 43130-8701 (740) 654-1893
<http://stbernadetteparish.net>

at Bremen St Mary Parish

Ben Factor liturgical music	b_factor@lancaster.k12.oh.us
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The St Mary Parish office is at the church vestibule.
Hours are 9-11 AM, Tuesdays.

602 Marietta St,
Bremen, OH 43107 (740) 569-7929

at both parishes

Stephen Karnes bookkeeper	(740) 654-1893 stbernbook@gmail.com
Kathy Kehnast pastoral coordinator	(740) 654-1893 stbernpaish@yahoo.com
Julie & Chase Stalford youth ministry	(740) 808-7294 maristellaspirt@gmail.com

Saint Bernadette School

Pam Eltringham principal	peltring@cducation.org (740) 654-3137
Barb Huber secretary	bhuber@cducation.org (740) 654-3137

Saint Bernadette School is located at
1325 Wheeling Rd, Lancaster, OH 43130-8701

stbernlan@cducation.org
www.stbernadetteschool.com

sacramental life.

Baptism

To have a child baptized, you must register and attend a class as a couple (unless attendance just isn't possible, in which case some discussion with Kathy Kehnast will be necessary). Sessions are held quarterly for both parishes. Try to attend before the child is born. Next session is tentatively planned for October 19. If you are expecting or have a new born or somehow have somehow haven't gotten around to have an older child baptized, call Kathy to make plans.

Please don't ask if you "have to go." This is an opportunity to meet with parents of children about the same age as your little one; those parents are in the same wonderful boat as you are.

At least one parent must be a practicing Catholic. Both godparents need to be practicing Catholics. If you don't attend Sunday Mass regularly (a major component of being a practicing Catholic!), there is something you can do about it: Start coming to Sunday Mass.

Penance

The priest is available for Penance

- at St Bernadette Saturdays at 3 PM and Thursdays at 5:30 PM, and
- at St Mary Bremen on Sunday at 8 AM.

Every Catholic priest is available whenever there is a need. There are Penance opportunities for parochial school children four times during the year so that they will learn **the beauty of frequent confession**. The Church's law requires us to receive the sacrament of Penance at least once a year.

Anointing and Care of the Sick

We receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick when dangerously ill, facing major surgery, or suffering from the ravages of old age. We celebrate the sacrament communally at a Sunday Mass before Advent and during the Easter season so that we can all pray with you for "health of mind and body."

We bring Penance, Anointing, and Holy Communion to the sick or shut in. It is very helpful to call the parish office to let us know before a hospitalization or when it has been too long since the sacraments were last available.

Holy Matrimony

Couples wishing to marry should contact the parish office six months before they wish to celebrate the sacrament. Why so long? Because **this sacrament, not just the ceremony, requires serious preparation**. And the Church needs to be involved in that preparation. Remember, Catholics who marry outside the Church have left the sacramental life and need to change that situation before receiving the other sacraments.

The Church wishes to support couples **through the years** of their married life. That's why our diocese offers programs to enhance married life. To learn about these programs, watch the weekly bulletin.

praying with the Church

it is still a holy day!

The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven is Tuesday, Aug 15. And it is a holy day. Of obligation.

The Assumption of Mary is something very much to be celebrated. She was redeemed from bodily corruption; her body was not buried. Instead **she rose from the dead right away and was assumed into heaven**. You see, on this day we celebrate the second of the two feast days which take **joyful note of how she participated in the salvation of humanity by her Son** from the dire fallenness of our human condition. On Dec 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (also, and for like reason, a holy day of obligation, when every Catholic is required to attend Mass) we remember that, **from the moment she was conceived, she was free from the burden of original sin**. Sin and death, the painful reality of the human condition, the things Jesus came to redeem us from—one of us, Mary, the one most intimately involved in that Redemption, has already begun to share in its most wondrous effects.

Now that is something to celebrate, obligation or no obligation. See you in church?

at Mass this Sunday the church prays :

Almighty ever-living God,
whom, taught by the Holy Spirit, we dare to call our Father,
bring, we pray, to perfection in our hearts
the spirit of adoption as your sons and daughters,
that we may merit to enter into the inheritance
which you have promised.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

in august the pope is praying for artists

That artists of our time, through their ingenuity, may help everyone discover the beauty of creation.

we listen to God's word ... at sunday Mass

Sunday, Aug 13,	1 Kings 19:9-13	Psalm 85
19th Sunday	Romans 9:1-5	Matthew 14:22-33
<i>Mon, Aug 14</i>	Deuteronomy 10:12-22	Ps 147 Matthew 17:22-27
Tues, Aug 15	Rev 11:19-12:10	Psalm 45
The Assumption	1 Cor 15:20-27	Luke 1:39-56
<i>Weds, Aug 16</i>	Deuteronomy 34:1-12	Ps 66 Matthew 18:15-20
<i>Thurs, Aug 17</i>	Joshua 3:7-17	Ps 114 Matthew 18:21-19:1
<i>Fri, Aug 18</i>	Joshua 24:1-13	Ps 136 Matthew 19:3-12
<i>Sat, Aug 19</i>	Joshua 24:14-29	Ps 16 Matthew 19:13-15
Sunday, Aug 20,	Isaiah 56:1-7	Psalm 67
20th Sunday	Romans 11:13-32	Matthew 15:21-28

summer square dance

Summer means square dancing at **Schmelzer's Grove**. Mark your calendars for this Sunday evening, Aug 13, from 7-9:30 PM. Admission is \$4 per person.

feast days this week

Aug 14	Saint Maximilian Kolbe , priest & martyr
Aug 15	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Aug 16	Saint Stephen of Hungary , king
Aug 19	Saint John Eudes , priest

at both our parishes

parish family lunch

You and your family are invited to the St Bernadette and St Mary parish family lunch on Sunday, Aug 20, at noon **in the St Bernadette parish hall**. We will meet and share a meal with members of both our parishes. Our parish family lunch begins right after the 11 AM Mass at St Bernadette. Bring a table cloth, table setting, and a dish to pass. Drinks will be provided. Last names

- A-K bring a meat or main dish,
- L-N bring a dessert,
- O-Z bring a salad or side dish.

Arrive at Mass a little early to set up and reserve your place for lunch. Linger a while afterwards to meet the St Bernadette School teachers—and encourage them in the new year! Sign-up sheets are located on the tables in the school hallway at St Bernadette and in the front vestibule at St Mary. For information, to reserve your spot, or to sign up to bring a dish to pass, contact Kathy at (740) 654-1893. See you there!

in our parishes

RCIA — PARTICIPANTS NEEDED!

The opening session for RCIA (the Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults) in our two parishes meets **Sunday, Aug 20**, at 7 PM in the Mary Good Center at St Bernadette. So now is the time! Who are you going to invite at least to think about the Catholic Christian Faith? This year?

Pray that you will have the grace and the courage to welcome and invite someone to the sacramental life!

- if you are *thinking about becoming a Catholic Christian* yourself;
 - if you are a Catholic who would like to share your treasured Faith as a sponsor;
 - if you are *a Catholic who needs to get back to basics* and learn your Faith better;
 - if you have *a friend or loved one* in one of those situations; or
 - if you *have other questions* regarding the RCIA,
- ... come to this **first session** for the new year.

To learn more or to let us know you are coming, **call Kathy Kehmast** at 654-1893.

st bernadette school an affordable catholic education

Don't delay. School starts next week!

The goal of a Catholic education at St Bernadette School is to **prepare our students to take their place in society as disciples of Jesus Christ, called to live the Gospel through their daily interactions** with family, friends, and neighbors. Our school educates the whole child through challenging academics and activities with opportunities for service that help our students carry out our calling to serve and provide both fun and personal development for our students.

Our school has **highly qualified teachers**,

- licensed by the Ohio Department of Education,
- certified in religion by the diocese,
- with the required background checks,

- trained in school safety and abuse prevention,
- and participating in ongoing professional development.

Please take advantage of **accessible Catholic education**. Tuition assistance is available to qualifying families. The EdChoice Expansion is available to students new to our building in grades K and 1. St Bernadette School is also a provider of the Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program, and the Autism Scholarship Program.

collection for church in latin america

Thank you for your support of the collection for the Church in Latin America last Sunday. This collection strengthens the faith of our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean. Your support is bringing the faith to people in remote villages who would otherwise not have access to church programs and outreach. Thank you for sharing your faith. To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.

at bremen st mary parish

parish homecoming and picnic

Bremen St Mary Parish is looking forward to our annual **Parish Homecoming and Picnic**. The plan is to have this happen at Schmelzer's Grove on Sunday, Sept 24. In recent years this has been a day of good food, dancing, hay and pony rides, games and some fine Dixieland music. That's the plan and this plan can be fulfilled if some parishioners will step forward to help make the arrangements. For information or if you would like to volunteer, call the St Mary parish office at (740) 569-7929.

an unexpected visitor

An unexpected visitor has been cooking meals in the parish hall at St Mary—leaving the pantry light on, the gas on the stove lit, and even an empty soup can and dirty dishes in the sink. So, we are going to have to keep the parish hall locked except when there is a responsible person from the parish in the building. We will make adjustments as soon as possible so that the Church can be left available again for prayer during the daylight hours.

st vincent de paul at bremen

The St Vincent de Paul Society in Bremen takes up a **collection after Mass on the first Sunday** of every month. **New members** are always welcome. Call Angi Skinner at (740) 438-0027.

Mass intention at st mary

The Tuesday Holy Day Mass and the Sunday Mass is offered for the people of the parish.

ministry at Mass at st mary

Aug 13, 15, & 20	lector	servers	extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion	gifts	sacristan / usher
Sunday 8:30 AM	Joe Young	Carly Kunkler, Sydnee Rogers	Neil Boch, Joe & Cathy Young	Joe Young family	Joe Young
Tuesday, noon	Jeame Schmelzer				Jim Schmelzer
next Sunday	Susan Foltz	Caden & Cody Fyffe	Wyatt Borah, Pam Redding, Dismas Schmelzer	Catherine Noll, April Schmelzer	Nikki Schmelzer

small maintenance jobs

Our parish needs a person who could handle small maintenance jobs at the church, the rectory, and the Grove, on an as-needed basis. The qualifications are simple: be handy and responsible and reasonably knowledgeable about basic maintenance and good upkeep. Jim Schmelzer has been the go-to-guy for these tasks for quite a number of years. And he has done a super job! But he feels the need to pull

back some now. A replacement helper will not be held to the high standard of helpfulness, skill, and common sense that Jim has shown. But he will be very much appreciated. To find out how you could help or to volunteer, call Kathy at either parish office.

at st bernadette parish

help needed

Are you looking for a way to share your talents and time? St Vincent de Paul Society in Lancaster is in great need of help with the food pantry, the store, and client aid. Volunteering is a great way to give to someone in real need. Consider helping one day a month or one day a week, but please consider just helping. Contact Jill or Ed Weber at (740) 654-4148.

Mass intentions at st bernadette

Monday, Aug 14	8:20 AM	Bob Guinan
Tuesday, Aug 15	8:20 AM	Chuck Beiter
Tuesday, Aug 15	6 PM	the good of the people of the parish
Wednesday, Aug 16	8:20 AM	Tom Schweitzer
Thursday, Aug 17	6 PM	Frank Schmelzer
Friday, Aug 18	8:20 AM	Louise Mathias

The intention for Sunday Mass is the good of the people of the parish.

ministry at Mass at st bernadette

	lector	servers	extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion	
Saturday, 4:00 PM	Tara Craaybeek	Clara & Susan Craaybeek, Eve Darfus	Susan Garrett Kathy Kehnast Craig Shaw	Joyce Guenther Brad Rider Mickey Steyaert
Sunday, Aug 13, 11:00 AM	Terry Carpenter	Samantha Kerns, Logan & Tory Loy	Pat Dreyer John Hartig Larry Sanford	Pat Gins Ben Peters David Shonk
Monday, 8:20 AM	David Shonk	Mitchell Ortiz Daschel Neighbor	Patricia Dreyer	Kathy Kehnast
Tuesday, 8:20 AM	Mary Jane Vajen	Jack Tencza	Kathy Kehnast Mickey Steyaert	Deacon Priest
Tuesday, 6 PM	Terry Carpenter		Rosalie DeFillippo Brad Rider	Deacon Priest
Wednesday, 8:20 AM	Bob Christy	Joey Mannella Kyndra Nagle	Angie Christy	Mary Jane Vajen
Thursday, 6:00 PM	Kathy Kehnast		Lee Guinan	Paul Lonergan
Friday, 8:20 AM	Jim Merk	Becca Fuller Olivia Reynolds	Jim & Rita Merk	
Saturday, 4:00 PM	Bob Christy	Mallory, Mason & Mitchell Ortiz	Angie Christy Sandy Landefeld Jim & Becky Kuhn	Rosalie DeFillippo Denise McGuire
Sunday, Aug 20, 11:00 AM	John Hartig	Kendall Cox, Anna Hartig, Brennan Quaintance	Terry Carpenter Nancy Griffith Teresa Hartig	Anna Sevigny Becky Wickham Amy Woo

walking with purpose

Walking with Purpose is a program that helps women to know Christ through Scripture. Join us for our next session, **Opening Your Heart**, starting Thursday, Sept 14. This twenty-two session course **cultivates our relationship with Christ by expanding our knowledge of the Catholic Church's teachings and the Bible**. For this session, we are partnering with Lancaster St Mary Parish.

- The morning group will meet on Thursdays from 9-10:30 AM at St Bernadette Mary Good Center
- The evening group will meet on Thursday evenings from 7 - 8:30 PM at St Mary Spirit Center

Cost is \$40 for a book; please register by September 3 to have your materials.

Walking with Purpose is Catholic **faith-sharing that aims to bring women to a deeper personal relationship with Christ.** Through personal study and small group discussions, the group helps to link our everyday challenges with solutions given to us through the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church. It aims to meet women where we are in our everyday lives. As we explore our faith, we invite you to join us for as many sessions as your schedule allows. For questions or to register, contact Amy Woo at (414) 882-1863. For general program information, visit www.walkingwithpurpose.com.

in our deanery

grounded in faith, growing to serve

Many of us include our family in our wills, trusts, and life insurance policies. As stewards of God's gifts, we should include our Catholic faith, too. As Catholics, we are called to plan for the future of our parishes and our schools in the same way. Many have come to love William V. Fisher Catholic High School because within its walls we grew with Jesus Christ, built on our future, and developed long-lasting relationships. We have practiced our faith and received an enriched education. As a result we became a lasting part of this Catholic community.

Fisher Catholic High School works with the Catholic Foundation as a trusted partner because they assure peace of mind that our endowments are invested in alignment with our Catholic faith. You can help Fisher Catholic grow its endowment fund by identifying an end-of-life planned gift in your will, trust, or life insurance policy. You can also make a gift to the Fisher Catholic High School Endowment Fund now, in any amount. God has given us many blessings in our life. Please consider how we can use those blessings to support the future Fisher Catholic High School. The Catholic Foundation can assist you with creating a plan that best fits your family's individual needs and charitable goals.

To learn more about **how you can support William V. Fisher Catholic High School**, please contact Scott Hartman at the Catholic Foundation at (614) 443-8893 or shartman@catholic-foundation.org.



in the diocese of columbus

blue Mass

St Timothy Parish and St Timothy K of C Council 14345 will host the Blue Mass on Monday, Sept 11, at 5 PM. The Blue Mass is an opportunity to honor and pray for all active, retired and deceased first responders—police, firefighters, and emergency medical services personnel. It is also in memory of the 2,973 people who lost their lives in the Sept 11 terrorist attacks. Celebrant and homilist will be the Most Reverend Frederick F Campbell, Bishop of Columbus. All active and retired first responders in the greater Columbus area and their families are invited to attend; let us all join together to honor their service, ask for God's blessings upon them, keep them safe, and guide them in their duties. For information, contact Mark Gideon at mgideon@columbus.rr.com.

the beauty of the feminine

The 6th annual **Beauty of the Feminine Catholic Women's Conference** will happen on Saturday, Oct 7, from 8 AM to 3 PM at St Thomas Aquinas Parish in Zanesville. It is a day of fellowship, prayer and faith formation. This year's theme is "**Anchored in Hope.**" To register call St Thomas at (740) 453-3301 or email thebeautyofthefeminine@gmail.com. If you register by Sept 30, your \$20 include breakfast and lunch. Registration on the day of the event is \$25. Contact Susan with questions or visit www.thebeautyofthefeminine.weebly.com and Facebook @ TheBeautyOfTheFeminine for information.

catholic men's luncheon club

The Catholic Men's Luncheon Club is back in session beginning Friday, Sept 1. Their luncheon features a talk by Ben Hartings of St John Neuman Parish in Sunbury, Ohio. St Patrick Church in downtown Columbus hosts **Ben's talk about his book, *Return to the Altar, A Sacred Journey Through Grief and Joy***, coauthored with his wife, Lynn. Holy Mass at 11:45 AM will be followed by lunch and the talk until 1 PM. Reservations are not necessary; \$10 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend. For information on Catholic Men's Luncheons, visit www.catholicmensministry.com/cmhc or contact Tim Merkle, CMLC President at htm@ejhlaw.com.

discernment retreat

From Sept 8-10, the **Dominican Sisters of Peace** are hosting a "**Come and See**" **vocation discernment retreat** in Watertown, Massachusetts (near Boston) at their Rosary Manor for single, Catholic women, ages 18-45, interested in the consecrated life. They offer some travel assistance on a need basis. For information, call or email text Sister June Fitzgerald at (570) 336-3991 or jfitzgerald@opeace.org.

latino evangelization – first steps!

St Peter Church in Columbus hosts the first annual Latino Conference for Catholic Men and Women (in Spanish): "Evangelization – First Steps!" on Saturday, Aug 19, from 7 AM to 3 PM. Experience a day full of the Holy Spirit! For registration and information call (614) 260-1833.

universality of catholicism – east and west

Join Fr Ignatius Harrington, pastor of Holy Resurrection Melkite Church, as he discusses the universality of the Catholic Church in regards to the Eastern and Western Churches. Fr Ignatius will speak about how the Eastern Churches are in communion with Rome and the Holy Father as well as why some aspects fell apart. You are invited to Liturgy at Holy Resurrection Church at 11 AM on Sunday, Sept 24. Following Liturgy, enjoy a social; the talk by Fr Harrington begins at 1 PM. Attending this Liturgy does fulfill your Sunday obligation.

a pilgrimage to carey for a novena

The Basilica & National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation, Carey, OH, invites you to come and pray during the novena of Our Lady, Aug 6-14 at 8 PM (Sunday 2:30 PM). Fr Paul Gawlowski will be the novena preacher. Join in a lot or a little of this journey of faith, hope and healing. For information call (419) 396-7107 or visit olcshrine.com.

7 steps to cultivate a eucharistic marriage

All married couples are invited to the **diocesan retreat for married couples**, Saturday, Sept 9, from 9 AM to 4 PM at St Agatha Church, 1860 Northam Rd, Upper Arlington. Bishop Campbell will celebrate Mass and offer a morning reflection. Greg Schutte, author of "*Discovering our Deepest Desire*" and director

of *Marriage Works! Ohio*, will continue with presentations on **enhancing the intimate relationship of husbands and wives**. A guided holy hour will also be included in the day's schedule. Continental breakfast and warm lunch will be provided. Cost is \$65. Register by Sept 1 at columbuscatholic.org/retreat or (614) 241-2560.

catholic men's ministry

Now, more than ever, we need **Catholic male leadership**. **Weekly faith sharing groups** have been instrumental in bringing men together and fostering growth in their Catholic faith. Programs like "Iron Sharpens Iron" and "That Man Is You!" continue to grow throughout the Columbus Diocese and are changing lives. Get plugged in and learn more about the many programs and opportunities that are available. For information call Patrick Gins at (740) 536-7402.

take a fresh look at your marriage

Treat yourselves to a Worldwide **Marriage Encounter Weekend** and enrich your lives together. The next weekend in central Ohio is Sept 15-17. For information or to apply, contact Paul or Marilou Clouse at (614) 834-6880 or visit www.wmecolumbus.org.

men's silent retreat

The annual Catholic laymen's fall silent retreat will be held at St Therese Retreat Center from 6 PM on Friday, Sept 8, through noon Mass on Sunday, Sept 10. Fr Dave Pivonka, TOR, will lead men to appreciate the power of the Holy Spirit by developing his theme: **To Have a Relationship with the Holy Spirit and His Mercy is Everlasting**. Cost is \$150. Make your reservation now. And consider bringing a friend. Contact Charles Kielkopf at (614) 268-0175 or kielkopf.1@osu.edu.

marriage preparation volunteers

Looking for a way to serve in 2017? Engaged couples in our diocese need your help. Volunteer to serve on the diocesan **Marriage Preparation Team** as a speaker and presenter. Present virtues-based topics to engaged couples preparing for the sacrament of Matrimony. **If you are married and have wisdom and experience to share**, you already qualify. Contact Kathleen Hall at khall@columbuscatholic.org or (614) 241-2560.

new diocesan website

The Diocese of Columbus' new website—www.columbuscatholic.org—provides greater access to news and information from both the Catholic Times and Catholic News Service, improved navigation and search capabilities, language translation, mobile device compatibility, and other features. Bookmark www.columbuscatholic.org in your computer, tablet, or smartphone—it's **your new gateway to everything Catholic** in central, southern and eastern Ohio. For information, contact George Jones at gjones@columbuscatholic.org.

more to think about

spirit of peace clinical counseling

Julie Stalford, a parishioner at St Bernadette, a recent graduate with a Master of Arts degree in clinical social work from Ohio University and a licensed professional clinical counselor, is hanging out a shingle at St Bernadette as a clinical therapist. A member of the Spirit of Peace Counseling Services of Columbus, she is offering Catholic/Christian counseling services for greater Fairfield county here at St Bernadette.

Anyone can contact Julie to schedule an appointment by calling (210) 781-0254 or by emailing julie.sopcc@gmail.com. The Spirit of Peace website is spiritofpeaceclinicalcounseling.com.

safe environment reminder

A complete copy of the **parish safe environment policies and procedures**, including the diocesan policies and guidelines for parish youth ministry is available by calling either parish office.

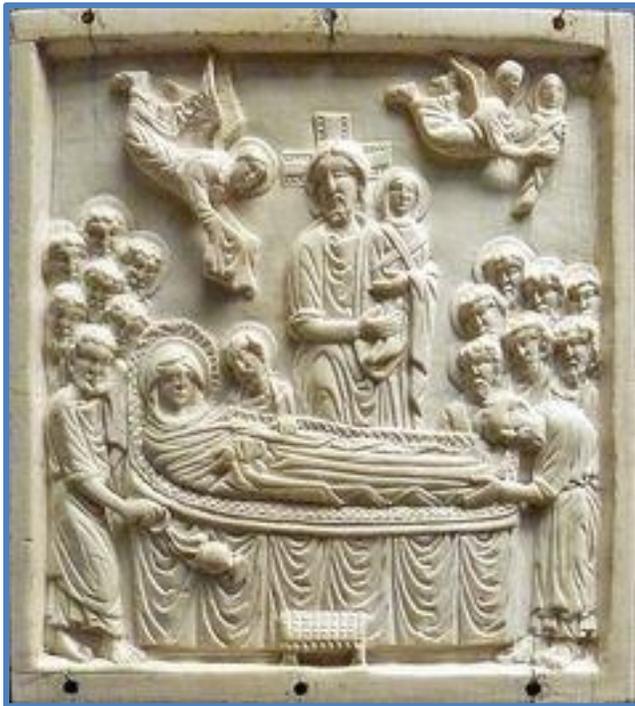
All adults who have not previously attended a **Protecting God's Children training session sponsored by the diocese** of Columbus are urged to do so. A schedule of training sessions can be found at www.virtus.org.

Articles on **sexual abuse prevention** are available at www.virtus.org. All adults are encouraged to access this website monthly and read the articles. Contact information for **reporting suspected abuse of minors** can be acquired from the parish office.



confessions & weekday Mass nearby		These times sometimes change, though, so be sure to call ahead!					
parish	confessions	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Bremen St Mary	8 AM Sunday		8:20 AM				
Lancaster St Bernadette	5:30 PM Thurs, 3 PM Sat; 8:30 AM on 1 st Sat	8:20 AM		8:20 AM		6 PM	8:20 AM 1 st Sat @ 9 AM
Lancaster St Mary	4 PM Saturday	7 AM	9 AM	7 AM	9 AM		
Lancaster St Mark	5:30 PM Saturday	8 AM	8 AM	6 PM	8 AM	8 AM	
Sugar Grove St Joseph	½ hour before Mass	VARIABLE	NOON	7 PM	NOON	NOON	
Circleville St Joseph	4 PM Saturday	9 AM	7 PM	9 AM		9 AM	
Logan St John	4 PM Saturday	8 AM	8 AM	9 AM		8 AM	9 AM

Assumption (aka Dormition)



Tuesday is the Feast of the Assumption of Mary into heaven.

It is a holy day of obligation. That means that all Catholics are obliged by the law of the Church to attend Mass that day and to abstain from “servile work.” That is our duty, to be observed **to the best of our ability**.

But that puts it in a legal context, a context which is true but which doesn’t do justice to a beautiful celebration.

The whole Church celebrates the feast. In the Eastern Churches, it is called the “Dormition” of Mary; in the West we call it the “Assumption.” There is a difference in emphasis.

When Eastern Christians speak of the **Dormition** or falling asleep, they mean that Mary died (in Jerusalem) and that, after three days, she was raised, body and soul, into heaven. They portray this marvelous mystery as a death scene at which Jesus presides, holding a newborn child as though he had just delivered the baby, who is Mary and who has been born into the new and everlasting life in heaven.

When Western Christians call it the **Assumption**, they are putting a bit more emphasis on the continuity of Mary’s life as at the end of her life she is taken — assumed — body and soul into heaven. In Western Christian art it is more common to see Mary, in her prime, floating above her bed and surrounded by angels as she goes forth to heaven.

When in 1950 **Pope Pius XII declared infallibly that Mary was assumed body and soul into heaven**, he noted that this was in keeping with the ancient and universal teaching and belief of the Church that **Mary does indeed participate, uniquely in the resurrection of the whole person into heaven**. He did not see it as necessary to choose between variant traditions about whether Mary actually died. He affirmed that she experienced what will happen to all the just at the end of the world. **The rest of us** die and are buried; our souls proceed to judgment and then to heaven (or its waiting room, purgatory) or hell; our bodies are placed reverently in the ground, in consecrated soil like Sacred Heart Cemetery, if possible. There they **await the resurrection of the dead**. At the Assumption Mary realized the same thing that will happen to us at the end of time.

“... after death the righteous will live forever with the risen Christ and he will raise them up on the last day.” (CCC 989)

Whatever we call it, on this great feast we celebrate our faith that one of us humans, the best of us, has already experienced what we all hope to experience, the fullness of joy in heaven.

Therefore my heart is glad, my soul rejoices; my body also dwells secure,
for you will not abandon me to Sheol, nor let your faithful servant see the pit. (*Psalm 16:9-10; Acts 2:26-27*)

— *Father Kessler*

What Pope Benedict Has Said about the Feast of the Assumption

The Feast of the Assumption is an invitation to trust in God and also to imitate Mary in what she herself said: “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; I put myself at the Lord's disposal”.

This is the lesson: one should travel on one's own road; one should give life and not take it. And precisely in this way each one is on the journey of love which is the loss of self, but this losing of oneself is in fact the only way to truly find oneself, to find true life.

Let us look to Mary, taken up into Heaven. Let us be encouraged to celebrate the joyful feast with faith: God wins. Faith, which seems weak, is the true force of the world. Love is stronger than hate.

And let us say with Elizabeth: Blessed are you among women.

Let us pray to you with all the Church: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Pope Benedict XVI, August 15, 2007

Dormition of the Virgin

Ivory plaque from a triptyque made in Constantinople in the late 10th or early 11th century ivory; now in the National Museum of the Middle Ages, Cluny

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