Parish of Saint Cecilia

October 21, 2018

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

– Matthew 6:21

Stewardship of Finance

October is Stewardship month
The PARISHES of SAINT ANTHONY + SAINT CECILIA + SAINT MARGARET-SAINT JOHN

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ST. ANTHONY PARISH 6104 Desmond Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45227  www.stanthonychurch.net
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ST. MARGARET-SAINT JOHN PARISH 4100 Watterson Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45227  www.smsjparish.com
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Please check the parish websites for additional ministry information. Priest Emergency Line: 513-815-5038
October 21, 2018

Stewardship of Finance

In the Catholic Church, we believe that all of God’s children are important and deserve the respect of life and human dignity. Since everyone makes a difference, every gift to support our Church makes a difference. We should feel honored and privileged to belong to a church that is devoted to life-giving faith. “In God’s family, sons and daughters in the Son, there are no ‘disposable lives.’ All men and women enjoy an equal and inviolable dignity. All are loved by God. All have been redeemed by the blood of Christ, who died on the Cross and rose for all. This is the reason why no one can remain indifferent before the lot of our brothers and sisters.” (Pope Francis, homily)

I have a vision for our Church, and I want it to continue to grow. Every time I see a new face, I am thrilled and edified. I need your continued support to keep the vision alive and moving forward. I want to provide the ministries that are needed to give everyone an opportunity to grow in their relationship with Jesus. I know giving can be hard for some, but if you can truly join me in this vision and know that my desire is to build the ministries that are helping our parishioners, new young adults and young families joining the parishes, and those in need, I hope your faith leads you to give.

Amen? Amen!

Prayer for Financial Stewardship

Oh Lord, giver of life and source of our freedom, we are reminded that Yours is the earth and its fullness, the world and those who dwell in it. We know that it is from your hand that we have received all we have, and are, and will be. Gracious and loving God, we understand that You call us to be the stewards of Your abundance, the caretakers of all You have entrusted to us. Help us always to use Your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Christ in our lives. We pray with grateful hearts, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

I, along with Louie, our seminarian intern, wanted to give a big “Thank You!” to all those who came and helped to prepare our welcome event at St. Margaret-St. John after the 10 AM Mass on September 23. Thank you especially to Amber and all the Losekamp family and to all who made the treats! We are surely blessed to be in this region. - Fr. Jacob Willig and Louie Jacquemin

THE CORNER | 3
PIG ROAST: St. Anthony held its annual pig roast on Sept. 30 (photos 1, 2). Members of the Men’s Prayer Group roasted the pig overnight to have it ready for the parishioners, who brought side dishes to share. A big thank-you to all of those who put so much effort into this wonderful and tasty event!  

OKTOBERFEST: On Saturday, Sept. 29, St. Cecilia had a wonderful evening of German fun at the annual Oktoberfest (photos 3, 4). The entertainment was provided by the Local German Band Vereins-Musikanten, as well as Fr. Jacob’s band, Easter Rising. The hit of the night was the “Chicken Dance”—which was done every hour on the hour—and the lederhosen contest. The winner of the event was ... me! I want to thank Sarah Rose, the Young Adult Group, and all of those who helped make this night happen.

BELL CHOIR: At St. Margaret-St. John, a bell choir has been part of the worship for many years. The bell choir accompanied the choir at the 10 AM Mass on Oct. 14. They will be doing this a couple times a year. There is an interesting history of handbells, which are descendants from the tower bells in England. The person who rang the tower bells had to practice ringing them in a numerical sequence. Because this was too loud and disturbing to do throughout the day, small handbells were created for practicing indoors. They are now used at special occasions in choirs to elevate the Mass.

ALL SAINTS PARADE: The annual All Saints Parade is coming up next Sunday, Oct. 28, at St. Cecilia’s 10 AM Mass and St. Anthony’s 11:30 AM Mass. If your children would like to dress up as their favorite saints (photo 5) and be part of the opening procession for Mass, please bring them to the back of the church 15 minutes prior to Mass.
Stewardship
When it comes to stewardship of finance, it will be helpful to remind ourselves of the basic meaning of stewardship — all we are and all we have comes from God. To be a good steward means to care for the possessions we are given, and to bring them to yield with increase. The money we earn comes from the good use of the talents, time, skills, and abilities we have been given by God. So in an essential way, it isn’t “our” money — it is a gift from God, which we are asked to use responsibly. We are expected to manage all of the money entrusted to us as good stewards. If we ignore God in all of our finances, we will have the wrong attitude towards money. We must be willing to let God be Lord to our financial matters. God should be a part of this and all areas of our lives. God will hold us accountable for how we use the resources He provides. The ways in which we use our financial and material resources is a barometer for the ways in which our relationship with Jesus shapes our daily decisions. The more we grow in faith, the more our decisions will reflect that faith, even our decisions about our use of money.

We all have financial responsibilities. How do we meet those financial responsibilities, especially when we realize that the use of money is a sign of what we believe to be of value? Being responsible for money means to use it well. Provide for our personal and family needs to the best of our ability. Save for the future. Do not incur unnecessary debt. Give to our parish so that there are resources available in the “storehouse” for God’s work to be accomplished — building the Kingdom of God in Oakley, Madisonville, and Fairfax.

Being generous with our money for the sake of others is a reflection of the generosity of God toward humanity. When we give unselishly of our financial and material resources, we show Christ’s loving face to those in need, in a very practical and tangible way.

Annual St. Margaret-St. John Turkey Dinner
Sunday, Nov. 11, from 3-7 PM
The dinner cost will be $9.00 for an adult and $5.00 for a child.
Volunteers needed! Please join us on Nov. 10, anytime from 8 AM until noon, to help set up and cook the dinner for our annual Turkey Dinner on Nov. 11. It’s a wonderful way to meet people spending the morning talking and laughing while ... peeling potatoes, getting cranberry sauce ready, setting up the cafeteria and other tasks for making this delicious dinner happen. We need many hands to make the work load lighter. Please contact Mary Mathers with any questions at marymathers@fuse.net or 513-271-0856.

14th Annual Caregiver Recognition Mass
The Caregiver Mass will be held on Nov. 11 at 11 AM at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral. All are welcome to attend. For information on how to support caregivers, including the support group calendar, “Powerful Tools for Caregivers” training, and class schedules, go to ccswoh.org/services/seniors/caregivers.

St. Rita School for the Deaf
This school has been providing educational opportunities to children with special communication needs in a safe, values-oriented environment for over 100 years. For more information, please visit www.srsdeaf.org or call 513.771.7600.

Marriage Annulments
The Catholic Church dedicates much time and effort to prepare couples for marriage. However, despite the couples’ best efforts, unfortunately a marriage union sometimes fails to reach fulfillment for both parties and may end in a civil divorce. The Catholic Church has mechanisms and processes in place to assist people in these situations, especially if they anticipate another marriage.

If you find yourself in this circumstance, we would like to help. To learn more about how to get assistance, please contact Joe Fondacaro in our pastoral region at 871-5757, ext. 222, or at jfondacaro@eastsideregion.org. All inquiries are kept in strict confidence.

Young Adult Fall Fest
On October 27 after the 3 PM Mass at St. Margaret-St. John, 4100 Watterson Street, the Young Adult group will be hosting a dinner and bonfire with Fr. Jacob Willig. Food will be provided. Please join us!
RCIA THIS WEEK

Please pray for all of those journeying to full Communion with the Catholic Church!
This week’s RCIA lesson is THE PASchal MIRystery: The Mystery of Jesus’ Death and Resurrection.

This session will cover:
How the Cross “works” — how it brings about our salvation
How Christ, being fully human and fully divine, was able to heal our relationship with God through his sacrificial Death
The meaning of Jesus going to the realm of the dead and opening Heaven’s gates
That by his Death, Jesus liberates us from sin
That by his Resurrection, he opens us to new life
How Jesus invites us to unite our entire lives with his self-giving love on the Cross

Questions for the week: What does the generic use of the cross evoke in you when you see it in the world? In what way does the cross of Christ speak to your life right now? Reflect on the following quote: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow Me.” — Luke 9:23. Consider some ways you can imitate Christ’s sacrificial love more in your life.

To study along with us, please log onto Formed.org (parish code YX2P22), program = Symbolon: Knowing the Faith ~ Session 6.

"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him."
- Matthew 1:24

Catholic FAQs

Did Jesus Really Go to Hell After He Died?

Scripture calls the abode of the dead, to which the dead Christ went down, “hell” — Sheol in Hebrew or Hades in Greek — because those who are there are deprived of the vision of God. Such is the case for all the dead, whether evil or righteous, while they await the Redeemer ... Jesus did not descend into hell to deliver the damned, nor to destroy the Hell of damnation, but to free the just who had gone before him ... The descent into hell brings the Gospel message of salvation to complete fulfillment. This is the last phase of Jesus’ messianic mission, a phase that is condensed in time but vast in its real significance: the spread of Christ’s redemptive work to all men of all times and all places, for all who are saved have been made sharers in the redemption (CCC 633-634).

“To be grateful is to recognize the Love of God in everything He has given us — and He has given us everything. Every breath we draw is a gift of His love, every moment of existence is a grace, for it brings with it immense graces from Him.

Gratitude therefore takes nothing for granted, is never unresponsive, is constantly awakening to new wonder and to praise of the goodness of God. For the grateful person knows that God is good, not by hearsay but by experience. And that is what makes all the difference.” —Thomas Merton

Deacons: Ministers of Service

Liturgy of the Eucharist (part 9 of 10)
The deacon prepares the altar, assisted by an acolyte if one is present, and receives the gifts of bread and wine from the faithful. As part of the preparation, he pours a “little bit” of water into the wine, saying silently, “by the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity.” During the Eucharistic prayer, the deacon assists the priest wherever necessary, and should facilitate active participation of the faithful through his reverence for the sacrifice. He kneels at the epiclesis (when the priest invokes the Holy Spirit upon the bread and wine) and rises after the words of consecration. At the end of the Eucharistic Prayer, the priest hands the chalice to the deacon and together they elevate the host and chalice while the priest sings the doxology, “through Him, with Him and in Him...”

Nathan Beiersdorfer is in formation to be ordained a permanent deacon for our region.

Pray the rosary. Witness your faith.

Men of our region who have or wish to develop a devotion to the Blessed Virgin through the rosary are welcome to join us the first Saturday of every month at 7:30 AM to pray the rosary on the steps in front of St. Cecilia church. We also pray Evening Vespers at 8 PM at St. Cecilia on the third Thursday of every month. All men are welcome to join us.
Volunteer Your God-Given Talents
Stewardship involves sharing talent. God has given each individual unique skills and talents so that together we can do the work of our Lord. Put your faith and love into action. Volunteer for things that interest you. Build lasting friendships and become part of the family of Saint Cecilia Parish. Check the directory of ministries on our website (www.stceciliacincinnati.org) or contact the parish office at 871-5757, ext. 202, and we can put you in touch with the people with whom you should chat. The more you put into something, the more you truly get back in return.

Conversion of the Heart
Experience a lasting transformation into deeper discipleship; come have a conversion of heart! St. Margaret of York in Loveland invites you to hear Fr. Nathan Cromly, an engaging speaker, writer, retreat leader, explorer, fire-starter for the Lord and founder of Eagle Eye Ministries, on Oct. 30 at 7 PM.

Archives on the Web
If you are ever unable to make it to Mass at St. Cecilia and would like to catch up on what you missed, you can find archives on the Web. Both can be found under the MEDIA tab at www.stceciliacincinnati.org.

Stand Firm for Life
The 40 Days for Life Fall Campaign began Sept. 26 and runs through November 4. The campaign draws attention to the evil of abortion through prayer, fasting, constant vigil and community outreach, with the goal of turning hearts and minds from a culture of death to a culture of life. For additional information, please go to 40daysforlife.com.