

St. Adalbert – O.L of The Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church
2347 E. 83rd St.
Cleveland, OH 44104
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July 4, 2012

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself as your new pastor at St. Adalbert – Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish and to ask that we pray for each other as you and I begin a new chapter in the rich history of this Catholic family.

I realize that many of you will be saddened that I am not a member of the Precious Blood Order which served our parish so generously and well for many years. The first two people I called after my appointment were Brother Tom and Father Ken – I assured them that St. Adalbert – Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament will always be a Precious Blood Parish and that they and any of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood would always be important members of this parish family. I also told them that, on their web site, I found the Seven Characteristics of a Precious Blood Parish and promised that I would do my best to live them and join the good people of St. Adalbert/OLBS in living them as well. I have printed those characteristics on the back of this letter.

You may be wondering what my plans are for our parish. The truth is that I have no plans, but I have great hopes and a bold vision – that our parish and school will again be what they have always been, places where God is glorified, where God’s people are treasured and appreciated, and places where all are welcome and wanted. If we can agree on these basics, everything else will work out just fine.

I am not ignoring the challenges that face us. I am neither ignorant of our financial concerns nor our concerns about parish membership. Fully aware of them I volunteered and was eager to serve you as pastor. I do believe that if we love one another, if we live the gospel, if we care for the least of our brothers and sisters, that God will provide for all the rest.

So, let’s begin again – let us follow the star of Bethlehem again – let us take up the cross and together follow him. Together you and I now stand before the throne of God and say, “Here I am, Lord. I come to do your will.”

In Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament,

Fr. Gary Chmura
Pastor

RE-OPENING MASS
AUGUST 12, 2012 at 11:00 AM
SPREAD THE WORD!!!! PLEASE JOIN US!

Seven Characteristics of a Precious Blood Parish

There are seven characteristics that define life in a Precious Blood Parish, according to Precious Blood Father Jeffrey Keyes. These characteristics are faithful to the spirit of St. Gaspar, the founder of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood.

- **A Precious Blood parish is collaborative.** The leadership takes a team approach. St. Gaspar never thought of himself as working alone.
- **A Precious Blood parish is all-embracing.** No one is unwelcome or unwanted or unloved.
- **A Precious Blood parish is generous.** Sharing the little that we have is one way that we imitate the love of God who gave us all in Jesus.
- **A Precious Blood parish encourages prayer.** We hold up a broken world and a broken Church for healing.
- **A Precious Blood parish is contemplative.** We are always re-examining ourselves to see how we can grow in love of God and neighbor.
- **A Precious Blood parish has a missionary spirit.** We witness to the compassionate love of Jesus in our neighborhood and our world..
- **A Precious Blood parish is explicit in its identity.** A parish should work for the poor, the hurt, the sick and the dying, all under the banner of the Blood of Christ.

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