

St. Catherine Laboure Parish E-Newsletter
July 16th, 2020

A special note about Faith Formation and a request for your prayers:

As Fr. Tim mentioned in our last e-newsletter everything has changed in the last 4 months. We are still waiting for directives for what we will and will not be able to do for the fall in terms of faith formation classes.

As I have said more than once to our families - my hope, desire and prayer is to have in face classes for our students come fall. Our students need interaction with each other; and they do need some sort of formal faith formation. We ended a year that was really going so well for us as a program. Our students were learning the value of praying together. The older students were beginning to understand how to lead a rosary or a special litany. And our younger ones were seeing them lead which was such a blessing. We were in the middle of praying the stations of the cross together weekly during Lent; and we were looking forward to teaching them how to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet after Easter and honoring our Blessed Mother Mary with special prayers and songs in May. It all came to an abrupt halt.

We were also starting to prepare for a great summer experience for our students where we were going to travel the world with Mary. This also has been put on the back burner - hopefully next summer.

Our Confirmation classes were stopped as well. This is my 4th group to go through the "Chosen" confirmation program with me. We were in year one of our 2 year program; and I have been impressed with their ability to have great discussions each week. My previous 3 groups really did not come alive until the 2nd year. So this was an unexpected surprise for me as a Catechist. Unfortunately this ended very abruptly too.

I look back at the year with a lot of gratitude for our Catechists who worked so hard each week to be prepared and who were willing to follow my lead; and also took on leadership themselves. We are a small group but we have a great group of students. I have been anxiously waiting to receive news on how we can get started back up for the fall. Everything seems to be on hold right now.

I know all our hearts are heavy with all that seems to have been lost and even forgotten. I ask all our parishioners to pray for our parish families. Please pray especially for our students of our parish - they are the future of the Church; and they need to be formed in the faith of course daily in their homes, but also in our Churches in order to pass this faith on when they become adults.

Please know of my continued prayers,
Leslie Reagle
Faith Formation Director

Asphalt Project Update

On Wednesday July 8th the asphalt was milled in those areas that were scheduled to be replaced. Afterward, I noticed that a great deal of the sidewalk was chipped on the edge where they had milled. This was totally unacceptable. Alan Olsen from the Diocese of Lansing came done at my request to speak with the contractor about the damage. They agreed to replace all damaged concrete at their expense. In the long run, we will end up with more new concrete than we had previous to this incident. The sidewalk will be replaced soon. It will be another 2-3 weeks before they will be able to lay the asphalt. In the meantime, please be careful when you are entering and exiting the Harmon Street entrances, there is a significant drop in the pavement.

Cupola Project Update

On Friday July 10th I signed a contract with Swanson Design Studios. They will develop a minimum of two design options for the resolution of the water infiltration issues. They will be reviewing existing building drawings and existing site conditions in an effort to further identify water infiltration location and sources. They will also attempt to further discuss their findings of the water test with the roofing consultant who performed the recent water test. As soon as they have completed their investigation and their design options they will meet with us. I will keep you updated with information as it becomes available.

Scam Alert!!!

We have heard from numerous parishioners that they are receiving texts and/or emails that look like they have come from Fr. Tim and are asking you to do him a favor. **These are not from Fr. Tim!!** This is not his email address or cell phone number. It is best to block the text when you get it or mark it as spam in your email. **PLEASE BE AWARE Do not respond back.**

Mass Attendance Numbers July 11th: 47 July 12th: 74

Mass Intentions

Mass intentions for July, August, September have been filled. There are openings for October.

Sacrament of Penance

Fr. Tim is hearing confessions at the regular scheduled time on Saturdays (3:00-4:30 p.m). If you are unable to make the Saturday time you may call Fr. Tim and set up a more convenient time.

Parish Office

Leave messages on the office phone for non emergency items or email stcatherine92@yahoo.com The rectory phone is 517-524-6261 if you are in need of speaking with Fr. Tim.

Offertory Collection

July 12th - \$2,684 (\$4,326 weekly goal) 34 envelopes and 17 online (\$35 was loose cash)

YTD Below Budget - \$1,554 This is the first week of our new fiscal year that begins July 1st.

DSA

We are **\$1,479.00** short in meeting our 2020 Goal.