

St. Catherine Laboure Parish E-Newsletter

August 20th, 2020

We Need More Jesus

Five months ago our lives changed dramatically with the nationwide shut down due to Covid 19. Many have not felt safe enough to venture out of their homes. Many have not been able to come to holy Mass and receive the grace of the sacraments. Our senior parishioners have been hit the hardest. The senior people in our local care facilities suffer from isolation and the lack of spiritual care. This fills my heart with great sadness. I ask those of you who are younger to be sensitive to our senior parishioners. The wearing of the face mask at Mass brings a sense of security and safety to them. I am asking that no matter what you might think or believe about wearing a mask at church to put yourself in their shoes. I know that some of our parishioners have left Mass because they did not feel safe because the people around them were not wearing a mask.

There is a certain degree of fear and hysteria that the media has created in our country. This does not help. It can frighten us so much so that we forget about the need to trust in Jesus even more deeply and to keep our eyes on him and him alone. If we do not do this we will sink into the waters of despair. Wherever you find yourself in this pandemic, we all share something in common: we need more of Jesus in our lives, not less. This period of trial has the ability to destroy us or to unite us more deeply to Jesus. We do have a choice over what direction that we chose to go. Jesus, I Trust in You!

The bill has been paid

This week we formally completed the concrete and asphalt project funded by your Witness to Hope gifts by paying the second half of the bill that was owed to the asphalt company. It was a year ago that I signed the contract with McKearney Asphalt and Sealing, Inc. from Lansing. Despite all of the problems that occurred, they never complained when they were asked to do things over. I am glad that it is finally completed and that it looks great. The total cost of the asphalt and concrete work: **\$147,155.50**. Your generosity has made this possible. Thank you!

St. Catherine Laboure Shrine Completed

This past week the repaired and repainted St. Catherine statue was delivered to our parish and set in place in her new shrine located in the church. She looks beautiful. The shrine is now available for your private devotion. The St. Catherine shrine was a gift to the parish by donors to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the building of the church. Jim Legault spent many hours constructing and tiling the shrine. Jim is very meticulous. His work is excellent. My hope is that with this new shrine to our patron saint we will be able to draw closer to her and seek her intercession. I have placed a prayer card at the shrine to assist you in your devotional prayers. I would like to thank all those who were so very generous and made this new shrine a beautiful addition to our church. **St. Catherine Laboure, pray for us!**

Mass Attendance Numbers

August 15th: 66 August 16th: 72

Daily Mass

Schedule is M, TH, F 9 a.m. and W 7 p.m.

Sunday Readers: If you were a reader before the suspensions of public Masses in March, and would like to now start reading again for a weekend Mass, please call the office. We could definitely use more volunteers for this ministry. Thank You!

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

August 16th - \$2,746 (\$4,326 weekly goal) 40 envelopes - 18 online (\$76 was loose cash)

YTD Below Budget - \$5,297.00

DSA

No new donations this week. We are so close to meeting our goal. **We now need \$859 to make our 2020 goal. Please consider a gift if you have not given yet. Thank You for considering helping our Parish make its 2020 DSA Goal!!!**



St. Catherine Labouré - Pray for Us!