

9 August 2020

Dear St. Charles Parishioner:

This weekend we welcome the newly-ordained Father Joshua J Cochrac (pronounced CORE RACK) as “parochial vicar” (used to be called “associate pastor”) of St Charles Borromeo Parish. If my math is correct, this is the twenty-ninth priest I have welcomed as a co-worker.

Father Cochrac is a native of the Old Brooklyn area, just north of us. He attended the former Our Lady of Good Counsel School (Mary Queen of Peace). His family moved to Olmsted Falls and Father Josh attended high school there. He worked for a few years at Giant Eagle; he was assigned to the Day Drive Store here in Parma. Discerning a call to priestly ministry, he enrolled at Borromeo Seminary, graduated from John Carroll University, and then completed his theological studies at St Mary Seminary. Father Josh served his third year internship at St Ambrose Parish in Brunswick (where I spent my first seven years as a priest) and was assigned for his diaconate at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Wickliffe.

I was privileged to attend Father Josh's First Mass on Sunday, August 2, at St. Mary of the Falls Parish in Olmsted Falls. Father Josh “reported for duty” on Monday (a day early!) and he was the celebrant at the 7:00pm Mass.

***Welcome to St Charles Borromeo Parish, Father Joshua J Cochrac!***

Next Saturday, August 15, is the Solemnity of the Assumption. Although it is not a holyday of obligation this year, for those who wish to observe the day, there will be an Assumption Day Mass in church next Saturday, August 15, at 8:00am.

Last week, the parish pastoral staff began another series of phone calls to all our parishioners. Last time, we tackled it alphabetically. This time, we are calling by age, beginning with the oldest parishioners. If we do not have a working phone number, we will contact you by mail for your current contact information. We will also attempt to obtain an e-mail address for all our parishioners.

For twenty years, THE FEST has been a Northeastern Ohio summer highlight. Featuring great music, excellent exhibits, and an overall wholesome atmosphere, THE FEST is eagerly awaited by tens of thousands of enthusiastic attendees. Although the pandemic has limited in-place involvement, THE FEST is coming directly to all homes. In fact, the 2020 version is called THE FEST @home. Just go to [www.theFEST.us](http://www.theFEST.us) at 3:00pm this Sunday. There will be nine bands, Fest Food, Kids' Zone and so much more. GLORIOUS: THE FEST 2020!

***Seller's Appreciation Raffle Number Six, August 2: Jean Franz***

There are two more Sunday \$500 Appreciation Raffles: August 9 and 16, for Sellers of a sheet of our Summer “Two Step” Raffle tickets. Total ticket returns on Monday, August 3, amounted to \$107,635. To keep the “flavor” of the Carnival, we will also award some additional “Seller's Appreciation” prizes: we have laid in a supply of salamis and carnival ice cream. Just to “sweeten the pot,” we will raffle off those traditional Carnival prizes on Sunday, August 16.

For several weeks I mentioned a Spectacular Mystery Prize Drawing for sellers of one sheet each of white, blue, ivory, and pink tickets. If you sell four sheets of tickets, you have a chance to win a Bar Cart full of Irish Whiskeys and beers: *Paddy's, Tullamore Dew, Jameson's, Power's, Bushmill's, St Brendan's Irish Cream, Irish Mist, Bailey's Irish Cream, Guinness, Murphy's Stout, etc.* (We can't go to Ireland this summer, but we can have a little bit of Ireland over here!) And there are two other prizes as well: two more Bar Carts--one of eighteen red wines, another of eighteen white wines. The whiskey cart and wine carts are my personal gifts to thank you for your generous and enthusiastic response to our “Two Step” Summer Raffle.

As promised, the proceeds from the 2020 “Two Step” Summer Raffle will help with the new cameras and livestreaming equipment in our church. The church's Internet service has been upgraded; the wiring and equipment are in place; the directors/producers are being trained. We are only a few days away from activation. The security/surveillance equipment, exterior and interior, has been installed in our Upper and Lower Parish Halls and on all levels of the Parish Activity Center. New “hands-free” drinking fountains have been installed in our school buildings. Additional chromebooks for our students have been ordered.

So, do you want a few more chances on the Grand Raffle, Seller's Appreciation, or the "Bar Cart" prizes? Just stop by the Parish Office Monday through Saturday 8:00am to 5:00pm or Sunday 8:00am to 1:00pm and pick up a few more sheets of tickets. Returns happily received at the Parish Office, in the mail, or in the Offertory. Please make all returns by Sunday, August 16, at 2:00pm.

The Offertory for August 2 was \$28,860.13. Your continued support is a blessing to our parish.

*James Padua*