



HOLY CROSS - IMMACULATA

Mount Adams Cincinnati, Ohio



CHRISTMAS 2020

## MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, December 19	VIGIL FOR FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 4:00 p.m. Mass: Chick Crowley Riesenbeck (Nancy Savage)	
SUNDAY, December 20	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Mass 8:00 a.m. Mary Beth Comer (Mary Ann Comer) 10:30 a.m. People of the Parish	
MONDAY, December 21	ST. PETER CANISIUS, Priest and Doctor of the Church 6:10 p.m. Mass: Ronald Kolady (Kolady Family)	
TUESDAY, December 22	ADVENT WEEKDAY 8:00 a.m. Mass: Alberta Bretnitz (Linda & Don Capannari)	
WEDNESDAY, December 23	ST. JOHN OF KANTY, Priest 6:10 p.m. Mass: Theresia Schneider (Carol R. Smith)	
MERRY CHRISTMAS	<i>It is a tradition that all Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses are offered for the living &amp; deceased members of the parish.</i>	
SATURDAY, December 26	VIGIL FOR THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH 4:00 p.m. Mass: Dorothy Sweeney (Nancy Savage)	
SUNDAY, December 27	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH Mass 8:00 a.m. JoAnn Jansen (Paul & Sally Simon) 10:30 a.m. People of the Parish	
MONDAY, December 28	THE HOLY INNOCENTS, Martyrs	6:10 p.m. Mass: Colin Herrick (Walt & Ann Carroll)
TUESDAY December 29	St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr 8:00 a.m. Mass: Alberta Bretnitz (Carol R. Smith)	
WEDNESDAY, December 30	CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY	6:10 p.m. Mass: People of the Parish
FRIDAY, January 1	Mary, The Holy Mother of God	9:00 a.m. Mass: People of the Parish
SATURDAY, January 2	VIGIL FOR THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 4:00 p.m. Mass: People of the Parish	
SUNDAY, January 3	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD Mass 8:00 a.m. Alberta Bretnitz (Karen Kohrman) 10:30 a.m. People of the Parish	
MONDAY, January 4	ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON, Religious 6:10 p.m. Mass: People of the Parish	
TUESDAY, January 5	ST. JOHN NEUMANN, Bishop	8:00 a.m. Mass: People of the Parish
WEDNESDAY, January 6	ST. ANDRÉ BESETTE, Religious	6:10 p.m. Mass: People of the Parish
FRIDAY, January 8	CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY	8:00 a.m. Mass: Elmer & Rita Perzel (Susan Hellman)
SATURDAY, January 9	VIGIL FOR THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD 4:00 p.m. Mass: Jeff Ferguson (Charlie & Sandy Olliges)	
SUNDAY, January 10	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD Mass 8:00 a.m. Tom Comer (Mary Ann Comer) 10:30 a.m. People of the Parish	

# Christmas Remembrance Flower Contributions

Anonymous

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Brill

Mr. & Mrs. Walt Carroll

Mrs. Mary Ann Comer

Mr. Michael T. Comer

Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Daugherty

Mr. & Mrs. Bill Donovan

Mrs. Marian Doyle

Mr. James Eigel

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Goldschmidt

Mr. David Haynes

Ms. Susan Hellman

Mrs. Rhea Hinkle

Ms. Jean Huesman

Mr. & Mrs. James Klatte

Kohrman Children

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Koren

Ms. Sally Maj

Mr. & Mrs. Steve Nickolas

Mr. & Mrs. Tom O'Brien

Mrs. Bess Platen

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Prokop

Mr. Joseph Rippe

Mrs. Marlene Schultz

Mr. & Mrs. Philip Spadaro

Mrs. Jan Shively

Dr. & Mrs. Jim Steiner

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Ventura

David & Phyllis Fryman; Russ and Agnes Brill

Walter & Betty Carroll; Nelson & Mary Carroll;  
Kitty Carroll; Colin Herrick

Tom Comer; Mary Beth Comer

Thomas J. Comer; Mary Ann Comer

Mr. & Mrs. Irving Widmyer; Mr. & Mrs. Harold Daugherty

Harry Donovan; Selma Donovan; Nelson Carroll;  
Mary Louise Carroll; Kitty Carroll

Howard Doyle; Teresa Doyle Elder;  
M. & C. Wallot Family; Peggy Birge



John & Julia Jacob; Elmer & Irene Goldschmidt

Dixie Cherrington



Odell Hinkle; Greg Hinkle

Donald R. Huesman; Charles Huesman

Stephan Greco; James Klatte

Carl & Babe Kohrman



Gene & Sis Cox; Sharon Van Dyke

Steve and Ann Nickolas and Families

O'Brien-Wuatelet Families

Deceased Members of Platen & White Families

Cathleen Lynch; Thomas Lynch; Terence Lynch;  
Helen Prokop; Peter Prokop

Elaine Rippe

Dr. Edward Schultz



Ray Shively



Rose Ann & Jack Post; Tina & Gus Ventura





# JANUARY

## Celebrations

# 2021



- 5 - Janice (Jibber) Stanley
- 8 - Danny Gleason
- 9 - Sarah Clarke
- 10 - Paul Simon
- 12 - Mary Ann Comer
- 12 - Keith Giessler
- 12 - Steve Nickolas
- 12 - Thomas O'Brien
- 16 - Terry Miley



- 0 - Erin Wahl
- 1 - Norb Bruns
- 2 - Jerry Fuell
- 3 - Lainie Boberschmidt
- 3 - Tom Sweeney
- 7 - John Wimsatt
- 9 - Gregory Herrmann
- 1 - Lisa Hensler



- 23 -Tom & Hazel Stamm
- 27 -Dave & Debbie Gilb

# UPDATE ON PARISH PROJECTS

Just like all churches, restaurants and many other businesses that have not had normal occupancy or usage since March, our parish has continued to address the ordinary and extraordinary maintenance issues that are a routine part of plant operations. Fortunately or unfortunately - depending on your perspective - the cancellation of many parish programs and activities helped us save on utilities and some routine maintenance. We also cut back on office hours which decreased the working hours of our staff, which has resulted in savings.

This spring we hired a new maintenance worker. Steve Cross retired from the University of Cincinnati and now works for our parish on an on-call basis. Steve manages to work almost full-time because he also works for several other Westside parishes.

Currently Steve is working with the company that services the boiler in the parish center on some minor issues. Fr. Len is working with Comfort Systems to address a few problems we have had with the heating system ever since the new HVAC system was installed.

Charlie DeZarn and Amy Obermeyer have been working together on several new projects. We had some new lighting installed for the parking lot to increase security. We will be looking at outside lighting for the church near the plaza, the statue of the Blessed Mother, and the south side (river side) of the church.

We had a very generous benefactor provide funding to light up the rose window from the inside of the church so that the beauty of the window can be seen from other parts of Mt. Adams, downtown Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky. We are now fine-tuning the system. Currently the light is too bright to allow the colors of the window to shine forth. We are hoping that an amber glow rather than a bright white will allow this to happen. When the system is completely installed, we will be able to program the on/off function of the lighting and we will be able to have different colors shine from the spots. This project already highlights the church in a new way.

Another project that is now underway is new landscaping for the hillside along the steps. One of our new neighbors asked us to consider cutting back some of our trees that pressed against his condo. We decided to take the project one step further. This spring there will be more flowering trees and shrubs on the hillside as well as more flowers adorning the steps.

Let's hope that the vaccines for the Covid 19 virus will help us get back to some normalcy before springtime. We would like to have the hillside in full bloom for Good Friday and we would like to have all the outside lighting fully operational so that if baseball resumes with live crowds, thousands of people will enjoy seeing the beauty of the rose window and the new plants and flowers on the hillside.



## Collection Report

December 12 & 13, 2020

Sunday Collection      \$ 977.00

Votive Candles      \$ 49.00

Total Parish Revenue: \$ 1026.00



**Retirement Fund For Religious \$ 946**

**\$1095**

*Thank You!*



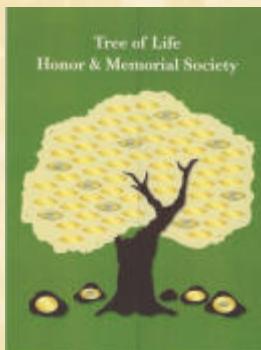
End-of-Year  
Giving

### **Thank You For Supporting Holy Cross-Immaculata**

Please consider a gift of appreciated stock to Holy Cross Immaculata Parish. You pay no tax on the appreciation and if you are over 70, a gift from your IRA will be tax free.

**Your generosity is appreciated!**

**YOUR YEAR-END  
GIVING  
MAKES A DIFFERENCE**



A special way to remember and honor the members of your family during the holiday season is by becoming a member of the Tree of Life Honor & Memorial Society.

When a group of relatives join together, the cost for the Tree of Life can be shared by everyone. Your loved ones will be honored and remembered at Holy Cross-Immaculata for years to come.



In an effort to save parish resources and maintain the confidentiality of parishioner financial contributions to the parish, we will provide end of year statements on a request basis only.

**If you would like a 2020 end-of-year contribution statement please do one of the following:**

- • Email Letty at [holymac30@fuse.net](mailto:holymac30@fuse.net)  
*or*
- • Call the parish office at 513 721-6544

*Thank you for your generosity to our parish this past year.*

**THANK YOU  
VERY MUCH**

**Our heartfelt thanks & appreciation is extended to everyone who has supported our parish during this unusual year, especially those who made the extra effort to send in your contributions during the shutdown this past spring, everyone who participated in our virtual festival, and everyone who bought tickets for the split-the-pot raffle. The budget is tight, but we are doing our best to cut costs and find creative ways to keep on track.**



HOLY CROSS - IMMACULATA

**DEC. 25-JAN. 1 GUIDE FOR**



**Sept. 24, 2020 – Jan. 1, 2021**

**WE PRAY AS A COMMUNITY OF FAITH FOR...**

**HEALING ... UNITY... JUSTICE...**

**MERCY... HARMONY... PEACE...**



# PRAYER INVOCATIONS

December 24

Christmas Eve

*"Today you will know that the Lord will come, and he will save us, and in the morning you will see His glory."*

December 25

Christmas Day

*"Today a light will shine upon us, for the Lord is born for us; and He will be called Wondrous God, Prince of Peace, Father of future ages, and His reign will be without end."*

Saturday, December 26      St. Stephen, The First Martyr

*"God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, so that all who believe in Him may not perish, but may have eternal life."*

Sunday, December 27      The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

*"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us, and from His fullness we have all received..."*

Monday, December 28      The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

*"Behold, those redeemed as the first fruits of the human race for God and the Lamb, and who follow the Lamb wherever He goes..."*

Tuesday, December 29      St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

*"From His fullness we have all received, grace upon grace..."*

Wednesday, December 30      Christmas Weekday

*"When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the middle of its course, the all powerful Word of God bounded forth from God's royal throne..."*

Thursday, December 31      St. Sylvester I, Pope

*"A child is born for us, and a Son is given to us; and His name will be called Messenger of Great Counsel..."*

Friday, January 1      Feast of Mary, Mother of God      World Day of Peace

*"A holy day has dawned upon us; Come you nations, and adore the Lord, for a great light has come down upon the earth..."*

## A Prayer for Christmas Eve

Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world.

Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.

Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May Christmas morning make us happy to be your children, and Christmas eve bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven. Amen.

*Robert Louis Stevenson*

## A PRAYER FOR LIVING THE GOSPEL

God of yesterday, today and tomorrow, we call to mind your presence within us and around us.

Open our ears that we may hear your Word.

Open our hearts that we may understand your Word.

Open our mouths that we may speak your Word.

Inspire us with the Gospel message, that we may celebrate all that is life-giving,  
restore hope where it has been lost, and work to bring about change where it is needed.

May we live the Gospel with courage, constancy and love.

May we be open to the challenge of your call to true freedom.

May we be faithful to you in our daily choices and decisions.

May we make your love known through our words and actions.

May the triune God reign in our hearts, now and forever. Amen.

-Australian Catholic Social Justice Council

## A PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE

We pray for the power to be gentle;  
the strength to be forgiving;  
the patience to be understanding;  
and the endurance to accept the consequences  
of holding on to what we believe to be right.

May we put our trust in the power of good to overcome evil  
and the power of love to overcome hatred.

We pray for the vision to see and the faith to believe  
in a world emancipated from violence,  
a new world where fear shall no longer lead  
men or women to commit injustice,  
nor selfishness make them bring suffering to others.

Help us to devote our lives to the task  
of making peace, praying always for the inspiration  
and the power to fulfill the destiny for which  
all men and women were created.

-Author Unknown

# Litany of Peace

God, so many people are in pain.  
Teach us the way to peace.

When people around us don't agree and think differently,  
Teach us to listen and try to understand.

When we see people getting hurt,  
Teach us to speak up.

When we see people treated poorly because  
of their skin color, or language, or religious belief,  
Teach us to be an example of love and acceptance.

When we find ourselves in conflict,  
Teach us how to make a difference and seek peace.

When we see pain,  
Teach us to bring healing,

When we feel confused and afraid,  
Remind us to talk to our friends, our family and to you.

In our lives, our neighborhoods and the world,  
Teach us to pray and teach us the way of peace.



## *A Christmas Prayer for Action*



*When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and princes are home,  
when the shepherds are back with the flocks,  
then the work of Christmas begins:*

*To find the lost, to heal those broken in spirit, to feed the hungry,  
to release the oppressed, to rebuild the nations,  
to bring peace among all peoples, to make a little music with the heart.  
And to radiate the Light of Christ, every day, in every way,  
in all that we do and in all that we say. Then the work of Christmas begins.*

*—Howard Thurman*

## *A Prayer for the New Year*

*Give us, O God, the vision which can see  
Your love in the world  
in spite of human failure.*

*Give us the faith to trust Your goodness in  
spite of our ignorance and weakness.*

*Give us the knowledge that we may pray  
with understanding hearts.*

*And show us what each one of us can do  
to set forward the coming of the day of  
universal peace.*

-Frank Borman,  
Apollo 8 Space Mission, 1968

## *A Prayer for the Human Family*

*O God, you made us in your own  
image and redeemed us through  
Jesus your Son: Look with compassion  
on the whole human family; take  
away the arrogance and hatred  
which infect our hearts; break down  
the walls that separate us; unite us  
in bonds of love; and work through  
our struggle and confusion to  
accomplish your purposes on earth;  
that, in your good time, all nations  
and races may serve you in harmony  
around your heavenly throne;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*

-Book of Common Prayer, Episcopal Church

## **LORD, HELP US AS WE ENTER THE NEW YEAR**

God of all time, help us enter the New Year quietly, thoughtful of who we are to ourselves and to others, mindful that our steps make an impact and our words carry power.

May we walk gently.

May we speak only after we have listened well.

Creator of all life,  
help us enter the New Year reverently,  
aware that you have endowed  
every creature and plant, every person and habitat  
with beauty and purpose.

May we regard the world with tenderness.

May we honor rather than destroy.

Lover of all souls,  
help us enter the New Year joyfully,  
willing to laugh and dance and dream,  
remembering our many gifts with thanks  
and looking forward to blessings yet to come.

May we welcome your lavish love.

In this New Year, 2021, may the grace and peace of Christ bless us now and in the days ahead.

**- Vinita Hampton Wright**



## The Christmas Prayer of Saint Pope John XXII

O sweet Child of Bethlehem, grant that we may experience within our entire being the profound mystery of Christmas.

Put into the hearts of men and women a desire for a lasting peace for which they seek so desperately and which you alone can give to them.

Help them to strive to know and understand one another better, and to live as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father. Reveal to them also your beauty, holiness, and purity.

Awaken in their hearts love and gratitude for your infinite goodness. Join them all together in your love. And give us your heavenly peace. Amen.

*-Pope John XXIII*

*Shout for joy  
the whole earth,  
and everything within.  
Rejoice!*

*For Light has come into the world*

*The mountains sing,  
the seas resound  
to the praise of your name.*

*Salvation once promised is here on earth*

*The angels' song rings in the air,  
a child has been born.*

*Hallelujah!*

*The Savior of the world is here!*

## Prayer for Justice at Christmas

God grant that violence be overcome by the power of love, that opposition give way to reconciliation and that the desire to oppress be transformed into the desire for forgiveness, justice and peace...

May peace be in our hearts so that they are open to the action of God's grace...

May all members of the human family community, especially children, the elderly, the weakest and the vulnerable feel the warmth of this feast, and may it extend to all the days in the New Year. Amen.

*-Pope Benedict XVI*

*May you be filled with  
the wonder of Mary,  
the obedience of Joseph,  
the joy of the angels,  
the eagerness of the shepherds,  
the determination of the magi,  
and the peace of the Christ child.*

*May God grant you  
the light of Christmas,  
which is faith;  
the warmth of Christmas,  
which is purity;  
the righteousness of Christmas,  
which is justice;  
the belief in Christmas,  
which is truth;  
the true gift of Christmas,  
which is Christ.*

*-Wilda English*

# A WISHFUL PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

We cannot merely pray to you, O God, to end violence;  
for we know that You have made the world in a way that people must find  
their own path to peace within themselves and with their neighbors.

We cannot merely pray to You, O God, to end starvation;  
for You have already given us the resources with which to feed the entire world,  
if we would only use them wisely.

We cannot merely pray to You, O God, to root out prejudice;  
for You have already given us eyes with which to see the good in all people,  
if we would only use them rightly.

We cannot merely pray to You, O God, to end despair;  
for You have already given us the power to clear away slums and to give hope,  
if we would only use our power justly.

We cannot merely pray to You, O God, to end disease;  
for You have already given us great minds with which to search out cures and healing,  
if we would only use them constructively.

Therefore we pray to You instead, O God, for strength, determination and will power,  
to do instead of just pray, to become instruments of change  
instead of merely people who wish.

-Jack Riemer

Grant us, Lord God, a vision of your world as your love would have it:  
a world where the weak are protected, and none go hungry or poor;  
a world where the riches of creation are shared, and everyone can enjoy them;  
a world where different races and cultures live in harmony and mutual respect;  
a world where peace is built with justice, and justice is guided by love.

Give us the inspiration and courage to build it, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

-United Church of Christ

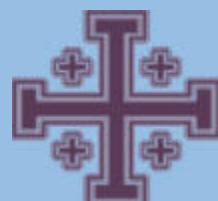
Good and gracious God,  
who loves and delights in all people,  
we stand in awe before You,  
knowing that the spark of life within each person  
on earth is the spark of your divine life.

Differences among cultures and races  
are multicolored manifestations of Your Light.  
May our hearts and minds be open  
to celebrate both the similarities and differences  
among our sisters and brothers.

We place our hopes for racial harmony  
in our committed action  
and in Your Presence in our Neighbor.

May all peoples live together in Peace.

-Sisters of Mercy of the Americas



## FINDING TRUE HAPPINESS IN THE NEW YEAR

Remember that to be happy is not to have a sky without a storm, a road without accidents, work without fatigue, relationships without disappointments.

To be happy is to find strength in forgiveness, hope in battles, security in the stage of fear, love in discord. It is not only to enjoy the smile, but also to reflect on the sadness.

Happiness is not only to celebrate successes, but to learn lessons from failures.

It is not only to feel happy with the applause, but to be happy in anonymity.

To be happy is to cross deserts, yet to be able to find an oasis in the depth of your soul.

Being happy is having the courage to hear a "no". It is confidence in the face of criticism, even when unjustified.

To be happy is have the maturity to be able to say: "I made mistakes."

It is to have the courage to say "I am sorry." It is to have the strength to say, "I forgive you."

It is to have the ability to say "I love you."

May your life become a garden of opportunities for happiness ...

That in spring you may be a lover of joy, and in winter a lover of wisdom.

And when you make a mistake, may you start all over again.

To be happy is not to have a perfect life.

Happiness means that you learn to use your tears to irrigate tolerance, to use your losses to train patience, to use your mistakes to sculptor serenity, to use pain to plaster pleasure, and to use obstacles to open windows of intelligence.

Never give up on happiness, for life is an incredible show.

**- Pope Francis**





IN ANTICIPATION OF THE

## 200th Anniversary of the establishment of the Diocese of Cincinnati

When Pope Pius VII established the Diocese of Cincinnati in June of 1821, and appointed Father Edward Dominic Fenwick, OP, as its first bishop, the diocese not only spanned all the lands of Ohio and Michigan, but it also extended through much of the former Northwest Territory and beyond. As the faith continued to grow over the next 50 years, other dioceses were apportioned from the Diocese of Cincinnati, which took on its current boundaries in western and southwestern Ohio in 1868. Such development of the local Church would not have been possible without the believing community—committed individuals who allowed Christ to transform their lives.

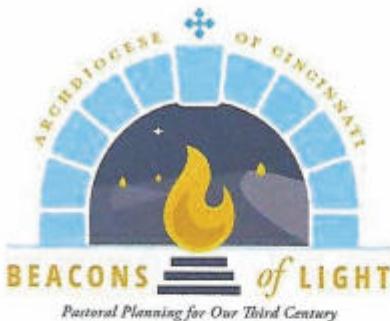
As we look at how the Archdiocese of Cincinnati has developed over the past 200 years, we can see that the Church responded to various needs through its institutions. Very early on in our history, religious women and men took up residence in the area to begin the work of laying the foundations of a strong life of faith. As the faith of the people grew, parishes were established; schools, universities and hospitals were built. Faithful women and men created and participated in diocesan and regional programs of service to those in need. All of these things have borne much fruit for our sisters and brothers in the Church and for our neighbors of different faiths, as well. The Archdiocese of Cincinnati has been well-served through its parishes, religious communities, schools, fraternal organizations and charitable institutions.

Today we are blessed with a well-established system of resources to serve the needs of our people and communities. We no longer have the need to strategically plan for extraordinary growth. Although upkeep, renovation and renewal will always be necessary, the main impetus of physically building Church infrastructure is behind us. We are now in a time of rapid change, requiring us to be adaptable to modern needs while maintaining our commitment to Jesus Christ. This opens up a great possibility for us and charges us with a great responsibility, to shift our focus towards our families, our smaller faith groups and, even more importantly, to our individual relationships with Jesus Christ. Over the years, long-term planning programs have been implemented as population trends have shifted and as the number of priests serving the archdiocese has decreased.

The Archdiocese of Cincinnati has begun a new program of long-term planning that will lead us into the next generation. The “Beacons of Light” program is in its early stage of design and Implementation. Pastors have participated in virtual educational programs over the past few months. As their feedback and input is received, the next stage of planning and implementation will begin. This stage will involve parishioners in each deanery and ministry region. The parishes staffed by diocesan priests as well as those staffed by members of religious communities will all be involved in this planning program.



More information about how members of our parish will be asked to participate in this planning program and how Holy Cross-Immaculata Parish will be affected will be presented in January after the holidays.



*"The parish is a beacon that radiates the light of the faith and thus responds to the deepest and truest desires of the human heart, giving meaning and hope to the lives of individuals and families."*

— Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, December 10, 2006

## RADIATE CHRIST

*"Radiate Christ. These two words summarize God the Father's hope for humanity on this earth. The words contain both a reality and a mission: the reality of the person of Jesus Christ as the Savior of all people and the mission of each Christian to participate in the Son's redemption of the world."*

— Archbishop Dennis M. Schnurr

## Becoming People Who Radiate Christ

We are people on a journey of faith in relationship with Jesus, called to grow as disciples who are ready to be part of Christ's mission in the world. We are formed as missionary disciples in many ways, especially through the Eucharist, sacraments, and in the life of our parish communities. If each of us is called to radiate Christ, we must be rooted in a strong, vital parish that forms us as disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ at every stage of life and faith.

## Announcing BEACONS of LIGHT

Beacons of Light is a pastoral planning process through which the parishes of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati will come together in new ways, forming communities of faith that are united as members of Christ's Body, the Church. The beacon shines in the midst of darkness and points the way toward a bright future filled with hope. Over the next few years, Beacons of Light will result in stronger parishes that will form us to live and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in our homes, workplaces and schools, local towns and cities and in the world.

*"The whole People of God must urgently embrace the Holy Spirit's invitation to begin the process of 'renewing' the face of the Church."*

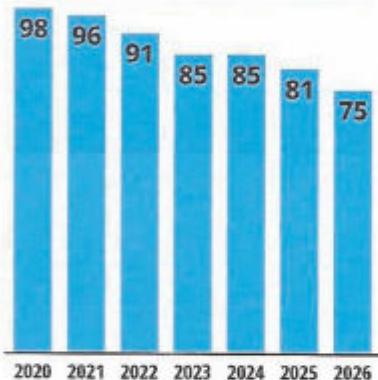
— The pastoral conversion of the parish, 10

Through Beacons of Light, parish groupings will be identified and parish leaders will come together to discern the shape of parish life for their grouping. People will be invited to share their hopes and dreams for the future as their parishes are drawn together as a community of faith.

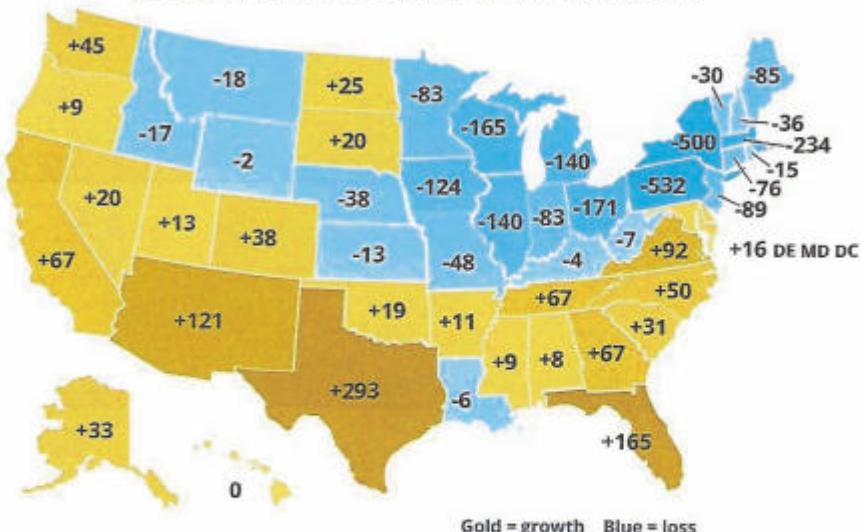
## Our Call: Form Parishes as BEACONS of LIGHT

People on a journey of missionary discipleship. Priests who have the time to be present, attend to the needs of their people, and lead their parish to fulfill Christ's great commission. Parishes that are alive in faith, filled with vitality, ready to form people to radiate Christ at home, in their neighborhoods and workplace, towns and cities, and in the world. Pastoral life of this depth requires strategic, pastoral planning for a bright future for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

DIOCESAN PRIESTS AVAILABLE FOR  
ASSIGNMENT AS PASTORS



NET CHANGE IN CATHOLIC PARISHES BY STATE, 1971 TO 2018



ACTIVE DIOCESAN  
PRIESTS IN THE  
ARCHDIOCESE OF  
CINCINNATI

**25** of our **149** priests  
are 70 or older

**9** of the **149** priests  
are 75 or older

**19** of our **102** pastors  
are 70 or older

**7** of our **102** pastors  
are 75 or older

**3** ordinations  
in 2020

**8** retirements  
in 2020

**52** possible  
retirements  
in 2021-2025

\*7 religious order priests  
serve as pastors in 2020

## Why now?

Many factors lead us to recognize an urgent need to organize parish life more effectively for our future. We face the decline of religious practice in the United States and changing demographics in the Midwest. And, while we are blessed with an increased number of men who have been ordained to the priesthood in the past few years or who are currently in seminary formation, we have even more still serving as pastors who are at or beyond retirement age or who will be eligible to retire in the next few years. We must address this situation through thoughtful strategic and pastoral planning in order to form vital parishes that lead us all to embrace Christ and the call to missionary discipleship.<sup>1</sup>

## BEACONS of LIGHT: From Surviving to Thriving

Beacons of Light will be a unique experience of pastoral planning for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. There are two essential elements of the process, which will take place simultaneously and will lead us to move from maintenance to mission, from surviving to thriving. **Strategic Planning:** involves data gathering, analysis, and the identification of the best possible parish groupings throughout the Archdiocese. **Pastoral Planning:** includes meetings and processes through which parish leaders will discern the shape of parish life for their grouping and create a pastoral plan for the future.

## What's Next? Prayer and Planning

We invite you to join us in prayer as we enter into this new phase of pastoral planning. Monthly prayer and reflection resources, as well as updates on the process, will be available at [www.catholicaoc.org/beacons](http://www.catholicaoc.org/beacons).



ARCHDIOCESE OF  
CINCINNATI

<sup>1</sup> Map: CARA, <https://nineteensixty-four.blogspot.com/2019/02/where-parish-doors-have-closed-and.html>



### Christmas Eve

8:00 p.m. David Haynes

### Christmas Day

8:00 a.m. Don Capannari

10:30 a.m. M'ellen Horrigan

### Saturday December 26

4:00 p.m. Alice Rogers Uhl

### Sunday December 27

8:00 a.m. Jim Steiner

10:30 a.m. M'ellen Horrigan

### Saturday January 2

4:00 p.m. Pete Prokop

### Sunday January 3

8:00 a.m. Jim Steiner

10:30 a.m. Warren Bertsch

### Jan 1 Mary, Holy Mother of God

9:00 a.m. Don Capannari

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## PARISH INFORMATION

30 Guido St. Cincinnati, OH 45202

513-721-6544

### **PARISH WEBSITE:**

[www.hciparish.org](http://www.hciparish.org)

### **PARISH EMAIL:**

[holymac30@fuse.net](mailto:holymac30@fuse.net)

### OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00-4:00

### WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday: 4:00 Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30

### WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday & Wednesday: 6:10 p.m.

Tuesday & Friday: 8:00 a.m.

**PASTOR: Fr. Len Fecko**

EMAIL: [holymacpastor@fuse.net](mailto:holymacpastor@fuse.net)



MERRY  
CHRISTMAS!

# O Holy Night



*God, our Creator, we offer this humble prayer on Christmas Day. We come to worship with a song of thanks in our hearts—a song of redemption, a song of hope and renewal. We pray for joy in our hearts, hope in our God, love to forgive, and peace upon the earth. We ask for the salvation of all our family members and friends, and we pray your blessings on all people. May there be bread for the hungry, love for the unlovable, healing for the sick, protection for our children, and wisdom for our youth. We pray for the forgiveness of sinners and abundant life in Christ. Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with your love and power. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.*



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