



1872 ~ Celebrating 150 Years of Blessings ~ 2022

#### FROM OUR PASTOR:

August is paradoxical; usually it's the hottest month of the summer, but already the clocks don't lie - each day is getting shorter and shorter, about a dozen minutes each week, and all around us the signs of a new school year about to begin are making their appearance. This week our pastoral associate for evangelization and faith development, Jen Sanders, published the calendars of the sacramental preparation programs for First Communion and Confirmation. Martin Linder is excited to show the progress being made on the Fr. Tony Borgia kitchen in the school. The football team is in the midst of their two-a-days ~ It's clear that we're gathering steam for our next year of parish life; it's an exciting time!

But there is another source of our excitement this particular summer - we're well on our way through the events of our sesquicentennial / our 150<sup>th</sup> year observances. We began in June with an opening Mass, ice cream social and lecture about our beginnings by our local historian and parishioner Henry Timman. You will remember that it was supposed to be held at the original site of our parish, at the shrine on West Main Street, but a series of thunderstorms forced us to gather instead in the church and Gathering Space. That couldn't dampen the festivities, however - a great time was had by all, as we say.

Then in July, first we had our float and two groups of matachines / Mexican dancers in the Independence Day parade – and won first prize in our division! That was indeed fun (the enthusiasm and energy of the dancers got special mention in the awarding of the prize!), and let the whole community know of our year of celebration – just in case anybody missed the festive bunting and banners on the façade of the church! Then three weeks later we had Adoration Under the Stars at Contractors' Field. Many, many of our families joined us on blankets and lawn chairs for that moving time of prayer and singing, confessions and adoration in the dusk and then dark with just the monstrance lit up so brilliantly. Aesthetically as well as spiritually, it was a special, grace-filled time.

That month we also found out from the archivist of the Diocese of Cleveland how we got our name – it was not, as we had always assumed, by a formal document from the Bishop of Cleveland (of which we were part 150 years ago) that the "New St. Peter's Parish" became now known as St. Paul's - it was when our current church was built and dedicated to St. Paul that we started to became known as the parish of St. Paul [church], or quickly enough, just the parish of St. Paul. That was a surprise!



This month, August, we had the wildly successful Mexican fiesta put on by our Spanish-speaking parishioners. We've always been, from our very beginning, the parish that serves those in the Norwalk area who do not speak English. Originally, of course, those were good folks who spoke German; today it's the good folks who speak Spanish, but the language in question is a small detail. Both the Old and New Testaments urge us to welcome the newcomers in our midst and we at St. Paul's have done that as a matter of pride and identity since our earliest days. In any case, these newest members of our parish put on a fiesta of Mexican foods, dancing, games, and activities in the Convo lot and donated all the proceeds to the parish. What a wonderful display of Christian generosity!

One more element of our sesquicentennial observance may occur yet during this month – we have received word that the noble 72-niche columbarium we have commissioned for our beautiful cemetery has now been finished. It is scheduled to be delivered to us within the next several weeks. We all know how the pandemic has disrupted the normal delivery schedules for all kinds of things (my car has been at the dealer for three weeks now, still awaiting a part!) so we don't have a guaranteed date. But keep on the lookout because when it arrives, is installed, and the landscaping completed around it later this month or maybe early next, we will have a suitably special dedication service to inaugurate this new form of offering a dignified and holy place for the repose of the remains of our beloved parishioners.

This by no means exhausts the events, commemorations and improvements to our parish facilities that will soon be upon us as these closing days of summer turn to fall, only the space to talk about them! On every score, 2021-2022 is working out to be a very exciting year for our parish!

Magn Ken

#### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



Photo courtesy of Jackie Houck

#### Welcome to the Table of the Lord!

Hazel Cerri
Isaac Chepote
Jia Collins
Weston Davis
Danielle Duncan
Preston Freed
Emilie Gilliland
Camden Greenwell
Addison Hance
Tucker Hayse
Jolette Hernandez-Dominguez
Abigail Howerton
Dylan Kline
Preston Kovarik

Jack Leto
Iluvia Martinez-Escobedo
Chase Mutchler
Evelynn Myers
Kalli Oates
Henry Pertner
Ava Piscitello
Lydia Polachek
Christian Rogers
Ava Rospert
Kaitlyn Rospert
John Sanchez Roblero
Augustine Sanders
Zander Scheid
Gabriel Walker

#### **PHOTO GALLERY**

Have you seen our gallery of First Holy Communion group photos? Did you find your First Communion class or your child's or grandchild's photo within the gallery? Visit the parish office and take a look!

We would like to make the gallery more complete with photos for these years: 1902-1909, 1912, 1914, 1916-1918, 1922-1924, 1926, 1927, 1929, 1932,1934, 1937, 1944, 1959, 1962-1980, 1983, 1988, 1990, 1994. If you have a photo from these years, please drop it off at the parish office. Thank you!



### **BELONGING & BELIEVING**

**Eucharistic Procession** June 6







150th Anniversary Opening Mass & Celebration June 9

Bad weather did not dampen our kickoff celebration! Our evening included Mass, a parish history presentation (Thank you, Henry!) and ice cream sundaes!





# Totus Tuus (Totally Yours) June 20-25 Young adult missionaries from the Diocese

of Cincinnati engaged our youth in a faith-filled week! Activities included skits, songs, prayer, Daily Mass, Sacrament of Reconciliation, and a family potluck!



#### Adoration Under the Stars July 24

Parish families and guests enjoyed



#### **BELONGING & BELIEVING**

#### Mexican Fiesta! August 7

Mexican food, music, games and dancing! ¡Muchas gracias!



#### CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Cindy McLaughlin shared the joy of her experiences with the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) with our CGS catechists. Cindy brought CGS to the NCS Early Childhood Center several years ago. (It's an amazing story—the Holy Spirit was at work through it all!) How many children since then have had this wonderful opportunity to grow in faith and their relationship with God! Recognizing its positive impact, our parish offers Catechesis of the Good Shepherd to our Parish School of Religion students and our children preparing for First Holy Communion. We look forward to offering CGS at 10:00 am on Sundays beginning this fall!

Thank you, Cindy, for guiding our young parishioners and helping them grow in their love of the Lord! Thank you catechists, Kelly Gallagher, Sr. Carolyn, Sr. Joyce, Jen Rizzo and Kathleen McKinney! Welcome new CGS catechists Stephanie Forgacs, Meghan Lyster, Diane Penwell and Annette Riley!







#### **RCIA**

Do you know someone interested in learning more about the Catholic faith? Are you an adult member of the Catholic church but have not been Confirmed? RCIA sessions will be forming soon. Please contact Fr. Michael at the parish office or email him at frmichael@stpaulchurch.org if you have any questions.

Thank you to Darlene Walker, RCIA Director, and Ann Schumm, team member, for your years of welcoming and walking with our candidates and catechumens on their faith journey.

# Sacred Spaces! Our preschoolers and their

Our preschoolers and their families enjoyed exploring God's creation this summer!

Look for fall dates to be



#### **ALTAR SERVERS**

We are in need of youth altar servers for each of our weekend Masses. Altar server training for youth in grades 5th-12th will be held on Wednesday, September 1 at 6 pm for our PSR students and during the school day in early September for NCS students. Additional details to follow; be sure to check the bulletin and parish website!

#### LITURGICAL LIVING

New! In addition to our Domestic Church activity bags/kits for families, each month there will a "Liturgical Living" bulletin insert with creative ways for adults to live their Catholic faith in their daily lives. Recipes, online resources, information on the Saints and more will be included!

#### **EVANGELIZATION**

The "lazy days" of summer have been anything but lazy here at the parish. The summer has flown by and the gathering of our parish community for such a wide variety of events over the summer months has been a great way to spend these days as we begin celebrating 150 years. Whether I waved at you during our parade, prayed with you at Adoration under the Stars, discovered the outdoors with you at Sacred Spaces or saw you at any of the other happenings this summer; I hope your summer was full of excitement and a little relaxation too!

So, what's next? As we enter fall, we look forward to so much as a parish community! You'll see an Oktoberfest, Sacrament Prep, PSR, the return of Trunk or Treat, and Alpha. If you've been waiting to become more active here at the parish – wait no more! If you are looking for something during the day, check out Coffee and Conversation which resumes in September. A mom looking for fellowship? Our moms group meets regularly. Looking for discussion on the Gospel of the weekend? Check out Msgr. Ken's famous Saturday Morning Gospel study. Questions about your faith? Watch the schedule for Alpha! And this list just scratches the surface!

As the summer heat gives way to crisp fall air and flip flops make their way to the back of the closet, I welcome you to active participation in our parish community. If you're reading this and feeling a nudge to be more involved, here is your further nudge! We need you! Your active participation in our parish only makes our community stronger. Your gifts are meant to be shared. We as a parish family look forward to growing in faith together – for the next 150 years!

See you at Mass!





# WITH JOYFUL HEARTS, WE WELCOME OUR NEWLY BAPTIZED.

#### Jonathon

Son of Daniel & Maria Arciniega

#### Emma

Daughter of Tom & Amy Borders

#### John

Son of Stewart & Katherine Downey

#### Clayton

Son of Chad & Teresa Lucal

#### Julia

Daughter of Cornelio & Regina Mendoza

#### Millicent

Daughter of Clint & Amanda Nickoli

#### Romeo & Leo

Sons of Juan & Christina de la Paz

#### Jameson

Son of Madison & the late Robert Pritchard

#### Nayeli

Daughter of Fabian & Nancy Ramirez

#### Jameson

Son of Adam & Katherine Smith

#### Liam

Son of Brandon & McKenzie Wiseman

#### PARISH FAMILY BLESSINGS

#### Welcome new parishioners!

Tom & Amy Borders Daughter, Emma

James & Anne Daley

Juan & Christina De La Paz Sons, Romeo & Leo

Maria De la Paz

Jeremy & Natalie Freed Son, Preston

Daniel & Jennifer Greenwell Children, Camden, Kylie & Cora

> Nathan & Kristen Leto Son, Jack

Joshua & Misty Samano Children, Luna & Joshua

Larry & Katherine Opper

Nancy Romero & Fabian Ramirez
Daughter, Nayeli



Congratulations to these newly-married couples!

Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Sarah (Thomas) Crandall

Mr. & Mrs. Christopher & Kelly (Ericsson) Gallagher

Mr. & Mrs. Ian & Amber (Wuersig) Kyle

Mr. & Mrs. Joe & Kaylee (Bundschuh) Longo

Mr. & Mrs. Steve & Kimberly (Jones) Mutchler

Mr. & Mrs. Daren & Hannah (Douglas) Smith



We remember and pray for these deceased parishioners and their families:

Mary Ann Burdue
Michelle Church
Mary Jean Collier
Dennis Demcho
Rita Hauler
Richard Jenkins
Mary Kitchens
Joseph Leimeister
Stacey Mundy
Richard Myers
Regina Schild
Scott West
Reese Wineman



NON PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NORWALK, OH
Permit No. 25

## Save the Dates!

