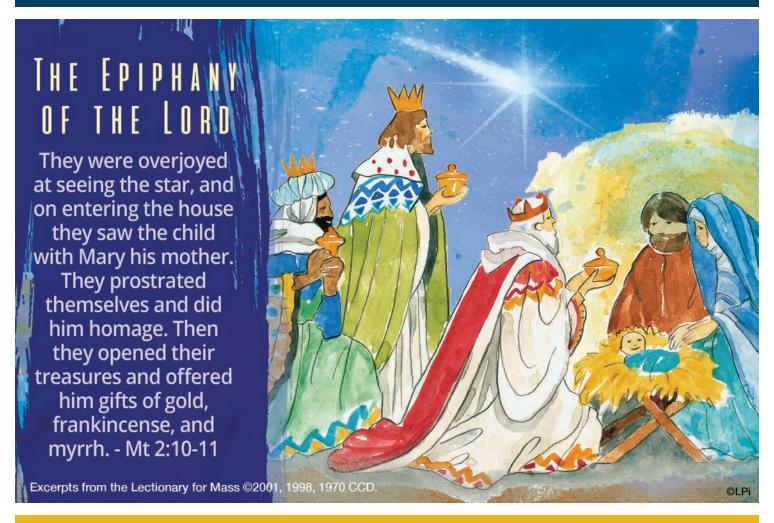


2470 Miramar Blvd., University Heights, OH 44118



MISSION STATEMENT

Gesu Parish,
a Catholic community in
the Jesuit tradition, is committed to

Eucharistic Living Lifelong Learning Generous Serving

"All for the greater glory of God."

- AMDG -

TEMPORARY MASS SCHEDULE

Weekends

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm Sunday: 9:00 am and 11:00 am

Weekdays

Monday - Friday: 7:30 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:00-4:00 pm or by appointment (Please see Pg. 3 for important information.)

PASTORAL STAFF

Reverend Karl Kiser, SJ Pastor

Reverend Michael A. Vincent, SJ Associate Pastor

Reverend Gregory Hyde, SJ Priest in Residence

Reverend James K. O'Donnell Deacon

Sr. Kathleen Flannery, OSUParish Life & Liturgy

Therese Blumenthal Finance & Operations

Mary Kate Farrar
Development & Communications

Lucy lemmolo School Principal

Mary von Carlowitz & Marcia Leous
Faith Formation

Amy Zucca
Outreach Coordinator

Mark Ehrbar Music Ministry

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Office (216) 932-0617

Emergency Night Phone Service (440) 942-6499

Parish Office Fax (216) 932-0731

School Office (216) 932-0620

School Fax (216) 932-8326

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

New parishioners are invited to call the Parish Office to make an appointment to register. Current members are asked to notify the Parish Office when they move.

TEMPORARY OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm At other times, we will be checking email and phone messages. See page 13 for our Holiday Hours.

Gospel Meditation

"Where is that thing?" mumbled Bob as he searched frantically on his dimly lit desk for the current electric bill. "I know I put it right on top of these papers this morning!" Growing in frustration and bordering on anger, he flies stuff around, moves books and opines why simple tasks need to be so hard. Enter his wife, who calmly says, "Maybe it would help if you put the light on, dear." The desk light goes on and lo and behold, there is the electric bill right where Bob left it earlier. All it took was a little light!

We stubbornly refuse to turn on the lights! Either we are distracted, determined, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive or all of the above. Or perhaps, we fail to do the obvious. We would rather live our lives with the dimmest of lights or even in total darkness. Why are we afraid to do something so that we can actually see? It might help us to find quicker and better answers to problems, the meaning of life, relationships, happiness and what is ultimate truth. Yet, we stumble along, moving things from one side to the other, getting angry, feeling cheated, being unsettled, resigning ourselves to the agony of defeat once again.

"And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was." The light has come into the world in the person of Jesus Christ! We no longer have to fumble in the darkness. We have been gifted with the illumination we need to see our way through things and find what we really are looking for. All these years later, however, so many are still reluctant to accept him. Perhaps they are unconvinced, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive or all of the above. Everyone has their own reason for not wanting to turn on the switch.

But there are so many answers to so many of our problems in this humble Child of Nazareth. A simple birth teaches us about God's tender wedded relationship with humanity. It speaks to the expanse of God's salvation across the globe, and the incarnate Divine wonders and blessings that are a part of our life moment to moment. It calls us to understand the design of world order God intended as found in the Beatitudes, the sacredness of every human life and all of creation and the meaning of things we struggle with most, like suffering and death. We have a lot of Good News to share, not just with a privileged few but with all the world. All races and creeds can receive God's healing word. God continues to manifest himself even now! Use the light to find what you are really looking for!

©LPi

This Week at Gesu

MONDAY 1/4

Gesu School Christmas Break	
Mass	7:30 am - Church
Booster Mtg	7:30-9:30 pm - Zoom

TUESDAY 1/5

Gesu School Classes Resume	- All Remote
Mass	7:30 am - Church
RCIA	7:00-9:00 pm - Zoom

WEDNESDAY 1/6

Gesu School All Remote	
Mass	7:30 am - Church
Legion of Mary	8:00-9:00 am - Church Narthex

THURSDAY 1/7

Gesu School All Remote		
Mass7:3	o am	- Church

FRIDAY 1/8

Gesu School All Remote	
Mass	7:30 am - Church

SATURDAY 1/9

Bible Study - 1st & 2nd Kings	12:00-2:00 pm - Zoom
Confession	3:00-4:00 pm - Nativity Room
Vigil Mass	4:30 pm - Church

SUNDAY 1/10

Red Cross Blood Drive	.8:30 am - 2:30 pm - McAuley Hall
Mass	9:00 am & 11:00 am - Church
Confirmation Session 4	6:00-7:00 pm - Virtual



RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation is held each Saturday from 3:00-4:00 pm. To allow for social distancing, it's taking place in the Nativity Room. Please enter via the door inside the church. The room is set for both anonymous and face-to-face confessions. Please wear a mask.

BAPTISMS

To arrange a Baptism, please contact the Parish Office. Baptism instruction is necessary with the first child.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA)

The Gesu RCIA process welcomes anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic faith and prepares you to become a member of the Catholic Church. Please inquire at the Parish Office.

MARRIAGE

Please contact one of the Gesu priests at the Parish Office at least six months in advance to arrange the use of the church and register for the marriage preparation program.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

We are unable to hold our usually monthly Anointing Masses at this time. You may make arrangements to receive the Sacrament of the Sick following any weekday or weekend Mass by calling the Parish Office in advance. That way, we will know which date and time you will be here.

ILLNESS & HOSPITAL CALLS

Please notify the Parish Office when a member of your family is hospitalized or ill. Sick calls have been suspended for the time being. Anointing will only be administered when a person is in danger of death.

REST IN PEACE

Irene Bracale Mother of Robert, William, Scott, Christopher & Ann

Irene Cook
Mother of Joan Mooney

Jim Curran
Brother of Joe Curran

John Duda Husband of Angie



HELP US UPDATE OUR PRAYER LISTS

Please help us update the "Sick" and "Servicemen and Women" prayer lists. If you have a family member who should be removed from one of the lists, please contact Sr. Linda at Imartinosu@ churchofthegesu.org or (216) 932-0617.





REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



Please pray for the following sick members of our community. Sick persons or family members may phone Sr. Linda at (216) 932-0617 to have a name listed. Names will stay on the list for up to one year unless removal or continuation is requested.

Angela Donavan Sandy Bonnot Mary Jo Rourke Margaret Trenkamp Jacob Gordon George Martin Wayne Schmidt Stacey Kelly Fran Burrows Mike Stinn Mary Beth Miller Andrew Kascsak Cecilia T. Guccion Edward P. Guccion Howard Widmann Jeff Stevenson Grace Pressimone Toni Consolo Bill & Denise Mirando Eleanor Bertagni Marge Diemer Sheila Flannery Jeanne Horwath Richard Rarick Lvdia Reilly G. Baby Reese Tom

Eileen Read Gerri Greenfield Abby Grealis Marsha Carole Baker Verna Bencie Cathy Kingsbury Edison George O'Hamill Margaret Homoly Beth Heather Jim T. Anthony Galati Victor Russell Gina Hespen Loretta Wiles Catalina Santoscoy Barbara Rossy Claire Gascoigne Sarah Kuhar Michael Markiewicz Janet Markiewicz Mary Nero Nick Gundersen Joan Nuth Sylvia Flammini

John Bastulli, Jr. Samone Dean Bill Kiser Carol Litovec Dale A. Scully Bradley "Gray" Gorman, Jr. Helen Joyce Ryan M. Michael Manuszak Marilyn Karlik Leah Baker Bernice Reed Bill Reale John Jackie Friend Danielle Goodridge Allen King Elizabeth Kealy Shawn Sexton Frank Sandy Russell Mike Kiely, Jr. Marian Marco Kaiser **Evelyn Shimandle Siess** John Hissong

PRAY FOR OUR SERVICEMEN & WOMEN

Please keep in your prayers the family and friends of Gesu Parishioners who are either activated reservists or active duty military personnel currently deployed. We're including names in our bulletin with family permission. If you'd like to include a relative, email bulletin@churchofthegesu.org.

Adam Thomas
Nick Corsones
Kirklan Kudrna
Brady Smith
Kevin Comiskey
Christopher Scott
Combellick
Zack Veselick
Eric Aslakson
Patrick McGroarty

Therese Hummer

Brian Johnston
Randolph Kloos
Thomas P. Costello
Geffrey B. Slatter
Ellis Smith
Matthew Kreiter
Michael Heltzel
Andrew Rocco
Thomas Garvey
Mouna Lograsso

Captain William
Olmstead
Patrick Murphy
Richard Rose
Patrick Brodhead
R.J. Thacker
Samuel J. Driscoll
James Bruening
Kate Hogan
C.J. Haag



SHOUT OUT TO OUR CHURCH SANITIZERS!

For the past six months Gesu has been blessed with a new category of helping hands – literally – whom we refer to as our Church Sanitizers. These thirty men, women and students have volunteered to help clean our church after funerals, weddings and baptisms. Gesu has called upon them for service over 50 times!

You can view this schedule for yourself on our website: **churchofthegesu.org/Worship/Liturgical Ministers**. Along with Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and (in non-COVID times) Altar Servers, these ministers perform a valuable service. After a funeral, wedding or baptism, they stand ready to sanitize where people sat, to help keep Gesu church safe in these unusual times.

Though we have some "stars" who have come many times, we truly appreciate every Church Sanitizer who has helped, even if only on one occasion. God bless you for your wonderful service in this ministry! If this would interest you, please contact the parish office and we will gladly add you to this list.

A DEEPLY FELT SENSE OF GRATITUDE

We would like to extend a deep sense of gratitude to all those who generously shared their time and talents during this Advent/Christmas season:

Our creative Art/Environment Committee, Our well-prepared proclaimers of the Word,

Our generous ministers of the Eucharist at Mass

and to our homebound parishioners,

Our trusty sacristans,

Our faithful ushers,

Our tireless maintenance folks who gave their all from small details to large,

Our beautiful musicians who graced our liturgies,

Our priests and homilists who shared their gifts so

generously with this parish community,

And ... to all of you, who celebrated this holy season with us! We are so blessed!

Even in this pandemic time, we find the heart of Christmas living among us!

If anyone would like to share their time and/or talents with these ministries, we would love to have you join us in this New Year! What a great New Year's resolution to become more involved in the life of Gesu Parish! If you need any more information, please call Sister Kathleen at (216) 932-0617 or kflannery@churchofthegesu.org.



& SCRIPTURE READINGS

MONDAY 1/4

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

1 Jn 3:22–4:6; Ps 2; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

7:30 am Chic & Danny Lauer

TUESDAY 1/5

St. John Neumann

1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72; Mk 6:34-44

7:30 am June McCarty

WEDNESDAY 1/6

St. André Bessette

1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72;

Mk 6:45-52

7:30 am Ruth Ann Eisenhardt

THURSDAY 1/7

St. Raymond of Penyafort

1 Jn 4:19–5:4; Ps 72;

Lk 4:14-22

5:00 pm Constance & John

Lyons

FRIDAY 1/8

1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147;

Lk 5:12-16

10:00 am David Amrozowicz

SATURDAY 1/9

1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149;

Jn 3:22-30

SATURDAY VIGIL & SUNDAY 1/10

The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11; Ps 29 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9: Mk 1:7-11

4:30 pm James Lavelle 9:00 am Michael Musel

11:00 am Tom & Carmen Christy

FROM OUR HOUSE TO YOUR HOUSE Week of 1/3/21

GATHER: Begin simply by saying "Bless Us, O Lord!" and make the Sign of the Cross.

LISTEN: Use a portion of the reading this week to read aloud.

Our Gospel for today is Matthew 2:1-5, 7-11. When the magi arrived in Jerusalem in search of the newborn king of the Jews, Herod heard of their arrival and became very troubled. He contacted them to let him know about this child that he might welcome him as well - a clever trick. But, following the star that had led them, they went on to find the child Jesus with Mary and Joseph, offering him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, and returned to their homes without telling Herod. We call this feast Epiphany which means manifestation - a time when Jesus is revealed to be the long awaited Messiah. Though Jesus was found in the humblest of places, the magi recognized a King who would be the Light of the World.

Pause a little.

SHARE: Use this thought or question for family sharing:

This Christmas season continues for yet another week. Some places in the world call this day another Christmas, or Little Christmas. But there is nothing "little" about it! Jesus is about to have a very big impact on the people of his time and still to this day! The gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh have great significance: gold for a king, frankincense for he is God, and myrrh for one who will suffer and die.

Here is a special home blessing! On the door of your home, using chalk, write: 20 + C + M + B + 21. The + represents the cross, and the letters the legendary names of Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. And 2021 designates the year when we invite Christ to enter our home and be with our family each and every day!

PRAY FOR: After sharing, consider all those you want to remember in prayer today.

Use the activity above to mark your door, and say together: "May your Blessing come upon this house and upon our family. May all who enter see in us a

(Continued)

place where love, faith, forgiveness and hope find a home. Amen."

GIVE THANKS: Conclude with: "Bless Us, O Lord, and these your gifts which we are about to receive from your bounty through Christ our Lord. Amen."

Enjoy your meal!

IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY FOR TODAY



The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) has been the subject of countless works of art over the centuries. Feast your eyes on a selection of these while listening to a beautiful rendition of *Silent Night* performed by the *Ignatian Schola*, a vocal group based in Manhattan. Listen at

www.ignatianspirituality.com/a-christmas-hymn/. May you experience the peace and joy of the Christmas season in your hearts and homes!

IGNATIAN THREADS

filled with hope.

Happy New Year! St. Ignatius might view this as a valuable opportunity to make some practical spiritual resolutions: incorporate the Examen at a regular time into your daily prayer, set aside some time just for you and God to have conversation, recognize God's presence in your everyday living, find more ways that you can serve others. You might tap into one or more of the convenient online sites and/or apps for daily reflection: Jesuitprayer.org, Loyola Press' 3-Minute Retreat, Pray as You Go app, and others. This writer commits to starting and ending each day with gratitude for many blessings realized. At the end of a very challenging year, we have just celebrated the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, the light of divine love. May this great gift prompt us to recognize God's grace in His unfailing love and constant presence, to strengthen our IGNATIAN personal relationship with our Savior and Creator, and to be Threads

WELCOMING THE STRANGER: PRAYER FOR HOSPITALITY

Loving God, your Son Jesus said your Kingdom is like a banquet: a festive gathering for all people of every race and color –

a table at which the lonely find company, the rich savor rich foods and the fine wine, and strangers enjoy warm family ties, Jesus calls us to build this Kingdom here on earth. Teach us, Lord, the ways of hospitality.

Give us the spirit of joyful welcome and the sensitivity to help people on the move to feel they belong.

Grant that our tables at home may draw our new neighbors from other lands into a loving community and that the Eucharistic tables in our parishes may prefigure that banquet in heaven where all are one with you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

Amen.

Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers,
 Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy,
 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

EPIPHANY









Surviving or Thriving: HOPE IN A TIME OF PANDEMIC

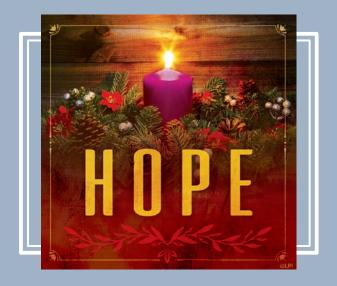
As we celebrate the Christmas season and ring in a New Year, few of us would have anticipated that our lives would continue to be besieged and turned upside down from a potentially deadly virus. Life in the midst of a pandemic has altered virtually every aspect of society. Every aspect of life has been impacted, including our life at home and our day-to-day activities.

In times that are steeped in extraordinary stress, it takes courage, commitment, and creativity to deal with that stress. Everyone is vulnerable in times like these, including parents, children, educators, seniors that live alone, and all those that suffer from despair.

But there are signs of hope, even throughout these darkest of nights, there is no pandemic, there is no crisis that can extinguish the Light. Let us allow the Light of Christ to enter our hearts and let us lend a hand to those who need it most. In this way, God will be born anew in us and among us.

Wherever you may be, as we welcome in 2021, know that you are not alone. Take refuge in the inspiration that the passages in this Surviving or Thriving series invite you into...Welcome, beautiful soul!

Read "The Darkness of Winter Welcomes Perfect Light" at http://bit.ly/38n2xO1



CHILDREN'S CORNER

SHARING THE GOSPEL

Jigsaw puzzles are fun. Solve a puzzle with your whole family, and it comes together even faster. God helped the wise men solve a puzzle. They wanted to find the newborn king. Together the wise men read God's promises, did their homework, and followed the star. When all of their answers fit, they found baby Jesus.

PRAYER

God, thank you for all the people who helped me

SOMETHING TO DRAW

Draw a picture of the people who help you learn more about Jesus.

PUZZLE

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel.

WISE MEN	MESSIAH	GIFTS
STAR	WORSHIP	WARNED
HEROD	EXCITED	DREAM



MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Solve a puzzle together with your family. Work together like the wise men did

Catholic Social

Teaching & the

Pandemic:

WEIGHING THE RESPONSE

The Church of the Gesu has a longstanding relationship with the people of Honduras. The following article mentions this country, among other Central American countries, that have experienced devastation by two recent hurricanes. What might this mean for these people and others seeking refuge elsewhere due to their homes and livelihoods being destroyed, or day-to-day health and safety threatened by persecution, conflict, violence and human rights abuses? What might this mean for our own country in terms of its willingness to help? This is a brief but timely article as our nation prepares for new leadership and direction regarding national policies, including those

related to migration and refugee services. It is also timely during this season of Christmas as we hear

and reflect on the well-known Gospel stories of Jesus' birth, including the Gospel of Matthew's narrative of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt to escape imminent danger. Read more at http://bit.ly/3nqq9Y9.



Shelter the Homeless and Welcome the Stranger

Welcome the Stranger

To be Christian means that we are obligated to place others at the center of our lives. In doing so, we encounter fear, discomfort and inconvenience. As we put the Corporal Work of Mercy of Welcoming the Stranger into action, we are challenged to move out of our comfort zones and follow the example of Christ.

Entire groups of people, have become forfeit of basic human rights because we don't understand them; we find their beliefs or practices foreign; we feel threatened by imagined dangers; they are different from what we deem "normal." Neighbors in proximity are treated as strangers in our midst; they are rejected and threatened and made to feel unwelcome. We are called to look beyond agendas, whether they are political, social or economic, and instead look at how Jesus calls us to respond to the needs of the stranger.

Children are starving, families are being decimated, societies are collapsing due to war, poverty, violence, hatred and greed. Our brothers and sisters are being driven from their homes and into our arms. Our response cannot be a re-action from fear; it must be an action based on and in faith. We are told to welcome the stranger - no caveats. We are not cautioned to protect ourselves first; God is our fortress. We are not warned away from helping the stranger who belongs to a different religion; God calls all to Himself. We are shown Christ's example of caring for those who are most marginalized and rejected. We are told to welcome the stranger or risk our eternal life. As Christians, we are compelled to take the path of the higher righteousness that Jesus calls us to in Mt 5:20: "I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter into the kingdom of heaven."

In today's climate, there is an uncomfortable tendency of making outrageous claims, accusations and promises. There is an on-going narrative that we hear every time we turn to any news source or social media outlet that tries to establish that there are human beings who have NOT been created in the image and likeness of God and are therefore acceptable targets for vitriolic attacks on their religion, beliefs or practices. Has your voice been usurped by the narrative or will you speak out against this claim of justified marginalization, justified rejection and justified hate?

What does Gesu Parish do?

- Collect NEW socks and underwear (and diapers) in the narthex bin for the Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry Men's Shelter, West Side Catholic Center, and Zelie's Home.
- Volunteer with the SVDPS or Ozanam Center at St. Philomena Church. Contact Pat Hawkins or the parish office for more information.
- Items for the Donation Station in the Thompson lot.
- Deliver food donations to the Thea Bowman Center and Salvation Army Rehabilitation Center.
 Contact Tom Tomsic or the parish office for more information.

What can you do?

- Educate yourself about the plight of the home less, migrant worker, immigrant, and refugee.
- Watch the Netflix docuseries, Immigration Nation
- Explore the Diocese of Cleveland Catholic Charities Migration & Refugee Services website found at http://bit.ly/37BLxo6 and look at "How You Can Help" by volunteering, mentoring a refugee family, renting to refugees, hiring refugees, or donating.
- Donate to the West Side Catholic Center to help our area's homeless at www.wsccenter.org/give.
- Volunteer with Habitat for Humanity.

Mercy in the City January: Read Chapters 11 - 14

Ch.11 - After her interaction with Leroy, Kerry realized that she had failed to see him as a real person. Have you ever had an experience that changed your perspective on the people around you?

Ch. 12 -In this chapter Kerry describes a simple, single act of mercy when a stranger handed her a sturdier bag and bottle of water for her sick friend. Do you think small actions like this matter? If so, why don't more people do things like this?

Ch. 13 - Kerry's open-door policy for houseguests has resulted in both positive and negative experiences for her, with the positive greatly outweighing the negative. Can you describe a time when you opened yourself to the unknown? What happened?

Ch. 14 - What did you think about Kerry's experience with the men in the homeless shelter?

GESU PRESCHOOL 2021–2022 REGISTRATION



Please join us
Thursday, January
21, at 7:00 pm in
the Family Center
gymnasium. We will
have an overview
of our program,
a look into our
classrooms, and
registration packets

will be available at that time. If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to Judi Herbert, our admissions director, at **jherbert@gesu.com**. We look forward to meeting you! Be sure to wear a mask. Our chairs will be set up for social distancing. We offer the following programs:

Three-Year-Old-Program

(Child must be 3 years of age on or before September 30 and must have independent bathroom skills. No pull-ups or diapers allowed.)

- 2-day class: Meets Monday and Tuesday mornings from 8:20-11:00 am
- 3-day class: Meets Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from 8:20 -11:00 am
- 4-day afternoon class: Meets Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 12:00
 -2:40 pm

Four-Year-Old Program

(Child must be 4 years of age on or before September 30.)

- 5-day Morning Class: Meets Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from 8:20 – 11:00 am.
- 5 day Afternoon class: Meets Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons from 12:00 – 2:40 pm.

Pre-Kindergarten Program

(Child must be 5 years of age on or before December 30.)

• The class will meet Monday through Friday from 8:20 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

(Continued)

Required Documents

Please submit the following at the time of registration:

- · The child's Birth Certificate.
- Baptismal Certificate (if baptized at Gesu please put the baptismal date on the Parish Verification Sheet)
- Current copy of the child's Immunization records
- Legal custody information (if applicable)
- · A recent photograph of the child
- Registration fee: \$125 check made out to Gesu Preschool (Nonrefundable if accepted)

Registration will be considered complete when parish registration, if applicable, has been verified and the school office has received all of the required paperwork and registration fee.

Admission Priorities

Students will be considered for admission to Gesu Preschool on the basis of the following priorities:

- Students of families currently enrolled in Gesu School.
- 2. Families currently registered in Gesu Parish.
- 3. Families not registered within Gesu Parish.

For questions, please contact preschool director, Debbie Lautenbach, at (216) 932-0620 ext. 304.

GESU KINDERGARTEN 2021–2022 REGISTRATION

Families interested in the Gesu Kindergarten for September 2021 will find the following information helpful in planning. Gesu School will have three All-Day Kindergarten classes that meet daily from 8:00 am - 2:40 pm.

Parent Information Meeting

A Parent Information Meeting will be held on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>January 12</u>, <u>2021</u> in the Family Center at 7:00 pm. This meeting is optional and is intended for families new to Gesu School or families who have not recently had a Kindergarten student to become familiar with the Gesu program. If you plan on attending, please RSVP to Judi Herbert at **jherbert@gesu.com**. This event is for adults only and masks are required.

<u>Registration</u> (see Admissions Priorities below.)

 Gesu families who currently have other children attending Gesu School in grades K-8 will be able to register beginning on January 4, 2021. Please note (Continued on next page) that Kindergarten registration will be done online this year. More detailed information will be forth coming.

- Gesu parishioners new to Gesu School will receive the online Kindergarten registration information at the meeting on January 12. Parents unable to attend the meeting should contact the Admissions Director at (216) 932-0620, ext. 117 or jherbert@ gesu.com.
- Catholic families not registered at Gesu and non-Catholic families will receive the online Kinder garten registration information at the meeting on January 12. Parents unable to attend the meeting should contact the Admissions Director.

Documentation

The following documentation will be required at the time of registration:

- The child's Birth Certificate (The child must be five years of age by September 30th.)
- Baptismal Certificate, if applicable. (If baptized at Gesu, please provide the date.)
- · Immunization Records
- Legal Custody information (if applicable)
- · A recent Photograph of the child
- Registration Fee: \$125.00 (non-refundable if accepted)

Registration will be considered complete when all required information and documents have been submitted and the registration fee has been paid.

NEW SOCK AND UNDERWEAR DRIVE

Do you have sock and underwear drawers at home? The homeless don't. There are two main reasons socks and underwear are among the most valuable pieces of clothing to people without permanent housing. First, feet work overtime when there's no cozy home (and laundry room) to return to each night. The other reason is that socks and underwear are the most requested and least often donated or, when they are, they cannot be sanitized and put to use.

For our Corporal Works of Mercy, "Shelter the Homeless/Welcome the Stranger" focus during the month of January, we are collecting NEW socks and underwear for the Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry Men's Shelter, West Side Catholic Center, and Zelie's Home. All sizes for boys, girls, women and men are welcome. Diapers are underwear too. Thick, taller (not ankle), warm, non-colored socks are preferred, especially white tube socks, for winter. So please add socks, underwear and/or diapers to your shopping list and drop the packages off in the narthex bin.

BLOOD DRIVE



Gesu will be hosting the American Red Cross for a blood drive on Sunday, <u>January 10</u>, 8:30 am - 2:00 pm in McAuley Hall. They are in critical need of blood donations. Many people will benefit from your donation of this life-saving gift. Thank you.

Because of the pandemic, this will be done by appointment. Donors can sign up by going to:

RedCrossBlood.org and entering sponsor code:

GESU, or use the following link:

http://rcblood.org/34RKGOb

All blood is being tested for Covid-19 antibodies. Donors will receive their results through their blood donor app, or through a link emailed to the address they used to register at **RedCrossBlood.org**, seven days after donation.

The usual Covid protocols will be followed:

- Checking the temperatures of staff and donors before entering a drive.
- Providing hand sanitizer for use before the drive and throughout the donation process.
- Social distancing (3 to 6 feet) between donors including entry, donation and refreshment areas.
- Ensuring face masks or coverings are worn by all staff and donors.
- Routinely disinfecting surfaces, equipment and donor-touched areas.

STAY CONNECTED WITH OUR PARISH APP



Gesu has launched a parish app and it's a way to stay connected with us! This app allows you to be engaged, learn about upcoming events, receive important messages, grow your faith and much more.

To download the app to your smartphone or tablet,

simply go to the Apple App store (https://apple.co/3fLcN5e) OR Google Play store (https://bit.ly/32KuH46). Select WeConnect Parish App and, once open, choose Church of the Gesu. If you have any questions, please reach out to us at communications @churchofthegesu.org.

GESU SCHOOL RAFFLE



The annual Gesu School Raffle mailing has been sent to all parishioners. If you are interested in supporting our Blue Ribbon Catholic School, please return your ticket stubs with a check

payable to Gesu Catholic School. Your ticket(s) will be entered into the weekly drawing and will allow you a chance at all \$6,500 drawn throughout the year. Thank you for your support!

PARISH DIRECTORY

The 2020-2021 Gesu Directory is now available on our website. Visit **churchofthegesu.org** and select Gesu at a Glance / Resources / Parish Directory. It's a great resource for learning about all the different parish ministries and organizations. We have a limited number of printed copies. Please call the Parish Office if you'd like one.

RECYCLE YOUR OLD CHRISTMAS LIGHTS!



Gesu Boy Scout Troop 620 will once again collect and recycle nonworking strands of Christmas lights. There will be two containers placed near the white Donation Station in the Thompson

Parking Lot. The containers will be there beginning November 25 until January 10.

FAMILIES WITH MEMBERS OVER AGE 23

If someone in your family reaches age 23, our parish data system reclassifies him or her as an "adult" and changes member status to "inactive," meaning former parishioner. In other words, he or she will no longer be a registered parishioner at Gesu. At age 23 a family member needs to register as an individual on a new membership. Please have your adult child come to or call the parish office to complete a registration form.

FAITH DIRECT

So much is different this Christmas season, yet the focus and dedication of our parish ministries remains constant – as people in need throughout our community turn to Gesu Church for warm meals, comfort and shelter during the holidays, we must be there for them...which is why we are reaching out to our parishioners.

Your generous online donations are needed now to help sustain Christmas ministries that reflect the promise of God's love. The upheaval and distress caused by COVID-19 give these ministries added importance, and your kindness will help families all around us.

We prayerfully request that you consider signing up for eGiving from your computer, smartphone or tablet. You can set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/OH283, or text "Enroll" to (216) 930-2992.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

God Bless You, Fr. Kiser

HELP US UPDATE OUR RECORDS

Please help us update our database records. Does Gesu have your most current information? Please submit your name, address, cell phone and email to hwalter@churchofthegesu.org and we will update our files. If you have adult children or Gesu classmates that wish to update their records, please send their info along too! Thank you for keeping in touch!

TEXT TO GIVE

Giving to Church of the Gesu is easy with Faith Direct Text-to-Give. To give via text, follow these steps:

- 1. Text \$ amount to (216) 930-2992
- 2. Register your credit/debit card
- 3. Save this number as a contact in your phone to make future giving faster and easier.

All gifts are tax deductible and will be properly acknowledged by the Development Office. We are grateful for your support!

Monthly Offering Year-to-Date Offering 11/1/20 - 11/30/20 7/1/20 - 11/30/20 Sunday Offering \$88,787 \$361,210 Faith Direct \$43,617 \$207,153 Christmas \$1,425 Holy Days \$1,013 \$1,976

Total Continbutions	φ133,417	φ5/1,/04
Budget	\$121,500	\$526,250
Variance from Budget	\$11,917	\$45,514

Other Monthly Collections

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Honduras Mission	\$145	\$525
Food Fund	\$1,497	\$8,235
Corporal Works of Mercy	\$85	\$598
Fund for Gesu	\$6,500	\$21,537

Monthly Special Collections

Campaign for Human

Development \$257 \$257 Thanksgiving - SVDP \$1,274 \$1,274 Blanket Sunday \$125 \$226

AMAZON SMILE

Please consider shopping Amazon Smile today and support Gesu Church and School! Amazon Smile has the same great products and prices as Amazon with an added bonus - a portion of eligible purchases will be donated back to Gesu just by choosing Gesu Parish in University Heights as your preferred charity! Shop all year long on Amazon Smile and support Gesu. Share with your friends and family! Happy shopping at www.smile.amazon.com.



GESU BULLETIN

Bulletin Submissions

All information and materials for the bulletin should be emailed to bulletin@churchofthegesu.org by 5:00 pm nine days prior to publication. Submissions for the January 16/17 bulletin are due by Friday, January 8.

Advertising

To advertise in this bulletin, please call LPI at (800) 477-4574. Gesu Parish cannot endorse any business that sponsors an ad in the bulletin.









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to the future year. LOOKING BACK:

We must find the time to stop

and thank the people who

make a difference in our lives." John F. Kennedy

January is often considered the

month for deep reflection. We

look back at the year behind

us and then look forward

My sincerest thanks for all your good wishes, confidence in me and support in my business.

LOOKING FORWARD:

I wish you all much good health, success in your endeavors, happiness and bountiful blessings.

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