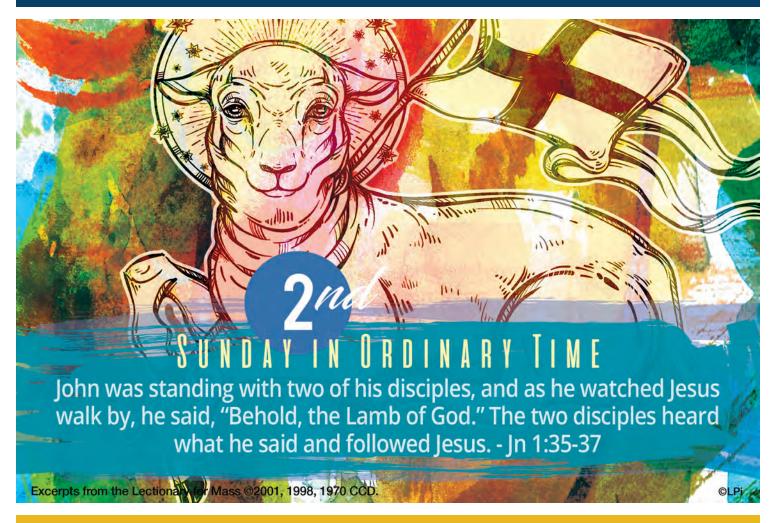




2470 Miramar Blvd., University Heights, OH 44118



#### 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, OSU**Parish 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.

# Note from the Pastor



**AMDG** 

Dear Gesu Community:

Happy New Year! I hope the Christmas break was refreshing for all of you.

As the saying goes, "all good things must come to an end." With that in mind, something really good is coming to an end. Miss lemmolo has asked for this year to be her last as Principal of Gesu School. I have accepted her request and we have decided that her retirement would begin at the end of this academic year.

As we all know, we have been so very blessed by her leadership these last seven years. In her tenure at Gesu, Miss Iemmolo has worked tirelessly to help Gesu to meet the challenges and demands of the future for our students. In that regard, she leaves here after putting Gesu in a great position to face the world that awaits our students. She has been a terrific leader and a loyal friend and colleague to all of us. We are deeply grateful for her dedication to our students and to all of us over the years. Let us use the coming months to show our gratitude for her dedication and leadership. We wish her the very best in retirement.

Transitions always raise questions of what comes next. In the next few days we will post for the position for a new Principal and we will put together a Search Committee that will vet resumes and conduct interviews to fill the Principal position. Our hope is to have someone selected by the end of March if not earlier.

Please keep Miss lemmolo and all of us in your prayers as we move forward to set the direction for Gesu's future.

God bless,

Karl J. Kiser, S.J.

#### 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





# This Week at Gesu

# **MONDAY** 1/18

Martin Luther King Jr. Day, No School

Mass......7:30 am - Church

### TUESDAY 1/19

Mass........7:30 am - Church
Women's Bible Study - Women of the Gospels............9:00-10:00 am - Zoom
RCIA......7:00-9:00 pm - Zoom

## WEDNESDAY 1/20

Mass......7:30 am - Church
Legion of Mary.....8:00-9:00 am - Church Narthex
First Communion Parent Mtg - PSR Families......7:00-8:00 pm - Zoom

### THURSDAY 1/21

Mass......7:30 am - Church
Gesu Book Club.....6:45-8:45 pm - Zoom
Preschool Information Night.......7:00-8:00 pm - Preschool Classroom

FRIDAY 1/22

Mass.....7:30 am - Church

## SATURDAY 1/23

## SUNDAY 1/24

Mass.....9:00 am & 11:00 am - Church



#### 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 usual 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**

#### **Edward Ditzel Jr.**

Father of Jason (Cynthia); Grandfather of Zach & Ava

#### **Arlene Swick**

Wife of Edward; Mother of Karen & Alan

#### **Terry Keenan**

Mother of Jackie Keenan (Jim Zippert); Grandmother of Kaz, Olivia, Zak & Zoe



#### **NEWLY BAPTIZED**

#### **Lucia Catherine Strano**

Daughter of Sam & Molly Strano

#### Collins Rose Tavernelli

Daughter of Matt & Nicole Tavernelli



# DEATH NOTICES ONLINE

Death notices for parishioners with links to full obituaries (if available) can be found on the Gesu website at www.churchofthegesu.org/death-notices.



#### 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.

O T /				
Susan Tate				
Heather Pederson				
Ellen Ferreri				
Barb Patterson				
Angela Donavan				
Sandy Bonnot				
Mary Jo Rourke				
Margaret Trenkamp				
Jacob Gordon				
George Martin				
Wayne Schmidt				
Stacey Kelly				
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				
Reilly G.				
,				
Baby Reese				

Tom
Therese Hummer
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
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Sylvia Flammini John Bastulli, Jr. Samone Dean Bill Kiser Carol Litovec Dale A. Scully Bradley "Gray" Gorman, Jr. Helen Joyce Rvan M. Michael Manuszak Marilyn Karlik Leah Baker Bernice Reed Bill Reale John Jackie Friend Danielle Goodridge Allen King y 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

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. Haaq

### 9 DAYS FOR LIFE NOVENA



Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual Respect Life novena, 9 Days for Life, on Thursday, January 21 - Friday, January 29. Following all 7:30 am weekday Masses and the 4:30 pm, 9:00 am and 11:00 am weekend Masses during this 9 day period, we will pray for the day's intention followed by a short reflection. For

those who cannot attend in person, sign up for daily intentions, brief reflections, and more at 9daysforlife.com. Help build a culture of life.

### DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN



This Friday, January 22, the Church in the United States observes the annual "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children." We are called to observe this day through prayer and penance. For information, go to repectlife.org/ january-22.

#### ANNUAL MASS FOR LIFE

The annual Cleveland Diocese Mass for Life will be held at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist on Friday, January 22, at 10:00 am. This will be a ticket-only event, but it will be live streamed on the Diocesan website (dioceseofcleveland.org) and aired on AM 1260 The Rock, both radio and website (am1260therock.com). Join us as we celebrate and respect life from the moment of conception until natural death. Please pray for The Culture of Life to permeate our country and world as we begin this new year! God Bless You.

#### MONTHLY ROSARY FOR LIFE

During Respect Life month, all are welcome to participate in the parish's monthly Rosary for Life on the morning of Wednesday, January 27, in the church. The rosary will be recited following the seventh installment of the 9 Days for Life novena (at the conclusion of the 7:30 am Mass). For more information about this annual U.S. bishops Respect Life novena, see the article concerning the same and/or visit 9daysforlife.com.

### PARISH MISSION/NOVENA OF GRACE -MARCH 4-12, 2021

Mark your calendars! Gesu will again present this annual series of Lenten speakers. Each evening will begin with a prayer service honoring Saint Francis Xavier in the main church at 7:00 pm. Watch for more information in the bulletin, on the website, and in Gesu eNewsletters. If you aren't receiving bi-weekly newsletters in your email inbox, please let us know that you wish to receive these and provide your correct email address.



#### & SCRIPTURE READINGS

#### **MONDAY 1/18**

Heb 5:1-10: Ps 110: Mk 2:18-22

7:30 am

Deceased Members of

Redman & Musel

Families

#### **TUESDAY 1/19**

Heb 6:10-20: Ps 111: Mk 2:23-28

7:30 am

John Sedlak

#### **WEDNESDAY 1/20**

Sts. Fabian & Sebastian

Heb 7:1-3, 15-17; Ps 110;

Mk 3:1-6

7:30 am **Eugene Palmore-Berry** 

#### THURSDAY 1/21

#### St. Agnes

Heb 7:25-8:6; Ps 40;

Mk 3:7-12

7:30 pm **Thomas Kennedy** 

#### **FRIDAY 1/22**

Day of Prayer for the Legal **Protection of Unborn Children** 

Heb 8:6-13: Ps 85:

Mk 3:13-19

Vivian Zaratsian 7:30 am

#### **SATURDAY 1/23**

Sts. Vincent & Marianne Cope

Heb 9:2-3, 11-14; Ps 47;

Mk 3:20-21

#### **SATURDAY VIGIL & SUNDAY 1/24**

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time** 

Jon 3:1-5, 10; Ps 25; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20

4:30 pm Patrick Durant 9:00 am Michael Supler Claudio Clazado 11:00 am

# FROM OUR HOUSE TO YOUR HOUSE Week of 1/17/21

**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 John 1:35-42. As Jesus passed by John the Baptist at the Jordan River, John remarked "Behold the Lamb of God." Some disciples standing nearby walked up to Jesus and began to follow him. They asked Jesus where he was staying and Jesus invited them to come and see. One of the disciples, Andrew, went to his brother Simon and declared that they had found the Messiah...the Christ. When Simon met Jesus, he was told "You are Simon...you will be called Cephas - which is translated Peter."

Pause a little,

**SHARE**: Use this thought or question for family sharing:

Encounters like these with John the Baptist, and then Jesus, changed lives. The desire to follow Jesus, to be curious about who he was and what he was about led many to consider following him. In this story, Peter was even given a new name, a name that would offer a glimpse into how God would use Peter one day to become the leader, or the rock, on which would be built the Church. Use your imagination and picture Jesus asking you "What are you looking for?" If it were you, how would you answer that question? Deep down, we place our needs before Jesus and invite him into our lives where he is needed most. Jesus gave Peter a new name... a name that means rock. Have you ever felt that Jesus has given you a name – a name that reflects how we are meant to be in this world at this time?

Perhaps it is "peacemaker" so you might help bring peace into the lives you touch. Or, "forgiver" so you might be open to forgive and to be forgiven. Think of some others or help others in your family to discover a new name.

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

We continue to pray for the sick, especially all those affected by COVID-19 and for their families. We re-

member all those who suffer from the cold or lack of housing in cold winter days and nights. The Corporal Work of Mercy for January is to shelter the homeless and welcome the stranger. How can your family keep this in mind? Decide on an action step. There are ideas on the Corporal Works of Mercy on page 9.

**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!

#### **NEW BIBLE STUDY**

Women of Gesu are invited to begin the New Year in a virtual Bible study on "Women of the Gospels, Missionaries of God's Love." The study guide can be ordered through Word Among Us or on Amazon. Zoom meetings will be held: January 12, 19, 26, February 2, 9, 16 and 23 from 9:00-10:00 am. Please email Deborah Bruening at **debbruening1@gmail.com** to register. We hope you can join us as we break open Sacred Scripture so God can reveal Himself and His will in our lives!

#### **IGNATIAN THREADS**

Today's Gospel from John 1:35-42 presents an invitation and inspires a response. Two disciples see Jesus walk by and remark: "Behold, the Lamb of God!" Then they follow him. Imagine you are among those who hear this pronouncement and then hear Jesus ask you the same thing he asked them: "What are you looking for?" Sometimes, it may be difficult to express what we are truly seeking; however, if we keep looking for what the "answers" might be through the lens of faith, our Lord will lead us to His viewpoint. These disciples were blessed to hear the voice of the Lord and they responded to follow Jesus in real time. Can we think of ourselves doing the same thing: following Jesus more closely in the real time of our everyday lives? Looking for what really matters? Responding wholeheartedly to the Lord's invitation and extending that invitation to others? It might be good to remember, and to prayerfully repeat, IGNATIAN today's responsorial psalm (#40): "Here am I, Lord, I come to do your Threads will."

#### **IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY FOR TODAY**



The passing of the old year and ringing in the new encourages us to ponder the ups and downs of our lives and those of others, especially those we know and love. Freelance writer Christian Lindner explores this reality through the well known song, Auld Lang Syne. How do memory

and gratitude, two essential characteristics of Ignatian spirituality and the entire Catholic Christian story, factor into this annual ritual? Read the following article to see the connection: americamagazine. org/voices/christian-lingner.

# JESUIT RETREAT CENTER: UPCOMING PROGRAMS

#### **January Morning Prayer for Women**

#### Monday, January 18, from 9:30-11:00 am

The Jesuit Retreat Center in Parma invites women from all walks of life to pray together and learn more about the beauty of prayer. Led by Sr. Mary Ann Flannery, S.C., this prayer group will refresh your spirit and help you find strength in regular prayer habits. Just bring your Bible and come as you are!

Cost is \$10 and includes coffee and pastry. Registrations are encouraged, but walk-ins welcome! For more information or to register, please visit www.jesuitretreatcenter.org/.

#### **Cinema and Conversation - The Visitor**

#### Monday, January 25 from 7:00-9:00 pm

Join us at Jesuit Retreat Center on the 4th Monday of each month for films that inspire and entertain. After each movie, there will be time for conversation and questions. We begin in January with the 2008 movie, *The Visitor*.

Due to COVID social distancing, please make a reservation and wear a mask. Cost: Free will offering.

The Jesuit Retreat Center is located at: 5629 State Road, Parma, OH 44134

# Surviving or Thriving: HOPE IN A TIME OF PANDEMIC

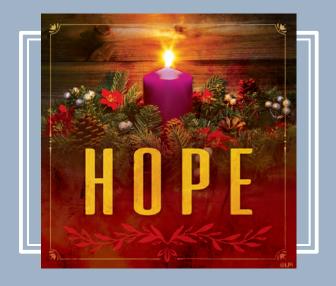
As we celebrate the ringing in of a New Year, few of us would have anticipated that our lives would continue to be besieged and turned upside down from a potentially deadly virus. Life in the midst of a pandemic has altered virtually every aspect of society. Every aspect of life has been impacted, including 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 "How Can I Show My Kids What It Means to Be Catholic When We Can't Go to Church?" at http://bit.ly/3pMkQDq



# CHILDREN'S CORNER

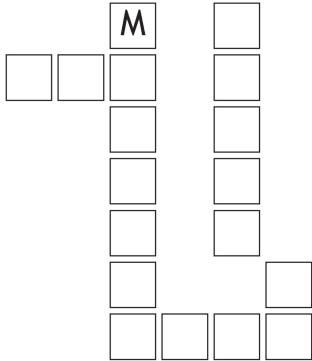
### SHARING THE GOSPEL

Mexican families share a special treat called a Kings' Cake on January 6th. Hidden inside the cake is one tiny little doll shaped like the baby Jesus. If you find Jesus in your piece of cake, you tell everyone. In today's Gospel, Andrew met Jesus for the first time. Andrew was so excited to find the Savior, he ran to tell his brother he had found Jesus.

#### **PUZZLE**

Fit the following Gospel message into the empty squares.

We have found the Messiah.





#### **PRAYER**

Jesus, help me tell my family and friends about you.

### **SOMETHING TO DRAW**

Draw a picture of yourself telling a friend about Jesus' love.

#### MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Ask your family if you could include Kings' Cake in your holiday celebrations next year.

# Shelter the Homeless and Welcome the Stranger

One of the ways our family has welcomed the stranger is through serving as licensed foster parents of school-aged children for the last six years. We strive to provide a safe, stable and loving home until reunification or permanent placement can be found. We try to not judge the birth parents and give them a chance to receive necessary help to overcome the problems that prompted their child's removal from their care. This has resulted in us fostering children and then becoming part of their extended family.

Admittedly, foster parenting can be hard. You may be surprised to know that most foster parents don't always find it "so rewarding," didn't necessarily feel a strong "calling" to do this work, and certainly aren't saints! Behaviors that we took for granted from our own children we raised from birth have been causes for celebration with some of our foster children. The weeks after bringing our own newborns home from the hospital were easier than the first months dealing with a scared, angry foster tween. But it is valuable work.

If you don't feel you can serve as a foster parent you can help in other ways. Foster children can be challenging, and foster parents can use short breaks and date nights. Offer to babysit. Offer to shop for items needed for the foster children. They are often dropped off with only the clothes they were wearing at school when the social worker took custody of them. Support Health and Human Services levies when they come on the ballot. Those tax dollars fund visitation drivers, afterschool and day care, counseling and many other valuable services that help foster parents do their work, but are the first services cut when funding is low. Encourage your children to be welcoming to any children suddenly placed in their school or neighborhood. There are many agencies looking for people to volunteer to mentor youths. Offer to drop off a meal to a foster family. Not only are they caring for their foster children, they're juggling visits and appointments with biological parents, case managers, resource managers, counselors, guardian ad litems, etc. which disrupt family routines and can make getting meals on the table difficult. It takes many people, inside and outside of a family, to raise a child. These children have the best shot at becoming healthy adults when the entire community takes an active role in contributing to their loving care.

- Amy Zucca

### 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 homeless, 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?

### **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.

#### MEN'S CLOTHING NEEDED

Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry Men's Shelter at 2100 Lakeside Avenue is in need of clothing donations. Men's clothing of all types - underwear, socks, pants, shirts, shoes and more, are all needed. Please drop off donations at the front of the church underneath the tables as you go in. If you prefer to have your items picked up, please call Carole Kealy at (216) 225-5142. Your help will really brighten the lives of these men.

# THEA BOWMAN CENTER THANK YOU!

As we begin a new year filled with hope for better things to come, we at Thea Bowman Center would like to express sincere gratitude to Church of the Gesu for financial assistance and volunteer support. Your partnership has been especially critical this past year. Special thanks to the volunteers who have faithfully brought a selection of delicious bread and rolls for folks who come to the food pantry. They can feel your love!

Going forward, our recently adopted mission statement will be our North Star: We Listen to the People of Mt. Pleasant, Learn, and Do What They Want and Need. Thank you for continuing this journey with us!

#### SEEKING VOLUNTEER GUARDIANS

Right now, some of the men and women with developmental disabilities don't have anyone to help them make important life decisions critical to their health and well-being during these difficult times. The Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities is currently recruiting Volunteer Guardians to make a real difference in someone's life. A Volunteer Guardian is a trained, caring advocate and substitute decision maker. They serve as the legally-appointed guardian for an adult with a developmental disability and act in the best interest of the assigned person, serving as an advocate in the care and management of the person's medical and personal affairs. Volunteer Guardians are appointed by our county probate court. Cuyahoga DD's general counsel guides Volunteer Guardians every step of the way - through the legal process, formal appointment and anytime there are questions. Contact Ashley Boyd at (216) 736.2722 or boyd.ashley@ CuyahogaBDD.org for more information.

Catholic Social Teaching & the Pandemic:

WEIGHING THE RESPONSE

The recent availability and distribution of two different COVID-19 vaccines in the United States has given citizens a reason to hope. Nonetheless, ethical questions regarding the vaccine have surfaced. For example, how can we ensure equitable distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine, not only in our nation but worldwide? What are the moral implications of receiving COVID-19 vaccines that were developed or tested using cell lines or tissue originating from aborted fetuses? What is our responsibility to the poor and most vulnerable of the world with regard to the vaccine? Explore the Catholic Church's

response to these questions and others based on a recent statement published by the Vatican's coronavirus commission and the Pontifical Academy for Life. Visit: http://bit.ly/3rJTvDH

FEATURED ARTICLE

#### MENTORING OPPORTUNITY

College Now Greater Cleveland, a local non-profit that helps students connect to postsecondary training, including college, is seeking volunteers for their mentoring program. College Now Greater Cleveland has worked to improve college access and attainment in greater Cleveland for over 50 years. For the last ten years, College Now has administered a Mentoring Program that matches their 2,000 college scholarship recipients with adults in the community who provide guidance and advice to students during their college years.

The Mentoring Program is a minimal investment of time for mentors – two emails per month, and three virtual meetings per year – but has wonderful results for students! Many of College Now's students are the first in their families to attend college, and all have demonstrated financial need. On average, 92% of mentored students returned to college for their sophomore year, and 72% of students in their pilot class graduated on-time with their degrees.

Additionally, there are benefits to partners. Employers value this program as a way to cultivate the next generation of employees and interns, as well as a team-building and service opportunity for staff. As an entirely online opportunity, the Mentoring Program offers volunteers the chance to make a real connection with a young person and have a true impact – all from home! If you are interested in finding out more information, please visit www.collegenowgc.org/become-a-mentor/.

## GESU PRESCHOOL 2021-2022 REGISTRATION



Please join us Thursday, <u>January 21</u>, at 7:00 pm in the Preschool classroom. 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.

#### **ANGEL TREE 2020 SUMMARY**



Dear Gesu parishioners,

Despite the overwhelming difficulties faced by everyone around the country and world due to the COVID-19 pandemic you once again managed to give a measure of love and caring to hundreds of individu-

als in our local communities. You accomplished this by joining with us in our first ever Virtual Christmas Angel Tree project.

The 2020 Gesu Christmas Angel Tree Project Committee is once again humbled by the generosity shown by the parishioners of the Church of the Gesu. This project has been an annual giving event at Gesu for well over 20 years.

A summary of your generosity for 2020 is as follows: 354 individuals within 99 families received beautifully wrapped gifts or gift cards. In addition, the Hattie Larlham Center received 14 much needed donations of supplies and gift cards for their residents. These individuals and families were connected to a total of eight local organizations, parishes, as well as identified individual families and some of our own parishioners experiencing hardships this year.

We collected gifts, gift cards and supplies for: AIDS Task Force; Cleveland Heights families; Hattie Larlham Center; "Individual Families;" Sagrada Familia; St. Jerome; St. Philomena; University Heights families.

I want to express sincere appreciation to the following Angel Tree Project Committee members for all of their hard work in helping to organize, collect and deliver your generous gift donations. All of the following people have been involved with the annual Angel Tree Project for many years: Debra Bruening, Juanita Cuervo, Angel Krsacok, Martha Maher, Beth Rinz & Susan Tate.

We also need to acknowledge and greatly thank the following individuals in our Gesu Parish center who made the ability to go to a completely on-line format possible, made certain it was publicized and insured social distancing drop-offs in McAuley Hall. Therese Blumenthal, Sr. Kathleen Flannery OSU, Amy Zucca & Brittany Lynch

Sincerely, Steve McDermott, Angel Tree Project Coordinator

#### **GESU SCHOOL RAFFLE WINNERS**

Congratulations to our December raffle winners: Carl Monastra, Marjorie Wiemels, Aurelie Sabol and our final winner of the year - Therese Drake. Thank you for supporting Gesu School!

#### 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!

#### **FAITH DIRECT**

This new year is filled with hope and promise – opportunities abound to grow our vital ministries, explore new ways to share the good news of Christ's love, and reflect His care and mercy to those in need throughout the community. To continue to make a difference in 2021, Gesu Church is reaching out to our parishioners.

Begin the new year with eGiving to help sustain and build ministries throughout 2021 that reflect the promise of God's love. The need is great in our community, and your generous online gifts will help people 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



### PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

The Diocese of Cleveland's "Protecting God's Children" program is a continuing effort to instruct and inform everyone about the protection of children from sexual abuse. To report any past or present suspected inappropriate behavior toward children by priests, deacons, religious, lay ecclesial ministers or personnel associated with the Church, please contact the Diocesan Response Service Office at (216) 334-2999 or via email at response\_services@dioceseofcleveland.org. You are also asked to immediately inform local authorities about inappropriate behavior.

#### 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.

### 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!

# $\mathcal{N}$

O November Collections				
	Monthly	Year-to-Date		
	Offering	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 Contributions	\$133,417	\$571,764		
Budget	\$121,500	\$526,250		
Variance from Budget	\$11,917	\$45,514		
Other Monthly Collections				
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 Collect	tions			
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.



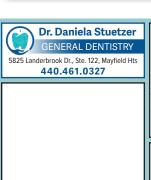
#### **GESU BULLETIN**

#### **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 30/31 bulletin are due by Friday, January 22.

#### **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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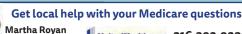
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4. Brighten Up - Keep curtain, blinds and shades open...let the sunshine in. Replace low watt and missing bulbs with bright ones.



5. De-Clutter - The less "stuff" you have the more space you'll have...organize... remove... donate or put in a closet or a drawer (see #6)



6. ...the Junk Drawer - You'll need a trash can, chair to sit on and an empty box or basket.
Throw away odd things (card decks with 37 cards), old keys, unidentifiable things. A basket or box is for the "I've been looking for that" to put where the "junk" really belongs!

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