



The Feast of the Ascension  
at Lancaster St Bernadette and Bremen St Mary

MAY 28, 2017

# St Bernadette Parish

1343 Wheeling Road NE (740) 654 • 1893  
LANCASTER, OH 43130-8701

# St Mary Parish

602 Marietta Street (740) 569 • 7929  
BREMEN, OH 43107

[stbernadetteparish . net](http://stbernadetteparish.net)

cover painting: **The Ascension**, a large one of a large series of frescos, painted by Giotto di Bondone (c. 1266-133)

*Arena Chapel, Cappella degli Scrovegni, Padua in Italy*

## our parishes

FATHER THOMAS KESSLER (614) 634-0499  
pastor [wnthomaskessler@icloud.com](mailto:wnthomaskessler@icloud.com)

### AT ST BERNADETTE PARISH

<http://stbernadetteparish.net>

MARK SCARPITTI (740) 438-3970  
deacon [dcn.mark@frontier.com](mailto:dcn.mark@frontier.com)  
JEFF CARPENTER (740) 681-9918  
deacon [carpenter.277@osu.edu](mailto:carpenter.277@osu.edu)  
ANN ESSMAN (740) 653-9347  
pastoral minister [aessman001@att.net](mailto:aessman001@att.net)  
STEVE HUBER (740) 654-3137  
facilities coordinator [shuber57@yahoo.com](mailto:shuber57@yahoo.com)  
LIZ LATORRE (740) 243-1872  
liturgical music [lizlаторre@gmail.com](mailto:lizlаторre@gmail.com)

*The St Bernadette Parish office* is in the Mary Good Center,  
across the back parking lot from the school.

Hours are: 9 AM-1 PM, MWThF, 11 AM-1 PM, Tu.  
1343 Wheeling Rd NE,  
Lancaster, OH 43130-8701 (740) 654-1893

### AT BREMEN ST MARY PARISH

BEN FACTOR  
liturgical music [b\\_factor@lancaster.k12.oh.us](mailto:b_factor@lancaster.k12.oh.us)  
JIM SCHMELZER (740) 215-3894  
maintenance chair  
TYNA FOX-SCHMELZER (614) 371-7702  
religious education

*The St Mary Parish office* is at the church vestibule.

Hours are 9-11 AM, Tu.  
602 Marietta St,  
Bremen, OH 43107 (740) 569-7929

### AT BOTH PARISHES

NIKKI SCHMELZER (740) 654-1893  
bookkeeper [businessmstbparish@yahoo.com](mailto:businessmstbparish@yahoo.com)  
KATHY KEHNAST (740) 654-1893  
pastoral coordinator [stbernaparish@yahoo.com](mailto:stbernaparish@yahoo.com)  
ANGIE & KENT KERNS (740) 654-2588  
religious education [kwkerns@gmail.com](mailto:kwkerns@gmail.com)  
JULIE & CHASE STALFORD (740) 808-7294  
youth ministry [maristellaspirt@gmail.com](mailto:maristellaspirt@gmail.com)

### AT ST BERNADETTE SCHOOL

PAM ELTRINGHAM [peltring@cducation.org](mailto:peltring@cducation.org)  
principal  
BARB HUBER [bhuber@cducation.org](mailto:bhuber@cducation.org)  
secretary

*Saint Bernadette School* is located at  
1325 Wheeling Rd, (740) 654-3137  
Lancaster, OH 43130-8701  
[www.stbernadetteschool.com](http://www.stbernadetteschool.com)  
[stbernlan@cducation.org](mailto:stbernlan@cducation.org)

## sacramental life

### BAPTISM

To have a child baptized, you must register and attend a class as a couple (unless attendance just isn't possible, in which case some discussion with Kathy Kehnast will be necessary). Sessions are held quarterly for both parishes. Try to take the class before the child is born. If you are expecting, call Kathy to register for the class.

Please don't ask if you "have to go." This is an opportunity to meet with parents of children about the same age as your little one; those parents are in the same wonderful boat as you are.

At least one parent must be a practicing Catholic. Both godparents need to be practicing Catholics. If you don't attend Sunday Mass regularly (a major component of being a practicing Catholic), there is something you can do about it: Start coming to Sunday Mass.

### PENANCE

The priest is available for Penance

- at St Bernadette Saturdays at 3 PM and Thursdays at 5:30 PM, and
- at St Mary Bremen on Sunday at 8 AM.

In addition to Advent and Lenten Penance Services, every Catholic priest is available whenever there is a need. There are Penance opportunities for parochial school children **four times during the year so that they will learn the beauty of frequent confession**. The Church's law requires us to receive the sacrament of Penance at least once a year.

### ANOINTING AND CARE OF THE SICK

The Sick receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick when dangerously ill, facing major surgery, or suffering from the ravages of old age. We celebrate the sacrament communally at a Sunday Mass before Advent and during the Easter season so that we can all pray with you for "health of mind and body."

And, we are happy to bring Penance, Anointing, and Holy Communion to the homes or hospitals of the sick or shut in. It is very helpful to call the parish office to let us know before a hospitalization or when it has been too long since the sacraments were last available.

### HOLY MATRIMONY

Couples wishing to marry should contact the parish office six months before they wish to celebrate the sacrament. Why so long? Because **this sacrament, not just the ceremony, requires serious preparation**. And the Church needs to be involved in that preparation.

Remember, Catholics who marry outside the Church have left the sacramental life and need to change that situation before receiving the other sacraments.

The Church wishes to support couples **through the years** of their married life. That's why our diocese offers programs to enhance married life. To learn about these programs, watch the weekly bulletin.

## praying with the Church

### at Mass today

Almighty ever-living God, who willed the Paschal Mystery to be encompassed as a sign in fifty days, grant that from out of the scattered nations the confusion of many tongues may be gathered by heavenly grace into one great confession of your name. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

### with the pope in may : for christians in africa

That Christians in Africa, in imitation of the merciful Jesus, may give prophetic witness to reconciliation, justice, and peace.

### with the pope in june : for national leaders

That national leaders may firmly commit themselves to ending the arms trade, which victimizes so many innocent people.

### the regina coeli

Queen of Heaven rejoice, alleluia:  
For He Whom you did merit to bear, alleluia,  
Has risen as He said, alleluia.  
Pray for us to God, alleluia.  
Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.  
For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

*Let us pray.*

O God, Who gave joy to the world  
through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,  
grant we beseech Thee, that  
through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His mother,  
we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.  
Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

### may is Mary's month

Mary is the mother par excellence! She is the Mother of God and our Mother. Making May her month is a fairly modern step; it isn't found in the ancient liturgical calendars. But if you were casting around for a time to celebrate a month for Mary, May would be a good choice. It is a beautiful month. Winter is decidedly over, the fields and trees are green, lots of flowers are in bloom, cattle are back in the fields. It is **a month of new life and of hope**. That fits.

### God's word ... at sunday Mass

<i>Sunday, May 28,</i>	Acts 1:1-11	Psalms 47
<i>Ascension of the Lord</i>	Eph 1:17-23	<b>Matt 28:16-20</b>
<i>Sunday, June 4,</i>	Acts 2:1-11	Psalms 104
<i>Pentecost Sunday</i>	1 Cor 12:3-13	<b>John 20:19-23</b>

#### ... during the week

<i>Mon, May 29</i>	Acts 19:1-8	Ps 68	<b>John 16:29-33</b>
<i>Tues, May 30</i>	Acts 20:17-27	Ps 68	<b>John 17:1-11</b>
<i>Weds, May 31</i>	Zep 3:14-18	Is 12	<b>Luke 1:39-56</b>
<i>Thurs, June 1</i>	Acts 22:30-23:11	Ps 16	<b>John 17:20-26</b>
<i>Fri, June 2</i>	Acts 25:13-21	Ps 103	<b>John 21:15-19</b>
<i>Sat, June 3</i>	Acts 28:16-31	Ps 11	<b>John 21:20-25</b>

### let us adore Him

Spend a **holy hour** with our Lord in the presence of his Blessed Sacrament in either of our parish churches. Or spend a **few holy minutes**. We try to keep both churches open all through the daylight hours. Anybody can come, any time. Perhaps you could.

### the feast days this week

May 31 The Visitation of the **Blessed Virgin Mary**  
June 1 Saint **Justin**, martyr  
June 2 Saints **Marcellinus and Peter**, martyrs  
June 3 Saint **Charles Lwanga and Companions**, martyrs

## in both parishes

### baptism preparation class

The next Baptism Preparation Class is scheduled for Wednesday, June 7, at 7 PM in the Mary Good Center. Please call the office if you plan to attend.

### may she rest in peace

In your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of Diana Harris whose funeral was Monday at St Bernadette. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

### christian initiation

Keep praying all through the Easter season for the new members of the household of faith, **Ralph Mohler** and his son **Bryant** of Bremen St Mary, and **Jennifer Palmer** of St Bernadette. They were baptized and confirmed and received Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil at St Bernadette Parish at the Great Easter Vigil liturgy of the Lord's Resurrection. And pray for **Dick Usilton** of St Bernadette Parish who made a profession of his Catholic Faith, was confirmed, and received Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday. His sacramental reception was different because he was already a baptized Christian. Please welcome all of our new members. And please be thinking now about **who you are going to invite to join the Church in the coming year**.

### baby bottles

Participate in the PDHC's **Baby Bottle Campaign** by collecting your loose change **from Mother's Day to Father's Day** to help local parents and would-be parents in need. Spare change from baby bottles goes a long way to continue offering free pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, material assistance and life-affirming programs to strengthen families. Grab a bottle and bring it back on Father's Day. Let us give thanks to our father and mother for choosing life and help a local family do the same.

### strengthening the church at home

Next Sunday, we will take up the Catholic Home Missions Appeal collection. Today over 40 percent of dioceses in the US are considered home missions because they are unable to fund essential pastoral work needed in their communities. Your support of this appeal helps ease the struggle of these dioceses. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this appeal. Information can be found at [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).

### take a fresh look at your marriage

Treat yourselves to a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and enrich your lives together. Marriage Encounter is 44 hours where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones—and focus only on each other. The next weekend is Sept 15-17 in central Ohio. For information or to apply, contact Paul & Marilou Clouse at (614) 834-6880 or visit [www.wmwecolumbus.org](http://www.wmwecolumbus.org).



## envelopes for youth

Children and youth have *a responsibility to support the Church*. Most of them don't have access to much money (or do they?), so their contributions are necessarily small. But this is the time to teach them their responsibility. Contribution envelopes are ready to be picked up in the school vestibule at St Bernadette and the main entry vestibule of St Mary.

## vacation church school

St Mary's Vacation Church School happens this summer at Schmelzer's Grove on the evenings of June 26-30. Catholic children from both parishes are invited, no make that urged, to attend. And so are any of their friends in other parishes. Anyone interested in helping should contact Angie Kerns at (740) 654-2588.

## catholic communication campaign

The CCC helps spread the Good News to you – and focuses on new and existing ways to communicate Jesus' gospel message, making it available to both the faithful and those seeking the faith. The CCC supports both national and diocesan communication efforts that provide news, discussions, and special events and programs. Thank you for your generosity in last week's collection that supports this important work.

## blood drive thank you

Thanks to all who donated the gift of life at our blood drive on Saturday. We collected 28 units of blood, which can save up to 84 lives. We are entering the summer months when blood use is high and donor activity is low. The next drive at St B will be Saturday, July 22, from 9 AM-2 PM. If you are able, please make an appointment to donate blood. Our area donates about 8000 units per year and FMC uses about that amount, so we need it right here in Fairfield County. Many thanks to all who donated as well as to the super volunteers who always make things run smoothly.

## ministry at Mass at st bernadette

	lector	servers	extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion
<b>Saturday, 4:00 PM</b>	Jennifer Spiegel	Gus & Olivia Spiegel, Cady Tipple	Terry Carpenter Rosalie DeFillippo Susan Garrett Marguerite Grimm Craig Shaw Kathy Wagner
<b>Sunday, 11:00 AM</b>	Scott Wood	Anna Hartig, Samantha Kerns, Addy Myers	John & Teresa Hartig Tara Craaybeek Patricia Dreyer Patrick Gins Ben Peters
Monday, 8:20 AM	Mary Jane Vajen	Gunner & Amelia Robinson	Patricia Dreyer Kathy Kehnast
Wednesday, 8:20 AM	Bob Christy	Diana & Sarah Woo	Angie Christy Mary Jane Vajen
Thursday, 7:00 PM	Tara Craaybeek	Clara Craaybeek, Sam Frazier, Samantha Kerns, Logan & Tori Loy	Deacons will assist Terry Carpenter Rosalie DeFillippo Marguerite Grimm Angie Kerns
Friday, 8:20 AM	Jim Merk	Joey Mannella, Silus Hopkins	Jim & Rita Merk
Saturday, 9 AM	Kara Tencza	Jack Tencza	Jim & Rita Merk
<b>next Saturday, 4:00 PM</b>	Brad Rider	Abby, Mary & Sam Frazier	Joyce Guenther Lee Guinan Jim & Becky Kuhn Denise McGuire Shelia Taylor
<b>next Sunday, 11:00 AM</b>	Terry Carpenter	Ashlyn & Brennan Quaintance, Daniel Turner	Jim & Rita Merk Teresa Scarpitti David Shonk Becky Wickham Amy Woo

## at st mary parish

### memorial day at sacred heart cemetery

We will celebrate **Mass at 10:30 AM on Memorial Day, May 29, at Sacred Heart Cemetery**, a few miles south of Bremen. This is in keeping with a long-standing tradition of worship at that place, the site of the original churches of our predecessor parish, Sacred Heart in Geneva. Mass has been celebrated there, more or less frequently, since the mid-1850s. Many of our ancestors or loved

## at st bernadette parish

### Mass intentions at st bernadette

Monday, May 29 8:20 AM John "JJ" McGee  
 Wednesday, May 31 8:20 AM Louise Young  
 Thursday, June 1 7 PM for those to be confirmed  
 Friday, June 2 8:20 AM Paul Gallagher  
 Saturday, June 3 9 AM Edith & Lee Guinan

The Church requires the pastor to offer Sunday Mass for good of the people of the parish.

### a new teacher for st bernadette school

St. Bernadette School is accepting resumes for a **third-grade** teaching position, to begin the 2017-2018 school year. The candidate must

- be a practicing Catholic, well versed in the Catholic Faith;
- hold an appropriate Ohio teaching license (1-8, K-8, K-3; professional, provisional, permanent, or resident educator) or be eligible to obtain one by Aug 2017;
- have current BCI&I and FBI background checks;
- have attended or be willing to attend a VIRTUS Protecting God's Children Safe Environment seminar;
- completed the online teaching application for the Diocese of Columbus.

Contact Principal Pam Eltringham by e-mailing resume and letter of interest to peltring @ cdeducation . org.

ones are buried there; still more have received the sacraments there over the past 160-some years. You don't have to have relatives associated with Sacred Heart to join us for the Mass. You just have to have loved ones **buried somewhere**. It wouldn't hurt to come if you have someone who died in the service of our country whom you wish to memorialize on Memorial Day. And it is a good idea to bring a folding lawn chair.

As usual, there is a fallback location for Mass in case of inclement weather. If it is really bad, we will meet at the pavilion at Schmelzer's Grove.

## summer square dances

Summer means square dancing at Schmelzer's Grove. Mark your calendars on the Sunday evenings of June 11, July 9, and Aug 13 from 7-9:30 PM. Admission is \$4 per person.

## st vincent de paul at bremen

For people in a financial jam, the season of need seems to go on throughout the year. So, the St Vincent de Paul Society in Bremen takes up a **collection after Mass on the first Sunday** of every

month. **New members** are always welcome. For information, call Angi Skinner at (740) 438-0027.

## Mass intention at st mary

The Church requires the pastor to offer Sunday Mass for good of the people of the parish. Tuesday morning Mass will be celebrated for Shirley Kessler Hart.



## sunday at Mass at bremen st mary

	lector	servers	extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion	gifts	sacristan / usher
<b>Sunday 8:30 AM</b>	Linda Qualls	Sydnee Rogers, Nicole Terry	Dismas Schmelzer, Jim Schmelzer, Angi Skinner	Catherine Noll April Schmelzer	Jim Schmelzer
<b>next Sunday</b>	Jeanne Schmelzer	Brooke Holt, Jillian Wilkinson	Tyna Schmelzer-Fox, Joe & Cathy Young	Maurice Schmelzer family	Joe Young

## in the deanery

### deanery Corpus Christi celebration at bremen st mary

A deanery-wide Corpus Christi celebration will be held on the feast of Corpus Christi, Sunday, June 18, from 1-4 PM **at St Mary Church, Bremen**. The deacons of the deanery and St Mary Parish invite everyone to attend this celebration of the most generous gift God has given to his Church. The program is simple: exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, readings and reflections, with a Eucharistic procession, rosary, and Benediction. Please be sure to pray with us for some or all of that Sunday afternoon.

### lay people meet religious life

Do you desire a stronger sense of community and prayer? Do you find yourself asking how you can develop **more of a consistent quiet time with God**? Can you have more of a monastic way of life and keep your day job? What is **the difference between a lay Franciscan, Benedictine, Dominican, Cistercian and Carmelite** anyway? **How does God desire you and your family to order your lives?** Come and **learn about the opportunities** to join lay associates and oblates from the Columbus and Lancaster area. Discover if God may be drawing you to him through a deeper connection with one of these lay orders. This presentation will be held from 7-9 PM on Wednesday, June 21, at the Spirit Center of St Mary Parish in Lancaster. Refreshments will be provided. Contact Lisa for information at [lmreshad@gmail.com](mailto:lmreshad@gmail.com).

### irish alumni golf

**Alumni of St Mary, Bishop Fenwick and Fisher Catholic High Schools** will play golf at **Pleasant Valley Golf Course**, Coonpath Rd, on Saturday, June 10, at 9 AM. Cost is \$150 per team, with a 3-player scramble format. Send your check, payable to **A One Events**, to: A One Events, Box 961, Lancaster, OH 43130. Be sure to include player names, class year, email or phone. For information contact Mike Wolshire at (740) 687-0055 or [mike@miller-lewis.com](mailto:mike@miller-lewis.com).

## in the diocese of columbus

### catholic men's luncheon

The next Catholic Men's Luncheon Club will feature a talk by historian Ed Quickert. Join them on Friday, June 2, at St Patrick

Church in downtown Columbus for Ed's talk, "**The History of the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club**." Mass is at 11:45 AM and will be followed by lunch and Ed's talk until about 1 PM. Reservations aren't needed; \$10 covers lunch and the meeting. Bring a friend.

June's luncheon is sponsored by **Angels Nurture & Disciple (AND, Inc.)** which is an organization that seeks **to inspire, empower, and facilitate significant improvement in the educational, career, financial, and spiritual well-being of single mothers who have chosen life for their child**. AND, Inc. fills a void for the single mothers who our culture seems to have forgotten by creating an environment in which they can thrive. For information about Angels Nurture & Disciple, go to [www.angelsand.org](http://www.angelsand.org) contact Tim Welsh at (614) 419-6985 or [tim@angelsand.org](mailto:tim@angelsand.org).

A reminder, there will be no luncheon in July and August. The next CMLC will be Sept 1. For information on Catholic Men's Luncheon Club, visit [www.catholicmensministry.com/cmlc](http://www.catholicmensministry.com/cmlc) or contact Tim Merkle, CMLC President at [htm@ejhlaw.com](mailto:htm@ejhlaw.com).

### project DAWN

It is no secret that there has been an overwhelming surge in opiate overdoses and fatalities within our communities. Mount Carmel Outreach and the Mount Carmel Mobile Medical Coach have joined forces with Project **DAWN (Deaths Avoided With Naloxone)**, a community-based overdose education and Narcan (naloxone) distribution program. The Project DAWN program provides Narcan kits free-of-charge to those without health insurance and limited financial means. Narcan is a safe medication that can reverse an overdose caused by prescription pain medication or heroin and save lives. For information, call (614) 546-4200.

### may is mental health month

One out of every four families experience mental illness. The National Catholic Partnership on Disability offers **parish resources on mental health**. Prayers, background information, and parish tools can be found at <http://www.ncpd.org/ministries-programs/specific/mentallillness>.

### face forward

Developed for the **Vocations Office** of the Columbus Diocese, Face Forward app contains valuable information for Catholics right at their fingertips. It includes such features as the **verse of the day, pray for priests, care for the common home, saint of the day and the Face Forward blog**. Face Forward give young folks something

meaningful to read when they power up. Discerning what God is calling you to do can be a long journey full of many questions. **Having easily accessible information is invaluable to the discernment process.** This new app provides just that. Face Forward will continue to add fresh and relevant content to the app daily with the goal of getting users to come back each day for new offerings. With the repeat visits and usage of the app, the hope is that users will gain more love, knowledge and understanding about the Catholic faith and **clarity about what God is calling them to do.** Face Forward is a program of the Office of Vocations that allows for interaction with the youth in the Columbus Diocese and provides platforms for communication, events and opportunities to learn more about the Catholic faith and a life in vocations. There are currently over 12,000 people within the Face Forward community. For information about the Face Forward App, contact Anne Harkin at (614) 787-2377 or [anne.harkin@mj2marketing.com](mailto:anne.harkin@mj2marketing.com).

### marriage preparation volunteers

Looking for a way to serve in 2017? Engaged couples in our diocese need your help. Volunteer to serve on the diocesan **Marriage Preparation Team** as a speaker and presenter. Present virtues-based topics to engaged couples preparing for the Sacrament of Matrimony. **If you are currently married, and have wisdom and experience to share,** you already qualify. For information, contact Kathleen Hall at [khall@columbuscatholic.org](mailto:khall@columbuscatholic.org) or (614) 241-2560.

### bulletin deadline

**Bulletin notices** must be to the parish office by 9 am on the Friday that is one week prior to the Sunday you wish your notice to appear. For example, bulletin notices for the June 18 bulletin are due by 9 am on Friday, June 9.

**Mass announcements** (when these are really necessary) must be given to the parish office by 9 am on Friday.

### diocesan senior citizens celebration

On Tuesday, June 6, **senior citizens will be honored** at St Joan of Arc Church in Powell. Bishop Campbell will celebrate Mass at 10:30 AM, and a luncheon will follow. Registration is \$10; send a check payable to the Office for Social Concerns, Catholic Diocese of Columbus, 197 E Gay Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. For information, call (614) 241-2540 or email [socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org](mailto:socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org). Registrations are needed by June 1.

### jubilee of anniversaries 2017

This celebration will be Sunday, June 25, at St Matthew Parish in

Gahanna. Bishop Campbell will celebrate Mass at 2:30 PM, and an informal reception will follow. Parishioners celebrating **signify-cant wedding anniversaries** (25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 35<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 45<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 55<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup>, and any year thereafter) are invited. For questions, call the Marriage & Family Life Office at (614) 241-2560. RSVP by June 16.

## the bishop's annual appeal

### Bishop's Annual Appeal 2017

**"LIVING THE GOSPEL IN FAITH, HOPE, AND CHARITY"**

The Bishop's Annual Appeal **has begun at St Bernadette and at St Mary.** It's time for us to do what we can to support the programs and ministries that benefit both our parishes and the wider community. The Appeal **supports our parish schools of religion and the education of our future priests and deacons, and many families in need of our help.** Your gift and your prayers will help to make this year's appeal a success. Here are the goals, the amounts we have been asked to raise:

Diocesan goal	\$ 6,500,000
St Mary Parish	\$ 12,443
St Bernadette Parish	\$ 42,210

Every contribution counts; every dollar that we raise over the stated goal will be returned to our parishes to benefit our communities directly. Last year St Bernadette pledged slightly over and collected slightly under the goal. Bremen St Mary pledged well over the goal and has received the rebate of \$4,947 from the diocese. So we know we can do this if, after thoughtful consideration and prayer, every one of us gives according to our ability. We are blessed with much; let us remember the needs of others.

### baa prayer

Heavenly Father, we are always thankful for all you have given us. We are especially grateful that you have sent to us your Son to be our Savior. That is the true Good News: that you love us and call us to yourself. Help us to live this Good News, this Gospel, in Faith, Hope, and Charity. Help us to respond generously to your love by sharing our material blessings for the good of all in our diocese. Send your Spirit to dwell in our hearts, so that all we do may give praise and honor to your name. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



confessions & weekday Mass nearby			These times sometimes change, though, so be sure to call ahead!				
	Bremen St Mary	Lancaster St Bernadette	Lancaster St Mary	Lancaster St Mark	Sugar Grove St Joseph	Circleville St Joseph	Logan St John
Monday		8:20 AM	7 AM	8 AM	8 AM	9 AM	8 AM
Tuesday	8:20 AM		9 AM	8 AM	NOON	7 AM	8 AM
Wednesday		8:20 AM	7 AM	6 PM	6:30 PM	9 AM	9 AM
Thursday		6 PM	9 AM	8 AM	NOON		
Friday		8:20 AM		8 AM	8 AM	9 AM	8 AM
Saturday		1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday only 9 AM Mass				10 AM	9 AM
confessions	Sunday @ 8AM	Thursday @ 5:30 PM Saturday @ 3 PM & @ 8:30 AM on 1st Saturday only	Saturday @ 4 PM	Saturday @ 5:30 PM	½ hour before Mass	Saturday @ 4 PM	Saturday @ 4 PM

# A Pentecost Gift

The Church has begun a time of special prayer to conclude the Easter season. In fact, this Easter season began nearly three months ago when Lent reminded us to prepare for our renewal in the new life of grace in Baptism. At Easter, we celebrated that sacrament and the life it began in us.

Today we rejoice in the day of **the Ascension of Jesus into heaven** (an observance which has been translated from the fortieth day after Easter in sad expectation that we were no longer willing to observe a holy day of obligation on a weekday). At the Ascension, the rising of Jesus becomes complete: The Lord has risen and has gone on rising—into the glory of the heavenly Father. He is the Lord and he reigns at the right hand of the Father. But there is more than that: As always when we celebrate the awesomeness of the Lord's mysteries, there is something to learn and to celebrate about us poor human beings. He said that he does not leave us orphans; that he goes to prepare a place for us, that where he is there we can also be.

During the season of Easter, the daily Bible readings have been taken from the Acts of the Apostles and the Gospel of St John. Acts is a wonderful adventure story set in the days and years following the Church's birth at Pentecost. It is interesting that **we prepare for Pentecost by looking at the things that happened in the Church after Pentecost**. And we have been reading in John from the words of Jesus about being born again (in Baptism, John 3), about eating the Bread of Heaven (in the Eucharist, John 6), and about the future (at the Last Supper, John 13-17, the longest description of the Last Supper, which surprisingly doesn't speak at all of the Eucharist, which had already been covered in chapter 6).

So the Word of God has been taking us on **a tour of the dynamic new life the Church led in the aftermath of the gift of the Holy Spirit** and, at the same time, **letting us listen in on the intimate words of Jesus about the longer term destiny of those who have been touched by his life and who will be touched by his Spirit**.

Jesus' reflective Last Supper words and Peter's and Paul's exciting missionary words have all been about the new life, begun in the two great sacraments (baptism and confirmation) and to be fulfilled when we go to the place he has gone to prepare for us—with God, who wants to share his divinity with us. Wow!

The days **between** the Feast of the **Ascension** and the Feast of **Pentecost**, whether they add up to **a novena** or just to a week, are a time to reflect on **the gift of the Holy Spirit**, the Comforter, whom he has promised to send upon us. Now, reflecting, for Christians, doesn't mean nostalgically recalling something that happened long ago and far away, as though the gift was a momentary thing that is now in the past. The sacramental gifts, all of them, are **gifts that go on giving**, that are very much alive today. So I can think of the gift of the Holy Spirit not merely as that mighty wind and those tongues of fire at Jerusalem about one thousand nine hundred and seventy some years ago. Nor is it just the day Bishop Hettinger confirmed me and a horde of young baby boomers, almost sixty years ago. Those were indeed great moments. But it is **a gift that is fiery to this very day**. It is a hot ember that must be stirred into flame ... over and over again, for the rest of my life.

It is a very good thing that both our parishes will welcome Bishop Campbell this Thursday at St Bernadette Church to bring the gift of the Holy Spirit to our eighth-grade youngsters and a few others. He will lay hands upon all the candidates in silence (by extending his hands over them). Then he will pray:

All-powerful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
by water and the Holy Spirit you freed your sons and daughters from sin and gave them new life.  
Send your Holy Spirit upon them to be their Helper and Guide.  
Give them **the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of right judgment and courage,  
the spirit of knowledge and reverence.**

Fill them with **the spirit of wonder and awe in your presence**. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Each sponsor will present each candidate by placing his or her right hand on the young person's shoulder. When the bishop anoints their heads with the perfumed oil of Chrism, the baptized receive the indelible character, the seal of the Lord, together with the gift of the Holy Spirit that conforms them more closely to Christ and gives them the grace of spreading "the sweet odor of Christ." He will dip his right thumb in the Chrism and make the sign of the cross on the forehead of the one to be confirmed, as he says:

(Name), **be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.**

The newly confirmed will answer: **Amen.**

The bishop will say: **Peace be with you.**

The newly confirmed will say: **And with your spirit.**

When the Church **says her Pentecost prayers, her Holy Spirit prayers**, she uses **the language of "kindling."** Of course. The Letter to the Hebrews (12:29) says that "Our God is a consuming fire." This week pray for a rekindling into flame of that fire that is within you so that you can be alive with the Spirit of God. Pray with your family, however briefly that must be. After the blessing before meals (families have to eat together at least once in awhile!), try the brief Pentecost prayer below. It is a prayer the Lord will answer.

— *Father Kessler*

V. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of thy faithful,    R. and kindle in them the fire of thy love.  
V. Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created:    R. and you will renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray: O God, who have taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit,  
grant that by the gift of the same Spirit we may be always truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolation.  
Through Christ our Lord. + Amen.

**R. N. SMITH, INC.**  
PLUMBING, HEATING  
& AIR CONDITIONING  
1312 Campground Rd.  
653-5011

**Homeinstead**  
SENIOR CARE *It's not just a service...*  
654-4250  
www.homeinstead.com/763  
Erica Blosser, RN

**Pacer's**  
Italian Steakery Restaurant  
111 SOUTH MAIN ST., PLEASANTVILLE  
Party Room  
& Catering  
Weddings & Rehearsal  
Dinners  
Open for Lunch: Sunday: 11a-2p/4-9p  
Monday-Thursday: 11a-2p/4-10p  
Friday & Saturday: 11a-2p/4-11p  
www.pacersitalian.com

**FRANK E. SMITH FUNERAL HOME**  
PRE-NEED MONUMENTS  
TRUST  
Mike LeMay  
www.FuneralHome.com

**STEPHEN L. HUTCHESON, D.D.S.**  
OFFICE HOURS BY APPT.  
1320 E. MAIN ST.  
654-8445

**AlternaCare**  
Home Health Services, Inc.  
740-653-2224  
Diane Flowers-Stuckey, RN, BSN

**Pizza Crossing**  
"The Best Pizza...  
Period!!!"  
681-9889  
www.pizzacrossing.com

**SIEMER DIST. CO., INC.**  
Meats - Cheese Distributors  
Buckeye Ice  
New Lexington 342-3230

**JOOS OPTICAL, INC.**  
402 N. Memorial Drive Lancaster, Ohio 43130  
654-2527

**NOLL'S PLUMBING** JEFF NOLL  
Owner  
YOUR PROFESSIONAL  
FULL SERVICE PLUMBER  
740-687-8073  
Residential Commercial  
nojobplumbing@outlook.com

**JIM FOX**  
State Farm Insurance  
Auto, Home, Life, Health & Business  
jimfox@statefarm.com State Farm  
121 W. Sixth Avenue  
687-5545

**BAY FOOD MARKET**  
Lancaster's Only Home-Style Market  
740-653-9606  
bayfoodmarket.com Become our fan on Facebook!  
We offer free delivery within Lancaster city limits on orders of \$25+

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING  
Joe Barrows  
130 W. Chestnut Street  
740-653-6987 • joebarrows@edwardjones.com  
John J. Kelley, AAMS  
800 N. Broad Street  
740-653-5302 • johnkelley@edwardjones.com

**Lancaster Animal Clinic**  
Neil B. Botham, D.V.M. • Tracy R. Ball, D.V.M.  
Jim R. Fultz, D.V.M. • Shannon L. Moore, D.V.M.  
PET ANIMAL MEDICINE • X-RAYS • SURGERY  
M-F 9a-7p BOARDING • GROOMING  
Sat. 9a-1p 687-1591  
1311 River Valley Blvd  
lancaanimalclinic.com

**TRADERS Cafe**  
416 N. Columbus Street, Lancaster, OH  
Monday-Friday, 6a-9p; Saturday, 6a-2p  
Closed Sunday  
Carry-out Available 653-5255

**ORTHODONTICS**  
ANDREW M. GOMOR, D.D.S., M.S., M.C.  
131 West Wheeling St., Lancaster  
740-654-8030  
1-877-626-2626

**GAS FOOD & DRINKS**  
**ONE STOP crossing**  
20 LOGAN TOWNVILLE RD. NE, BESSENER, OH  
740-569-4237

**DAGGER, JOHNSTON, MILLER, OGIIVIE & HAMPSON** ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
Brian D. Shonk, *Parishioner* 653-6464  
144 E. MAIN STREET • www.daggerlaw.com

**Garry D. Boyd, D.D.S.**  
**Julie Messerly, D.D.S.**  
127 W. Sixth Ave.  
687-4484

**BUCKEYE**  
Honda • Toyota  
WWW.BUCKEYECARS.COM

Serving Lancaster & Fairfield County Since 1903  
Brian Sheridan  
Thomas Theller II  
Mike Sheridan  
Jack Grein  
**SHERIDAN**  
Funeral Home Co.  
Custom Designed Funerals •  
Pre-Arrangement • Monuments  
222 South Columbus Street, Lancaster, OH 43130  
740-653-4633

**St. Vincent DE PAUL STORE**  
653-6037  
424 E. Locust St., Lancaster  
svdplancasterohio.org

**Sparks Family Chiropractic, Inc.**  
740-689-1175  
Drs. Robert & Laura Sparks  
Bring in all tax records, credit reports, commission and savings for 837!  
This offer does not include treatment  
Serving Lancaster for 17 years  
365 E. Main St., Lancaster

**PINK CRICKET RESTAURANT**  
509 E. Main Street, Lancaster, OH  
740-653-7300  
Monday-Saturday: 11a-1a  
Dine in • Carry out  
Like us on Facebook  
for Special Discounts

**ASK**  
2525 Columbus-Lancaster Road, NW  
654-3456

**MORRIS VETERINARY CLINIC** Robert Guinan, D.V.M.  
John Hartig, D.V.M.  
Teresa Hartig, D.V.M.  
Allison Murray-Bowman, D.V.M.  
1610 Sheridan Dr., Lancaster, OH 43130  
Office: 740.653.4084 • Fax:740.654.114  
www.morrisvetclinic.com

**Chuck Stowe REALTOR®**  
Office: (614) 868-8200  
Cell: (740) 901-1633  
charlesstowe@howardhanna.com  
10020 Blacklick Eastern Rd.  
Pickerington, OH 43147  
www.howardhanna.com

**St. Vincent DE PAUL STORE**  
653-6037  
424 E. Locust St., Lancaster  
svdplancasterohio.org

**BOYDEN**  
RENOVATIONS  
614.801.5600 • FREE ESTIMATES  
www.boydenrenovations.com

**Martin PAINTING & COATING CO.**  
614-875-8733  
JohnMartin@MartinPainting.com

**CRESTVIEW REHAB & SKILLED NURSING**  
Physical • Occupational • Speech  
Aquatic • Cardiac Rehab  
**Crestview**  
(740) 654-2634 • www.crestviewrehab.com

**Fairfield Pulmonary**  
Schedule an appointment today!  
**CRITICAL CARE ASSOCIATES**  
(740) 689-6833  
Dr. James Bruce, Dr. Christian Torcoza, Dr. Andrew Trethewey and Ginger Davis, C.N.R.

**BOYDEN**  
RENOVATIONS  
614.801.5600 • FREE ESTIMATES  
www.boydenrenovations.com

**Fairfield Federal Savings and Loan**  
653-3863  
Member FDIC

**Morgan Funeral Home**  
"A life lived is a life worth remembering."  
740-669-4155 • 124 Fort St., Bessemer  
www.MorganFuneralHomeOhio.com  
Mark & Sherri Morgan, Owners

**BOB-BOYD AUTO FAMILY**  
Columbus-Lancaster bobboyd.com  
Family owned & operated for 40 years!  
740-654-1122 740-681-8506 jhelm@bobboyd.com

**WALKER'S SHOE CENTER**  
Established 1918  
"No Ohio legacy for six generations!"  
740-654-3166

**FUN-BUS ADVENTURES**  
Lancaster, Ohio  
740-653-4600/653-TAXI (8294)  
www.funbus.com

**COLONNADE MEDICAL GROUP, INC.**  
Providing comprehensive medical care for infants to elders for over 30 years.  
Family Medicine  
Geriatrics  
Internal Medicine  
740.654.0232  
Accepting New Patients  
www.colonnademedical.com

**DEE PRINTING**  
1-800-292-9020

**WALKER'S SHOE CENTER**  
Established 1918  
"No Ohio legacy for six generations!"  
740-654-3166

**FUN-BUS ADVENTURES**  
Lancaster, Ohio  
740-653-4600/653-TAXI (8294)  
www.funbus.com

**COLONNADE MEDICAL GROUP, INC.**  
Providing comprehensive medical care for infants to elders for over 30 years.  
Family Medicine  
Geriatrics  
Internal Medicine  
740.654.0232  
Accepting New Patients  
www.colonnademedical.com

**COLONNADE MEDICAL GROUP, INC.**  
Providing comprehensive medical care for infants to elders for over 30 years.  
Family Medicine  
Geriatrics  
Internal Medicine  
740.654.0232  
Accepting New Patients  
www.colonnademedical.com

**DEE PRINTING**  
1-800-292-9020

**WALKER'S SHOE CENTER**  
Established 1918  
"No Ohio legacy for six generations!"  
740-654-3166

**FUN-BUS ADVENTURES**  
Lancaster, Ohio  
740-653-4600/653-TAXI (8294)  
www.funbus.com

**COLONNADE MEDICAL GROUP, INC.**  
Providing comprehensive medical care for infants to elders for over 30 years.  
Family Medicine  
Geriatrics  
Internal Medicine  
740.654.0232  
Accepting New Patients  
www.colonnademedical.com

**COLONNADE MEDICAL GROUP, INC.**  
Providing comprehensive medical care for infants to elders for over 30 years.  
Family Medicine  
Geriatrics  
Internal Medicine  
740.654.0232  
Accepting New Patients  
www.colonnademedical.com

PHOTO: JEFF HARTIG