

WHAT TYPE OF SOIL ARE YOU?

Have you ever planted seeds? It's amazing that something as small as a seed has the potential to produce a great harvest. All seeds contain nutrients and energy and have a protective coating. However, a seed can't become productive without some effort.

Seeds are typically buried in soil. When a seed is in good, soft soil, roots form and give the seedling stability. The little roots drink up nutrients found in the soil. This gives the seedling energy to start growing and emerge from the ground. Water and sunlight help the plant to grow and thrive.



One of the most familiar parables that Jesus told about seeds is "The Parable of the Sower". It is about a man who scattered seeds that fell on different types of soil. In the story, seed is the Word of God. The soil is our hearts who choose how to receive His Word.

You will recall in the parable that some of the seed fell on a path that was very hard. The seeds remained on the top of the path and could not grow. The seed was there, but it could not penetrate the hard path. Some hear God's Word, but do not let it in their hearts. At times we hear His Word, but we aren't really paying attention. We don't allow God's message to grow within us.

Some seed fell on rocky soil. At times we eagerly hear God's word, but then our enthusiasm dwindles. Like the seeds on the rocky soil, His Word can't take root.

Other seed fell among thorns. We often hear God's Word and let it take root. We keep doing the same things and eventually lose focus. We begin to allow "things" to become more important than our faith. These "things", just like the thorns, take up our energy, and choke our spiritual growth.

The seed that falls on the good soil yields a bounty to those who hear the Word, believe it and try to apply it to daily life.

It takes time for our seeds to grow and everyone's "fruit" will be different. However, if we allow God's truth to grow in our hearts, it will always be the right "fruit".

FROM THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE



This year will be extra special for us at Saint Paschal Baylon! We have the usual events that we share together:

- Agape Potluck Meal – Holy Thursday, April 13, 5:30 p.m. Eymard Room
 - The Easter Triduum – Thursday – Sunday, April 13 – 16
 - First Communion – May 7, Noon, church
 - May Crowning – May 10, 9:00 a.m. church
 - Mother's Day Bake Sale for Helping Hands Ministry – May 13 & 14, Fickel narthex
 - 8th Annual Spring Fling Parish Festival – Thursday – Sunday, May 18 – 21
 - Confirmation – Sunday, May 28, 4:00 p.m. in church
- Graduation – Wednesday, May 31, 7:00 p.m., church
 - Pass it On Mass – Thursday, June 1, 9:00 a.m., church

Very special this year is our Youth Group Mission Trip to Saint Michael Catholic Indian School, in Arizona, where our Life in the Eucharist Team of youth will present to the middle and high school students of the Navajo Nation a very special Eucharistic retreat. We are so blessed how the parish has support this super idea and partnership in mission. We look forward to bringing our Eucharistic charism to a place with Saint Katherine Drexel founded a school dedicated to the Eucharist and to the poor of this nation. I am so grateful to the parish for raising the money to support all of us going on this trip – 15 youth and 8 adults.

We also celebrate special anniversaries this year! Deacon Joe celebrates 60 years of being a religious of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament. This special event will occur during the outdoor Mass of the Spring Fling, Sunday, May 21 at Noon.

Later that week, I will celebrate my 25th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. On Saturday, May 27 we will have a special Mass at 4:30 p.m., followed by appetizers in the Eymard Room, provided by the Ladies of the Blessed Sacrament Guild. On Sunday, May 28, the Welcoming Committee will have donuts and coffee following the 10:00 a.m. Mass in the Fickel Narthex.

I am so grateful to God for the gift of my ministries that came from this, my home parish that formed me into the son of Eymard that I am as a religious of the Blessed Sacrament. Thank you for your constant care, love and support! It means so much to me – and I hope you know that I love you very dearly!

Let us continue to pray for each other and see you at Sunday Mass and these special events!

In Christ our Eucharist,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Thomas Lane".

Reverend John Thomas Lane, SSS, '79
Pastor

What will Your Legacy Be?

It is a question many of us think about often throughout our lives, and one that development/ advancement personnel ask donors often. **What will your legacy be?**

Throughout Saint Paschal Baylon's long, deep and rich history, it is evident that many families were involved in planning and supporting SPB's beginnings as a parish. As the years have progressed, many generations of those same families continue to keep the parish alive, thriving and growing. Whether to advance and enhance the beauty of the church, to increase membership in parish ministries, or to educate children at the school, families have given of their time, talents and treasures over and over again to keep Saint Paschal Baylon a strong parish/school community.



When you think back on all the successes Saint Paschal Baylon has realized, it is easy to see that parishioners, parents, students and alumni have cherished their involvement in the parish and helped to forward its continual growth. As you are aware, it is a continual challenge to keep a parish and its school financially solvent. Saint Paschal Baylon has always relied on the generosity and kindness of those committed to supporting their parish and faith family. There are always unexpected needs that arise and were not planned for that make budgeting a challenge for those tasked with keeping a parish fiscally strong. Having additional funds to count on to keep a parish and school running when the unexpected happens or when additional financial assistance is needed for school families, is a dream every parish community has.

One of the best ways to support a parish, its church, its ministries, spiritual formation, students, teachers and facilities is to consider including your parish community in your estate planning. Something as simple as a designation in your will that names Saint Paschal Baylon Parish as the recipient of a percentage or specific amount of your estate's value would be a direct answer to the question of what your legacy would be within your parish. Supporting your parish through planned giving options can ensure your stewardship to the Saint Paschal Baylon community will last beyond your lifetime.

By leaving a legacy gift to Saint Paschal Baylon, you become our partner in providing for the future financial needs of the parish and school. Our partners are parishioners, parents, alumni, grandparents and friends who wish to continue the Saint Paschal Baylon legacy through planned gifts such as: bequests in wills, life income plans including annuities and trusts, life income policies, real estate and stocks. Consider structuring your Saint Paschal Baylon legacy today so that you know what that legacy will be tomorrow. A planned gift can also motivate others to do the same. If you would like to discuss any of the above mentioned planned giving/estate planning options to benefit Saint Paschal Baylon, call Barb DiTurno, Advancement Director at 440-442-3410 ext. 112. We thank you for your continual support and generosity.

Life in the Eucharist Teens Lead Retreat in Arizona

Saint Paschal Baylon “Life in the Eucharist” (LITE) Teen group will travel to Arizona to lead a teen retreat during spring break (April 18th through 23rd). Students will be heading to Saint Michael Indian School located on the Navajo Reservation, the largest reservation in the United States.

Teen leaders will facilitate discussions and share personal witnesses. Using songs, stories, videos, reading, large and small-group interaction, prayer and various activities they will explore the theological, biblical and liturgical richness of the Eucharist in relation to day-to-day events.



The goal of LITE is to enable teens to live in Christ-centered consciousness, by viewing the power of His passion, death and resurrection as the starting point for ongoing spiritual growth and development; enriching their faith life through personal and communal prayer before the Blessed Sacrament; and accepting the challenge of responding to the moral and societal inequities inherent in contemporary life.

LITE is designed to empower our young church,” said Evamarie Mickol, SPB Youth Minister. “The purpose of LITE for teens is to deepen their relationship with Christ and acquire a broader theological understanding of the Eucharist that makes sense to teens.”

For more than a century, St. Michael Indian School has provided students from local Native American communities with a quality education rooted in Catholic values, is sensitive to Native heritage, teaches leadership skills, and enables students to contribute in a culturally diverse world. St. Katharine Drexel founded the school in 1902 to provide a quality education rooted in Catholic values as a key to spiritual growth, empowerment, self-determination, and a better quality of life for Native Americans.





ST. PASCHAL'S SPRING FLING
Festival

It's almost that time of the year again. St. Paschal Baylon's eighth annual Spring Fling Festival, scheduled for May 18 - 21, will be the unofficial kick off of this year's festival season! Our hard-working festival committee has been planning for months. They promise loads of fun for everyone! Below is our tentative schedule.

Thursday, May 18 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

SPB Day School Band Concert 7:00 p.m.
Discounted food, beverage and rides

Friday, May 19 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Food and Beverages
Rides
Casino (Jette Gym)
Live musical performance by *Blue Siren* 8:00 p.m.



Saturday, May 20 5:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Food and Beverages
Rides
Casino (Jette Gym)
Pasta Dinner (FLC/Eymard) 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Live musical performance by *The Pop Tarts* 5:30 p.m.
Texas Hold 'em Tournament (Jette Gym) 7:00 p.m.
Live musical performance by *Disco Inferno* 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 21 Noon - 6:00 p.m.

Outdoor Mass at Noon (music by *Light of Two Moons*)
Live musical performance by *Light of Two Moons*
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Food and Beverages 1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Rides 1:00p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Family Scavenger Hunt 1:30 p.m.
Euclid Beach Rocket Car 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Children's Games 2:30 p.m.
Raffle Drawings 5:30 p.m.

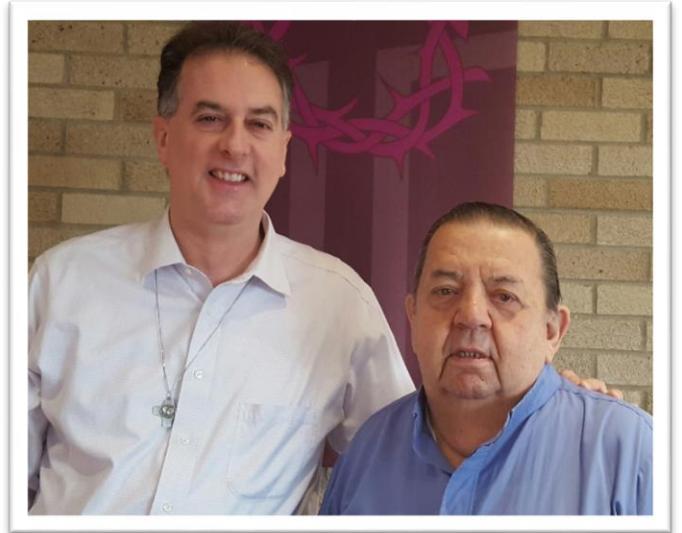


Happy Anniversary!

During the month of May our parish will celebrate the anniversary of two very special people at SPB.

Our parish will celebrate Deacon Joe's 60 years of religious life at our Spring Festival Outdoor Mass on Sunday, May 21 at Noon. Deacon Joe was the first religious brother in the United States to be ordained a deacon.

The following week, we will celebrate Fr. Lane's 25th anniversary of his ordination. There will be a special Mass at 4:30 p.m. Following Mass, the Ladies Guild will sponsor a reception in the Eymard Room. All are invited.



ALUMNI NEWS

SPB Alumni – Keep In Touch!

If you haven't updated SPB on your whereabouts, career and family lately, please take a few moments and do so! We'd appreciate having updated information on our school alumni so we can share the great news happening in the Saint Paschal Baylon Parish and School Community. Simply email advancement@saintpaschal.com and we will send out an online form to complete.



We would love to have a list of alumni interested in giving back and supporting the school through volunteer opportunities and sharing their professional talents and knowledge with our staff and students. Consider sharing your business/contact information with us, as well as any achievements, awards, personal or professional accolades.

Contact Barb DiTurno in the Advancement Office at 440-442-3410 ext. 112.

Saint Paschal Baylon School Education Fair 2017

Students, families, and faculty and staff gathered to celebrate all that makes Saint Paschal Baylon School so special at our annual Education Fair that was held on Thursday, March 16 in O'Brien Hall. Student projects were on display for families and visitors to see first-hand the learning that takes place from our youngest children in preschool all the way up to our eighth graders. Student clubs and activities, as well as parent organizations, were represented at the fair to share information with current and prospective families. This event gives a taste of not only the learning that takes place at our school but also the many opportunities to get involved that are available to both students and parents.



The focus of this year's Education Fair was on problem-solving. With a concerted effort to promote problem-solving at all grade levels and across curricular areas during our school day, problem-solving activities were highlighted throughout O'Brien Hall. Some of the projects included building roller coasters, testing bridges, and learning to work as a team moving a Buddy Board. As the evening progressed, students could be found coding BeeBots, launching objects on a catapult, and building structures to withstand an earthquake. Something new this year was a grade level puzzle challenge. Students were each given a puzzle piece to bring to the fair. The object was to work with their classmates to use

their small pieces to make the big picture. It was great fun!

Our Education Fair was a huge success once again with an even bigger crowd than last year. We want to sincerely thank the members of our School Advisory Council for all of the planning and preparation that went into this event. We thank all parents, grandparents, and visitors for taking time to witness what Saint Paschal Baylon School is all about.

Thank you to the following individuals for contributing content, photos or information: Reverend John Thomas Lane, SSS; Barb DiTurno; Carol Jansky, Evamarie Mickol, Kathy Pohlhammer, Diane Raguz. Communications regarding this publication may be directed to the Communication Office at 5384 Wilson Mills Road, Highland Heights, OH 44143 or 440.442.3410. Articles, information, photos, updates, letters to the editor and corrections are welcome. All submissions must include the sender's name and contact information, and the editor reserves the right to edit letters. Submission deadline for the next issue is June 12, 2017.



UPCOMING SAINT PASCHAL BAYLON EVENTS

First Communion May 7
Confirmation May 28

Spring Fling Festival May 18-21
Youth Bible Camp June 26-30

Saint Paschal Baylon Mission Statement: Saint Paschal Baylon is a joyful, welcoming community centered in the Eucharist. Through our prayer and liturgy, we are empowered to grow in faith, love and service.

Pastoral and School Staff

Pastor: Rev. John Thomas Lane, SSS ext. 111
Parochial Vicar: Rev. John Christman, SSS, ext. 110
Pastoral Associate: Deacon Joseph Bourgeois, SSS, ext. 108
Pastoral Associate: Deacon Robert Bowers, ext. 100
Advancement: Barbara DiTurno, ext. 112
Business Manager: Michelle Mazza, ext.
Catechetical Leaders: Anna & George Peko, ext. 107

Communication: Kathy Pohlhammer, ext. 109
Maintenance: Roger Fisher, ext. 100
Music & Liturgy: Michelle Kitko, *Interim Dir.*, ext. 122
Principal: Carol Jansky, 440-442-6766
Assistant Principal: Diane Raguz, 440-442-6766
Youth Minister: Evamarie Mickol, ext. 102
Chief Receptionist: Gigi Peko, ext. 100
Administrative Assistant: Mary Beth Hallal, ext. 103

Our Worship Life

Weekend Mass: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., Noon, 7:00 p.m., Saturday vigil 4:30 p.m.

Weekday Masses: 6:30 a.m. (Tues. only), 9:00 a.m. (M through Sa), 12:15 p.m. (M, W only)

Rite of Penance: Any time by appointment or Saturday from 3:30 – 4:15 p.m. in the church

Saint Paschal Baylon Roman Catholic Community

5384 Wilson Mills Road
Highland Heights, OH 44143
Parish Office: 440.442.3410
www.saintpaschal.com