

SAINT PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

NOVEMBER 15, 2020



Jesus told his disciples this parable:
"A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one-- to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

Matthew 25:14-15

104 WEST FIRST STREET • MANSFIELD, OHIO 44902
419.524.2572 | MANSFIELDSTPETERS.ORG

Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 5:00 P.M.
Sunday: 7:30 A.M., 9:30 A.M., 11:30 A.M.
Monday & Friday 5:30 P.M.
Tuesday - Thursday 7:00 A.M.

Spanish Mass:

Resurrection Parish, Lexington

All Masses are cancelled until further notice.

Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9:00 A.M.- 2:00 P.M.
Saturday and Sunday: Closed

Pastoral Care Contacts:

Ms. Kristi Reindl 419.524.2572
*Hospital & Follow-up
Nursing Homes/Assisted Living &
Prayer Pipeline*
Deacon John Reef 419.529.3694
Shut-ins/Homebound

Sacrament of Baptism:

Please contact the Parish Center to begin plans for the baptism of your baby or child.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday: 3:00 - 4:30 P.M.
Other times by appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage:

Arrangements should always be made at the **Parish Center office at least eight months** in advance of the ceremony. A wedding date is confirmed after the initial meeting with a priest.

Bulletin Deadline:

Friday, 12:00 noon. All requests must be submitted in writing or email and must receive prior approval.

Parish Administrative Assistant:

Ms. Kristi Reindl 419.524.2572 ext.2122

Pastoral Staff:

Fr. Gregory R. Hite, *Pastor*
Fr. Kevin Moebius, *Parochial Vicar*
Mr. Bill Johnson,
Director of Music & Liturgy
Ms. Lynne Lukach, *Pastoral Associate*
Mrs. Elizabeth Wurm, *Director of
Religious Ed. & Youth Minister*

Deacon:

Mr. John Reef

St. Peter's School:

Mr. Jonathan Cuttitta
High School, Jr. High School
Mrs. Ashley Rastorfer
Elementary School and Montessori

Business Manager:

Dr. Vincent Palombo

Director of Marketing:

Mr. Jason Crundwell

A PARISH OF THE SAINT JUAN DIEGO DEANERY, DIOCESE OF TOLEDO

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, November 16 *33rd Week in Ordinary Time*

5:00 pm Rosary

5:30 pm Frank Edward Brucato (*Anniversary*)

Tuesday, November 17 *Memorial of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary,
Religious*

7:00 am Parish

Wednesday, November 18 *33rd Week in Ordinary Time*

7:00 am Jim Sgambellone

Thursday, November 19 *33rd Week in Ordinary Time*

7:00 am Theresa Majors

Friday, November 20 *33rd Week in Ordinary Time*

5:00 pm Rosary

5:30 pm Parish

Saturday, November 21 *Memorial of the Presentation of the
Blessed Virgin Mary*

5:00 pm Florence Kastelic

Sunday, November 22 *The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus
Christ, King of the Universe*

7:30 am Parish

9:30 am Jim Sgambellone

11:30 am Anton and Theresa Schroeder

This past weekend, I decided to start putting up the outdoor Christmas lights. That includes the annual trek up the ladder 26 feet to our roofline. When finished, I always say a prayer of Thanksgiving since I did not fall off or put the extension ladder through an upstairs window.

Christmas season is my favorite season. If I could get away with it, I would probably start setting up trees inside on November 1. Decorating for Christmas is one of the few things that everyone in the family can do together without a significant battle. (Taking down the decorations is a different story.)

Growing up, I remember everyone had a part in decorating for Christmas. Everyone had a job, from us kids hanging the ornaments to my dad being in charge of the lights, and once the decorating was done, he would add the tinsel. Thirty years later, I'm still finding pieces of tinsel stuck to that tree.

This weekend we hear the Parable of the Five Talents. In Matthew's gospel, a man gave talents to three of his servants, and a *talent* refers to an amount of money. Two of the servants invested or traded those talents and doubled their investment for the master. The third, afraid of losing the money, buried it.

According to scholars, our modern word for *talent* was an interpretation of this parable to mean a gift or skill.

We are all given gifts and talents by God. God expects us to be good servants and invest in those gifts and talents for good. Our children are probably our greatest gift. We reinvest our talents into the lives of our children with the goal that they also become good and faithful servants.

That investment happens every day. Even something as simple as decorating for Christmas is an investment in my family's gifts and talents. Hopefully, someday my grandkids will enjoy decorating for Christmas with their parents. It's the gift of family, togetherness, and faith.

May we all work to invest our talents and not bury them . . . unless it's a gift of tinsel. . . feel free to bury that.

*Jason Crundwell
Director of Marketing*

ST. PETER'S RESTART SMART COMMITTEE MESSAGE

St. Peter's Restart Smart Committee would like to thank the community for their prayers as we continue to safely reopen campus. Opening those doors to students in the midst of a pandemic is an overwhelming effort that requires the support of the whole community. From purchasing PPE, developing new cleaning protocols and gathering supplies, investing in remote learning technology, reconfiguring classrooms, installing a new restroom, training faculty to teach remotely, opening buildings to provide for social distancing, and the myriad of sweeping changes we have made to create a safe learning environment for our children, St. Peter's has made unprecedented investments in our school. In keeping with the mission and ministry of our parish to answer the Gospel's call to model the teachings and evangelizing of Jesus, we ask our faith community to consider supporting our schools during this challenging time.

Donations of any amount will help us ensure those doors stay open to students and to allow us to continue to heed Jesus' call in Matthew 28 to "teach them to carry out everything I have commanded you."

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES OF ST. PETER'S PARISH

By mailing in your offering envelopes, OR

By visiting the website at www.mansfieldstpeters.org, to learn about opportunities for electronic giving.

We greatly appreciate your generosity and support during these difficult days!

THANK YOU!

Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish during this pandemic. Every sacrificial gift is accepted in the Lord's eyes.

Please remember to include our parish in your estate planning.

RESTRICTIONS ON TAKING COMMUNION TO THE SICK

Due to the continuing pandemic, OhioHealth Mansfield is still restricting patient visits for Holy Communion. If you have a family member who is in their home and would like a visit from a priest or deacon, please contact Kristi at Reindl.kristi@myspartans.org or 419.524.2572 ext.2122 with their name, address and phone number.

PSR CLASSES

PSR classes have now begun! If you have a student who is in preschool through the eighth grade. To register please contact Elizabeth Wurm at wurm.elizabeth@myspartans.org for class sign up today!

Registrations are also now being accepted for First Eucharist and Confirmation!

MANSFIELD AREA CATHOLIC CEMETERIES COMMITTEE

The Mansfield Area Catholic Cemeteries Committee would like to remind parishioners that grave spaces are available in both the Mansfield Catholic Cemetery and the Prince of Peace Cemetery. The price for grave spaces are reduced during the month of November from the normal price of \$500 to \$450. For more information about purchasing grave spaces please contact David Barber, Chair of the Committee at the St. Peter's Parish Office 419.524.2572, x 8003.

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION & ADORATION

Please mark your calendars! We will close this liturgical year on **Sunday, Nov. 22 with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at the close of the 11:30 am Mass, and offer time for Adoration following Mass until the celebration of Evening Prayer at 5 pm.**

Father Andrew Wellmann has graciously accepted my invitation to be with us to preside and preach at the celebration of Evening Prayer at 5 pm.

Please plan to come to spend time with our Lord, King of the Universe, that afternoon! Sign up times will be available.

SAINT PETER'S PARISH MASK POLICY

Richland County is now under a "Red Level" for the COVID-19 Virus, but the State of Ohio is still under mandatory mask wearing orders.

We respectfully ask that all who come to worship with us **WEAR A MASK OR FACIAL COVERING, USE HAND SANITIZER, AND RESPECT SOCIAL DISTANCING OF 6 FEET.**

Dispensation to attend Sunday Mass, Holy Days of Obligations, remains in place for the foreseeable future until we are notified otherwise.

Those who are at high risk, especially the elderly and those with pre-existing health conditions, are strongly advised to refrain from Mass attendance out of concern for their own well-being and out of Christian charity for others.

Thank you for your consideration. Please pray for all during this time of pandemic! Mary, Help of the Sick, Pray for us!

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE SERVING IN THE US MILITARY



Do you know someone serving in the US Military or someone who gave their life for our country while serving in the armed forces? These people can be honored by submitting their names to St. Peter's. They will then be placed on bulletin board by the cry room at the main entrance to St. Peter's. These people will then be remembered by many parishioners prayers. What a great gift to be given to these serving our country.

For all of the current important information about St. Peters Parish operations during these troubled times, please visit our website at:

MANSFIELDSPETERS.ORG

There you will also find devotional materials for use at home for you and your family.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH



Bill Ruhl, Jeannie Burkhalter, Aaron Blank, Cindy Lassen, Dina Riley, Eliana Nelson, MaKaya Butler, Sharon Valdry, Maria Loschinkohl, John Ziegler, Marlene Ziegler, Dorothy Trinter, JoAnn Marbaugh, Gwen Yockey, Mel Switzer, Louise Steggall, Tammy Dudley, Keith Combs, Mady Ziegler, Elaine Johnson, Cindy Jasnek Cartier, Jeannine Klotz, Tom Powell, Chief Master Sergeant Joseph Basting, Peggy Basting Taylor, Kathy Carcione, Carol Pittenger, Jill McMillen, Catherine R. Liston, Alan Gallaway, Marty Moritz, Joe Mollica, Beverly Strauser, Thomas Caldwell, Dennis Caldwell, Mark Hawkins, Barb Jefferies, Lucille Thompson, Myrna Bohr, Patrick and Judy Boyer, John Doty., Michael Caldwell, Mike Fisher, Ardis Steggal, David Donley, Elsie Person, Jacob Randall.

Names will only be listed for 4 weeks. If you wish to have additional time, contact the Parish Center at 419.524.2572.

IN GOD'S ARMS...

David Schiffel



ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD.

PARISH AND SCHOOL MINISTRIES

Did you know that there are many ways in which you can become more involved at St. Peter's? We are always looking for volunteers for the various ministries provided by both the parish and school. The complete list can be found on our website at mansfieldstpeters.org or by contacting the Parish Center office at 419.524.2572.

PRISON MINISTRY CORNER



More comments from our RiCI brothers on how grateful they are for our letters of prayerful support and for the televised Mass: "Thank you for your letters and for making sure the monthly devotionals are distributed." "Thank you for everything you have been doing to keep the men in our community spiritually nourished and encouraged. Your devotion has given us the strength to fight for our lives. I can't even find the words to express my appreciation." "I absolutely love the view of St. Peter's from the choir loft!"

TV MASS SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

You may know that we are broadcasting our Sunday Mass on WMFD TV in Mansfield, as well as on our Facebook, YouTube and Parish Web pages. While there is no cost associated with the internet transmissions, the cost of broadcasting on television is \$135.00 per half hour.

Many parishioners and area businesses have stepped up to underwrite the cost of these broadcasts. In these uncertain days that need may continue for quite some time to come.

If you or your business would like to underwrite a TV Mass, please contact Jason Crundwell or Bill Johnson at the Parish Center at 419.524.2572 ext. 2125 or ext. 2113 for more information.

SCHOOL MASSES

Our students will be attending Mass every other week during this school year. Because of the need for social distancing only students and teachers will attend. **At this time we cannot accommodate additional people in the High School auditorium.** Please keep all students and teachers in your prayer during this challenging school year.

 **RECYCLING—NEXT DATE: DECEMBER 11, 2020**

WE STILL SELL GARBAGE BAGS FROM THE YELLOW BAG PEOPLE IN THE PARISH CENTER.

FOOD COLLECTION: December 12 & 13

SUNDAY OFFERING	<i>Year to Date October 31, 2020</i>
	
Sunday and Holy Day Collections	
Sunday Collection & Holy Day Collection:	\$272,792
Total Budgeted Sunday Collection To Date:	\$284,000
Sunday Collection Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$11,208)
School Collection	
Total School Collection To Date:	\$33,330
Total Budgeted School Collection To Date:	\$48,000
School Collection Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$14,670)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES



DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT & ADVANCEMENT

St. Peter's Parish & School is seeking to fill a new position in our Development Office. The Director of Development & Advancement provides leadership, planning and management of the Advancement Office and is responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining a comprehensive institutional advancement program. Minimum qualifications include a bachelor's degree in a related field or equivalent experience with a minimum of five years experience in fundraising, event planning, donor relations and alumni relations. Outstanding knowledge of fundraising data software and database management software is required. Practicing Catholic preferred. Please send cover letter, resume, salary requirements and references to Vincent Palombo, Business Manager at palombo.vincent@myspartans.org. *All candidates must also complete the Diocese of Toledo VIRTUS training and pass FBI/BCI background check.*

SUBSTITUTE SECRETARY AND CLASSROOM SUBSTITUTE

St. Peter's Elementary is in need of substitute teachers and substitute secretaries for the 20-21 school year. Must have Bachelor's degree, substitute/teaching license, and have BCI, FBI checks completed as well as VIRTUS requirements. Send resumes to rastorfer.ashley@myspartans.org. The secretary subs do not need a degree/license...they just need FBI, BCI, and VIRTUS. Thanks!
All candidates must also complete the Diocese of Toledo VIRTUS training and pass FBI/BCI background check.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL UPDATE

The 2020 Annual Catholic Appeal Campaign is underway with a campaign goal of \$3 million. We can assure the continued existence of many important programs that help tens of thousands in our Diocese each year; education of our seminary students, care of the sick and needy are among them. We ask you once again for your help; we have to work together. Please respond generously when you are asked to make your pledge. Thank you for your attention and thank you for being my parish family. For more information, visit the Diocesan website at Toledodiocese.org/ACA. Your pledge may be sent to: Annual Catholic Appeal, Diocese of Toledo, 1933 Spielbusch Avenue, Toledo, Ohio, 43604.

Our parish goal is \$55,000.00 so far we are at \$43,878.10, with pledges from 341 households or 79.78%. Thank you for your support of our diocesan ministries and the help you provide to our seminarians and deacons who are in formation to serve our parish's future. Through your generosity, 4 men were ordained to the priesthood on June 27, 2020, and we **Welcome Fr. Kevin Moebius** to our parish. **Your pledge** to the Annual Catholic Appeal helped to make this possible!

Remember, we have a Seminarian in Training, Hayden Eighinger, studying at the Athenaeum of Ohio (Mt. St. Mary's of the West) who depends on your support to continue his formation as he continues in his studies for the priesthood. In his name, and for the ministries that serve our parish, I am making a last time appeal to you for your generous and faithful support.

We are still within reach of our goal with only \$11,121.90 to go!

Thank you for your consideration,
Father Hite, Pastor

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FEATHER RAFFLE



Friday November 20 is the drawing date for one of our annual fund raisers. Eight tickets will be drawn to win, the top prize being \$250, 2nd prize \$150, 3rd prize \$100, 4th prize \$75, 5th prize \$50, and three turkeys to round out the last three prizes. Cost per ticket is \$25 and only a limited number are being sold, so get yours now! The drawing will be at the Mansfield Knights Hall at 7:00 P.M. You do not need to be present to win. Contact Grand Knight Larry Strauser at 419.543.6952, or Mike Winters at 419.543.3080 or any Knight to get your tickets.



Thanks to a generous donor, the Diocese of Toledo is offering FORMED free to every parish! FORMED offers outstanding Catholic content through thousands of videos, audio, books, faith enrichment series, children's programming and more! We encourage all our parishioners to take advantage of this amazing resource.

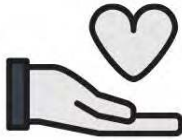
It's easy to begin: Go to formed.org. Click on Sign Up. Click "I belong to a Parish or Organization." Type "St. Peter's..." and a list will instantly appear. Be sure to choose our parish - listed as St. Peter's Catholic Church, 104 West First Street, Mansfield.... Then type your name and email address and you're done. There are no passwords or codes. Enjoy looking over the range of materials. Watch the bulletin and the announcement screen before Mass for special programs, including plans to gather at the parish, view a video together, and have discussion and hospitality (observing distancing guidelines). More to come!





In November, we will give alms for the intention of holy vocations. More information will be shared in the bulletin and social media. You can also visit ReconnectToledo.org/November.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE Week of Sunday, November 15



Give Alms

Have a Mass offered for Holy Vocations.

Print (or cut out from your bulletin) the seminarian poster. Add these men who are in formation for the priesthood to your daily prayers this week!

Prayer to Know One's Vocation

Lord, my God and my loving Father, you have made me to know you, to love you, to serve you, and thereby to find and to fulfill my deepest longings. I know that you are in all things, and that every path can lead me to you. But of them all, there is one especially by which you want me to come to you. Since I will do what you want of me, I pray you, send your Holy Spirit to me: into my mind, to show me what you want of me; into my heart, to give me the determination to do it, and to do it with all my love, with all my mind, and with all of my strength right to the end. Jesus, I trust in you. Amen



Pray

Prayer for Vocations

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



Read

Read *To Save a Thousand Souls: A Guide for Discerning a Vocation to Diocesan Priesthood* by Brett Brannen. Visit toledopriesthood.org.



MEN'S ADVENT DAY OF PREPARATION SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2020

Father Matthew Frisbee will be the keynote speaker at this Men Of Jesus The Christ (MOJTC) 4 th Annual Mini-Retreat. Fr. Matt was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Toledo by Archbishop Dennis M. Schnurr on May 31, 2014. He is currently the pastor of Resurrection Parish in Lexington and St. Mary of the Snows Catholic Church in Mansfield. Father also hosts a popular Sports Roundup during the Tuesday Morning Offering on Annunciation Radio. Fr. Matt first attended St. Joseph College Seminary at Loyola University Chicago, where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy. From there, he attended Mount St. Mary Seminary of the West in Cincinnati, earning a Master of Arts in Theology and a Master's of Divinity. From 2014 - 2019, he was the associate pastor at the Catholic Parishes of Sandusky. This is for men - ages 16 to 99. To prepare us spiritually for Advent and Christmas! ATTENDANCE LIMITED TO THE FIRST 80 MEN. ALL COVID precautions will apply!

When: Registration Opens at 6:30 AM; Retreat starts promptly at 7:00 AM; should end by 1:00 PM

What: Program will include: Breakfast, Videos, Speakers, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, and will conclude with Mass

Where: Immaculate Conception Catholic Church 414 Madison St, Port Clinton, Ohio

RSVP is a "Must"! to 419-734-4004 or MADOP@mojtc.org by November 17

GIVING TREE 2020



St. Peter's has a long history of supporting our Community families with love and generosity through providing Christmas gifts through our annual Giving Tree program. Planning for this event has been in progress for months with our partner agencies with respect to safety and challenges of Covid-19. Although there will be changes to the overall Giving Tree operations, we remain committed offering an opportunity to serve families in our community. Please look for upcoming bulletin announcements for information of how our program will implement changes soon. Thank you in advance for your ongoing support to the families!

STEUBENVILLE YOUTH CONFERENCE

We are now taking reservations for the Steubenville Youth Conference, June 11- 13th. Students who will be incoming freshman to outgoing seniors for the 2021-2022 school year are eligible to attend. Registration forms are available in the parish office and by contacting Elizabeth Wurm at wurm.elizabeth@myspartans.org. All those wishing to attend MUST preregister no later than December 13th. We hope you can join us!

EVERY SATURDAY AT PLANNED PARENTHOOD



Saturdays give us time to do things we don't have time for during the week. Saturdays are also a great chance to spend time in prayer such as the Rosary. A gathering of "pray-ers" takes place every Saturday morning at 10:30 A.M. in front of Planned Parenthood. Prayers are so necessary in the effort to end abortion. Your prayers will aid in that cause. Please join us.



SAINT JUAN DIEGO DEANERY ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

Thursday, December 3, 6:30 P.M. @St. Joseph, Galion

Sunday, December 6, 1:00 P.M. @ St. Mary of the Snows, Mansfield:

Confessions for all Religious Education students and their parents and siblings.
Tri-Parish Penance Service for St. Mary of the Snows, Mansfield, Resurrection,
Lexington & St. Peter's, Mansfield

Wednesday, December 9, 7:00 P.M. @ St. Joseph, Crestline:

Penance Service for Sacred Heart of Jesus, Bethlehem and St. Joseph, Crestline.

Wednesday, December 9, 4:00 P.M.—8:00 P.M. @St. Francis Xavier, Willard:

Not an Advent Penance Service, but extended Confession hours.

Thursday, December 10, 6:30 P.M. @Holy Trinity, Bucyrus

Friday, December 11, 10:00 A.M.—12:00 P.M. @ St. Francis Xavier, Willard:

Not an Advent Penance Services, but extended Confession hours.

Wednesday, December 16, 10:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M. and 5:00 P.M.—8:00 P.M

@St. Bernard, New Washington:

Not an Advent Penance Service, but extended Confession hours.

Leading the FLOCK

BY BISHOP DANIEL E. THOMAS



“Fratelli tutti”

With these very first words of his third and newest Encyclical Letter, signed by Pope Francis in Assisi and published on October 3rd, the vigil of the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, the Holy Father quotes his namesake in an address to all his brothers and sisters, proposing to them “a way of life marked by the flavor of the Gospel.” In the introduction, the Pope mentions how he has taken his inspiration from the saint of fraternal love, simplicity and joy; how the issues of human fraternity and social friendship have always been a concern of his; and how, in this Encyclical, he has sought to bring together reflections he has spoken of repeatedly and in other contexts, situating them in a broader context of reflection.

This Encyclical represents a summation of the underlying vision that the Holy Father has proclaimed throughout his papacy: “It is my desire that, in this our time, by acknowledging the dignity of each human person, we can contribute to the rebirth of a universal aspiration to fraternity. Brotherhood between all men and women” (n. 8).

In the current worldwide situation in which we find ourselves, strained by the effects of a pandemic, and the resulting polarization,

isolation and division, it is not hard to see why Pope Francis strives to offer a message of concord instead of discord, turning to the Gospel Parable in which Jesus tells of a man assaulted by thieves and lying injured on the wayside. He writes: “The parable eloquently presents the basic decision we need to make in order to rebuild our wounded world. In the face of so much pain and suffering, our only course is to imitate the Good Samaritan. Any other decision would make us either one of the robbers or one of those who walked by without showing compassion for the sufferings of the man on the roadside. The parable shows us how a community can be rebuilt by men and women who identify with the vulnerability of others, who reject the creation of a society of exclusion, and act instead as neighbours, lifting up and rehabilitating the fallen for the sake of the common good. At the same time it warns us about the attitude of those who think only of themselves and fail to shoulder the inevitable responsibilities of life as it is” (n. 67).

It is Pope Francis’ conviction that the practice of social friendship, whether it be between nations, peoples or individuals, is one where each person knows and maintains his or her identity, but is also able to know and respect the

identity of others and work toward “coming up with shared goals that transcend their differences and can thus engage in a common endeavor” (n. 157). Further, the way forward to a new political future based on fraternity and social friendship begins with “moving beyond ourselves” which requires dialogue: “Authentic social dialogue involves the ability to respect the other’s point of view and to admit that it may include legitimate convictions and concerns” (n. 203). And it is religion which can play such a significant role in helping the dialogue of social friendship which leads to a greater sense of fraternity in our political world. Touching as he has before on topics of import in the realm of the Church’s social teaching, Pope Francis highlights that the religions of the world are called to the service of fraternity.

In receiving this new Encyclical Archbishop Jose Gomez, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, wrote: “In analyzing conditions in the world today, the Holy Father provides us with a powerful and urgent vision for the moral renewal of politics and political and economic institutions from the local level to the global level, calling us to build a common future that truly serves the good of the human person. For the Church, the Pope is challenging us to overcome the individualism in our culture and to serve our neighbors in love, seeing Jesus Christ in every person, and seeking a society of justice and mercy, compassion and mutual concern.”

As we receive this new Encyclical, we affirm that among Catholics, among other Christians and

those of other religions, “the effort to seek God with a sincere heart, provided it is never sullied by ideological or self-serving aims, helps us to recognize one another as travelling companions, truly brothers and sisters” (n. 274). And we understand more deeply that “The Church has a public role over and above her charitable and educational activities. She works for the advancement of humanity and of universal fraternity. She does not claim to compete with earthly powers, but to offer herself as a family among families, this is the Church, open to bearing witness in today’s world, open to faith, hope and love for the Lord and for those whom he loves with a preferential love. A home with open doors. The Church is a home with open doors, because she is a mother” (n. 276).

In releasing this new Encyclical, the Holy See concluded: “Faced with those injured by the shadows of a closed world and still lying by the roadside, we are invited by Pope Francis to make our own the world’s desire for fraternity, starting with the recognition that we are all ‘*Fratelli tutti*,’ brothers and sisters all.” May this be the starting point for us all.

The Pope’s Encyclical Letter *Fratelli tutti* (On Fraternity and Social Friendship) may be found at bit.ly/fraternity2020.



Most Rev. Daniel E. Thomas
Bishop of Toledo
October 9, 2020

**ENCYCLICAL LETTER
FRATELLI TUTTI
OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS
ON FRATERNITY AND SOCIAL FRIENDSHIP**

FORMS OF SUBJECTION AND OF SELF-CONTEMPT

51. Certain economically prosperous countries tend to be proposed as cultural models for less developed countries; instead, each of those countries should be helped to grow in its own distinct way and to develop its capacity for innovation while respecting the values of its proper culture. A shallow and pathetic desire to imitate others leads to copying and consuming in place of creating, and fosters low national self-esteem. In the affluent sectors of many poor countries, and at times in those who have recently emerged from poverty, there is a resistance to native ways of thinking and acting, and a tendency to look down on one's own cultural identity, as if it were the sole cause of every ill.

52. Destroying self-esteem is an easy way to dominate others. Behind these trends that tend to level our world, there flourish powerful interests that take advantage of such low self-esteem, while attempting, through the media and networks, to create a new culture in the service of the elite. This plays into the opportunism of financial speculators and raiders, and the poor always end up the losers. Then too, ignoring the culture of their people has led to the inability of many political leaders to devise an effective development plan that could be freely accepted and sustained over time.

53. We forget that "there is no worse form of alienation than to feel uprooted, belonging to no one. A land will be fruitful, and its people bear fruit and give birth to the future, only to the extent that it can foster a sense of belonging among its members, create bonds of integration between generations and different communities, and avoid all that makes us insensitive to others and leads to further alienation".^[50]

HOPE

54. Despite these dark clouds, which may not be ignored, I would like in the following pages to take up and discuss many new paths of hope. For God continues to sow abundant seeds of goodness in our human family. The recent pandemic enabled us to recognize and appreciate once more all those around us who, in the midst of fear, responded by putting their lives on the line. We began to realize that our lives are interwoven with and sustained by ordinary people valiantly shaping the decisive events of our shared history: doctors, nurses, pharmacists, storekeepers and supermarket workers, cleaning personnel, caretakers, transport workers, men and women working to provide essential services and public safety, volunteers, priests and religious... They understood that no one is saved alone.^[51]

55. I invite everyone to renewed hope, for hope "speaks to us of something deeply rooted in every human heart, independently of our circumstances and historical conditioning. Hope speaks to us of a thirst, an aspiration, a longing for a life of fulfillment, a desire to achieve great things, things that fill our heart and lift our spirit to lofty realities like truth, goodness and beauty, justice and love... Hope is bold; it can look beyond personal convenience, the petty securities and compensations which limit our horizon, and it can open us up to grand ideals that make life more beautiful and worthwhile".^[52] Let us continue, then, to advance along the paths of hope.

CHAPTER TWO—A STRANGER ON THE ROAD

56. The previous chapter should not be read as a cool and detached description of today's problems, for "the joys and hopes, the grief and anguish of the people of our time, especially of those who are poor or afflicted, are the joys and hopes, the grief and anguish of the followers of Christ as well. Nothing that is genuinely human fails to find an echo in their hearts".^[53] In the attempt to search for a ray of light in the midst of what we are experiencing, and before proposing a few lines of action, I now wish to devote a chapter to a parable told by Jesus Christ two thousand years ago. Although this Letter is addressed to all people of good will, regardless of their religious convictions, the parable is one that any of us can relate to and find challenging.

"Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.' And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.' But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'"(Lk 10:25-37).

ENCYCLICAL LETTER - continued from page 12*The context*

57. This parable has to do with an age-old problem. Shortly after its account of the creation of the world and of man, the Bible takes up the issue of human relationships. Cain kills his brother Abel and then hears God ask: "Where is your brother Abel?" (*Gen 4:9*). His answer is one that we ourselves all too often give: "Am I my brother's keeper?" (*ibid.*). By the very question he asks, God leaves no room for an appeal to determinism or fatalism as a justification for our own indifference. Instead, he encourages us to create a different culture, in which we resolve our conflicts and care for one another.

58. The Book of Job sees our origin in the one Creator as the basis of certain common rights: "Did not he who made me in the womb also make him? And did not the same one fashion us in the womb?" (*Job 31:15*). Many centuries later, Saint Irenaeus would use the image of a melody to make the same point: "One who seeks the truth should not concentrate on the differences between one note and another, thinking as if each was created separately and apart from the others; instead, he should realize that one and the same person composed the entire melody" [\[54\]](#)

59. In earlier Jewish traditions, the imperative to love and care for others appears to have been limited to relationships between members of the same nation. The ancient commandment to "love your neighbour as yourself" (*Lev 19:18*) was usually understood as referring to one's fellow citizens, yet the boundaries gradually expanded, especially in the Judaism that developed outside of the land of Israel. We encounter the command not to do to others what you would not want them to do to you (*cf. Tob 4:15*). In the first century before Christ, Rabbi Hillel stated: "This is the entire Torah. Everything else is commentary" [\[55\]](#) The desire to imitate God's own way of acting gradually replaced the tendency to think only of those nearest us: "The compassion of man is for his neighbour, but the compassion of the Lord is for all living beings" (*Sir 18:13*).

60. In the New Testament, Hillel's precept was expressed in positive terms: "In everything, do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets" (*Mt 7:12*). This command is universal in scope, embracing everyone on the basis of our shared humanity, since the heavenly Father "makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good" (*Mt 5:45*). Hence the summons to "be merciful, just as your Father is merciful" (*Lk 6:36*).

61. In the oldest texts of the Bible, we find a reason why our hearts should expand to embrace the foreigner. It derives from the enduring memory of the Jewish people that they themselves had once lived as foreigners in Egypt:

"You shall not wrong or oppress a stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt" (Ex 22:21).

"You shall not oppress a stranger; you know the heart of a stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt" (Ex 23:9).

"When a stranger resides with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the stranger as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt" (Lev 19:33-34).

"When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left; it shall be for the sojourner, the orphan, and the widow. Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt" (Deut 24:21-22).

The call to fraternal love echoes throughout the New Testament:

"For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself'" (Gal 5:14).

"Whoever loves a brother or sister lives in the light, and in such a person there is no cause for stumbling. But whoever hates another believer is in the darkness" (1 Jn 2:10-11).

"We know that we have passed from death to life because we love one another. Whoever does not love abides in death" (1 Jn 3:14).

"Those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen" (1 Jn 4:20).

62. Yet this call to love could be misunderstood. Saint Paul, recognizing the temptation of the earliest Christian communities to form closed and isolated groups, urged his disciples to abound in love "for one another and for all" (*1 Thess 3:12*). In the Johannine community, fellow Christians were to be welcomed, "even though they are strangers to you" (*3 Jn 5*). In this context, we can better understand the significance of the parable of the Good Samaritan: love does not care if a brother or sister in need comes from one place or another. For "love shatters the chains that keep us isolated and separate; in their place, it builds bridges. Love enables us to create one great family, where all of us can feel at home... Love exudes compassion and dignity" [\[56\]](#)

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. PETER'S SCHOOL

Saint Peter's School students saluted our United States Veterans this week. In non-COVID years, the entire student body walks down to watch the annual Veterans Day Parade -- however, this year's parade was canceled. The school took time to remember the men and women who served in the military with a special prayer at the start of the school day and were allowed to wear red, white, or blue shirts. Our Montessori students colored pictures to say Thank You for your service.



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CHANGE OUR LIVES

The letters of Paul to the Thessalonians are among his earliest writings, and are driven by his belief and the belief of the entire early Christian community that the return of Christ was imminent, and that devoting time or attention to anything else was foolish.

As time progressed, this fervor subsided a bit. Today we may wonder, when we hear these readings about the coming end-times, if we should take them to heart, if we really believe that Christ still may come upon us as a "thief at night" (1 Thessalonians 5:2). Does this mean that we are to stop our long-range goal-setting, get rid of our yearly calendars and planners, or stop putting money in the college education fund? Of course not. What it does mean is that we need to change our lives, living like children of the light and illuminating the world around us with the light of the gospel. Then, on that day, when the details of our daily living become unimportant, we will be ready to find our peace and security in Christ Jesus.

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SAINT ROSE PHILIPPINE DUCHESNE

Pope Benedict once declared himself struck by how remarkably diverse our American saints are—some native born: Mother Seton, Katherine Drexel, Kateri Tekakwitha; most, like many Catholics today, immigrants: Padre Serra, Bishop Neumann, Mother Cabrini, Rose Philippine Duchesne. When the French Revolution that dispersed her convent ended, Rose joined the Religious of the Sacred Heart, volunteering for their United States mission, opening the first free school west of the Mississippi. Only after lengthy service as Superior did Rose—now seventy-one—realize her life's dream, undertaking a mission among the Potawatomi Indians. When some worried about her advanced age and failing health, the Jesuit mission leader overruled them: "She must come! She may not be able to do much work, but she'll bring the mission success by praying for us!" Frustrated by her inability to learn their languages, Rose nevertheless "spoke" to the Native Americans by her prayerful presence before the tabernacle. "Quah-kah-ka-num-ad," they named her, "Woman-Who-Prays-Always"—their way of bestowing the title the Church would later make official saint!

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The woman who fears the LORD is to be praised (Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31).
Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord (Psalm 128).

Second Reading — Brothers and sisters, you are children of the light (1 Thessalonians 5:1-6).

Gospel — Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities (Matthew 25:14-30 [14-15, 19-21]).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22; Ps 15:2-5; Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday: Rv 4:1-11; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 19:11-28

Thursday: Rv 5:1-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 19:41-44

Friday: Rv 10:8-11; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131;
Lk 19:45-48

Saturday: Rv 11:4-12; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Lk 20:27-40

Sunday: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23:1-3, 5-6; 1 Cor
15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46

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**AS WE APPROACH THE
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November 3, 2020

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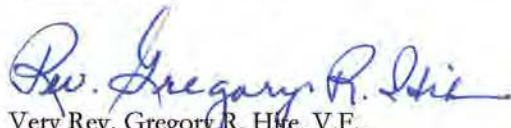
Over the past year, the Strategic Planning Committee has been meeting to chart a positive course for St. Peter's School's future. Intrinsic to that plan is the hiring of a Head of School to provide leadership in educational, spiritual, executive, financial, advancement, and managerial areas to guide our school towards the achievement of its mission.

I am pleased to announce that the Head of School position has been approved by the Diocese of Toledo's Catholic Schools Office. Further, because of the support of The Monsignor Edward C. Dunn Foundation, funding for the position has now also been secured. With these elements in place, we are preparing to move forward with a search for the individual to serve in this important leadership role.

Details regarding the preferred credentials for the position will be listed in the forthcoming job posting. In short, however, the Head of School is responsible for the effective oversight of St. Peter's School, for providing academic leadership and strategic vision, and for the quality of the student experience. He or she will guide the development of the curriculum and the faculty, working with the principals to promote academic excellence and improve retention. The Head of School will develop and uphold the mission of St. Peter's School, overseeing marketing and development efforts, and setting targets and key performance indicators for school administrators. The Head of School will be dedicated to the ministry of Catholic education, model Gospel values, and help shape the ongoing spiritual direction for the school. In sum, the Head of School, actively promoting the image and reputation of the school, will serve as its official spokesperson and representative.

Please join us in praying that the Holy Spirit continues to guide this process. As Paul reminds us in Romans 8:28, "in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to His purpose." May such a person be called to serve with us here at St. Peter's.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Very Rev. Gregory R. Hite, V.F.,
Pastor/Local Superintendent



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 11/10/20

Kelly Donaghy 419-214-4944 or 419-343-0207 kdonaghy@toledodiocese.org

Statement of the Diocese of Toledo on the Release of the “McCarrick Report”

With the release today of the *Report on the Holy See’s Institutional Knowledge and Decision Making Related to Former Cardinal Theodore Edgar McCarrick (1930-2017)*, the Diocese of Toledo is gratified that the calls by many, including Bishop Daniel Thomas, for a full investigation were heeded and culminated in this report. As Bishop Thomas said of McCarrick’s [depraved moral failures](#): *We cannot tolerate any abuse within the Catholic Church, and the moral failures of Theodore McCarrick bring home the need to be diligent in responding to accusations in a timely and just manner, no matter who is accused or when the abuse took place.*

As the report and its findings are digested and understood, our thoughts and prayers turn first and foremost to those who have suffered abuse. Once again, with this report, all of us in the Church are reminded of the wounds that are inflicted by some whose immoral actions betray their office, and the need for ongoing repentance and resolve to forthrightly address any such actions. We hope that the continued transparency and commitment of the church regarding the issue of sexual abuse of minors and of vulnerable adults promotes both justice and healing.

To report any sexual abuse of a minor by diocesan personnel (bishop, priest, deacon, consecrated religious brother/sister, or lay person), immediate contact should be made with local civil authorities, and with the Diocese of Toledo’s Victim Assistance Coordinator who can be reached at 419-244-6711, ext. 4880.