

# CELEBRATING MILESTONES

# 1939

*This newsletter is dedicated to celebrating the historical milestones of St. Albert the Great, established in 1939*



**ST ALBERT**  
THE GREAT

**1939**

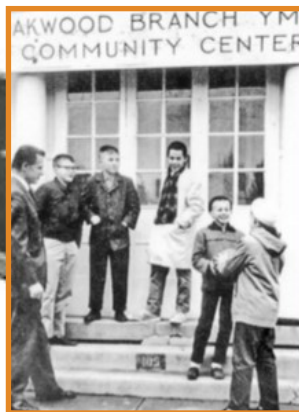


The deed was signed **June 8, 1939** transferring 3.756 acres to **John T McNicholas, Archbishop of Cincinnati**

On **July 13, 1939** **Fr. Joseph Rolfes** was assigned as Pastor of St. Albert the Great



While the Church was being built, the first Mass was held on **August 27** at a temporary site (Oakwood YMCA)



**1939**



In **November**, a farmhouse was donated and moved from Far Hills Avenue to the Church property: the Rectory

# CELEBRATING MILESTONES

# 1940-1949

**1940**



Fr. Rolfes settled into his new home

**1940**

The Church was completed and dedicated on **June 22, 1940**



The First Mass was held on **August 4, 1940**



The first Parish Choir was formed



Sisters of Charity arrived to be teachers.  
They lived on the 3rd floor of the School



**1947**

Ground was broken for  
a new school to be built

**1949**



**1949**



The School was dedicated on **August 1, 1949**.  
The first Athletic Association was formed in Carl Ireton's basement

# CELEBRATING MILESTONES

# 1950-1959

First graduating Class of 1950

**1950**



**1951**

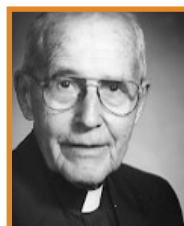
Permanent brick structure was put on church;  
the first addition to the Church was added;  
School continues to thrive



**1954**



St. Albert the Great is declared  
"barometer of Kettering's growth"  
by Kettering Oakwood Times



1st young man of Parish  
to be ordained a Priest:  
Fr. Richard Hochwalt





The Sisters of Charity's convent was built

**1955**



27 Class Rooms were added to School;  
an addition was built to Cafeteria

**1957**

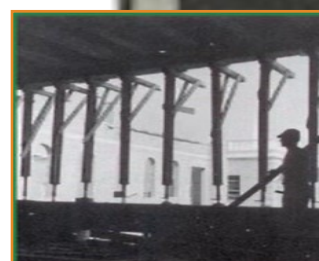


The Chapel was  
added to the  
Church to meet  
the demand of  
space

**1958**

Another addition  
connecting the Rectory to  
Church-the breezeway

**1959**

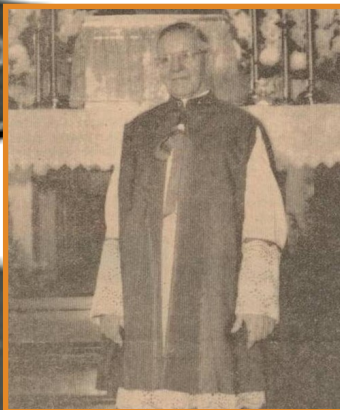


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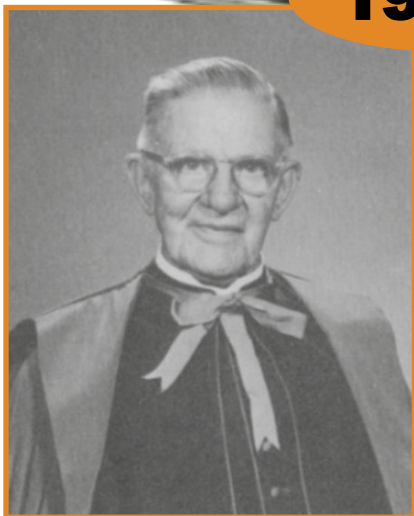
# 1960-1969

## 1963

Fr. Rolfes is invested as a monsignor



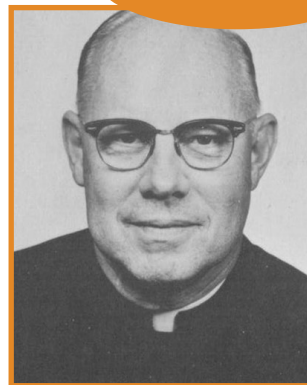
## 1965



Fr. Joseph Rolfes passes away on **September 3, 1965**

His contributions to the people of St. Albert the Great were enormous

## 1965



**In November,** Fr. Joseph Urbain becomes Pastor of St. Albert the Great. Under Vatican II, he forms:

- St. Vincent de Paul
- Legion of Mary
- Board of Elections
- Board of Education
- CCD religious education classes





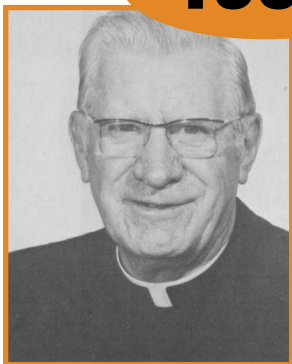
School sports

**1965**

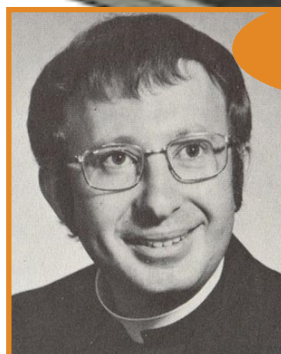
Basement Meeting Room  
added to Rectory

**1968**

**1967**



**In October,**  
Fr. James Byrne is assigned  
as new Pastor of St. Albert the  
Great. Focus on:  
-Foreign & home ministries  
-Social justice  
-Tithing



**1969**

Fr. Gary Aultz is ordained in  
Oklahoma. He returned to us  
after retirement, and continues  
to serve the parish

# CELEBRATING MILESTONES

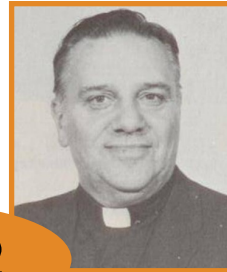
# 1970-1979

CCD let by Sister Rosemary Schmidt



**1970**

First Permanent Deacon  
Raymond Blum



**1972**

**1973**



Parish Council  
led by  
Pastor  
Jim Byrne



**1975**

Women's Guild (Rosary Altar Society)

Principal Sister  
John Maureen McGraw  
passes away



Education scholarship  
set up in her memory  
that still exists today



**1975**

CYO Playoffs



Fr. Byrne performing Sacraments

**1979**



# CELEBRATING MILESTONES

# 1980-1989

**1980**



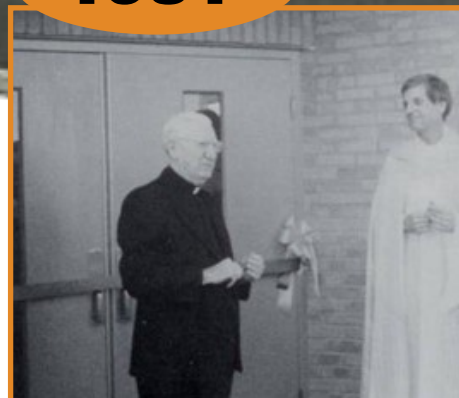
Fr. Byrne retires. Fr. David Robisch is assigned as Pastor of St. Albert the Great

RCIA begins  
Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults

**1980**



**1981**



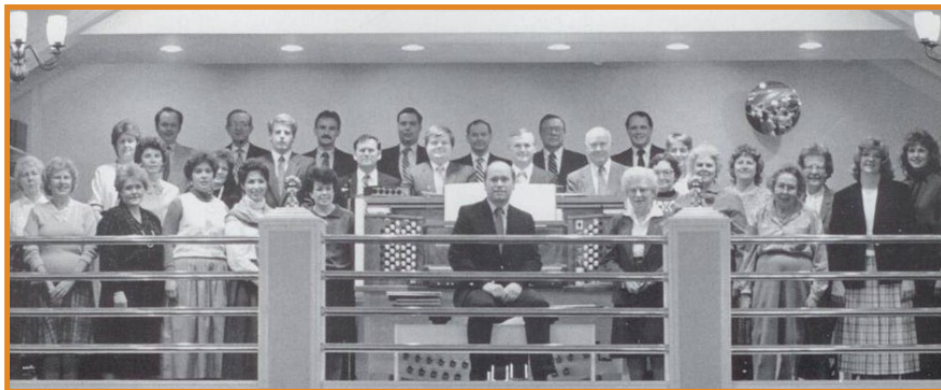
The Parish Center is built and dedicated



The Circles Group begins



The choir loft is renovated



**1985**

Sister Patrice Vales joins the staff, creating a new ministry for the aged, the infirm & shut-ins



Organ lift



The Women's Guild starts the Christmas Boutique



**1987**

The 50 Year Jubilee Celebration

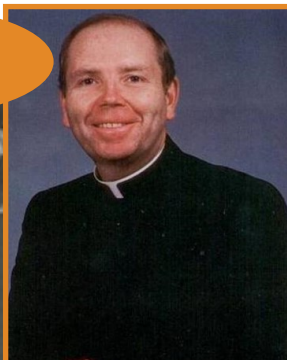


**1989**

# CELEBRATING MILESTONES

# 1990-1999

**1991**



Fr. Robisch is re-assigned to Cincinnati.  
Fr. James Manning is assigned as Pastor of  
St. Albert the Great

*Renewal Theme*  
The old convent is now called  
The Renewal Center for offices  
and meetings



**1994**



St. Patrick's Day Celebration

**1995**



Chapel of the Holy Family  
(Perpetual Adoration Chapel was  
dedicated)

The Notre Dame Choir performed



Capital Campaign for physical renovations on the parish campus



**1997**



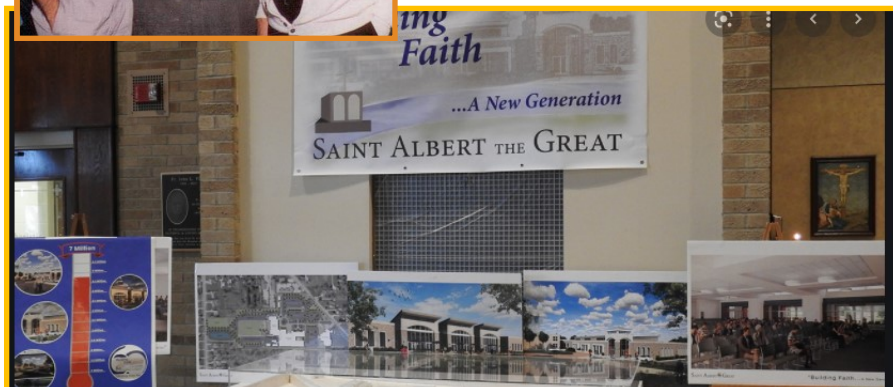
Sister Patrice Vales and Fr. Manning visiting shut-ins in nursing homes as part of new ministry for the aged



60th Year Anniversary

3 Pastors! Fr. Robisch and Fr. Byrne both come back to celebrate

**1998**



# CELEBRATING MILESTONES

# 2000-2009



## 2000

Year of the Jubilee: 22 new stained glass windows installed in Church and Chapel



Steeple is replaced



## 2004

Fr. Tom Beischel, Fr. Manning, Fr. Martin Fox,  
Fr. Rey Taylor, Fr. Gary Aultz

## 2005



Senior's Day Out Luncheon was established



Legacy Society established



## 2006



Fr. Jim Manning is re-assigned.  
Fr. Thomas Meyer becomes Pastor of St. Albert the Great



At Fr. Meyer's Welcome Party,  
with Fr. Tom Beischel

Fr. Meyer, Fr. Ed Pratt,  
Seminarian intern Dan Hess



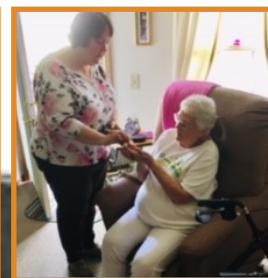
PTO Christmas Tree Sale, Athletic Association Fish Fry; Mardi Gra



Memory Bricks  
established



Meals for the Homeless  
Communion to the Homebound



Fr. Ned Brown



**2008**

Catholic Schools Week



The Renewal Center was  
renamed The Spirit Center

**2009**



Art & Craft Fest re-invented



# CELEBRATING MILESTONES

# 2010-2019

**2010**



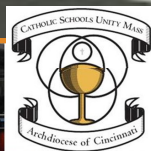
Alumni Reunion

Dave Zink ordained a Deacon;  
SAYM Youth Ministry established



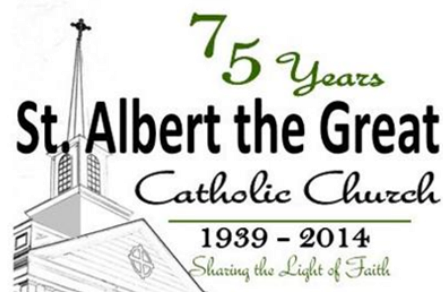
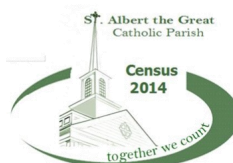
**2013**

**2012**



Unity Mass at UD Arena; event organized by the  
St. Albert Communications team

**2014**



Garden Guild established

2014: One year long celebration, celebrating 75 years of Faith: Parish Wide Open House,  
Holiday at Home Parade, Basketball with Minor Prophets, Dinner & Dance at the Presidential



Fr. Meyer retires. Fr. Chris Worland is assigned as Pastor of St. Albert the Great Fr. Pat Welsh, Associate Pastor



**2015**



From the Summit: SALSA group and Leadership Night established; Garden Guild's Farmers Market

Pro Life



New branded logo  
New mission statement

We are a Catholic community of faith in Jesus Christ.  
We worship. We learn. We share.



Athletic Association re-modeled the Parish Center (gym)



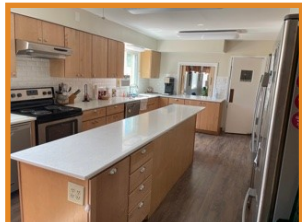
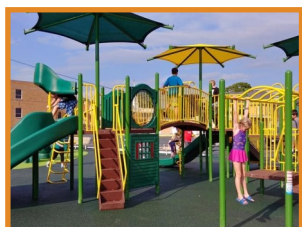
**STAGS**

Parish Summit held to gather fresh and new ideas



**2016**

New campus signs



**2018**

Dick Strominger ordained a Deacon

Worship Commission implements low gluten hosts



**2019**

PTO Pete's Park Playground renovation; Knight of Columbus Spirit Center kitchen renovation and Knights of Columbus headquarters moves to the Spirit Center top floor

Sensory Friendly Masses; New communication Tool called Flocknote



# CELEBRATING MILESTONES

# 2020-2021

## 2020



Fr. Dan Meyer joins the Parish as retired clergy

## Gala

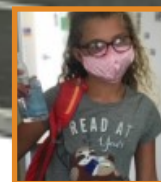
We celebrate 80 years with a Dinner & Dance at the Presidential



**Mid March:** Schools & businesses shut down. Employees worked from home. Masses were suspended and all activities canceled. On-line daily and weekend Masses were streamed with StreamSpot (Fr. Chris / Fr. Pat / Fr. Dan in Church alone) so parishioners could view Mass at home

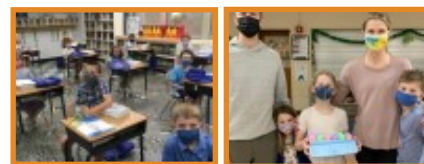
## Bringing Church to You

- Crucifix Walk after Good Friday's Mass (neighborhood behind St. Albert)
- Rosary Rally Drive -In (2)
- Liturgy of the Word outside celebration
- Drive Up Confessions
- Zoom Youth Ministry and RCIA / Adult Faith Meetings
- 8th grade graduation celebration outside



**Late May:** Public Masses resumed without obligation, but limited. Social distance policies with pews blocked off, daily cleaning, and masks required

**August:** School re-opens with strict policies / protocols for student and teacher safety



**September:** Religious Education resumed, with 3 options: in-person *with social distance / masks*; on-line classes via Zoom, or family catechesis virtual options. Youth Ministry continued with Zoom

In lieu of the Caring Trees, (*because of Covid*), **Trees of Thanksgiving** were established. Instead of gifts, parishioners provided



*Spirits & Socials* was established, such as a Bourbon Tasting (before Covid), Cooking with Fr. Chris, and an outside Live Game of Clue (during Covid)

Adult faith and small group meetings resume, either outside the Spirit Center, or inside with a limited number of participants; Legion of Mary, Choir, Ladies Book Club, Knights of Columbus, St. Vincent de Paul Society



**2020**



### Capital Improvements



**2021**



### Beginning of Lent.

For Ash Wednesday, ashes were sprinkled onto foreheads to avoid touch; **Radiate Christ Lenten study** with masks and social distance

**Easter Vigil** still had a fire even though parishioners had to start Mass inside



**2021**



# Moving forward



July 2022

**2022**

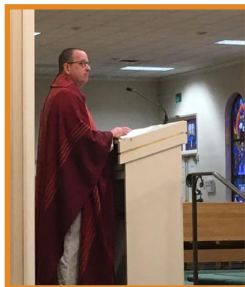


**January 2022** Archdiocese announces Parish Families.  
Fr. Ed Pratt named Pastor of NE-5:  
St. Albert, St. Charles & Ascension



Fr. Chris Worland named Pastor  
of 2 large Parishes in Loveland:  
St. Columban & St. Margaret of York

**Fr. Chris's last Easter Vigil as Pastor**



**2022**

**2022**

**September**

Knights of Columbus provides  
new floors in Spirit Center.



**2021**



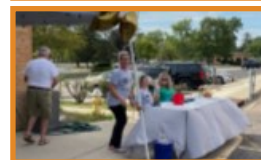
**September**

Fr. Chris celebrates Mass at Dragons  
Stadium for Catholic Social Services of  
Miami Valley 100th Anniversary



**June,**  
Mass obligation was reinstated.  
Welcome Back to Mass party

**July & August**  
Fr. Chris gives a mini presentation  
after all Masses about Beacons of  
Light; Athletic Assoc. STAG  
Block Party; RE Totus Tuus



**May**

Wearing masks for students and parishioners  
became a common thing



Sacraments looked very  
different during pandemic



**2021**