IMOTHER OF GOD FAMILY OF PARISHES

A JOYFUL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY WHO WELCOMES, INSPIRES AND CHALLENGES ALL TO BE CHRIST-LIKE

Rooted in sacramental life, we strive to be a vibrant, active and welcoming Catholic community. We encourage all to give glory and praise to God through knowing and sharing God's love in our homes, in our communities and throughout the world.



We are a caring community united in our love of God and in service to others. Regardless of who you are, or where you are in your spiritual journey, we are so glad you joined us. If you're interested in learning more about our parishes and what we have to offer, we warmly invite you to contact us! We would love to share our Catholic faith with you and tell you more about what makes the Mother of God Family of Parishes a wonderful place to worship, learn and share.

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

2025 Woodman Drive
Kettering, Ohio 45420
ascensionkettering.org
PARISH OFFICE: 937-253-5171
Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m.–Noon
RECONCILIATION:
Saturday: 4–4:30 p.m.

ST. ALBERT THE GREAT

3033 Far Hills Avenue
Kettering, Ohio 45429
stalbertthegreat.net
PARISH OFFICE: 937-293-1191
Monday-Thursday: 9 a.m.–3 p.m.
Friday: 9 a.m.–Noon
RECONCILIATION:

Friday: after Noon Mass Saturday: 3:15–4:00 p.m

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO

4500 Ackerman Boulevard
Kettering, Ohio 45429
stcharles-kettering.org
PARISH OFFICE: 937-434-6081
Monday-Friday: 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
RECONCILIATION:
Saturday: 3–4:30 p.m

WORSHIP + SACRAMENTS



BECOMING CATHOLIC

Anyone wishing to inquire about the Catholic faith, or seeking to complete their Sacraments—including children age 7+—should contact Chris Kreger, Director of OCIA, at 937-401-0423 or Joe Ollier, Director of Evangelization at 937-253-5171.

INFANT BAPTISM

Parents are required to attend a Baptism preparation class, preferably before the birth of their child, to have a child under the age of seven baptized. Classes are held monthly at rotating locations. For more information, please contact Joe Ollier at Ascension, Kristi Gaston at St. Albert, or Erin Fanning at St. Charles.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Couples should contact the Parish Office at least six months in advance of the marriage date.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please notify the Parish Office in case of serious illness or upcoming surgery. Communal anointing services are celebrated in the winter, summer and fall.

ADORATION *with Exposition

Fridays, after Noon Mass*; +daily 24-hour Adoration Chapel, St. Albert the Great Campus

First Fridays, after 8:30 a.m. Mass*, 7 p.m. Holy Hour for Vocations*; +daily Eucharistic Chapel 5:30 a.m.-10 p.m., St. Charles Borromeo Campus

DEAR FAMILY,



Lately, I have been reminded of an Easter theme: our Lord makes all things new. During our "Day of Grace," I was amazed how many people came to confess their sins who had not been to Reconciliation in decades. They were made new again as their sins were forgiven and their spirits fully reunited with their God, again. They clearly felt newness of life. Fr. Chibueze will soon be leaving to be a newness of priestly presence for another Family

of Parishes, and we have Fr. Stegbauer as a newness of priestly presence for us, not to mention the great blessing Fr. Tony has been since he joined us last July—all newness of life for our church. In our archdiocese, we have had new deacons recently ordained, including Chris Jasek, and will have some new priests ordained in a couple weeks. God only knows what renewal will flow from their ministry. We baptized and confirmed a crowd at the Easter Vigil, entering them into the newness of life in Christ. We just confirmed almost 100 teens, accommodating their growth and maturing into Christian adulthood, a rich new direction in their lives. And we will celebrate many First Communions this month, transitioning them into Eucharistic people, the most wonderful newness of life. In our church, God is always making all things new.

As I noted in my Easter homilies, there has been a surprising increase in the number of young adults who have been joining our Catholic church in recent years. COVID got them thinking, the craziness on social media got them concerned, and the lax and laissez-faire approach of our culture was losing its appeal for them. They wanted someplace that felt holy, a place where it felt like God was present. They felt called to the Catholic Church, especially the Mass. Just another way Christ is making all things new.

Throughout my life, we have always had wonderful popes who led our church in new and deeper life in Christ, so I can't wait to see where our new pope leads us, whoever he might be. Likewise, throughout my lifetime, we have always had a wonderful archbishop, so I cannot wait to see what a great blessing our new Archbishop Casey will be for us. It all makes our faith exciting and intriguing as we look to our future, confident God will continue to make all things new.

I continue to be impressed by all the new and wonderful tools on Catholic social media venues, which helps us to become like new in Christ. All of this should give us growing peace and hope, which leads to confidence and optimism. All of which keeps us ever young, ever energized and ever alive in our faith. I look forward to the fullness of the newness in Christ, which we will know in our own resurrections.

Prayers and Blessings,

Fr. Tom Nevels
Pastor
Mother of God Family of Parishes

PRAYER LIST

Ken Betche, Barbara Blackstone, Jeff Bowling, Rita Braun, Don Carone, June Chifala, Florence Cobey, Chuck Dean, Darlene Duke, Jessica Fong, Mary Ann Frederickson, Betty Gaudion, Jessica Gerasi, Louise Hageman, Carol Harris, Larry Hoffman, Kate Kelly, Janice M., John Maqsud, Mary Jo Mykytka, Joseph Paul, Jackie Pennington, Nan Romer, Isobel Ruse, Mary Jane Ryan, Mary Louise Scott, Scott Shively, Bob Simon, Cody Simon, Donna Simon, Deacon Dick Strominger, Virginia Will, Angela Woessner.

*Please call the Parish Office to request a name be added to the Prayers for the Sick in the event of acute illness, upcoming surgery/rehabilitation, etc. Names will remain for three weeks at a time unless otherwise requested.

WORSHIP

MASS SCHEDULE* + INTENTIONS

Monday,	May 5
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8:30 a.m.	Jeff Ziegler—Family	Fr. Tom	St. Charles Borromeo Campus
9:00 a.m.	Betty Haller—Cynthia Haller	Fr. Chibueze	Church of the Ascension Campus
12:00 p.m.	Jo Hilgendorf—Kay Moore	Fr. Tony	St. Albert the Great Campus
1 74.07			

Tuesday, May 6

8:30 a.m.	Justin Osterfeld—Family	Fr. Chibueze	St. Charles Borromeo Campus
12:00 p.m.	Jo Ann Mertz—MFW	Fr. Tom	St. Albert the Great Campus

Wednesday, May 7

8:30 a.m.	Gene McDonald—John & Jan Moran	Fr. Tom	St. Charles Borromeo Campus
9:00 a.m.	Frances Krupp—Joyce Wolslegel	Fr. Stegbauer	Church of the Ascension Campus
12:00 p.m.	Patrick Doherty—Family	Fr. Tony	St. Albert the Great Campus

Thursday, May 8

8:30 a.m.	Fr. Tom Schmidt	Fr. Tony	St. Charles Borromeo Campus
9:00 a.m.	Charlie Mader—Terry Scheper	Fr. Tom	Church of the Ascension Campus
12:00 p.m.	Funeral for John Zamonski	Fr. Chibueze	St. Albert the Great Campus
widow Morro	\		

Friday, May 9

9:00 a.m.	Bill Braun—Dee Braun	Fr. Chibueze	Church of the Ascension Campus
12:00 p.m.	Rosemary Kamp-Haufe—Family	Fr. Ken Fortney	St. Albert the Great Campus

Saturday, May 10

4:30 p.m.	Charlie Ellis—Glen & Joy Whaley	Fr. Tom or Fr. Stegbauer	St. Albert the Great Campus
5:00 p.m.	Mary Deane & Loretta Kelly—Kate Kelly	Fr. Nwabueze	Church of the Ascension Campus
5:00 p.m.	Angel Vazquez—Family	Fr. Chibueze	St. Charles Borromeo Campus

unday, May	11		
8:30 a.m.	Paula Streck—Judy Tudor	Fr. Tom	Church of the Ascension Campus
8:30 a.m.	St. Albert the Great Church	Fr. Chibueze	St. Albert the Great Campus
8:30 a.m.	St. Charles Borromeo Church	Fr. Stegbauer	St. Charles Borromeo Campus
10:30 a.m.	Mallory Cruz—Rutledge Family	Fr. Ken Fortney	St. Charles Borromeo Campus
11:00 a.m.	Church of the Ascension	Fr. Tom	Church of the Ascension Campus
11:00 a.m.	Ann Fredericks—Fran Jacoby	Fr. Chibueze	St. Albert the Great Campus

^{*}Priest schedules are subject to change. Please note, Church of the Ascension adjusts its Mass schedule accordingly to accomodate funerals. Please check the website or call the Parish Office to confirm Mass times before attending.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous support of The Catholic Relief Services Collection this weekend, and for revealing Christ's love to those who are poor and marginalized around the world. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Visit usccb.org/nationalcollections for more information. #iGiveCatholicTogether also accepts donations for this collection: usccb.igivecatholictogether.org.



For the FIRST TIME for Daniel Henry and Abbi Kalis.

PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF...

Thomas Nyhan. His Mass of Christian Burial was Friday, May 2 at St. Charles Borromeo Campus.

Thomas Blair. His Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, May 5, 11:00 a.m., at St. Charles Borromeo Campus.

John Leonard Duell. His Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Wednesday, May 7, 10:30 a.m., at St. Charles Borromeo Campus.

John Zamonski. His Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Thursday, May 8, Noon at St. Albert the Great Campus.

VISIT US ONLINE!

For more information about our Family of Parishes, including additional contacts, visit our websites: ascensionkettering.org stalbertthegreat.net stcharles-kettering.org.

WORSHIP

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!

Please welcome the following members to our Mother of God Family of Parishes:

Kathy & Jeremy Strohacker of Kettering, Virginia "Ginny" Vanden Bosch + Mary Anna Vanden Bosch of Kettering, Monica & Daniel Winkler of Dayton.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

The 62nd World Day of Prayer for Vocations is Sunday, May 11, fulfilling the Lord's instruction to, "Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38). Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, and consecrated life including societies of apostolic life and secular institutes. More information and resources for promoting vocations can be found at WorldDayofPrayerforVocations.com.

UPDATE YOUR CONTACTS Please notify the Parish Office of a change of contact information, including phone number, address, email or if you're moving out of the parish.

MOTHER OF GOD FAMILY OF PARISHES INFORMS YOU OF

THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF POPE FRANCIS



THE FAITHFUL OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO JOIN ARCHBISHOP ROBERT G. CASEY IN THE CELEBRATION OF FOUR MEMORIAL MASSES FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF POPE FRANCIS. THESE LITURGIES WILL BE HELD AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE ARCHDIOCESE, AS DETAILED BELOW.

MAY 5

7 PM | ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

CENTERVILLE

MAY 12

7 PM | IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH (*SPANISH*)

DAYION

MAY 21

7 PM | CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF ST. PETER IN CHAINS CINCINNATI

NIGERIAN MASS

MAY 11, 2025 | 1:00PM ST ALBERT THE GREAT CAMPUS

ST CHADLES DODDOMEO

STEWARDSHIP



WEEK OF APRIL 27 CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Offertory Income	\$ 17,057
YTD Offertory Income	\$ 1,026,379
YTD Budget	\$ 909,450
St. Vincent Conference	\$ 295

ST. ALBERT THE GREAT			ST. CHARLES BOR	ROMEO	
Offertory Income	\$	10,098	Offertory Income	\$	22,012
YTD Offertory Income	\$	1,002,049	YTD Offertory Income	\$	1,466,290
YTD Budget	\$	1,100,000	YTD Budget	\$	1,378,406
St. Vincent Conference	\$	50	Diakonia	\$	904

WEEK OF APRIL 20 *includes Easter CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Offertory Income*	\$ 30,605
YTD Offertory Income	\$ 1,009,322
YTD Budget	\$ 888,300
St. Vincent Conference	\$ 1,798

ST. ALBERT THE GREAT

31. ALDEKI ITIE UKEAI			31. CHARLES BORROMEO		
Offertory Income	\$	40,957	Offertory Income*	\$	49,770
Easter Income	\$	20,480	YTD Offertory Income	\$	1,444,278
YTD Offertory Income	\$	993,742	YTD Budget	\$	1,340,073
YTD Budget	\$	1,075,000	Diakonia	\$	903
St. Vincent Conference	\$	50			

LENTEN ALMSGIVING PROJECT

Mother of God Family of Parishes raised a total of \$21,923.50 for Isaiah 117 House, and \$20,518 for St. Eugene Parish. Thank you for your generosity!

FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS



ACTS XXIX: THE RESCUE PROJECT

Fridays, 9:15-11 a.m., St. Charles Borromeo Campus, Borromeo Room.

"Then the King will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world...Then he will say to those on his left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food..." (Matthew 25:26, 34)

Session 4: The Bad News Gets Worse (CAPTURED, CONTINUED)

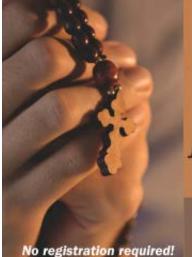
We have one of two choices in this life. Fr. Riccardo relates his meditation on this Scripture during an Ignatius retreat. He put himself in the meditation. Doing this is an eye opener. When we die, we are going to hear either, "Well done" or "Depart from me." We have a free will and a choice. The bad news is horrendous news if we think it could cause us to hear those final words of condemnation. But, Jesus came to rescue us from allowing these Powers to overcome us. He took on all of our sins on the Cross. He took on Sin and overcame Death. How important it is to Believe and Trust in our LORD, to be Obedient to what He asks of us?!

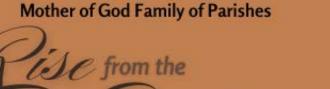
- •Where does the evil one flatter my ego causing pride?
- •What temptation is strongest in my life? How do I block or prevent it?
- •Where am I most discouraged right now?
- •How can I Trust and Believe God more?
- •Do I receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation when in grave sin?

Please join us this Friday. All are welcome! Coffee, prayer, video, lively discussion.

WHERE: St. Charles Borromeo Campus, Borromeo Room

WHEN: Friday, May 9, 9:15-11 a.m.





Join Sarah Archuleta for a six-week session exploring the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary together over the Easter season!

Tues, April 29-June 3, 9:15–10:45 AM | Thurs, May 1-June 5, 6:30–8 PM St. Charles Borromeo Campus

The month of May is dedicated to Mary, so for the next few weeks we'll focus on Mary, Mother of Divine Hope. This title for Mary originated in the small town of Pontmain, France in 1871. During the Franco-Prussian War, Prussian troops were advancing on Pontmain on their way to Paris. All seemed lost, but the Blessed Virgin appeared to the children of the village and encouraged them to pray for peace. By the end of the night, the whole town was gathered in prayer. Meanwhile, the Prussian commander inexplicably decided to halt his advance. A few days later, France and Prussia signed a peace treaty, ending the war. The apparition was given the title Mother of Divine Hope, and is celebrated on January 17. Check back next week for more on Mary, Motherhood, and Hope!



CHECK BACK HERE NEXT WEEK FOR MORE HOPE!

FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS



YOUNG ADULT DINNER



SUN · MAY 4

4 PM

SPIRIT CENTER ST. ALBERT CAMPUS

Anyone interested in being a leader for the large gatherings/small groups or planning the events, we invite you to join us before the dinner from 2-3pm in the Spirit Center.

SPRING SING

You are invited to join the St Albert children's and adult choirs for an evening of music and fellowship as we sing new and familiar hymns accompanied by bluegrass band The Lemonheads

MAY 7, 2025 6:30 PM ST. ALBERT THE GREAT CHURCH



FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH





MGFP RELIGIOUS **EDUCATION REGISTRATIONS**

Registrations for our Religious Education programs are currently open for the 2025-26 school year.

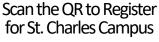
RE at St. Albert runs from September to May between the two Sunday Masses, from 9:40 AM - 10:50 AM.

St. Albert **CATECHISTS NEEDED:**

- Kindergarten
- 3rd Grade
- 4th Grade



Scan the QR to Register for St. Albert Campus



RE at St. Charles Borromeo for grades 1-5 runs on Tuesdays, from 4-5:15 PM. Grades 6-8 run on Sundays, 6:30-8 PM.

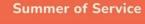
A special note to Catholic parents: 1st graders must be baptized by the age of 7 and attend religious formation in both 1st and 2nd grade in order to make First Communion in 2nd grade. 7th graders must be enrolled and attend religious formation in both 7th and 8th grade to make Confirmation towards the end of their 8th grade year. If you need help with a baptism or enrolling your child in religious education as part of sacramental preparation, please contact Tara Schumaker, Coordinator of Religious Education at 937-281-0032 or tschumaker@stalbertthegreat.net at Ascension or St. Albert the Great Campuses; Erin Fanning, Pastoral Associate of Child Faith Formation at 937-434-9272 or efanning@stcharles-kettering.org at St. Charles Borromeo Campus.



MEFP JUNIOR HIGH SUMMER SCHEDUKE

For all kids grades 5-8!





June 4, 11, and 25 An opportunity to help our community! Fun and friendship included.

More Opportunities

June 28 - Ascension Church Cleaning Day July 4 - Hot Dogs and Fireworks

Contact Annie Wood at awood@ascensionkettering.org with any questions!

Summer Lunch Program

July 21 - 25 Help serve the children in our community by providing lunch! Rising 8th graders only







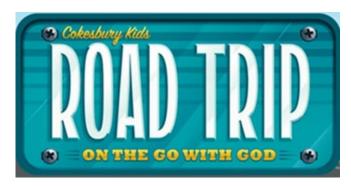
Congratulations!

Receiving the sacrament of Confirmation is a significant step in our faith journey as Catholics, symbolizing a deepening commitment to Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Pray for the 96 young men and women confirmed last weekend, that their faith continues to grow and thrive as they embrace the gifts and responsibilities that come with this important sacrament!

Sophia Bernadette Allen Justin Moses Allison Gianna Katherine Amara Tessa Veronica Andrews Noah Thomas Armstrong Dorothy Francis Back Brenna Catherine Beaty Adriana Agnes Bermick Herbert Carlo Best Samuel Francis Brinkman Brayden Patrick Browne Magdalena Mary Burger George George Calko Annabelle Elizabeth Cavo Samuel Cecilia Clary Sophia Thomas More Collins Adam Roch Collura Cooper Sebastian Columbus Timothy Francis Cope Owen Patrick Coyne Jackson John Crinion Andrew Wulfstan Czupik William Francis Daniels Ethan Damien Denterlein Caleb Ignatius Dunn Benjamin Michael Egan Daniel Joseph Ennis Layla Dymphna Espy David Pio Feucht Emma Elizabeth Fink Danielle Mary Fuchs Jenna Belle Catherine Gall

Caden Leopold Glass Alexandra Francis Godby Hattie Rose Gramza Mason Andrew Gray Kayli Christina Grooms Evelyn Lucy Gross Henry Patrick Hallock Olivia Elizabeth Hanley Karlie Teresa Harden William Patrick Heckman Sydney Lucy Hudson Lilyana Marie Catherine Jones Nathan Cyril Keltos Lucille Catherine Kummerer Kevin Sebastian Lauterbach Maria Nicholas Lehner James Vincent Lekan Audrey Audrey Lipp Silas Francis Mayse Maxwell Luke McCall Hayden Michael Medaugh Bella Luke Mihok Elias John Miller Remi Augustine Must Annabelle Catherine Neumeister Lilly Angela Neumeister Claire Therese Obringer Declan Joseph O'Connor Olivya Hildegard Oliver Nathan Joseph Olmstead Cooper Sebastian Osenbaugh Brian Gregory Peck

Kathryn Pauline Petrovic Erin Alexandra Porter Thomas Andrew Priefer Kylie Michael Rider Landon Zachary Rosenbauer Jack Helena Rosenberg Giovanna Anne Santoianni Nathaniel Sebastian Schaefer Brady Andre Schneider Simon Peter Schoen Corinne Catherine Schrimpf Jack John Paul Schrimpf Nicholas Cajetan Speakman Henry Henry Spirk Gabriel Gabriel Stewart Ella Gemma Stickel Julien Luigi Stiver Luke Matthew Tardiff Evelyn Cecilia Tate Samuel Philip Thatcher Elaina Catherine Vaglienty Savanah Rose Van Kerkoerle Joseph Genesius Wagner Adriana Veronica Watkins Benjamin Michael Weitz Benjamin Paul Wineberg Layna Benedict Wolodkiewicz Landon Francis Wood Lauren Sebastian Wooldridge Paysen Francis Wyant Paul Ignatius Zimmer Macy Catherine Zollars



Join Us For Bible Camp! June 16-20, 2025

Sign up for "Road Trip - On the Go with God" at St. Charles Parish June 16-20, 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Bible Camp is a fantastic opportunity for Kindergarten to 6th grade campers to continue growing in their faith during the summer. Together, campers and staff explore stories in the Bible and come to know God's great love for us on a deeper level. It is a faith that is alive and active and exciting to be a part of! Join us for an entire week filled with fun activities, including games, popsicles, crafts, and singing with our very own Bible Camp house band, meeting both old and new friends!

Bible Camp is special because we have an amazing number of campers and volunteer staff who come each year, year after year, to be a part of the fun. Students in 7th-12th grade and adults (especially parents) are needed to serve as teachers, classroom aides, camper guides, arts and craft assistants, field game helpers, and musicians. This is an awesome way to serve God and get service hours at the same time!

Please register no later than May 30 to ensure we have enough supplies for everyone!

<u>Campers</u> – Kindergarten through 6th grade

Campers will receive a T-shirt, daily craft, and snack. Special needs children are welcome. Scholarship assistance is available by contacting your parish's Faith Formation Office. Camp Fees are as follows and are due at the time of registration.

\$ 50.00 for 1 Camper,

\$ 75.00 for 2 Campers,

\$ 100.00 for 3+ Campers per family

<u>Staff - Teens</u> - 7th Graders through this year's High School Graduates

Teens assist adult staff with campers in class, Arts & Crafts, PE, Music, and Popsicles. When not "on duty," teens will attend a *Teen Enrichment Program*. Teens can use their time at camp as a service opportunity.

Staff - Adult - Last year's High School Graduates and older

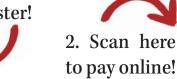
Adults are needed to lead our campers through daily activities. If you require child care, please let us know. The Preschool (camp fee applies) and Nursery will be available. SafeParish is an online training program required by the Archdiocese for adults who work with children. If this certification is needed, please contact the Faith Formation Office for assistance. An *Adult Spiritual Enrichment Program* for all staff and parishioners is available daily, Monday through Thursday.

All Adult and Teen Staff are asked to attend a <u>Day of Prep on Friday, June 13,</u> from 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. We will meet in Walsh Hall to discuss Bible Camp procedures and set up for the event. This day is included as a service opportunity for teens.

Attention Music Volunteers – You will be contacted regarding a separate day of prep on Sunday, June 15.



1. Scan here to register!





Registration forms for campers and volunteers (teens & adults) are also available at:

stcharles-kettering.org/bible-camp

LOVE IN ACTION

FEED THE HUNGRY: CASSEROLES

Casserole pans are available to provide a meal for our neighbors at the St. Vincent shelters. Instructions are with each pan. St. Charles Borromeo Campus is always in need of one-pound cans of vegetables, as well as bags of apples, oranges, and carrot sticks & celery—washed and cut up, ready to serve.

Church of the Ascension Campus

Pick up pans: May 3-4, May 31-June 1

Pans due by: May 23, June 20 (Deliver frozen meals either to the Witzman

Center or drop off in the parish office by Noon on the due date.)

St. Albert the Great Campus

Pick up pans: May 30 Pans due by: June 7

St. Charles Borromeo Campus Pick up pans: May 4, June 1

Pans due by: May 11, June 8 (Deliver frozen to the Hospitality Room, 8-10:45

a.m.)

MAY FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

The next collection of items for the Ascension Neighbor-to-Neighbor Food Pantry will be held on the weekend of May 17-18. Your donation of the items we lack is greatly appreciated! These include: nonperishable food items. Please leave your donations in the large blue containers that will be at each of the Ascension Campus entrance doors. Thank you for your amazing generosity in supporting our neighbors in need!

MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION

You're invited to donate shelf stable food and hygiene products for the Catholic Social Services Pantry. Collection barrels will be located in the Gathering Space at St. Albert the Great Campus on May 10 and 11.





ST. ALBERT THE GREAT CAMPUS, PARISH CENTER SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2025 8 A.M. TO 11 A.M. Hosted by Our Lady of the Light Knights of Columbus Council 14891

ASCENSION CHURCH GYM SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2025 9 A.M. TO 1 P.M.



TIPS FROM CARE OF GOD'S CREATION

If you enjoy camping, consider installing solar panels on your camper or RV so you don't have to use a generator or camp-available electricity as often.

A COMMUNITY OF OPPORTUNITIES

WOMEN'S SPRING FLING

Wednesday, May 7, 5:45 p.m. | Ascension Campus, PAC

All women of the Mother of God Family of parishes are invited to attend the second annual Spring Fling Potluck. Drinks, chicken, and table service will be supplied by Ascension's Women's Guild. We ask that you contribute a covered dish to serve at least 12 people. Doors open at 5:45 p.m., and dinner will be served at 6:15 p.m. Come with a friend – or group of friends – neighbor, mom, daughter, sister! All are welcome. A donation at the door of \$3 for adults and \$2 for ages 3-10 will help defray costs. Following dinner, we have Ann Anzalone speaking with us on Brain Health! Ann was with us in October and will continue sharing her wonderful knowledge with us!

Learn the ins and outs of maintaining a thriving brain. Discover the uncompromising needs of the aging brain along with the skills to meet those needs. Experience ways to think outside of the box to thrive as you age. Learn peace in being, joy in moving and happiness in serving. Ann Anzalone is a dynamic teacher specializing in teaching current brain-based research, brain growth and development, movement for learning and effective learning. Her mission is to teach so that others may learn. She has taught graduate classes, collaborated with school districts throughout the country and trained foster parents. She currently teaches senior groups and maintains a private practice.

No advance reservations necessary. Questions? Contact Sue Graham at sgraham@ascensionkettering.org. See you there!



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY FROM K OF C 14995!

Knights of Columbus Council 14995 will be distributing complementary flowers in honor of Mother's Day after all Masses at St. Charles Borromeo Campus on May 10-11.

A COMMUNITY OF OPPORTUNITIES

AT A GLANCE

- May 3, 4, 10, 11—First Communions, varies
- May 10—Celebrating Fr. Nwabueze, 5 p.m., Ascension Campus
- May 15—Leisure Club, 1:30 p.m., Ascension Campus
- May 17—Blood Drives, Ascension & St. Albert Campuses

MGFP MAY CROWNINGS

Saturday, May 10, 10 a.m. | Ascension Campus, Outdoor Rosary Saturday, May 17, 5:30 p.m. | St. Albert Campus, Chapel Side Our Lady of the Light Ladies Auxiliary at Ascension would like to invite all from the MGFP to join us for a May Crowning of our Blessed Mother. You may bring a potted plant or cut flowers if you would like. We will be walking and praying the rosary. If you cannot walk, please bring a lawn chair.

The ceremony at St. Albert is hosted by the Legion of Mary, and will include a Rosary using the stained glass windows for meditation. Participants are invited to bring flowers for Our Lady. Free Miraculous Medals. For details, call Ennis Dodd, 937-331-8292.

LEISURE CLUB

Thursday, May 15, 1:30 p.m. | Ascension Campus, Witzman All seniors of the MGFP are invited to the May Leisure Club Meeting. Our speaker will be Dave Gabert from LaComedia. Bring a snack to share. Questions? Contact Sue Graham at sgraham@ascensionkettering.org.

ACTIVITIES FOR WIDOWED CATHOLICS

Naim members have a packed May schedule, beginning with the Derby Party on May 3. Next is the monthly meeting May 12, @ 1 PM, followed by cards, in the All Saints Room at St Francis of Assisi, 6245 Wilmington Pike, Centerville. Then on Friday, May 23, Naim celebrates their 60th Anniversary at a formal dinner. Interested in attending any of these activities, contact.....Sunny Hickey at 937-433-1437.



MOTHER OF GOD FAMILY OF PARISHES INFO



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PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Send all items for publishing consideration to: Sarah Green, sgreen@ascensionkettering.org, Amanda Ortiz, aortiz@stalbertthegreat.net, Anna Godby, agodby@stcharles-kettering.org **Bulletin** – 10 days prior to publication date **Flocknote/E-news** – Thursday at noon *The LIGHT* – 12th of Nov., Feb., May, Aug.

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Discover true love.

At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus met Peter, James, and John by the seashore, filling their nets to overflowing. They left their boats behind, awestruck and hopeful. After the resurrection, confused and out of sorts, the apostles returned to their fishing boats, seeking security in their previous way of life. They encountered Jesus on the seashore again, their fishing net and their hearts overflowing anew.

Even though the disciples had journeyed with Jesus for three years, he still had much to teach them about forgiveness, mercy, and love. Peter had denied Jesus during his passion; others had walked away, hidden,

fearful. Jesus did not come to condemn them, however. He came with love, seeking love. "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Jesus asked. "This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (Jn 21:15, 13:35)

Allow the Lord to come to you with love. Jesus sacrificed himself, giving himself completely so that God's love might be known. Listen to the gospels as though it's the first time you're hearing them and be awestruck by the miracle of Christ's undying love for all.

The love we encounter in Jesus is not easy, feel-good love, like young infatuation. Rather, the love of Christ is deep, unshakable, true. Jesus reveals God who *is* love: "God's very being is love. By sending his only Son and the Spirit of Love in the fullness of time, God has revealed his innermost secret. God himself is an eternal exchange of love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and he has destined us to share in that exchange." (CCC, 221)

Thank God for the gift of love through sharing and caring. Jesus asks, "Do you love me?" Respond to Christ's love in gratitude by putting love into action, especially for those who are poor, lonely, frightened, and sick.

Give yourself away.

"There the cross is found, because the cross is our desire to give ourselves away. It is our hunger to genuinely hand ourselves over, to give ourselves to others, because it is in doing so that we are most who we are. If you hold onto your life, you will

not have life, but if you give it away, you cannot exhaust life. It becomes everlasting life. You become absolutely you.

And who, finally, are you?
You are the image and likeness of God. If God is pure self-gift, then self-gift is the image in which we are made, the blueprint on which we are built. Therefore, to give ourselves away is what we most deeply desire."

 Fr. Michael Himes, Doing the Truth in Love



Jesus said:

"My sheep hear my voice;

I know them, and they follow me.

I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish.

No one can take them out of my hand.

-John 10:27-29, Fourth Sunday of Easter

New life

What difference does the resurrection make in your every day life? At times, the richness of what we believe may seem distant from the way we live. In this season of Easter, our Sunday readings focus on the depths of Jesus' love for us and the fervor of the first disciples in witnessing to that love with others. These are perfect themes for us to explore this month, as we consider what followers of Jesus who live the new life of the resurrection are called to be and to do.

There are many moments when we face death. Perhaps we experience the physical death of a loved one, or we come to terms with our own mortality.

There are other "deaths" we experience in life as well: illness, with the limitations it brings; fear, and the paralysis that may accompany it; anxiety, and the way it can diminish our sense of wellbeing and hope.

Christ's resurrection brings new life, transforming our experiences of death with ultimate meaning and the certainty of God's love through everything life holds.

As the Easter season unfolds, face death with the assurance that new life is yours in Christ! Be mindful that others wait for you to witness to and share that life as a faithful disciple and steward.

IMPACT THIS MONTH

Stewards of Hope

We all need a little hope now and then. It is easy in today's charged, polarized culture to be overwhelmed by fear, mistrust, anger, and frustration. Studies show that more people are lonely and isolated than in previous generations. Others long for support from family or friends who seem too busy to listen or pay attention to their dismay.

The Jubilee Year theme "Pilgrims of Hope" is a reminder that we have hope and are called to



bring hope to
others through our
membership in
Christ's Body. Jesus'
resurrection and
ascension gives us
the certainty that
this present
moment, no matter

how dismal it may seem, is a passing thing - Christ's victory over death means that we have hope for eternity. The apostles understood that the hope that is found in Jesus' resurrection was a great gift that must be shared. They simply could not *not* share the Good News of Christ with all.

This month, reflect on the hope you have been given through your faith in Jesus Christ. When do you lean in to that hope in times of trial, loneliness, or frustration? How are you called to be a good steward of this hope? The world needs hope now more than ever. Be hope. Share it. Be a good steward of hope for all.

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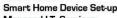
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