

# The Cathedral Star

January 2017 Vol. XIX • No. 1

## STEWARDSHIP

### CALL TO ACTION - STEWARDSHIP FAIR

In the last edition of the Cathedral Star Newsletter, we were encouraged to reflect on some very important themes – our service to others, our commitment to building bridges that bring others closer to God and ways we could illuminate the gifts in others.

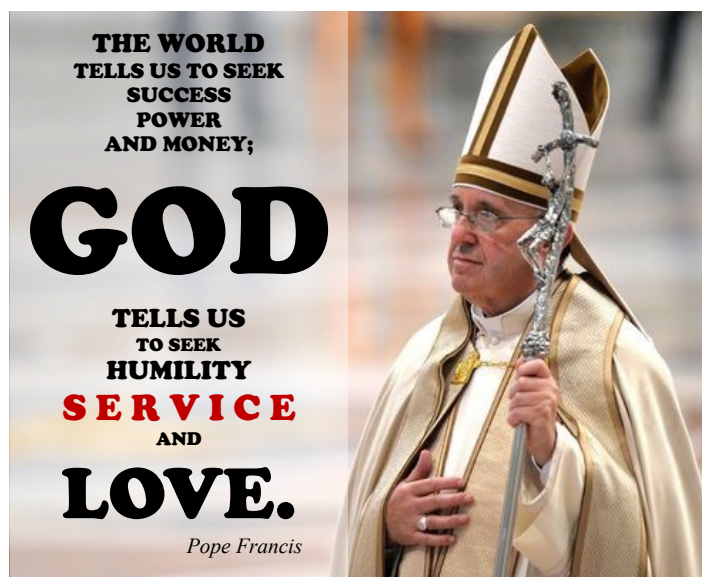
This month, we will have an opportunity to put our reflections into action. After all Masses on the weekend of January 28 and 29, we will have a Stewardship Fair. Members from a variety of different service programs and committees will be present to answer questions and help us get involved.

Please prayerfully consider attending.

### STEWARDSHIP FORM

Every year, we encourage all members of the Cathedral Parish family to complete a Stewardship Form. This serves multiple purposes. It helps our ministry leads solidify that active members of a ministry want to continue their service and identifies those interested in serving for the first time. For those called to serve in a new way or to get involved for the first time - once you complete the ministry portion of

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# MAKING A GIFT OF OURSELVES



As Vocation Director for the Archdiocese of Louisville I have given what seem now to be countless vocation talks in parishes and in schools. Occasionally these talks have been for rather young students in the early stages of their primary school education. The subject matter remains quite relevant for these young children because the question of

one's vocation is endlessly relevant and in an important sense, a timeless consideration.

In the company of these young boys and girls I have sometimes begun my reflection by posing the question, "Who is the best person to be in the Church?" Answers vary broadly as might be expected, from Pope to bishop, priest to religious sister, altar server to lector or cantor. All good answers, to be sure, and for those who fulfill these ministries, we might say the true and best answers as well. Nevertheless, none of them indisputably achieve the rank of the best person to be in the Church. On this score, I think even Pope Francis would agree that another role in the Church bests his own. In the end, the best person to be in the Church is a saint.

The good news is that all of us are called to be saints. The French novelist Léon Bloy captured this well in one of his works when he remarked, "Life holds only one tragedy: not to have been a saint." Becoming a saint is not one of many Christian paths, it is the only Christian path. Though

our estimations of what makes a life saintly may vary marginally, perhaps the simplest definition of a saint is one who becomes most completely the person God created them to be. While we struggle onward toward this end, mightily at times, our purpose as a parish community is to draw the necessary strength from God and one another to continue ever forward in becoming more like the person God created us to be. Our role in helping one another to this end is underappreciated. As the French poet Charles Péguy once said, "We cannot go to Heaven alone. Otherwise, God will say to us, 'Where are the others?'"

The logic that upholds the lives of the saints is the imitation of Christ himself. Such imitation is possible only if one thinks of life as pure gift received from God and pure gift to be given to others, and thereby to God in return. Pope Benedict captured this reality accordingly in his last general audience as Holy Father when he shared, "I have felt, and I feel even in this very moment, that one receives one's life precisely when one offers it as a gift."

This newsletter serves the purpose of initiating the process of reflection behind the Stewardship drive that will unfold in coming weeks. For all the important surface considerations to be decided regarding future parish involvement, such as What? When? and How Much?, at least one question can be answered simply here. Why? Because God is calling us to be saints, and inviting us to make a gift of ourselves. God bless you.

Fr. Michael Wimsatt  
Rector



## STEWARDSHIP FORM

*(Continued from page 1)*

the form, a representative from the group in which you expressed interest will reach out to answer any questions and help you get involved.

Service is what makes our Parish and community thrive. It makes our worship services come alive, our Parish Office run smoother and our community-based outreach more effective.

Please review some of the service opportunities listed in the newsletter. You can also visit the Cathedral of the Assumption website for a complete list of ministries including a detailed description at [CathedralOfTheAssumption.org](http://CathedralOfTheAssumption.org)

The entire Stewardship Committee thanks you for your continued commitment to serve God and our Parish family.

We appreciate your participation in completing the Stewardship Form and the census information included in this edition of the newsletter. The updated household information will help our Parish Office Staff update their database and make their day-to-day work more efficient.

Thanks for your help!

Stewardship Committee

# ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

By Patti Birk

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Patti Birk, the new Business Manager. It has been almost a year since starting at the Cathedral, so I will not be able to say "new" Business Manager anymore. I have three children (Al -15, Cape - 13, and Hope - 11), and we belong to St. Stephen Martyr. After living in South Africa for two years, their names were inspired by the Cape of Good Hope.

There are way too many people to thank with my on-boarding process. Yet, I must mention the generous staff, warm volunteers and many kind parishioners.

As stewardship is largely about sharing of one's self, Annette Roberts, the previous Business Manager, deserves a HUGE thank you! Annette was with the Cathedral for over 10 years, and her knowledge of the Cathedral is amazing, as well as her knowledge of procedures and internal controls. We were both fortunate to have the full month of February which helped with a smooth transition. Annette is always available for questions, and helps the money counters when asked. What a true testament of stewardship!

In general, we describe stewardship as time, talent and treasure. Because of stewardship, the Cathedral generously gives back to our parishioners, our community in Louisville by feeding the homeless every day of the year, our sister parish in Haiti, and other causes in the world. There are many ways to participate with your time and talent. As the Business Manager, I will focus on the treasure part of stewardship.

In addition to paying people, both staff and vendors, my other primary duties are ensuring that sources of income are deposited in a timely manner, properly recorded and maintained in a safe place. I will be at the Stewardship Fair during the last weekend of January and look forward to meeting you.

Stewardship through treasure (monetary donations, tithing, gifts, grants, etc.) keeps the operations of the Cathedral running and supports a multitude of ministries. Payroll and Maintenance / Facilities and the Homeless Kitchen represent approximately 44%, 14% and 12%, respectively, of the annual budget. Sunday collections cover 71% of operating expenses, which vary from week to week. That is why we ask that you and your family prayerfully reflect on your intended annual gift. Knowing expected commitments can build a sound and realistic budget.

Even though we budget for unknown expenditures relating to our buildings, there generally is a big surprise such as replacing an air conditioning unit, new hot water heaters or required upgrades from the Fire Marshall. Our Maintenance Team should be commended for maintaining our historic buildings and keeping them in good shape. We prefer to do as much as possible in-house. With that being said, we are constantly replacing aging equipment with new, more efficient tools, which ultimately result in savings.

Our beautiful Cathedral is 165 years, and we want to keep HER surviving, and THRIVING! In order to do so,

there are constant repairs and required maintenance.

We are all blessed with a beautiful place to worship and a Parish family that supports our greater community. Please discern about your annual gift to the Cathedral so Her legacy and ours as a compassionate community can be sustained



for centuries to come. It is a powerful way to show future generations what Stewardship, service to others, is all about. In advance, we thank you for your generosity.

If I can ever be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 502-657-5314 or stop by the office.

Have a great year!

## HOSPITALITY

Do you find yourself holding the door open for complete strangers? Do you say Hi to random people you pass on the street? The Cathedral needs your outgoing personality to welcome everyone who attends Mass. Passing out bulletins is a bonus perk of this ministry.

HELP WANTED

## HELP WANTED

Looking to give back to the community? Have a burning desire to help the hungry? A couple of hours goes a long way in the Cathedral's **Daily Lunch Program**.



# SOCIAL CONCERNS

## It's Who We Are...It's What We Do

A Catholic Church, by its very nature and mission, reaches out to all.

Our Cathedral mission statement is:

*Cathedral parishioners, in communion with the Archbishop of Louisville, are disciples of Jesus Christ and stewards of God's gifts to us. We commit ourselves to giving thanks and praise to God in Word and Sacrament, to engaging in lifelong spiritual formation in the Roman Catholic tradition, to embracing the unique role of a cathedral in the local Church and civic community, and to responding to God's unconditional love by reaching out in hospitality and service to all.*

Our history of outreach on this site begins with the first church here, St. Louis. In the 1830's, Mother Catherine Spalding and the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth took in children orphaned by the cholera epidemic and started an orphanage, a girls school (later Presentation Academy), a night school for children who worked during the day, and an infirmary. The Cathedral's St. Vincent DePaul Society, formed in 1853, is the oldest in the Louisville area. Our current daily lunch program has its roots in the Great Depression when the Cathedral's housekeeper began making cheese sandwiches for the area's hungry.

Today, our Social Concerns Committee is involved in three major areas:

### **Community Outreach**

through our Daily Lunch Program, Repair Affair and other housing initiatives, collections for community causes, a voucher program for those needing state IDs, crisis intervention for those in need of spiritual, physical and emotional support. We also are involved with St. John's Center for Men, Nativity Academy at St. Boniface, Central Louisville Community Ministries, and House of Ruth.

### **Global Outreach**

through our relationship with our sister parish, Cathedrale St. Louis, in Jeremie, Haiti and their St. Therese Montessori School.

### **Faithful Citizenship**

through our work in the areas of Legislative and Public Affairs and Respect Life Issues. We work closely with Catholic Charities and Catholic Conference of Kentucky.



***"Help one another. This is what Jesus teaches us.  
This is what I do. And I do it with my heart."***

*Pope Francis*

Please consider this a thank you to those already involved and an open invitation to all others to prayerfully consider how you personally might wish to participate. A visit to our web site can give you additional information. A call to the parish office can get you in touch with someone who can answer any questions you may have. Your involvement can be as simple as bringing needed toiletries to a Fifth Sunday Collection for House of Ruth, or signing up for a one-time Saturday in June Repair Affair project with the Cathedral team, or an ongoing commitment of a regular day of the week or month working in our daily lunch program.

***Our Committee is looking for leaders who have the passion, creativity, and skills to help us do even more, especially in the area of Faithful Citizenship. Our goal is to empower individual parishioners and our parish as a whole with the information, tools, and support to be our best, life-affirming, compassionate, contributing force for good in our parish, local and global communities. Please consider becoming part of the team!***

# W O R S H I P

The heart of our parish community is the Mass. We come together in worship, to receive nourishment for living in God's word and in the Eucharist, and to lift up one another in prayer. That worship experience at the Cathedral often appears seamless, but it has many moving parts.

In addition to the celebrant, deacon, music director, and sacristan, there are many liturgical ministry opportunities.

There are also 14 members of our Cathedral Singers and 35 members of the Cathedral Choir, and Dr. Philip Brisson welcomes dedicated members to both groups.

The beautiful settings that lend to our worship experience throughout the liturgical year are thoughtfully created and tended by members of the Art and Environment team. New members are always welcome.

## WORSHIP BY THE NUMBERS

### Our Four Weekend Masses

Eucharistic Ministers .....	32
Lectors .....	8
Ministers of Hospitality .....	18
Cantors .....	4
Servers .....	8
Crossbearers.....	4..... 74

### Monday-Friday Masses

Eucharistic Ministers .....	13
Lectors .....	5
Ministers of Hospitality .....	5
Cantors.....	4
Servers.....	5..... 32

### Multiply by 52 Weeks/Year

Liturgical ministry opportunities per year ..... 5,512




# FORMATION

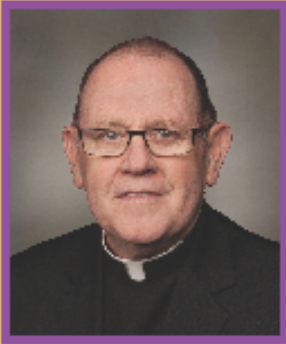
In addition to RCIA and Children's Religious Education, there are many formation opportunities offered throughout the year. Our Formation Team is very happy to invite all to our Lenten Parish Mission! Please spread the word!

## LENTEN MISSION

CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION  
7:00pm, MARCH 6th & 7th, 2017

"Watch Carefully How You Live"





**Guest Speaker:**  
**Father Ronald Knott,**  
**former Cathedral Pastor**

**Music by the gospel group**  
**REFLECTIONS**

**433 South Fifth Street, Louisville, KY 40202**

### Everyone Welcome

All Catholics, non-practicing Catholics,  
members of other churches or people with no church.



# PARISH LIFE



## MEET OUR PARISH NURSE E.A. Cole

Today, I was privileged to conduct an interview with the parish nurse, E. A. Cole. She serves a diverse community of the Cathedral of the Assumption, and she has done so for approximately ten years. Her duties include bringing communion to the homebound, attending multiple important meetings that affect the parish community as a whole, visiting hospitalized parishioners, and helping monitor blood pressures of our homeless population. She also helps people connect with vital resources and information for healthy living from a prospective of mind, body and spirit, which promotes overall wellbeing and health. Her educational background started in Parish Nursing. The American Nursing Association and the Health Ministry Association recognize Faith Community Nursing as a specialty. She is so dedicated and loyal to her job that when more education was required, she completed the extra training in October 2010.

E. A. Cole is an extraordinary healthcare delivery person. She is a tremendous blessing to our community. When you see her, make sure you thank her for her outstanding service.

*By Misti Grover*



## A NEW PARISH LIFE OFFERING

### Cathedral Golden Stars

*By Dottie Wyman*

If you feel young at heart, we hope you will come participate in this new ministry at the Cathedral. CATHEDRAL GOLDEN STARS: a ministry for senior parishioners.

This ministry will have at its heart three facets, social events, spiritual enhancement opportunities and service projects. The details, such as meeting times and program offerings will be announced soon. Please watch the bulletin for more information. It has been awhile since the Cathedral has offered this type of ministry and we hope you will come, share your ideas and help make this a lively new addition to the Cathedral Family!!

HELP WANTED

Skilled at carrying items — Cross, Holy Books, patens? Calling all men and women **ALTAR SERVERS** looking to sport a traditional white robe.

HELP WANTED



## **Cathedral of the Assumption**

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## **PARISH ONLINE DIRECTORY**

Have you ever wondered “Who is that sitting next to me in church?” God calls us by name and we should call each other by name, too!

We invite you and your family to join us in the launch of our online Parish Directory by taking a few minutes to provide your contact information and have a photo taken! We will be gathering in the undercroft after all weekend Masses on January 28/29 during our Stewardship.

So many faces have been added to our parish family, not to mention a new Pastor! We are excited about this new project and look forward to showing you all of the great benefits of this directory!

*By: Morgan Sprigler*

### **The Cathedral Star Staff Members**

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Jack Lydon  
Sharon Mattingly  
Tristan Padua  
Martha Villiger



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