

# The Cathedral Star

November 2015 Vol. XVII • No. 2

Welcome to this edition of our Cathedral Star Newsletter! Once again we want to share with you our stewardship efforts and witness. As our reporting will show, our participation in the life and worship of our parish family expands out in ever-widening circles of love and service when each of us contribute our own unique giftedness. I am grateful to our wonderful team who has produced this edition of the Cathedral Star, and I hope you enjoy reading it and are inspired by it!



Peace,  
Fr. Jeff Nicolas  
Pastor of the Cathedral of the Assumption

## *For I was Hungry and You Gave Me Food*

*By Molly Chesney*

The cornerstone of the Cathedral of the Assumption was placed on the Feast of the Assumption, August 15, 1849. Bishops Spalding and Purcell of Cincinnati presided. From the balcony of his Fifth Street residence, the aged and ailing Bishop Benedict Joseph Flaget, the first Bishop of the West, imparted a solemn Episcopal blessing to the large crowd. On October 3, 1852, the new Cathedral was completed and dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary under the title of the Cathedral of the Assumption.

For the past 163 years, the Cathedral has been a landmark in downtown Louisville. We have always been an urban parish, serving the needs of an ever-changing and growing city. Throughout these many years, we have been a place of solace and comfort to those seeking relief from the oppressions and difficulties of their daily lives and of the times in which they lived. We have administered the Sacraments and preached the Gospel. We have stood firm, and with faith, we have celebrated many joyful events and endured many difficult times as well and have helped our neighbors through these same times.

We were here in 1861 when the Civil War was being fought in our United States.

We were here in 1929 when the stock market crashed sending our Nation into the Great Depression. This Great Depression lasted until 1941 when Pearl Harbor was attacked and war on Japan was declared, thus launching the United States into WWII. Through it all, we were here and our faith and outreach were strong.

We were here during the depths of the Great Depression as Louisville suffered along with the

*(Continued on page 2)*

## *In this issue*

***For I was Hungry and You Gave Me Food***

By Molly Chesney

***Stewardship and Its Ripple Effects***

By Sharon Mattingly

***Annual Report***

*Income vs. Expense*

***Fiscal Year Budget***

***Annual Parish Statistical Information***

CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION

433 SOUTH FIFTH STREET • LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202  
Voice 502-582-2971 • Fax 502-582-3919 • [www.cathedraloftheassumption.org](http://www.cathedraloftheassumption.org)

## For I was Hungry and You Gave Me Food

(Continued from page 1)

rest of the Nation. Adding to that suffering was the “Great Flood of ’37.” In Louisville, the waters of the Ohio reached 30 feet above flood level, 175,000 people were forced to evacuate and 70 percent of the city was under water. The region was declared a national disaster. It was a very difficult time for the city and its residents. It was during this time that the



Cathedral began serving cheese sandwiches to the hungry and those in need. These sandwiches were served from the front steps of the Cathedral Rectory, where Archbishop John Alexander Floersh resided. (Our diocese became an Archdiocese in 1937 and Bishop Floersh became the first Archbishop of the Diocese.) Later, this mission moved to the alley behind the Cathedral and bologna sandwiches were served from a fold-down hatch from the Archbishop’s garage door. The alley became known as “Bologna Alley,” and the name has stayed to this day. The Cathedral has continued this mission without interruption since its start during those days in the Great Depression.

Over the years, many things have changed, facilities improved and remodeled. The program has grown, and since 1999, we have provided a sustaining lunch meal, which usually consists of homemade soup, a hearty sandwich, dessert, and a drink. We provide this meal 365 days a year. We never close and last year 4,258 volunteers provided 53,751 meals to the hungry and homeless in our city. WOW!

Of course, there are many Cathedral parishioners who volunteer their time to our Daily Lunch Program, and they are invaluable. However, we have grown into a true community outreach program. We work together with hundreds of people across our city to continue this mission. We could not exist without the support of hundreds of volunteers and community partners. Most of these partnerships go unnoticed; the humility of our partners and volunteers is inspiring. Some of our partners are well-known companies whose employees volunteer their time, such as Invesco, Kindred Health Care, the University of Louisville, Actors Theatre, The Marriot Downtown, PMR Companies, Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, Brown-Forman, Humana, Hilliard-Lyons, Hard Rock Café, Mountjoy Chilton Medley CPAs, Jewish Community Center, JCPS Ahrens Program, JCPS Churchill Park Program, Kentucky Country Day School, VanZandt, Emrich & Cary Insurance, Legal Secretaries of Louisville, LMPD Special Ops Division, Kelly Construction and The Dominican Friars. A special mention goes to our partners at St. Albert the Great Parish who provide a BBQ cook-out every month and the spaghetti and meatball dinner for our “Christmas In The Kitchen” annual event.

Other partners have donated food and complete meals. Vincenzo’s Italian Restaurant has for years made a commit-

ment of providing a traditional Thanksgiving meal to our daily lunch guests on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. Little Caesar’s Pizza has been known to take a day and donate pizza to our guests. Last year, Vietnam Kitchen Restaurant together with the Buddhist Youth Group cooked and served an amazing meal here. Graeters Ice Cream has delivered individual pints, Adam Matthew Cheesecake Company has delivered cakes, and Third Day Farm has donated organic cage-free eggs. Whew!



(Continued on page 7)



# *Stewardship and Its Ripple Effects*

By Sharon Mattingly

They met on the second floor of the parish office building on an October evening in 2012. The eight or so parishioners had volunteered to work with Maggie Cyphers in developing and pulling off a major fundraiser for the benefit of the Cathedral's program for feeding the homeless on a daily basis in the Sandefur Dining Hall. Father Jeff had embraced the idea for a fundraiser with the vision that the event would eventually reach beyond the Cathedral to the community as a whole. Little did the committee know what they were in for on that evening when "Feed My Neighbor" was first conceived.

The most pressing items of business for the committee were to determine a date for the event and to determine what the event itself would be. Juggling the need to have the event before the end of the Cathedral's fiscal year (June 30), March Madness, and the Derby events proliferating for four to six weeks before the first Saturday in May, the committee decided on the first weekend in June. The compressed timeframe for planning a major fundraiser and the desire to honor those most responsible for the Sandefur Dining Hall dictated that the inaugural event would be a tribute dinner honoring Father Knott, Christy Brown, and Father Fichteman.

The volunteers then sprang into action – each contributing according to his/her talents. Those with marketing and advertising expertise began working on a logo, designing invitations, and outlining a plan to publicize the event within the community. Those who had experience working on silent and live auctions secured additional volunteers and began to solicit auction items and catalog them for the event. Those assigned to logistics worked to secure a venue, determine a dinner menu, secure decorations and entertainment, and design the gift for the honorees. The committee held regular meetings and stayed in touch via email. Yes, it was time consuming and hard work, but we all felt a responsibility to the Cathedral lunch program and the success of this inaugural fundraiser.

The evening before the tribute dinner, committee members and their family and friends, as well as other Cathedral volunteers, met at The Seelbach to begin the set-up for the event. Several of these individuals did not leave until midnight, only to return by 8:30 am to work on auction set-up and IT needs for the tribute portion of the evening. They left around 3:00 pm only to return by 5:00 pm to begin orientation for the various volunteers – registration, table and auction number assignments, and silent and live auction management and checkout.

The tribute dinner of June 8, 2013, had 262 paid attendees and cleared \$63,000 for the Cathedral lunch program. However, by August, 2013, the committee, with a few membership changes, was back at work to plan the 2014 event. What would it be? Numerous ideas were discussed and rejected, with everyone leaving the meeting determined to pray over it

and see what we could come up with. At the following meeting, after hearing from Maggie Cyphers, the committee began to see God's guiding hand. Maggie had been praying for guidance when she received an email solicitation from a cousin in Wisconsin with whom she had not had contact for a number of years. The cousin was asking for a charitable donation for a dance competition in which he was competing and provided a website with further details. Maggie looked over the website and drew upon her own knowledge from watching "Dancing With the Stars" over the years, and an idea began to form. She presented the idea to the committee and, with some skepticism, "Let's Dance Louisville" began to take shape.

With "Let's Dance Louisville," the committee was able to move toward Father Jeff's vision of making the event more of a community-wide affair. The committee partnered with two dance studios to provide the professional dancers. Twelve "celebrity" dancers were recruited, with seven of the twelve from outside the Cathedral community. The ripple effect continued with the dancers securing attendees to support them, and the committee securing some outside sponsorship for the event. The silent and live auctions would again be incorporated into the event – before, during and after the dance competition. Publicity, solicitation and logistics teams again went to work. The IT and production management needs more than doubled from the prior year, and the staging and decoration changed dramatically. However, the committee stepped up to the task or was able to recruit others – both inside and outside the Cathedral family – to help. The circle of volunteers working toward raising money for the lunch program was widening.

With 521 paid attendees and \$73,000 of net profit for Feed My Neighbor, the first Let's Dance Louisville event was deemed a success! More importantly, the event provided a template for community-wide involvement in support of the Cathedral lunch program. When the committee met in September, 2014 to plan the 2015 event, they knew they had a big task in front of them but at least already had an event structure in place.

In looking back at the 2014 event and forward at the 2015 event, there were several things which led to the need for a larger venue and the move to The Marriott. The same two dance studios again agreed to partner with Feed My Neighbor. Twelve "celebrity" dancers were secured – 10 of the 12 from outside the Cathedral family. As with the prior year and continuing the ripple effect, several of the dancers began volunteering at the Sandefur Dining Hall to see firsthand what they were raising money for. A big plus for the second Let's Dance Louisville event – the volunteer in charge of marketing was able to secure WAVE 3 TV as the media sponsor for the event. Shannon Cogan had been a dancer in the 2014 event, and she and Scott Reynolds agreed to emcee the 2015 event.

*(Continued on page 5)*

# Annual Report: Operating Income Statement

## Fiscal Year Ending 06-30-2015

## Year-vs-Year

INCOME	Fiscal Year Ending 06-30-2015			Year-vs-Year		
	Actual	Budget	Better (Worse)	2014-15	2013-14	Better (Worse)
Collections	883,198	970,000	(86,802)	883,198	906,552	(23,354)
Social Concerns	23,496	35,000	(11,504)	23,496	35,676	(12,180)
Feed My Neighbor Fundraising	133,380	81,000	52,380	133,380	73,290	60,090
Feed My Neighbor Donations	33,979	18,000	15,979	33,979	20,007	13,972
Gifts & Bequests	96,415	25,000	71,415	96,415	31,089	65,326
Diocesan Subsidies	38,250	38,650	(400)	38,250	38,778	(528)
Interest	944	420	524	944	283	661
Miscellaneous (A)	71,489	81,500	(10,011)	71,489	109,298	(37,809)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,281,151</b>	<b>1,249,570</b>	<b>31,581</b>	<b>1,281,151</b>	<b>1,214,973</b>	<b>66,178</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Administration (B)	351,593	337,404	(14,189)	351,593	322,287	(29,306)
Worship/Music	225,748	253,969	28,221	225,748	224,160	(1,588)
Parish Life	68,846	80,355	11,509	68,846	68,804	(42)
Formation	13,688	21,722	8,034	13,688	17,473	3,785
Social Concerns	5,107	7,150	2,043	5,107	6,809	1,702
Charitable Donations	16,000	24,640	8,640	16,000	24,248	8,248
Feed My Neighbor-Kitchen	133,014	138,077	5,063	133,014	121,965	(11,049)
Plant/Maintenance	269,029	279,723	10,694	269,029	262,395	(6,634)
Diocesan Assessments	69,081	75,380	6,299	69,081	79,853	10,772
Non-Parish Collections (C)	12,036	19,550	7,514	12,036	17,349	5,313
Miscellaneous (D)	4,875	11,600	6,725	4,875	10,627	5,752
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,169,017</b>	<b>1,249,570</b>	<b>80,553</b>	<b>1,169,017</b>	<b>1,155,970</b>	<b>(13,047)</b>
<b>Net Surplus or (Deficit)</b>	<b>112,134</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>112,134</b>	<b>112,134</b>	<b>59,003</b>	<b>53,131</b>

### Explanations

(A) Rental income, mass income, religious education fees, Chancery and Center for Interfaith expense recoveries, etc.

(B) Includes staff salary and benefits.

(C) Peter's Pence, Catholic Charities, Retired Religious, etc.

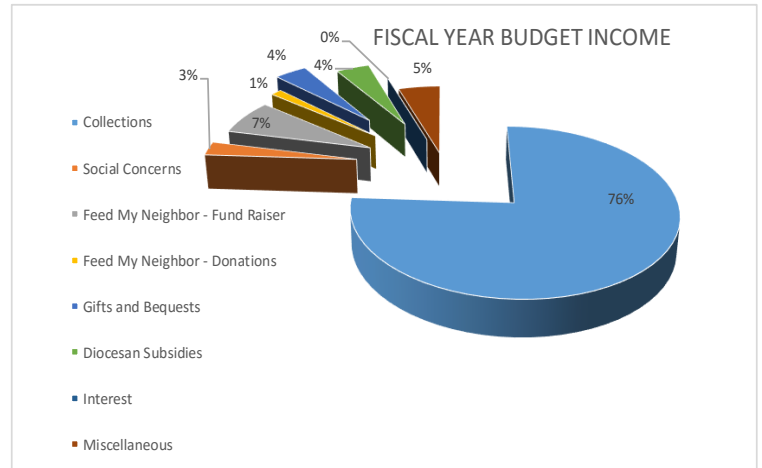
(D) Chancery and Center for Interfaith expense (see note above for recovery of expense).

# Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget

(July 1, 2015—June 30, 2016)

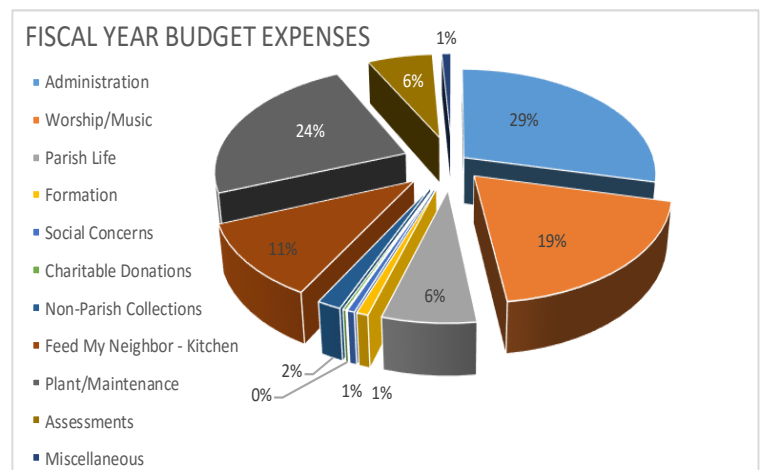
## Income

Collections - 76%	\$850,400
Social Concerns - 3%	31,000
Feed My Neighbor - Fund Raiser - 7%	80,000
Feed My Neighbor - Donations - 1%	15,000
Gifts and Bequests - 4%	44,093
Diocesan Subsidies - 4%	44,650
Interest - 0%	340
Miscellaneous - 5%	54,100
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,119,583</b>



## Expenses

Administration - 29%	\$321,712
Worship/Music - 19%	215,428
Parish Life - 6%	73,232
Formation - 1%	9,204
Social Concerns - 1%	5,887
Charitable Donations - 0%	2,500
Non-Parish Collections - 2%	19,000
Feed My Neighbor - Kitchen - 11%	124,300
Plant/Maintenance - 24%	265,620
Assessments - 6%	72,600
Miscellaneous - 1%	10,100
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,119,583</b>



## Stewardship and Its Ripple Effects

(Continued from page 3)

Once again, publicity, marketing, logistics, and silent auction teams went into action for over a 9-month period in order to pull off the event. The dancers became a close-knit group, friendly but competitive, while raising money for the cause – even holding a car wash one Saturday! Corporate and in-kind sponsorships slowly increased, representing a wider area of the community. With the hard work of the volunteers and the dancers, and a great deal of community support, the 2015 event brought in 669 paid attendees and resulted in a net profit in excess of \$130,000 for the lunch program! Even though we were proud of our success, there was no resting on our laurels – the committee is currently in the planning stages for the 2016 event. Please save the date: June 25, 2016!

In summary, going into its fourth year the Feed My Neighbor event has outgrown its original venue, more than doubled paid attendance, and increased net profit year over year. Let's Dance Louisville, held on the last Saturday of June, has begun to develop its own identity and been embraced by the wider community – a good start on achieving the vision expressed by Father Jeff that evening more than three years ago. Feeding the homeless and hungry – feeding our neighbors – is a continuing responsibility for all of us. With the help of extremely dedicated volunteers and the ever-increasing support of the community, this stewardship effort will work toward meeting that need for years to come.

# Annual Parish Statistical Information

## Parish Population

Households (Members & Associates)	1200
Individuals	2100

## Formation

Children and Youth in Religious Education	47
Volunteer Catechists	12
RCIA Candidates and Catechumens	18

## Sacraments and Rites

Baptisms	27
First Eucharist	18
Confirmations	23
Marriages	23
Funerals	14

## We worshipped

Weekday and Weekend Masses; Syro-Malabar Rite Mass twice/month; pro-life Mass each month; Youth Silhouette Stations of the Cross; Dupre/Claudiel Stations of the Cross; Service of Remembrance; Advent Lessons and Carols.

## We celebrated

60's Spring Fling Thing; Feastday Fest on the Belle of Louisville; Filipino Sunday; Let's Dance Louisville fundraiser for the Daily Lunch Program; and the projects of our last capital campaign were completed with landscaping of our campus, an open house to show off our new Formation Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of our office building, and and the Dedication of the Mother Catherine Spalding Statue on 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

## We learned

RCIA; Religious Education for Children and Youth; Why Catholic Lenten Sessions; Annulment Seminars; Faith in Film night; How to Plan Your Funeral Seminar; Bible Studies; our first online offering, How Catholics Read the Bible; monthly Catholic Fiction Book Club; CPR and AED training; Liturgical Ministry Day; Series of three Social Concerns Hot Button Issue Seminars  
Days of Reflection and Retreats; Fr. Joe Mitchell of the Earth and Spirit Center spoke at Sunday Masses and two seminars on the Holy Father's encyclical on the environment.

## We shared

Daily Lunch Program; Fifth Sunday Collections for House of Ruth; Repair Affair; Collection for The Little Way Pregnancy Resource Center; Blanket Louisville Collection; Thanksgiving Dinner for the Homeless; Thanksgiving Hat and Glove Collection; Advent Family Gift Wrap; Nativity Academy Christmas Collection; St. Vincent de Paul Toy Drive; Christmas Party for the Homeless; Jeremie, Haiti - parishioner mission trips to Haiti to our sister parish and schools of the area and providing food for the daily lunch for students of St. Therese Montessori.

## We welcomed

Cathedral docents welcomed Sunday visitors to the Archdiocese of Louisville History Center throughout the year.

Three schools' Confirmations held at Cathedral  
St. Agnes; St. Rita; St. Martha.

Tours and events for parishes, schools, and organizations of the diocese

St. Martha; St. Dominic; St. Francis of Assisi; St. Patrick; St. Albert the Great; St. Athanasius; St. Stephen Martyr; St. Gregory; St. Margaret Mary; St. Michael; St. Peter the Apostle; Our Lady of Lourdes; DeSales (Baccalaureate); Presentation (Baccalaureate and Ring Ceremony); St. Xavier (Mother and Son Mass); Sisters of Charity of Nazareth tours; Bel-larmine class tour.

(Continued on page 7)

## Annual Parish Statistical Information

(Continued from page 6)

### Archdiocesan Liturgical, Organizational, and Agency Events

Chrism Mass; Ordinations; Martin Luther King Day Commemoration; Young Adult Walk for Life; Consecrated Life Prayer Service; Boy Scouts Ceremony; Girl Scouts Ceremony; Rite of Election for RCIA; PCAL meetings (parish councils of the diocese); Social Justice Workshop; Annual Priests' Jubilee; Annual Anniversary Mass; Serra Club viewing of Canonization of Junipero Serra; Vocations Dinners; St. Ann Confraternity Breakfast; Queen's Daughters Mary's Day Mass and Brunch; Pentecost Mass and Celebration.

### Conventions having services here

Sons of the American Revolution; National Federation of Priests' Councils; First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association; Kentucky Music Educators Association.

### Other Visitors and Events

Center for Interfaith Relations Interfaith Service of Thanksgiving; Visit of Prince Charles of England; MADD Memorial Service; Louisville Master Chorale used practice space here; Nine offerings from the Cathedral Concert Series; Presbyterian Group Tour; Parkland Baptist Tour; Jeffersonstown High School AP Tour; Episcopal Diocese Chapter Meeting.

---

## For I was Hungry and You Gave Me Food

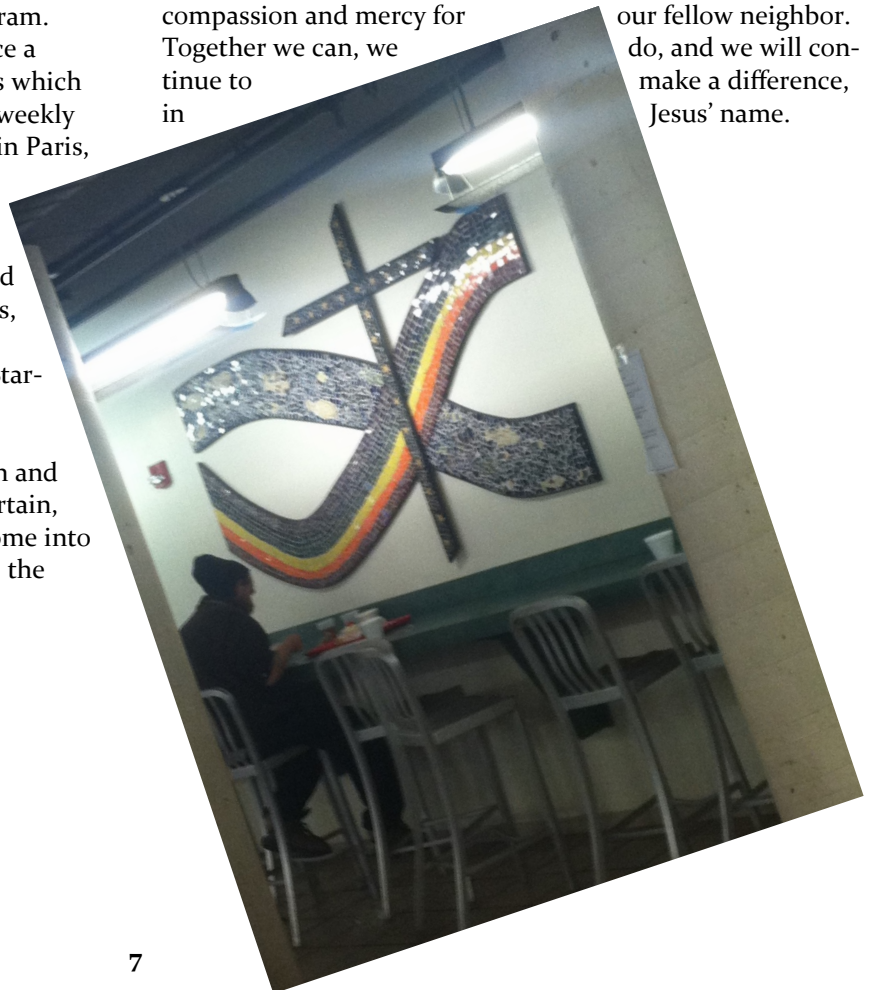
(Continued from page 2)

Our program continues to grow as the number of people who suffer food scarcity continues to grow. Consequently, we rely upon the very generous help of farmers such as Sweet Sixteen Farm. Sweet Sixteen, together with funds raised by Douglas Boulevard Christian Church, now provides goats and pigs specifically raised for our program. Sweet Sixteen donates the fully processed meat once a month. We rely upon the help of Harvesting Hands which gleans fruit and vegetables from Farmer's Markets weekly during the summer growing months. Garey Farms in Paris, Kentucky has donated beef to our program; Mulberry Orchard and Gallrein Farms of Shelby County each donate large amounts of fresh produce during the growing months. Dare to Care Food Bank provides us with meat and other food supplies, Garden Gate and Paul's Fruit Markets donate fruits and vegetables every week along with Panera and Starbucks, who donate day-old bread and desserts on a regular basis.

We are fortunate for the support of lesser known and anonymous individuals too, as is the case with a certain, local businessman, who has for the past 20 years come into the parish office each week to donate \$20 dollars to the lunch program. Thank you!

All of these partnerships are the result of our continued efforts and our desire to reach out with love to help those who are struggling, providing some measure of relief and comfort.

The Cathedral has been a landmark in Louisville for 163 years. We will continue to be a landmark and a model of compassion and mercy for our fellow neighbor. Together we can, we do, and we will continue to make a difference, in Jesus' name.



## Cathedral of the Assumption

433 South Fifth Street  
Louisville, KY 40202

*Address Service Requested*

Non-Profit Org.

U. S. Postage

**PAID**

Louisville, KY  
Permit No. 842



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

Margaret Brosko  
Molly Chesney  
Jack Lydon  
Kay Madrick  
Sharon Mattingly  
Tristan Padua  
Martha Villiger



**Office Liaison**  
Angela Wiggins



**Masthead Design**  
Teresa Heintzman