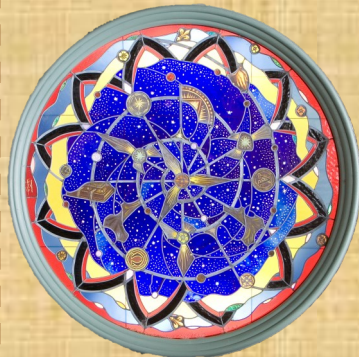


The Cathedral Star

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2020 Stewardship Edition

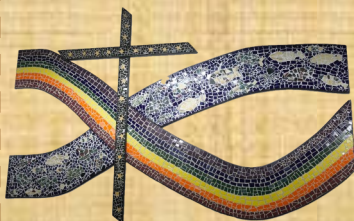
A CATHEDRAL STEWARDSHIP SAMPLER



IN THIS ISSUE

Pastor's Message
Samples of ministry from each of
our major areas of the life of the
parish:

Worship,
Formation,
Parish Life,
Administration & Finance,
Social Concerns,
Stewardship



WITH THIS MAILING

A separate enclosure:
Your 2020
Stewardship Form

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Kindling the Light of Christ



*Very Rev. Michael T. Wimsatt, S.T.D.
Pastor*

Dear Friends,

As the Christmas season draws to a close with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, our Cathedral of the Assumption Stewardship Committee presents to you gratefully this Stewardship Newsletter. The weekend of Saturday, January 18 and Sunday, January 19, I will be speaking at each of the weekend Masses about the necessity of our personal and collective investment in supporting our parish. The theme for our 2020 Stewardship Drive will come from the first reading that weekend, the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time. Chapter forty-nine, verse six of the book of the prophet Isaiah relates, "I will make you a light to the nations."

Near the end of the Babylonian Exile, in this forty-ninth chapter the prophet receives a divine message of liberation and restoration with universal implications. Isaiah's magnificent message of hope comes in the context of great hardship. We too friends live in uncertain times and contend with forces of exile at work in our world dividing humanity within itself and from God. Nevertheless, the message God shares with Isaiah speaks to each of us intimately today. We dismiss it at our own peril. Alexis de Tocqueville reminds us, "When the past no longer illuminates the future, the spirit walks in darkness."

Our Stewardship Drive this year invites us not only to seek Christ, the light who comes into

the world, but to become bearers of the light of Christ in our world. No one can undertake this great Christian project in isolation. Our parish comes together to kindle the light of Christ each of us receives from the Paschal candle in baptism. When we gather together as a parish family our lives are illuminated; not for our own sake, but for the sake of our city, our Archdiocese and our world.

The weekend after I speak to you a member of our parish community will offer a lay witness talk at each of the weekend Masses on Saturday, January 25 and Sunday, January 26. This personal message will grant us further reflection on the importance of personal investment in the life of our parish. Our Stewardship Drive will culminate the following weekend in a Stewardship Fair in the undercroft after each of the weekend Masses on Saturday, February 1 and Sunday, February 2. The Stewardship Fair is an excellent opportunity to meet more members of our parish community and to learn of important ministries that provide inroads to deeper engagement at the Cathedral.

In looking to the future, and in a special way to the coming year, I am buoyed by great hope at the possibilities awaiting us and the opportunity for all of us to live deeply and integrally our faith together. 2019 was a blessed year at the Cathedral, thanks be to God. The same will be true in the year to come. May 2020 be a year of abundant blessing for you and your loved ones. May God continue to bless you for your kindness.

Fr. Michael Wimsatt
Pastor

Social Concerns: Committee Undertakes New Activity

*By Barby Knebelkamp
Social Concerns Committee Co-Chair*

The Cathedral of the Assumption's Social Concerns Committee has a long and respected history of helping those in need over the years. Many of these activities are ongoing as regular subcommittees while we began a challenging and rewarding new activity this past year.

For the last 9 months volunteers have been undergoing training and learning in needed areas in which we could partnership with Catholic Charities to help them settle a new refugee family in the Louisville area. We got advice from a team from St. Agnes who has adopted a few of families over the years, and from parishioner Mary Jane Choi, on staff at St. Gabriel, whose team there was also planning to adopt a family. Beginning with a Core Leadership group of eight people including Connie Gordon, Connie Williams, Bill Eschbach, Joan Huber, Julia Barker, Brenda McWaters, Angela Wiggins and myself, we expanded to a current active volunteer group of more than 40 people who have helped with donating needed furniture, procuring the initial food and other needed supplies, working to set up the three bedroom apartment provided by Catholic Charities, greeting the family at the airport, driving the family to initial critical governmental agencies designated by Catholic Charities, instructing the family in shopping and use of laundry facilities, American cookware, clothing, clocks, etc. The family of 5 refugees from Africa, including a mother, two sons, and two daughters, have made an amazing transition to their new home and can now use the bus system,

begin school, shop with food stamps, cook some American food and tolerate our very cold to them weather. Our mentoring team will continue to work with them. Recent activities included helping them decorate a Christmas tree and hosting a Christmas party with many of our other volunteers there as well. Other than the mentoring and transportation teams, the work for many of us is diminishing or is finished, but this has been a very rewarding project for the Social Concerns committee which we may undertake again in the future as it allows many of our parishioners to have a truly Christian experience. If you are interested in joining us in the future, please sign-up during the upcoming Stewardship activities or call the Cathedral and leave your name/contact information for them to forward to me.

Mother, Aline; Younger Son, Merci; Younger Daughter, Josiane; Older Daughter, Aime; Older Son, Bonke.

Top, first week in new home.

Bottom, Christmas party and tree decorating.



Administration & Finance: Who is looking after the monetary gifts you share?

*By Jeff Boone
Finance Committee Chair*

When it comes to tithing, I'm sure at some point you have asked yourself I wonder what happens to my tithing.... How do I know if my thoughtful gift is being looked after responsibly?

That is where the finance committee comes in.

Hello! My name is Jeff Boone. My wife, Elaine and I have been parishioners at the Cathedral parish for over 8 years. For the last 5 years I have been a member of the finance committee and have been Chairman for the last 1.5 years. We love the parish's history, diversity, outreach and warmth. We take comfort in the fact that it is the "Mother Church" for Catholicism in the area. It is our home and we feel blessed to have found it as our primary connection to Christ.

Father asked that me to provide a brief introduction of the finance council's role. Our committee is made up of 6 parishioners with varying backgrounds including accounting, investing, actuarial, project management, business ownership and construction. We meet on a monthly basis to provide oversight, direction and guidance to Father and the parish business office staff. We ensure that polices are being followed and established budgets are monitored. We work with Father Michael to set and follow spending policies that we and the archdiocese have put in place to assure that funds are handled prudently. Regular updates are given to the Parish Council.

This time last year, the parish was actively in the middle of the Hail Full of Grace! Legacy and Vision Capital Campaign. The results have been overwhelmingly good. Many of the capital funds raised have been expended on the identified maintenance, upkeep and improvements as planned. Major items include new chairs, sound system, floor refinishing, and HVAC. As a part of the campaign, we have established the beginnings of an endowment to help secure the long term financial stability of the parish.

This could not have been possible without your prayers and support.

In the meantime, the parish's ordinary operating expenses for facilities, personnel and missions have been as budgeted; however, our tithings have not kept up. At the current rate, our expected collections will not meet our projected budget for the 2019/2020 fiscal year. Please consider bringing your tithing pledge current for 2019/2020. To help prevent a shortfall in the next fiscal year, I will ask finance council members to increase their giving by 10% and hope you will consider an increase as well.

Thank you for your generosity, prayers and support.

Jeff Boone



Worship: Disciples of the Cathedral

*By Paul Najjar
Lector Coordinator and
Worship Committee Member*

*As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.
1 Peter 4:8-10*

When needing to be fed, go feed. - Anonymous

The joy of service is an extension of the joy we experience in celebrating the Eucharist. At the Cathedral, on any given weekend or during any given week, more than 100 parishioners are involved in various ministries dedicated to worship.

The Worship Committee includes ministries seen and unseen; heard, and those who work in relative anonymity.

From servers, cross-bearers, Eucharistic ministers, hospitality ministers and lectors, to those who coordinate the aesthetics of the sanctuary on our Arts and Environment committee or comfort those who've lost a loved one or serve the sick and needy, volunteers reap the rewards sown from the many talents bestowed on us by God.

I like to think of the volunteers as disciples of and for the Cathedral.

The inherent joy derived from serving the community brings grace to us all. When the gifts of the spirit touch, comfort and enrich the lives of others we lift the community in countless ways.

During a particularly difficult period of life, a friend mentioned that second line above in italics: when needing to be fed, go feed. That simple directive turned a selfish desire—feed me!—into a selfless challenge. At the very least, that quote challenged me to reflect on what was essential.

The celebration of the Eucharist is a daily miracle and the Worship Committee works diligently to ensure that the Cathedral worship experience is spiritual, meaningful, respectful and seamless. The group volunteers countless hours in training, scheduling and planning our Masses, special events and celebrations.

And that's exactly what the Cathedral Worship Committee and the various ministries at the church provide: opportunities for all of us to lift those who are in need; however small or large, simple or complex the job may be.

We are all a part of several communities, groups and organizations. Getting involved at the Cathedral can increase your faith circle in ways you may have never imagined. And you will experience just how your family in faith, the Cathedral of the Assumption, will continue to grow.

We invite you to invest your spirit in the church and reap the rewards you sow with your generosity. *"For it is in giving that we receive."* – St. Francis of Assisi



Formation: Nourishment for the Spirit

*By Anne Ratterman
Catechist and Formation Committee Member*

The Faith Formation Team is responsible for researching and scheduling high quality speakers and programs for Adult Faith Formation of our parish. The team is comprised of a small group of parishioners that meet every other month under the leadership of George Kaissieh. Most of the team are Catechists that also teach in the Religious Education Program.

Programs for Winter-Spring 2020 include Scripture Study, Catholic Book Club and monthly Sunday Morning Presentations. A Lenten Retreat will be offered in March.

There are several programs already scheduled for Fall-Winter 2020 including an evening with Matthew Kelly, internationally acclaimed speaker, author and founder of Dynamic Catholic. The Mission of Dynamic Catholic is to re-energize the Catholic Church in America by developing world-class resources that inspire people to rediscover the genius of Catholicism.

Details and a complete description of the upcoming programs can be found on the Cathedral website cathedraloftheassumption.org.

Everyone can support the Formation Team's efforts by participating in the programs offered and inviting your friends and family to attend as well. All parishioners and non-parishioners are welcome!

The Cathedral Catholic Book Club

6-8:30 PM, Adult Formation Room
Parish Office Building 2nd Floor

- ♦ January 13
The Patron Saint of Liars
by Ann Patchett
- ♦ February 10
Five for Sorrow, Ten for Joy
by Rumer Godden

Sunday Morning Presentations

with Coffee and Donuts after 9:30 Mass
Cathedral Undercroft

- ♦ January 26
Very Rev. Michael T. Wimsatt
*The Enduring Relevance of
St. John Henry Newman*
- ♦ February 16
Greg Sekula
Presentation on Cardinal Ritter
- ♦ March 15
Dr. Robb Shrader
Theological Reflections
- ♦ April 26
Patricia Cervera
Immigrants in the Bible
&
Kathy Fehder
Blanket Louisville

Lenten Retreat

March 18, 19, 7 pm

Cathedral

Fr. Eugene Hensell, OSB

The Prophets

Parish Life: Bereavement Team

*By Jeannie Hickman
Bereavement Team Co-Chair*

In the Beatitudes Jesus says, “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.” At some point just about everyone will experience the death of someone with whom they are close. It is at those times when we all need the compassion and support of others to know that we are not alone and surrounded by God’s enduring love.

An important goal of the Bereavement Ministry at the Cathedral of the Assumption is to provide support and comfort during a time when family members and loved ones of the deceased are grieving. The parish provides a place for friends and family to gather to share memories of their loved one over a meal. Our goal is to alleviate some of the emotional strain such an event places on families, as well as provide them with the love and support of our parish community.

We provide luncheons so that family and friends may gather and celebrate the life of the deceased parish member and share a meal that Cathedral parishioners provide. The Bereavement Committee is comprised of men and women within our parish who provide a salad, vegetable or dessert (for 15 to 20 persons) that is served the day of the funeral or memorial Mass. The parish provides for the cost of the main entrée.

To participate in this important ministry, you might expect to be called four to five times a year to provide a dish or help serve at the meal. The Bereavement Ministry is a wonderful way to share in our parish family.

We would very much like to thank our current committee members for all their love and support of this important ministry. If you have personally experienced or would like to participate this ministry, please consider joining our committee to help us serve others in their time of need. We would love to welcome you to our group.



Cathedral of the Assumption

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STEWARDSHIP

We invite you to come celebrate the life and heart and hands of our parish at our 2020 Stewardship Fair after all Masses on the weekend of February 1/2. The light will shine with ministry opportunities on display and the chance to speak with those currently fulfilling the needs of the Cathedral. The love of the Cathedral is abundantly clear and the possibilities of how you can help shine the light are endless. With the Stewardship Fair weekend quickly approaching please give great consideration to how you and your family can become more engaged in the needs of the Cathedral, both in time and treasure. God bless and Happy New Year!

Carolyn Miles, Chair
Stewardship Committee



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