



***April 2015***

### **Pastor's Musings**

Most likely, by the time you read this article, the Easter Season will have begun. The Season is also known as the Great Sunday and continues the celebration of all aspects of the Paschal Mystery. These include the Death and Resurrection of Christ, the Ascension and the Descent of the Holy Spirit. It is a period of fifty days. Although I am writing this article on a cold day, I hope that the many signs of new life will have begun with blooming of the flowers, warmer temperatures and outside activities.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who made Lent, Holy Week and the Easter Triduum so very special and beautiful. There is so much planning that goes into these celebrations and so many people give of their time and talents. I always fear leaving someone out and so I just want to say thank you to all!

I would like to share some exciting news with you. Thanks to a Grant from the Catholic Foundation, I and 20 other pastors will be attending what is known as the *Amazing Parish Conference* taking place in Denver, Co. on April 21-22, 2015.

Each pastor attending is also asked to bring four members of their staff with them and so Deacon Jack Malone, Kathy Maggied (DRE), Laura Sabido (School Principal) and Katie Wohrle (Youth Minister) will also be attending. It is a great opportunity for us, as we hope to gain some knowledge that will help us to be better able to minister and to help the many volunteers in various ministries to be better able to meet the needs of our community.

Confirmation will take place on Monday, April 27, 2015 at 7:00pm. Please remember the Confirmation candidates in your prayers. All are welcome to attend the Confirmation Mass.

Father Leo Connolly

## LENTEN OBSERVANCES

**The Traditional Laws of Fast and Abstinence.** Roman Catholics 14 years of age and older are obligated to abstain from eating meat on all Fridays in Lent.

Good Friday is a Day of Fast; Roman Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are required to fast, eating one meal along with two lesser meals. No eating between meals, but liquids are permitted.

**Almsgiving:** The *Good Friday Holy Land Collection* will be April 3. With your support, Franciscans and others in the Holy Land are operating schools, conducting pastoral ministry, housing and feeding the poor and maintaining parishes and shrines. For more information about the works in the Holy Land, visit [www.myfranciscan.org](http://www.myfranciscan.org). There is an envelope in your monthly packet for this. If your family has participated in *Operation Rice Bowls*, please bring your "bowl" to church, or to the Parish Office.

**Food Pantry Needs:** The Westland Food Pantry is in particular need of these items: Jell-o; jelly; saltine crackers; dry beans; shelf stable milk; canned vegetables as long as they are not green beans or corn; canned fruit, especially fruit cocktail and applesauce; peanut butter and 1 pound packages of pasta; toothbrushes; and hand soap. Also, any unused or partially-used gift cards can be used to get items needed to supplement the donations received.

## BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD BASKETS

If you have family Easter Food Baskets that you would like blessed, you may bring them to the church at 1 p.m. on Holy Saturday, April 4, or bring them to any of our Masses for Easter.



### *The Sacred Paschal Triduum*

Holy Thursday, April 2                      Morning Prayer at 8:15 a.m.  
*Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper* at 7:00 p.m., with incense, followed by  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 11:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 3                      Morning Prayer at 8:15 a.m.  
*Celebration of the Passion of the Lord* at 1:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 4                      Morning Prayer at 9:00 a.m.  
*The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night Mass* with incense; 8:30 p.m.  
**Note:** No confessions and no 5:00 p.m. Mass this day.

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord, April 5  
Masses at 7:30 and 9:30 a.m. and 12:00 noon (Incense at the 9:30 Mass)

## COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

**VACATION NOTES:** The Parish Office will be closed on Good Friday, April 3. Our PSR Classes will not meet on Easter Sunday, April 5 or on Easter Monday, April 6. Also, we will not have a Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 9:30 Mass on Easter Sunday, April 5.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:** Due to the fact that April's Adoration would fall on Good Friday and Holy Saturday, it has been canceled. The prayer intention for May 1 & 2 is for the students graduating from school this year.

**BEREAVEMENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Volunteers are needed to help with luncheons (cooks, setup, cleanup, hosts). Also needed are callers who contact the food providers; and food providers for our Bereavement Lunches. If you are interested in helping with any of these ministries, please contact Marcy Gifford at 614-507-2052 or the Parish Office at 614-878-5353. We are also updating our call list and if you have volunteered and are not receiving regular requests, please call us so that we may have an accurate list of those that wish to help.

**SCRIP NEWS:** Our SCRIP Program will not have weekend sales Easter weekend (April 4 & 5); we will resume on April 11 & 12. We will have a larger-than-usual supply of cards available in the Parish Office during the week.

Don't lose out on the *Kroger Community Rewards Program*. April is the month when you need to re-register to keep the program going! Every time you shop at Kroger, you earn a percentage of your purchase which will be credited to our parish. Even if you just enrolled in the program in February or March 2015, you will need to sign up after April 1 to earn rewards from May 1, 2015 through April 30, 2016.

Visit [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) and click on "Ohio". Then either sign up for a new [Kroger.com](http://Kroger.com) account or re-enroll by clicking on "Already Enrolled?" Please note, once you have a [Kroger.com](http://Kroger.com) account, you need to link your KrogerPlus Card to St. Cecilia, organization number 80426.

**PARISH FESTIVAL PLANNING** – Our Parish Festival 2015 dates are Friday and Saturday, August 21 & 22. Anyone interested is welcome to attend our *Festival Planning Meeting* slated for Wednesday, April 22 at 6:30 p.m. in Meeting Rooms A & B. Booth chairs are requested to let Mike Lotz know of your intentions for this year's event prior to the meeting date. Thanks!

**PARENTS NIGHT OUT** The next Parents' Night Out is scheduled for Friday, April 17th from 6:00-9:00. Parents can enjoy another night out while their children have fun learning another great Bible lesson and hanging out with their friends. Please contact Katie Wohrle at 878-0133 or [kwohrle@saintceciliachurch.org](mailto:kwohrle@saintceciliachurch.org) with any questions.

**SPRING YARD CLEAN-UP** Will you need help in cleaning up your yard or getting your flower beds ready for Spring after this long, cold, snowy winter? St. Cecilia's Edge Youth Group will be conducting our annual Spring Cleanup Service Day on Saturday, April 18th (weather permitting). Please contact Katie Wohrle at 878-0133 or [kwohrle@saintceciliachurch.org](mailto:kwohrle@saintceciliachurch.org) to arrange for our middle school students to come and take care of the work for you!

**PLEASE COME TO** the *Breakfast to Support Seminarians* on Sunday, April 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the School Hall. The breakfast is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and will include: choice of pancakes (regular or blueberry); Sausage; Hash Browns; Sausage Gravy & Biscuits; Egg Strata (sausage or veggie); and Juice/Milk/Coffee.

**GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE!** The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a *Red Cross Blood Drive* on Thursday, May 14 from 2:00 PM to 8:00 PM in Meeting Rooms A & B. You may schedule an appointment by signing up in the Gathering Space the weekend of May 9 & 10, or call Mark Hunter at 614- 871-8467. One blood donation can potentially save three lives. The whole process takes about an hour, with actual donation time approximately 20 minutes, so please consider helping our community – and saving lives – in this way. Donors must be 17 or older (or 16 with parental permission), and in generally good health.

**THE CUB SCOUTS** Spring Campout in May will include a “Retiring of the American Flag” ceremony. If you, or any one you know, have an American flag which needs to be retired, you may contact Jodi at [brianandjodi@earthlink.net](mailto:brianandjodi@earthlink.net) to arrange for this.

### INTERESTED IN HELPING WITH OUR PARISH PROGRAMS?

All adults involved in any activity with children must meet the diocesan Safe Environment criteria. This includes a background check, a signed Code of Conduct, and attendance at the child abuse awareness workshop, *Protecting God’s Children*. The Code of Conduct may be found on the parish and school websites.

We will be hosting a session of *Protecting God’s Children* here on Sunday, April 26 from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. You may register for it, or any other PGC session in our diocese, at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org); choose the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio for location. There is no cost for participants, but you must pre-register. If you do not have Internet access, please call Regina Quinn at the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at 241-2565.

### ATTENTION ALL HUNGRY PEOPLE!

Did you know one of the easiest ways to get quality food for your dinners is to order thru our Market Day program? There is such a variety of meats, vegetables, sides, breads, desserts and more to choose from. One of the great things about Market Day food is that many of the items are frozen in single serve portions. This is wonderful if you are only cooking for one or two people! Sometimes you only need 1 chicken breast! Meals are made simple and quickly with Market Day foods.

Ordering is so easy! You can either pick up a flyer at the Church Office or go to the website at [marketday.com](http://marketday.com). Use school code 8296.

Please contact Heather DuMelle at (614) 853-2841 or email her at [heatherdumelle@ameritech.net](mailto:heatherdumelle@ameritech.net) if you have any questions!

### BINGO TEAM SCHEDULES

Team Members, please make every effort to honor your commitment to this important program. If you are going to miss a scheduled date for your team, please make an effort to obtain a substitute. Thank you!

	Sunday	Tuesday
Team 1	(No Bingo Apr. 5 – Easter), May 10 *	April 7, May 12
Team 2	April 12, May 17	April 14, May 19
Team 3	April 19, May 24 **	April 21, May 26
Team 4	April 26, May 31	April 28, June 2
Team 5	May 3 ***	May 5

\* (Mothers Day)      \*\* (Memorial Day Weekend)      \*\*\* (First Communion Sunday)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

**CONFIRMATION 2015** Our *Parents and Candidates Meeting* will be held on Thursday, April 16 at 7:00 p.m. Please meet in the church. The *Rehearsal for Confirmation* will be held on Sunday, April 26 at 7:00 p.m. All candidates and their sponsors (or a stand-in for the sponsor) should arrive in Meeting Rooms A & B about 6:45 p.m. for the practice. Our *Night of Confirmation* is Monday, April 27. Candidates and Sponsors should arrive in the meeting rooms at 6:30 p.m. Family and other guests should go directly to the church. The Mass will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be followed by a reception in the Parish Center.

**CONFIRMATION 2016:** Our seventh grade students are encouraged to continue accruing Service Hours for next year's Confirmation. Our Vacation Bible School in June and the Parish Festival in August are good opportunities to earn Service Hours for the parish.

A meeting for parents of all 7th grade religion students will be held on Sunday, April 12 at 10:45 a.m. The purpose is to outline for parents the scope of requirements and several deadline dates for Confirmation information - including sponsor's name, student Confirmation name, and service hour explanations and requirements. Please meet in the school hall (cafeteria).

**FIRST COMMUNION:** The required practice will be Saturday, May 2. Children and parents should arrive by 9:45 a.m. The children will come to Meeting Rooms A & B and the parents will meet in the church.

On our First Communion Sunday, May 3, students will need to be in Meeting Room A no later than 1:20 p.m. A group photograph will be taken promptly at 1:30. Individual pictures of your child are optional; if desired, please come to the Parish Center between 12:30 - 1:00. Envelopes to order the picture will be available at the practice; all picture orders are given to the photographer when he is here to take the picture. The Mass will begin promptly at 2:00 p.m. The only reserved seating in the church will be for the First Communicants; families should go directly to the church.

**PSR PROGRAM:** Our classes will have Easter Break on Sunday and Monday, April 5 & 6. Classes will resume on Sunday and Monday, April 12 & 13. Our Eighth Graders ONLY will not have PSR classes on Sunday and Monday, April 26 and 27. Because of their First Communion, the second graders ONLY will not have P.S.R. classes on Sunday, May 3. The final class sessions for all our students will be held on Sunday and Monday, May 17 & 18.

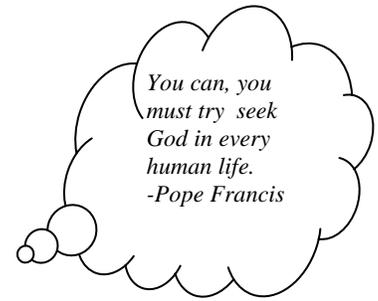
**PARENT BAPTISM CLASS:** Our next session will be Sunday, April 12. Please phone the Parish Office at 878-5353 to pre-register. It is expected that the family be registered in the parish prior to attending a class. The program meets in Meeting Room A immediately after the noon Mass. Please note that if there are no pre-registrations, the class will be cancelled. Baptisms are scheduled through the Parish Office after the parents attend the class. In addition to both parents, we welcome any Godparents who wish to attend the session. It is desirable that infants and toddlers not be brought to the class.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** Our 2015 program, *SonSpark Labs*, will be held here the week of June 15 - 19. At this time our director Katie Wohrle is recruiting adults and older teens that can help with the program. You may contact her at 614-878-0133 or [kwohrle@saintceciliachurch.org](mailto:kwohrle@saintceciliachurch.org). Reminder: adults must meet the diocesan Safe Environment criteria.

**A GRATEFUL "THANKS!"** goes to Mrs. Katie Wohrle and the Core Team which helped to provide our Confirmation Retreat on March 14; and to the parents who assisted with the First Communion class's Jesus Day on March 21

## CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION

*God made the heavens and the earth and it was good.*  
(Genesis 1:1-31)



Further, in Genesis 2:15, He commanded humans to care for creation.

"We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored." (One of the Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching published by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops)

In *Charity in Truth*, Pope Benedict XVI wrote, "The environment is God's gift to everyone, and in our use of it we have a responsibility towards the poor, towards future generations and towards humanity as a whole...Our duties towards the environment are linked to our duties towards the human person, considered in himself and in relation to others. It would be wrong to uphold one set of duties while trampling on the other."

"No one truly owns any part of creation. Rather, all creation belongs to God. We may be assigned to care for parts of it, but only if we serve the needs of others, along with our own needs...If we fail to care for our precious earth, and for the poor, then creation itself will rebel against us. Further, to undermine nature and the poor is to reject the word of God in creation." The Catholic Bishops of Appalachia: *Web of Life* goes on to challenge us to consider "What steps am I taking toward caring for God's creation and serving the needs of others? Do I allow myself to be enmeshed in materialism that does not reverence God's creation?"

Henri J. M. Nouwen's *Bread for the Journey* includes this statement, "As long as we only *use* creation, we cannot recognize its sacredness because we are approaching it as if we were its owners. But when we relate to all that surrounds us as created by the same God who created us and as the place where God appears to us and calls us to worship and adoration then we are able to recognize the sacredness of all God's handiwork."

The Catholic Conference of Ohio offers us an Examination of Conscience on its website:

- Do I live out my responsibility to care for God's creation?
- Do I see my care for creation as connected to my concern for poor persons, who are most at risk from environmental problems?
- Do I litter? Live wastefully? Use energy too freely?
- Are there ways I could reduce consumption in my life?
- Are there ways I could change my daily practices and those of my family, school, workplace, or community to better conserve the earth's resources for future generations?

# Happy Spring!

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**46TH ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER  
SATURDAY, APRIL 25**

*The St Cecilia Class of 2016 invites you to come for their Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, April 25, 4:30-8:00pm in the Parish Center. Dinner includes spaghetti and meatballs, salad, bread sticks, beverage and choice of desserts. Take out/drive thru will be available! Presale prices: Adults \$7, Children (under 12) \$4, Family \$25 (2 adults & up to 3 children). Prices at the door: Adults \$8, Children \$5, Family \$28 There will be major awards, silent auction and so much more!!*

*Tickets will be available after Masses the weekends of April 11 and April 18. Or, you may contact any 7th grader or call Carrie (614-325-2837) or Russ (614-325-2838) Morrow*

*The 7th Grade Spaghetti Dinner Silent Auction Committee is now accepting donations for their silent auction/Chinese raffle. If you would like to donate, please contact Chrissie Guiher at 614-806-9804. Donations will be accepted through April 17.*