

JULY 21, 2019
16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FROM THE PASTOR

ACUE COLLECTION

Each year a special collection is taken up in every parish to support the ACUE schools. ACUE stands for the Alliance for Catholic Urban Education. All of the urban schools in the Diocese of Covington (Prince of Peace, Holy Family, Holy Cross, Saint Augustine, Saint Anthony, and Holy Trinity) operate under a single umbrella of administration. They are supported by the individual parishes in Newport, Bellevue, Dayton, Covington, Taylor Mill and Ludlow.

The collection for the ACUE schools from Mother of God will take place this weekend. Please be generous in your support.

STATUE OF SAINT PATRICK

Saint Patrick Church in Covington closed many years ago because of the development of I-75, which took many of the homes that made up that parish. The church was at the present Radisson Hotel parking lot. When it closed, the parish was merged into Saint Aloysius Church, and when Saint Aloysius burned, it was merged into Mother of God Church. We have a statue of Saint Aloysius in our church (on the far right of the sanctuary), but we do not have a statue of Saint Patrick, honoring the people of Saint Patrick Church. I would like to remedy that.

I have found a beautiful statue of Saint Patrick that I would like for us to purchase. The cost is \$6,900. Of that, \$2,500 has already been donated, leaving \$4,400 that we need. I am hoping that some of you will help with the purchase of this statue. Certainly, there are some sons and daughters of the Old Sod who would like to help out.

Please call me at 859-816-3198 if you would like to make a donation.

KNOW YOUR FAITH--AN RCIA FOR CATHOLICS

On Thursday, August 22, I will begin a series of talks that I have entitled: Know Your Faith—An RCIA for Catholics. Those who are preparing to enter into the Church through the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) go through a systematic study of the teachings of the Church. This series of talks is intended to offer those who are already Catholic to do the same.

We will be using the US Catholic Bishops Catechism, which was designed for laity in the United States. The first section of the Catechism and the first talks of this series are concerned with what Catholics believe about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the Church. We will use the Nicene Creed as the framework for our examination of these topics.

As with my other series of talks, we will meet at 11 am and again at 6:30 pm.

You do not have to attend all of the sessions. The sessions will be recorded and put on the website so you can catch up on any sessions that you miss. There are no tests, no teacher's dirty looks (at least, not many). I hope to see you there.

SAINT MARY MAGDALENE

This Monday, July 22, is the feast of Saint Mary Magdalene. She is one of the most esteemed of the Gospel characters in the Scriptures but has been very maligned by history and tradition. Most of what you think you know about Mary Magdalene is probably wrong.

The Gospel of Luke tells us that seven devils or demons had come out of her, but we know nothing of how they afflicted her or if it was Jesus himself who cast them out. She is listed as one of a group of women who were part of Jesus' company and who supported and assisted him and the Twelve. From the Gospel of John, we know that she was at the foot of the Cross with Mary, the mother of Jesus, and the Beloved Disciple. And the various accounts of the Resurrection tell us that Jesus first appeared to her and sent her to the Twelve to announce that he was risen from the dead. Because of this she is given the title, the Apostle to the Apostles.

What the Scriptures do not tell us is that Mary Magdalene was a prostitute or an adulterous woman. There are some nameless women (the woman caught in adultery, and the woman who washed the feet of Jesus with her tears and her hair, and the woman who washed Jesus feet with oil) that have been identified as Mary Magdalene. There is no biblical evidence for this identification, and it is certainly wrong. The Crucifixion scene in Mother of God Church, above the tabernacle, participates in this error. It shows the scene from the Gospel of John, when Jesus says, "Woman, behold your son. Son, behold your mother. (Ecce Mater Tua)." Between the Beloved Disciple and the Blessed Mother, on the ground, is Mary Magdalene. In front of her is a jar of olive oil, identifying her as the sinful woman who anointed his feet with oil. A beautiful image, but biblically quite wrong.

Mary Magdalene is also not the Mary who is the sister of Martha and Lazarus. Mary was the most popular girl's name in the time of Jesus, so it is no surprise that the name shows up so often in the Gospels.

More modern presentations portray Mary Magdalene as the lover of Jesus (*Jesus Christ Superstar*), or as his wife and the mother of his children, and the true Beloved Disciple (*The DaVinci Code*). She seems to be a handy tabula rasa on which to project the ideas of every generation.

All of these additions to the authentic Mary Magdalene, in the end, take away from the amazing person that she really was—one of the most faithful and

courageous disciples of Jesus and the first evangelist of the Good News of the Resurrection of Jesus.

SAINT JAMES

This Thursday, June 25, is the feast of Saint James the Greater. There were actually two James in the company of the Apostles. They are distinguished from one another by the titles: Saint James the Greater, and Saint James the Lesser. Saint James the Lesser is so called because there is much less about him in the Gospels than there is about Saint James the Greater, not because he was less important.

James the Greater was the brother of Saint John, the Beloved Disciple. They are called the sons of Zebedee, because he was their father. Their mother was Salome, who was the sister of Mary, the Blessed Mother. James and John, then, are the first cousins of Jesus. Jesus referred to them as the Sons of Thunder because of their hot tempers and explosive personalities (When a Samaritan town refused to listen to Jesus, they wanted to call down fire on them).

After the Ascension of Jesus, James will make his way to Spain and will preach the Gospel there. He is commemorated there by the Camino de Santiago (the Way of Saint James), the most famous pilgrimage route in the world. Eventually, James would return to the Holy Land, where he would be beheaded by King Herod, becoming the first of the Twelve to die a martyr's death.

SAINTS JOACHIM AND ANNE

Tradition tells us that the parents of the Blessed Mother were named Joachim and Anne. We have a statue of Saint Anne with the child Mary, to the left of the entrance into the church. There is also a picture window, portraying the birth of Mary, on the left, in which Saint Anne is lying in bed, after giving birth to the Mother of God. Joachim, unfortunately, did not merit a representation in our church.

On this feast day, we not only honor the parents of Mary, but also we pray for all parents who bring their children into this world and who have the responsibility to help those children come to faith in God as their Father, in Jesus as their Savior and Lord, and in the Holy Spirit as their Comforter and Strength.

The feast of Saints Joachim and Anne is on Friday,

PARISH NEWS

ACUE COLLECTION: Today, Sunday, July 21, there is a collection to support the Alliance for Catholic Urban Education (ACUE). The collection supports these schools: Holy Cross, Holy Trinity, St. Augustine, Holy Family, St. Anthony, and Prince of Peace. Please be generous.

HAWAIIAN SHIRT SUNDAY: July 28 is Hawaiian Shirt Day. Please wear your favorite shirt to celebrate this summer tradition!

NOTICE: If you have a child of the age (7 +) to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Eucharist, please call the office at 291-2288. Plans will be made for instruction and reception of these sacraments.

RCIA: Mother of God adult education classes for those who are considering inquiry into the Catholic faith will begin on August 20, at 6:30 pm. All classes will be held on Tuesday evening through Easter, April 12. If interested in attending, please contact the parish office to register. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Deacon Tom at tdushney@fuse.net or 859-750-8536. In addition, Deacon Tom will be holding an Information session to our program on August 13, beginning at 6:30 pm. This session will provide an overview of the classes and an opportunity to ask any questions you might have. Please contact the parish office at 859-291-2288 if interested. Registration for both the information session and the RCIA classes is required. Please stop by the information table in the rear of the church for information about these classes.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for our **PARISH PICNIC** on Sunday, **August 18**, at the Villa Madonna picnic shelter from 4–7 pm. Fried chicken and beverages will be provided. Please bring a side dish (e.g., appetizer, salad, vegetable, dessert) to share. More information will be forthcoming. It is a wonderful time to meet our new parishioners and to catch up with old friends and acquaintances. We hope to see you there!

2019 MOG PHOTO CONTEST: Hey everybody, it's time to start thinking about our **MOG 9th Annual Photo Contest with Prizes**. Can you believe it's been 9 years running? We need everyone to participate to make this year our biggest year ever! This year's theme will be "Everyday Blessings." Deadline for entries is August 18, after the 11:30 Mass. Entry forms and contest guidelines will be available at the back of church all Sundays after both Masses. **David Ziser: 859-250-8855** and **LaDawn Ziser: 859-250-8833** will be coordinating the event this year, so please give them a call with any questions. Good Luck!

PARISH KITCHEN is looking for volunteers to help serve lunch to our guests. We need subs, and we have a couple of regular spots to fill. All volunteers at Parish Kitchen must be Virtus-compliant or willing to fulfill these requirements. Email Assistant Manager Amy Bauer at abauer@covingtoncharities.org if interested.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS are a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience, strength, and hope in order to solve their common problems. Al-Anon meetings are held at Mother of God Church every Wednesday at noon in the St. Aloysius Center. The meetings are open and non-smoking. All are welcome—parishioners and non-parishioners.

NOTICE: Hearing-impaired devices available. Please see an usher if you need one.

MOTHER OF GOD MEMORIAL TRUST FUND: In your kindness, please consider making any bequests or financial donations to the Mother of God Memorial Trust Fund. These funds are used only for the preservation of the church.

HOMEBOUND? Do you have someone who needs to see a priest or needs Communion brought to them at home or in a nursing home? If so, please call the office at 859-291-2288 so Father can arrange a visit to them.

THE MESSENGER: If you are a registered parishioner at Mother of God Church and are NOT receiving the free Catholic newspaper, *The Messenger*, please call the office at 859-291-2288.

ARE YOU A PARISHIONER? Interested in becoming a parishioner of Mother of God? We're interested in you! We will have registration available after all Masses in the back of Church. Please stop by our table to fill out a registration form and have any questions answered. We're glad you're here!

COMMUNION CAN BE BROUGHT TO YOU in your place in church. Let an usher know that this is needed and s/he will tell a Eucharistic Minister to come to you.

SUNDAY COLLECTION	7-14-19
Envelopes	\$8,502.00
Loose	\$ 653.00
Online Giving	\$ 788.80
TOTAL COLLECTION	\$9,943.80

DIOCESAN NEWS

HUSH: On Wednesday, July 24, at 7 pm. the documentary *HUSH* will be showing at the Kenton County Erlanger Library meeting room. This award-winning documentary, produced and directed by a pro-life man and a pro-abortion woman, uncovers the long-term effects that abortion has on women's health. It explores science, not politics, to reveal the truth about this important topic. All are invited, although the subject

matter is for mature audiences. Teenage and young adult females and males are highly encouraged to come. Questions: Call Grace or Jenni VonLehman at 859-496-7180 or 859-466-9036.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND: Summer is getting hot. Is your marriage heating up too? Fire things up with a Marriage Encounter Weekend Experience! It would make a wonderful mini summer vacation with your spouse. The next Marriage Encounter weekend experience is not on a weekend. It is a Tuesday and Wednesday where you are only away from home one night. It will be at Holy Spirit Center in Norwood, OH on September 10 and 11. The weekend experience is for those who find it difficult to take a whole weekend away or off work or have difficulty finding childcare, pet care and or for parents. Reserve your place today at <https://esharing.org/applyWeekend.php> For more details contact: Andy and Jeanne Folfas at (937) 886-5196 jeannemarie42@hotmail.com or go to esharing.org

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: Seeking part-time cashiers/sorters at St. Vincent de Paul. Join the St. Vincent de Paul team for an opportunity to serve our neighbors in need. St. Vincent de Paul is seeking part-time paid help in our Erlanger and Florence locations. The merchandise sorter/cashier is an important part of our organization as they ensure that the merchandise we place on our sales floor is clean, in good repair and desired by our customers. Our cashiers also represent the face of St. Vincent de Paul to those who enter our stores. St. Vincent de Paul thrift stores provide quality merchandise at affordable prices and serve as a vehicle to support SVdP's programs that help our struggling neighbors meet their basic needs. Interested applicants can download an application from www.svdpnky.org or visit one of our stores to complete an application in person.

Karen Zengel, Executive Director
St. Vincent de Paul of Northern Kentucky
859-446-7723

WAIT NO MORE: Tuesday, August 20, at Florence Baptist Church. Foster, Adopt, Support. Did you know there are thousands of children in need of help? The Diocese of Covington is joining together with thousands of churches in Kentucky in this effort. Now is the time to mobilize. All are invited to this free evening event that will help you understand God's heart for the vulnerable children in foster care. Learn about foster care and adoption and practical ways you can support foster and adoptive families. Engage with experts who will answer your questions. God has given a clear call for Christians to take care of his children in need. Discover your role in God's plan—whether you are considering fostering a child, adopting, or supporting a family who does, this "Wait No More" event will help you explore the part you

can play in fulfilling God's command. This "Wait No More" event runs from 6-8 pm on Tuesday, August 20, and is held at Florence Baptist Church, 642 Mt. Zion Rd. Florence, KY 41042.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY INFORMATION: For information on campus ministry at Thomas More University, email Andrew Cole at Andrew.cole@thomasmore.edu. For information on Catholic ministry at Northern Kentucky University, email Donna Heim, heim2@nku.edu. Visit TMU's website: www.thomasmore.edu/campus_ministry. Visit Newman Center website: www.nkunewmancenter.org.

FULL-TIME GROUNDSKEEPER POSITION AVAILABLE: The Diocese of Covington in Northern Kentucky has an immediate need for full-time groundskeepers at the diocesan cemeteries. Primary responsibilities include the many labor-intensive tasks associated with interments, maintenance, repair, construction, cleaning, and operation of the cemeteries' facilities and grounds. Previous experience operating power equipment is preferred. Interested individuals should contact Stephen Kopyay, SPHR, by email at skopyay@covdio.org or by fax at (859)392-1589. EOE.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, July 21
ACUE Collection
Tuesday, July 23
7 pm St Vincent de Paul Mtg. (Hall)
Sunday, July 28
9:30 am Mass Ladies Altar Society
Blood pressures taken after both Masses

HYMNS FOR 9:30 AM MASS

Prelude: Organ
207 Holy, Holy Lord, God Almighty
Response: "He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord."
480 What Wondrous Love is This
356 I Am the Living Bread
587 For the Beauty of the Earth
Postlude: Postlude on DIX (M. Burkhardt)

SCRIPTURE FOR JULY 21, 2019: Genesis 18: 1-10a; Psalm 15; Colossians 1: 24-28; Luke 10:38-42.

MASS INTENTIONS

July 21	9:30 am	Mary Beth Redwine and Richard Menke
	11:30 am	Bettie, Don & Peggy Kohorst
July 22	12:05 pm	Jenny Wong Wiehoff
July 23	12:05 pm	Bert Grote
July 24	No Mass	
July 25	12:05 pm	Schneider Family
July 26	12:05 pm	Cherry McFarland
July 27	12:05 pm	Alice Heath
July 28	9:30 am	Ed Foltz
	11:30 am	Alice Heath

LET US PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Les Miley	Hannah Donoghue
Shirley Hensley	Margie Huesman
Fr. Ray Hartman	Tom Donoghue
Fr. Ralph Hartman	Jill Felix
Robert Shircliff	Greg Scanlon
Rachel Hub	Connie Gillum
Nancy Salzer	Ed Salzer
Pat Wiedemann	Jack and Rilla Kerns
Trudy Koehling	Mary Lou Wilson
Carolyn James	Jim White
Paula Schwarte	William Freddie
Marcia Arnett	Bessie Plymesser
Rusty Erpenbeck	Michael Carter
Wilma Brown	Archie Williams
Terry	Ebry Erdman
Abby, Nick and Baby Arlo	Jamie Igo
Lois Knochelmann	Uriah Searp
Mary Estelle Roesel	Angela Casanova
Courtney Thurman	Joe Legner
Spencer Carr	Bill Lonneman
Bob Schroeder	Special Intention
Ralph and Gloria Kunkemoeller	Christopher Mackay
Shirley O'Reilly	