

JULY 6, 2025 | 14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MOTHER *of* GOD


FAMILY OF PARISHES



Rooted in sacramental life, we strive to be a vibrant, active, and welcoming Catholic community. We encourage all to give glory and praise to God through knowing and sharing God's love in our homes, in our communities, and throughout the world.

MGP_{PARISH}.ORG

 @MGP_{PARISH}_

 MOTHER OF GOD FAMILY OF PARISHES

 @MGP_{PARISH}_

OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

2025 Woodman Drive
Kettering OH 45420

PARISH OFFICE: 937-253-5171

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.
ascensionkettering.org

ST. ALBERT THE GREAT

3033 Far Hills Avenue
Kettering, Ohio 45429

PARISH OFFICE: 937-293-1191

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m.- Noon
stalbertthegreat.net

ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO

4500 Ackerman Boulevard
Kettering, Ohio 45429

PARISH OFFICE: 937- 434 - 6081

Monday-Friday: 9:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

stcharles-kettering.org

ADORATION

ST. ALBERT THE GREAT CAMPUS

Fridays: Adoration with Exposition following Noon Mass

Daily: M-F 8am to 6pm Adoration Chapel open at all times
(call office for code)

ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO CAMPUS

First Fridays: Adoration with Exposition following 8:30 a.m.
Mass, 7:00 p.m. Holy Hour for Vocations

Daily: Eucharistic Chapel open from 5:30 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

ASCENSION CAMPUS

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday with key from the
parish office.

RECONCILIATION

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Saturday: 4:00-4:30 p.m.

ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO

Saturday 3:00-4:30 p.m.

ST. ALBERT THE GREAT

Friday: After Noon Mass

Saturday: 3:15 - 4:00 p.m.

SACRAMENTS

BECOMING CATHOLIC

Anyone desiring to inquire about the Catholic faith, or seeking to complete their Sacraments, including children age 7+, should contact Chris Kreger, Director of OCIA, at 937-401-0423 or Joe Ollier, Director of Evangelization at 937-253-5171.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please notify the Parish Office in case of serious illness or upcoming surgery. Communal anointing services are celebrated in each season.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Couples should contact the Parish Office at least six months in advance of the marriage date.

INFANT BAPTISM

Parents are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Class, preferably before the birth of their child, to have a child under the age of 7 baptized. Classes are held monthly at rotating locations. For more information, please contact Tara Schumaker at tschumaker@ascensionkettering.org.

SOCIAL MEDIA

INSTAGRAM: @mgparish_

FACEBOOK: Mother of God
Family of Parishes

YOUTUBE: Mother of God
Family of Parishes

TIK TOK: @mgparish_



A New Look Rooted in Eternal Beauty



At the heart of the Mother of God Family of Parishes, our mission is simple yet profound: to reflect the timeless beauty of God in every facet of our parish life—especially in how we share His Good News with the world.

Beauty is not merely decorative; it reveals God Himself and lifts our hearts beyond the ordinary. St. John Paul II captured this truth so well when he wrote, “Beauty is a key to the mystery and a call to transcendence.” In a world that often forgets the sacred, beauty gently reawakens wonder and points us back to Him.

God’s beauty reveals itself in countless ways—through a delicate flower in bloom, the stirring hymns we lift together at Mass, or the gorgeous sacred architecture that lifts our eyes to heaven. In this season of renewal, we are turning our hearts and efforts toward celebrating beauty through thoughtful design—refreshing our social media, reimagining our bulletin, and unveiling a new brand identity that speaks of who we are and Whose we are.

With this conviction, our parish leadership and communications team have been hard at work—listening, discerning, designing, and praying—to craft a cohesive and inviting brand for our parish

family. Our new visual identity is more than just colors and shapes: it’s a window into our mission, our history, and our hope for the future.

Thank you to everyone who voted on our new logo! This beautiful symbol—Mary and Jesus, tenderly shaped in a suggested heart and rendered in three vibrant colors: rust orange, gold, and blue—captures the warmth, love, and unity we cherish within our community. It will serve as a comforting and recognizable sign for all who call our parishes home and for those we hope to welcome in the years ahead!

Our renewed brand extends far beyond a logo. It shapes every channel through which we connect and evangelize:

- A vibrant, easy-to-navigate website for all three parishes, where every parishioner can find clear, up-to-date information and resources at their fingertips. Our new website is “soft launched” for editing right now, but will be launched fully soon!
- Engaging and authentic social media—on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube—designed to reach hearts young and old, and to share the daily beauty and goodness alive in our parish

life. Please give us a follow on your accounts!

- And, as you may be able to tell, a redesigned bulletin that feels fresh, inspiring, and truly representative of who we are: three parishes united in faith, each with its own beloved character, now more accessible and attractive to all generations.

Importantly, while this unified identity brings us together under one mission, it never diminishes the unique story and personality of each parish. Rather, it highlights the rich diversity and history we treasure—strengthening the bonds that make us a true family in Christ.

We invite you to rejoice with us in this exciting new chapter. We hope our new look will not just catch your eye, but lift your soul. May it be a doorway to encounter, a catalyst for conversation, and a gentle invitation for more hearts to discover the love of Christ among us.

Stay tuned, spread the word, and thank you—each of you—for being part of this living, breathing expression of our faith, hope, and love. Together, may we continue to make our parishes places where beauty points always and everywhere to God!

MASS TIMES

ASCENSION
ST. ALBERT
ST. CHARLES

MONDAY, JULY 7

- 8:30 AM Elmer Wanke
The Wanke Family
- 9:00 AM Pilar Perron
Debbie Rogers
- NOON Barbara Stout Wooten
Kay Moore

TUESDAY, JULY 8

- 8:30 AM Gene McDonald
Jan & John Moran
- NOON Lyn Ridley
MFW

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

- 8:30 AM Andrea Hartman
Family
- 9:00 AM Louis Ciambro
Paul Tarlano
- NOON Timothy Shock
J/J Shock

THURSDAY, JULY 10

- 8:30 AM Larry Arway
Family
- 9:00 AM Robert & Esther Slagel
Debbie Dean
- NOON Fr. David Robisch
J/J Weckesser

FRIDAY, JULY 11

- 9:00 AM Patience Olajide
Special Intention
- NOON Armand Perron
Debbie Rogers

SATURDAY, JULY 12

- 4:30 PM Jennifer Jensen
Family
- 5:00 PM Joe McGarvey
Donna McGarvey
- 5:00 PM Rita Rossman
Karen Buschmiller

SUNDAY, JULY 13

- 8:30 AM Betty Haller
Cynthia Haller
- 8:30 AM St. Albert the Great Church
- 8:30 AM St. Charles Borromeo Church
- 10:30 AM Jackie Paxon
John & Judy Weckesser
- 11:00 AM Church of the Ascension
- 11:00 AM Robert J. Wagner
Anita Wagner



GIVE

One meaningful way to support the work of Mother of God Family of Parishes is through financial giving. Your generosity helps us offer vibrant ministries, meaningful events, and opportunities for all to encounter Christ and community. We invite you to prayerfully consider making a contribution to help us continue building a parish family where everyone knows they belong.

For more information about giving, visit mgparish.org/give.

"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." (Luke 10:2)

STEWARDSHIP

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO

Offertory Income \$ 24,617
YTD Offertory Income \$ 1,690,778
YTD Budget \$ 1,609,306
Diakonia \$ 916

ST. ALBERT THE GREAT

Offertory Income \$ 21,461
YTD Offertory Income \$ 1,197,949
YTD Budget \$ 1,300,000
St. Vincent de Paul \$ 1,000

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Offertory Income \$ 18,796
YTD Offertory Income \$ 1,193,218
YTD Budget \$ 1,099,800
Saint Vincent de Paul \$ 561

WORSHIP



New Pyx Care Update

Since they carry the body of our Lord, pyxes should be treated like the sacred vessels at the altar: they should be clean and dry before the Host is placed inside. Once the consecrated Host is removed, a bit of water should be carefully poured into the pyx, swirled about to dissolve and particles of the consecrated Host and then poured into a small cup to be consumed. This is what the priest and deacon do at the end of Communion and it's called "purifying the vessels." Ideally, this rinse is done at least once and then the pyx may be washed and dried and it is ready to receive a new Host at the next Mass.



Sing in the Summer Choir!

Did you sing in your school choir and do you miss singing with others? Always dreamed of singing somewhere other than your shower? Or you might be wondering, what is it like to be part of our choir? Ascension is offering a low-stress way to come and join us in praising God through song this summer! Open to all ability levels ages 9 and up, come join us for summer choir.

Where: Ascension Campus (in the church)

When: Sundays July 13 and August 10

Meet for rehearsal at 9:30am and sing for the 11am Mass!

Questions? Contact Stephanie Klein sklein@ascensionkettering.org or 937-253-5171, ext. 111

*This month, we continue sharing **Words of Hope** from some of our Catholic tradition's great Saints. Pope St. John XXIII (1881-1963) was expected to do little when he was elected in 1958. Instead, during his 5-year reign, he called Vatican II and was instrumental in negotiating peace during the Cold War. He was the first pope to be awarded the Medal of Freedom by the President of the United States.*

"Consult not your fears, but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do."

WEDDING BANNS

1st Nicholas Anderson and Savannah Mussari

PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF

Dennis Dillhoff. His Mass of Christian Burial was Thursday, June 19 at St. Charles.

Anna Mae Maurice. Her Mass of Christian Burial was Thursday, June 26 at St. Charles.

Adele Parenti. Her Mass of Christian Burial was Friday, June 27 at St. Charles.

Lisa Bidwell. Her Mass of Christian Burial was Friday, June 27 at St. Charles.

Robert Vincent Branion, Jr. His Mass of Christian Burial was Monday, June 30 at St. Charles.

Dominico "Don" Carone. His Mass of Christian Burial was Monday, June 30 at St. Charles.

Maria Elena Cata. Her Mass of Christian Burial was Tuesday, July 1 at St. Charles.

PRAYER LIST

Dan Accrocco, Ken Betcher, Barbara Blackstone, Jeff Bowling, Ron Catanzaro, June Chifala, Florence Cobey, Ron DeChant, Darlene Duke, Jane Fortener, Mary Ann Frederickson, Betty Gaudion, Barbara Griffin, Carol Harris, Justin Hodge, Larry Hoffman, Martha Kauflin, John Maqsud, Ed Mykytka, Joseph Paul, Jackie Pennington, Suzanne Radcliffe, Nan Romer, Isobel Ruse, Mary Jane Ryan, Ruth Schock, Mary Louise Scott, Deacon Dick Strominger, Dan Whelan, Angela Woessner, Jeff Young.

Please call the Parish Office to request a name be added to the Prayers for the Sick in the event of acute illness, upcoming surgery/rehabilitation, etc. Names will remain for three weeks at a time unless otherwise requested.

OUR MINISTRIES

A WEEKLY HIGHLIGHT / UPDATES OF SOME OF OUR MINISTRIES, CLUBS, AND GROUPS



Calling all moms! M2M Summer Connection

Join us for Mom to Mom: Summer Connection on July 30 from 9:00–10:45 AM in the Borromeo Room at the St. Charles Campus, 4500 Ackerman Blvd. This is a wonderful opportunity for moms to connect, relax, and be encouraged in community. Childcare and breakfast are provided, and no registration is needed—just show up! For questions, contact Sarah at 937-401-0021 or Sarchuleta@stcharles-kettering.org. This powerful ministry has grown so much in the past year and is raved about by moms in our parish community – all are welcome!

“OUR LORD WILL NOT DISAPPOINT BUT TOTALLY AMAZE THOSE WHO TRUST HIM”

FR. TOM NEVELS, PASTOR



Dear Family,

I hope everyone is enjoying these summer days. I am on vacation as I write this reflection. I played a round of golf this morning and got my boat out in the afternoon. In a perennial way, the beauty of nature this time of year gives great glory and praise to God. I am especially invigorated and inspired by the bright sunshine this time of year. I also love the gorgeous trees and watching the wildlife doing their instinctual things. It often makes me wonder how heaven will be able to improve on this, but I know our Lord will not disappoint, but totally amaze those who trust Him.

I don't have a lot to report from our implementation teams as their progress was slowed by our CLI director's illness and retirement. But they continue to strive to recruit and develop strategies for our Family of Parishes. Our new director is inspiring and should help us continue to move forward in implementing our priorities and goals.

Most recently, I have been impressed with our new Director of Communications and the good work our communication team has been doing. We will begin to see more organized, insightful and inspiring communications to help better appreciate what a wonderful Family of Parishes we have and to invigorate further growth.

We are going to sponsor town hall meetings at all three locations this month. July 10 at St. Charles, July 21 at Ascension and July 31 at St. Albert. There will be overall topics presented, and local topics highlighted for input. We will strive to work in a question-and-answer session, too. See the bulletin, parish website and social media for more info. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

I have been feeling called to deepen my prayers for fallen-away Catholics. I don't think we pray enough for the return of our fallen-away brothers and sisters. Their return will be dependent and proportional to our prayers for them. I am going to be more focused on that and encourage all to do the same. It will help us better appreciate the power and need of prayer and will be a great grace for our fallen-away brothers and sisters.

Some of our greatest Solemnities all convened in June this year: Ascension, Pentecost, Corpus Christi, The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist, The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and Saints Peter and Paul. That was six Solemnities in one month. What an uplifting month!!!

Prayers and Blessings,
Fr. Tom



PRAY FOR OUR MISSION TEAM!

From July 13–18, a group of our youth ministry students and adult volunteers will be serving on an Appalachian Mission Trip, dedicating their time and energy to helping families in need through hands-on service and heartfelt ministry. As they step out in faith to share Christ's love, we ask our parish community to keep them in your prayers—for safe travels, meaningful encounters, and open hearts. May their experience be a blessing both to those they serve and to their own spiritual growth.

YOUNG ADULT DINNER

Our Young Adult Ministry (ages 18–35) offers a chance for genuine connection and growth in faith. We're a community of recent grads, young professionals, singles, married couples, and parents, all united by a passion for seeking Christ and building friendships! Our next Young Adult Community Dinner is on Sunday, July 13 at 4 p.m. at St. Albert the Great Spirit Center. We'd love to see you there!



TOWN HALL MEETINGS

All parishioners are invited to attend one of our upcoming Family of Parishes Town Hall Meetings to receive updates about our Mother of God Family of Parishes and to share your thoughts, questions, and concerns. These gatherings offer a chance for open dialogue as we grow together in faith and mission. Join us on *Thursday, July 10 at 7 p.m. at St. Charles Borromeo, Monday, July 21 at 7 p.m. at the Witzman Center, Ascension, or Thursday, July 31 at 7 p.m. at St. Albert the Great.* We hope you'll be part of these important conversations as we walk forward in unity and shared purpose. All sessions will be livestreamed, too!

LEISURE CLUB SUMMER PICNIC

All senior members of the MGFP are invited to join us for the Leisure Club Summer Picnic. Come enjoy hot dogs on the grill! Thursday, July 10 at Noon in the Witzman Center (basement of Ascension church). RSVP to sgraham@ascensionkettering.org. Please bring a side dish to share – we will provide table service, hot dogs, chips, and lemonade. See you there!



OUR COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR COMMUNITY

JOIN US AT OUR WEEKLY ROSARY WALK!

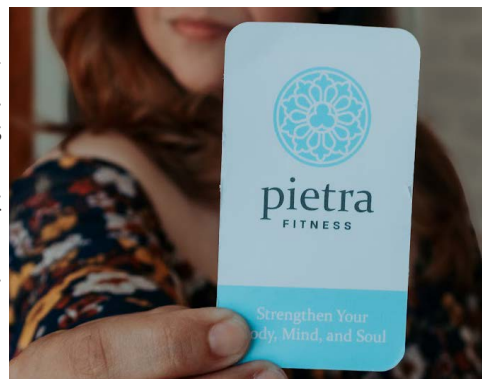
Join us for a peaceful and prayerful Outdoor Rosary Walk every Tuesday evening at 7 PM at the Church of the Ascension. This is a beautiful opportunity to gather in community, lift our prayers to Our Lady, and reflect in nature. All ages are welcome—come walk, pray, and grow in faith with us.

HARVEST OF VALUES BAZAAR

The Harvest of Values Bazaar that will be held in November at Ascension Campus will be here before you know it! If you would like to help out by donating a basket for the Basket Raffle, please contact Diane Borchers at 937-231-3373 or borchersdp@gmail.com. Baskets are needed by September, so they can be included in the October presales. Thank you to all who have already committed to donating one!

GET FIT WITH US!

Join us on Tuesday evenings for **Chair One**, July 8 & 22 from 4:30-5:00 p.m. in the Witzman Center, Room 118, at Ascension Campus. No special equipment is required. Just wear some comfy clothes and shoes and come with a mind and body open to having fun and being energized. For any questions, contact Alice Ernst at alice4chaironefitness@gmail.com. **Pietra Fitness** also is offering a summer session: Thursdays 8:30-9:00, July 3-31, Borromeo Room. Pietra Fitness is a Christian exercise program that combines physical fitness with Catholic prayer and meditation – all are welcome!



THE PEACH TRUCK

7/11
4-6 PM
ASC

You loved The Peach Truck so much, we had to do it again! The Peach Truck will be in the upper parking lot. You must Preorder your peaches at <http://thepeachtruck.com> to reserve your box. Friday, July 11, 4:00-6:00 p.m. Friday, August 1, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

7/12
8-9 AM
ASC

Session 4: When Were the Gospels Written?
Some attempt to cast doubt on the reliability of the Gospels, asserting they were written too late in the first century to provide accurate information about Jesus. All men of MGFP are invited to participate! Located in Witzman Center Room 119.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION SERIES @ST. LEONARD

7/17
6 PM
ST. LEONARD

Jeannette Horwitz, Welcome Dayton Coordinator presents "Immigrants in the Miami Valley and Beyond" in the Franciscan Center at St. Leonard. All are welcome!

BE A HERO

7/29
9-11 AM
ASC

Support your local blood supply and help avoid critical blood shortages when you give the most important gift of all, the gift of life! To schedule an appointment, go to www.donortime.com and enter code: 1729.

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION



CHILDREN

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD gives young children a chance to hear and reflect on Sunday's readings in a way they can understand during Mass. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION supports children and youth, especially those in public schools, through different programs. These offer faith lessons, Scripture study, and community activities.



JR. HIGH

EDGE is our middle school youth ministry. We offer "1st Friday" events for middle schoolers to experience faith in action through prayer, service, and friendship, helping them grow in relationship with God, others, and their identity as beloved children of God.



HIGH SCHOOL

DOCK is our high school ministry for all teens, meeting Sunday nights at St. Charles, where we live out "faith in action" through community, service, and spiritual growth in a welcoming, come-as-you-are environment.



Summer of Service

MGFP Junior High Summer offers several exciting ways for middle school students to serve and connect with others this season! From July 21–25, rising 8th graders are invited to help with the Summer Lunch Program, providing meals to children in our community. There are more opportunities to get involved, including a Fourth of July celebration with hot dogs and fireworks. For questions, contact Amie Herbert at aherbert@ascensionkettering.org.



Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word needs your help! We're looking for enthusiastic Sunday catechists to share Scripture with our youngest parishioners during the 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM Masses at St. Charles. This is a meaningful way to make a lasting impact with a minimal time commitment. If you're interested in helping continue this wonderful program, please contact Tara at tschumaker@stalbertthegreat.net!

Religious education programs are now open to register! Please contact Tara at tschumaker@stalbertthegreat.net to learn more.

LOVE IN ACTION

Care for Creation Eco Tip

When going out for the day, or while vacationing, consider packing a sustainable lunch (reusable containers, etc.). It is more cost-effective, likely healthier, and produces less trash than purchased fast food.

A Vision for Love in Action: Training for Families of Parishes, August 23

Parishioners and staff are invited to a special training session, A Vision for Love in Action: Building Communities of Salt and Light. This event is designed to support Families of Parishes in growing vibrant ministries rooted in charity, justice, and respect for life. This training offers:

A foundation in LIA ministry and its role in the Church

- Examples of successful LIA efforts across our Family of Parishes.
- Opportunities to coordinate and collaborate with fellow parish leaders.
- Inspiration to better serve those in need and work for a more just world

Saturday, August 23, 2025.

9:30 AM-3:30 PM

St. Luke Parish, 1440 N. Fairfield Rd., Beavercreek

To register or learn more, contact Cathy Magness at

cmagness@ascensionkettering.org

Come be part of the conversation and vision for Love in Action!

FEED THE HUNGRY

Casserole pans are available to provide a meal for our neighbors at the St. Vincent shelters. Instructions are with each pan.

St. Charles Borromeo Campus is always in need of one-pound cans of vegetables, as well as bags of apples, oranges, and carrot sticks & celery—washed and cut up, ready to serve.

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Pick up pans: July 5/6

Pans due by: July 25

(Deliver frozen meals either to the Witzman Center or drop off in the parish office by Noon on the due date.)

ST. ALBERT THE GREAT

Pick up pans: July 25

Pans due by: Aug 2

(Deliver frozen meals to the breezeway entrance between 9-10 a.m.)

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO

Pick up pans: July 6

Pans due by: July 13

(Deliver frozen to the Hospitality Room, 8-10:45 a.m.)



OUR SCHOOLS

Our parish schools are the largest and most vibrant ministry within our parishes, shaping the hearts and minds of hundreds of children and their families each day. Through faith-filled education, our schools nurture young disciples, form future leaders, and strengthen the entire parish community. They are a living witness to our commitment to pass on the Catholic faith, cultivate academic excellence, and build a loving, Christ-centered environment where every child can grow and thrive. For more information about our schools, visit mgparish.org/school.



KID'S SAINT OF THE WEEK! SAINT MARIA GORETTI – FEAST DAY JULY 6

Saint Maria Goretti was a brave and loving young girl who lived in Italy. She loved Jesus very much and always tried to do what was right. When she was only 11 years old, she made a big choice to stay holy and forgive someone who hurt her. Even before she went to heaven, she forgave him with all her heart. She is now a saint in heaven who helps us learn to be kind, forgiving, and strong in our faith.

CATHOLIC INFORMATION BOOTH

Free Catholic Information Booth at the Montgomery County Fair will be hosted by the Legion of Mary, Sunday, July 6, Noon to 10 p.m., and July 7-12, 2025, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., in the Main Event Center at the 4-H Fairgrounds. Free literature, rosaries, medals, etc. Regular \$10 Fair admission applies. For more Fair info and to purchase tickets online: <http://www.montcofair.com/>. Volunteers get free entry. For more information: legionofmarystalbert@yahoo.com.



MOTHER OF GOD FAMILY OF PARISHES INFO

PASTOR

Fr. Tom Nevels

tnevels@stcharles-kettering.org

VICARS

Fr. Jeff Stegbauer

jstegbauer@stalbertthegreat.net

Fr. Tony Sanitaoto

asanitato@ascensionkettering.org

DEACONS

Dcn. Brian Campos, Dcn. Jesse Fanning,
Dcn. Jeff Hall, Dcn. Vic Hildebrand,
Dcn. Chris Jasek, Dcn. Dan Kraus,
Dcn. Tom Sipniewski, Dcn. Dave Zink

MGFP KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Council 14891– Ascension Campus

kofc14891@gmail.com

Council 4022 – St. Albert The Great Campus

grandKnight@kofc4022.org

Council 14995 – St. Charles Borromeo Campus

stcharlesknights14995@gmail.com

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION CAMPUS

Parish Office: 937-253-5171

Ascension School Office: 937-254-5411

Principal: Susan DiGiorgio

ST. ALBERT THE GREAT CAMPUS

Parish Office: 937-293-1191

St. Albert School Office: 937-293-9452

Principal: Nancy Hankey

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO CAMPUS

Parish Office: 937-434-6081

St. Charles School Office: 937-434-4933

Principal: David Bogle

FAMILY LEADERSHIP TEAM

Pastor + Parochial Vicars

Cathy Magness

cmagness@ascensionkettering.org

Elizabeth Lush

elush@stcharles-kettering.org

Joe Ollier

jollier@ascensionkettering.org

Margaret Wager

mwager@ascensionkettering.org

Marie Lunne

mlunne@ascensionkettering.org

Tom Hutchinson

thutchinson@stalbertthegreat.net

MGFP FAITH FORMATION OFFICES

Ascension Campus: 937-254-0622

St. Albert Campus: 937-281-0032

St. Charles Campus: 937-434-9272

High School Youth Ministry: 937-570-1665

Jr. High Youth Ministry: 937-253-5171, ext.108

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Send any items for publishing consideration
to sgreen@ascensionkettering.org

BULLETIN – 10 days prior to publication date

FLOCKNOTE/E-NEWS – Thursday at Noon

THE LIGHT – 12th of Nov., Feb., May, Aug.



July 2025

Impact

Bring faith to life. Find life in faith.

Impact this month

OPEN YOUR HEART

Take a few moments each day, or longer if you are able, to open your heart to God's love. Recall moments when you have felt God's presence or remember that God always waits for you!

THINK ABOUT YOUR LIFE

What is most important? How do your daily activities, decisions, and focus show your love for God? In what ways does your faith direct and influence your life?

GROW IN FAITH AND HOPE

Allow Jesus to touch your heart with peace, healing, love and hope. Trust that God is with you in all things. Share the blessing of this loving, trusting relationship with family, friends, co-workers and fellow parishioners.



Who or what do you love with all your heart?

Your answer to this question says it all.

Have you ever had someone ask, "What's in your heart?" Or say, "This is at the heart of our discussion"? When we speak of the heart, we get to what is most important, at the center, the crux of the matter. **What is at the heart of our lives has the greatest impact.** When we know where our heart is, we prioritize and put things in proper perspective. In doing so, we begin to see how all of the many aspects of our lives fit together.

Is God at the heart of your life? Some could clearly say yes — and their decisions and actions reflect the heart of God. Yet, many will say that their heart is not quite there yet. As we listen to the readings and hear the stories of the early disciples, it is clear that they gave Jesus a place in their lives. We may forget, however, that before the disciples were sent out two by two, before they asked Jesus to teach them to pray, before they walked from town to town with him, there was an encounter. As they came to know Jesus, he touched their hearts; they experienced peace, healing, mercy and love in ways they had never known before. This encounter is the beginning point for us as well. It must be.

How do we come to know Jesus? The answer may be a bit different for each of us. No matter the circumstances, however, the starting point is an *open heart*. When we open our hearts to an encounter with Christ, we can be certain that God is there, waiting, ready to touch our hearts with love beyond our imagining or comprehension. An open heart leads to a heart filled with love. A heart filled with love naturally reaches out to others, overflowing with mercy, generosity, and peace. In this Jubilee Year, may we be like the disciples sent out on the journey as pilgrims together. Let us dare to open our hearts to the hope of Christ, loving the Lord with all our heart, being, strength, and mind, and our neighbor as our self.



Impact

July 2025

Bring faith to life. Find life in faith.

Martha, Martha

Mary chose the better part. What about Martha?



"Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things..."

Jesus' words may sting for those of us who relate to Martha. Mary, it seems, ignores Martha's bustle, focusing instead on Jesus' and his teaching. We rankle at Jesus' response to Martha. After all, she was taking care of Jesus and those in his company, wasn't she?

This exchange between Jesus and Martha is not the only one between them in the Gospels, however. Martha is featured in another key Gospel narrative, the one in which her brother, Lazarus, has died. Jesus waits to come to the grieving family. Martha is the first to question his absence, and to declare her belief that he is the Messiah.

It seems that Martha has been listening all along. She has a trusting relationship with and faith in Jesus. Perhaps she, like Jesus' mother Mary, has been pondering many things in her heart. Maybe we overreact to Jesus' words to Martha, and therefore miss something important for us as well. Perhaps Jesus wasn't chiding Martha about her anxious pace as much as he was showing care for her, drawing her back to her trusting relationship with him. The testimony of the later interaction between them gives evidence that Martha didn't leave after Jesus commented on her anxiousness and worry. She must have remained, perhaps stilling her heart and anxious life to let Jesus in more completely.

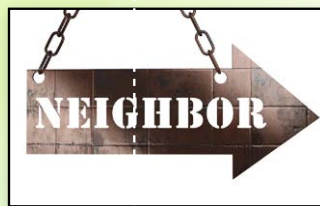
As we go about our daily lives, it will be good for us to remember **Martha and Mary**. Let us consider our relationship with the Lord in the midst of our daily living. and allow Christ's love, forgiveness, and mercy to permeate our hearts, and to shine through us. At times, we must be like Mary and "choose the better part," and at other times, we will be Martha, busy with many things. We can let go of the worry and anxiousness that burdened Martha and sometimes burdens us, and learn to trust in God even in, especially in, our busy, bustling, lives!

**You shall love
the Lord your
God with all your
heart, and with
all your soul,
and with all
your strength,
and with all
your mind, and
your neighbor
as yourself.**

– Lk 10:25–27

Who is your neighbor?

When Jesus responded to the scholar who wished to trick him, he teaches us all what it means to see our neighbor through the heart of God. He exposes the hypocrisy of the religious leaders whose concern for the *letter* of the law overrode their concern for the injured man, and the compassion at the *heart* of the law.



In placing the Samaritan as the one who was neighbor to the victim, Jesus challenges the social prejudices of the time. Samaritans and Jews held each other in contempt, yet **this Samaritan not only cared for the victim, he reflected God's love** through his lavish expression of compassion and mercy. The one who was hated became the one revered and respected.

Who is your neighbor? Are there individuals or people of a particular ethnic or social group that you avoid or hold in contempt? How are you called to the love and service that is at the heart of Christ's message? Who waits for your compassion, acceptance, selfless sharing, or attention?

16 5 1 3 5

20 15 20 8 9 19

8 15 21 19 5 8 15 12 4

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	

Solve the puzzle to learn what the disciples said when they entered a new house.

Gospel

Jesus sent His disciples out to teach about God. He asked them to walk to a new town without taking anything with them. The disciples stayed with people who welcomed them and helped prepare them to meet Jesus.

Year C: Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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