

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.

# MGPARISH.ORG

- (O) @MGPARISH\_
- # MOTHER OF GOD FAMILY OF PARISHES
- @MGPARISH\_

# **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.

## 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

## ST. CHARLES BORROMEO

4500 Ackerman Boulevard Kettering, Ohio 45429 PARISH OFFICE: 937-434-6081 Monday-Friday: 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

# VISIT OUR NEW COMBINED WEBSITE MGPARISH.ORG

# **ADORATION**

# ST. ALBERT THE GREAT CAMPUS

**Fridays:** Adoration with Exposition following Noon Mass **Daily:** Church M-F 8am to 6pm; Adoration Chapel available 24/7 (call office for code)

## ST. CHARLES BORROMEO 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**

Adoration before the tabernacle is encouraged before and after daily mass. Contact the parish office for access to the chapel for Adoration at other times.

# **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, or visit mgparish.org/become-catholic

# **ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

Please notify the Parish Office in case of serious illness or upcoming surgery. Communal anointing services are celebrated three times per year.

## **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: Wednesday, September 10, 6:30 p.m., Spirit Center at St. Albert; Monday, October 13, 7 p.m. at St. Charles. For more information, and to RSVP (required), please contact Kristi Gaston, kgaston@mgparish.org for St. Albert, or Joe Ollier, jollier@mgparish.org for Ascension and St. Charles.

# RECONCILIATION

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION** Saturday: 4:00-4:30 p.m.

**ST. CHARLES BORROMEO** Saturday 3:00-4:30 p.m.

**ST. ALBERT THE GREAT** Friday: After Noon Mass Saturday: 3:15- 4:00 p.m.

# **SOCIAL MEDIA**

**INSTAGRAM:** @mgparish\_ **FACEBOOK:** Mother of God

Family of Parishes

YOUTUBE: Mother of God

Family of Parishes **TIKTOK:** @mgparish\_



THE PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY. PLEASE JOIN US FOR MASS AT 9 AM AT ASCENSION CAMPUS.



Paul Larochelle and Bob Wiggins are longtime and faithful members of Our Lady of the Light Knights of Columbus Council 14891 at Ascension Campus.

Paul Larochelle, the Grand Knight of the council, grew up in Manchester, New Hampshire, and moved to Dayton in 1993. A longtime parishioner at Ascension, Paul shared that his inspiration to become a Knight came from his grandfather—a man devoted to his parish and known for growing raspberries in his garden to sell at church fundraisers. That love for the Church took root in Paul, and today he leads with humility and heart.

Bob Wiggins, the council's Warden, spent his life as a firefighter. After leaving his role, he found himself missing the deep camaraderie that comes with working alongside others toward a common goal. The Knights filled that gap. For the past 27 years, Bob has found not only purpose—but true fraternity.

# Who Are the Knights of Columbus?

With more than 2.1 million members worldwide, the Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic fraternal organization in existence. Founded in 1882 by Father Michael McGivney (who was beatified in 2020), the Knights were originally formed to support widows and orphans in the aftermath of war. Since then, their mission has grown—but their heart remains the same.

The four guiding pillars of the Knights are Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism—and their local work lives up to each.

# Ascension's Council: Our Lady of the Light #14891

Founded 15 years ago, this council boasts 106 active members who serve our parish and community in remarkable ways through their Faith in Action initiatives:

Faith: From 5th Sunday Rosaries for the persecuted to seminarian support and men's fellowship, the Knights are working to strengthen the spiritual lives of Catholic men and families.

Family: Hosting events like the Fishing Derby, Breakfast with St. Nicholas, and distributing Holy Family prayer cards, they help keep Christ at the center of family life.

Community: Whether it's organizing a Free Throw Contest, flipping pancakes at parish breakfasts, or marching in the Holiday at Home Parade, the Knights make their presence known—and joyfully so.

Life: Their generosity supports vulnerable populations through programs like Coats for Kids, Elizabeth New Life Center, and Brigid's Path, and they're exploring new ways to serve families experiencing

miscarriage through Morgan's Wings.

And let's not forget their powerful support for vocations—each year, they provide \$2,000 and moral support to seminarians preparing for the priesthood.

Like many ministries, the Knights are eager to welcome the next generation of Catholic men. There's a particular need for men ages 22–36 who are seeking fellowship, faith, and a way to give back. Whether you're recently confirmed, newly married, or simply longing for brotherhood—you'll find a home here.

### More Than Just One Council!

While this article highlights the council at Ascension, it's important to note that both St. Charles and St. Albert also have active and vibrant Knights of Columbus councils of their own. Each is dedicated to serving their parish campus and the larger Mother of God Family of Parishes. All three councils work in collaboration and are always ready to welcome new members.

Interested in joining the Knights of Columbus? Reach out to your parish office and we'll help get you connected! It's never been a better time to say Yes to brotherhood, service, and faith in action!

Stay tuned for articles featuring the Knights from St. Albert & St. Charles!

# **MASS TIMES**

ASCENSION SA ST. ALBERT ST. CHARLES

# **MONDAY, AUGUST 25**

8:30 AM So Mary Gillespie Kitty Schaefer & Family

9:00 AM Sally Winegar Fran Bruns

NOON (A) Kay Lunne Carlton Doncaster

# **TUESDAY, AUGUST 26**

8:30 AM © Carol Ruane Mary Hanaghan

NOON All Souls in Purgatory
Minette Myers

# **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27**

8:30 AM Mary Jean Schneble Family

9:00 AM Bill Braun Dee Braun

NOON Charles Boesch, Jr.

# **THURSDAY, AUGUST 28**

8:30 AM So Jane Roberts Family

9:00 AM Gerry & Charlene Schirmer

NOON SA Forst Elliott
St. Albert the Great staff

# **FRIDAY, AUGUST 29**

9:00 AM S First Responders

NOON Mathy Deacon
Dr. & Mrs. Dan Robie

# **SATURDAY, AUGUST 30**

4:30 PM May Jim Johnson Kay Moore

5:00 pm Larry Trame

Joan Trame

5:00 PM So John Bruch

# **SUNDAY, AUGUST 31**

8:30 AM S Church of the Ascension

8:30 AM Donna & Dick Wemple

8:30 AM St. Charles Borromeo Church

10:30 AM & Larry Ritchard Family

11:00 AM M Homebound Parishioners

11:00 AM St. Albert the Great Church

Please invite your friends and family to Mass and our Parish picnic on September 14 as we celebrate "Together Sunday!" On this day, please be extra-welcoming to new faces and help our community be a resting place for new people!



# **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.

"For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." *Luke 13:30* 

# **STEWARDSHIP**

# ST. CHARLES BORROMEO

Offertory Income \$ 23,371 YTD Offertory Income \$ 193,071 YTD Budget \$ 206,925 Diakonia \$ 590

## ST. ALBERT THE GREAT

Offertory Income \$ 32,591 YTD Offertory Income \$186,288 YTD Budget \$168,288 St. Vincent Conference \$ 305

# **CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION**

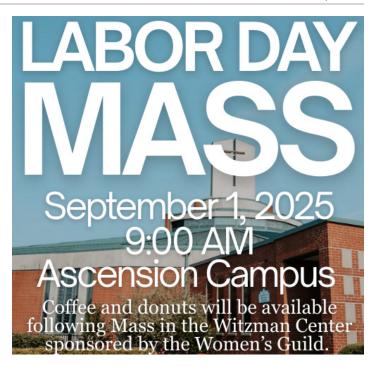
Offertory Income \$ 18,275 YTD Offertory Income \$ 159,774 YTD Budget \$ 169,750 Saint Vincent De Paul \$ 252

Please go to mgparish.org/mass to see weekend presider schedule.

# **WORSHIP**

# IS THIS YOUR TIME TO BECOME CATHOLIC?

Have you wondered how to connect to God and seek a faith of practical use in your life? We invite you to search with us! Were you baptized in another faith tradition but now are wondering what the Catholic faith might have to offer you? Come explore with us. Maybe you are ready to reconnect with the seeds of faith started in your childhood? Come and grow with us. Our family of parishes offers a wonderful process for adults and families to learn about the Catholic faith called the OCIA (Order of Initiation of Adults). Email Chris Kreger at ckreger@mgparish.org for more information and to get started. If you have been thinking about it, now is the time to reach out!



# **NEW CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED!**

Do you find yourself humming a song you heard at Mass on Sunday? Do you enjoy singing around the house or in the car? Consider joining our St. Charles Choir! We welcome anyone interested in this special ministry. You don't need any formal music training, just a love of singing! Practices are Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. in the church choir room, and start Wednesday, September 3. Hope to see you there!



This week's Words of Hope from Pope St. John Paul II help connect us to St. John the Baptist, whose Passion and death the Church celebrates later this week: "I plead with you—never, ever give up on hope; never doubt, never tire and never become discouraged. Be not afraid."

# WALK WITH MGFP IN THE HOLIDAY AT HOME PARADE!

Fr. Tom Nevels will be leading his flock from a livestock trailer looking for the lost sheep! All parishioners are invited to walk with us. Please contact Cathy Magness at cmagness@mgparish.org for more information!

## **BAPTISMS**

**Loralei Neri Hosford,** daughter of Timothy & Sophia (Kalscheur) Hosford.

**Halina Ray Eddy,** daughter of Caleb and Alexis (Rak) Eddy.

Claire Meredith McReynolds, daughter of Jeremy and Maria (Meredith) McReynolds.

Daniel Roland McReynolds, son of Jeremy and Maria (Meredith) McReynolds.

Jack Anthony McReynolds, son of Jeremy and Maria (Meredith) McReynolds.

# **NEW PARISHIONERS—WELCOME!**

Jean Guithues of Dayton

## **PRAYER LIST**

Maria & Robin Bachman, Barbara Blackstone, Jeff Bowling, Dennis Buechele, Jane Buechele, Ron Catanzaro, June Chifala, Florence Cobey, Ron DeChant, Darlene Duke, Larry Ely, Jane Fortener, Betty Gaudion, Barbara Griffin, Carol Harris, Justin Hodge, Larry Hoffman, Kathy Horvath, Lou Johnson, Martha Kauflin, Judy Koehler, Pam Kussman, John Maqsud, Don Paul, Joseph Paul, Michael Prince, Suzanne Radcliffe, Joyce Rogers, Nan Romer, Isobel Ruse, Mary Jane Ryan, Ruth Schock, Mary Louise Scott, Deacon Dick Strominger, Dan Whelan, Lily Williams, Angela Woessner, Ann & Frank Weyler, Jeff Young.

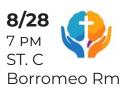
Please call the Parish Office to request a name be added to the Prayers for the Sick in the event of acute illness, upcoming surgery/rehabilitation, etc. Names will remain for three weeks at a time unless otherwise requested.

# **OUR MINISTRIES**

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

# MGFP'S MENTAL WELLNESS MINISTRY

Please come to our next monthly meeting to participate in planning this new ministry in our family of parishes that is supported by the Archdiocese. We are learning about starting this ministry and planning upcoming activities. For more information, contact Lisa Averion at laverion@catholicaoc.org.



# PART-TIME NURSERY CAREGIVER NEEDED—PAID POSITION

The Mother of God Family of Parishes is seeking a part-time Nursery Caregiver at their St. Charles Borromeo Parish campus. This paid position provides 10-15 hours per week of direct supervision for young children during Sunday worship and ministerial events throughout the year. Qualified applicants will have childcare experience and must meet the requirements under the diocesan Child Protection program. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please email a resume to jobopening@stcharles-kettering.org to begin the application process.





# DISCIPLINE AS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF GROWTH

ANN MCMANUS, BOOKKEEPER, ST. ALBERT THE GREAT CAMPUS

This week's second reading from Hebrews challenges us to accept discipline as an essential part of our spiritual growth. Those of us who are parents know well the need to discipline our children when their choices do not reflect who God created them to be. We discipline not from a position of rejection, but of love. We see their goodness and call them out when their behavior misses the mark, hoping that our discipline challenges them to be better.

I remember being on the receiving end of my parents' discipline as a child and not being too keen on it. I did not enjoy being called out for my lack of charity, even when I knew they were right. The journey to see the justice and the love in their discipline was not usually a quick one. I was a stubborn child. Sometimes I still am.

Recently, I was on the receiving end of God's loving discipline. Without realizing it, I had allowed circumstances in my life to harden certain areas of my heart. At the same time, I had been praying for the Lord to give me the grace to love Him more and to love others with His heart. These two truths could not coexist, I was on a crash course with Divine discipline. The Lord allowed me to see just how lacking in love I had become and how far from my prayer I had strayed. At the time, it was a painful realization, but God's love led me straight to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and to His merciful arms. It was the answer to my prayer.

Perhaps that is what St. Paul meant when he wrote "At the time, all discipline seems a cause not for joy but for pain, yet later it brings the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who are trained by it."

So let us take heart and strengthen our resolve to pursue a path of holiness, knowing that God's discipline has a higher purpose. It shapes us to be more like Him and helps us live in a way that bears lasting fruit. May we all be drawn closer to God's heart and find our peace in Him.

# HELP SHAPE OUR SUNDAY SCHEDULE!

LAST CHANCE-YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

Please help us create the best weekend Masses for you & your family.

In order to do so, we would love to see what your preferred Mass times are/would be. Please share your thoughts by going to mgparish.org/survey or use the sheet below and put it in a box in the back of each church or drop it off at the parish office.

Survey open from Saturday, August 16, through Sunday, August 24.



3

- Do you prefer a Saturday or Sunday Mass?
  - ☐ Saturday
  - □ Sunday
- · What are two of your preferred Mass times?

Choose from 3:00PM–7:00PM Saturday and 7:30AM–7:00PM Sunday.

- If you could not have your ideal time of Mass, would you prefer a half hour before that time OR a half our after?
  - ☐ Half hour before
  - ☐ Half hour after
- · Which campus do you regularly attend Mass at?

# **OUR COMMUNITY**

OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR COMMUNITY

# SAFE PARISH

All parish and school employees and volunteers must complete SafeParish™ training, an online background check, and stay current on quarterly bulletins to work with youth. Employees also need fingerprinting and a B4 form before starting, and licensees may have extra requirements. For questions or to become SafeParish-trained, contact Joe Ollier (jollier@mgparish.org) for Ascension, Tom Hutchinson (thutchinson@mgparish.org) for St. Albert, or Anna Godby (agodby@mgparish.org) for St. Charles.

# WELCOME BACK

Ascension Women's Guild is happy to get things started with our Annual Salad Supper on Wednesday, September 3 at 7 p.m. at Ascension in the Witzman Center (basement of the church). All women of the Mother of God Family of Parishes are invited! Come meet and greet new and old friends and hear what WG has scheduled for the upcoming year. Please bring a salad dish to share, along with the recipe. These will go into the yearly cookbooks given out at the Dine Out in December. WG will provide table service and drinks. Any questions, please contact Sue Graham at sgraham@ascensionkettering.org. See you there!

# LEISURE CLUB TRIP TO LaCOMEDIA

All senior members of the MGFP are invited to a trip to LaComedia to catch a matinee of the play "The Play That Goes Wrong." This is a follow-up to our guest speaker, Dave Gabert, who spoke at the May Leisure Club meeting. The Leisure Club has secured four tables that seat six people each in Section 1, closest to the stage. To purchase tickets, please call LaComedia at 937-746-4554 and hit Option 2 for Group Sales. Mention that you are with the Ascension Leisure Club group for the September 11 Matinee of "The Play That Goes Wrong." If you would like to sit with a specific person or couple, please mention that when calling and they will do their best to seat you together. Tickets are \$52 per person. Arrival time is 10:30 a.m. and lunch is served at 11:15 a.m. The show starts between 12:30 and 1:00 p.m. Questions? Contact Sue Graham at sgraham@ascensionkettering.org.

## **GRIEFSHARE: GRIEF RECOVERY SUPPORT**

The next 13-week series of GriefShare sessions will begin on Thursday, September 4 and runs through December 11, 10 a.m.-Noon, in the Community Room of the Pastoral Center at Incarnation Campus. Registration is required. Please contact Mike Flanagan at griefshare@olldayton.org or 937-797-7055.

# SAINT MEINRAD ARCHABBEY INVITES YOU TO PRAY WITH A MONK

All are welcome to a Benedictine Day of Recollection on September 13 at St. Luke Catholic Church, 1440 N. Fairfield Road in Beavercreek. This is open to Benedictine Oblates, friends of Oblates, and ANYONE interested in Benedictine Spirituality. Rev. Michael Reyes OSB, a Monk of St. Meinrad Archabbey, leads us in a day of prayer, reflection, Confession, and Mass at 5:30 p.m. The all-day event starts at 10:15 a.m. and ends at 6:30 p.m. For questions or to register, please contact Pat O'Malley at Pomalley5@woh.rr.com or 937-901-1454. A registration fee of \$25 includes conferences, lunch/breaks. Registration deadline is September 6.

# **WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

Rediscover your spouse and enrich your marriage at a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend, with upcoming experiences on September 19–21 at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center in Cincinnati and November 7–9 at Maria Stein Renewal Center. Learn more or apply at esharing.org, or contact Andy and Melanie Reinersman at 859-653-8464 or application@esharing.org.

# YOUTH FAITH FORMATION





## **CHILDREN**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION for our Mother of God Family of Parishes begins soon! RE at St. Albert is Sundays, 9:40-10:50 a.m. (Grades K-8) and at St. Charles is Tuesdays, 4-5:15 p.m. (Grades 1-5), and Sunday evenings, 5:30-7 p.m. (Grades 6-8). Substitute catechists are needed for both programs. Please contact Tara with any interest: tschumaker@mgparish.org

# JR. HIGH

EDGE is our Middle School Youth Ministry. We offer weekend 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**

LifeTeen 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.

# Find us online!

Visit: mgparish.org/ religious-education

Interested in Sacramental Preparation?

Visit: mgparish.org/ sacramental-preparation

Interested in our Jr. High and High School Youth Ministry Programs and contact information?

Visit: mgparish.org/youth

# COOROUT

All MGFP parents and students in grades 6–8 are invited to the kickoff of IGNITE—our Friday night meal and ministry gathering!

Join us for a fun evening featuring a cookout to launch the year. We'll provide the meat—just bring a side dish or dessert to share!

Contact Amie for more info!

# **CHALLENGE**

Challenge is a faith-based program for 5th-8th grade girls focused on building community, deepening prayer life, serving on mission, and having fun together. Join us for the kickoff on August 27 at St. Charles Walsh Hall from 6:30–8 p.m. to learn more and get involved!

# **PERMISSION FORM**



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 6:00 PM –8:00 PM ASCENSION

# **RSVP HERE!**



# TARA SCHUMAKER

Dir. of Children's Faith Formation tschumaker@mgparish.org

# **AMIE HERBERT**

Jr. High Youth Minister aherbert@mgparish.org

# **KELLY SUMMERS**

High School Youth Minister ksummers@mgparish.org

# **FEED THE HUNGRY**

Casserole pans are available in the Narthex/Gathering Space at each campus various times each month to provide a meal for our neighbors at the St. Vincent shelters. Instructions are with each pan. Additionally, St. Albert the Great is in the 36th year of the monthly food collection serving the Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley (CSSMV) Choice Food Pantry in downtown Dayton. Visit mgparish.org/food-collection for more information on what to bring and when! 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: Sept. 6/7 Pans due by: Sept. 20/21

(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: Sept. 5 Pans due by: Sept. 13

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

# ST. CHARLES BORROMEO

Pick up pans: Sept. 7 Pans due by: Sept. 14

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

# **LOVE IN ACTION**

# SUPPORT THE NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR FOOD PANTRY AT MEIJER!

NOW-SEPTEMBER 27

Support the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Food Pantry, a collaboration between Greenmont Oak Park Community Church and Ascension Campus, by participating in Meijer's Simply Give program. Purchase a \$10 Simply Give card at the Wilmington Pike Meijer checkout, or pick up one at Ascension and take it to Meijer to load with your donation. On DOUBLE MATCH DAY, September 13, Meijer will double your gift, turning a \$10 donation into \$20. Thank you for your generosity!

# CARE FOR CREATION ECO TIP

Soft herbs, such as parsley, basil, and cilantro, stay fresh longest when stored on the counter in a glass with about an inch of water. Trim the stems before you put your herbs in the glass. For a longer shelf-life, wrap non-leafy herbs like rosemary, sage, and thyme in a moistened towel and store in a reusable shopping bag in the refrigerator. Enough plastic is produced in the United States each year to shrink wrap Texas. BUT one ton of recycled plastic saves: 5,774 kWh of electricity, 652 gallons of oil, and 30 cubic yards of landfill space.



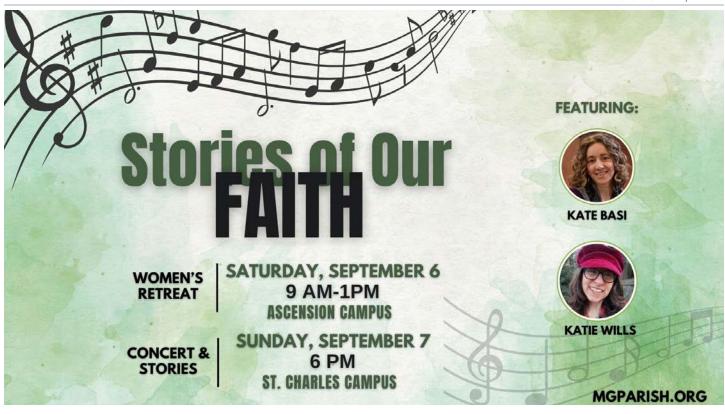


# HELP PROVIDE SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR EAGER-TO-LEARN LITTLE ONES!

Ascension's collection of School Supplies for families served through Catholic Social Services continues throughout the year. As we begin the 2025-2026 school year, we are running low on the following new school supplies:

- BACKPACKS
- PENCIL POUCHES
- PLASTIC 2-POCKET FOLDERS WITHOUT PRONGS (NO PAPER FOLDERS, PLEASE)
- PINK ERASERS
- THIN WASHABLE MARKERS
- 7" BLUNT-TIP SCISSORS AGE 8+
  - KLEENEX BOXES

Donations can be placed in the collection box in the Bride's Room at Ascension, or email Tina Schlegel at dtschlegel@gmail.com to make other arrangements.









# KIDS' COLORING PAGE OF THE WEEK—ST. AUGUSTINE, FEAST DAY AUGUST 28!

Saint Augustine was a man who loved learning and asking big questions about life. When he was younger, he made some mistakes, but he never stopped searching for the truth. One day, after reading the Bible and hearing about God's love, he decided to follow Jesus with his whole heart. Augustine became a great teacher and writer who helped many people understand God better. He is often shown with a book and a heart, reminding us that he loved God with both his mind and his heart.

# **CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS: JOIN OUR JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP!**

Are you passionate about making a positive impact on the lives of young people? Our family of parishes is seeking dedicated volunteers to join our Junior High Youth Group team. This is a wonderful opportunity to mentor and guide our youth as they navigate this important stage of their lives.

# **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:**

- Group Leaders: Lead small group discussions and activities.
- Mentors: Provide one-on-one support and guidance to our youth.
- **Activity Coordinators:** Oversee recreational activities and outings.

# WHY VOLUNTEER WITH US?

- Make a Difference: Your involvement will have a lasting impact on the lives of our youth.
- Bulld Relationships: Connect with young people and fellow volunteers in a meaningful way.
- **Grow in Faith:** Strengthen your own faith while helping others grow in theirs.

How to Get Involved: If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Amie Herbert at or call the parish office at 937-253-5171 ext 108. I look forward aherbert@mgparish.org to welcoming you to our team and making a difference together!

# MOTHER OF GOD FAMILY OF PARISHES INFO

## **PASTOR**

Fr. Tom Nevels tnevels@mgparish.org

## **VICARS**

Fr. Jeff Stegbauer jstegbauer@mgparish.org Fr. Tony Sanitato asanitato@mgparish.org

# **DEACONS**

Deacon Brian Campos Deacon Jesse Fanning Deacon Jeff Hall Deacon Vic Hildebrand Deacon Chris Jasek Deacon Dan Kraus Deacon Tom Sipniewski

Deacon 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

## **PUBLICATION DEADLINES**

Send any items for publishing consideration to sgreen@mgparish.org aortiz@mgparish.org, mlunne@mgparish.org, agodby@mgparish.org

BULLETIN - 10 days prior to publication date FLOCKNOTE/E-NEWS – Thursday at noon THE LIGHT - 12th of Nov., Feb., May, Aug.

# **CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION CAMPUS**

Parish Office: 937-253-5171 Faith Formation Office: 937-254-0622 Ascension School Office: 937-254-5411 Principal: Susan DiGiorgio

# ST. ALBERT THE GREAT CAMPUS

Parish Office: 937-293-1191 Faith Formation Office: 937-281-0032 St. Albert School Office: 937-293-9452 Principal: Nancy Hankey

# ST. CHARLES BORROMEO CAMPUS

Parish Office: 937-434-6081 Faith Formation Office: 937-434-9272 St. Charles School Office: 937-434-4933 Principal: David Bogle

## **FAMILY LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Pastor + Parochial Vicars Cathy Magness cmagness@mgparish.org Elizabeth Lush elush@mgparish.org Joe Ollier jollier@mgparish.org Margaret Wager mwager@mgparish.org Marie Lunne mlunne@mgparish.org

# thutchinson@mgparish.org MGFP YOUTH MINISTRY

Tom Hutchinson

High School Youth Ministry: 937-570-1665 Jr. High Youth Ministry: 937-253-5171 x108

# **SALVATION**

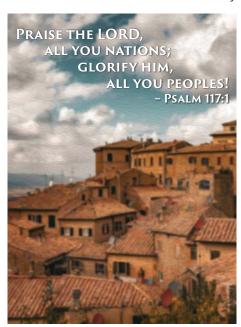
Reflection on Luke 13:22-30

Lurking behind the question, "Lord, will only a few people be saved?" is the deeper question, "What must I do to be saved?" In response to this, we hear that we are to "strive to enter through the narrow gate." We may or may not be recognized by the master of the house, and we may be surprised at who is let in to recline at table in the Kingdom of God.

Salvation is not guaranteed, and we are reminded that God has faithful disciples from everywhere around the globe ("people will come from the east and the west, and from the north and the south.") So what are we to do?

The strength, endurance, and discipline required of us to "enter through the narrow gate" comes not from our own efforts, nor is this something we merit or earn. Salvation is pure gift, offered through the death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The primary scriptural, spiritual principle is that God initiates, and humans respond. Salvation comes to us through a lifelong process of accepting the gift of divine grace, always given and ever new, and responding to this grace by giving it away again. This is what Bishop Barron calls "spiritual physics." The moment we try to possess the gift, it ceases to be a gift. But when we allow grace to flow into us, through us, out of us, we keep the cycle going.

Father Jay



# **WEEKLY SCRIPTURE**

# Sunday, August 24, 2025

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 66:18-21 Psalm 117:1, 2 Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13 Luke 13:22-30

# Monday, August 25, 2025

Weekday 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8b-10 Psalm 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b Matthew 23:13-22

# Tuesday, August 26, 2025

Weekday 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 Psalm 139:1-3, 4-6 Matthew 23:23-26

## Wednesday, August 27, 2025

Saint Monica 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 Psalm 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab Matthew 23:27-32

# Thursday, August 28, 2025

Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13 Psalm 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17 Matthew 24:42-51

# Friday, August 29, 2025

The Passion of Saint John the Baptist 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 Psalm 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12 Mark 6:17-29

# Saturday, August 30, 2025

Weekday 1 Thessalonians 4:9-11 Psalm 98:1, 7-8, 9 Matthew 25:14-30

> Access Daily Readings from the New American Bible, Revised Edition (NABRE) online at https://bible.usccb.org

# **SAINT MONICA**

Saint of the Day: August 27

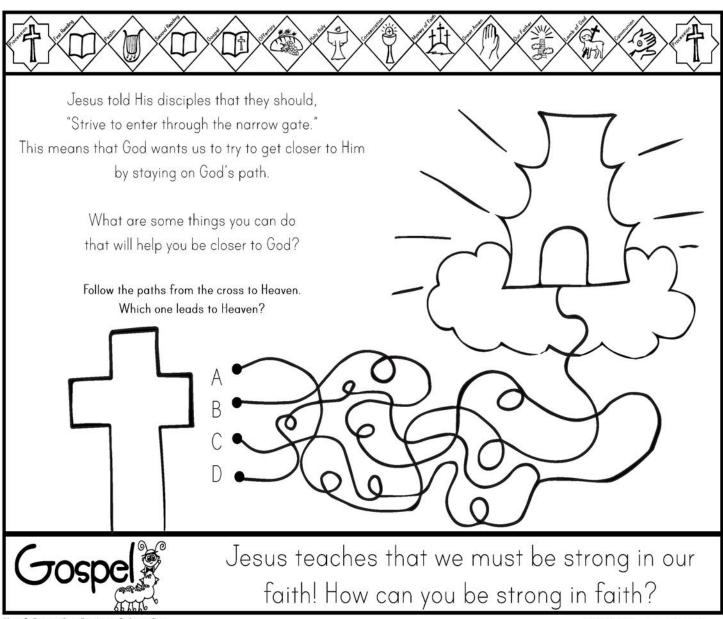
Patron Saint of Alcoholics, Conversion, Mothers and Wives

Monica had at least three children who survived infancy. The oldest, Augustine, is the most famous. At the time of his father's death, Augustine was 17 and a rhetoric student in Carthage. Monica was distressed to learn that her son had accepted the Manichean heresy – "all flesh is evil" – and was living an immoral life. For a while, she refused to let him eat or sleep in her house. Then one night she had a vision that assured her Augustine would return to the faith. From that time on, she stayed close to her son, praying and fasting for him.

When he was 29, Augustine decided to go to Rome to teach rhetoric. Monica was determined to go along. One night he told his mother that he was going to the dock to say goodbye to a friend. Instead he set sail for Rome. Monica was heartbroken when she learned of Augustine's trick, but she still followed him. She arrived in Rome only to find that he had left for Milan. Although travel was difficult, Monica pursued him to Milan.

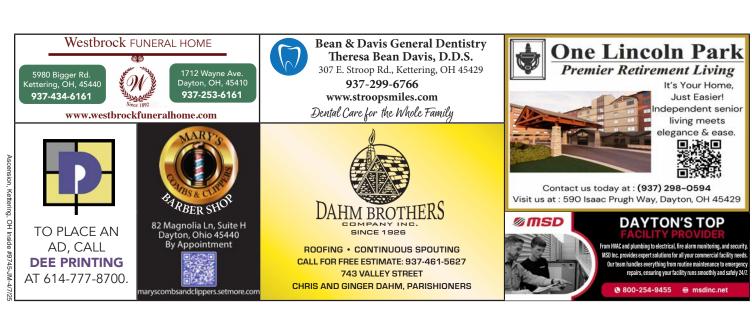
In Milan, Augustine came under the influence of the bishop, Saint Ambrose, who also became Monica's spiritual director. She accepted his advice in everything and had the humility to give up some practices that had become second nature to her. Monica became a leader of the devout women in Milan as she had been in Tagaste.

She continued her prayers for Augustine during his years of instruction. At Easter 387, Saint Ambrose baptized Augustine and several of his friends. Soon after, his party left for Africa. Although no one else was aware of it, Monica knew her life was near the end. She told Augustine, "Son, nothing in this world now affords me delight. I do not know what there is now left for me to do or why I am still here, all my hopes in this world being now fulfilled." She became ill shortly after and suffered severely for nine days before her death.



Year C: Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

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