

The Belltower Beacon

A publication to inform, welcome and inspire the spirited community of St. Christopher.

Volume 21: Issue 84 December 2021

ST. CHRISTOPHER PARISH – THE BABY BOOM YEARS

As we celebrate our parish centennial in the coming year, we will use The Belltower Beacon to look back at some of our history. This second article in the series will cover the days that correspond to the pastorate of Msgr. Ahern.



Soon after the death of Msgr. Patterson, Fr. Edmund Ahern was named to succeed him. He had been the founding pastor of St. Dominic Parish in Shaker Heights. His introduction to the parish was the celebration of

the parish 25th Anniversary in April 1947. In February of 1948, Fr. Ahern announced the purchase by the diocese of 21 acres on the north side of Hilliard, east of Wagar. This would eventually become the site of a new church for St. Christopher. Plans were for the current location to be sold for commercial development. However, by 1952 the diocese decided to build more Catholic high schools. Bishop Hoban persuaded Fr. Ahern to sell the property on Hilliard and purchase additional property on Detroit for a future church. The property on Hilliard became Magnificat High School and groundbreaking for the new church occurred in June 1953.

The 1950s saw much growth in the area. The parish numbered over 3,000 individuals with 400 students in the school. This was after St. Bernadette was founded in 1950 taking some families from St. Christopher. During this time the parish became well known for its Saturday night canteen for young people. Students came from parishes and high schools on the westside of Cleveland for the weekly dances. Parents chaperoned, moms prepared snacks and the young people danced to music played on a jukebox. The parish was also a meeting place for families at monthly Friday fish fries and frequent spaghetti dinners along with adult

dances and themed parties and a variety of other gatherings, many sponsored by the Ladies Guild.

A major highlight took place on December 12, 1954 when Archbishop Hoban came to dedicate the new St. Christopher Church. The new church brought many, Catholic and non-Catholic alike, to visit the church in the days that followed. A devastating windstorm would cause damage to the church and rectory in May 1956. Repairs were made and the parish continued its growth. In 1959 Msgr. Ahern initiated Operation Doorbell. This effort sent 250 men out into the parish territory to determine the number of church-going members. They visited over 4,600 homes and found several hundred more families than they were expecting. This increased the parish census to more than 4,000 individuals and the school enrollment topped 600. By this time there were four more classrooms and a new convent to house the sisters who taught in the school.

In May 1961 the parish received four bells to fill the beautiful belltower that, until then, had been empty. Two came from a church in Cincinnati and the other two from a church in Cleveland. Both churches had been torn down. The tradition of blessing cars continued under Msgr. Ahern. It was his goal to impress upon drivers the importance of safe driving. In May 1965 Msgr. Ahern celebrated his 50th Anniversary as a priest. It was a joy-filled celebration of a happy priest surrounded by happy and appreciative parishioners. A year later he passed away at the age of 76. Described as an enthusiastic world traveler, conversationalist, community leader and supporter of civic and charitable causes, he was best known for his visits to the sick in hospitals and at home.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE: The Baby Boom Years 2 Advent Walk Through Mass 2 2 Taizé 9/11 Anniversary 3 Evening of Remembrance Afghan Refugees All Saints Day 4 Hawaiian Nights 5 Celtic Ensemble 5 Parishioner Spotlight Fit From Faith 7 Youth Group Sunset Social 8 9 **BGSU Show Choir** Starlight Soirée 9 Trunk or Treat 10-11 Pet Blessing 12-13 Young Adults 14 Church Chatter 15 **Upcoming Events** 16 Holiday Mass Schedule 16

GET READY FOR CHRISTMAS!

This year give yourself the gift of inspired Catholic Formation Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. in the Atrium of St. Christopher School. This is a short three-week presentation of Catholic spirituality to journey through Advent and help ready us for the Feast of Christmas.

November 30

What are you searching for? With the dynamic and insightful Chris Stefanick as our guide, we will explore one of the core questions of life.

December 7

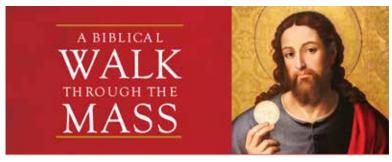
Amazed and Afraid Bishop
Robert Barron investigates
the Revelation of God Become Man.

December 14

Infancy Narratives: Jesus' Ancestry beyond "23andMe." Scripture scholar Fr. Anthony Marshall will lead us through the genealogy of Jesus of Nazareth.

Call the Parish Office if you would like to join me.

God Bless you and your family, Fr. Tim Daw



The Mass is nothing short of amazing. Through it, we encounter God in the most intimate way possible as we hear him speak to us in the Liturgy of the Word and as we receive him Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist. In his video-based study *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass*, Dr. Edward Sri explores the roots of the words and gestures we experience at Mass and explains their profound significance. This fascinating tour of the Mass will renew your faith and deepen your love for and devotion to the Holy Eucharist.

We completed our first Study of *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass* on November 17. It was a great success, with over 30 Parishioners of all ages attending. We were overjoyed by so many 2nd grade parents answering our invitation, but all participants enjoyed the weekly video and discussion.

We will be offering this five-week study again February 1-March 1, 2022 on Tuesday evenings. I hope you will consider joining us to grow more deeply in your greatest prayer – the Mass. Registration will open January 2.

For more information or to register for the study, call Sharon Armstrong at (440) 331-6226 or email: stchrisreo@stchrisparish.com

Sharon Armstrong

ADVENT TAIZÉ PRAYER



Join us on Sunday, December 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the church for an hour of prayerful reflection including music from Taizé, scripture, periods of silence and candlelight. Let's take this time to step away from our busy lives, turn off the cell phone, stop posting on social media and instead, pray and reflect. The service will center on the prayer of the season ... *Come lord, quickly come!* Allow yourself to enter fully into this prayer.

We will ask attendees to wear masks and practice social distancing while in the church. If you are not feeling well please stay home!

What is Taizé?

The Taizé Community is an ecumenical Christian monastic fraternity in Taizé, Saône-et-Loire, Burgundy, France. It is composed of more than 100 brothers, from Catholic and Protestant traditions, who originate from about 30 countries across the world. It was founded in 1940 by Brother Roger Schütz, a Reformed Protestant. Taizé has become one of the world's most important sites of Christian pilgrimage, with a focus on youth. Over 100,000 young people from around the world make pilgrimages to Taizé each year for prayer, Bible study, sharing, and communal work. Through the community's ecumenical outlook, they are encouraged to live in the spirit of kindness, simplicity and reconciliation. The community's church, the Church of Reconciliation, was inaugurated on August 6, 1962.

The community, though Western European in origin, has sought to include people and traditions worldwide. They have sought to demonstrate this in the music and prayers where songs are sung in many languages, and have included chants and icons from the Eastern Orthodox tradition. The music emphasizes simple phrases, usually lines from Psalms or other pieces of Scripture, repeated and sometimes also sung in canon. Earlier Taizé community music was conceived and composed by Jacques Berthier.

20-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

On Saturday, September 11, 2021, a Remembrance Ceremony was held at Rocky River Memorial Hall. Mayor Pamela Bobst welcomed those attending and then the invocation was given by Fr. John who later on offered a message of heartfelt remembrance as did Mayor Bobst.

In addition to a nice turnout of Rocky River residents a large group of Rocky River Police and Fire Personnel gathered to participate in the service which included the awarding of 9/11 pins to them by Police Chief George Lichman and Fire Chief Aaron Lenart.



A Bell Tolling ceremony followed which has a long tradition with fire fighters in the past when a special signal of three rings, three times each, represented the end of their duties and that they would be returning to quarters. Today we remembered those who had given their lives for the good of others.

Fr. John then concluded the service by offering Benediction.

Gayle Cilimburg





EVENING OF REMEMBRANCE

On Tuesday, November 2, All Souls Day, we gathered in the church for evening prayer and a candle lighting service to remember our deceased loved ones, especially those who died in the past year. Parishioners were invited to bring in pictures to have displayed in the Upper Gathering Area during the entire month of November. There was also a Book of the Deceased available in the church in which many wrote the names of those they would like to remember.

Gayle Cilimburg







BELLTOWER BEACON

Page 4

PARISHIONERS DONATIONS TO AFGHAN REFUGEES



Parishioners donated generously to help Afghan refugees at a donation drive at St. Christopher two weekends in September. "Thank you for your generous response to help Afghan Refugees as they settle in Cleveland. Your donations will be put to good use in these families seeking a new and safer life," stated Fr. John.

Sponsored by the Social Concerns Committee (SCC), members loaded boxes and bags filled with kitchen and cleaning needs and other requested supplies into four cars and delivered them to the Catholic Charities Migration and Refugee Services (MRS). Hilary Lucas, MRS Program Administrator, met us there and expressed her gratitude to St. Christopher and the Cleveland community showing their welcoming support of refugees.

Hilary was happy to provide more information regarding the program. MRS may be given two weeks or two days notice of a family's arrival. They are required to stock the housing prepared for refugees with the essentials of any home. Thanks to St. Christopher parishioners and students and families at Messiah Lutheran who contributed to this effort.

Afghan families arriving are placed in rental or temporary housing until rentals can be secured. Rental properties are more difficult to obtain so MRS has partnered with local convents as temporary

housing. The current biggest need of MRS is the connection with property owners for rental housing, financial support, emergency housing assistance, and hands on assistance. Financial donations to meet the refugees basic needs may be made at **ccdocle.org**. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Andrew Mathay at ammathay@ccdocle.org.

Hilary said it best as she described their struggle. "I encourage everyone to meditate on what it would be like if forced from your country because of a life threatening conflict. Imagine having to live in a country where you don't know the language, have to start an entry level job, don't have savings or retirement funds as a safety net. Even the simplest things like finding foods that are familiar is a struggle.



If you can put yourself in this place for a moment, we can all find the compassion to walk alongside our neighbors in their new lives."

Your continued prayers are appreciated for our Afghan neighbors as they adjust to their new lives in Cleveland. If you are interested in more information about our Social Concerns Committee, please contact John Hosek at jjudehosek@gmail.com.

Sharon Hosek

PSR FIRST GRADERS CELEBRATE ALL SAINTS DAY

First graders in our Parish School of Religion celebrated All Saints Day by making their favorite Saint into a puppet. The students had 18 different Saints to choose from and learn about. Mrs. Haning, Mrs. Armstrong, and Mrs. Hjort helped students read the facts for each Saint. I think everyone learned something and had fun!





Sharon Armstrong



TROPICAL FUN AT "HAWAIIAN KNIGHTS" THIS FEBRUARY



AN EVENING CELEBRATING ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL

If a warm island vibe sounds like a welcome change to the winter cold, mark your calendar for "Hawaiian Knights" on Saturday, February 12, 2022, from 6:30-11 p.m. This is the annual parishwide fundraiser held by PATHS (Parents and Teachers Helping Students).

PATHS is thrilled to hold the annual fundraiser once again after a year off. The Parish Center will be transformed into a tropical paradise for an evening of food, open bar and themed drinks, a premier silent and live auction, raffles, music, and entertainment. Come attired in your best tropical gear. All event proceeds provide direct support to our school and students. Funds raised will be used to:

• Update school technology (iPads, Chromebooks, STREAM coursework, and robotics program)

- Support Teachers (Art and music supplies, teacher-requested items and teacher wish lists)
- Support Students (Extracurricular school-sponsored clubs, field trips, and recess supplies)
- Enhance our newly built outdoor campus, Centennial Park, which is comprised of a playground, outdoor classroom, and prayer garden enjoyed by our school children, parish and community

Capacity will be capped at 300 so be sure to order your tickets (\$75 each) today by visiting https://cbo.io/tickets/scs/HawaiianKnights. There are also Corporate Sponsorships (\$750) and Family Sponsors (\$250) available, which provide great exposure within our vibrant community and are a wonderful way to support our school.

Any questions about the sponsorships or the event can be sent to event co-chairs Christina Mueller (ccmuellerdds@gmail.com) or Emily Szy (emily.g.vandevelde@gmail.com).

Join us this February to support quality education at St. Christopher and enjoy a getaway to "Hawaiian Knights."

Beth Van Horn

CLEVELAND CELTIC ENSEMBLE

Irish Eyes were smiling and toes were tapping when the Cleveland Celtic Ensemble performed at the Parish Center as part of the "outdoor" concert series.



The concert was originally scheduled for August 12, but severe thunderstorms that day caused damage throughout Rocky River. The resulting power outage forced the concert to be rescheduled for September 23.

The Cleveland Celtic Ensemble is a chamber music quartet featuring Brian Bigley on Irish uilleann pipes, Irish flute and whistles; Kristen Bigley on violin/fiddle; Tiffany Schaeffer on harp and vocals; and Ian Crane on Scottish pipes and vocals. The group played a variety of traditional Celtic music, explaining the differences in the instruments and origins of the songs they were performing.

St. Christopher cantors Laura Avdey and Patrick Walsh were special guest artists at the concert. Accompanied by Music Director Robert McMurray, Laura Avdey performed classics including When Irish Eyes are Smiling, Somewhere Over the Rainbow, and The Last Rose of Summer, while Patrick Walsh entertained with classic Irish folk music such as Who Threw the Overalls in Mrs. Murphy's Chowder, The Fields of Athnry and Dear Old Donegal. A world-class Irish step dancer, Brian Bigley even danced a jig upon a request from the audience!

Bearden's food truck was in the parking lot serving up their classic menu during the concert.

ANSWERING GOD'S CALL: A LIFELONG COMMITMENT



Usually what we admire most about people who care deeply about others is the humility and generous spirit that accompanies their other-centeredness. A profound faith and desire to live a life pleasing to God places them on the path to an altruistic life, loving and giving with no desire for recognition, praise or attention. This Centennial 2022 edition features a couple who agreed to share their story while making it clear that it is only through God's grace that they have been able to participate in it at all. They agreed to do so as a way to encourage others to serve the overwhelming and everincreasing number of less fortunate residents in our area. Indeed, it is only by sharing our stories that we spread the news and inspire listeners to get involved. Vince Hvizda and Margaret Schroeder-Hvizda stress the importance of serving with unconditional love and utmost humility. As they both began life amidst humble surroundings, they became determined to give back and help lift others out of poverty. They beseech the reader to consider finding that passion to help care for our brothers and sisters in need.

Life circumstances and advancing age have not stopped the Hvizdas' personal involvement in and support of Cleveland's poorest citizens. With a lifetime of giving back, the Schroeder and Hvizda families raised their children to believe in leaving the world a better place. Their adult children grew up watching their parents live out the Gospel in many ways while making contributions to the wellbeing of those around them. It has become a family affair in the most beautiful way, as the grandchildren also carry on this tradition. Especially during this Advent season, we are grateful to those who make a difference in so many lives. As we continue to celebrate our parish's centennial, this tribute to Vince and Margaret shines a bright light on their many years at St. Christopher and how their presence continues to add to our warm, welcoming parish family.

It is reassuring to see the difference we can all make by getting the word out and inviting others in.

Margaret grew up on Cleveland's near west side in a family of "lifelong Irish west siders." She spent her childhood at St. Malachi School (now Urban Community School), then graduated from Magnificat H.S. and St. John College (bachelor's in education). For 30 years, she worked for the Cleveland Diocese and taught in various Catholic schools. She moved to Rocky River in the 1960s and joined St. Christopher where she raised her family. In her many years at St. Christopher, Margaret served as Director of Religious Education and participated in many group activities like Christ Renews His Parish, Life in the Spirit and the Cursillos Movement. She enjoys gardening, reading, gathering with friends and her Book Club. The Schroeder children are Michael, James and Ann Marie Shroeder-Pace. The Hvizda children are Paul (deceased) and Karen Hvizda Rafter. The couple's 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren bring them great joy. Vince's childhood was spent in a strong Slovak family which originated from the former Czechoslovakia and settled in Hazelton, PA, where his father was a coal miner. He graduated from St. Edward H.S., received his bachelor's degree from University of Dayton and a master's degree from Case Western Reserve. He also came to Rocky River in the 1960s and is founder/CEO of Admiral Products; his company supports local schools like St. Martin de Porres High School and St. Ed's. Vince lists fly fishing and travel as favorite pastimes. He, too, was active at St. Christopher for many years, participating in Cursillos and other church functions.

The Hvizdas became involved in promoting community advancement by participating in public service (Vince was on city council for 16 years and has served on the Board of West Side Catholic Center). They have also been very involved in faith based activities like the Cursillo Movement and St. Malachi Church ministries, as well as the life of their (St. Christopher) church and school. Their adult children describe their parents' beautiful legacy as follows: "We all understood very early that giving of your time or your material resources are not extraordinary gestures. They are expected." This legacy of charitable giving has now been passed on to their children.

For many years, the Schroeder and Hvizda families have shared a passion for West Side Catholic Center (WSCC – feeding and clothing the homeless), Urban Community School (UCS – education and wraparound services on Cleveland's near west side that increase the chance of student/family success), and St. Malachi Center (serving the homeless and feeding the hungry). The Schroeder and Hvizda children agree that their greatest influencers have been their parents. When Margaret Schroeder (a widow) married Vincent Hvizda (single dad of two), they were both raising families in Rocky River and found that they shared a passion for serving the community, St. Christopher and those less fortunate. Their children state that Margaret and Vince are guided by their



strong Catholic faith. "Giving and helping others with whatever resources you have, large or small, is a theme we heard often in our house." A frequent expression in the home was the Bible verse "[f]rom everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded, and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked."

The couple explain that they both "grew up in church" and saw the beauty of being part of a church family. They are quick to "give God all the glory and thanks" and state they are brought to their knees with gratitude. The Hvizdas feel blessed that they have met so many extraordinary priests, pastoral staff and friends throughout their years at St. Christopher. Vince's favorite song, "Prayer of St. Francis," sings of the couple's hope for peace and unity while they find comfort in Margaret's favorite Bible verse, "There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear ... IJohn4:18." This is a couple who models a lifelong commitment to working fearlessly and passionately toward a better life for all, especially God's poorest of the poor. They continue to spend their lives giving back and reaching out to those in need. We are humbled, blessed and grateful to have them as members of our parish family and supporters of Cleveland's larger Catholic community.

Carmen Everett DeHaan

FIT FROM FAITH



With the start of another year just around the corner, many of us find ourselves making new year's resolutions. Some such resolutions might include an emphasis on physical fitness. Does our Catholic faith have anything to offer us as we strive for a healthier 2022?

On Saturday, January 22, from 9-11 a.m. in the Atrium, our parish will host a free Vibrant Parish Wellness Workshop. Offered by Ms. Lindsay Fullerman, MA, PN2, SSC, a wellness coach, the morning workshop will focus on the following principles: 1) seeing one's body as a temple of the Holy Spirit, 2) how to fuel the body the way God intended, and 3) how to live fully alive as God's vibrant disciple.

On her website, **fitfromfaith.com**, Lindsay indicated that while working as a fitness athlete and strength coach for nearly ten years, she struggled with her own body image, dieting, and living in extremes with food and exercise. It was only after developing a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and understanding her Catholic roots that she began her healing journey towards interior freedom and balanced living. During her time coaching high school sports and teaching, Lindsay felt called to create Fit From Faith to educate Catholics on healthy and balanced living. Through her own journey, she realized how to be fit in mind, body, and spirit through the practice of virtue and habit change.

Lindsay received a Master's degree in Theology from Saint Mary Seminary in Wickliffe, Ohio. She also holds an undergraduate degree in Kinesiology (BSc.) from Kent State University's School of Education, Health and Human Sciences and a minor in Sports Administration. She is an expert in wellness coaching and habit change and holds Strength and Conditioning, Sports Nutrition, and PN2 Coaching certifications.

All are encouraged to join Lindsay for her free Vibrant Parish Wellness Workshop on Saturday, January 22 from 9-11 a.m. in the Atrium. You can find out more information online at **fitfromfaith.com**. Registration is not required for the workshop.

Fr. Anthony Marshall

YOUTH GROUP

After a Summer filled with adventures and fun hangouts, youth group has started the school year strong. Our fall kickoff night, filled with fun, food, and games had over 50 attendees! Fr. Anthony helped us to keep our focus on the Lord as he led an opening blessing of the youth programming year.

Other fun fall highlights included: a Halloween-themed party, All Saints Day prayer night, and a rock painting activity led by Theresa Mystic. She reminded the teens to be a blessing to others as they painted spiritual messages on rocks to be shared with others.

As the days grow shorter and the holidays draw near, we will continue to help the teens grow in their faith and in fellowship. Exciting times ahead!

Eric Perusek



SUNSET SOCIAL

On a beautiful, late summer evening, the Ladies Guild gathered at Centennial Park for a Sunset Social. The soft, September night was filled with the sounds of laughter and spirited conversation as old friends reconnected and new members were welcomed. This was the first in-person event held by the Guild since the pandemic began. It was a vivid reminder of how much we missed real presence during the months of Covid restrictions, whether in the Eucharist or in our fellow parishioners. Those in attendance enjoyed the peaceful backdrop of the woods and the Meditation Garden. Fr. John stopped by to chat and fill everyone in on the plans for the upcoming Centennial Celebration. As the Guild continues to look for ways to connect the women of St. Christopher during these shifting times, we've learned the wisdom of the expression: "You can't stop the waves, but you can learn to surf." (Jon Kabat-Zinn) The Ladies Night Out Wine Tasting has been rescheduled to May when it is hoped all will be more comfortable with such a large gathering. The Guild's Little Flowers Ministry has been busily delivering homemade goodies to welcome our newly baptized parishioners. If anyone would like to help out in this much appreciated ministry, please contact Jen Sheridan. (jesheridan6@gmail.com) As always, we'd love to have your ideas for future events and ways to promote fellowship among the women of St. Christopher. Send suggestions to Cindy McDonough at cindymcdonoughcpt@gmail.com.















BGSU Show Choir







STARLIGHT SOIRÉE

On Friday, November 5, the Christ Child Society of Cleveland held their annual event at the Cleveland History Center. Fr. John and Bishop Malesic posed in front of the magnificent Euclid Beach Park Grand Carousel.





Trunk or Treat









































Pet Blessing

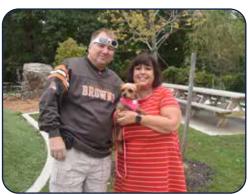














































BELLTOWER BEACON

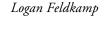
Page 14

A SPOOKTACULAR FALL FOR WEST SIDE YOUNG ADULTS



With autumn comes many sources of joy: apple-themed drinks, falling leaves, pumpkin carving, and Cleveland football. The West Side Young Adult Pod has found ways to enjoy all of these and more! From early fall volleyball and the Brown's opener at Old River Tap and Social to our Halloween party, young adults from St. Christopher and other nearby parishes have had a great time coming together to celebrate faith and fellowship these past few months.

Our Halloween party consisted of costume and pumpkin carving contests, "guess the weight of the pumpkin" and fall-themed beverages. Over 35 attendees and 15 pumpkin carvers battled for glory in the carving contests. "Guts head" won best pumpkin, while the Ricky Bobby pit crew from the film "Talladega Nights" won best costume. With a guess of 45.75 pounds, one participant came with .15 pounds of guessing the weight of our giant pumpkin (which weighed in at 45.6 pounds). This event highlighted the ability we have at St. Christopher to gather young adults around the west side for inspiring fellowship. We will continue to offer high quality events at St. Christopher and other nearby parishes this winter for young adults to form lasting friendships and build their faith together!











CHURCH CHATTER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Fr. Tim Daw celebrates his birthday on December 2 and Eric Perusek, our Youth Minister, celebrates his birthday on January 9. Please shower them with salutations and prayers.



ARE YOU A TREE HUGGER?

Parishioner Jenny Dieringer and husband Zak recently hiked in the Hocking Hills State Park. They enjoyed seeing Old Man's Cave and the waterfalls. If you've never been to this wonderful area, put it on your to do list. Afterwards, they drove to Old Logan Cemetery to see a 600-year old white oak tree. Jenny just had to give it a hug. She's been a parishioner since 2001 and serves on the Centennial Committee, as well as being a volunteer of the Little Flower Project from the Ladies Guild.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? Fr. Damian Ference, who was ordained in 2003, returned from Rome in June and settled into his office in the diocesan headquarters, as the vicar for evangelization for our Diocese. He conceived an idea, Nine Nights of Night Prayer, which was held in nine different churches throughout the diocese in August. He plans to reprise the night prayer event in December. Keep an eye open for upcoming details. Fr. Joshua Trefney, parochial vicar at St. Albert the Great Parish in North Royalton, was appointed as chaplain to the Encounter School of Ministry – Akron Campus. This appointment is in addition to his parochial vicar assignment.

VOLUNTEER AWARD

The West Side Catholic Center recently recognized Ae Ja Kuhn with the Dorothy Day
Volunteer Award. She is following in the volunteer service footsteps of her parents, Mary Anne and (the late)
Karl Kuhn. Ae Ja has been a St. Christopher parishioner since 7th grade. Congratulations, Ae Ja, on the impact
you've made!



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Sharon Hosek received the Ohio Volunteer of the Year award for her service to longterm care facilities (nursing homes).

The award was given by the statewide nursing home professional group Resident Activity Professionals Organization. The event took place in Columbus. Congrats and well-deserved, Sharon!

Share your joyous events with us! Please forward submissions for Church Chatter to Roberto Trutko at (440) 263-7894 or roberto32red@hotmail.com.



NON-PROFIT ORG US POSTAGE PAID CLEVELAND OH PERMIT NO. 2907

www.stchrisparish.com

We welcome your ideas or comments. E-mail: lmetro626@gmail.com Attn: Belltower

Newsletter Committee: Terry Martin (Chairman), Lori Alexander (Editor and Producer), Amy Gressell (Publisher), Carmen Everett DeHaan, Colleen McKenna, Annemarie Polito, Roberta Trutko and Beth Van Horn

Contributors: Fr. John Chlebo, Gayle Cilimburg, Sharon Armstrong, Fr. Tim Daw, Logan Feldkamp, Sharon Hosek, Fr. Anthony Marshall, Bob McMurray, Eric Perusek and Nancy Sullivan

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 3 SOCIAL CLUB LUNCH February 20 PRE-BAPTISM CLASS December 4 February 23 CONFIRMATION SERVICE SATURDAY **BOY SCOUT DINNER** December 4 February 26 ADVENT FAMILY NIGHT LENTEN FAMILY NIGHT December 6-7 CHRISTMAS SHOP December 7 & 14 ADULT ADVENT PROGRAM Friday, December 24 December 12 TAIZÉ PRAYER January 11 & 18 FIRST RECONCILIATION aturday, December 25 January 22 FIT FROM FAITH January 28 SOCIAL CLUB LUNCH NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE February 12 SCHOOL FUNDRAISER February 20 **BLOODMOBILE** Correction: In September, the article "Michelle Romary Trio" was in fact written by Annemarie Polito. * Also livestreamed.

We are the people of St. Christopher Catholic Church, a Eucharistic community of faith dedicated to ... Welcome, Celebrate, Care, & Grow ... in the image and likeness of Jesus.