

This Week at Nativity**Sunday:** -11:00 am Mass**Monday:****Tuesday:** 8:15 am Mass**Wednesday:****Thursday:****Friday:** 8:15 am Mass**Saturday:** 4:30 pm Mass**We highly encourage donations to Nativity be made**

online through WeShare: Nativity families can continue to make donations to Nativity, 5935 Pandora Avenue, Cincinnati, OH, 45213 or online through WeShare, Nativity's online giving platform. On WeShare, you can also make donations to other Nativity funds including the Nativity School fund and the "Moving Forward Together" Annual Fund. You can sponsor the Saturday, August 29th Nativity Golf Outing, whereby all proceeds benefit the Nativity tuition aid program. Should you need help in making online donations, you may contact WeShare at: Customer Service Phone Number: 800-950-9952 (press #3 and then press #2); Customer Service Email: weshare@4lpi.com; or Donor FQA: WeShare Donor Support. Thank you in advance for your continued support of Nativity!

Mass is currently limited to 100 people due to spacing requirements for social distancing.

Everyone who attends Mass must wear a mask and follow all recommended Diocesan health and safety precautions.

**Readings for August 23, 2020**

Isaiah 22: 19-23 Romans 11: 33-36
Matthew 16: 13-20

Saturday - 4:30 Mass**Lectors: John VanRens & Deborah Casey****Sunday - 11:00 Mass****Lectors: John Finn & Patti Newberry****MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sunday	For the People
Tuesday	William Sidle
Friday	Rev. Eugene Mueller
Saturday	Richard Baumgartner

***Please pray for the following:*****Sick & Shut-Ins**

Bill Bach	Bill Balskus	Reid Baumgartner
Liz Bellew	Stephanie Benhase	Mary Jo Beresford
Dottie Brinker	Eugene Carlson	Deborah Casey
Kathy Chalfin	Barbara Cottrell	Diana DeRhodes
Joe Doering	Declan Donovan	Stella Evans
Barry Funk	Jackie Goetz	Jim Kaufman
Fr. Ray Kellerman	Al & Mary Lou Matre	Mary McErlane
Karen Morgan	Gretchen Niswonger	Ron Rulon
Sr. Joan Schimian	Debbie Schneider	Maureen Sullivan
Carl Udry	Bob Valerius	Jan & Randy Weaver

Friends & Family

Mark Behreng	Sally Bowron	Sheila Caldwell
James Doolittle	Bob Finn	Mary Sue Loftus
Rick Holtz	John Mack	Doug Martin
Bob Mitchell	Greg Morley	David Palmer
Cathy Ramundo	Holly Rough	Mike Rumsey
Rhoda Rupp	Randy Rupp Jr.	Peg Schuckman
Susan Shakelford	Mary Ellen Spaite	Mike Tebbe
Mary Williams	Craig Wrober	

Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements for Holy Communion, Anointing of the Sick, Reconciliation and pastoral visits.

CHURCH OFFERINGS

	<u>August 16, 2020</u>	<u>Fiscal YTD</u>
Regular Collection	8,351	32,247
School Support	630	1,895
Online Collection	2,593	21,067
Total Offerings	11,574	55,209
Budget	10,900	76,300
Over (under) Budget	674	(21,091)

Fall Registration Going on Now! Whether you are interested in preparing for the Diaconate, working at a social service agency, parish, hospital, school, or want to become better informed about the Catholic Faith, we can help! The School of Theology offers M.A. degrees in Pastoral Ministry, Biblical Studies and Theology, and Certificates in Pastoral Ministry. Graduate and certificate courses are offered at the main campus, 6616 Beechmont Avenue in Cincinnati. Take class for credit, audit or begin a degree. Visit our website athenaeum.edu and call or email today to learn more. Barbara Yoder, byoder@athenaeum.edu, or 513-233-6129 or 513-231-1200

From the Pastor's Desk

Our readings at Mass are the biblical foundation for the Office of Peter, otherwise known as the Papacy. For the Pope, things have come a long way: he travels the world on an airplane, his homilies can be seen on YouTube, and his life is scrutinized by a globalized 24/7 media culture. Yet, at the same time, some things never change; Pope Francis has the same responsibility as St. Peter and the other 263 men who have been given the responsibility to shepherd the universal Catholic Church of Jesus Christ.

And yet, it all began with Jesus and Simon, son of Jonah. Like other significant Biblical figures (Abraham, Sarah, Paul, et. al.), God changes Peter's name. He calls him "Cephas" – a name with Greek and Aramaic roots -- the equivalent of Petrus (Peter) – meaning "Rock." He does this in Matthew 16:18-19 – where Jesus says: "And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

What's in a name? Cephas was a strange name for Simon Peter – it was not a man's name in Palestine prior to Jesus' use of it. Some Protestants say that *kephas* really means "little stone," but many scholars believe it is most correctly translated "rock." If you'd like more info on this Bible translation issue, check out *Why Do We Have A Pope?* a lecture by Dr. Scott Hahn distributed by Lighthouse Catholic Media.

In art and iconography, Saint Peter is often depicted as heaven's gatekeeper; this is because the "keys" mentioned in the Gospel of Matthew are symbolic of power and authority. But the power is not Peter's, it is Christ's. Peter and his successors according to this understanding are the chief stewards of Christ's Church. This includes authority to pronounce doctrinal judgments and make disciplinary decisions ("power to bind and loose"). The Office of Peter is to be a visible sign of unity in the universal church and an office, guided by the Holy Spirit, entrusted with handing on and encouraging everyone to believe in saving faith in Jesus Christ through His one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

So, given the immense responsibility of the office entrusted to him, let us continually pray for our Holy Father:

O God, the Shepherd and Ruler of all Your faithful people, mercifully look upon Your servant Pope Francis, whom You have chosen as the chief Shepherd to preside over Your Church. We beg You to help him edify, both by word and example, those over whom he has charge, that he may reach everlasting life together with the flock entrusted to him. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FORTY HOUR DEVOTION: St. Cecilia Parish in Oakley, 3105 Madison Road, invites you to share in its annual Forty Hours Devotion observance. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will begin after the 9:00 am Mass on Friday, September 11th, and continue non-stop, day and night, throughout the weekend until the Closing Ceremony at the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday, September 13th. (Interruptions only for regularly scheduled Masses at 9:00 am and 4:00 pm on Saturday, September 12th, and at 8:00 am on Sunday, September 13th.) Please consider joining us for some time of solemn personal prayer during this uniquely special event. (All recommended Diocesan health and safety precautions for the pandemic will be observed and practiced throughout this event.)



"Moving Forward Together" Annual Fund
has reached over 93% of its \$100,000

goal! The goal of the "Moving Forward Together" Annual Fund is to raise \$100,000 to improve campus security and fire detection; enhance the sound in church; update the ceiling, lighting and wall coverings in the cafeteria; and add \$10,000 to our School Education Fund. As of August 12, 155 Nativity families have contributed \$93,900 to the Annual Fund. Many thanks to those who have donated to Annual Fund, particularly during these unprecedented times. For those of you that are experiencing financial hardships of your own, we know that this is not the time to give. But for those of you who can help, please consider a donation to help us cross the finish line and reach our goal of securing \$100,000 for Nativity! Donations can be made with a check made out to Nativity Annual Fund and mailed to Nativity, 5935 Pandora Avenue, 45213 or online at: <http://www.nativity-cincinnati.org/giving/annual-fund/>

FOOD FOR ALL – Hunger exists in our communities. Catholic Charities of Southwestern Ohio travels to where hunger is located to serve local families. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our pantries are changing to drive-thru pantries. We could use your help! Interested in serving, please email ahoak@ccswoh.org or call April Hoak, Food for All Coordinator, at (513) 672-3720.

SURVIVING DIVORCE – The Eastside Region is pleased to announce an exciting new ministry that will bring hope and healing to those who have experienced the pain and loneliness of a broken marriage. Surviving Divorce is for newly separated and divorced individuals as well as those still struggling with issues many years later. The fall session begins Tuesday, September 8, 2020, 7:00-8:30 pm. For more information or to register, contact Stephanie Ramsey at skb_steph@yahoo.com or call (513) 331-0358.

OUR LADY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT CENTER - Norwood

DAILY MASS: Monday through Friday - 8:30 AM & 7:15 PM in the Holy Rosary Chapel

CONFESSIONS: By appointment only - Monday, Tuesday & Friday from 2:30 to 5:00 PM. To sign up please go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084baca922a7f94-confession3>. If you need help signing up, please call (513) 351-9800.

August 23, 2020 Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

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