

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Patrick Church of the Pastoral Region #6 in the Sidney Deanery with Transfiguration Church, West Milton, Ohio

Fr. Eric Bowman, *Pastor* Fr. Michael Samala, *Associate Pastor* Fr. Joseph Kozar, SM, *Sunday Associate*

PARISH OFFICE | 937-335-2833 Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. or by appointment WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

 Saturday Vigil
 5:00 p.m.

 Sunday
 7:30 a.m.

 9:30 a.m.
 11:30 a.m.

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a community of Faithful Disciples who choose to seek the truth passionately, to love the Lord and others intensely, and to give freely of our gifts, because we believe that we are called to make the Kingdom of God visible in the world today.

409 East Main Street, Troy, Ohio 45373 www.stpattroy.org

Sacramental Emergency After Hours 937-335-2833

PARISH STAFF

PARISH OFFICE			
(937) 335-2833 Fax: (937) 335-1453			
Pastor:			
Fr. Eric Bowman ext. 2001			
ebowman@stpattroy.org			
Associate Pastor:			
Fr. Michael Samala ext. 2999			
msamala@stpattroy.org			
Deacon			
John Carlin			
Director of Music & Liturgy:			
Matt Wagner ext. 2005			
mwagner@stpattroy.org			
Parish Secretary:			
Pat Cartwright ext. 2002			
pcartwright@stpattroy.org			
Business Manager:			
Amy Schmidt ext. 2003			
aschmidt@stpattroy.org			
Bookkeeper/Payroll:			
Gail Breisch ext. 2004			
gbreisch@stpattroy.org			
Youth Ministry Coordinator:			
Abby Schmid ext. 2007			
youthminister@stpattroy.org			
Adult Faith Formation Coordinator:			
Pat Smith ext. 2008			
psmith@stpattroy.org			
Coordinator of Religious Education:			
Susan Anderson ext. 2006			
sanderson@stpattroy.org			
Parish Facility Usage:			
Amy Schmidt ext. 2003			
aschmidt@stpattroy.org			
School Principal:			
Cyndi Cathcart 339-3705, ext. 3001			
ccathcart@stpattroy.org			
Home and School Association:			
Julie Dues339-2219			
Education Commission:			
Erich Courtad			
Preschool Director:			
Cyndi Cathcart 339-3705, ext. 3001			
ccathcart@stpattroy.org			
PASTORAL COUNCIL			
Erich Courtad, President 937-233-8715			

Erich Courtad, President	937-233-8715
Bill Rozell	937-335-2743
Carolyn Putnam	937-418-1155
Natalie Rohlfs	937-524-1787
Carrie Williams	937-405-6438
Rosemary Jones	937-339-7926
Dr. Ryan Subler	614-668-0989
Dennis Waller	413-627-0151
Crystal Ayers	419-305-4017

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

Dan Mittman	339-7615
Paula Sheridan	339-5853
Jeff Vogelmeier	339-8059
Tom Yenney	339-1587
Mark Francis	684-7659
Amy Schmidt	335-2833, ext. 2003

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, December 4 5:00 p.m. Joseph Henn **SUNDAY, December 5** 7:30 a.m. Ruth Koverman 9:30 a.m. Tony Lahna 11:30 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Ridenour and Evendon Families MONDAY, December 6 7:45 a.m. Alton Ording **TUESDAY, December 7** 7:45 a.m. Special Intention WEDNESDAY, December 8 - Immaculate Conception 7:00 a.m. Mike Treon 12:00 p.m. Bill Hutson 7:00 p.m. John W. Hutson **THURSDAY**, December 9 7:45 a.m. Ada Fogt FRIDAY, December 10 8:30 a.m. Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Huter & Family SATURDAY, December 11 5:00 p.m. Jack Reddy SUNDAY, December 12 7:30 a.m. AJ Holter 9:30 a.m. Lane Powell 11:30 a.m. Jerry Goode For Mass times of churches throughout the United States, visit: www.masstimes.org.

FR. ERIC - RAMBLINGS

The Season of Advent...

It probably seems like each year it becomes harder and harder to remain focused on the season of Advent and preparing for the celebration of Christmas. Our secular society seems to be moving farther and farther away from the true meaning of Christmas. The good news is that the church has a rich treasury of resources to help us keep the spirit of Advent in our lives. One such treasure are the teachings of Pope St. John Paul II.



First of all, St. John Paul II urges us to **devote ourselves to prayer**, "Preparing ourselves to receive him requires first and foremost an attitude of intense and trusting prayer. *Making room for him in our hearts demands a serious commitment to convert to his love.*"

Secondly, we need to repair the division in the world by sowing peace with our neighbor: "We should be converted to peace; we should be converted to Christ, our peace, certain that his disarming love in the crib overcomes every dire threat and plan for violence. With confidence we need to continue to ask the Child, born of the Virgin Mary for us, that the enormous energy of his peace might drive out the hatred and revenge that lurk in the human soul. Let us ask God that the good and our love might overcome evil."

Another pathway to a fruitful Advent is through obedience to God's Will in our lives: "Mary, who in this novena of preparation for Christmas, guides us towards Bethlehem. Mary is the Woman of the 'yes' who, contrary to Eve, makes the plan of God her own without reservation. Thus, she becomes a clear light for our steps and the highest model for our inspiration."

Last of all, we should use Advent to prepare not only for Christ's birth in our hearts, but also for His Second Coming: "The exhortation to be watchful resounds many times in the liturgy, especially in Advent, a season of preparation not only for Christmas, but also for Christ's definitive and glorious coming at the end of time. It, therefore, has a distinctly eschatological meaning and invites the believer to spend every day and every moment in the presence of the One 'who is and who was and who is come' (Rv 1:4), to whom the future of the world and of man belongs. This is Christian hope! Without this prospect, our existence would be reduced to living for death."

December 8 – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Masses will be at 7:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, 7:00 p.m. The Parish office will be closed.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWER DONATIONS

Envelopes for Christmas Memorial Flowers can be found in the vestibule. Please return your donations to the parish office by December 13 to ensure your loved ones are listed in the Christmas bulletin. You can mail in requests with donations as well. Please be sure to print the names clearly.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS – GIVE IN GRATITUDE

A donor to the Retirement Fund for Religious writes, "I still remember the lessons the sisters gave us and how they instilled in us the love of our faith." Show your thanks for the prayerful service of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your gift to next week's second collection helps provide care, medicine, and more. Please be generous.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

St. Patrick Confession Times: Tuesday-Thursday: 7:00-7:30 a.m.; Tuesday: 6:00-7:00 p.m. with Holy Hour; Saturday: 4:00-4:30 p.m.

Transfiguration Confession Times: Wednesday-Friday: 7:30-8:00 a.m.; Thursday: 6:00-6:45 p.m.; Saturday: 3:30-4:30 p.m.

PARISH PENANCE SERVICE – DECEMBER 14 AT 6:00 P.M.

Eucharistic Adoration Every Tuesday: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions from 6:00-7:00 p.m. We welcome you to come and spend some time in prayer and worship of Our Eucharistic Lord.

*** WEEKLY RAFFLE WINNER *** November 22 – Pat Hellman

SUNDAY COLLECTION REPORT - NOVEMBER 21, 2021

Sunday Masses	\$5,123.00	
Sunday Mail-Ins	\$2,505.00	
Electronic Giving	<u>\$4,991.91</u>	
Total	\$12,619.91	
Amount Needed	\$13,423.00	
Variance (shortfall)	\$(803.09)	
Thank you for your continued support and generosity!		

BAPTISM

Welcome Scarlet Willa Anne King, daughter of Andrew and Kailyn (Moos) King.

IN SYMPATHY

Please pray for the family of Max Stubbs, who recently passed away. May his soul rest in the glorious peace of heaven.

GIVING TREE 2021

St. Patrick will once again have a Giving Tree to help local families in need this Christmas. If you know of a family or individual in need and would like more information, please contact Kate Lins at 937-418-1371 or klins@woh.rr.com. Forms are also available in the Parish office. Please return wrapped gifts (with the Angel tags attached) by December 12.

CHURCH INFORMATION

BULLETIN DEADLINE:

3:00 p.m. Thursday for the following week; submit via email info@stpattroy.org.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 7:00-7:30 a.m.

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

Tuesday: 6:00-7:00 p.m. With Holy Hour In Church

Anytime by appointment (In Parish Office)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

1st & 3rd Sunday of the Month, 10:30 a.m. following Mass

2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month, 12:30 p.m. following Mass

Saturday after the 5:00 p.m. Mass with permission only

Attendance at the Baptismal Program is required – held every other month on the second Monday in January, March, May, July, September, and November at 7:00 p.m. Call the Parish Office to reserve a date for both program & Sacrament reception.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

During Office Hours, call 937-335-2833. Anointing between Sunday Masses with prior notice. In Emergencies or After Hours, call 937-335-2833.

MATRIMONY

Contact the Parish Office at least 8 months in advance; must be a registered parishioner at least 9 months prior to marriage. Preparation program is required.

CARE OF THE SICK

Visitation Ministers visit homes and nursing facilities with Eucharist for those unable to worship on Sundays. Facilities no longer share this information with the Parish Office. Help identify those in need of Visitation by calling the Parish Office.

HOSPITAL VISITATION

Please notify the Parish Office if you or a family member is hospitalized. Hospitals no longer share this information with the Parish Office.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

Registrations are taken at the Parish Office during regular business hours. Registration form is also available on our website to complete and mail in to the Parish Office. When leaving the parish, please notify the Parish Office.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please notify the Parish Office when you have a change of address or phone number.



PREPARING THE WAY OF THE LORD!

Reflection on Luke 3:4-6

Every Second Sunday in Advent, John the Baptist makes his appearance on the scene. And every three years, when we begin this new lectionary cycle with Luke's Gospel, I am always surprised again to hear how Luke presents John.

Luke first lines up for us all the important people of the moment: Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate, Herod, Philip, Lysanias, Ananias and Caiaphas. After giving us this lineup of all the exalted persons and their spheres of influence at a particular time and place, Luke asserts that the most important event of the day – the coming of the Word of God – happened elsewhere, away from their influence and authority.

"...the Word of God came to John, son of Zechariah in the desert." This very same Word of God comes today to you and me, inviting us to participate in the most important event of this moment (with John the Baptist): Preparing – in our hearts, lives and world – the way of the Lord!

~ Fr. Jay

SAINT SABAS

Feast Day: December 5

Born in Cappadocia, Sabas is one of the most highly regarded patriarchs among the monks of Palestine, and is considered one of the founders of Eastern monasticism. After an unhappy childhood in which he was abused and ran away several times, Sabas finally sought refuge in a monastery. While family members tried to persuade him to return home, the young boy felt drawn to monastic life. Although the youngest monk in the house, he excelled in virtue. At age 18, he traveled to Jerusalem, seeking to learn more about living in solitude. Soon he asked to be accepted as a disciple of a well-known local solitary, though initially he was regarded as too young to live



completely as a hermit. Initially, Sabas lived in a monastery, where he worked during the day and spent much of the night in prayer. At the age of 30, he was given permission to spend five days each week in a nearby remote cave, engaging in prayer and manual labor in the form of weaving baskets. Following the death of his mentor, Saint Euthymius, Sabas moved farther into the desert near Jericho. There he lived for several years in a cave near the brook Cedron. A rope was his means of access. Wild herbs among the rocks were his food. Occasionally, men brought him other food and items, while he had to go a distance for his water. Some of these men came to him, desiring to join him in his solitude. At first, he refused. But not long after relenting, his followers swelled to more than 150, all of them living in individual huts grouped around a church, called a *laura*.

The bishop persuaded a reluctant Sabas, then in his early 50s, to prepare for the priesthood so that he could better serve his monastic community in leadership. While functioning as abbot among a large community of monks, he felt ever called to live the life of a hermit. Throughout each year – consistently in Lent – he left his monks for long periods of time, often to their distress. A group of 60 men left the monastery, settling at a nearby ruined facility. When Sabas learned of the difficulties they were facing, he generously gave them supplies and assisted in the repair of their church.

Over the years, Sabas traveled throughout Palestine, preaching the true faith and successfully bringing back many to the Church. At the age of 91, in response to a plea from the Patriarch of Jerusalem, Sabas undertook a journey to Constantinople in conjunction with the Samaritan revolt and its violent repression. He fell ill and soon after his return, died at the monastery at Mar Saba. Today the monastery is still inhabited by monks of the Eastern Orthodox Church, and Saint Sabas is regarded as one of the most noteworthy figures of early monasticism.

Few of us share Sabas' yearning for a cave in the desert, but most of us sometimes resent the demands others place on our time. Sabas understands that. When at last he gained the solitude for which he yearned, a community immediately began to gather around him, and he was forced into a leadership role. He stands as a model of patient generosity for anyone whose time and energy are required by others – that is, for all of us.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ADVENT ACTIVITIES

Prepare the Way: FORMED offers for Advent. stpattroy.formed.org

Daily Advent Reflections with Dr. Tim Gray – Grow closer to our Lord in the manger this Advent season with Dr. Gray as he leads you through the Mass readings every day during Advent and Christmas. Sign up on **FORMED**, a gift from your parish.

What is the True Meaning of Christmas? with Dr. Michael Patrick Barber – Do you love Christmas traditions but don't know where they come from? Tune in for Dr. Barber's Advent reflections called "The True Meaning of Christmas" and learn the meaning behind your favorite Christmas pastimes. To go deeper, be sure to get this accompanying book, The True Meaning of Christmas, available on Catholic Market. And by the time Christmas comes, you'll be ready to share the light you've found along the way!

MINISTRY OF CARE

There have been many requests lately from parishioners who are in the need of a little help, such as a ride to church, doctor appointment, pick up prescriptions, respite care, meals and maybe even a little help around the home. A few months ago we put together a *Ministry of Care*. We asked for volunteers to help provide any of these tasks that they would be willing to do and several did so and we truly appreciate their help. We can always use more volunteers so if you feel you are able to help in any way, just sign up by calling Pat Cartwright in the office at 937-335-2833. Remember if you are called and unable to do it at the time, just say you are not available, there is no commitment. We also want to be sure if you are a parishioner in the need of any of this help or something else, your parish family is here for you so please call to ask for the help you may need. *Cod's* Blessings

God's Blessings.

PARTNERS IN HOPE

St. Patrick is a sponsoring church of Partners in Hope and each year we help by donating toys for this Christmas Shop project. You will find the donation bucket in the undercroft. We also collect full-size toiletry items (shampoo, toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent, toothpaste, deodorant, etc. that will be distributed the night of the shop. Boxes will be picked up between November 29th and December 5th. More information about our Wish List and options to donate will be available on their website at www.partnersinhopeinc.org or call Tina Budde, Christmas Shop Coordinator at 937-335-0448. This program is open to families with children from birth to 18 years of age (still in school) in Troy, Casstown, Fletcher, Pleasant Hill, West Milton. Ludlow Falls and Miami East Students. During the Christmas shop, parents shop for three gifts for each of their children. Families also receive a gift bag with personal care items, stocking stuffers, books, cookies and more! If you know a family that can benefit from this program, please pass the word along. The shop will be held on December 14-15.

Wanted: 12 dozen cookies from each sponsoring church and business.

<u>Please note change</u>: Due to Covid, we ask that cookies (homemade are the best) be prebagged with three cookies per sandwich bag. This will eliminate all extra handling of cookies. Each client's household will receive a box of prebagged cookies to take home.

Cookies can be delivered to the **First Presbyterian Church** on Monday, December 13, 2021 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please use the Walnut Street door and the secretary will buzz you in. The PIH Christmas Committee thanks you

The PIH Christmas Committee thanks you.

DECEMBER 5, 2021

REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you would like a statement of your 2020 contributions to St. Patrick Church, please complete this form and return it to the parish office ~ *Attention Amy Schmidt*.

A statement will not be sent unless requested.

If you wish to have it sent by **email**, please fill out your name, email address, and envelope number only.

Name:

ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER UPDATES

Your assistance would be appreciated with updating our parish information software, if anything has changed such as:

- 1. Change in marital status?
- 2. Dropped your landline or changed cell phone #?
- 3. Moved/New address?
- 4. New members in your family?

RCIA

If you are interested in learning of Faith, Worship and the Catholic way of life, the parishioners of St. Patrick Church invite you to inquire by please contacting Ken Vendryes at 937-545-9197 or <u>ksvend80@</u> <u>roadrunner.com</u>, or Susan Anderson at 937-335-2833, ext. 2006, or <u>sanderson@stpattroy.org</u>. RCIA comes together Monday evenings; 6:30-7:30 p.m., in Room 3 in the Parish Center.

FATIMA TO LOURDES THROUGH SPAIN.....

For those not ready to travel in 2021, Fr. Eric will be the spiritual director for a pilgrimage beginning in Fatima, across Spain by bus, and finishing in Lourdes in June of 2022. From the time you arrive, you will be introduced to the life of St. Anthony of Padua (Patron Saint of Lost Things.) Then you are on your way to Fatima, home to the three shepherd children who witnessed the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary - 100 years ago! Continue through the life of St. Teresa of Avila, St. Ignatius of Loyola and ending in Lourdes. Whether you come for prayer at the Grotto or in the Basilica, or if you come to immerse yourself in the famous Healing Baths – Lourdes is the place for true miracles. For more information, visit our parish website at https://www.pilgrimages.com/frbowman/fsl/#dates.

HEAR IN THE NEW YEAR CONTEST

Upper Valley Hearing & Balance is pleased to announce our Third Annual Hear in the New Year contest! We will be fitting a pair of premium hearing aids at no cost to a deserving person in need.To participate in the Hear in the New Year contest, individuals must submit an essay nominating themselves or a loved one who would benefit from receiving new hearing aids. ESSAY CONTEST CRITERIA

Hearing Need

- Financial Need
- Opportunity to impact recipient's life
- Individuals 21 years and older are eligible

Individuals must be local and able to visit either our Troy or Sidney location for evaluation, fitting, and follow-up.

Visit https://uppervalleyhearing.com/contest to enter.

Submissions accepted through December 31st, and the winner will be notified in January!



BEACONS OF LIGHT

Beacons of Light is a multiyear process of pastoral planning for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Rooted in prayer, groupings of parishes will come together as one faith

community. These new Families of Parishes will be stronger together, focused more on mission than on maintenance. In the Families of Parishes, we will grow closer to God, follow Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit and radiate Christ in our lives. There are six guiding principals

Second Guiding Principle of Beacons of Light and Saints who represent the principle

CHURCH:

"Each of us is called to actively participate as a member of a parish, the Universal Church and our local Church, led by our archbishop. Parishes continually deepen the bonds of communion with other parishes (Beacons of Light)."

SAINTS:

St. Hildegard of Bingen and St. Teresa of Avila

St. Hildegard of Bingen is a German mystic and Doctor of the Church. She is one of four women with this title. Hildegard was born in 1098 in Böckelheim, West Germany to nobility. She was educated at a Benedictine Cloister; by 15, Hildegard was wearing the Benedictine Habit and was working towards religious life. Hildegard experienced visions since she was a child. At the age of 43 the Archbishop of Mainz assigned a monk to begin recording the visions. Once completed, the work *Scivias* contains 26 visions which are prophetic and apocalyptic in nature. The visions also cover topics like the Church, relationship between God and humanity, and redemption.

Hildegard was a talented poet and composer. She wrote numerous songs in *Symphonia Armonie Celestium Revelationum*. Along with her musical work, she also wrote many other works ranging from lives of saints to essays on medicine and natural history. Despite early biographers proclaiming her as a saint, she was not canonized until 2012 by Pope Benedict XVI. Later that same year, she was declared a doctor of the church.

St. Teresa of Avila, also known as St. Teresa of Jesus, was born March 28th, 1515. She was a Spanish nun and widely considered to be one of the great mystics of the Roman Catholic Church. She entered the Carmelite convent of Incarnation at Ávila after her mother's death. Two years later, she became ill and was an invalid for three years. During this time, she developed a love for mental prayer. After recovering, she spent the next fifteen years in a divide between worldly and divine concerns.

Then, in 1515, she started a massive reformation of the Carmelite order. Teresa set out to return the Carmelite life and practices to those of its original creators, after becoming lax in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Her reform would call the nuns to completely withdraw from society and meditate on divine law. She was given permission to do this by Pope Pius IV. This reformation was met with much backlash from the public as well as Carmelites. Teresa would continue the reform until her death on the way back to Ávila. Teresa's doctrine is accepted as the classical exposition of the contemplative life and her spiritual writings are among the most widely read.

SCHOOL NEWS

LEHMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL BOOSTERS GIFT WRAPPING BOOTH

Miami Valley Centre Mall in Piqua will be open Thursday, December 16-Thursday, December 23 from 12:00-5:00 p.m. Closed Sundays and Christmas Eve. For special orders/appointments, call or text 937-658-3535 or email <u>helpinghands@woh.rr.com</u>. Donations for gift wrapping services benefit students in music, sports and more! Thank you for your support!

ST. PATRICK CYO VOLLEYBALL

Calling all 4th, 5th, and 6th grade girls from St. Patrick, St. John-Tipp City, Piqua Catholic and Holy Angels-Sidney. Parent Meeting Tuesday, December 7th at St. Patrick Parish Center from 7:00-8:00 p.m. (Players are welcome.) Practices will begin the first week of January. Parent volunteers are needed. Must be compliant with SafeParish Child Protection Training. For questions, please contact Michele Hudson at 937-418-2069.

FAITH FORMATION

LITTLE FLOWERS AND BLUE KNIGHTS

Little Flowers and Blue Knights begin today, 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the undercroft and Parish Center. For ages 5 to 5th grade. For more information, email <u>loribkelleher@gmail.com</u> or come at 2:00 p.m. and check out this fun program on virtues.

CCD

December 7 – Class December 14 – Last class for 2021 January 4 – Classes resume

CCD classes are on Tuesdays from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the school. To register, go to the St. Patrick website or contact Susan Anderson by email at <u>sanderson@stpattroy.org</u>.

YOUTH MINISTRY

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY Weekly Discipleship Cells and Monthly Connect Nights DECEMBER 4 – Behold the Glory – Parish Family Event from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Church 5 – Cookie Decorating and Advent Connect Night from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

12 – D Cell in the Parish Center from 12:30-2:30 p.m. 19 – D Cell in the Parish Center from 12:30-2:30 p.m.

December 28-January 2 - Off for Christmas and New Year's Break

CONFIRMATION MINISTRY

Confirmation Cells in the Parish Center DECEMBER

4 – Behold the Glory – Parish Family Event from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Church 5 – No C Cells
12 – 7th and 8th Grade C Cell Meeting from 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
December 19-January 9 – Off for Christmas and New Year's Break Core Team Christmas Party – Sunday, December 5th from 1:00-3:00 p.m.



