

The Torch



"Generations Growing in Faith for more than 75 years!"

St. Dominic
Parish

Delhi Township,
OH

May 2024

From Fr. Jim

Grace Under Pressure, what gives life to American priests.

Roman Catholic priests have been the object of a number of sociological, demographic, and psychological studies. Sociological studies try to get at what priests do, their observable behavior. Psychological studies try to get at what priests think or feel, their internal, mental, or emotional behavior. When I was in Washington, D.C., a group of us seminary leaders did an anthropological study of American priests, funded by the Lilly Foundation. An anthropological study provides a forum for priests to tell the stories of their lives and ministries, and then discern any common patterns or perspectives that might surface. I called together a core team consisting of the president of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men, the director of priest personnel for the Sulpicians, the director of the Bishop's Committee on Priestly Formation, and the director of research for the American Bishops. We wanted to study only successful and effective priests, ordained more than ten years, in the West, South, Midwest, and East Coast. We wanted to find out what sustains these priests, gives them life, keeps them engaged and committed, provides meaning, and gives them hope for the future! We decided to select focus groups of effective priests. The methodology would provide these priests an opportunity to talk about priesthood. We wanted to learn what gives their lives meaning, what events have caused turning points in their lives, what images and perspectives most influence them, what relationships sustain them, and what traditions best help them cope and stay alive in the priesthood during those pressure-packed times of priest shortage and scandals!

We solicited the names of effective and respected priests from Bishops, priest personnel Directors, diocesan religious education directors, and various other diocesan staff, from sixteen dioceses across the country. Sixty-five diocesan leaders responded, naming two hundred and forty-seven different priests. Nine priests from each region were invited to be participants in focus groups in Washington, D.C., Cincinnati, Oakland, and New Orleans. We hired Dr. John Mayer to conduct the focus groups. Each session lasted three hours and thirty minutes. The sessions were recorded and then transcribed for analysis by the research team. The team met for two full days to identify and discuss themes and patterns which emerged.

The priests in the focus groups addressed four questions:

What gives life to your priesthood?

How do you deal with the controversies?

How do you see your role as a man in American society?

What advice would you give to seminary personnel today?

Stay tuned! In the next two issues of *The Torch*, I'll share with you how these priests answered those questions.

Fr. Jim

May They Rest in the Peace of the Lord

Please pray for the repose of the souls of the following parishioners, as they have entered eternal life.

Patricia Hegner, loving mother of Greg (Cathy), Mike (Mary Ann), Geri, Mark (Tina) and Lauren (Chris) Seither.

Mary Chiodi, mother of Theresa (Tim Burke) Chiodi, Mary Lynn (Graham) Kalbli, Tony (Angela) Chiodi and the late Barbara Chiodi.

Jim Doherty, husband of Jo Ann (Berkemeyer) and father of Shannon (Martin) Eisele, Erin (Robert) Billhorn, Bridget Doherty (Eric Swanke), and Maureen Sketch.

Jack Moreira, husband of Maria Fernanda and father of Paula, Michael, Paulo, and Daniel.

Nancy Backs, mother of David (Donna) Backs, Steven (Dana) Backs and the late Andrew Backs.

Audrey Rosenfeld, aunt of Mariann (Bob) Biedenharn, Clare (Gary) Forbin, Ralph (Nancy) Rosenfeld, Jr., Connie (Jim) Berding, Barbara, Donald, and John Rosenfeld.

Summer Hours

The Parish Office will have reduced hours for the summer. The office will be open Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m.-noon beginning on Tuesday, May 28.

Welcome

Welcome to the newest members of Mary Queen of All Saints Family of Parishes. At the St. Dominic Easter Vigil, the following were Baptized, Confirmed, and received their First Holy Communion: Leanne Siberski, Camryn Bardonaro, Noah Bardonaro, August Costa, Jacob Costa, and Samuel Costa. Jordyn Jackson and Liliana Costa were also Baptized.

Jamie Bayliss, Dominic Difabio, Vincent Difabio, Scott Spraul, and Gina McCarthy were received into the Catholic Church, Confirmed, and received their First Holy Communion.

Brian Costa, Joanne Costa, Abby Siberski, Grant Siberski, and Maura Siberski were Confirmed and received the Eucharist.

At the Our Lady of Victory Easter Vigil, the following were Baptized, Confirmed, and received their First Holy Communion: Gwendolyn Culyer, Aubree Moryl, Brandon Moryl and Cooper Moryl. Tate Moryl and Kase Moryl were also Baptized.

Brad Hughes was received into the Catholic Church, Confirmed, and received his First Holy Communion.

Paige Bedinghaus was Confirmed and received the Eucharist.

Congratulations!

Census Update from Fr. Jim

It's time to update our parish census! We need to know who our members are, and their current contact information. We have records on file, but the information is dated. You should have received a letter in the mail from Fr. Ben and me asking for your help. This letter will provide instructions on how to do this. We hope that if you have not already done so, that you will be able to update your information quickly. All of this is to help us serve you better. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Fr. Jim



2024 Wedding Anniversaries

Married couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary (25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, or 75 years) in 2024 are invited to request a congratulatory certificate signed by Archbishop Schnurr. Individual couples may request a certificate online at <https://bit.ly/3IgyXfv>. If you have any questions, please contact cne@catholicaoc.org.

Requests must be made by June 15. The certificates will be sent to the St. Dominic Parish Office and held until our Anniversary Mass celebration in October.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY MASS - In addition to receiving a certificate from Archbishop Schnurr, married couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in 2024 are invited to attend one of the following Golden Anniversary Masses: Saturday, September 7 at 4:00 p.m. at St. John the Baptist, Tipp City; or Sunday, September 8 at 11:00 a.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains, Cincinnati. Registration is required to attend one of the Golden Jubilee Wedding Anniversary Masses and can be done when requesting a certificate.

ST. DOMINIC ANNIVERSARY MASS - Here at St. Dominic we will also celebrate our Anniversary Couples. This usually takes place in October at 9:30 a.m. Mass. If you will be celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 65th, 70th or 75th Wedding Anniversary in 2024, please contact the Parish Office at 513-471-7741, ext. 0, no later than June 3.

A Mother's Prayer

Dear Father in Heaven, I ask for Your touch.

Bless all my family, we need You so much.

Grant us Your wisdom to choose what is right.

To walk in Your pathways of truth and light.

Strengthen our family with faith to hold fast,

To cherish and nurture the treasures that last.

Teach us to love, to forgive and to share,

in the realms of the Spirit, to thrive and to dare.

But most of all, Lord, when our journey is through,

Bind us together, forever with You.

Knights of Columbus

On Tuesday, May 21, at 7:30 p.m. in O'Connor Hall, Warren Brown, a Reds Bat Boy from 1970-1972 will share memories and life lessons learned from his time with the Reds as The Big Red Machine began its historic run through the 1970s. Brown will take you from the clubhouse to the dugout and the field as he shares stories about Sparky, Pete, Joe, Johnny, Tony and the other members of one of the greatest teams in MLB history. Brown's experience includes Crosley Field, the move to Riverfront Stadium, the 1970 All Star Game, the 1970 World Series and the 1972 World Series. This event is free and open to the public and is hosted by the Knights of Columbus.

St. Vincent de Paul Society St. Dominic Council

Everybody Has "Something"

Years ago, when a dear friend was diagnosed with an unforgiving disease, trying to be positive, she said to me "everybody has something." This really made me pause; she was right, we all have crosses to bear, some much heavier than others. We recognize that our fellow parishioners may have "something" going on in their lives – grieving the loss of a loved one, health issues, financial issues, etc.

At the start of our St. Vincent de Paul biweekly meetings, we pray for our fellow parishioners so their "something" becomes bearable, lighter, and that they have the resources to help them. We also include in our meetings a reflection and prayer for all our neighbors and for those who are trying to help them.

Our St. Vincent de Paul volunteer work puts us in place to assist neighbors from Delhi, Riverside and Sedamsville with their "something." These neighbors don't have the resources available to them like we may have; they usually don't have the family support, the faith community, money, or knowledge of all forms of help that could be available to them. They call us for assistance – typically in the form of financial help. We aren't always able to say "yes," or we can't always extend the full amount of help they need, but, we try to give them resources to help with their situation in addition to hoping and praying their "something" becomes bearable, lighter as well.

During the months of January, February, and March, we helped twenty-one households, which translates into three hundred and eighteen individuals getting some form of assistance. Our top three expenditures during this time frame were rent (\$9,517.67), utilities (\$7,321.38) and food (\$2,449.45). We were also able to assist some of the Delshire Apartment fire victims in the total amount of \$1,225.00. None of this would have been possible without your support.

We would love to have more members join our Conference in any time capacity you have available. If you would like to understand more about our Conference, please call 513-471-7741, ext. 290. Also, you can reach out to one of the St. Dominic St. Vincent de Paul Conference Members to learn more:

Pat Dirr

Mike Fitzpatrick

Dottie Hampton

Barb and Joe Huber

Mary Kaye

Peggy and John Klopp

Mary Beth Maly

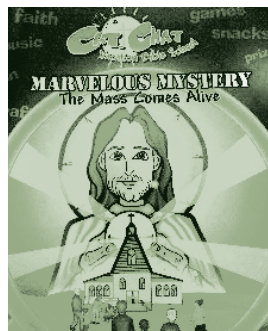
Christelle and Joe Middendorf

Joyce Murray

Sr. Patrick Ann O'Connor

Debbie and Rick Wieland

Bob Sanker



Vacation Bible School

We are looking forward to our annual Vacation Bible School to be held July 8 -12 from 6:00-8:30 p.m. for grades K-4! The Vacation Bible School programs we have implemented are 100% Catholic! We have focused on helping the youth in our parish build their faith while having a fun-filled week. We have learned about the seven sacraments and the saints. This year, we will be using *Marvelous Mystery – The Mass Comes Alive* from Cat Chat Vacation Bible School series. We will make crafts, learn some new songs, play games, and eat snacks all the while learning more about our Catholic faith and the importance of our Mass!

Registration forms will be sent home soon and will also be available online and in the Parish Office. Please watch upcoming bulletins for more information!

VBS also needs many SafeParish adults to lead groups from station to station, and to supervise the various stations! If you have completed your SafeParish registration and are up-to-date on all your training bulletins, and you are available each evening from 5:30-9:00 p.m., your help is needed. I promise it's easy and FUN!

If you would like to volunteer your time and talent, contact Linda Gardner at 513-451-3079 or lmcgardner2@gmail.com. We have some wonderful parents who have already stepped up to help. If your child needs service hours, we will have spots for them, too.

St. Dominic Goldenaires

Annual Picnic in the "Park" – Wednesday, May 29 at the Our Lady of Victory Sports Pavilion. Start time TBD. Lunch and a short talk provided by Western Hills Retirement Village. Games and Split-the-Pot to follow. Reservations required. *See future bulletins for detailed information.*

High School Graduates

Every summer, we publish the accomplishments of our high school seniors in *The Torch*. We would like to recognize ALL St. Dominic parishioners who are graduating from high school. If you are going to college or enlisting in the military, we would like to include that as well as any scholarships and special awards received. To keep up this tradition, we need your help. We need the graduate, parents, or grandparents to send us the information.

What we would like you to send is:

- Student name
- High School graduating from
- College attending in the fall or branch of the Military
- Any awards received and **Scholarships accepted.**

The information can be emailed to mariam@stdominicdelhi.org or call the Parish Office at 513-471-7741, ext. 410. The deadline is July 5.

Mike Davis Concert

"A Pep Rally for our Catholic Faith and Christians Around the World!"

One Night Only! Join popular singer and Catholic Educator Mike Davis on Saturday, May 11, at 7:00 p.m. in church for an evening that is sure to "fire you up" in the faith and rekindle your love of an awesome God! Mike Davis will lead this evening with prayer, reflections, Scripture, music, and even a little bit of humor as you unpack and rediscover the beauty of our Church, Faith, and Christianity. In a country and world that desperately needs our prayers, this is the perfect opportunity to come out for a spiritual evening with Mike Davis and celebrate the love God has for you! No charge. Freewill donations graciously accepted. All are welcome! Email Med251@aol.com for additional info.



A Perfect Gift

Mother's Day and Father's Day are coming soon! Consider purchasing a Gathering Place paver for your mother, father, grandparent, or spouse to let them know how cherished they are.

Order forms are available in the racks at the doors of church, or you can download a form from the parish website by clicking on Ministries/General Parish Ministries/Gathering Place Walkway. Bricks and Pavers can also be ordered online by going to our website by clicking on the green "Online Giving" button on the left hand side, scroll until you find Gathering Place Walkway. You can also stop in the Parish Office to order a paver.

The 4 x 8 bricks allow 3 lines with 13 characters per line and cost \$40.00.

The 8 x 8 pavers allow up to 6 lines with 13 characters per line and cost \$75.00.

If you have any questions, call the Parish Office at 513-471-7741, ext. 0.

The bricks are ordered twice a year (approximately January 15 and July 15) and then placed mid-March and mid-September.

ST. DOMINIC CHURCH
4551 DELHI PIKE
CINCINNATI, OH 45238
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cincinnati, Ohio
Permit No. 6356



**Join us in O'Connor Hall for
our next Community Dinner
on Wednesday, May 15, 2024**

5:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

We hope to see everyone there!!!

We will not have any Community
Dinners during the summer.

Mark September 18 on your calendar
for the next Community Dinner.

Contents...

<i>From Fr. Jim</i>	<i>p 1</i>
<i>Rest in Peace</i>	<i>p 2</i>
<i>Summer Hours</i>	<i>p 2</i>
<i>Welcome</i>	<i>p 2</i>
<i>Census Update</i>	<i>p 2</i>
<i>2024 Wedding Anniversaries</i>	<i>p 3</i>
<i>A Mother's Prayer</i>	<i>p 3</i>
<i>Knights of Columbus</i>	<i>p 3</i>
<i>SVDP Society St. Dominic Council</i>	<i>p 4</i>
<i>Vacation Bible School</i>	<i>p 4</i>
<i>St. Dominic Goldenaires</i>	<i>p 4</i>
<i>High School Graduates</i>	<i>p 5</i>
<i>Mike Davis Concert</i>	<i>p 5</i>
<i>A Perfect Gift</i>	<i>p 5</i>
<i>Community Dinner</i>	<i>p 6</i>