

# The Torch



*"Generations Growing in Faith for more than 90 years!"*

St. Dominic  
Parish

Delhi Township,  
OH

November 2024

## From Fr. Jim

I am of the opinion that gratitude is an adult virtue. We can teach children to say, "Thank you" and we should, but gratitude comes when we are old enough to know that the gifts and blessings we receive do not have to be given. It takes some living and education to realize that not everyone lives in a free country. Not everyone has loving parents. Not everyone has enough food to eat.

This month, we pause as a nation to give thanks. I believe that true thanksgiving is always expressed in ways that can be seen, or heard, or touched. In other words, true thanksgiving is always embodied, or incarnated, to use a fancy theological word. The proper way to give thanks for loving parents is to say "thank you" to them, and if they are elderly, to spend quality time with them. The proper way to give thanks for being able to think and learn is to study and read. The proper way to give thanks for an athletic ability is to practice well and to win and lose with class. The proper way to give thanks for our freedom and our country is to vote. The proper way to give thanks for having plenty of the world's resources is to share them with those who do not have enough. The proper way to give thanks to God for loving and blessing us is to love God back and to love one another. The best way to give thanks for having received good example from parents and mentors is to give good example ourselves. The best way to love God back is to gather every weekend with fellow parishioners to thank Him in and through His son Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

God has blessed me here at St. Dominic with faithful and generous people to share this journey of faith. Thank you!

Fr. Jim

## From Fr. Ben

My Dear Friends,

I am sorry to tell you that beginning in January 2025 we will have a slight change to the Friday Daily Mass Schedule. Beginning on January 3, we will have Mass at 8:15 a.m. **only**. There will be no 7:30 a.m. Mass on Friday mornings. The last 7:30 a.m. Mass on Friday will be December 27. The 8:15 a.m. Mass will be the permanent daily Mass time on Friday, and during the school year, this will be the school and parish Mass. There will still be a 6:10 a.m. Communion Service Monday-Friday.

Beginning January 1, 2025, the Daily Mass Schedule will be as follows:

### **Holy Mass**

7:30 a.m. Monday-Thursday

8:15 a.m. Friday-Saturday

### **Communion Service**

6:10 a.m. Monday-Friday

Thanks for your support and prayers.

Fr. Ben

## 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.

**Bonnie Fehr**, mother of Tim Fehr, Steve (Carla) Fehr, and Becky (Dan) Bemerer.

**Shirley Paoello**, mother of Kathleen (Greg) Schmitt, Ronald (Rose) Paoello, Diane (Steve) Clemens, Daniel (Dianna) Paoello, and Ami (Steve) Wilkins.

## 90th Anniversary

In September, we kicked off the 90th Anniversary Celebration of St. Dominic School, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your support over the years. Our enrollment this year is four hundred and forty-eight students. We serve students from a variety of backgrounds and ethnicities. We have fifty-nine students in our preschool program, which last year was awarded the highest rating of 5 Stars in the Step Up To Quality state rating system.

Here at St. Dominic School, we have many long-standing academic programs that set us apart in the community. We continue the long tradition of the Advanced Math Program, which starts in fifth grade. Those students who participate in the program will complete high school level Algebra I by the end of 8th grade. A newer program we have implemented is our Integrated Science class for students in grades 7 and 8. Both programs allow participating students to earn high school credits at the end of their eighth-grade year.

Along with our strong, high quality core academic programs, we also offer a variety of activities to enhance learning and growth. Students in grades 3 - 8 participate in the Chess in Schools program which focuses on problem solving, critical thinking, and good sportsmanship. Our students have a variety of after-school clubs and sports available to them including STEM Club, Art Club, Helping Hands Service Club, and Archery Club, just to name a few.

Did you know that we still end each school year with the Circle Song? This song, which has been sung on the last day of school for over thirty years, celebrates the learning that happened in one grade which will then be handed down to the rising grade level the following year.

Mental health and well-being is another area of focus. The PTO supported the purchase of our facility dog, Kiawe. Kiawe comes to school each day and spends time visiting the classrooms and helping to calm and reassure students who are having a bad day.

At St. Dominic School, we not only focus on academic learning, but we also help students learn about and grow in their faith. We are a Theology of the Body Campus. The Theology of the Body is a program that helps us understand how we were created in the image of God, our identity in Christ, along with our gifts and givenness, so that we may see ourselves and others the way God intended. Along with helping children grow in faith and relationship with Jesus, did you know that last year, we celebrated the Baptisms of eleven of our elementary students? We believe this is a testament to the living out of our faith by all those the children encounter throughout their time here at St. Dominic.

St. Dominic School has been a West Side Tradition since 1934, and we are here to stay. We are deeply indebted to all of you, the St. Dominic Parishioners, for your unwavering support over these past ninety years. We certainly can't do it alone, and we appreciate your generosity of time and talents and especially your spiritual support and prayers. St. Dominic School....with God, we soar.

**Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for a special Alumni Open House on Sunday, January 26, 2025. More details to follow.**



**Helping Hands  
Service Club  
and  
STEM Club**



## Parish Office Thanksgiving and Inclement Weather Schedule

The Parish Office will be **closed** on Thanksgiving and on Friday, November 29. Please plan any business accordingly.

Please take note that when St. Dominic School is on a two-hour delay, or closed for the day due to inclement weather, the Parish Office will open at 10:00 a.m. and close at our regular time. We feel the need to amend our hours during snow alerts, to ensure the safety of all our employees. We hope that this change in our schedule will not cause any inconvenience. *St. Dominic School follows Oak Hills Local School District for delays and closings.*

## Early Torch Deadline

Please note the early deadlines for the December and January Torch. Information for the December Torch must be submitted by Wednesday, November 6. Information for the January Torch must be submitted by Monday, December 9. Thank you.

## Parental Preparation for Infant Baptism

Parents requesting Baptism of their first child are asked to attend a preparation session. During this time, we will look at the history and theology of the sacrament, reflect on our own Baptism, and look at ways to pass the Catholic faith on to our children. Godparents are encouraged to attend as well. Our next session is scheduled at St. Dominic on Sunday, December 29 at 10:30 a.m. (after the 9:30 a.m. Mass) in church. Contact Julie Vaughn at 513-347-8825 or [religiouse@mqas.org](mailto:religiouse@mqas.org) to let us know that you will be attending the Baptism preparation. To schedule a Baptism at St. Dominic or if you have questions about Baptism at St. Dominic, please call the Parish Office at 513-471-7741, ext. 0.



## Giving Trees

### November: A Time for Giving Thanks

A great way of giving our thanks at St. Dominic is by participating in our annual Giving Tree program. We are hoping you can help families from our parish as well as those in the area surrounding St. Leo parish by participating in our **Giving Tree** program this year. On the weekend of November 23 and 24, three trees decorated with gift tags will be at the church doors. Each tag

designates a person who, without help from us, would have a meager Christmas. The ages on the tags range from infants to adults. The gifts need to be returned the weekend of December 14 and 15 so that they can be sorted and delivered after the 11:30 a.m. Mass. Please consider helping make Christmas a little brighter for someone who may be a stranger to you.



## Advent Wreath and Potluck Dinner

Start a new Advent tradition! Join us on Sunday, November 24 at 4:00 p.m. in O'Connor Hall. Each individual or family will make a fresh Advent Wreath and share a Potluck Dinner. Don't want to come alone? Bring a friend and join in the fun! We will provide activities for all ages to be used during the Advent season. Bring your family's favorite dish to share and a pair of yard shears for the greenery. Not interested in making a wreath? Come and share your Advent traditions with our growing group! If you attended the event in the past, please bring your tray for the wreath. RSVPs to Meg Morris at [meg.morris@uc.edu](mailto:meg.morris@uc.edu) or 513-403-0720 are appreciated but not required.

## Adoration and Confession

Join us at St. Dominic on Tuesday, December 3 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. for Adoration and Confession. Join us for Eucharistic Adoration in prayer, read the Bible, pray the Rosary, or just sit and relax and enjoy the peace that comes from simply being in the Presence of God. There will also be an opportunity for Confessions with Fr. Jim or Fr. Chris for anyone who is interested.

## Grief Support Class

Fr. Chris will hold a Grief Support class to help anyone who has lost a loved one in death. It runs for four weeks, with each session containing an educational/formational component, as well as time for participants to share and listen. Each subsequent session will build on the previous one, so plan on being there for all sessions, please. No new participants will be accepted after the initial session. The program begins on Monday, November 18 and is scheduled for consecutive Monday evenings from 7:00-9:00 p.m. All sessions will be at St. Simon in Plagge Hall. If you have any questions or would like to register, call the St. Dominic Parish Office at 513-471-7741, ext. 0.

## A Perfect Gift

Christmas is coming soon! Consider purchasing a Gathering Place paver for the person in your life who is hard to shop for. Pavers are the gift that lets your mother, father, grandparent, child, or spouse know how cherished they are. You can place an order online by going to our website at [www.stdominicdelhi.org](http://www.stdominicdelhi.org) and click on the green "Online Giving" button on the left-hand side. Scroll down until you see "Gathering Place Walkway Bricks."

Order forms are available on our website under Resources or at the doors of church. 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.

*All brick/paver orders will be placed twice each year. Once in January and once in July.*



## Celebrate the Feast of Thanksgiving

*Lord God,*

*Our hearts are crowded with gratitude  
as we celebrate the feast of Thanksgiving.*

*We have come to this our feasting table  
with great joy and eagerness,*

*for we are truly grateful to you, our God,  
for all that we have been given.*

*We pause now and, in silent prayer,  
do thank you for the great generosity of Your gifts.*

*—Edward Hays*

# St. Vincent de Paul Society

## St. Dominic Conference End of Fiscal Year Recap

St. Vincent de Paul’s (SVdP) fiscal year runs from October 1-September 30 each year, therefore, we just closed out our fiscal year. We have data to report on what this past year looked like, albeit it is just a glimpse of the works of St. Vincent de Paul – St. Dominic Conference.

Intertwined with these numbers was a tremendous amount of charity from our parishioners. Without you, your prayers and your generosity, our ability to assist would not have been as far reaching. We received \$95,989.70 in donations and contributions!

In parallel, our St. Vincent de Paul – St. Dominic Conference members devoted many hours to ensure we helped our neighbors as best we could; this process was not absent of worry and concern about making the right decisions and discovering all the right resources. We received 542 phone calls which resulted in 1,535 neighbors receiving assistance from St. Vincent de Paul – St. Dominic Conference. Our top three expenditures were – Rent/ Mortgage \$43,188.22, Utilities \$34,012.43 and Food/Groceries \$8,960.62. Some of the other expenses included automobile repair help, day care tuition assistance, and household items.

Cumulatively, the sixteen members of St. Vincent de Paul – St. Dominic Conference volunteered 1585 hours this past fiscal year. We welcome new members to join in any time capacity you have available! If you have any questions about this information or about the work we do, please reach out to one of the SVdP – St. Dominic Conference members listed below, or leave a voicemail on the Parish phone line at 513-471-7741, ext. 290. Thank you!

- |                             |              |                    |                       |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Tim Cunningham              | Pat Dirr     | Mike Fitzpatrick   | Dottie Hampton        |
| Barb & Joe Huber            | Mary Kayse   | Peggy & John Klopp | Mary Beth Maly        |
| Christelle & Joe Middendorf | Joyce Murray | Bob Sanker         | Debbie & Rick Wieland |



## Christmas Floral Donations

This Christmas Season, we are accepting donations to help offset the cost of decorating the church. Please consider honoring your special loved ones by helping us to prepare a fitting and very beautiful place to welcome the Lord.

Donors and their loved ones will be listed in the bulletin and *The Torch* soon after Christmas. You may place your donations in the Sunday Collection, please mark your envelope as “Christmas Flower Donation” or bring your gift to the Parish Office. You can also make your donation through WeShare. Visit our website at [www.stdominichelhi.org](http://www.stdominichelhi.org) and click

the green “Online Giving” button on the left side. Scroll until you see “Christmas Flowers.” Please submit all donations by Friday, December 13.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to have my gift noted in the bulletin and *The Torch*.

I prefer my donation to remain anonymous.

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

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



We will not have a Community Dinner in November, instead we will have a

**Holiday Community Dinner**  
Wednesday, December 4.

This special dinner will replace the November and December dinners. This special dinner will be served from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in O'Connor Hall. Take some time out of your Christmas preparations to relax and enjoy a meal with friends, parishioners, and neighbors.

**We hope to see you there!!**

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