

The Torch



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

St. Dominic
Parish

Delhi Township,
OH

September 2024

With God We Soar – St. Dominic School Ninety Years Strong

My Dear Friends,

On almost every page of the Gospels it says that Jesus taught. In fact, Jesus is called "teacher" at least sixty times. He then commissions His followers to be teachers. Every parent knows what it means to be a teacher, and the Church considers them to be the first and most important teachers in the life of their children. Teaching, and by extension schools, have been an integral part of the mission of the Church from its beginning.

Our parish was founded on October 29, 1933, and within twelve months the school was opened. The first collection at St. Dominic, that first Sunday, amounted to \$4.00 and some change. Imagine, in the midst of the great depression, with \$4.00, the founding families of St. Dominic began a school. That's how important our founding pastor and families thought it was to have a Catholic education for their children.

The parish opened St. Dominic School with ninety-three children on September 10, 1934. That was ninety years ago. Ninety years of serving the community and bringing Catholic education to Delhi. That ninety years of education was made possible because of the commitment of parishioners to the parish. This was no small matter to a small group of Catholics struggling in the time of the Great Depression. Yet, Catholic education was a priority for them, something for which they were willing to sacrifice to achieve for their children. What sort of courage did that take! Incredible!

Our school is a parochial school, which means, it is part of the mission of the parish and the Church. The school helps form the intellectual, physical, moral, and spiritual character of our children. More importantly, it also has a primary and integral role in the faith formation and Catholic education of our children. The school is part of the evangelization mission of the parish. Therefore, Catholic doctrine, moral teaching, anthropology, faith and religious practices are an essential part of our school life.

The commitment to the parish is what makes it possible to have a school, and by extension, athletics, youth programs, arts, and so many wonderful programs and events. You don't have to have children in the school to appreciate the value of a Catholic education. The school is supported and financially subsidized by the parish. The parish helps meet the financial needs of the school because it is part of the mission of the parish and a service to the parish community. This is why it is essential that all parishioners support our endeavor to keep St. Dominic school open and successful for the next ninety years.

From the beginning, St. Dominic Parish has been committed to Catholic education and that commitment is one of generosity, determination, courage and sacrifice. The fruit of this sacrifice, toil and sweat, is generations who have made a mark on life and history, but more importantly, on families and the lives of our children. Our historic commitment to education has given generations the opportunity to succeed and live good, worthwhile, and fruitful lives. Your great-grandparents, grandparents, parents and now you, have made that possible.

Thank you for your support and thank you for sharing your gifts with us for the building up of the Kingdom of God. Without the parish support, there is no school; your support is that important.

Congratulations on providing an outstanding education for so many children through St. Dominic School. Thank you to the generations of teachers who have formed our children in the faith. St. Dominic School: Ninety years of Catholic education – generations of faith - a tradition of success.

Fr. Ben

From Fr. Jim

90th Anniversary of St. Dominic School

On Sunday, October 29, 1933, the Feast of Christ the King, Mass was offered for the first time in the newly organized parish by Fr. Grimmelman, the founding pastor. It was offered in the Mutual Aid Hall at Greenwell and Delhi Pike, on a makeshift altar. For almost a year, Mass was offered in that temporary facility.

The first of many generous gifts from parishioners in those ninety years came from Anthony and Bernadina Robben. They offered the archbishop the six acres of land that the parish now occupies.

In January 1934, plans were made and approved to build a one-story brick building with four classrooms on the first floor and a temporary chapel in the basement, the present Teal Hall. The cost was \$27,500. On June 11 work began. That summer, men of the parish came in their spare time with trucks to haul dirt and fill. Bricklayers, at \$.50 cents an hour, soon had the walls up. On July 22, practically every Catholic in the community turned out on an extremely hot day to witness Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Albers bless the cornerstone of the new building. After the ceremony, all adjourned to the welcome shade of Joe Robben's woods to celebrate with a picnic festival. It was a gala occasion. Then on September 2, 1934, a prayer of thanksgiving rose from every heart as the first Mass was offered in the new basement chapel.

Eight days later, on September 10, 1934, St. Dominic School opened. Three Sisters of Charity taught all ninety-three students enrolled that first year. Sr. Mary Emma, the principal, taught grades six, seven, and eight, Sr. Matthew Marie, taught grades three, four, and five, and Sr. Rose Gertrude taught grades one and two. Seven little girls and nine little boys entered the first grade that year. Among them were Mary Elaine Lipps (Schoener) and George Robben.

In June of 1935, St. Dominic graduated its first class, made up of five boys; Clem Wolfer, Jr., Louis Otting, Maurice Feist, Matthew McDonough, and Louis Lipps, St. Dominic's first son to enter the priesthood.

There was a significant growth in the parish over the next eight years. An addition was added to the first building in 1938. This included a chapel with a kitchen and dining room in the basement. (The present principal's office and Tile Hall.) On October 9, 1938, the congregation gathered for Mass in the new Chapel.

By 1942, another four-classroom wing was added to the North end of the original building to accommodate the now one hundred and eighty students. All of these building projects cost money. The parishioners held card parties and famous chicken dinners to help with the building costs.

After the war the real building boom hit Delhi Township. Farm after farm was subdivided and new

streets put through. Delhi was changing from a rural to a suburban community. Traffic on the roads which the children used to walk was becoming heavier. In 1948, a school bus committee was formed and for years St. Dominic had its own school bus service.

St. Dominic School rushed to keep pace with the building boom and increasing enrollment. So much of the history of the first twenty-five years of the parish involved the expanding school. A new wing and gymnasium and convent were added to the campus. Families grew from seventy to one thousand one hundred. School enrollment grew from ninety-three to an all-time high of one thousand one hundred and sixty-seven in 1967.

The Sisters of Charity played a major part in the growth and development of St. Dominic parish. The Sisters staffed our school for seventy of the ninety years. They taught our children and were a major influence on the goodness we experience in this parish. Sr. Patrick Ann O'Conner was a major leader in this parish, serving as principal of our school and teacher here for many years.

For ninety years, graduates of St. Dominic have watched their grandchildren graduate from our Blue Ribbon School, they have watched them serve Mass, they have watched them compete on our athletic teams and have watched them grow into responsible adults.

A special thank-you to all the teachers and generous parishioners who have helped us pass on the Catholic Faith to generations of St. Dominic children! Happy Birthday, St. Dominic School!

Fr. Jim Walsh



St. Dominic School Is Celebrating 90 Years

Come celebrate with us at Mass on September 8, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. A timeline of pictures will be on display in the Gathering Place along with light refreshments following Mass. Mark your calendars for the Alumni Open House on January 26, 2025. More information to follow.

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.

Maureen Donohue, sister of Mary Ann (Fred) Adler and the late Eileen (Bill - living) Mitchell.

Clare Gierse, mother of Lori (James) Boeh and Bryan (Diana) Gierse.

Mary Wissing, mother of Donna (Tom) Clontz, Tom (Melissa) Wissing, Steve Wissing, Jim (Karin) Wissing, Dave Wissing, and Juliann (Scott) Sheckler.

Kathryn Bacon, wife of Robert G. Bacon and mother of Jimmy (Karin) Winterhalter, Kathryn (Rob) Duncan, Sam Winterhalter, Robert (Donna) Bacon, Jr., Gregory Bacon, Julie (Mick) Hartmann, Jeff Bacon and Mary (Jeff) Hartman.

James Schrimpf, father of Susan Schrimpf (Craig) Davis, James T. (Janice) Schrimpf, Jr. and Paul (Melinda) Schrimpf.

Joan Stoner, mother of Lynn (Kevin) Alexander, and the late David Stoner.

St. Dominic Men's Society Annual Scholarship Golf Outing

The St. Dominic Men's Society will hold their Annual Golf Outing on September 19 at Aston Oaks Golf Club. The cost is \$100.00 per person. The top prize is a custom set of clubs. Everyone is welcome to play. For additional information or to sign up, call or text Rick Veid at 513-218-6064, John Burns at 513-300-0572 or Rick Wieland at 513-720-9504. All proceeds benefit St. Dominic School. Sponsored by the St. Dominic Men's Society.

SafeParish Requirements for Those Volunteering with Children

SafeParish is the child protection platform for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. All new volunteers should follow the SafeParish registration instructions for creating a SafeParish account. You can find a copy of the SafeParish registration instructions and a link to SafeParish on our website at www.stdominicdelhi.org. Click on the SafeParish button on the left side of the page.

During the registration process, new volunteers will be invited to complete their background check and child protection training online. The \$25.00 fee for this can be paid by credit card or with a "token." Contact the parish ministry for which you volunteer to get information on obtaining a token for payment. For any questions concerning SafeParish, please go to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Safe Environment webpage at <https://catholicaoc.org/offices/safe-environment>.

Weekly Emails – Each Tuesday, SafeParish sends an email regarding the updated child protection and workplace safety articles that are posted on the SafeParish website. These articles are NOT required but are recommended reading.

Quarterly Bulletins – Everyone registered with SafeParish will receive a quarterly video. The training bulletin must be completed in 30 days to remain active and in compliance with the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Child Protection Policy.

An "In Compliance" list is posted to the St. Dominic Parish website on the 15th of each month. No one may work with children if they are not active and in compliance. If you did not get the bulletin, check your spam or junk mail. You can also sign into your account, go to the Training Tab and click on the "Due" link to see which bulletins are due and their due date.

If you have any questions about your SafeParish account, you can contact Deacon Mark Bardonaro at deaconmark@stdominicdelhi.org or 513-471-7741, ext. 415.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults – RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation Adapted for Children

Our RCIA process continues year-round. Because of this, adults and children can begin at any time. Most who come to the Catholic Church as adults do so because God has called them through other people. If you know someone who may be interested in the Catholic Faith, ask him or her to call us, or ask if he or she would like for you to call and make the first "contact."

While new inquirers can join the RCIA process at any time, because of our lingering "school year mindset," many people begin to really consider inquiring about the faith as the new school year begins. Now is a great time to reach out and mention becoming Catholic to someone you know who may be considering it!

Contact Deacon Mark Bardonaro at 513-471-7741, ext. 415 or deaconmark@stdominicdelhi.org for more information about our Mary Queen of All Saints RCIA process.

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 on the Catholic faith to our children. Godparents are encouraged to attend as well. Our next session is scheduled at St. Dominic on Sunday, October 6 at 10:30 a.m. (after the 9:30 a.m. Mass) in church. Contact Julie Vaughn at 513-347-8825 or jvaughn@olv.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.

Bible Study

Fr. Jim and Fr. Chris will begin their Bible Study of the Gospel of Luke on Tuesday, October 8 at 7:00 p.m. in O'Connor Hall. This session will take place on seven consecutive Tuesdays, ending on November 19. Please call 513-471-7741, ext. 0 to register.

Pet Blessing

Join us on Saturday, October 5 for our Annual Pet Blessing! Bring your pets, big or small, as we celebrate the wonderful companions God has given us following in the way of St. Francis of Assisi. Please meet in the parking lot near the grotto at 9:45 a.m. – the Blessing begins at 10:00 a.m.

Goldenaires Annual Dinner

The Goldenaires will have their annual dinner on Saturday, November 9 at 5:30 p.m. in St. Dominic's O'Connor Hall. Join us for hors d'oeuvres, wine, soft drinks, dessert, and dinner (catered by Humbert's Meats). Our entertainment is Denny Duval, who played for us in 2023. The cost is \$22.00 per person. Please send your check made payable to Goldenaires, with the names of those attending and your phone number (in case we have questions or need to contact you) to Judy Tensing, 625 Covedale Avenue, #2, Cincinnati, OH 45238. There is limited space. **We will not have a waiting list this year**, so get your reservations in ASAP, but they must be received no later than Friday, November 1.

St. Dominic-Delhi Knights of Columbus

On Thursday, September 12, Skylor Miller, Delhi Township Administrator, will host an Open House at Delhi Towne Square, 5031 Delhi Pike. The doors open at 6:45 p.m. and the program starts at 7:00 p.m. This event will be to present information, and answer questions about the new facilities at Delhi Towne Square. Plenty of free parking is available on the far/back side of the building. This event is free and open to the public. Snacks and soft drinks will be provided. This event is sponsored by the St. Dominic-Delhi Knights of Columbus.

St. Dominic Festival Baskets & More Booth

We would like to thank all the St. Dominic parishioners and following merchants for their generous donations to our Baskets & More Booth this year. THANK YOU!!

Flyin' Saucer Industries

Bicycle Repair & Assembly

Friedhoff Florist

Hatting's Supermarket

Humbert's Meats

O'Reilly Auto Parts

Shop Charbon

The Filling Station

Tropical Foliage Plants, Inc.

West Hills Greenhouses

Wild Birds Unlimited

Delhirosa Bees, LLC

Blue Roo Car Wash

Buff City Soap

J's Plants & Produce

13 Below Brewery

Biggby Coffee Cincinnati

BonBonerie

Bridgetown Finer Meats

F&N Goode Chicken

LongHorn Steakhouse

O'Charley's

Patrick's Sports Bar and Grill

Ron's Roost

Westside Brewing

Seton High School

St. Dominic PTO

St. Dominic Athletic Association

Aston Oaks Golf Club

Strike and Spare Western Bowl

Velocity Esports

FYZICAL Therapy and Balance Centers

Great Parks of Hamilton County

Riverbend Music Center

Cincinnati Reds

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**The Community Dinner is BACK
after the summer break!**

Join us
Wednesday, September 18
The September dinner will be
served from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

We hope to see you there!!

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