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Pastor Rev. Stef Bankemper, sbankemper@stcatherineofsiena.org Deacon Brian Cox Deacon Barry Henry

CRE – John David Kimes jdkimes@stcatherineofsiena.org

Masses for Sunday: Saturday: 4:30 p.m.; Sunday: 9:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Tuesday: 8:30 a.m.-6:45 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Tuesday: *5:30-6:30 p.m.(*verify schedule in bulletin under "This Week" Saturday: Following the 8:00 a.m. Mass; Anytime by Appointment.

Marriage:

One member of the couple must be a registered parishioner of St. Catherine Parish.

Call Parish Office at least six months prior to setting a wedding date.

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Communion to the Sick: Call Parish Office.

New Parishioners:
Please call the Parish Office.
Notification when leaving the parish is appreciated.

Bulletin Deadline:

Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. Drop off copy at parish or send via e-mail.

Baptism: Baptism is a joyful event "by which men and women are freed from their sins... are configured to Christ by an indelible character, and are incorporated into the Church." (Canon 849 of the Code of Canon Law). People can be baptized as adults or infants. The preparation for adult baptism takes place in the process of the catechumenate, commonly known as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, or RCIA. Any adult desiring baptism may call the office to begin this process. Preparation for infant baptism happens in baptism classes, generally held on the fourth Thursday evening of each month in the Parish Office. No child will be baptized at St. Catherine unless both parents have attended one of these classes in the last five years. Baptism of adults generally takes place on Holy Saturday night, while baptism of infants can take place on any Sunday. Since baptism "incorporates one into the Church," it is appropriate that the infant be baptized during a Sunday liturgy when the local Church is gathered. There are legitimate reasons for not wanting to have the baptism during a Sunday liturgy; in those cases, baptisms may be scheduled for a Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY – January 1st

10:00 a.m. Dave Smith

TUESDAY - January 2nd

8:00 a.m. Terry Kennedy

WEDNESDAY - January 3rd

5:30 p.m. Ralph & Liz Hamberg

THURSDAY - January 4th

8:00 a.m. Maria Timmerman

FRIDAY - January 5th

8:30 a.m. Robert, Juanita & Tom Schroder

SATURDAY - January 6th

8:00 a.m. George Dubay, Special Intention

4:30 p.m. Members of the Parish

SUNDAY - January 7th

10:00 a.m. Kelly Mikles

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

January 1st, 6th & 7th

Solemnity of Mary, 10:00 a.m

Cup: Nathan Holbrook, Lois Roell, Nathan Myers, Sub Needed

Host: Logan Holbrook, Brooke Holbrook, Karen Little

4:30 p.m. Cup: Kelly Hergott, Sarah Meisenhelder,

Catherine Meisenhelder

Host: Lois Roell

10:00 a.m. Cup: Kristen Gerrein, Karen Little,

Natalie Messmer, Elise Rulli

Host: Brian Dinkelacker, Dana Ruwe, Kathy Woltermann

LECTORS

January 1st, 6th & 7th

Solemnity of Mary, 10:00 a.m. Bruce Mirrielees 4:30 p.m. Sarah Meisenhelder 10:00 a.m. Michael Hicks

SUNDAY COLLECTION RECAP

	1	2/17/2023	12/	18/2022
Weekly Offering	\$	25,940	\$	42,173
Fiscal YTD Offerings	\$	372,673		
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$	585,271		
Fiscal Annual Budget 202	3/24 \$1	,260,000		
Number of registered families		373		
Tuition Assistance awarded for 2023/24 \$0				
Tuition Assistance donations FYD \$277				
School Registration for 2023-24 116				
-	<u>Goal</u> 79,100	Pledged \$90,645		<u>Over!</u> \$11,545

SERVERS SCHEDULE January 1st-7th

10:00 a.m. – Monday, Solemnity of Mary

Tommy Burkart, Colin Desmond, Two Subs Needed

8:00 a.m. – Tuesday

Ava Hamberg, Silas West

5:30 p.m. – Wednesday

Ellery Browning, Ben Fassler

8:00 a.m. - Thursday

Cora Hill, Owen Marx

8:30 a.m. – Friday

Matilda Faust, Logan Meyer, Molly Muench

8:00 a.m. – Saturday

T.J. McSorley, Sub Needed

4:30 p.m. – Saturday

Sam Gillen, Sadie Hess, Laney Smith, Frannie Smith

10:00 a.m. - Sunday

Adelise Bozeman, Carden Bozeman, Joseph Hicks, Sub Needed

GREETERS SCHEDULE January 6th & 7th

4:30 p.m. Volunteers Needed **10:00 a.m.** Mike & Carol Desmond, Rick & Anita Morris

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

THIS WEEK

MONDAY

Happy New Year! – Mass, 10:00 a.m. Parish Office Closed

TUESDAY

Mass, 8:00 a.m. – Exposition, 8:30 a.m. Confessions, 5:30 p.m.

Benediction, 6:45 p.m. – Rosary, 7:00 p.m. BOCE, 7:00 p.m., PCMR

WEDNESDAY

Mass, 5:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

Mass, 8:00 a.m.

Directory Pictures, 3:00 p.m., McCrystal Hall Choir, 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

Mass, 8:30 a.m.

SATURDAY

Mass, 8:00 a.m.

Confessions Immediately following Mass Mass, 4:30 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY

Mass, 10:00 a.m.

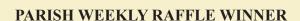
Please Pray For Our Sick

Bev Stegman, Barb Venable, Mary Kay Glaser, Carol Ewing, Tom & Mary Ann Ferring, Sherry Milleck, Peter Defoe, Kay Grothaus, Mary Vieth, Ann Basham, Bob Rulli, Cris Bear, Mary Kohrs, Larry Beiting, Mary Hoffman, Bette Riedmatter & David Garner. Also, remember all of our parishioners in nursing homes as well as those confined to their homes in your prayers.

Please Pray for the Following Soldiers Serving Our Country

William Pikar, Luke Norman, Jay Blinn, Michael Beiting, Joe Fitzgerald, Brian Clayton, Adam Beiting, Michael Dunn, Trent Moeves, James Taft III, Drew Cecil, Zack Hehman, Adam Kramer, Wolfgang Davis, Clint & Sarah Brandt, Mark Marten, Zachary Dunn and Fr. Bill Appel.

IN OUR PARISH



The winner for the week of December 18th was Mary Lynn McCarthy. Congratulations! The winner for the week of December 25th will be reported next week.

LET'S GO TO MEXICO! Our Mexican-themed winter fundraiser will be held on January 27th at the Ft. Thomas Mess Hall. As usual, we will have plenty of food, drinks and music to celebrate. We will also be raffling off chances for an all-inclusive trip to Cancun, Mexico!! Trip includes coach airfare, four nights all-inclusive accommodations and a sunset cruise. 2nd Prize is 10,000 MXN Pesos (approximately \$575.00 USD) and 3rd prize is dinner for two at Nada (\$150.00 gift card). Cost of the ticket is \$50.00. Tickets will soon be available in the Parish Office and on our website. Attendance is not required to win. If you would like to join the committee planning the event, please reach out to Wade and Tina Smith at garrett_wade_smith@hotmail.com or call/text 859-816-2145.

WE NEED YOU! We could use your help in making our "Let's Go To Mexico" winter fundraiser a successful night for our parish. We need volunteers to help with raffle ticket sales, silent auction, basket raffle, decorations, set-up and marketing the event. Since things are always more fun in a group, consider gathering some friends together and taking on one of these tasks! Maybe your friend group could put together a basket for the basket raffle, gather items for the silent auction, take on overseeing reservations, or getting the word out to the community about the event. Any and all help is needed and greatly appreciated. Please contact Wade Smith at garrett_wade_smith@hotmail.com or call/text 859-816-2145 to volunteer.

PRO-LIFE THOUGHT – "Dearest St. Joseph... Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life – especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things." *USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, A Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life (www.respectlife.org/prayer-to-st-joseph)*

ST. BERNARD PANTRY – The pantry is always in need of any nonperishable food items (peanut butter, cereal, pasta and sauce, canned soup, beans, etc.), paper products and hygiene items for their clients. Additionally, they need clean plastic bags for food distribution purposes to their clients. All donations are gratefully accepted and can be dropped off in the box at the Rossford entrance or Parish Office. Please be mindful of the Expiration Date or the Best Used by Date when considering your donation. If each family donated just one food item per month, what a difference we could make!

IN OUR DIOCESE

SACRED MUSIC CONCERT – With praise and thanks to Almighty God, the Roman Catholic Parish of St. Augustine, 1839 Euclid Avenue, Covington, invites you to celebrate the installation of their new organ with a FREE concert of Sacred Music on the Solemnity of the Epiphany, Saturday, January 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

COVINGTON YOUTH MISSIONARY TEAM FORMING – Seeking high school peer leaders from every high school and parish in the diocese. Team formation begins in February and missionary youth ministry service to the diocese begins this summer. To recommend an individual, email apoat@covdio.org.

THE GIFT OF FAMILY

Reflection on Luke 2:22-40

While the pandemic brought so much tragedy to our lives, it brought some blessings as well. For many, the pandemic compelled us to a renewed, even if forced, encounter with the sacred space of home and family. Today's feast of the Holy Family stands for us as an invitation to embrace this sure and central blessing from God – the gift of family.

Take these readings home with you! Have an intentional conversation, a family reflection time, considering how you can put into practice what St. Paul recommends: "Put on... heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another." Consider also the example of Jesus, Mary and Joseph: how your unique family expressions and celebrations of faith, hope and love can reach beyond the walls of your home to touch the hearts and lives of other families.

~ Fr. Jay



WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Sunday, December 31, 2023

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 Col 3:12-21 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 Lk 2:22-40

Monday, January 1, 2024

Mary, Mother of God Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors 1 Jn 2:22-28 Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday, January 3, 2024

Christmas Weekday 1 Jn 2:29–3:6 Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6 Jn 1:29-34 **Thursday, January 4, 2024**Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

1 Jn 3:7-10 Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 Jn 1:35-42

Friday, January 5, 2024

Saint John Neumann 1 Jn 3:11-21 Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 Jn 1:43-51

Saturday, January 6, 2024

Christmas Weekday 1 Jn 5:5-13 Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 Mk 1:7-11

> Access Daily Readings from the New American Bible, Revised Edition (NABRE) online at https://bible.usccb.org

SAINT BASIL THE GREAT

Feast Day: January 2 Patron Saint of: Russia

Basil was on his way to becoming a famous teacher when he decided to begin a religious life of Gospel poverty. After studying various modes of religious life, he founded what was probably the first monastery in Asia Minor. He is to monks of the East what Saint Benedict is to the West, and Basil's principles influence Eastern monasticism today.

He was ordained a priest, assisted the archbishop of Caesarea – now southeastern Turkey – and ultimately became archbishop himself, in spite of opposition from some of the bishops under him, probably because they foresaw coming reforms.

Arianism, one of the most damaging heresies in the history of the Church, which denied the divinity of Christ, was at its height. Emperor Valens persecuted orthodox believers, and put great pressure on Basil to remain silent and admit the heretics to Communion. Basil remained firm, and Valens backed down. He strove mightily to unite and rally his fellow Catholics who were crushed by tyranny and torn by internal dissension.

Basil was tireless in pastoral care. He preached twice a day to huge crowds, built a hospital that was called a wonder of the world – as a youth he had organized famine relief and worked in a soup kitchen himself – and fought the prostitution business.

Basil was best known as an orator. Though not recognized greatly in his lifetime, his writings rightly place him among the great teachers of the Church. Seventy-two years after his death, the Council of Chalcedon described him as "the great Basil, minister of grace who has expounded the truth to the whole earth."

Read the full article: "Saint Basil the Great" Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars, https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-basil-the-great/. (Accessed December 20, 2023).

SAVE THE DATE DIOCESAN YOUTH MINISTRY EVENTS

Contact Angie Poat for information, apoat@covdio. org or visit covdio.org/youth/.

January 18, 2024 – High School Mass and Social – Location: Holy Cross Parish, Latonia, 7:00-9:00 p.m. Learn more about the Mass and worship with your peers in a vibrant faith community. All are welcome.

February 8, 2024 – **THRIVE** Peer Ministry Leadership Training for High School and College Leaders, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Curia. Attend as an individual peer leader or with your parish, school, music, or retreat team. Newcomers are welcome. RSVP by February 1. Together we THRIVE!

February 10, 2024 – JUNIOR HIGH CONNECT RETREAT. Calling all 6th, 7th & 8th graders to a high impact day of connecting with self, others, and God. CONNECT Retreat includes: Music, Games, Witness Talks, Adoration, Food and Fun. Led by a team of dynamic college students. RSVP by February 1. Location: TMU, 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

SUPPORT **GROUP** FOR SEPARATED **AND DIVORCED** – New Beginnings is an eight-week program for separated or divorced individuals, which provides an opportunity to heal and move forward despite a complicated situation. Led by facilitators who have been through their own personal losses, this program invites participants to move toward their own new beginning. The next session will be held on consecutive Thursdays - January 25, February 1, February 8, February 15, February 22, February 29, March 7, and March 14, 2024, Time: 7:00-8:30 p.m. at Holy Trinity Elementary, 235 Division Street, Bellevue, KY. For more information, and to register, visit https://covdio.org/new-beginnings-2/.

KENTUCKY MARCH FOR LIFE – Save the Date – Join other Pro-life Kentuckians on Tuesday, January 23rd for the 2024 Kentucky March for Life and "Love Them Both" Rally. The program will begin with Mass at Good Shepherd Parish in Frankfort, followed by a rally at the State Capitol. The event will end with a procession to the Cemetery of the Innocents in the historic Frankfort Cemetery. The Pro-Life Office will be organizing buses that will leave from Northern Kentucky. If you are interested in traveling with other parishioners from the Diocese, please contact the Pro-Life Office for more information at 859-392-1500.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONFERENCE – July 17th-21st, 2024 in Indianapolis. Marian University (located 15 minutes from Lucas Oil Stadium) is hosting high school teens for the Conference and will by house, feed, transport, mentor and accompany youth ministry groups through the Conference. This is an opportunity for youth from the Diocese of Covington, to dive deeper into their faith and journey with Catholic youth from around the country. Preregistration deadline is early January. Inquire ASAP.

worldwide Marriage Encounter – Would you like to resolve to improve your relationship and communication in 2024? Give the gift of yourself, better communication and more romance. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience can be that gift and a weekend to be alone with your spouse to energize your relationship and communication in 2024. The next Marriage Encounter Weekend experience is February 16-18, 2024 at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center in Cincinnati. Apply today at https://esharing.org/applyWeekend.php. For questions or more details, contact Andy and Melanie Reinersman at 859-653-8464, application@esharing.org or visit esharing.org.





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