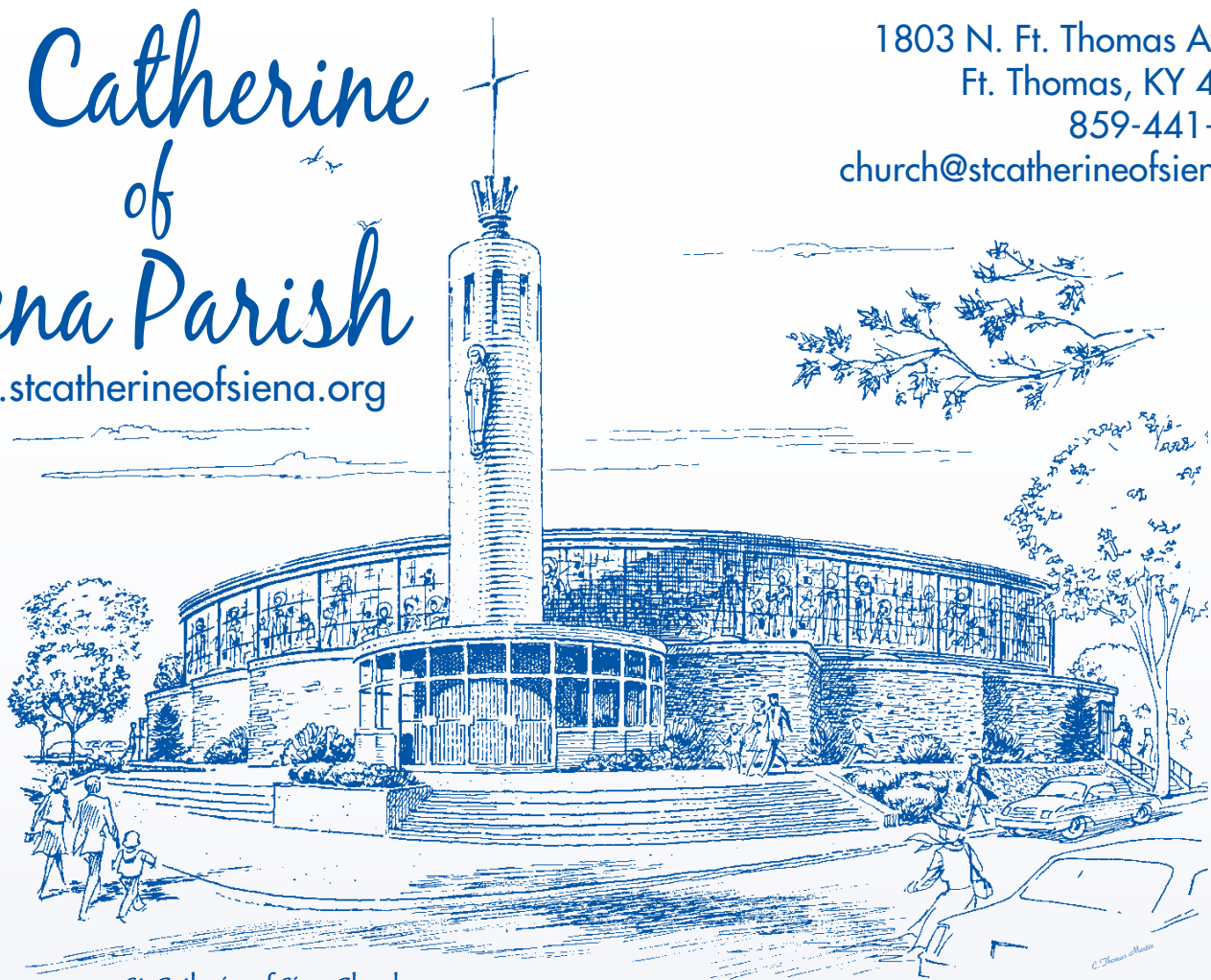


# St. Catherine of Siena Parish

www.stcatherineofsiena.org

1803 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Ft. Thomas, KY 41075  
859-441-1352  
church@stcatherineofsiena.org



St. Catherine of Siena Church • FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY

**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.

**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.

### **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.

### **Parish Membership – Requires an Active Response**

Active members of St. Catherine of Siena Parish have registered and provided the Parish Office with the information needed to complete the census forms. Active members regularly participate in the Saturday evening or Sunday Liturgy at St. Catherine of Siena Parish. Active members invest themselves in the parish by participating in the annual Stewardship Program pledging and contributing time, talent and treasure as God calls them. Active members hold the parish in their daily prayers.

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK****TUESDAY – March 28th**

8:00 a.m. Bill &amp; Anna Maria Hoeflinger, Special Intention

**WEDNESDAY – March 29th**

5:30 p.m. Bill &amp; Mary Lynn McCarthy, Special Intention

**THURSDAY – March 30th**

8:00 a.m. Ted Stoner

**FRIDAY – March 31st**

8:30 a.m. Nancy Miller

**SATURDAY – April 1st**

8:00 a.m. Pat Cunningham

4:30 p.m. Members of the Parish

**SUNDAY – April 2nd**

9:00 a.m. Paul Lankisch

11:30 a.m. Patrick Studer

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS  
OF HOLY COMMUNION****April 1st & 2nd**

4:30 p.m. Diane Hamberg, Lois Roell

9:00 a.m. Peggy Birkenhauer, Karen Little

11:30 a.m. Jennifer Kirst, Heather Shultz

**LECTORS****April 1st & 2nd**

4:30 p.m. Joe Fischer

9:00 a.m. Debbie Rolf

11:30 a.m. Bill Sodini

**SERVERS SCHEDULE****March 28th-April 2nd****8:00 a.m. – Tuesday**

Grant Desmond, Reese Desmond

**5:30 p.m. – Wednesday**

Hannah Fritz, Addie Hess

**8:00 a.m. – Thursday**

Emily Hallau, Cora Hill

**8:30 a.m. – Friday**

Morgan Baldwin, Otto Hansbauer, Selma Hansbauer

**8:00 a.m. - Saturday**

Max Holbrook, Sub Needed

**4:30 p.m. - Saturday**

Addie Hess, Michael Zechella, Two Subs Needed

**9:00 a.m. – Sunday**

Josie Bozeman, Carden Bozeman, Cameron Myers, Maggie West

**11:30 a.m. – Sunday**

Natalie Kirst, Emily Kirst, Nathan Kirst, Morgan Kremer

**SUNDAY COLLECTION RECAP**

	<u>3/12/2023</u>	<u>3/13/2022</u>
Weekly Offering	\$ 29,991	\$ 11,353
Fiscal YTD Offerings	\$ 706,949	
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$ 653,654	
Fiscal Annual Budget 2022/2023	\$ 930,000	
Number of registered families	408	
Tuition Assistance awarded for 2022/2023	\$ 0	
Tuition Assistance donations FYD	\$ 1,101	
School Registration for 2022-2023	123	
School Registration for 2023-2024	111	

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS****Mt 21:1-11;****Is 50:4-7;****Phil 2:6-11;****Mt 26:14-27:66****THIS WEEK****MONDAY**

American Heritage Girls, 6:30 p.m., McCrystal Hall

**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.

TOB for adults, 7:00 p.m., LIB

**WEDNESDAY**

Mass, 5:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY**

Mass, 8:00 a.m.

Choir, 6:30 p.m., Church

**FRIDAY**

Mass, 8:30 a.m.

Fish Fry, 4:30 p.m., McCrystal Hall

Stations of the Cross, 7:30 p.m., Church

**SATURDAY**

Mass, 8:00 a.m.

Confessions immediately following 8:00 a.m. Mass

Mass, 4:30 p.m.

**NEXT SUNDAY**

Mass, 9:00 a.m. &amp; 11:30 a.m.

*Please Pray For Our Sick*

Jack Rose, Marie Shields, Edie Hegge, Linda Brown, Judy Newberry, Peter Defoe, Kay Grothaus, Jon McSorley, 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*

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 PARISHES**

**LENTEN FASTING AND ABSTINENCE** – The following is what the Church teaches regarding Lenten fasting and abstinence.

**Fasting** requires a Catholic from the 18th to the 59th birthday to reduce the amount of food eaten from normal. The Church defines this as one meal a day, and two smaller meals which if added together would not exceed the main meal in quantity. Such fasting is obligatory on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

**Abstinence** requires a Catholic 14 years of age until death to abstain from eating meat on Fridays in honor of the Passion of Jesus on Good Friday. On the Fridays outside of Lent, Catholics in the US may substitute a penitential or even a charitable practice of their own choosing.

The other traditional Lenten practice is prayer. Although there is no church regulation regarding it, it is a good practice to pick a new or additional way of praying during Lent.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** – Praying the stations is a wonderful Lenten practice that is appropriate for the whole family. Children are never too young to expose them to this beautiful way of praying and meditating on Christ's sacrifice for us. During Lent, Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. in church. On Good Friday, they will be held at noon.

**ANNUAL LENTEN SERVICE PROJECT** – Each Lent, our parish participates in a service project to benefit local service agencies. There will be grocery bags to fill for the agencies in the back of church. Attached to each bag will be a wish list from one of the agencies. If you are able, please take one (or two) bags, purchase the items and return the filled bags to the old baptistery area in the back of church with the wish list still attached. All bags should be returned before Good Friday, which is when they will be distributed to the agencies.

**LAST CHANCE FOR THE FISH FRY!** This Friday, March 31st is our last fish fry of the season, so if you haven't worked a fish fry yet, now is the time to sign up! Go to <https://signup.com/go/mYEiuMq> to sign up. Also, don't forget to stop by and try our famous fish dinners! We offer fried cod, baked and blackened tilapia, cheese pizza, grilled cheese, homemade hush puppies, homemade clam chowder, mac & cheese and french fries. You can eat in, carry out or go through the drive-thru. Hope to see you this Friday!

**SUMMER FEST 2023** – Mark your calendars for this year's Summer Fest. Our Music Fest night will be Friday, June 2nd and our Summer Festival will be Saturday, June 3rd. If you couldn't make the first planning meeting, but would like to help with this year's event, contact Natalie Messmer at [natmessmer@yahoo.com](mailto:natmessmer@yahoo.com). Watch future emails and bulletins for more details about the event and how you can help!

**COUNCIL MEMBER NOMINATIONS** – We are kicking off our annual nomination process for new council members. All parish councils (Parish Pastoral Council, Board of Catholic Education, and Finance Council) rotate memberships, and each year, there are openings. Currently, we are asking you to nominate someone, or yourself, to consider serving our parish on one of our councils. We will be taking nominations through April 21, 2023. You can nominate someone online at our St. Catherine website, emailing the parish office or by filling out a nomination card and dropping it in the box in the back of church. A description of each council can be found on the nomination page at <https://www.stcatherineofsiena.org/councilnominations>. There is no limit on nominations. Nominees will be contacted by Parish Council and asked to discern for themselves if they are willing or able to serve. Council terms begin in July.

**JOIN THE MOWING BRIGADE!** The St. Catherine Men's Group has been mowing the church and rectory grounds for many years. We have had several men retire off the mowing crew for various reasons, so we are looking for YOU to join us! With enough on the list, we each only have to mow 2-3 times during the season. This is standard mowing, trimming, and blowing - no heavy equipment or special skills, and all equipment is provided on-site. If you are interested in helping to keep St. Catherine campus clean and green, please contact Jon Guth at 859-653-4692 or [jon.guth@fuse.net](mailto:jon.guth@fuse.net).

**PARISH WEEKLY RAFFLE WINNER** – The winner for the week of March 20th was Jane Pohlman. Congratulations!

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN** – Help Save Lives! Christians throughout the Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky and surrounding areas are invited to take part in the international 40 Days for Life effort from Ash Wednesday, February 22 through Palm Sunday, April 2nd. In addition to 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion in America, please consider volunteering to pray outside of the Planned Parenthood abortion facility on Auburn Avenue in Cincinnati for one or more hours during the 40 days, and spread the word to others about this important life-saving effort. Learn more at [www.40daysforlife.com/cincinnati](http://www.40daysforlife.com/cincinnati). Our parish will stand in prayerful witness at Planned Parenthood on Tuesday, March 28th. To sign up for a shift on this day, see the sign-up sheet at the Rossford Avenue entrance to church. If you have any questions about this campaign, contact Linda Schuchter at 859-803-0103 or [lschuchter@yahoo.com](mailto:lschuchter@yahoo.com).

**ONLY A FEW MORE DAYS TO TELL US WHAT'S ON YOUR HEART!** The Disciple Maker Index survey is live and will only be open until March 27. Complete the survey online at <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/g0kta4> or if you prefer a paper copy, copies are in the back of church or you can pick one up in the parish office from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. For the survey to provide useful information for our parish, we need as many parishioners as possible to participate! Thanks for your help in making this effort a success!

**CATHOLIC ORDER OF FORESTERS COURT #2514 17TH ANNUAL PARISH CAMPOUT** – Our annual campout will again be at the Kentucky Horse Park (KHP) just south of Georgetown Kentucky, Friday, June 23rd-Sunday, June 25th. We have blocked out around 70 campsites for our group within the area where we will play games and have group meals. If you don't enjoy tent camping or own a camper, we have an option for you. For previous campouts, some families have rented a camper for the weekend and had great experiences. If you're interested in this, please contact one of the Campout Captains listed below. Here's how to book your site:

1. **BOOK SOON** to get your preferred camping spot. These sites are blocked out for St. Catherine Foresters: C131-C159; C172-C193; D207-D216; D239-D248; D251-D256
2. Call **GROUP CAMPING** at 1-800-370-6416, and select Option 2 for Campground Store. You will need to speak to a person to confirm a spot.
3. Let them know you are with "St. Catherine Foresters."
4. You can request a certain site or they can randomly assign you a spot.
5. Pay by phone or make arrangements with KHP staff.
6. **MOST IMPORTANTLY** –
  - a. Let us know which site you reserved.
  - b. Let us know how many people will be attending, names and T-shirt sizes for each attendee! We need this information for supplies!
  - c. We will also need to know if you're just coming down for the day or staying elsewhere instead of camping. Contact the Campout Captains with your reservation information or if you have any questions: Rob Hans at [rlhans1966@gmail.com](mailto:rlhans1966@gmail.com) or 859-750-2242 or Tom Kaelin at [tomkaelin@fuse.net](mailto:tomkaelin@fuse.net) or 859-630-3217.



# HE MADE HIS DWELLING AMONG US

## The Annunciation and the Gospel of Life

The Annunciation celebrates the visit of the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary to inform her that she was to be the mother of Jesus. On this great feast day, we not only recall Mary's courageous "yes" to God, we also celebrate the Incarnation of Christ, our Savior. For it was there, in the womb of a woman, nine months before the celebration of the manger, that "the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (John 1:14).

The celebration of the Annunciation coincides with the anniversary of the papal encyclical *Evangelium vitae* (*The Gospel of Life*). This prophetic document on the dignity and inviolability of every human life was put forth by Pope John Paul II on the Solemnity of the Annunciation in 1995. The intimate connection of these two events highlights a profound reality about the identity and value of every human person.

Luke's Gospel tells us that by the power of the Holy Spirit, Christ would be conceived within the womb of Mary. It was there, in the womb of the Blessed Mother, that Christ first took on human flesh and made his dwelling among us. Like us, the unborn child Jesus grew and developed beneath the shelter of his mother's loving heart. Through Christ's Incarnation, God chose to share fully and intimately in our humanity and bridge all distance between God and man, so that we may dwell together.

The Church teaches us that "by His incarnation the Son of God has united Himself in some fashion with every man."<sup>1</sup> God desired to dwell among us, as one of us, in order to bring us salvation. This truth "reveals to humanity not only the boundless love of God... but also the incomparable value of every human person."<sup>2</sup>

Each of us is made in the image and likeness of our Creator, to share in the very life of God himself. This reality "reveals the greatness and the inestimable value of human life."<sup>3</sup> The human person is "a manifestation of God in the world, a sign of his presence, a trace of his glory."<sup>4</sup> Created through the love of the Father, each one of us bears "an indelible imprint of God."<sup>5</sup> By sharing in our humanity, Christ invites us to share in his divinity, that we might dwell with him for eternity.

Therefore, "the Gospel of God's love for man, the Gospel of the dignity of the person and the Gospel of life are a single and indivisible Gospel."<sup>6</sup> Through Christ's descent to earth God desires to raise each one of us to the heights of heaven. May we recognize that to proclaim the Gospel of Life is to proclaim Christ, the one who *made his dwelling among us*.



<sup>1</sup> Pope Paul VI, *Gaudium et spes: Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World*, (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 1965), 22.

<sup>2</sup> Pope John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae*, (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 1995), 2.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> Pope John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae*, 34.

<sup>5</sup> Pope John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae*, 35.

<sup>6</sup> Pope John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae*, 2.

**TROOPS OF ST. GEORGE** – TSG is a Catholic outdoor movement for fathers and sons ages 6-18, with a mission, goals, and standards different from other scouting organizations. Our focus is on building fraternal relationships and growing in our Catholic faith using monthly outdoor events organized by the fathers and sons. The troop will meet from 7:00-8:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month in McCrystal Hall to work on skills and faith formation with the boys and to plan for the outdoor event, which will be held on the third Saturday of the month. Our next monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, April 5th and our next outing will be on April 15th. If you are interested in joining TSG, please contact John David Kimes at [tsgtroop0429@gmail.com](mailto:tsgtroop0429@gmail.com).

**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!



**FACILITIES MANAGER POSITION** – We are seeking candidates for the position of Facilities Manager here at St. Catherine. The successful candidate for this full-time, first shift position will be responsible for the care and maintenance of our campus. Experience

not required, but welcome. Will train with our current Facilities Manager until his retirement in mid-June. Work will include, but not limited to, light maintenance, landscaping, carpentry, electric, plumbing and repair; painting; leaf and snow removal; custodial and other cleaning. Will direct and supervise a small permanent staff plus summer helpers. Must be honest, punctual, and dependable for this responsible position, willing to learn and work. Must be able to lift and carry 75 pounds. Competitive wage, insurance package and generous pension contributions; friendly and relaxed work environment. Will interact with parish and school staff, as well as volunteers and parishioners, in a friendly and helpful manner. Need not be Catholic, but must be living in a way consistent with Catholic values. Interested candidates are asked to please send a cover letter and resume to Dennis Hicks at [dhicks@stcatherineofsiena.org](mailto:dhicks@stcatherineofsiena.org).

**IN OUR DIOCESE**

**RETREAT OPPORTUNITY** – You are invited to participate in the New Manna Retreat: Dining in the Desert where Fr. Thomas Picchioni will explore the four different faces of the Real Manna come down from heaven. Retreat will be held at St. Cecilia Undercroft, Independence, on Saturday, April 1st. Check-in time and in-person registration will be 7:30-7:55 a.m., retreat time is 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided as well as a light breakfast. There is no cost, just a freewill offering. RSVP appreciated to Karen Bunton at [psr@stcindependence.org](mailto:psr@stcindependence.org). (Retreat is eligible for 8 Continuing Education hours.)

**LENTEN PILGRIMAGE** – Experience a personal Lenten pilgrimage of five historic churches in Covington on Saturday, April 1st. Churches will be open from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., rain or shine! Join in at any time and start at any of the churches – The Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, St. Benedict, St. Augustine, St. John the Evangelist, or Mother of God – the route will be clearly marked from each of them. Walk (or drive) to any or all of the 4.3-mile pilgrimage. For questions, or to volunteer, email [CovLentenPilgrimage@gmail.com](mailto:CovLentenPilgrimage@gmail.com).

**CHRISM MASS** – The Most Rev. John C. Iffert invites you to attend the celebration of the Chrism Mass to be held at the Cathedral on **Tuesday, April 4th** at 7:00 p.m. The Chrism Mass is the only occasion when as many Catholics as possible celebrate the Eucharist together with their priests and representatives from every facet of Catholic life. We come together as one church to celebrate one Eucharist.

**YOUNG ADULT RETREAT FOR WOMEN AND MEN IN THEIR 20's & 30's** – Are you searching for a deeper relationship with God and with others? Do you want to make meaning of the other relationships in your life? Do you need some time apart? Consider the “Walking Together” Retreat offered by the Sisters of Notre Dame and a team of young adults on April 14th-16th at the Sisters of Notre Dame, Park Hills. For more information, contact Sister Ruth Lubbers at [rlubbers@sndusa.org](mailto:rlubbers@sndusa.org) or 859-750-8190.

**DCCH CARE FOR KIDS RAFFLE** – Buy your Chances for \$10,000.00, \$2,500.00, or \$1,000.00 and #ChangeLives! Tickets are \$20.00 each. Drawing will be held 4/29/23. You do not need to be present to win. Purchase tickets and learn more at [www.DCCHCenter.org](http://www.DCCHCenter.org) or 859-331-2040.

**HOLY LAND TRIP OCTOBER 25th-NOVEMBER 2nd, 2023** – Join Msgr. Daniel Vogelpohl on an inspirational journey through the Holy Land. Strengthen your faith and grow closer to God. From Bethlehem and Nazareth to Cana, the site of the First Miracle, find new understanding in the life of Jesus. Follow in His footsteps along the Via Dolorosa as you walk the path of the Stations of the Cross. Visit the Church of the Pater Noster, built on the traditional site where Jesus taught. Explore Ein Karem, birthplace of St. John the Baptist. An extensive Jerusalem tour features the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, and the Western Wall. Visit the Church of the Beatitudes, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, St. John the Baptist, and the Church of the Nativity, Mount of the Transfiguration. Engage in daily worship at some of the world’s most revered and historical sites. For more information, email Fr. Dan at [dvogelpohl@covdio.org](mailto:dvogelpohl@covdio.org) or visit <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1128673>.

**ELSEWHERE**

**LIVING IN REALITY RETREAT** – The key to building life in the Spirit, hosted by Fr. Al Lauer’s Presentation Ministries, will be held April 21st-23rd at Our Lady of Guadalupe Discipleship Center, Peebles, OH. Many people, even Christians, are not in touch with reality because of sin and our secular humanistic culture. Therefore, in the preface of this retreat, we consider four basic realities revealed by Christ. Then we focus on repentance from sin and total commitment to Jesus. The retreat concludes by showing how to build a new life and life-style in the Spirit through family relationships. Register online at [www.presentationministries.com](http://www.presentationministries.com) or call Betty at 513-373-2397.

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