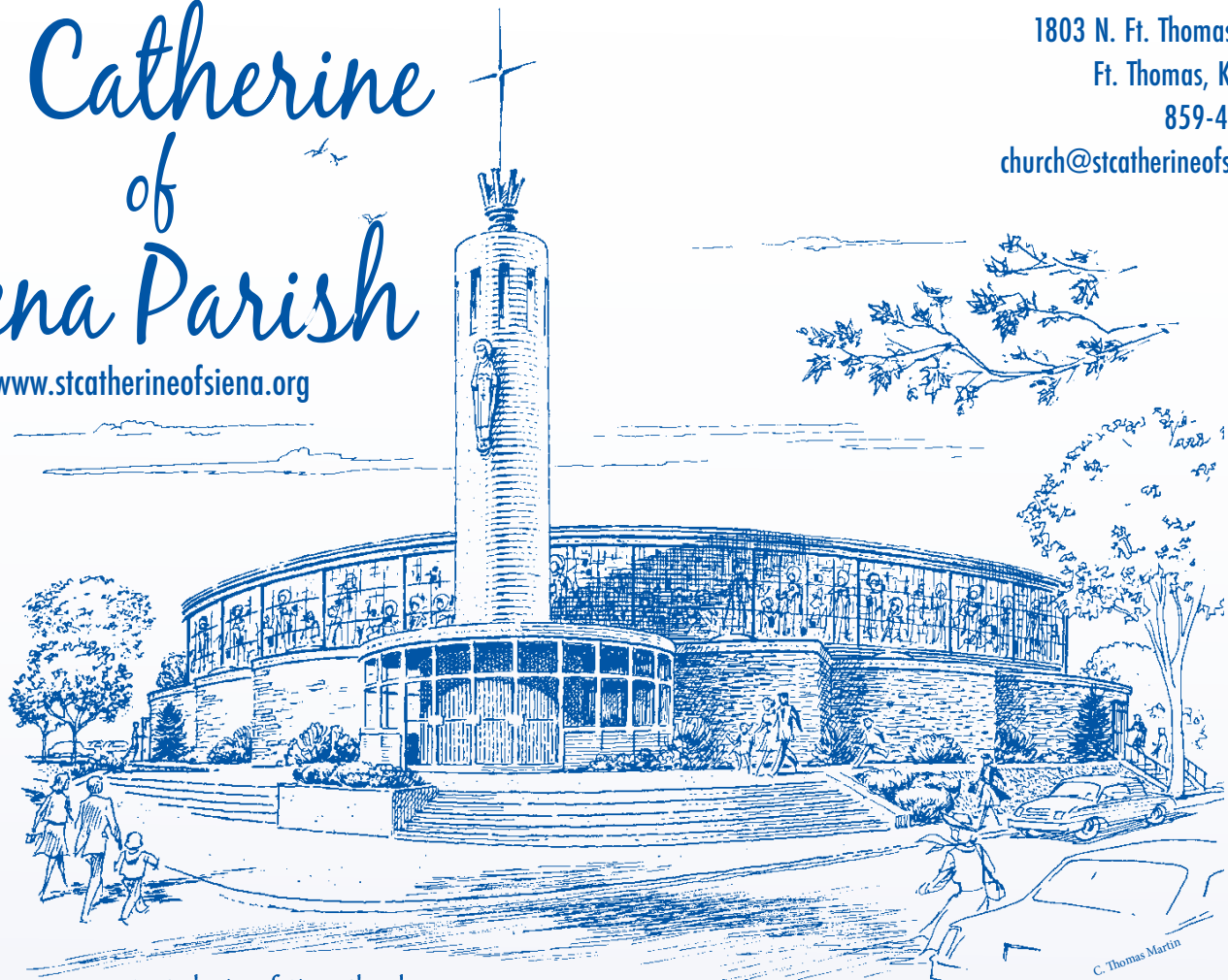


St. Catherine of Siena Parish

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.

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.

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 – November 28th****8:00 a.m.** David Schickert**WEDNESDAY – November 29th****5:30 p.m.** Bill Seiter**THURSDAY – November 30th****10:00 a.m.** Linda Brown**FRIDAY – December 1st****8:30 a.m.** Mary & Fred McLane, Special Intention**SATURDAY – December 2nd****8:00 a.m.** Ken & Cindy Walker**4:30 p.m.** Members of the Parish**SUNDAY – December 3rd****10:00 a.m.** Phil Gessner**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
OF HOLY COMMUNION
December 2nd & 3rd****4:30 p.m. Cup:** Catherine Meisenhelder, Lois Roell**Host:** Brian Dinkelacker, Joliene Garlich, Sarah Meisenhelder**10:00 a.m. Cup:** Kristen Gerrein, Dan Little, Carol Little,
Karen Little**Host:** Brooke Holbrook, Nathan Holbrook, Kelly Johnson**LECTORS
December 2nd & 3rd****4:30 p.m.** Peggy Bertelsman**10:00 a.m.** Josie Bozeman**SERVERS SCHEDULE
November 28th - December 3rd****8:00 a.m. – Tuesday**

Michael Hicks, Joseph Hicks

5:30 p.m. – Wednesday

Josie Bozeman, Carden Bozeman

8:00 a.m. – Thursday

Lucy Gillen, Graham Gillen

8:30 a.m. – Friday

Morgan Baldwin, Alison Wagner, Silas West

8:00 a.m. – Saturday

T.J. McSorley, Edie Twehues

4:30 p.m. – Saturday

Adelaide Foley, Lilly Foley, Tim Garlich

10:00 a.m. – Sunday

Adelise Bozeman, Max Holbrook, Logan Meyer

**GREETERS SCHEDULE
December 2nd & 3rd****4:30 p.m.** Volunteers Needed**10:00 a.m.** Mike & Carol Desmond, Rick & Anita Morris**SUNDAY COLLECTION RECAP**

	<u>11/05/2023</u>	<u>11/06/2022</u>
Weekly Offering	\$ 18,556	\$ 23,736
Fiscal YTD Offerings	\$ 266,220	
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$ 440,686	
Fiscal Annual Budget 2023/24	\$ 1,260,000	
Number of registered families	371	
Tuition Assistance awarded for 2023/24	\$0	
Tuition Assistance donations FYD	\$222	
School Registration for 2023-24	116	
2023 DPAA (as of 9/31/23)	Goal \$79,100	Pledged \$90,645
		Over! \$11,545

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

THIS WEEK**TODAY**

Jesse Tree Program Begins

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

Mass, 8:00 a.m.

Exposition, 8:30 a.m.

Kenosis, 3:30 p.m., Parish Center Meeting Room

Confessions, 5:30 p.m.

Benediction, 6:45 p.m.

Rosary, 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Mass, 5:30 p.m.

Winterfundraiser Meeting, 7:00 p.m., McCrystal Hall

THURSDAY

Mass, 8:00 a.m.

Children's Choir Rehearsal, 3:45 p.m., Church

Finance Council, 7:00 p.m., Parish Center Meeting Room

FRIDAY

Mass, 8:30 a.m.

SATURDAY

Mass, 8:00 a.m.

Confessions Immediately following Mass

Mass, 4:30 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY

New Mass schedule begins

Mass, 10:00 a.m.

Potluck/Advent Program, 11:00 a.m., McCrystal Hall

Please Pray For Our Sick

Bev Stegman, Barb Venable, Mary Kay Glaser, 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

Dear Parishioners,

I have decided to merge our two Sunday Masses into one Mass. Based on our present attendance, it is clear that we do not need two Masses, but the more important reason is the effect of our low attendance on what the diocese's *With One Heart* initiative calls our "Sunday Experience." For example, various people have mentioned the depressing effect seeing so many empty spaces in the pews has on their worship. I am hopeful that bringing everyone together in one Mass will alleviate that somewhat. On the other side of the coin, we have all experienced the energy that a full church of worshippers generates. I am hopeful here, also, that the strengthened singing and responding of all of us together will inspire all of us to greater participation and thereby to a better worshipping experience. Beginning the first Sunday of Advent, December 3, we will move to one Sunday Mass at 10:00 a.m. Why did I pick 10:00 a.m.? To be honest, a couple of people suggested 10:30, another 10:00, another 10:15; I soon realized that I would get as many people for one time as for another, so I just picked it. I was trying to split the difference between 9:00 and 11:30, and 10:00 sounded easier to remember than 10:15. Also, more people attend the 9:00 a.m. Mass than the 11:30 a.m. Mass; I take that to mean that more people would prefer an earlier time than a later – 10:00 a.m. as opposed to 10:30 a.m. We might be tempted to see this as a loss or a defeat. I prefer to think of this as a temporary situation that will keep a good worship experience as we work to revitalize the parish. I look forward to the day when we will need a second Mass again.

– Fr. Stef

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION – Dear friends in Christ, just a reminder of our Parish 1st Saturday Rosary Devotion as requested by Our Lady of Fatima. Devotion to be held immediately following Saturday morning Mass on December 2nd. Join us for this powerful prayer for the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the salvation of our souls! If you have any questions, contact Russ Carson at rcarson3101@gmail.com.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN – Our annual stewardship campaign, "Stepping Out In Faith" is underway. Every parish family should have received something in the mail explaining our parish goals/needs for this year, along with a pledge card. We ask that you prayerfully consider what you are able to give financially and then please complete a pledge card and return it to the parish office by December 2nd. Please complete a pledge card, even if you are giving your pledge online via WeShare. The brochure will also list ways in which you can help build and support our parish by sharing your time and talent. Thank you in advance for your participation in this campaign.

SUNDAY POTLUCK BRUNCH – Next Sunday, December 3rd is the beginning of the new liturgical calendar, as we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent. That is also the first Sunday we will begin our new Mass schedule of one Mass at 10:00 a.m. Following Mass, you are invited to join your fellow parishioners in McCrystal Hall for a potluck (of brunch food), along with a brief Advent program. Please visit the homepage of the parish website, under "upcoming events" for a SignUpGenius for food. (Sign-ups are recommended, but not required.) In preparation for celebrating the Nativity of our Lord, we invite you to come, pray & listen as we recall the greatest event of all human history: the Incarnation of Love. Join us as we reflect upon this beautiful mystery and sing hymns of joyful anticipation! It is sure to be an experience you will not want to miss.

NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY – If you haven't done so already, please be sure to sign up to have your picture taken for our new parish directory. Pictures will be taken December 14, 15, 16, 28, 29, 30 and January 4. We are hoping these dates will allow any college students to be included in the family photos. To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to www.ucdir.com, click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter "ky415" in the Church Code field and enter "photos" in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family, please use two consecutive time slots. Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time. We are in need of people to help with this project in several ways, so please contact the Parish Office if you are willing to help.

PARISH JESSE TREE PROJECT – Our annual Jesse Tree project begins this weekend. A traditional Jesse Tree depicts the genealogy of Jesus from the days of Jesse through specially-created ornaments hung from its branches. Our parish Jesse Tree expands upon the idea that the lineage of Jesse gave us Jesus, the greatest gift to mankind, by giving parishioners the opportunity to donate gifts to those in need in our community. We are called as Catholics to serve our neighbors in their spiritual and bodily necessities through the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. The purple ornaments list items needed by the agencies. The white ornaments on the tree are the spiritual needs of the organizations we serve and will help to realize the spiritual works of mercy. We are recommending that parishioners adopt these spiritual needs for the year. You may decide as a family to attend a weekday Mass, say a weekly Rosary or Novena, perform regular sacrifices, or include the intention in your family's regular prayer routine. The tree will be located in the church's prayer/meditation space. Our hope is that all families will participate in this project. All gifts must be returned to the Jesse Tree area by Sunday, December 10th. Gifts will be picked up by the agencies on that Monday morning, so it's very important to drop off your gifts by the due date. Please do not wrap gifts.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CHOIR – We are once again planning to have a children's choir for the 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. The choir is open to children and youth in first grade and older. We will have four rehearsals plus one final run-through on December 23rd. Singers will be required to attend at least two of the four rehearsals AND the final run-through (but please come to as many rehearsals as you can). Parents will receive links to recordings of all songs so the singers can practice at home. This will be especially helpful for our younger singers and for anyone who misses a rehearsal. Please respond with your child's name and age by tomorrow, November 27th to bhayden@stcatherineofsiena.org.

PARISH WEEKLY RAFFLE WINNER – The winner for the week of November 20th will be reported next week. Congratulations!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! JANUARY 27TH WE ARE GOING TO MEXICO! Our winter fundraiser will be held on January 27th at the Ft. Thomas Mess Hall. Our destination theme is Mexico. 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!! More details will be forthcoming. If you would like to join the committee planning the event, please reach out to Wade and Tina Smith (email garrett_wade_smith@hotmail.com or call/text 859-816-2145).

JOIN OUR WINTER FUNDRAISER COMMITTEE – If you like to plan parties, decorate, send emails, collect donations, find auction items or just have fun being part of a party committee, please join us this Wednesday, November 29th at 7:00 p.m. in McCrystal Hall to help us get ready for the winter fundraiser. To sign up, please contact Wade and Tina Smith (email garrett_wade_smith@hotmail.com or call/text 859-816-2145).

WAYS TO HELP OUR PARISH

WEDNESDAY GUYS – For over 20 years, we had a group of retired volunteers that formed a group known as “the Wednesday guys.” This group would come in for around four hours each week and do a variety of tasks for the maintenance department. Those tasks included small painting jobs, woodworking, small electric jobs, plumbing and landscaping, etc. This group performed a much-needed service to our parish and they are greatly missed. We are hoping to restart this group (not necessarily on Wednesdays) and are seeking volunteers who would like to help out and give back to the parish. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Don Grothaus at 441-1352 or by email at dgrothaus@stcatherineofsiena.org.

LAUNDRY MASS LINENS/TOWELS – We are in need of some additional people to wash and iron the purificators used at Mass as well as wash the towels that are used. With enough volunteers, you would only have to do it once every few months. For more information about this ministry or to volunteer, please contact Mary Keller at 859-781-8432 or mkeller1@zoomtown.

CLEANING CHURCH – We are also in need of volunteers to clean the church (dust, sweep, clean the windows, etc.). Ultimately, we would love to have four teams of about four volunteers so that each team would clean once a month. Typically, the cleaning takes place on Thursday mornings; however, that day is flexible, depending on the availability of volunteers. We currently only have one team, so we have need of several volunteers to get to the goal of four teams. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Parish Office.

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!

St. Catherine Jesse Tree Project 2023

Our annual parish Jesse Tree project begins November 25th. Ornaments available in the back of church after all Masses. We will be offering a virtual option for both material and spiritual needs. You can purchase ANY of the material items listed below and drop them off in the back of church without needing to take a tag.

All gifts must be received by Sunday, December 10th and should NOT be wrapped.

Material Needs

- Toys for Boys & Girls of All Ages
- Diapers Sizes 1-7
- Baby Wipes
- Baby wash and lotion
- Paper Towels
- Gift Cards Kroger/Walmart gift cards
- \$20 Gas Gift Cards

Care Net

<https://pregnantoptionsnky.com/>

Spiritual Needs: Pray for the staff to call upon the Holy Spirit to be the hands and feet of Christ to those we serve. For those we serve, that they have a strong desire to know God and that they understand the beauty of the life growing inside them.

Madonna House

www.madonnahousenky.org

Spiritual Needs : Pray for the women we serve at the Madonna House, that they achieve their emotional, financial, spiritual, and educational goals for independent living.

Catholic Charities

www.covingtoncharities.org

Spiritual Needs: Pray for the clients served through the child, family, housing, and counseling services to develop and achieve meaningful goals that will improve their quality of life.

Rose Garden

www.f dofmary.org

Spiritual Needs : Pray for the Franciscan Daughters of Mary for strength to carry on their mission of upholding human dignity from the moment of conception until natural death by giving the same love we receive from Christ to each person.

THE LEAST OF THESE

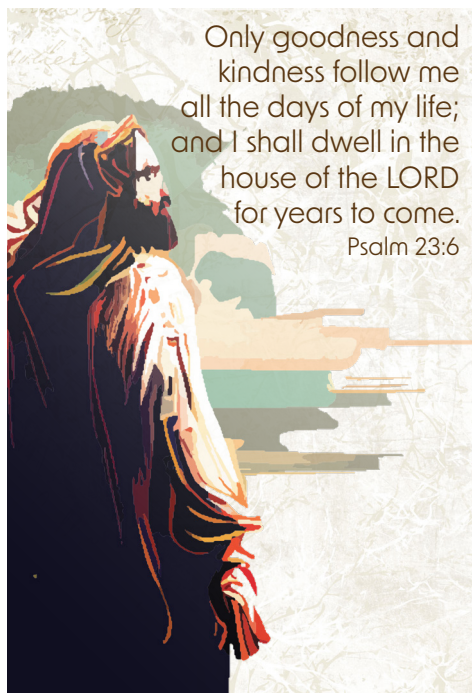
Reflection on Matthew 25:31-46

As Catholics we have learned from infancy and know in our bones that God is present with us in a most powerful way in His Word, and most especially in the Eucharist. We hear, experience, and are nourished by this sacred presence at every Mass.

The surprise the Son of Man springs on all people assembled for this final separation and judgment ("whatever you did for one of the least brothers/sisters of mine, you did for me"), connects in an inseparable manner God's Word and Eucharist with the needs of the poor. Every act of intentional reverence we give to the Word at Mass (standing, incensation, acclamation) and to the Eucharist (kneeling, praise, care of the elements), must be mirrored in our treatment of others, especially the poor, vulnerable, and those most in need. These are, in fact, one and the same deed.

At the very end of Matthew's Gospel, we hear the promise of Jesus to be with us always, to the end of time. Today, we learn that Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, fulfills that promise by being with us in the face of the poor, and that the King takes personally, as if done to Him, how we treat His subjects. Our action, or inaction, in response to those in need has eternal implications.

~ Fr. Jay



Only goodness and
kindness follow me
all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the
house of the LORD
for years to come.

Psalm 23:6

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Sunday, November 26, 2023

*Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe*
Ez 34:11-12, 15-17
Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6
1 Cor 15:20-26, 28
Mt 25:31-46

Monday, November 27, 2023

Weekday
Dn 1:1-6, 8-20
Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56
Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

Weekday
Dn 2:31-45
Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61
Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

Weekday
Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28
Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67
Lk 21:12-19

Thursday, November 30, 2023

Saint Andrew, Apostle
Rom 10:9-18
Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11
Mt 4:18-22

Friday, December 1, 2023

Weekday
Dn 7:2-14
Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81
Lk 21:29-33

Saturday, December 2, 2023

Weekday
Dn 7:15-27
Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87
Lk 21:34-36

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

SAINT ANDREW

Feast Day: November 30

Patron Saint of: Fisherman

Andrew was Saint Peter's brother, and was called with him. "As [Jesus] was walking by the sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is now called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, 'Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.' At once they left their nets and followed him" (Matthew 4:18-20).

John the Evangelist presents Andrew as a disciple of John the Baptist. When Jesus walked by one day, John said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." Andrew and another disciple followed Jesus. "Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi (which translated means Teacher), where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come, and you will see.' So they went and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day" (John 1:38-39a).

Little else is said about Andrew in the Gospels. Before the multiplication of the loaves, it was Andrew who spoke up about the boy who had the barley loaves and fishes. When the Gentiles went to see Jesus, they came to Philip, but Philip then had recourse to Andrew.

Legend has it that Andrew preached the Good News in what is now modern Greece and Turkey and was crucified at Patras on an X-shaped cross.

As in the case of all the apostles except Peter and John, the Gospels give us little about the holiness of Andrew. He was an apostle. That is enough. He was called personally by Jesus to proclaim the Good News, to heal with Jesus' power and to share his life and death. Holiness today is no different. It is a gift that includes a call to be concerned about the Kingdom, an outgoing attitude that wants nothing more than to share the riches of Christ with all people.

Read the full article: "Saint Andrew" Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars,
<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-andrew/>. (Accessed November 14, 2023).

IN OUR DIOCESE

MAKE A PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA HERE IN OUR OWN DIOCESE! The Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption is hosting the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima on Tuesday, November 21. Many favors and graces, including cures, and countless conversions are associated with the historic Image. Join us for an extraordinary day of graces, healing, and prayer with Our Lady. All are welcome! Say “Yes” to Our Lady! www.fatimatourpeace.com for details.

8:15 a.m. Mass

8:45 a.m. Talk by the Statue Custodian

9:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Public Veneration

6:00 p.m. Talk by the Statue Custodian

6:20 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

6:30 p.m. Rosary

7:30 p.m. Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament that concludes the evening. Sponsored by the World Apostolate of Fatima, USA.

PARISH KITCHEN NEEDS YOUR HELP! Parish Kitchen is in need of new sleeping bags and new blankets for our guests. Many of our brothers and sisters spend these long winter nights in unheated spaces or even sleeping outdoors. Your gift of new sleeping bags and blankets will not only warm their hearts and souls but may even save their lives. Thanks for your warm support for those in need! Donations can be dropped off at Parish Kitchen, 1561 Madison Avenue (Corner of 16th & Madison), Covington, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Monday through Friday. The drive ends on November 30th. Any questions, contact Parish Kitchen at 859-581-7745.

DONATE A BIKE – CHANGE A LIFE – Pickett’s Corner provides bicycles to any guest at the Parish Kitchen. Bikes are used for transportation to work, store or doctor appointments. If you would like to donate a bike or volunteer, please email pickettscorner23@gmail.com.

Sponsor of the Week**BAMBINELLI AND CHRISTMAS TREE BLESSING**

Bishop John Iffert invites diocesan families and friends to attend the second annual Bambinelli and Christmas Tree Blessing on Sunday, December 17th from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at St. Mary’s Park and the Diocesan Curia (Bishop Howard Memorial Auditorium). Come see the blessing and lighting of the diocesan Christmas tree, listen to live parish and school choirs, enjoy homemade cookies and hot cocoa, and hear the story of Bambinelli Sunday. Bring the Baby Jesus figure from your home Nativity to receive a special blessing from Bishop Iffert and be part of a Catholic Advent tradition! No RSVP required. All are welcome!

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 Shepard Parish in Frankfort, followed by a rally at the State Capital. The event will end with a procession to the Cemetery of the Innocents in the historical 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.



2023
Happy Feet

SOCK DRIVE

For the month of November, St. Catherine Foresters will be collecting New Socks to benefit the Welcome House (any kind - kids, men, women, babies)

Please bring them to the school office

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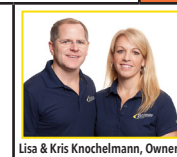
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