13623 Rockside Road
Garfield Heights, Ohio 44125
Parish Office:
(216) 662-8685
fax: (216) 662-1245
website: saintmonicachurch.net
St. Benedict: (216) 662-9380
Early Learning Center
(216) 475-3633
OCFCU (216) 663-6800

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
The Parish Office is open
8:00am—4:00 pm. Mon.,
Tues. & Thurs & 8:00 am—
Noon on Wed. & Fri. We
request anyone who comes
to the parish office to please
wear a mask. Thank you.

MASSES: 7 days a week
Saturday: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m.
and 10:45 a.m.
Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Bulletin Announcements due to
sshepka@saintmonicachurch.net by
NOON on Monday

PARISH CLERGY
Rev. Thomas A. Haren, Pastor
Rev. Theodore Marszal,
Senior Parochial Vicar
Rev. Jerome Lukachinsky,
Retired, in Residence
Rev. Thomas G. Montavon,
Retired, in Residence
Stan Drozell, Deacon

PASTORAL STAFF
Sister Helene Skrzyniarz
SSJ-TOSF,
Parish Catechetical Leader
srhelene@saintmonicachurch.net
Bob Soeder, Director of
Liturgy and Music
Stan Jakosh, Business Mgr
Susan Shepka, Office Mgr
Kathy Piggford,
Pastoral Council Chairman
Kathy Wendling,
Finance Council Chairman

BAPTISM: Please make arrangements in advance. Baptisms are performed on Sundays,
 immediately following the 10:45 a.m. Mass. Pre-Baptismal instruction is required for
parents. Please call the Parish Office for time of next scheduled class.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Adults and school-age children seeking
full membership in the Catholic Church through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation,
and Eucharist can make an appt. to continue their conversion process by calling the Parish
Office.

RECONCILIATION: Opportunities to celebrate God’s forgiveness in one’s life are
available on Saturday afternoons from 3:30-3:45 p.m. Individual appointments with a Priest
can be arranged.

MATRIMONY: The Diocese of Cleveland requires a 6-month preparation period for
marriage. Call the Parish Office to set your wedding date and plan your celebration.

CONFIRMATION: Any adult or high school student needing Confirmation, please call the
Parish Office to schedule preparation.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Celebrated upon request. Call the Parish Office to make
arrangements with one of our Priests.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Please call the Parish Office to register.

ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC SCHOOL: Provides Catholic education for students K-8.
School hrs.: 8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Before & After Care available. Mrs. Lisa Oriti, School
Principal

EUCHARIST FOR THE HOMEBOUND: Parish Team and Staff Members visit the
homebound on a monthly basis. If you or someone you know is homebound and would like
to receive communion, call the Parish Office.
Our sincere sympathy and prayers are extended to the family and friends of those who were recently buried:

Rev. Arthur B. Egan. May he and all our faithful departed, rest in peace.

**LITURGY SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, June 28**

*Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

9:00 People of the Parish

10:45 Pete & Winnie Walchanowicz & Tammy Sommer

**Monday, June 29**

*Saints Peter & Paul, Apostles*

8:00 Living & deceased members of Ray & Terri Hanzlick family

**Tuesday, June 30**

*Weekday*

8:00 Living & deceased members of Jim & Joan Clark family

**Wednesday, July 1**

*Weekday*

8:00 Stan Streen

**Thursday, July 2**

*Weekday*

8:00 Raymond Nadolski

**Friday, July 3**

*Saint Thomas, Apostle*

8:00 Albert Trsnar

**Saturday, July 4**

*Weekday*

4:00 Rita Slivka

**Sunday, July 5**

*Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

9:00 Frank & Anna Keto

10:45 People of the Parish

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**PASTORAL SCENE**

**How Connected Am I? What Am I Connected to?**

The events of 2020, which I now call “The Year of the Mask,” has given way (at least for me) to take some time to re-evaluate a great number of things in my life, not the least of which is how I worship.

During the summer months I am usually able to attend a convention of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians. It has been cancelled this year as a gathering but will take place in a virtual format. This convention calls together Music Directors, Liturgists, Musicians and Clergy from all over the country. Some years back, one of the meetings that took place was for Liturgists, which I attended. It was an open discussion on the changes that were to take place regarding the English translation of the Roman Missal. Opinions abounded from every side - from “this is the greatest thing since sliced bread,” to (putting it mildly) “the Church is coming apart at the seams.”

After a short time, Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, archbishop of Galveston-Houston, offered an interesting perspective. He asked the question, “Do you worship God, or do you worship the Liturgy?” He continued to ask, for example, whether we truly pay attention to what we are praying at Mass, or because the prayers have become so familiar - do we merely go through the motions.

Given the restrictions and guidelines we now face due to COVID-19, I think this is a great time to ask ourselves some heartfelt questions. For example, when was the last time that I really thought about the Creed? I have said it so many times over the years, I can say it without even thinking about it… and that is the point. Am I worshiping God (that is, being mindful of what I am saying) or am I worshiping the Liturgy (mindlessly going through the motions just to satisfy an obligation)? How about the reception of Holy Communion? Do I mindfully “receive” our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and let it become a life-changing event - or do I merely “take communion” and go about my business?

So, here is the thing: Ritual is supposed to be an expression (an imitation if you will) of what we do in our day-to-day lives. Life is about struggle and joy, failures, and improvements, and ultimately growth that moves us toward perfection. And so it is, for a time we may struggle with worship as we travel down the uncertain path of this pandemic, but we’ll also find joy and satisfaction in overcoming our personal obstacles - and the best way to do that is by offering ourselves to God each week in the Liturgy – simply, thoughtfully and prayerfully.

So, are you connected? What are you connected to?

—Bob Soeder
Devotion to The Sacred Heart of Jesus

In the western nave of St. Monica Church there is a statue dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This devotion began with Jesus’ appearances to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque in France during the seventeenth century. In one of these apparitions Jesus made twelve promises for those devoted to His Sacred Heart:

1. I will give them all the grace necessary for their state of life.
2. I will establish peace in their families
3. I will console them in their troubles.
4. They shall find in my heart an assured refuge during life and especially at the hour of death.
5. I will pour abundant blessings on their undertakings.
6. Sinners shall find in My Heart the source of an infinite ocean of mercy.
7. Tepid souls shall become fervent.
8. Fervent souls shall speedily rise to great perfection.
9. I will bless the homes where an image of My Heart shall be exposed and honored.
10. I will give to Priests the power of touching the most hardened hearts.
11. Those who propagate this devotion shall have their names written in My Heart, never to be effaced.
12. The all powerful love of My Heart will grant to all those who shall receive Communion on the First Friday of nine consecutive months the grace of final repentance; they shall not die under my displeasure, not without receiving their Sacraments; My Heart shall be their assured refuge at that last hour.

Religion Question of the Week
Which companion of St. Paul wrote a Gospel?
(Answer found on page 5)

Did You Know?
Did you know that at one time our parish boundaries extended to Tinkers Creek Road?

One Liner
“Energizer bunny arrested. Charged with battery”.

A History of Church Music - Part II

By the beginning of the fourth century, the Roman Empire had split into eastern and western divisions. The western empire collapsed under the attacks of the barbarians. The eastern empire was also attacked but survived. Byzantium was rebuilt by Constantine in 330 AD and was eventually renamed Constantinople. Christianity was the state religion in the Byzantine Empire. The music of the Byzantine Christian Church had much influence until 1054, when Pope Leo IX initiated the split between the Easter Orthodox Church and the Roman Catholic Church. Unlike the hymns of the Western Churches, the Byzantine hymns were of complex structure and based on the Biblical Canticles. These Canticles remain important in the Western Church today, especially in the Liturgy of the Hours.

Constantine’s actions had major consequences for the Church: (1.) Favor of the Church by the Emperor resulted in a significant increase in the number of Christians. (2.) The Assemblies became too large to meet in homes, so church buildings had to be constructed. (3.) Because of the numbers of people, more ministers had to be educated and trained and the need for liturgical books became apparent. The upshot of these changes was that liturgy became increasingly more official.

The Western Churches were relatively independent. Between the fifth and eighth centuries, several distinct liturgies and bodies of chant developed - mainly because of cultural influence. A few examples of these are the Gallican Chant (France), the Mozarabic Chant (Spain) and the Ambrosian Chant (Milan). With the exception of Ambrosian Chant, they all disappeared or were absorbed into single uniform practice under the authority of Rome. St. Ambrose, who was bishop of Milan from 374-397, introduced antiphonal psalmody and hymns to the Western Church. The Ambrosian liturgy and music has been maintained in Milan to this day.
PARISH ACTIVITIES

All Parish Meetings/Activities/Events are cancelled until further notice.

Just a Walk in the Park...

... is back for another round.

Join us every Monday in July and August, beginning July 13th at 5:00 pm as we enjoy the great outdoors once again. We meet at 5:00 pm in the parking lot off Alexander Rd. (The Bike & Hike Trail) for a walk in the park on a paved path. If the parking lot is full, park across the street on the edge of the grass by the road. Rain or storms will cancel any scheduled walk; very light drizzle or mist, the walk will continue. All are invited. Everyone walks at own pace. Please be sure to bring water with you.

Stewardship Offertory Collections

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Please continue to mail in your donations, donate online or drop off at the office. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Peter's Pence Collection this week, June 28th

Pope Francis calls each of us to witness to charity and to show God's mercy to one another. The Peter's Pence Collection unites us in solidarity to the Holy See and its works of charity to those in need. Your generosity allows the Pope to respond to our suffering brothers and sisters.

Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Our parish received a “thank you” from the Society for the Propagation of the Faith Office for the donation of $525 supporting the Diocesan Mission in El Salvador.

The Parish Office will be closed on Friday, July 3rd for the 4th of July Holiday. Have a safe, happy and healthy holiday.
There are many lessons we can learn from history if we pay attention to them. I would like to talk about one of these lessons. It shows how evil can triumph over a nation, if it is done gradually, and no one responds.

In 1932 a man with a funny looking mustache was seen in many parts of Germany campaigning to be the leader of the nation. He talked about the “Jewish menace.” Many people thought he was goofy and they paid little attention to him. No one did anything. As time went on this man formed a political party, the Nazis. He encouraged them to trash the Jewish people, and they listened to him. No one did anything. This man then came to power. He began to persecute the Jewish people. He would not allow them to teach in the Universities, or to practice their professions. He even forced them to leave the country. No one did anything. One night the persecution went a step farther. Jewish businesses were vandalized. No one did anything. Next came the deportation of Jewish people to concentration camps for slave labor. No one did anything. Finally, the “final solution” took place. Over six million Jewish people were murdered. Now it was too late to do anything.

In 1954 Madeline Murray, an avowed atheist, was able to get the Supreme Court to rule that it was unconstitutional to pray in public schools. No one did anything. Later the ACLU sued public municipalities for placing a Christmas scene on city property. No one did anything. Next the stores told their employees they could not greet people with the words “Merry Christmas”. No one did anything. Next the Government told a Judge that he could not place a plaque containing the Ten Commandments in his courtroom. No one did anything. Then the U.S. Ninth District Court of Appeals said that it was illegal to say the words “under God” in the pledge of allegiance. No one did anything. A few years ago the Federal Government gave a mandate that the Catholic Church must provide immoral contraceptives, sterilizations, and abortion inducing drugs in their health insurance plans. Will anyone do anything?

The Bishops of the United States have asked all Catholics to do something. They have asked us to Pray because prayer is powerful, and can do much to overcome evil. Remember how the Rosary brought down the “Iron Curtain”. They have asked us to Fast. Jesus taught His followers the importance of fasting. They then asked us to contact our government representatives and ask for the passing of the Respect for Rights of Conscience Act. Will we do anything? This government mandate concerns the Freedom of Religion in America. It is our job as Catholics to back our Bishops and do something. Please get involved. Let us learn the lesson from history before it is too late.

Fr. Thomas Haren
Reading 1  2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a
One day Elisha came to Shunem, where there was a woman of influence, who urged him to dine with her. Afterward, whenever he passed by, he used to stop there to dine. So she said to her husband, "I know that Elisha is a holy man of God. Since he visits us often, let us arrange a little room on the roof and furnish it for him with a bed, table, chair, and lamp, so that when he comes to us he can stay there." Sometime later Elisha arrived and stayed in the room overnight.

Later Elisha asked, "Can something be done for her?" His servant Gehazi answered, "Yes! She has no son, and her husband is getting on in years." Elisha said, "Call her." When the woman had been called and stood at the door, Elisha promised, "This time next year you will be fondeing a baby son."

Responsorial Psalm  Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19
R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

The promises of the LORD I will sing forever, through all generations
my mouth shall proclaim your faithfulness.
For you have said,
"My kindness is established forever,"
in heaven you have confirmed your faithfulness. R.

Blessed the people who know the joyful shout; in the light of your countenance, O LORD, they walk.
At your name they rejoice all the day, and through your justice they are exalted. R.

You are the splendor of their strength, and by your favor our horn is exalted.
For to the LORD belongs our shield, and the Holy One of Israel, our king. R.

Reading 2  Rom 6:3-4, 8-11
Brothers and sisters: Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.