

ST. MARY CHURCH
HYDE PARK
JULY 16, 2023

JULY 14-15-16
SAINT  CECILIA
Festival
MADISON ROAD • OAKLEY

ST. MARY
HYDE PARK
CHURCH


Worship Aid for the Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prayer for Vocations



Almighty Father, You have created for us some definite purpose. Grant us the grace to know the path You have planned for us in this life and to respond with a generous "Yes." Make our archdiocese, parishes, homes and hearts fruitful ground for Your gift of vocations. May our young people respond to Your call with courage and zeal. Stir among our men a desire and the strength to be good and holy priests. Bless us with consecrated religious and those called to a chaste single life, permanent deacons, and faithful husbands and wives, who are a sign of Christ's love for His Church. We commend our prayer for vocations to You, Father, through the intercession of Mary our Mother, in the Holy Spirit, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Archbishop Dennis M. Schnurr

Entrance Hymn

We Gather Together



1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;
2. Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,
3. We all do ex - tol you our lead - er tri - um - phant,



He chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known;
Whose king - dom calls all to the love which en - dures.
And pray that you still our de - fend - er will be.



The wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing:
So from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning:
Let your con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion:



Sing prais - es to his name; he for - gets not his own.
You, Lord, were at our side; all glo - ry be yours!
Your name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

TEXT: *Wilt heden nu treden*, Netherlands folk hymn; tr. by Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, alt.
TUNE: KREMSER, 12 11 12 11; *Nederlandsch Gedenck-clanck*, 1626; harm. by Edward Kremser, 1838–1914

Penitential Rite

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and
in what I have failed to do,
And striking their breast, they say:
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask
blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Kyrie Eleison/Lord, have mercy.
Kyrie Eleison/Lord, have mercy.

Christe Eleison/Christ, have mercy.
Christe Eleison/Christ, have mercy.

Kyrie Eleison/Lord, have mercy.
Kyrie Eleison/Lord, have mercy.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on
earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore
you, we glorify you, we give you thanks
for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the
Father, you take away the sins of the
world, have mercy on us; you take away
the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the
Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you
alone are the Lord, you alone are the
Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy
Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Is 55:10-11

Thus says the LORD: Just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, giving seed to the one who sows and bread to the one who eats, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; my word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm Response

Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14



The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruit-ful har-vest.

You visit the earth, give it water;
you fill it with riches.
God's ever-flowing river brims over
to prepare the grain. *R.*

You crown the year with your bounty.
Abundance flows in your pathways;
in pastures of the desert it flows.
The hills are girded with joy. *R.*

And thus you prepare it:
you drench its furrows;
you level it, soften it with showers;
you bless its growth. *R.*

The meadows are clothed with flocks.
The valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy; yes, they
sing! *R.*

Text: Verses, *The Abbey Psalms and Canticles*, © 2018, 2010, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC;
refrain, *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL
Music: Kate Williams, © 2021, GIA Publications, Inc.

Second Reading

Rom 8:18-23

Brothers and sisters: I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Mt 13:1-23

On that day, Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat down, and the whole crowd stood along the shore. And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear." The disciples approached him and said, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" He said to them in reply, "Because knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted. To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to them in parables, because they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand. Isaiah's prophecy is fulfilled in them, which says: You shall indeed hear but not understand, you shall indeed look but never see. Gross is the heart of this people, they will hardly hear with their ears, they have closed their eyes, lest they see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their hearts and be converted, and I heal them. "But blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear. Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

"Hear then the parable of the sower. The seed sown on the path is the one who hears the word of the kingdom without understanding it, and the evil one comes and steals away what was sown in his heart. The seed sown on rocky ground is the one who hears the word and receives it at once with joy. But he has no root and lasts only for a time. When some tribulation or persecution comes because of the word, he immediately falls away. The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit. But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ.

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

All make a profound bow:
*and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary,
and became man.*

For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand
of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father
and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic
and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the
forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the
resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

Offertory Hymn

Seed, Scattered, and Sown

Refrain

Seed, scat-tered and sown, wheat, gath-ered and
grown, bread, bro-ken and shared as one, the
Liv-ing Bread of God. Vine, fruit of the land,
wine, work of our hands, one cup that is shared by all; the
Liv-ing Cup, the Liv-ing Bread of God.

Verses

1. Is not the bread we break a shar-ing in our Lord?
2. The seed which falls on rock will with-er and will die.
3. As wheat up-on the hills was gath-ered and was grown,
D.C.
Is not the cup we bless the blood of Christ out-poured?
The seed with-in good ground will flow-er and have life.
So may the church of God be gath-ered in-to one.

Text: *Didache* 9, 1 Corinthians 10:16-17, Mark 4:3-6; Dan Feiten
Tune: Dan Feiten; keyboard arr. by Eric Gunnison, R.J. Miller
© 1987, Ekklesia Music, Inc.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

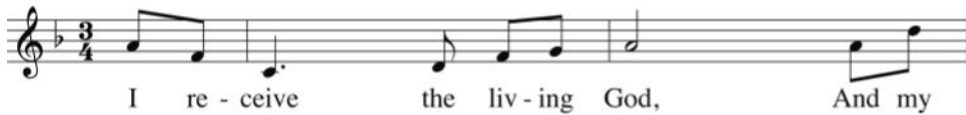
Recessional Hymn

Father, We Thank You, Who Have Planted

Communion Hymn

I Receive the Living God

Refrain



Verses



1. Je - sus	says:	I	am	the	Bread	Sent	to
2. Je - sus	says:	I	am	the	Vine,	Far	from
3. Je - sus	says:	I	am	the	Way,	And	my
4. Je - sus	says:	I	am	the	Truth.	If	you
5. Je - sus	says:	I	am	the	Life,	Raised	in
6. Je - sus	says:	I	am	the	Day,	Shin -	ing



you from God Most High.	Take and eat,	and you will
whom no life can grow.	If you join	your - self to
path is straight and true.	Fol - low me	to where I
fol - low close to me,	You will know	me in your
tri - umph from the dead.	As one Bod - y	now re -
bright - ly through your night.	Wel - come me,	and you will



live;	You need nev - er	fear	to	die.
me,	A rich har - vest	you	will	know.
lead;	There my Fa - ther	waits	for	you.
heart,	And my word will	make	you	free.
main,	Mem - bers joined	to	me,	the
walk	By the Spir - it's	guid -	ing	Head.
				light.

7. Jesus says: I am the Love
Which can bind you close to me.
Those who know this gift I bring
Will find true community.

8. Jesus says: I am the Peace
Which the world cannot bestow.
Learn to love and live in me,
And in you my Reign will grow.

9. Jesus says: I am the Lamb,
And my death set sinners free.
Those who drink the cup I drink
Must take up this work with me.

1. Father, we thank you, who have planted
Your holy name within our hearts.
Knowledge and faith and life immortal
Jesus your Son to us imparts.
Lord, you have made all for your pleasure,
And giv'n us food for all our days,
Giving in Christ the bread eternal;
Yours is the pow'r, yours be the praise.

2. Watch o'er your Church, O Lord, in
mercy,
Save it from evil, guard it still,
Perfect it in your love, unite it,
Cleansed and conformed unto your will.
As grain, once scatter'd on the hillsides,
Was in this broken bread made one,
So from all lands your Church be gathered
Into your kingdom by your Son.

Text: From the Didache, c.110; tr. by F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984, alt., © 1940, The Church Pension Fund

D.C.



Weekend Mass Schedule

St. Cecilia (Oakley): Saturday 3:30 PM | Sunday 8 AM, 10 AM, and 8:15 PM

St. Mary (Hyde Park): Saturday at 4 PM | Sunday at 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM

The Oratory of St. John Vianney at St. Anthony Church (Madisonville): Saturday 3 PM | Sunday 9:30 AM

Daily Mass Schedule

St. Cecilia (Oakley): 9 AM Mass, Monday-Saturday. Communion service, Monday-Saturday 8 AM

All-day Adoration follows the 9 AM Mass on Wednesdays with 7 PM Holy Hour and Confessions from 7-7:50 PM

St. Mary (Hyde Park): 5:30 PM evening Mass, Monday-Thursday with Holy Hour on Tuesdays following the 5:30 PM Mass.

The Oratory of St. John Vianney at St. Anthony Church (Madisonville): 11:45 AM Mass, Monday-Friday

Confession Schedule

Confessions begin immediately after all daily Masses and one hour before weekend Masses, ending 30 minutes before Mass.

For information on weddings, baptisms and funerals, please visit eastsidefaith.org or call the appropriate parish office.

St. Cecilia (Oakley)

3105 Madison Road, Cincinnati OH 45209

Office: (513) 871-5757

www.stceciliacincinnati.org

facebook.com/stceciliacincinnati

[instagram: stceciliaparish](https://instagram.com/stceciliaparish)

St. Mary (Hyde Park)

2853 Erie Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45208

Office: (513) 321-1207

www.smchp.com

facebook.com/SMCHP and facebook.com/St-Mary-School

[instagram: stmaryhydepark](https://instagram.com/stmaryhydepark)

Oratory of St. John Vianney at St. Anthony Church (Madisonville)

6104 Desmond Street, Cincinnati, OH 45227

Priest Emergency Line: (513) 815-5038

Mass Intentions (St. Mary)

MONDAY, JULY 17 The Holy Martyrs of Compiegne

5:30 PM Thomas Brinkman

TUESDAY, JULY 18 Saint Camillus de Lellis

5:30 PM Mitch Quint

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

5:30 PM Susan Connelly

THURSDAY, JULY 20 Saint Apollinaris

5:30 PM Alex Siegel

FRIDAY, JULY 21 Saint Lawrence of Brindisi

5:30 PM No Mass

SATURDAY, JULY 22 Saint Mary Magdalene

4:00 PM Pete and Louise Darin

SUNDAY, JULY 23 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Daniel P. McMahon

10:30 AM For the Living and Deceased Regional Families

Mass intentions may be requested and paid for online at EastsideFaith.org, under the "About" section. Masses may also be scheduled at one of our offices. Payment may be made online, in an envelope clearly marked in the collection basket, or in person during office hours. Intentions are often requested for those who have died, but may include any kind of need that you or someone you know is experiencing for which prayer is needed.

Wedding Banns

There are no banns this week.

Pastoral Leadership

PASTOR: Fr. Jamie Weber

(513) 871-5757, ext. 201 | jweber@eastsideregion.org

PAROCHIAL VICAR: Fr. Ken Schartz

(513) 321-1207 | kschartz@eastsideregion.org

PAROCHIAL VICAR: Fr. Alex Dugas

(513) 871-5757, ext. 205 | adugas@eastsideregion.org

PERMANENT DEACON: Dcn. John Schuler

(513) 321-1207 | schuler.john.a@gmail.com

REGIONAL DIR. OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Cody Egner

(513) 871-5757, ext. 215 | cegner@eastsideregion.org

REGIONAL DIR. OF FACILITIES: Joe Grote

(513) 871-5757, ext. 204 | jgrote@eastsideregion.org

REGIONAL DIR. OF OPERATIONS: Shannon Benvenuti

(513) 321-1207 ext. 405 | sbenvenuti@eastsideregion.org

DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL AFFAIRS: Marta Misleh

(513) 871-5757, ext. 207 | mmisleh@eastsideregion.org

COORDINATOR OF YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY: Haley Wolfe

(513) 321-1207 ext. 413 | hwolfe@eastsideregion.org

For a complete listing of ministries and staff, visit eastsidefaith.org.



Saint Cecilia Festival Weekend

July 16, 2023

One way we can welcome newcomers is the St. Cecilia festival, our annual party for all of Oakley and our family of parishes. As your pastor, I can tell you that, like many of you, I look forward to this party every year. We spend so much time and energy to make this such a great event. Please come and bring your family and friends and support the parish through sharing a meal, having a cold drink, buying a chance for \$10,000 (that will be drawn at 9PM on Sunday), buy a bag of flea market treasures, play a game, bid on something at the Bid-N-Buy. Remember it is one dollar at a time that we raise \$100,000 ... So, truly, each person counts that comes to our grounds.

I want to thank Andy and Missy Cook, and Eric and Melissa Kautz, and all of the volunteers that headed the festival this year. I want to give a big thank-you! These volunteers work tirelessly in the heat and put so much into the work to make this festival a success. If you are free the Monday after the festival — morning, afternoon, or evening — we need volunteers to take down the festival booths. This is a crucial time to have “fresh legs” to help those haggard after the long weekend. I can't tell you how appreciative we are for those that come and just give us a few hours — “many a men makes light work!” The festival crew and regular volunteers are exhausted after the three-day celebration they have worked and could use some extra help. Please show up and support them for the hard work they have put in all week and weekend by bringing fresh legs and energy. We need help by 8:00 AM and throughout the day so if you can take some time out of your day we would really appreciate it!

Amen? Amen!

Fr. Jerrin

News from The Oratory of Saint John Vianney

Thanks for your help and patience getting our Oratory registry up to date! Our good teamwork is paying off, and we should be able to receive the next batch of envelopes, which will be for October-November. Envelopes will be mailed directly to your homes every two months.

Here is a recap of Oratory leadership teams. Please feel free to reach out to anyone of these committee members with any questions you might have.

EXECUTIVE BOARD: Dave Bulman, Audrey Coaston-Shelton, Andrea Corvi, Helen Davis, Alan Futscher, Brian and Monica Hurley, Ed O'Connell, and Sarah Schmid

ORATORY LIAISON TO ST. CECILIA PARISH: Sarah Schmid

ORATORY REPRESENTATIVE TO ST. CECILIA PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE: Alan Futscher (Alan attends Parish Finance Committee meetings and reports to Oratory Executive Board.)

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE: Fr. Alex Dugas, Dave Bulman, Andrea Corvi, Helen Davis, JoAnn Dragoo, Christina Eison, Monica Hurley, Mary Mathers, Danny Miller, Sarah Schmid, and Marta Misleh,

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE: Dave Bulman, Karen Bulman, Joe Palascak, Pete Tausch, and Joe Grote

WORSHIP COMMISSION: Audrey Coaston-Shelton, Helen Davis, Mary Mathers, Danny Miller, and Sarah Schmid

In the mission of St. John Vianney, patron of parish priests, please join us this week in praying for **Fr. Robert Goebel, Fr. Hans Gruenbauer, Fr. Marvin Hackman, Fr. Gerald Haemmerle, and Fr. Robert Hater.** Special thanks to those who have offered to help send notes of thanks and encouragement to the priests we are praying for each week, and especially to Dale Hutchinson, who has generously offered to coordinate this ministry.



From the Desk of Fr. Ken

Today's Gospel tells of planting seeds of faith within our hearts and minds. Various people acted in different ways. Some took it to heart and acted on it with their entire being. Some took it half-heartedly. Some just gave lip service. Some not at all. Which group do we fall into?

Fr. Ken Schopf

From the School Office

Eleven St. Mary School Educators attended the **Corwin Visible Learning Conference** this past week. *Visible Learning is built on the foundational idea that the greatest potential for student growth and achievement occurs when teachers see learning through the eyes of their learners and learners see themselves as their own teachers.*



Fourth Sunday Fellowship

St. Mary Church / July 23, after the 10:30 am mass

Come join the **Knights of Columbus** for their annual 'Grill Out'. Bring the family and have a hot dog or burger, hot off the grill!

Mass Ushers are needed

We are looking for a few gracious parishioners to volunteer as a Mass Usher at your chosen mass once a month. Duties include arriving 15 minutes before mass and staying after for 15 mins—a perfect service opportunity for those aged 16 and up. Please contact Greg Albanese at galbanese5395@gmail.com or speak to any usher at mass.

St. Mary Knights of Columbus

Sometimes our volunteers are confronted with a situation that seems hopeless on the surface. We met a neighbor recently who was more than three years behind on paying rent and had received an eviction notice from her landlord.

Two of our volunteers visited her in her apartment and learned she had a full-time job and was raising two adolescent children. Her employer reduced her work hours dramatically during COVID, and she missed time with her children out of school. She could keep up with most of her bills but could not pay the rent.

We were impressed with her stability in that she had worked for the same employer for more than six years and lived in the same apartment for more than six years. Even though she had a full-time job with benefits, the cost of caring for herself and two growing children was more than she could manage during the pandemic.

We learned that the SVDP main office had received some COVID relief funds from the City, and these monies were intended for situations like hers. We worked with our neighbor in filling out the application for this assistance. We contacted the landlord's attorney, who expressed willingness to work with her and postpone her eviction. Still, he wanted her to produce a budget that showed she could pay her ongoing expenses and catch up on the remaining rent. We worked with our neighbor to create a budget she could live with and submitted it to the landlord.

The result is that we were able to access the COVID relief funds to pay 15 months of back rent, and the landlord accepted her rent repayment plan and withdrew the eviction.

Our SVDP volunteers encounter situations every day where our neighbors need the necessities of food, clothing, shelter....and a kind helping hand. We don't turn anyone away and try our best to meet their needs as best we can with available resources.



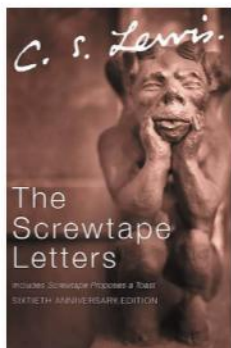
Coming to Eastside neighborhood lawns!

Be sure to pick up a FunFest yard sign from the vestibule of church. Help us advertise **the best in the city end of summer festival!**

Recycle and Reuse....After FunFest, bring the wire frame back to church. Thank you!



BOOK REVIEW

THE CATECHIST'S
CORNER*The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis



It is a truth universally acknowledged, or at least it should be in my opinion, that every Catholic should read C.S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters*. And at that, read it more than once. In fact, several, several times. I'm convinced that over the past 8 years since I first read it, I have read it in full about 8 times, and certain passages I know I have read about

a dozen more. The reason for this is that, in spite of its having been published for the first time in 1942, Lewis' understanding of how the devil tempts the ordinary man in a variety of different scenarios is spellbinding. And rather than be paralyzed with a sense of fear or hopelessness at the amount of traps set by the evil one, the reader can't help but feel empowered to recognize the next snare and carefully avoid capture. This book could not be any more relevant in our modern moment and, above all, reinforces the power of God's mercy and ability to raise up saints in the darkest times. A recommendation for all people of good will!" – *Haley Metzger*

COMING THIS AUGUST...

INTRODUCTION TO APOLOGETICS

A SEVEN WEEK STUDY WITH
COLIN KUNATH AND DOMENIC DIGIOVANNI

Join us for a seven-week crash course on the defense of the Catholic faith and learn how to follow in the footsteps of St. Thomas Aquinas, St. John Henry Newman, and some of the greatest apologists throughout the millenia!

REGISTER ONLINE AT
WWW.EASTSIDEFAITH.ORG/APOLOGETICS

EXCITING NEWS: Religious Sisters to Teach and Reside in our Family

Having an order of religious sisters in parishes and in the schools of our churches has been a long standing tradition in our faith. It went “hand in hand”, that if you had priests, you had religious sisters as well. In our family it was a long standing tradition to have religious sisters that taught in our schools and lived on campus. It is with great excitement that we are set to welcome the **Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary** to our Eastside Family of Parishes. Founded in India, this congregation of 1200 sisters is a teaching order and has educated hundreds of thousands of young women through their educational institutions, irrespective of caste and creed.

Here are some FAQs that have been received:

1. Why are we getting them? It is important in a Catholic family to have all the roles of the present. In this case, the sisters will be a motherly presence, complementing the priests.
2. When are they coming? Sometime in September. There is a great deal of work regarding visas that is currently being completed.
3. How many sisters are coming? We will be welcoming three sisters initially and a fourth will come later.
4. Where will they live? They will live in the red brick home owned by St. Mary's that is behind the rectory, on Monteith.
5. What are their qualifications? The sisters have teaching certificates, qualifying them to teach all the current courses in our schools. We are fortunate that the individuals coming to us hold master's degrees in mathematics and chemistry.
6. What will their role be? The sisters will initially be involved in religious education of students as well as act as aides and substitute teachers in the schools (both St. Cecilia and St. Mary). Natural attrition occurs every year, and the sisters will assume those vacancies at that time.
7. Do they speak English? Yes! They speak the Queen's English. Brilliantly!

Stay tuned . . . more information will be provided over the summer.



*Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center
presents*

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES CONFERENCE

August 11-13, 2023

Cost: \$95

The Eastside Family has purchased a block of tickets for the special opportunity. Claim yours and learn more at www.eastsidefaith.org/miracles.

The 40s Plus Fun Bunch

invites you to

CINCINNATI ARTISTS

at the Cincinnati Art Museum

Sunday, July 23, at 3PM

Please RSVP to stcfunbunch@gmail.com ASAP as they need to know how many docents are needed. This event is free and has free parking. The talk is about an hour.



If you'd like to join their email list, please send a message to stcfunbunch@gmail.com.



EPIC

presents

**An Afternoon
in Madisonville**

Wednesday, August 9

11:30 AM-2:30 PM

The Oratory of St. John
Vianney at St. Anthony
Church

We begin this EPIC event with the 11:45 AM Mass at the Oratory — starting our morning in the peaceful presence of Christ. Immediately following Mass, Dave Bulman will give a historic presentation on this church and community. Gracious of Dave to

share this local history. After the presentation, we will go to Elements Eatery together to enjoy friendship, conversation, and a great variety of cuisine for your lunch. Lunch is on your own. **Please RSVP to mmandrum@eastsideregion.org or visit our website at www.eastsidefaith.org/epic to register by August 2.** Carpooling will be available for those who would like a ride. Meet in front of St. Mary Church by 11:20 AM to catch a ride or you can meet us there. What a lovely summer day this will be!



THE WORD IN YOUR HEART | 11

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 13:8. Some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.

While today's readings revolve around seeds and soil, they really ask the question, "How much effort do you put into your relationship with God?"

Relationships have a natural ebb and flow. People come into and out of our lives. Who was your best friend in grade school? Are you still in contact today? We have many acquaintances – however, deep relationships are usually few. We have people in our lives that we may not have seen in years – but the second we reconnect, the friendship does not miss a beat because it has deep roots.

True friendships require effort, for love requires sacrifice. Who is on your speed dial in case there is an emergency at 3:00 am? God wants to be on that list. One of the ways to measure the depth of a relationship is by the time we spend with it, both the quantity as well as the quality. We need to do the same with the Lord, especially with prayer. We need to share all aspects of our lives with him – both joys and sufferings. When was the last time you caught up with God over a cup of coffee? Like with best friends, we need reveal our true selves with the Lord, and rest in his presence. We need to till our spiritual soil.

The Creator has planted seeds of hope, desire, and aspirations within each of us. As the archdiocesan vocations prayers states, we are created for a definite purpose. We need to discover, develop, and nurture those seeds. The Lord wants us to be a laborer in his mission field of evangelization. He wants us to help increase the harvest.

Following the will of God takes time, effort, and sacrifice. Inevitably, we will question if it is worth it. But God will give us the grace to endure, so that the fruits of our efforts will return a hundredfold.

~ **Trey Rouse**

Trey Rouse is involved with the Athenaeum of Ohio, Legatus International, FATHERS Team, and a variety of other ministries across the archdiocese. Debra was active at St. Mary School when their children, Quinn and Marissa, were students.

The Word In Your Heart welcomes all Eastside Family parishioners as contributors to this faith-sharing ministry. Contact Janet Buening at 513-871-9294 or janetrehlingbuening@gmail.com

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