

THE FriarCrier

Dominican Friars: Province of St. Joseph | St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave, Columbus, OH 43215-2652 | (614) 224-9522



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Welcome to Our New Seasonal Newsletter

This newsletter is being sent to all of our registered parishioners to let you know all the exciting things going on here at St. Patrick Church. A lot of planning and execution has gone into this newsletter. We certainly appreciate any comments you may have about the newsletter. Events in this fall's newsletter include: First Holy Communion and Confirmation, the Corpus Christi Procession, our Annual Parish Picnic, Graduation Mass and brunch, some information on vocations from our parish and the summer student brothers, our very successful Vacation Bible School that had over 200 children involved this year, the Stuebenville Youth Conference and Summer Youth Summer Camp, and the Madonna Garden Club. Wow, it's been a very busy season! A warm thank you for the countless hours given by our newsletter committee: Mary Hammitt, general editor; Mary Meyers, design consultant; and our reporters—Judy Leddy, Chris Higgins, Deb Newman, Robert McGonigle and Joan Hoy.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. André-Joseph LaCasse, O.P.

Rev. André-Joseph LaCasse, O.P.
Pastor





Corpus Christi

By Deb Newman

St. Patrick Church celebrated the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, the Body of Christ, on Sunday June 14 with a Mass followed by a solemn procession around the church. Many altar servers were in attendance, and processed toward the altar accompanied by the Knights of Columbus, who were dressed in their full regalia.

Fr. LaCasse began his homily by reminding us that the Eucharist is the greatest gift in our spiritual life. He also took the opportunity to introduce St. Patrick's new parochial vicar, Fr. Thomas Blau, O.P, who was greeted with a round of applause from the parishioners. Fr. spoke about the origins of Corpus Christi in the 13th and 14th centuries as well as the processions that began in the

middle ages. He hoped that our own procession wouldn't be rained on. Praise God, it wasn't!

Father encouraged us to spend more time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, and to be well disposed to receive the Eucharist. He spoke of the great blessing, that Christ would select imperfect men to bring his Body and Blood—Soul and

Divinity to His Church. Father encouraged us all to pray that our young men will respond to the call of the priesthood.

Following Mass, the parishioners were invited to process around the outside of the Church following behind the Blessed Sacrament as it was held high in the monstrance. The St. Patrick's choir led us in beautiful song. Even as the silence was interrupted by a passing semi, the Presence of Christ was evident—the truck driver mouthed an apology as he passed by. After entering the Church, we recited the Divine Praises and completed our celebration with Benediction. ♥

Answering God's Call

By Robert McGonigle



Brother Matthew Carroll

As in past summers St. Patrick Church was once again graced with the presence of two Dominican Student Brothers from the Province of St. Joseph. Brothers Matthew Carroll and Peter Totleben spent their time at St. Patrick's learning, teaching, and serving our parishioners as well as growing in their love for the

Lord. The brothers were kept busy with their weekly teaching series in Patrick Hall which helped our parish bring to an end The Year of St. Paul. In addition they helped Father LaCasse and Father Blau and helped lead our summer Vacation Bible School. In spite of a hectic schedule, Brother Matthew was able to take time to give The Friar Crier some insight into his call to the priesthood.

Brother Matthew views his vocation as involving TWO calls—a call to the priesthood and a call to the religious life as a son of St. Dominic. He first heard God calling him to the priesthood when he was in the second grade, a persistent call which he admits was at times on and off. As a priest he desires to serve the people of God on their path to holiness through the celebration of the Sacraments.

The call to the Dominican religious life was heard by Brother Matthew while he was in college. He views the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience not as burdens to be born but blessings to be enjoyed and which allow him to give himself totally and completely to God. The Dominican focus on study and preaching for the salvation of souls he also finds very attractive. In just over a year Brother Matthew will profess solemn and lifelong vows, and in three years, God willing, Brother will be ordained to the priesthood. Who knows; maybe one day we will find Brother Matthew serving our parish as Father Matthew Carroll. ♥



Brother Peter Totleben

Called to Christ

We are so pleased to introduce four women from our parish who have entered religious life. Please pray for them as they begin their journey.



I realized that I would not want to go a day without spending time with Jesus, present to us in the Eucharist. I simply wanted to be in love and totally devoted to Him.

— Nicole Floetker

Nicole Floetker:

Entering the Nashville Dominican Sisters of St. Cecelia:

As I attended daily Mass I slowly began to realize that I could not go a day without spending time with Jesus present in the Eucharist. I simply wanted to be in love and totally devoted to Christ. My desire to enter religious life blossomed forth. To hear and respond to Jesus bring much joy and peace.



Paule Marie Olivia Koffi:

Entering the Nashville Dominican Sisters of St. Cecelia:

I believe that the seed of religious life was planted in my life by God at an early age. Through prayer and life's circumstances, God drew me slowly but steadily to desire to serve him exclusive and to serve others.



Camille Rae:

Entering the Dominican Sisters, Mary Mother of the Eucharist:

God called me when I was 8 years old during my First Holy Communion to be a nun. St. Therese of the Little Flower guided me by the Little Way, and I said yes.



Jaime Roth:

Entering the Sisters of Reparation to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus:

Christ in His great mercy has invited me to leave all behind in order to pursue the pearl of great price, and to be transformed into the image of my Beloved. What a tremendous Lover He is!

Welcome Fr. Thomas Blau, O.P.



Fr. Thomas is a native of Cleveland, Ohio. He is the seventh of eight children to John and Rita Blau. Fr. Thomas attended the

University of Akron [Go Zips!] for his undergraduate studies, and began getting interested in "things of faith" within his first year there. After working in campus ministry at UVA he had a number of jobs including a postal worker, a grade-school teacher, various positions for a drug store chain, and a few odd jobs. Eventually Fr. Thomas would live in Honduras, Guatemala, and Mexico doing missionary work.

Upon returning to the U.S. he attended Franciscan University of Steubenville and earned an MA in theology. It was at FUS that Fr. Thomas met his first Dominican. He was hooked, and entered the Order's novitiate in 1993. Fr. Thomas completed the normal seminary coursework and received his M.Div. and STL [degree in theology] from the Dominican House of Studies in Washington DC. Some of you may recall his work at Children's Hospital here in Columbus during his deacon summer. He was ordained in June 1999. Fr. Thomas' last two assignments have been in college campus ministries - first at the Dominican parish serving the University of Virginia, and then at the Dominican-run Providence College in Rhode Island. He loved both places and working with the students. He is very glad to return to his "native land" of Ohio, having a great parish here at Fr. Thomas

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Vacation Bible School 2009

By Br. Peter Tottleben, O.P. and Br. Matthew Carroll, O.P.

This summer saw an astounding 200 kids (double last year's number) take part in St. Patrick's Vacation Bible School, "Parachute with the Angels and St. Catherine Laboure". The children started each day with a skit, performed by the junior high and high school students, that demonstrated some of the lessons they would be learning throughout the day. They then spent the morning traveling throughout the Parish Center to stations of catechesis, music, snacks, and crafts. While learning the story of the Miraculous Medal, the children deepened their devotion to Our Blessed Mother and the angels.

Our major focus throughout the week was working with Dan DeMatte on the new junior high program. Along with games and snacks, we taught the 45 junior high students in-depth lessons about Mary, the angels, and the demons. We also went with them to Mass each day to help them grow in their Eucharistic faith.

Everyone enjoyed the week, and it was a blessing for us to be a part of it. May next year's VBS go just as well! ♥





The Graduates of 2009

Quinn Michelle Albright
 Lucas John Bean
 Rose Mary Brown
 Andrew Luis Fernandez
 Siobhan Louise Gerrity
 Caitlin Gilmore
 Nicholas James Harting
 Agnes E. Hayes
 Leah Imhoff
 Stephen Raymond Kinsley
 Katrina Kokolari
 Madeline Claire Monica Madrid
 Trent Joseph Roberts
 Veronica Nancy Violand

Congratulations Graduates

By Deb Newman

St. Patrick Church honored its 2009 graduates with a Mass and brunch for the graduates and their families on Pentecost Sunday. Fr. Andre-Joseph LaCasse was the celebrant of the Mass. Father LaCasse remarked in his homily that after seventeen years of sending off graduates, it still "tugs at his heart" to see them move on, but move on they must. He compared Pentecost and the Apostles being sent off into the world, with the need for our seniors to have the Holy Spirit in their lives as they move on. At the conclusion of Mass Fr. LaCasse gave a beautiful blessing to all the seniors.

After Mass, the graduates and their families were treated to a delicious brunch in Patrick Hall. A lovely meal was provided by Kay McGovern and parish volunteers with the assistance of the Knights of Columbus. The menu consisted of juices, fruit, eggs, ham, sausage, bacon, cheese potatoes, waffles with several toppings, cheese and vegetable plates, a variety of desserts, and coffee. Dan DeMatte, Director of Religious Education, spoke to the honored guests and echoed Father's homily message by reminding the seniors that Jesus says in Acts 1:8 that we "will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon us and you will be My witnesses." Dan stressed that we are all called to witness to our Catholic faith every second of our lives in both word and deed.

As the class of 2009 leaves us to pursue the gifts and talents that God has given them, we pray that God will bless them on their journey. ♥



2009 First Holy Communion and Confirmation



"Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head above all."—1 Chronicles 29:11

High School Steubenville Conference

By Chris Higgins



Thirty of our high school students who attended Franciscan University's Youth Conference June 19th - June 21st were educated about the meaning of this theme "Above All." They were taught God is truly ABOVE ALL and He reigns as King of the Universe. His heart burns with a passionate, unconditional love for each of us. It is



this love that changes hearts, sets people free, and draws us into deeper communion with the one who made us.

This conference was geared to address the resources and

needs of today's Catholic youth. Our kids listened to an exciting line-up of speakers, musicians, and presenters. The young people were challenged to stand firm in their Catholic faith, to rely upon the awesome power of Jesus Christ, who is their guide, friend, and Savior. Our youth were encouraged to go out and show their faith to the world.

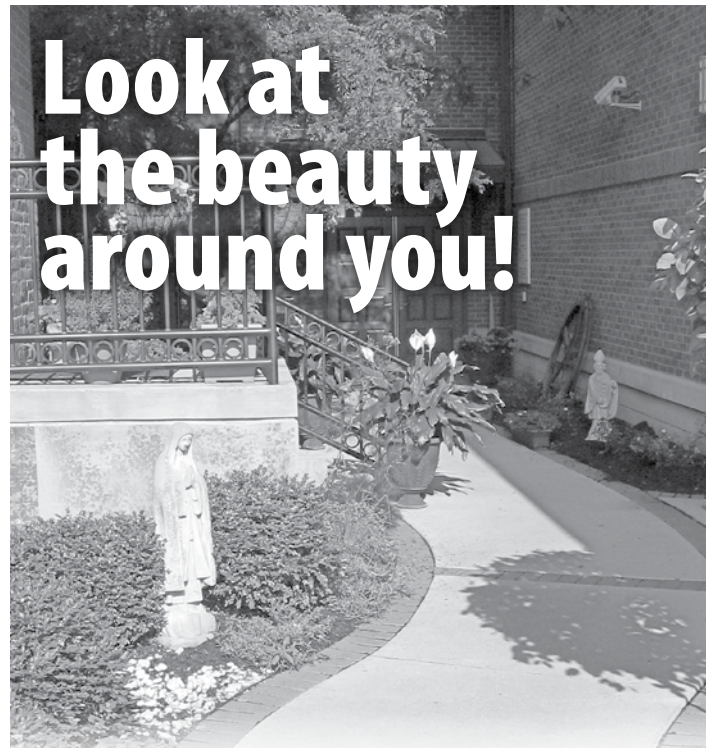
The Sacraments were the highlight of the weekend. Teens joined in two dynamic Eucharistic Liturgies and were given numerous opportunities to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There were also powerful times of Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration. Many of our teens experienced the true presence of Jesus. While coming to know Him, they developed a deeper relationship with Him through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Many of the lovely songs that were heard during the conference are available for free download from the University's website. You can also visit their site for more information about the college. www.franciscanyouth.com.

Jesus touched the hearts of our teens in many special ways. One of our freshman stated, "It was awesome and very powerful." Their walk with Christ was strengthened, and they are now better equipped to continue on their Christian journey. We rejoice along with them, giving thanks and praise for the many blessings the Lord bestowed upon them.

We also thank Fr. LaCasse and Dan DeMatte for providing this wonderful opportunity for our young people. ♥

Look at the beauty around you!



By Judy Leddy

The Madonna Garden Club started its 2009 season on May 20th with beautiful weather. More than two dozen parishioners showed up for "mulch mania" and planting of the annuals around the parish property.

Fr. LaCasse with the assistance of Rita Salvatore and Jen Eppick purchased the annuals to be planted. Our beautiful flowers include varieties of, geraniums, sweet potato ivy, marigolds, and begonias.

Under the direction of Fr. LaCasse, Rita, and Jen, the planting and mulching was completed in record time. The men hauled the mulch where it was needed and cut back the spring flowers. The ladies did the planting of the new flowers. After everything was planted and mulched, the plants received a big drink of water to help them adjust to their new surroundings.

When all the planting, mulching, watering and cleanup was finished, everyone sat down for a cold drink in the courtyard. Fr. LaCasse thanked everyone for their help and said that no one needed to come down Saturday morning to finish planting. He also said, "This is a record number of people. Your work is greatly appreciated!"

Father then explained the daily watering schedule as well as the weekly gardening that will need to be done each Wednesday. He asked folks to sign up for their preference of which day to water. Small groups of volunteers were also asked to work each Wednesday. With enough volunteers, each group would only need to come down 3 or 4 times during the summer for the Wednesday gardening duties.

When you come down to St. Patrick, take a look at the beauty around you! Say a big "thank you" to Father and to the many volunteers who keep the church property looking beautiful. ♥

Catholic Youth Summer Camp

By Molly Newman

Fiat voluntas tua (Let it be done unto me) was the theme for this year's CYSC. The words of the Blessed Mother, "Your Will be done" were inscribed on the top of every page in the teen's daily prayer journals. The first page of their journals contained the "Song of Patrick"—"...God's way is my way, God's shield is round me..."

CYSC celebrated its 9th year of providing high adventure camps, challenging our young people to "Live the Adventure" of their Catholic faith. Over 400 high school and middle school campers participated in the three weeks of CYSC, along with 75 counselors and staff members. St. Patrick parish sent 67 kids. "Never Grey"—the St. Patrick High School Youth Group band performed each night for one of the middle school camps. The band also played during daily Mass. Bob Moraine, the camp director and founder said, "Our Club program is really the heart and soul of why we're here."

Molly Newman, a 17-year-old parishioner provided an emotional testimony. Molly wrote "I would like to express how much I think camp has made an impact on my life. Granted I've only been home for a week, but I've said a rosary everyday and I've been trying to watch the things I say and do way closer. Camp is a beautiful experience that I think everyone would benefit from. It's like every retreat I've ever been on, times about a thousand. It's a safe bubble from the rest of the world, almost like rehab for the soul. I just think that if I could get this much from it when I was falling away from the church, then it must really have God's fingerprints all over it. It's a moment of clarity in a world of confusion. The staff that they have chosen to run the camp seemed to have been hand picked by God himself. This particular year was dedicated to Mary and it gave me a new appreciation for her that I never had before. She plays



such a role in the story of salvation. I don't know about other people, but it was a role I tended to overlook. I know I was not the only one moved by this beautiful experience, it was evident that there was a major change in the entire camp's disposition from the time we arrived to the time we left."

CYSC is a high adventure camp that includes many activities and faith programs. Every day the youth experienced the excitement of activities such as mountain biking, horseback riding, archery, hiking, jet skis, climbing wall, high ropes, canoeing, and tubing. Each evening they participated in Catholic faith programs that included daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, inspiring talks, teen testimonies, funny skits, moving dramas, along

with small group sessions, praise and worship. Bob Moraine said, "Our byline is 'live the adventure' and the whole idea is that we try to offer high adventure activities to build a high adventure faith. It's the activities that attract the kids, but our primary motivation is to evangelize, catechize, and help them grow in their faith."

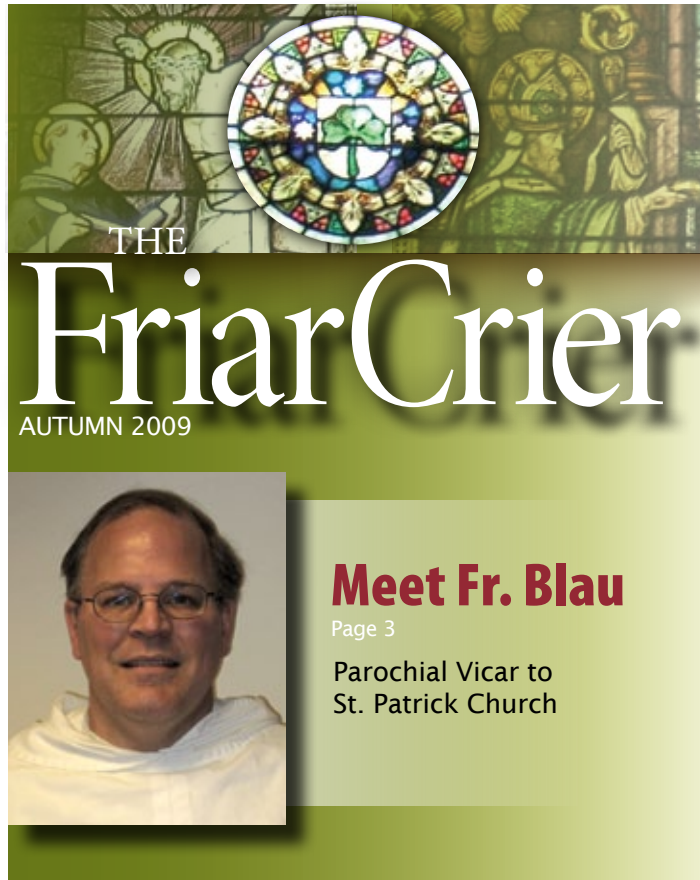
This Catholic camp is aligned with the goals and components of youth ministry as set forth in "Renewing the Vision" (the Catholic Church's blueprint for the continued development of effective ministry with young and older adolescents published by the USCCB, 1997). CYSC seeks to enhance and support parish based youth ministry and catechetical programs. Dan DeMatte, (St. Patrick Church, Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry) has been involved with CYSC from its beginning. He stated, "As a parish youth minister, I love getting as many of our teens to go to Catholic Youth Summer Camp as

possible. The teens that attend camp not only encounter the Lord in a tremendous way, but they also become

the leaders of the youth ministry program here at St. Patrick Church."

Our thanks go to Dan DeMatte, his wife Amber, his sister Maria, all the staff and volunteers of CYSC, many of whom are parishioners of St. Patrick. They all gave selflessly of their time and endless energy to our kids, while participating in the leadership ministry of CYSC. Father LaCasse supported the opportunity of CYSC by offering a generous scholarship to our parish youth, thus enabling many of our young people to attend the camps. If you would like more information you can go to the website: <http://www.cysc.com/index.html>. ♥

"It's a moment of clarity in a world of confusion"



THE Friar Crier

AUTUMN 2009

Meet Fr. Blau
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Parochial Vicar to
St. Patrick Church

Welcome Fr. Blau

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is an avid Browns and Indians fan. "If its not Cleveland, it really isn't sports." He enjoys the outdoors, hiking, being with friends and studying our faith. He wants to do some biking in the area and heard that there are some good bike paths. Of course he looks forward to meeting the parishioners as well. ♥

**Thanks to all of
our rummage sales
specialists!**



St. Patrick's annual parish picnic was held on June 28 at Camp Mary Orton, Columbus.

