

Saint Patrick Church



Parish Handbook

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

Shrine of Saint Margaret of Castello

Catholic Diocese of Columbus, Ohio



**Served by the Dominican Friars of the
Province of St. Joseph since 1885**

280 North Grant Avenue • Columbus, Ohio 43215 • (614) 224-9522
office@stpatrikcolumbus.org • www.stpatrikcolumbus.org

Dear Parishioners of St. Patrick's,

Our parish is a true treasure in the heart of Columbus! Founded by Irish immigrants in 1852, St. Patrick Church continues to serve as a witness to Jesus Christ and his Catholic Church for all who pass through its doors. Under the pastoral care of the Dominican Friars since 1885, the Dominican pillars of community, prayer, study, and preaching shape the life and charism of this parish.

Though we are a Dominican parish, St. Patrick lived 800 years before St. Dominic founded the Order of Preachers. Nevertheless, both saints were very similar. Saints Patrick and Dominic responded to the needs of their time, preaching the Gospel when paganism and heresy were ravaging society in their respective times. Both saints were "evangelical men," pastors who were inspired to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth. The Holy Spirit led both St. Patrick and St. Dominic in their missions, as they brought others to the heart of Christ.

These saints serve as patrons of our parish, as they continue to point us to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. At St. Patrick Church, you will find beautiful liturgies, preaching and catechesis which are faithful to the Gospel and the teachings of the Catholic Church, opportunities for families and youth, service to the poor and downtrodden, and a robust community of Catholics seeking to deepen their faith in Christ.

Within the pages of this Parish Handbook, I invite you to discover the many opportunities available to the parishioners of St. Patrick's, from our times of daily prayer and worship, to programs for learning more about our faith, and the many opportunities to volunteer and get involved in the life of the parish. My wish is that all our parishioners and visitors will find a true home here at St. Patrick's, where together we can grow in faith and fellowship, keeping our eyes fixed on Christ, with St. Patrick and St. Dominic to guide us.

*God bless you,
Fr. Paul Marich, O.P.
Pastor*

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Schedule of Masses and Confessions

✘ Sunday Masses

5:00 p.m. (Saturday Vigil Mass)

7:00 a.m. (*incense free*)

9:00 a.m. (*incense free*)

10:30 a.m.

12:00 Noon

✘ Weekday Masses

7:00 a.m. (Monday – Saturday)

11:45 a.m. (Monday – Friday)

✘ Masses on Holy Days of Obligation

6:30 p.m. (Vigil Mass - *incense free*)

7:00 a.m. (*incense free*)

10:00 a.m. (*incense free*)

12:00 Noon

6:30 p.m.

✘ Masses on Civic Holidays (Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving)

7:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. *for all other holidays, please consult the parish website or contact the office to confirm Mass times.*

✘ Confession Schedule (*No confessions on holy days and civic holidays*)

Monday – Friday: 12:15 p.m. until the line ends

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. (the line is closed once the 5:00 p.m. Mass begins)

First Saturdays: 6:30–7:00 a.m.

Sundays: 30 minutes before each Mass (the line is closed once Mass begins)

Mass Intentions – Mass intentions may be scheduled for both the living and deceased. One may schedule no more than six announced Mass intentions per year in the church. However, one may schedule an unlimited number of unannounced Mass intentions to be offered in private. The donation for Mass intentions is \$10, and helps to support the Dominican community. The friars fulfill announced Mass intentions at St. Patrick’s in the church, and unannounced intentions in private in the priory chapel. Unannounced Mass intentions may also be sent to Dominican friars studying abroad or to the Dominican missions in the Solomon Islands. Special intentions or anonymous intentions may not be scheduled as announced intentions in the church, but only as unannounced intentions to be offered in private.

Schedule of Regular Devotions

- ✘ **The Holy Rosary**
 - following the 7:00 a.m. and 11:45 a.m. Masses daily
 - 4:30 p.m. on Saturdays and 8:30 a.m. on Sundays
- ✘ **Novena to St. Margaret of Castello (with veneration of her relic)**
 - following the 7:00 a.m. and 11:45 a.m. Masses on Wednesdays
- ✘ **Holy Hour with Benediction**
 - 12:15 – 1:15 p.m. on Fridays
- ✘ **Fatima Devotions**
 - following the 7:00 a.m. Mass on first Saturdays
- ✘ **All Night Eucharistic Adoration for Life**
 - Third Friday of the month, from 8:00 p.m. until Benediction at 6:45 a.m. on Saturday, with recitation of the Holy Rosary at a local abortion facility following the Saturday 7:00 a.m. Mass
- ✘ **All Night Eucharistic Adoration for Vocations**
 - Fourth Friday of the month, from 8:00 p.m. until Benediction at 6:45 a.m. on Saturday
- ✘ **Stations of the Cross (during Lent)**
 - 7:00 p.m. on Fridays

Membership in the Parish

Saint Patrick Parish welcomes as members anyone who intends to participate fully in the sacramental, pastoral, and communal life of the parish. You may register as a member anytime by stopping at the parish office and completing an enrollment form or getting one online at our website, www.stpatrickcolumbus.org. Registration materials may also be requested through the *Welcome Envelope* located in the church pews and checking the appropriate box (once received, a parish registration form will be sent along with the monthly mailing of offertory envelopes). Your parish membership is not complete until the registration form is filled out and returned to the parish office. To be considered an active member of the parish and qualify for parish school subsidies or reception of the sacraments, one must first be registered, attend Sunday Mass regularly, and contribute to the financial support of the parish through the use of the weekly offertory envelopes or online giving.

Celebration of the Sacraments

Baptism – Parishioners may arrange for baptisms at St. Patrick by contacting the parish office. Baptisms are celebrated on Sunday afternoons at 1:15 p.m. *All first-time parents are required to attend a baptism class prior to the baptism of their first child. Please contact the parish office to register for the class.*

First Confession and First Holy Communion – Children in the 2nd Grade are prepared for First Confession and First Holy Communion through the C.C.D. program. Children from parochial schools may join us in the celebrations of First Confession and First Holy Communion with the permission of their pastor.

Confirmation – Children in the 6th Grade are prepared for Confirmation through the C.C.D. program. Children from parochial schools may join us in the Sacrament of Confirmation with the permission of their pastor.

Holy Orders - any single man thinking about a vocation to the priesthood (or religious life) should contact Fr. Paul Marich, O.P. at frpaulmarich@stpatrikcolumbus.org for more information.

Marriage – Weddings may be scheduled at St. Patrick's by registered parishioners, or by non-parishioners with the permission of their pastor. Marriage preparation begins no later than nine months prior to the wedding. For more specific information, please read St. Patrick's Marriage Guidelines found on the parish website: www.stpatrickcolumbus.org.

Pastoral Care of the Sick – Priests are available to administer the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick upon request for serious medical emergencies. Arrangements may also be made with a priest to visit the sick and homebound for confession, anointing of the sick, and holy communion on a monthly basis. Holy Communion may be brought to the homebound and hospitalized by Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Homebound on a weekly basis. Please call the parish office to make arrangements. For emergency sacramental needs, please call (614) 224-9522, and press "8" for the priest on duty.

Information on Women's Religious Life - Any single women thinking about a vocation to religious life should contact Sr. Leonarda Zielinska, O.P. at sisterop@stpatrikcolumbus.org for more information.

Parish Office

Office Hours	Monday-Friday: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Phone Numbers	Office: (614) 240-5910 Staff Directory: (614) 224-9522
Email Address	office@stpatrickcolumbus.org
Websites	www.stpatrickcolumbus.org www.stpatrickyouth.org
Facebook	www.facebook.com/stpatrickcolumbus

Pastoral Staff

Pastor

Fr. Paul Marich, O.P. (614) 240-5917 frpaulmarich@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Parochial Vicars

Fr. Albert Dempsey, O.P. (614) 240-5919 fralbert@stpatrickcolumbus.org
Fr. Michael Donahue, O.P. (614) 240-5925 frmichaeldonahue@stpatrickcolumbus.org
Fr. Edmund Ditton, O.P. (614) 240-5914 n/a

Business Manager

Frank Hartge (614) 240-5911 businessmanager@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Office Administrator

Lizbeth Fernandez (614) 240-5910 office@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Director of Religious Education

Sr. Leonarda Zielinska, O.P. (614) 240-5912 sisterop@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Director of Music

Kathleen Tully (614) 224-9522, ext. 152 kathleen@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Director of Youth Ministry

Fr. Michael Donahue, O.P. (614) 240-5925 frmichaeldonahue@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Director of the Altar Boy Program and Liturgical Ministries (Adult Altar Servers, Lectors, Ushers, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Homebound)

Fr. Paul Marich, O.P. (614) 240-5917 frpaulmarich@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Director of the Order of Christian Initiation (O.C.I.A., formerly R.C.I.A.)

Fr. Albert Dempsey, O.P. (614) 240-5919 fralbert@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Saint Margaret Guild

Kristen Phillips (614) 240-5915 kristenphillips@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Hall Rental for Private Events (*Patrick and Aquinas Halls*)

Frank Hartge (614) 240-5911 businessmanager@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Pastoral Council

The Pastoral Council is composed of a maximum of twelve parishioners who serve three-year terms. They are a consultative group that serves as a vehicle of pastoral advice, dialogue and communication with the pastor, parish staff, parishioners, and the various organizations of the parish. The Pastoral Council typically meets once a month from September to July. To have an item placed on the agenda, please call the parish secretary who will put you in contact with the Pastoral Council chairperson.

Current Members (2024-25)

Rev. Paul Marich, O.P.

Beth Atkinson, Chair

Don Williams, Vice Chair

Daniel Heitzenrater, Secretary

Hospitality and Evangelization

Jim Haninger

Marian Hyden

Chris Chenault

Communications

Deb Newman

Don Williams

Daniel Heitzenrater

Ministry Connection

Martiana Klui

Rich Kozlowski

Max Madrid

Administration

Beth Atkinson

Joe Testa

Mike Melliore

Finance Council

The Finance Council provides assistance in administering the finances and physical facilities of the parish, and annually reviews the parish financial budget. It serves in an advisory capacity to the pastor. Members are appointed by the pastor for a three-year term, serving a maximum of 3 terms (9 years).

Parish History

- February 1851 Fr. John Furlong receives permission from Archbishop John Baptist Purcell of Cincinnati to form St. Patrick Parish. The new Irish parish continues to meet at Holy Cross Church with different Mass times from the German speakers of Holy Cross.
- 1852 Fr. James Meagher becomes the pastor of the newly constituted parish on the corner of Grant Avenue and Naghten Street.
- Sept. 5, 1852 Archbishop Purcell lays the cornerstone.
- Sept. 25, 1853 Archbishop Purcell solemnly dedicates the new church.
- 1854 School Building is built.
- Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur for Girls
 - Brothers of the Holy Cross for the boys
- 1857 Rectory building is built.
- 1866 To relieve overcrowding, St. Joseph (later to become the Cathedral) is established on Broad Street.
- 1867 St. Patrick's pastor, Rev. Edward Fitzgerald, is consecrated Bishop of Little Rock, Arkansas and leaves St. Patrick's.
- 1867 Bishop Rosecrans arrives in Columbus as pastor of St. Patrick's. St. Patrick's serves as the proto-cathedral until St. Joseph Cathedral is ready on Christmas Day 1872. Bishop Rosecrans moves to the Cathedral rectory.
- 1885 Bishop John Watterson invites the Dominican Order to take over administration of St. Patrick's.
- Early 1890s First church organ is installed.
- Sept. 12, 1905 Bishop James Hartley, a son of the parish, invites Dominicans to establish Aquinas High School.
- 1909 Bishop Hartley donates the main altar in thanksgiving for his vocation.
- 1920 Present stained-glass windows are installed.
- May 1935 During routine roof repairs, the entire roof is set ablaze and collapses into the church. Walls and stained-glass windows are preserved.
- 1935 -1936 Church is repaired and renovated: Stations of the Cross, organ, and confessionals on the north and south walls are installed. Fr. James McKenna establishes the Shrine and Guild of Bl. Margaret.
- 1950s Population shifts from city to suburbs. Highways are built and neighborhood is greatly diminished.
- 1959 Elementary school is closed.
- 1965 Aquinas High School is closed.
- 1970-80s St. Patrick's is considered an aging inner-city parish.
- Early 1990s Faithful Roman Catholics are attracted back to St. Patrick's by its orthodoxy and Dominican preaching.
- Late 1990s Parish recognizes the need for building a parish center and refurbishing the church structure.

- Sept. 25, 2003 Parish opens new parish center and renovated church building on the date of its Sesquicentennial.
- Sept. 2011 Parish opens newly renovated parish center basement with additional classrooms and restrooms.
- Sept. 2013 Arrival of Dominican Sisters of the Immaculate Conception Province from Justice, Illinois.
- Sept. 2013 Blessing of the new statue of St. Thérèse and the dedication of our new Shrine to St. Therese of Lisieux and her parents, SS. Louis and Zelig Martin.
- June 2014 Dedication of the historical marker and carved St. Patrick statue at corner of Grant Ave. and Naghten St.
- Nov. 2015 Dedication of the Lourdes Grotto.
- Jan. 2016 Opening Mass of the 800th Jubilee Year of the Founding of the Order of Preachers, which was nationally broadcast on EWTN. A gala celebration at the Ohio Statehouse followed.
- Jan. 2016 Live-streaming of Masses begins.
- Sept. 2017 St. Patrick's Dominican community is elevated to the status of a priory, ensuring at least six friars always in residence.
- Summer 2018 Church's 85-year-old slate roof is replaced.
- Nov. 2019 Dedication of newly refurbished church pipe organ by Muller Pipe Organ.
- Apr. 24, 2021 St. Margaret of Castello is canonized in Rome.
- Oct. 31, 2021 Bishop Robert Brennan elevates the Shrine of St. Margaret of Castello to the status of a diocesan shrine.
- May 2022 Church air conditioning and heat pumps are replaced.

Pastors of St. Patrick Church

Rev. John Furlong (organizer)	1851	
Rev. James Meagher (builder)	1852-1857	
Most Rev. Edward Fitzgerald	1857-1867	<i>Later Bishop of Little Rock, AR</i>
Most Rev. Sylvester Rosecrans	1867-1872	<i>First Bishop of Columbus, OH</i>
Rev. J. A. Murray	1872-1873	
Rev. J. A. Casella	1873-1876	
Most Rev. Nicholas A. Gallagher	1876-1878	<i>Later Bishop of Galveston, TX</i>
Rev. J. R. Madden	1878-1880	
Rev. T. F. Delaney	1881-1882	
Rev. Augustine Osmond Walker	1882-1885	
Rev. Peter Clement Coll, O.P.	1885-1887	<i>Dominicans begin administering St. Patrick's</i>
Rev. Hugh Francis Lilly, O.P.	1887-1890	
Rev. Hugh Joseph McManus, O.P.	1890-1893	
Rev. John Philip Vallely, O.P.	1893-1896	
Rev. Francis Augustine Gaffney, O.P.	1896-1899	
Rev. James Francis Colbert, O.P.	1899-1905	
Rev. Roscoe Francis Larpenteur, O.P.	1905-1907	
Rev. Matthew Leo Heagen, O.P.	1907-1908	<i>Later Provincial of the Province of St. Joseph</i>
Rev. Thomas Sylvester McGovern, O.P.	1908-1911	
Rev. James Aldridge, O.P.	1911-1914	
Rev. Thomas Sylvester McGovern, O.P.	1914-1917	
Rev. Timothy Leonard Crowley, O.P.	1917-1920	
Rev. George Ignatius Conlan, O.P.	1920-1922	
Rev. James Benedict Hegarty, O.P.	1922-1928	
Rev. John Aloysius Hinch, O.P.	1928-1931	
Rev. Hyacinth Lawrence Martin, O.P.	1931-1937	
Rev. Frederick Jordan Baeszler, O.P.	1937-1945	
Rev. John Justin Costello, O.P.	1945-1954	
Rev. Bernard Paschal Shaffer, O.P.	1954-1956	
Rev. Patrick James Conaty, O.P.	1957-1958	
Rev. James Thomas á Kempis McKenna, O.P.	1958-1963	
Rev. John Jordan Reichart, O.P.	1964-1970	
Rev. John Timothy Dittoe, O.P.	1970-1976	
Rev. James Dominic Keating, O.P.	1976-1981	
Rev. Raymond Martin McCabe, O.P.	1981-1984	
Rev. Robert Regis Heuschkel, O.P.	1984-1987	
Rev. Charles Albert Farrell, O.P.	1987-1989	
Rev. Thomas Vincent DiFede, O.P.	1989-1992	
Rev. Carleton Parker Jones, O.P.	1992-1995	
Rev. Kenneth Archibold France-Kelly, O.P.	1995-1999	
Rev. Joseph Ambrose Eckinger, O.P.	1999-2005	
Rev. André-Joseph LaCasse, O.P.	2005-2010	
Rev. Michael Mary Dosch, O.P.	2010-2016	
Rev. Stephen Paul Alcott, O.P.	2016-2024	
Rev. Paul Dominic Marich, O.P.	2024-present	

Saint Patrick Church and Parish Center

Saint Patrick Church is located on the corners of Naghten Street, Grant Avenue, and Mount Vernon Avenue. The church, priory, and parish center are all built of an exterior red brick with sandstone ornamentation. Saint Patrick Church was completely renovated from floor to ceiling in anticipation of its Sesquicentennial Celebration in 2003. The interior of the church contains a large, vaulted ceiling in a simple Romanesque architectural style.

The vestibule of the church contains shrines to St. Therese of Lisieux and the Infant of Prague, the usher's room, and the entrance stairway to the choir loft. Just above the main entrance of the church's interior is a cross-stitched tapestry of St. Patrick, which was brought to Columbus by Irish immigrants in the 19th century. To the left of this tapestry is a reliquary that holds a gold reliquary of numerous Dominican Saints, a relic of our patron St. Patrick, and relics of St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Gianna Molla, and Bl. Pier Giorgio. Throughout the church, there are devotional candles available at the various shrines.

To the left of the reliquary is the Shrine of St. Margaret of Castello, which was established at St. Patrick Church in 1935. At the center of the shrine is a first-class relic of St. Margaret's incorrupt heart. The statue above the reliquary is carved from a solid piece of wood and depicts St. Margaret's handicaps, namely that she was blind and lame, walking with the support of a cane. The tapestry on the right-hand wall depicts the life of "Little Margaret." The cross is made from the church timbers burned in the 1935 fire, and is called the *Cross of Sorrow*. The banister newel post on the left-hand wall of the shrine is from the stairway of the old St. Patrick School, which was razed to make room for the new parish center, and holds a relic of St. Margaret for personal veneration.

The beautiful wood floor of the church is of red oak interspersed with occasional maple boards and surrounded by a discreet border of walnut. The inlaid shield of the Dominican Order of maple and walnut is a prominent feature adorning the space in front of the sanctuary. The solid oak pews are carved with shamrocks.

Handicap accessible confessionals on the north and south sides of the church match the wainscoting along the north, south, and west walls. Stations of the Cross encircle the body of the church.

Framed portraits of the saints look down upon the congregation. Beginning with the northeast corner and continuing to the southeast corner are St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Antoninus of Florence, St. Agnes of Montepulciano, St. Vincent Ferrer, Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati, St. Gianna Molla, St. Hyacinth, St. Catherine de Ricci, Pope St. Pius V, St. Rose of Lima, and St. Dominic. The large, framed painting in the center of the ceiling depicts the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven in the bottom panel, as the apostles on earth peer into her empty tomb, and the Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the top panel. The painting over the shrine of Our Lady depicts Our Lady giving the holy Rosary to St. Dominic in the presence of the Christ Child. The painting over the shrine of St. Joseph depicts SS. Joachim and Anne presenting their daughter, Mary, to God in the temple. Over the High Altar is a mural of the crucifixion of Our Lord, with the Blessed Mother, St. Mary Magdalene, and St. John at the foot of the Cross.

The high altar contains the tabernacle and was a gift of Bishop James Hartley, a son of the parish. Upon close inspection, one will find an extra hand at the supper table. By carefully matching arms, hands and bodies, it is apparent that the artist simply added an extra hand to make it “look right”, even though the hand does not belong to anyone at the table. The altar of sacrifice was installed in 2003 and contains a beautiful reliquary with relics of various saints. The wrought iron pulpit was installed in 1937 and contains the crests of the Diocese of Columbus, the Dominican Order, and the Dominican Province of St. Joseph.

The stained-glass windows beginning with the northeast corner and continuing to the southeast corner depict the Last Supper, the Annunciation, Jesus appearing to St. Margaret Mary Alcoque, the Wedding Feast at Cana, St. Patrick baptizing the king of Ireland, the shield of the Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary, St. Vincent de Paul and St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Mary Magdalene, the death of St. Joseph, the Resurrection, and the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple.

Separating the sanctuary from the main body of the church is a beautiful altar rail that is still in use today. To the left of the main sanctuary is the Priest Sacristy, and to the right is the Altar Boy Sacristy. The doors to these sacristies have Tiffany-stained glass of angels adoring before the Blessed Sacrament. Throughout the church, the kneeling pads at the shrines and altar rail are handmade cross-stitch tapestry. These beautiful and intricate pieces of artwork were made by members of the Women’s Club.

The bell tower is located above the Shrine of St. Margaret of Castello. There are three automated bells that were dedicated on August 8, 2003. They are named *S.P.N. Dominicus – Our Holy Father Dominic* (1,100 lbs), *Mater Ecclesia – Mother of the Church* (690 lbs.), and *S.P. Franciscus – Holy Father Francis* (455 lbs.). The bells ring for the Angelus three times a day, as a call to worship five minutes before each weekend Mass, and during the singing of the *Te Deum* at midnight at the start of each year.

In the space that joins our church to the parish center, a baptistery full of light and sacred space welcomes the newest members of the church and reminds those already baptized of their new life in Christ. The baptismal font, a gift to the parish from the Dominican friars, is carved from Alabama limestone and weighs 2.5 tons. It is modeled after a 12th century baptismal font at the church where St. Dominic served as an apprentice to his uncle, who was a parish priest. The Baptismal Gallery, or atrium, also houses shrines to Our Lady, the Sacred Heart of Jesus, St. Patrick, and St. Dominic. The circular window carries the Greek monogram for Jesus Christ. Down the courtyard corridor is a separate alcove shrine to St. Joseph. The parish center houses parish offices, a conference room, the parish library, two halls, lavatories, classrooms, and meeting rooms.



The Dominican Community

The Dominicans, who have served St. Patrick Church for nearly 140 years, are from the Province of St. Joseph. The Order of Preachers (O.P.)—the official name of the Dominicans—was founded by St. Dominic in 1216. The first Catholic church in Ohio was founded in Somerset in 1818 by Fr. Edward Dominic Fenwick, O.P., who later became the first Bishop of Cincinnati in 1821. In 2017, the Dominican community at St. Patrick’s was elevated to the status of a priory, ensuring that at least six friars will always be in residence, and giving the friars the right to elect their own superior (the prior, who may be a different friar from the pastor of the parish). The priory community includes Dominican friars who serve the parish, friars who minister throughout the Diocese of Columbus, and friars who engage in itinerant preaching. The Dominican life within the priory is a common life, which includes the chanting of the Divine Office three times each day, having dinner in common each day, and communal study and discussion of contemporary pastoral matters several times throughout the year. All of this forms and prepares the friars to preach for the salvation of souls in their various apostolates. Saint Patrick Priory is the private residence of the Dominican friars; all parish activities, meetings, and office work take place in the parish center.



Religious Education

In keeping with our deep-rooted Dominican tradition, intellectual formation is key to Catholic life. Following the sound doctrine of St. Thomas Aquinas, we believe that religious education begins early and continues all throughout life.

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (C.C.D.) – For children in grades 2-12, who may not receive religious education in schools, and for children whose parents choose C.C.D. as an additional program to parochial schools or homeschooling. C.C.D. meets on Sunday mornings from 10:15-11:30 a.m. during the school year. The C.C.D. program also offers individual catechesis for children who have missed sacramental preparation, as well as classes for children with special needs.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (C.G.S.) – An approach to the religious formation of children rooted in the Bible, the liturgy of the church, and the educational principles of Maria Montessori. This program is designed to engage children, 3 years old through 1st grade, in a deeper understanding and appreciation of the

Saint Margaret's Children – Founded on the premise that God's special children receive ongoing catechesis insofar as they are capable (including the reception of the sacraments of the Church), St. Margaret's Children strives to support the catechesis of children with special needs. The child's individual needs are assessed, and an appropriate lesson plan is prepared. Each child is accompanied by an aide during class time.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (O.C.I.A., formerly R.C.I.A.) – The O.C.I.A. program is specifically geared towards adults wanting to be baptized or received in the Catholic Church, and Catholics needing to receive specific sacraments. O.C.I.A. classes meet from September through May of each year on Wednesday evenings. *Please note that children coming into the Church are educated and prepared for the sacraments through our C.C.D. program.*

Adult Catechesis – Presentations and lectures by a Dominican friar or a guest speaker are offered throughout the year (usually in multi-week series), examining a variety of theological topics for those seeking to grow deeper in their faith.

Youth Ministry

Contact: Fr. Michael Donahue, O.P.
frmichaeldonahue@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Youth Ministry programs are open to all parish youth from grades 6-12. Those from other parishes are welcome. Please contact the Director of Youth Ministry for more information.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP is open to any student in 9th-12th grades and meets every Tuesday from September through May, alternating between regular youth nights and Dead Theologian Society meetings. High school youth nights include games, a talk, thirty minutes of Eucharistic adoration (with the opportunity for confession), and a social in Patrick Hall.

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP is open to any student in 6th-8th grades and meets on the first Thursday of the month from September through Mary. Junior high youth nights include games, a talk, thirty minutes of Eucharistic adoration (with the opportunity for confession), and a social in Patrick Hall.

8TH GRADE DEAD THEOLOGIANS SOCIETY(DTS) meet every third Thursday.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP CORE TEAM is comprised of young adults who are faithful to the Church's teaching and help lead youth ministry events on the high school level. The Core Team acts as virtuous Christian role models, getting closely involved in the human and social formation of our teens by leading discussions, chaperoning outings and retreats, and setting up for special events. All Core Team members are *Protecting God's Children* compliant, and youth group alumni must wait at least one full school year before applying to be on the team.

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP SERVANTS TEAM is comprised of mature 11th-12th graders who are already involved in the High School Youth Group, and who desire to assist with the Junior High Youth Group. These teens must apply for a position on the team and help lead youth ministry events, lead games and activities, and occasionally facilitate small group discussions.

Post High School and College Young Adult Ministry and Fellowship

CSCATHOLIC CAMPUS OUTREACH (College)- Catholic students at Columbus State Community College and Columbus College of Art and Design are welcome to join this fellowship of students to find community, common prayer and study, retreats, recreation, and leadership opportunities. For more information, contact Fr. Paul Marich, O.P. at frpaulmarich@stpatickcolumnbus.org or (614) 240-5917.

COLUMBUS FRASSATI SOCIETY -The Columbus Frassati Society follows in the footsteps of Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati, seeking to form the whole person in Christ through Eucharistic adoration, study, community, charitable activity, and love of the outdoors. Young adults ages 21-35 in the Columbus area are welcome to join. For details, contact columbusfrassatisociety@gmail.com .

Visit <http://columbusfrassatisociety.com>

USEFUL WEBSITES

FORMED

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Saint Margaret of Castello Shrine and Guild

There has been a special devotion to St. Margaret of Castello at St. Patrick Church since the 1930s. A shrine to St. Margaret was established in the church in the late 1950s, with an expansion of the shrine as a separate chapel in the renovations of the 1970s. In anticipation of St. Patrick's sesquicentennial anniversary in 2003, the shrine was once again renovated. The beautiful stained-glass window within the shrine, which had previously been boarded over, was exposed. The tapestry of her life was reconditioned, and in the center of the tapestry was placed a charred cross made from ceiling beams from the fire of 1935. In addition, the newel post from a banister taken from the old St. Patrick School was reconditioned to contain a relic of St. Margaret for private veneration.

The St. Margaret Guild was established for two purposes: to promote the canonization of Bl. Margaret (which took place on April 24, 2021 in Rome), and to raise money for various programs to benefit "the Unwanted," especially the poor, the underprivileged, the abandoned, and the unborn.

Each Wednesday, the St. Margaret Novena is prayed after all Masses, and a relic of her heart is publicly venerated. The Dominican friars recite the novena prayers on other days of the week after Vespers in the priory chapel for the intentions of the Guild members. A special Mass is celebrated monthly for the intentions of the Guild members, and a Christmas Octave of Masses is celebrated for the intentions of the members of the St. Margaret Guild.

There are two general Guild mailings each year: the October charities mailing and the Lenten novena mailing, in anticipation of her feast day on April 13th (the St. Margaret Novena of Masses typically begins on April 5th or April 13th each year). All contributions received are exclusively reserved for the charities of the Guild. Also, on the months when there is a fifth Sunday, there is a second collection for Little Margaret's Charity. All contributions received in this collection and in the poor boxes located at the back of the church are used for the charity program of the Guild.

All are welcome to become members of the St. Margaret of Castello Guild by writing to: 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus, OH, or by calling (614) 240-5915.

Brief Life of Saint Margaret of Castello

Saint Margaret of Castello was born to a wealthy, noble Italian family near Florence, Italy in 1287. Born blind and lame, her family was ashamed of her and kept her hidden in virtual imprisonment for nine years in a tiny cell attached to a forest church. It was only through the family chaplain that St. Margaret came to know God. Seeking a miracle, her parents took her to a Franciscan shrine. When she was not cured, they abandoned her.

Saint Margaret's faith and courage inspired others in the community to take pity on her and to help her survive. Eventually, she became a member of the Dominican Third Order in Castello, where she lived an exemplary life of prayer, penance, and charity. Despite her difficulties, Margaret was serene, cheerful, and courageous. She never became bitter, never complained, never reproached others, nor lost heart. Discouragement was a word she did not know. She found strength in prayer, in daily Mass, and sought help from Jesus, Mary, Joseph, and St. Dominic.

Margaret was courageous because she looked at suffering through the eyes of faith. She did not know why God permitted her to have so many afflictions. She did know that He was an infinitely loving and kind Father, who never permitted one single misfortune without good reason, who always made good come out of evil. She wondered why people pitied her. Was it not a privilege to suffer with Christ? Suffering for her was a way to heaven.

Pain made Margaret sympathetic and understanding toward others. She visited prisoners, helped the sick, and comforted the dying. Since her death at age 33, she has continued helping those who pray to her. Many cures have been attributed to her intercession.

Margaret of Castello was declared blessed by the Catholic Church on October 19, 1609, and was canonized on April 24, 2021. Saint Margaret is an inspiration to those who are discouraged and tempted to self-pity. Her intercession is most powerful to those who suffer from eye and muscular diseases, and she has become an inspiration for the pro-life movement. She is a great help for those who are unwanted and abandoned.

Her incorrupt body lies underneath the main altar of St. Dominic Church in Castello, Italy. Many visit her shrine to venerate her body and pray for her intercession.

Stewardship of Time, Treasure, and Talent

Regular Collections – St. Patrick’s depends completely on the financial support of parishioners and benefactors. As a registered parishioner, you may choose to receive a monthly packet of offering envelopes, utilize your bank’s bill pay system, or give via our online platform, *WeShare* online giving. The weekly offering is used to pay the employees of the parish and to provide for programs, supplies, maintenance, utilities, and the general upkeep of the complex. Your offerings are also used to support the Dominican friars who serve the parish. Prayerful, generous, and thoughtful consideration is asked of you concerning your weekly offering to St. Patrick’s. There are occasional second collections mandated by the Diocese of Columbus as well.

***WeShare* Online Giving** – Visit the parish website or call the parish office for more information.

Time and Talent – Parishioners are also asked to participate in the community life of St. Patrick’s. We ask all parishioners to consider joining at least one program or activity and help build up the faith community of St. Patrick’s.

TUITION SUBSIDIES

Elementary School Parochial School Subsidies – Saint Patrick Church will provide Catholic elementary school tuition assistance by way of a parish subsidy grant for registered and participating parishioners. This commitment requires active membership and financial support to the parish from the parents who receive this assistance. Active membership is defined by family registration in the parish, recognition by the pastor as a family participating in the sacramental life of the parish, contribution of time and talent to the ministries of the parish, and the regular contribution of an appropriate portion of their annual income to the financial support of the parish. Parents must reapply for subsidies each year.

High School Parochial School Subsidies – Saint Patrick Church pays a mandatory subsidy set by the Diocese of Columbus for each child of registered parishioners who are enrolled in a diocesan high school.

Parish Ministries

Your help is needed throughout the year with the various projects, activities, and committees that serve the parish. Please refer to the parish bulletin for times and dates of ministry meetings. To contact any of the groups listed, please call the parish office for more information, or see individual contact information below.

BEFORE YOU VOLUNTEER: COMPLIANCE WITH THE DIOCESAN SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR CHILDREN STANDARDS.

All volunteers over the age of 18 at St. Patrick's are required to have the following documentation on file in the parish office prior to participating in any parish ministry: proof of attendance at a *Protecting God's Children* seminar, background report, and a signed parish code of conduct. Contact the parish office or see the parish website for details.

Adult Altar Servers – Men over the age of 18 who serve the 7:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays and weekdays.

Contact: Fr. Paul Marich, O.P. at frpaulmarich@stpatrikcolumbus.org

Adult Catechesis – Regular lecture series on various theological topics, presented by a Dominican friar or a guest speaker. Presentations are aimed at adults seeking to deepen their knowledge of the Catholic faith. **Contact:** Fr. Edmund Ditton, O.P. at (614) 240-5914

All Night Eucharistic Adoration for Life – Eucharistic adoration on the third Friday of each month, praying for the sanctity of all human life. Begins at 8 p.m. on Friday and concludes with Benediction at 6:45 a.m. on Saturday. **Contact:** Carla Adams at carla.adams1111@gmail.com

All Night Eucharistic Adoration for Vocations – Eucharistic adoration on the fourth Friday of each month, praying for priests and vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Begins at 8 p.m. on Friday and concludes with Benediction at 6:45 a.m. on Saturday. **Contact:** Carla Adams at carla.adams1111@gmail.com

Altar Boy Program – Boys in grades 5-12 who assist the priest in the celebration of Mass and other liturgical celebrations. **Contact:** Fr. Paul Marich, O.P. at frpaulmarich@stpatrikcolumbus.org

American Heritage Girls – Christ-centered character development program for girls ages 5-18. The mission is to build women of integrity through service to God, family, community, and country.

Contact: Leslie Wolf at ahg.oh0031@yahoo.com

Bereavement Committee – Assists with a meal after a burial service. Members provide a lunch from a prepared menu, as well as assist with set up and clean up.

Contact: Kathy Fornes at kathy@kfornes.com

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd – Catechesis, using the Montessori method, for young children from age 3 through grade 1. Sessions held on Sunday and Friday mornings. **Contact:** Sr. Leonarda Zielinska, O.P. at sisterop@stpatrikcolumbus.org

Catholic in Recovery – Catholic sacramental recovery resources for those seeking freedom from alcoholism and drug addiction. **Contact:** Jon at (614) 588-4022 or circolumbus@gmail.com

Catholic Men's Luncheon Club – Provides fellowship and spirituality for Catholic men on the first Friday of the month. **Contact:** Frank Hartge at businessmanager@stpatrikcolumbus.org

Choir – Provides choral music two Sundays per month, as well as at special liturgical celebrations throughout the year. New members are welcome. **Contact: Kathleen Tully at (614) 224-9522, ext. 152**

Chorus Angelorum – Members of the parish children’s choir are educated in the beauty of sacred music. The children sing at Christmas, First Communion, and other liturgical celebrations throughout the year.
Contact: Barb Magree at barbaramagree@gmail.com

Coffee and Doughnuts – Prepare and serve coffee and doughnuts on Sundays when C.C.D. is in session. **Contact: Marian Hyden at (614) 563-5280 or at kmhyden@sbcglobal.net**

Collection Counters – Counting the weekly collection on Sunday mornings, working in rotating monthly teams. **Contact: Frank Hartge at businessmanager@stpatrickcolumbus.org**

Columbus Frassati Society – Young adult ministry that follows in the footsteps of Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati, seeking to form the whole person in Christ through Eucharistic adoration, study, community, charitable activity, and love of the outdoors. Young adults ages 21-35 are welcome to join. **Contact: Sarah Spaulding at columbusfrassatisociety@gmail.com**

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (C.C.D.) – Weekly catechesis for children in grades 2-12, including sacramental preparation for students receiving their First Confession and Holy Communion, and Confirmation. Classes meet on Sundays from 10:15-11:30 a.m. **Contact: Sr. Leonarda Zielinska, O.P. at sisterop@stpatrickcolumbus.org**

CS Catholic – Campus ministry opportunities open to all Columbus State and Columbus College of Art and Design students. **Contact: Fr. Paul Marich, O.P. at frpaulmarich@stpatrickcolumbus.org**

CYO Recreational Sports – Boys and girls basketball teams that compete against teams from other parishes. **Contact: Shannon Rainer at shannon.rainer@gmail.com**

Daughters of Veronica – Girls in grades 3-12 with their mothers, who prepare and clean liturgical items for major feast days and maintain the church sacristy. **Contact: Fr. Paul Marich, O.P. at frpaulmarich@stpatrickcolumbus.org**

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Homebound – Parishioners commissioned on behalf of St. Patrick Church to bring the holy Eucharist to the sick and homebound.
Contact: Fr. Paul Marich, O.P. at frpaulmarich@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Faith Mission – Serving lunch at Faith Mission on the second Sunday of every month. Volunteers arrive at 11 a.m., and are finished around 1:30 p.m. Must be at least 14 years of age, and if under 18, must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. **Contact: Steve Kiene at (419) 306-4721**

Finance Council – Appointed by the pastor for the administration of the goods of the parish, as directed by canon law. **Contact: Fr. Paul Marich, O.P. at frpaulmarich@stpatrickcolumbus.org**

Fully Engaged Marriage Preparation Ministry – Married couples who accompany and mentor engaged couples with regular meetings and discussions throughout the time of their engagement.
Contact: Fr. Paul Marich, O.P. at frpaulmarich@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Funeral Servers – Men over the age of 18 who serve funeral Masses. **Contact: Steven Owen at omen_44@yahoo.com**

Hospitality Ministry – Facilitate a welcoming atmosphere in the Gallery as parishioners and visitors come to Mass, greeting them and being available for questions. **Contact: Mike Melliere at boilerine5436@gmail.com**

Kairos Prison Ministry – Outreach to a local prison, highlighted by an annual cookie drive.

Contact: Gerard Tracy at gbracyjr@sbcglobal.net

Knights of Columbus Council 11207 – Men’s fraternal organization dedicated to charity, unity and fellowship. The Knights promote vocations, prayer, religious education, and parish activities.

Contact: Scott Briley at sbriley@apex-title.com

Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic – The Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic are dedicated men and women under promises to fulfill their Christian vocation in the world according to the Dominican charism “to contemplate and to give to others the fruits of their contemplation.” Officially associated to the Order founded by St. Dominic in 1216 with their own rule of life in 1285, they continue under their contemporary rule to join together with the friars and sisters of the Order in prayer, study, healthy asceticism, and apostolic work to achieve their own salvation and that of their neighbors. **Contact:**

Linda Henry at 4ihs@att.net

Lectors – Men who proclaim the Scriptures during Mass and other liturgical celebrations. **Contact: Fr.**

Paul Marich, O.P. at frpaulmarich@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Library Committee – Parishioners who staff the parish library on Sunday mornings. **Contact: Fr.**

Albert Dempsey, O.P. at fralbert@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Little Flower Showers – Seeks to provide love and support to women in crisis pregnancies by providing basic needs and hosting baby showers, celebrating the joy of motherhood and the new life within.

Contact: Contact Wei Kozlowski at wei@sinokoz.com

Little Margaret’s Charity – Established to raise money for various programs to benefit the poor and underprivileged. Promotes social justice and furthers the cause to respect life, and the principles and ideals carried out by St. Margaret of Castello. **Contact: Frank Hartge at**

businessmanager@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Madonna Garden Club – Members tend the parish gardens and lawns and take care of seasonal decorations. **Contact: Bill Hueckel at bill.hueckel@thorsensgreenhouse.com**

Martha-Mary Sewing Circle – An opportunity for ladies to make friends while developing basic sewing, smocking, knitting, quilting and crocheting skills. In addition to sewing for our families and homes, we participate in charitable works such as Project Linus, Wee Care Gowns, and Newborns in Need. Beginners are encouraged to come. **Contact: Eunice Hayes at eunicesmocks@gmail.com**

Melchizedek Project – Discernment group for high school boys, meeting once a month for prayer, fellowship, and discussion over a reading about the priesthood and religious life. **Contact: Fr. Paul**

Marich, O.P. at frpaulmarich@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (O.C.I.A., formerly R.C.I.A.) – Catechetical instruction for adults seeking to enter the Catholic Church. Weekly sessions are held on Wednesdays from September through May, with various retreats and preparatory liturgies throughout the year. **Contact: Fr. Albert**

Dempsey, O.P. at fralbert@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Pastoral Council – Serves in an advisory capacity to the pastor in matters regarding the spiritual and social concerns of the parish. **Contact: Fr. Paul Marich, O.P. at**

frpaulmarich@stpatrickcolumbus.org

Respect Life Ministry – Founded to defend and promote the Church’s teaching on human life. The primary apostolate is to attend the 7:00 a.m. Mass on the Saturday following the third Friday of the month, followed by a coffee and doughnut social, and then praying the Rosary outside of Planned Parenthood on East Main Street. **Contact: Gabriel Vance at gabriel@catholicsforlife.us**

Rogue Men – a gathering of men at a local restaurant for dinner, fellowship, and a talk by one of the Dominican friars; meets several times throughout the year. **Contact: Robert McGonigle at arizonasaguaro@hotmail.com**

Rosary Confraternity – Parishioners committed to praying and promoting the Rosary for the spiritual benefit of all the members of the Confraternity throughout the world. Members meet on the third Thursday of the month, and assists with parish Marian processions and leading the public recitation of the Rosary. **Contact: Beth Atkinson at bethaatkinson@msn.com**

Saint Pat’s Fellowship – Strives to build friendships within St. Patrick Parish through activities aimed at building community. **Contact: Amy McCoy at amyslife94@gmail.com**

Saint Margaret Guild – Provides upkeep for the St. Margaret Shrine located in St. Patrick Church, promotes the sanctity of all human life, and furthers devotion to St. Margaret of Castello. Members of the Guild share in the spiritual benefits of the weekly novena prayer and the annual Mass novena. **Contact: Kristen Phillips at kristenphillips@stpatrickcolumbus.org**

That Man is You Men’s Program – Addresses issues that men particularly face in our modern culture, especially those relating to their roles as husbands and fathers. The program harmonizes current social and scientific research with the teachings of the Catholic Church and the wisdom of the saints to develop an integrated vision of the Catholic man. Open to all men. Meets on Saturdays from 7:30-9:00 a.m. **Contact: Kevin McNamara at kevinmcnamaratherapist@gmail.com**

Ushers – Assist at weekend and holy day Masses with seating the people, taking up the collection, and facilitating an orderly reception of holy communion. **Contact: Fr. Paul Marich, O.P. at frpaulmarich@stpatrickcolumbus.org**

Vacation Bible School – Week-long catechesis and activities for children from 3 years old to junior high, offered each summer. **Contact: Sr. Leonarda Zielinska, O.P. at sisterop@stpatrickcolumbus.org**

Women’s Club – Devoted to the general welfare of St. Patrick Church, fostering a friendly spirit among the members of the parish. Open to all women parishioners. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month. **Contact: Anne Nguimbous at annepnpm@gmail.com**

Women of Joy – Provides an opportunity for the women of St. Patrick’s to come together for fellowship and to grow together in faith. **Contact Nancy Madrid at nancy@madridfamily.com**

Youth Ministry – Programs for both junior high and high school students. Aims to foster the prayer and sacramental lives of youth, equipping them with the tools to defend their faith, to develop strong character, and to incorporate them into a positive, loving Catholic environment. Activities include weekly gatherings at the parish and outside recreational and social activities throughout the year. Youth from other parishes are welcome. **Contact: Fr. Michael Donahue, O.P. at frmichaeldonahue@stpatrickcolumbus.org**

Enrollments and Special Blessings

Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary - The Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary is a confraternity of the Dominican Order in which members commit themselves to praying and promoting the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Members are required to pray fifteen decades of the Rosary each week, remembering the intentions of the other members of the confraternity. Those enrolled also share in the good works of the Dominican Order. Solemn enrollment in the confraternity is offered three times a year (Assumption, Rosary Sunday, Immaculate Conception). The local parish charter of the Rosary Confraternity meets on the third Thursday of the month, and assists with parish Marian processions and leading the public recitation of the Rosary.

Angelic Warfare Confraternity - The Angelic Warfare Confraternity is a confraternity of the Dominican Order in which members are dedicated to pursuing and promoting chastity under the patronage of St. Thomas Aquinas. It is a wonderful aid to promoting the virtue of chastity. Members are required to pray certain daily prayers and to wear a blessed cord or medal. Those enrolled also share in the good works of the Dominican Order. Enrollment in the confraternity is offered three Sundays a year after all Masses.

Saint Gerard Mother's Blessing - The St. Gerard Mother's Blessing is offered to expectant mothers, women who are hoping to conceive, women who struggling to conceive, or mothers who have experienced a miscarriage. The blessing concludes with the veneration of a first-class relic of St. Gerard Majella, the patron of expectant mothers. The St. Gerard Mother's Blessing is offered three Sundays a year after select Masses.

Becoming Catholic at St. Patrick's

Want to learn more? Start at any time!

You do not need to wait until September to begin your journey.

*"Do you understand what you are reading?" "How can I unless someone guides me?"
"Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this scripture he told him the good news of Jesus" (Acts 8:30-31).*

The Catholic Church is missionary by her very nature and continues to respond to the Lord's command to his disciples: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Mt 28:19). We, the priests and parishioners of St. Patrick Church, seek to share and spread the Catholic faith as an essential part of living it out. Our program for the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (O.C.I.A., formerly R.C.I.A.) embodies this in a critical way, since it seeks to share the Catholic faith with adults who have not yet received the fullness of the Church's teaching and practice. Since St. Patrick's is a ministry of the Order of Preachers, the O.C.I.A. program is accentuated by the Order's mission of preaching for the salvation of souls.

O.C.I.A. is the entire preparation that participants undergo. This preparation is a combination of personal conversion, catechetical instruction, prayer, liturgical rites, and integration into the larger parish community. Participants in O.C.I.A. include inquirers who are simply learning more about the faith, catechumens and candidates who have expressed their desire to become Catholic, and those who were baptized Catholic, but who require instruction as adults to prepare for one or more of the sacraments.

To learn more, please contact:

Fr. Albert Dempsey, O.P.

fralbert@stpatrickcolumbus.org

(614) 240-5919

Hallmarks of St. Patrick's O.C.I.A. program

While the essentials of O.C.I.A. remain the same throughout the Catholic Church, St. Patrick's O.C.I.A. program is blessed to have the following hallmarks:

- Emphasis on personal conversion
- Instruction by Dominican friars
- Ability to begin the process at any time
- Emphasis on formation in the Church's tradition of liturgy, prayer, devotions
- Sponsors from the parish
- Integration into active parish groups
- Emphasis on the saints as our "heavenly sponsors"
- *Credo* curriculum, presented by the Thomistic Institute

Want to invite a friend or loved one to consider becoming Catholic at St. Patrick's?

Share this information with them and encourage them to contact Fr. Albert Dempsey, O.P.

Fr. Albert Dempsey, O.P.
fralbert@stpatrickcolumbus.org
614-240-5919

Becoming a Godparent/Sponsor

If you are interested in getting involved as a sponsor, please contact the parish office or the Director of the O.C.I.A. program. Sponsors encourage and support an individual catechumen or candidate along his or her journey. The impact of a sponsor can be deep and lasting, as they assist the catechumen or candidate not only during the O.C.I.A. process, but afterwards. Sponsors are required to attend the Rite of Acceptance, the Rite of Election, and the Easter Vigil (or Mass of initiation) with their catechumen or candidate. At St. Patrick's, the sponsors chosen are generally parishioners, so that they can help their candidates integrate into the parish by attending Mass with them, inviting them to events, and introducing them to other parishioners. Sponsors are welcome to attend the O.C.I.A. class sessions along with their catechumen or candidate; however, this is not required since a sponsor's most important work actually takes place outside the class sessions.