



Welcome to all who celebrate the Mass with us today. May God's grace and peace fill us all so that we can serve one another in unity and love.

### THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



No one likes to be thought a fool. We plan carefully for our futures and are busy planning our children's inheritance. We are anxious to leave behind us only the best for those we love, and so insurance is an industry. It is good to think of those we love and to make provisions for them. But wouldn't the best gift for those we leave behind be a map, so that they might follow where we hope to have gone? Would it not be best to give others the knowledge of whom the bridegroom is we wait for, rather than give them even a lot more oil for their lamps? Wisdom is "readily perceived by those who

love her." God is ready to meet those who are ready to meet him. "We would have you be clear about those who sleep in death..." We are only truly in danger of death if we lose sight of the author of life. What's important? Knowing upon whom we wait.

**This Sunday the readings are:** (1) Wisdom 6, 12-16

(2) 1 Thessalonians 4, 13-18 (3) Matthew 25, 1-13.

**(Gather # 1182 Year A)**

**Next Sunday the readings will be:** (1) Proverbs 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31

(2) 1 Thessalonians 5, 1-6 (3) Matthew 25, 14-30

**(Gather # 1185 Year A)**



### Masses For The Week

**SAT: 4:00PM** Tony Barcelona, off: Pat & Family

**SUN: 11:15AM** For the Parish

**MON: 9:00AM** Helen Ludwick, off: Mike & Barb Ludwick

**TUE: 8:30AM** Lee Lai, off: Ellen Sisk

**SAT: 4:00PM** Robert & Jesse Snow, off: The Snow Family

**SUN: 11:15AM** For the Parish

### STEWARDSHIP

#### Collections for November 05, 2017

Regular Collection & loose cash (185 envelopes)	\$11,813.61
Children's (1 envelope)	\$5.00
Capital Improvement Donations (13 envelopes)	\$335.00
<b>Total collections for November 05, 2017</b>	<b>\$12,153.61</b>

**All Saints' Day Collection: \$1,142.00**

**All Souls' Day Collection: \$599.00**

**THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

#### PLEASE REMEMBER MHC IN YOUR WILL

The parish gratefully accepts donations of stock. A tax deduction for a gift of appreciated securities to a charity equals its full fair market value.



The parish office will be closed for Thanksgiving on Wednesday, November 22, Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24. Have a blessed Thanksgiving.



#### MANY THANKS TO THE ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY!

We would like to thank the ladies of the Altar Rosary Society for all their hard work in putting on the Holiday Bazaar. A profit of \$5,219.41 was realized! We are so grateful to every person who contributed their time and talent to this annual event. Many of the ladies worked all year to prepare lovely items to sell at the bazaar. Thanks to each and every person who sewed, did needlework, made crafts, created baskets, baked and cooked, donated items, organized the event, manned the register, counted money, set-up, and took down! Your efforts and contributions are greatly appreciated by the parish.

#### THANKS ALSO TO THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS!

Thanks to the K of C for the breakfast which they prepared and served at the Holiday Bazaar. It was delicious and was enjoyed by everyone. Many thanks for all your time and effort in putting on the breakfast!

#### Eucharistic Ministers Needed



Anyone interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister? We are currently in need of Eucharistic Ministers at all Masses. Some training is necessary. If interested please call the parish office @ 878-8353. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

#### SACRISTANS NEEDED



We are currently in need of Sacristans that would be willing to prepare for the Saturday 4:00PM and Sunday 11:15AM Masses. You'll arrive about 30 minutes before to help set up for Mass and then care for the vessels afterward and lock the church. **No experience is necessary and training is provided.** If interested please call parish office @ 878-8353. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

### CHRISTMAS PARTY OPEN TO ALL MHC ADULTS



The Daughters of Isabella and Altar Rosary invite you to join them at their annual Christmas Gala on December 11, 2017 at 6:00PM in the Hope Hotel and Conference Center, Wright Patterson AFB. Festivities begin with a delicious dinner, including the all-important dessert. The cost is just \$25.00 per person and is due at the time of reservation. Reservations must be made before December 4th! There will be no refunds or cancellations after December 4th. **To RSVP**, call Judy @ 864-2907 or Rita @ 318-8662. Join us for a great evening with your fellow parishioners.

#### ITEMS FROM BAZAAR FOR SALE NEXT WEEKEND:



Christmas items from the Holiday Bazaar will be for sale after all Masses next weekend in the Bride's Room. Stop in and see all the beautiful items that would make wonderful gifts. Thank you, from the Bazaar Committee. See you next Saturday and Sunday.

## THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Attention: First Eucharist parents



To those parents of children who will be celebrating First Eucharist this coming May, there will be a **Parent Formation on Reconciliation presentation in the SFH Comm. Room and Chapel on Wednesday, November 15, from 6:00PM-7:30PM. Children who are to receive First Eucharist this year should come with you.** They will attend a **Reconciliation Retreat** in the other room while you attend this presentation. You will receive the first set of texts for your home-based Reconciliation preparation. ***This retreat is for First Eucharist children only.*** Babysitting for siblings is not available. For more information, please call the Office of Religious Education @ 878-7325.

### ALL SOULS CANDLES

If you were unable to attend the All Souls Day Service you may pick up the candle for the deceased who died this past year in the Bride's Room. The candle can be lit anytime you wish to pray for a loved one who has died, or anytime that you especially miss the presence of your loved one, such as birthdays, anniversaries, holidays and other family gatherings and celebrations.

### Are you grieving the death of a loved one?

Mary, Help of Christians has a grief support group to care for people on their bereavement journey in a Christ centered environment. This is an opportunity for individuals to share their personal experience of grief with other bereaved persons who understand their pain. If you are interested, our monthly meeting is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month, 10:00AM – Noon in St. Francis Hall. Call Molly Hynes Collinsworth @ 878-7325 or email @ [mollymhc@gmail.com](mailto:mollymhc@gmail.com) for more information. **Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 21, 2017.**

### K of C Parish Dinner Saturday, November 11, 2017.



Knights of Columbus will hold our next Parish Dinner this Saturday November 11. This month we will be featuring a new entree in our lineup, Salisbury Steak. We'll server this with mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetable medley, salad, and a dessert. You get all this for just \$10 for adults \$5 for children. We'll be serving in the Parish Center right after the 4:00 Mass. Come and join your fellow Knights and Parishioners for some good food and even better company.

### Organizational and Ministry Booklet



If you did not receive our new Organizational and Ministry Booklet. Please stop by the rectory office and pick one up.

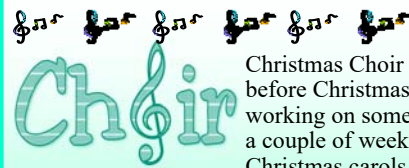


### BINGO

**The Fairborn Knights of Columbus has BINGO every Wednesday night in the Parish Center.** Doors open at 5:00PM and Instants start selling at 5:30PM. Early Bird Games start at 6:15PM and regular games start at 7:00PM. Packages start at \$12.00 (12 faces). Last series of the night is a \$1000 cover all in 50 numbers or less, 51 numbers for \$750 and then played out for \$500. (Prize reduced if under 80 players) A portion of the profit is donated back to our parish. For more information or if you would like to volunteer to work one night a month call Eric Rogalinski @ 657-6958.

### BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASSES

The next two Baptismal Preparation Classes for parents seeking baptism for young children are being held on Sunday, November 12, 2017 at 12:30PM and Sunday, January 14, 2018 at 12:30PM in the Church. Please call the parish office @ 878-8353 to advise us if you will be attending one of these classes.



### MUSIC MINISTRY: Music Ministry News:

Christmas Choir Countdown: We have six weeks before Christmas! We have already started working on some new music for Advent, and in a couple of weeks we will start rehearsing Christmas carols. So, if you're interested in singing with us for our Christmas liturgies, don't wait too long - it'll be here before you know it! We rehearse on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00. For more information, please contact our music director, Julian Calvin, [julian.calvin1@gmail.com](mailto:julian.calvin1@gmail.com) or 878-8092.

### WHY WE SING AT MASS

"God has bestowed upon His people the gift of song. God dwells within each human person, in the place where music takes its source. Indeed, God, the Giver of song, is present whenever His people sing His praises." **"SING TO THE LORD: MUSIC IN DIVINE WORSHIP"**

### Parish Satellite Library



A large number of books from the Parish Library have been relocated to the Usher's Room/ Satellite Library in the church. This move will make it more convenient for parishioners to select reading material. Access to this collection can be made online at [www.mhcparish.com](http://www.mhcparish.com) and click on religious library. Come and check it out! We are open during PSR and Saturdays and Sundays after Mass.

**The Archdiocesan Office for Marriage & Family Life has gifted Mary, Help of Christian with the book, Primal Loss: the Now-Adult Children of Divorce Speak. This book addresses the wounds suffered by children of divorce. It further, explores the role of Jesus Christ and His Church in healing these wounds.**

Mary, Help of Christians parish satellite library has the book available to check out. For more information call Carol Maiorano @ 340-6084.

To see all the wonderful books available go to <http://mhc.libib.com/i/mary-help-of-christians-library>



St. Vincent de Paul collects monetary donations at the doors after Mass on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of every month.



DISABLED AND WHEELCHAIR SEATING...Available in the left front section of the church.

Visit the parish web site at: [www.mhcparish.com](http://www.mhcparish.com)



The Loving Memory section on the back of our weekly bulletin will allow you to honor a deceased loved one by including them in the "In loving Memory" section. If interested please clip and fill in this slip.

You can put the slip in the collection or mail it to the parish. You will be billed by Diocesan, the bulletin publisher. If interested, please call the parish office, or you may contact **Mark Mazza** directly for pricing at [513-392-6768](tel:513-392-6768) or [mmazza@diocesan.com](mailto:mmazza@diocesan.com). **Thank you for your support.**

*Mary, Help of Christians Church # 389  
Fairborn, Oh.*


Loved One's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**(make checks payable to Diocesan)**

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_



**Journey Through Bethlehem Returns**  
**Mark Your Calendar**  
*An event you will not want to miss!*  
*This Year Open To The Public*  
Sunday, December 10th 10:00AM-1:00PM in the Parish Center.  
Please join us and experience Bethlehem as it might have looked the year Jesus was born.  
Anyone wishing to help with this event, provide baked goods, or for more information please e-mail or call Molly @ [mollymhc@gmail.com](mailto:mollymhc@gmail.com) or 878-7325.  
*Does anyone have any sawdust they could donate?*

**Is There Anyone Sick Among You?**

If you are going to the hospital; if someone in your family is in the hospital; or if you know of a parishioner in the hospital, please call the parish office and let us know! Due to privacy rules the hospitals no longer call us unless specifically requested by the patient. Also, if you know of a parishioner that is sick or homebound for an extended period, please call the Rectory Office @ 878-8353.



**St. Vincent de Paul Thank You**

St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank the parishioners and PSR families for their generosity that enabled us to provide monetary and food donations.

During the month of October 2017, we received 272 calls for assistance. We assisted 49 families with utilities, medicine, rent, household goods and furniture. We also provided food to 136 families (283 adults and 197 children). We visited 4 of our clients homes to provide encouragement and help to determine specific assistance needs.

Thank you!

We are not able to provide this assistance without your committed, generous and faithful support!

**GROWING CLOSER TO GOD THROUGH SPIRITUAL DIRECTION**



*Spiritual Direction is really not about being "directed," it is about being encouraged to draw closer to God. In spiritual direction you reflect deeply on the experiences of your daily life. You may come to realize how God's spirit is truly with you every day and*

*everywhere. You discover that God has been waiting for you to seek this closer relationship. A person may come to spiritual direction for many reasons, including to: find encouragement and affirmation; share struggles, losses or disappointments; integrate spirituality into your daily life; grow in relationship with God, self, others and creation. After completing a two year training in spiritual direction I am offering to you as you deepen your relationship with God. This involves confidential, one-on-one sessions, usually once a month for an hour. For more information or to make an appointment call Pat Scanlon @ 878-0461 or 572-2530.*

**"Be still and know that I am God...." Psalm 46**



**CENTERING PRAYER GROUP** is open to all parishioners. Centering Prayer is silent prayer that emphasizes prayer as a personal relationship with God and as a movement beyond conversation to communion with God. The focus of Centering Prayer is the deepening of our relationship with the living Christ. We often gather after morning Mass on

Mondays and Tuesdays for a 20 minute period of centering prayer. We meet on the 4th Tuesday of every month in St. Francis Hall from 7:00-8:30PM for prayer and continuing education. Please call Pat Scanlon at 878-0461 for more information. Next meeting will be on **Tuesday, November 28, 2017.**

**PLEASE HELP CLEAN & DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS!**



We will be cleaning the church for Christmas on Saturday, December 23 at 9:00AM – 1:00PM. We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Sunday, December 24 at 12:30PM-3:00PM after the 4th Sunday of Advent 11:15AM Mass. This is a little different this year because the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve are on the same day. We need many people to clean, set-up, and decorate. If you can help, please come. Thanks!

**It is time to plan the annual Senior Thanksgiving Dinner:**



This is the time for our parish family to honor the senior members by providing a traditional homemade **turkey dinner**. **Volunteers are needed to donate and/or roast a turkey**, call Julie Sewell @ 878-8353 or Mary McClellan @ 626-1306 for a list of items needed.

You can also donate a turkey that needs to be cooked or cook a donated turkey. The dinner will be held in the Parish Center on Sunday, November 19th at 12:30PM. *Planning to attend the Senior Thanksgiving Dinner? The dinner is free but reservations are requested. Please call the parish office @ 878-8353 by November 17th. Please bring a canned good for the St. Vincent dePaul food pantry.*

**BULLETIN DEADLINE FOR THANKSGIVING**

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, we received an accelerated deadline for the bulletin for November 26<sup>th</sup>. Please submit your articles for the November 26<sup>th</sup> bulletin by 11:00AM Wednesday, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>. Thanks for your help in meeting the deadline.

## THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**What is the Handy Helpers Ministry?** Volunteers from our parish make small home repairs and do “round-the-house” projects for elderly, disabled, and single parents. Materials are the responsibility of the homeowner, but the labor is free. (For those in need, St. Vincent de Paul and other donations may provide some materials.) Among the services that may be done are yard work, painting, carpentry, minor electrical work, general repairs, window washing, gardening, mending and other handy-person jobs. For more information or to request the services of a handy-helper, please call the Parish Office @ 878-8353. If you have skills that could be put to good use in this ministry, you are invited to call and join our “Handy Helpers.”

### ENCOUNTERING THE MYSTERY:



#### ENCOUNTERING THE MYSTERY

**An Opportunity to grow in your love and understanding of the Eucharist**  
**Sunday Mornings 10:00 - 11:00AM in St. Francis Hall**

Over the course of 12 sessions we will explore the many aspects of this wondrous sacrament. These will include some considerations of the New Testament origins of Eucharistic practices and belief, consideration of how Eucharistic rituals and thinking developed over the centuries, some glimpses on the challenges and struggles in articulating appropriate theologies of the Eucharist in different ages and different contexts and consideration of the basic teachings about the Eucharist as an experience of real presence and of sacrifice. This DVD lecture series was written and is presented by expert theologian and national speaker Father Edward Foley who discusses the topics:

**November 12 Session 6: Emerging Christian Eucharist: Centuries of Diversity**  
**January 7 Session 7: The Early Medieval Period**  
**January 14 Session 8: The Late Middle Ages**  
**January 21 Session 9: Reform and Counter-Reform**  
**January 28 Session 10: Trent and the Counter-Reform**  
**February 4 Session 11: Real Presence Revisited**  
**February 11 Session 12: The Sacrifice of the Mass Revisited**  
*Come and learn more about the gift and mystery of the Eucharist we treasure so deeply.*

#### St. Vincent de Paul Furniture

We are looking for a few like new couches, beds/mattresses and dressers to help our neighbors in need. Please contact Bill & Jane Doorley @ 879-5848 or 902-5393. Please, items need to be in very good condition. Thanks for your help and support.

### MHC EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

4TH MONDAY EACH MONTH, EVENINGS

All are invited to come and spend some quiet moments with our Lord on the 4th Monday evening each month from 7:00-8:00PM in the church. What a wonderful opportunity to pray. For more information call Pat Scanlon @ 878-0461 or Carolyn Marth @ 308-4639.

**Monday, November 27, 2017.**

**Offering Envelopes:** Did you know, if you drop your MHC offering envelope into the collection basket at any other Catholic church in the area you might attend, they will return those envelopes and offerings to us? Likewise, we will return any other church's envelopes/offerings to those parishes if placed in our collection basket.



To all our parishioners: please do use your envelopes for your offerings, as this makes it easier for our money count teams to count the collection. Thank you! **If you have not yet registered at our parish, we invite you to become a member** by picking up a registration form found in the bin on the wall near the church front doors. Your completed form can be dropped in the collection basket, or mailed to the parish office, or brought in to the parish office. We look forward to meeting you!

#### Add JOY to your life!

All adult parishioners and friends are invited to attend the **JOY Club's** next meeting on Monday, November 13th at 1:00PM in St. Francis Hall. **JOY Club** meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays from September through June from 1:00PM-3:00PM. Come to **enJOY** an afternoon of cards, games or bingo along with fellowship and refreshments with your fellow parishioners and friends. . Come feel the **JOY!** Special trips and parties are planned throughout the year.

#### Have you ever wondered what the Catholic Church believes about certain topics?

Have you ever wished to know more about faith? Now you can learn from the comfort of home or even when you're on the go. Just go online to [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) scroll down to *Does your parish already have formed?* and enter the code: **J72WK2.(must be all CAPS)**. Then hit submit.. *Fill out personal login information... From this point forward, "Login" using your personal account.* Explore the site and you will be pleasantly surprised at the volume of movies, faith formation and e-books available at no cost to you. It's some of the best Catholic content all in one place and just a click away.

**FORMED.org**  
THE CATHOLIC FAITH.  
ON DEMAND.

#### Poinsettia Memorials Envelope:



The Poinsettia Memorials envelope inserted in your November section of parish offering envelopes is specifically for Christmas poinsettias. If you wish to memorialize someone, please **PRINT** their name (s) on the blank lines on the back of the provided envelope, or **PRINT** the name(s) of those to be remembered on a plain envelope with your name. **We ask that you please limit your entries to 6**, or feel free to use collective groups such as “the friends and families of Mr. and Mrs. Jones.” (Donation of \$10.00 is appreciated, but not required.) The memorials will be published in a subsequent bulletin insert. Envelopes can be placed in the Sunday collection basket or turned in at the parish office. Thank you for your kind donations.



**Advent Holy Hour with Eucharistic Adoration**



This advent season you are invited to be still and wait, to prepare for the coming of Christ who can be born anew into each heart, mind and soul. Advent is a time to be attentive, patient, hopeful and faithful as was Mary, the Mother of God. A Holy Hour with Eucharistic Adoration will be held each Monday evening during Advent from 7:00-8:00PM in the church.

**THE GIVING TREE IS COMING December 2nd & 3rd -- PLEASE WATCH FOR IT!!**

Again, this year, D of I will be sponsoring the Giving



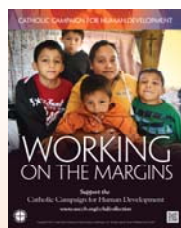
Tree to collect presents and food for the most needy in the area. There is a quick turn around with how Christmas falls this year. The tree will go up in the vestibule on December 2nd & 3rd with tags attached with wishes and needs for our 'families.' Please take a tag or two and follow the instructions

for getting the gift and bringing it back for delivery on Sunday, December 17. Please help us help area families have a special Christmas for their children. Please call Pat @ 849-9140 or Annie @ 409-5299 if you have any questions. Watch the bulletin for more details.

**MHC Holiday Bazaar:** We would like to thank everyone who supported our 47<sup>th</sup> Holiday Bazaar. Special thanks to all the booth chairpersons & workers, kitchen staff, all those who helped set up and tear down, bookkeepers, all those who donated craft and baked goodies, raffle prizes and basket donors, and to our wonderful shoppers who helped make this event a success. **Our raffle winners were: Quilt "Strippy Rows"–** Loretta Thompson ; **Oak Blanket Chest–** Cheryl Block; **Specialty Raffles – Winners:** Girl's Huffly Bike–Bill Hermiller; Girls Just Want to Have Fun Basket– Hope Smith; Advent Basket–Marilyn Steward; Get Well Soon Basket – Mary Dewire; Esther Price Basket–Kathy Clark; Candy Boxes Basket– Roger Bradbury; Kitchen Gadget Basket – Marlene; St. Francis Basket– Joni Laughner; Just A Note Basket– Dave Banaszak; Dayton Dragons Basket– Howard Wooton; BBQ Grill Basket– Marilyn Steward; Bath/ Shower Basket – Rita Wooten; Salad Basket–Annette Jacobs; Pampered Chief Basket– Andrea Schott; Pamper Basket– Linda Cherpeski; Wooden Bowl Basket– Maryann; Cuisinart Cookie Press Basket– Roger Bradbury; Mary Kay Basket– Roger Bradbury; Bulb Planter Basket– Mary Jo Martin, Pat's Preserves and Jelly –Cathy Lump; Jake LaLanne Juicer Basket – Debby Thomas; Musical Bear– Crystal Mans; Snowman Basket– Julie Blake; Napkin Basket– Judy McCoy; Girls Sports Basket– Dave Banaszak ; Boys Sports Basket– Jeanne Duell; Hostess Basket–Wilma McNeely; Chantilly Cream Basket– Jerry Parisi; Dayton Dragons Basket 2– Loretta Thompson; Festive Table Basket– Treva Schroeder; Halloween Basket– Jelynn White; Hen & Chicken Basket–LaDonna Lenke; Young's Dairy Basket–Marilyn Steward; Sewing Basket– Matthew Tufts. We hope you all have a Blessed Holiday and Christmas Season. Thank you, Julie Sewell.



**Next Sunday is the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.**



On November 19, Pope Francis is instituting a World Day of the Poor, the same weekend as our annual collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), the national, anti-poverty campaign of the U.S. bishops. Since its start more than 30 years ago, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development has worked to transform lives and communities, focusing steadily on breaking the cycle of poverty in thousands of communities across our country. Your contribution is greatly appreciated. We will have a second collection at all

Masses next weekend. Please note that if you are using a check to make your donation, your check should be made payable to Mary, Help of Christians (with "CCHD" noted on the memo line). We consolidate the donations and write one check for the CCHD or use the envelope provided in your Oct./Nov. envelope pack. Again, thanks so much for your generosity.



**St. Vincent de Paul requests your support in a FOOD DRIVE to be held on Thanksgiving.**

The pantry, from which we serve the poor of Fairborn, is providing food to 150-200 families every month. This level of support has been provided for the past couple years; we sincerely thank you for your continued support for this ministry. By helping the poor, you give thanks to your God for the blessings he has given to you.

The pantry needs include soup, fruit and vegetables in cans, spaghetti sauce, boxed macaroni and cheese, and canned prepared foods, such as baked beans, ravioli, and beef stew. We can always use personal paper products, toothpaste, toothbrushes and shampoo.

Please leave any donations in the vestibule of the church, before or after Thanksgiving Mass on Thursday, November 23. Jesus made it clear that we will always have poor persons with us. St Vincent de Paul has lasted for a long time and continues to be active because there is a persistent need. We appreciate your commitment to helping those poor. May God bless you every one.



**St. Nick Is Coming To The Parish Soon-- Parents:**

Bring your children to the Parish Center on Sunday, December 3rd at 9:45AM for **Breakfast with St. Nick!** The Parish School of Religion (PSR) will celebrate their annual Breakfast with St. Nicholas. If you have young children not enrolled in PSR, you are welcome to being them to the Parish Center

for breakfast, games, crafts and photos with St. Nick. **The Knights of Columbus will provide a free pancake breakfast** and *No registration is required*, but for planning purposes, an RSVP is appreciated. If possible, please call Molly @ 878-7325 by November 30 and leave a message with your name and the number of people coming.

## THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Archdiocese of Cincinnati



**Office of  
The Archbishop**

100 East Eighth Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

513-421-3131

October 2017

My Dear Friends in Christ,

On November 19, the Thirty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time, Pope Francis is instituting a new tradition for our Church: a World Day of the Poor. In his inaugural message for this occasion, the Holy Father announced, "This new World Day should become a powerful appeal to our consciences as believers, allowing us to grow in the conviction that sharing with the poor enables us to understand the deepest truth of the Gospel" (no.9).

For Catholics in the United States, the Holy Father could not have picked a more fitting time. The weekend of November 18-19 is our annual collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), the national, anti-poverty campaign of the U.S. bishops. Through the grants we make to well-vetted organizations, CCHD uniquely empowers those in poverty to become their own agents for change. Beyond direct service to address immediate needs, it gives the poor a voice at decision-making tables, confidence in themselves, and a sense of ownership over their communities.

Recently, I personally experienced once again the impact of CCHD. At the Athenaeum of Ohio earlier this fall, I joined a crowd of parish ministers and met leaders from some of our CCHD-funded agencies. Among them, I encountered formerly incarcerated men and women reentering society, immigrants searching for welcome, and low-income neighborhood leaders securing decent housing and public services in their communities. I was impressed by their determination to better their lives and those of others. I was also moved by the affection they seem to have acquired for the Catholic community standing in solidarity with them. They were among the nearly 2,000 low-income people who directly benefitted from your CCHD support in this archdiocese last year.

CCHD is a mandatory collection in the archdiocese, which means that every parish will be taking it up. We send two-thirds of this collection to the national CCHD offices at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (much of which comes back to fund organizations operating in our archdiocese). The remaining one-third is granted just to agencies in our own archdiocese. A smaller portion supports the U.S. bishops' Black and Indian Mission Fund, anti-poverty education efforts in our parishes and schools, and administration of these funds. It is our strict policy that organizations that receive CCHD funds must not participate in activities that promote abortion, same-sex marriage, the death penalty, affronts to human life and dignity, or any positions contrary to fundamental Church teaching. You can learn more about CCHD's work in the Archdiocese at [www.catholiccincinnati.org/socialaction](http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/socialaction).

Through our contributions to CCHD on the World Day of the Poor, and our engagement with the poor all year round, may we more fully understand the deepest truths of the Gospel.

With gratitude for your generosity, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis M. Schnurr", with a small cross symbol to the left of the first letter.

Most Rev. Dennis M. Schnurr  
Archbishop of Cincinnati