

Annunciation: The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, is liturgically celebrated each year on March 25th; however, this year the Church transferred this celebration to Monday, April 9th. So gather with us this Monday with the school children at the 8:00 a.m. Mass as we celebrate the appearance of the Angel Gabriel to Mary where he told her she would be the Mother of God's own son. As we honor Mary and those months she carried in her womb Jesus, so to we honor all mothers who carry within their bodies the gift of life given to them by God. This day marks the beginning of our Spiritual Adoption Program.

Spiritual Adoption: Bishop Fulton Sheen promoted the devotion of "spiritual adoption" many years ago. The idea is to commit to pray for a child in the womb (or a human embryo created outside the womb) whose existence is threatened by abortion or destruction. The commitment lasts nine months. Although the child is



known only to God, one names the child and prays for the child's life and salvation each day of the nine month period. So the members of Saints Peter and Paul parish family will have the opportunity this weekend to "spiritually" adopt a child who is newly conceived this month. Not all newly conceived babies are allowed to be born. It is these babies you are being asked to "adopt". You may "adopt" a child individually or as a family by signing up this weekend or at the Mass this Monday, April 9th, the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord to Mary. You will find in each pew "Pledge Cards". When you sign the pledge card, you pledge to pray daily for the baby. The completed Pledge Cards can be placed in a basket at the Blessed Mother's statue. You are encouraged to name the baby and give him or her an identity. Each month in the bulletin a report describing your baby's development will be given. At the end of the nine-month period we will celebrate the "birth" of our spiritually adopted babies with a baby shower. All gifts collected at the shower will be given to the Alpha Alternative Pregnancy Care Center for mothers in need.

With Easter Joy we are continuing our Weekly Food Donations to the Aaron McNeil Center. This week's food item is **Canned meat – tuna, chicken, spam, etc.** All items can be placed in the barrel in the coat closet near the restrooms. Thank you.

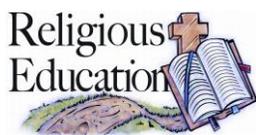


PSR (Parish School of Religion) – Pre-School thru 5th Grade:

Our Religious Education program is on Easter and Spring Break so there are no classes. We will resume with class on Sunday, April 15th beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the School Building.

April/May Schedule :

April 8 – No Class-Spring Break April 15 – Class
 April 22 – Class April 29 – Class
 May 6th – Last Class/Closing Celebration



Youth Ministry

Our Middle School and High School Youth classes will resume this Wednesday, April 11th with Mass at 5:30 p.m., continue with dinner and class. Our program concludes at 8:00 p.m.

April Schedule:

April 4 – No Class April 11 – Class
 April 18 – Class April 25 – Class

Gasper River Catholic Retreat Summer Camps: A combination of Catholic faith, thrilling adventures and old and new friends leads to a deeper understanding and appreciation of our life-long relationship with God.



Learn more; register online: gasperriverretreatcenter.org. If you have any questions, please contact the Gasper River Camp office at (270) 781-2466. Brochures are available at the adoration table and parish office.

Christian Leadership Institute (CLI) - June 10-15 at Mount Saint Joseph near Owensboro: For Youth who want to learn skills in leadership, decision-making, communication, and organization to be a better leader in school, church, home, and life. (Grades 10th-12th). For registration information contact Libby. Registration deadline is **May 14th**. Registrations after May 14th will cost \$10 more.

"Living & Leading Love" (L3) Youth Theology

Institute: 20 students are chosen to be part of a year-long program, including theology, reflections, learn online service opportunities, retreats, prayer experiences, and a 5-day course at Brescia University the following summer to conclude the program. Living and Leading with Love is generously funded by the Lilly Endowment. For incoming high school Sophomores, Juniors or Seniors. For more information or to apply contact Brescia University at www.brescia.edu/L3 or Dr. Emily DeMoor: 270-686-4229, emily.demoor@brescia.edu



Diocese's Office of Marriage and Family Life

The Office of Marriage and Family Life is sponsoring a marriage retreat called "Encountering the Gift of Marriage" at Kenlake Resort on April 13th – 14th. Retreat master will be Bob Perron, co-founder of Catholic Marriage and Family, Inc. Registration information can be found on the family Life webpage or on Facebook @ OboroFamilyLife .



Save the Date: The Office of Marriage and Family Life is sponsoring "Family Day at Gasper" on Sunday, August 19th. The theme will be "Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist" with activities, reflections by Fr. Mike Williams, and closing Mass with Bishop Medley.

Match the Easter Saint: The Easter season is filled with saints both famous and lesser-known. Match the clues with the saints' names below.

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| a. St. Catherine of Siena | g. St. Benedict the African |
| b. St. Athanasius | h. St. Bernadette |
| c. St. Joseph the Worker | i. St. Gianna Beretta Molla |
| d. St. Isidore the Farmer | j. St. Isidore of Seville |
| e. St. Pedro de San José Betancur | k. St. Theophilus of Corte |
| f. St. Damien de Veuster of Moloka'i | |

- This young woman, whose feast day is April 16, saw a vision of the Virgin Mary in a grove called Massabielle. ____
- A Spanish bishop who loved learning, and whose leadership of the Spanish Church was characterized by cooperation, not autocracy. ____
- Fourteenth-century mystic, well-regarded for her works of charity; had popular authority to help broker peace treaties. She influenced the pope to return the papacy from France to Rome. ____
- Hired hand on a Spanish farm whose life was characterized by generosity to the poor and communing with God from behind a plow. ____
- Belgian missionary to Hawaii who worked in a leper colony and eventually succumbed to the disease. ____
- Shares a name with the person for whom Luke's Gospel and its companion work, Acts of the Apostles, was written. ____
- A doctor and mother of six who chose the protection of her unborn child over full treatment for cancer. ____
- Born in Egypt; was made bishop and deposed more than once by the advocates of Arianism, a heresy he struggled against. ____
- A child of slaves brought from Africa to Sicily who became a Franciscan brother, and was happy to return to kitchen patrol after his tenure as leader of the community ended. ____
- The first saint to work and die in Guatemala, who called the rich to repentance and is sometimes credited with creating the Christmas tradition of Las Posadas. ____
- Carpenter honored by Pope Pius XII in response to Communist celebrations for workers; held up as an example of the dignity of the common laborer. ____

Important Dates

First Holy Communion Prayer Day:
Saturday, April 28th beginning at 9:00 a.m.

First Communion Celebration:
Sunday, April 29th at 4:00 p.m.

First Communion Prayer Day: On Saturday, April 28th we will have a "Prayer Day" for our children who will be receiving their First Holy Communion on Sunday, April 29th. This will be a fun day filled with prayer, bread making, church search/tour, lunch and many other special opportunities. **Parents we ask you to come and be with your child** and help them along the way as they make bread, make their First Communion Banner and as they look for items in the church. This is an opportunity you don't want to miss. **If you would like to help plan our activities for the day, please join us on Tuesday, April 10th at 5:30 p.m. in the Holy Family Room.**

Our Farmers: All around the country one can see signs of the farmers going about the work of planting. It takes a tremendous amount of effort and time to get the seed into the earth. One sees huge machines going slowly across the fields, and they are pulling long pieces of equipment. What if the farmers were not willing to make this effort? What if they just decided it was too hard to do the planting? It wouldn't be long before they would be out of the farming business. What if we decide that it is too hard to make an effort to live the faith? How will the seeds of God's love be sown? Will there be anything left for the Lord to harvest? So we pray, may our hearts be fertile places for God's love to grow. During this planting season we pray for all our farmers, especially for their safety.



Prayer for Farmers

Make this earth fertile and fruitful
for the planning and growing of our crops,
so that the hungry may rejoice
in your provident blessings.
Make our hearts also fertile ground
for the sowing of your Word,
that Christ may produce a rich harvest
of good works in the Spirit among us.
By your blessing
may we be fruitful and bear witness
to your bounty,
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Easter Saint Answer Key:

- Bernadette, 4/16
- Isidore of Seville, 4/4
- Catherine of Siena, 4/29
- Isidore the Farmer, 5/15
- Damien de Veuster of Moloka'i, 5/10
- Theophilus of Corte, 5/19
- Gianna Beretta Molla, 4/28
- Athanasius, 5/2
- Benedict the African, 4/3
- Pedro de San Jose Betancur, 4/26
- Joseph the Worker, 5/1

Knights of Columbus Membership Drive:

Next weekend (April 14/15) at all Masses members of our Knights of Columbus Council 7487 will be in the narthex with information about becoming a member of the Knights of Columbus. This is a great opportunity to ask these members why they are involved and how this helps them be a better person, Catholic, member of society.



Why Become a Knight?

Overview

The Knights are one the largest charitable organizations in the world. The service aspect of the Knights encompasses the Church, Community, Council, Family, Pro-Life, and Youth.

Our Principles -

Charity - Our Catholic faith teaches us to "Love thy neighbor as thyself." Members of the Knights of Columbus show love for their neighbors by conducting food drives, donating to food pantries, volunteering at Special Olympics, and by supporting, both spiritually and materially, mothers who choose life for their babies.

Unity – None of us is as good as all of us. Members of the Knights of Columbus all know that – together – we can accomplish far more than any of us could individually. So we stick together...we support one another.

Fraternity – The Venerable Michael J. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus, in large part, to provide assistance to the widows and children left behind when the family breadwinner died – often prematurely. The Order's top-rated insurance program continues to do this today.

Patriotism – Members of the Knights of Columbus are patriotic citizens. We are proud of our devotion to God and country, and believe in standing up for both.



Knights hard at work supporting our troops and our community.

Annual Alpha Alternative Fundraising Banquet: Alpha Alternative is our local pregnancy support center that assists families with unwanted or unanticipated pregnancies, with those who have had abortions and need help coping with this decision. It also helps with families looking for ways to become more effective parents. The effect Alpha Alternative has on our community is widespread and their mission is one that we at Saints Peter and Paul strongly support. So join us for Alpha Alternative's Annual Fundraising Banquet which will be

held on Monday, May 7th at The Silo located at 110 John Rives Road. If you are interesting in hosting a table, forms are available in the parish office. Each table seats 10 people. Remember table reservations are available in the parish office or you can call 885-8522.

Alpha Alternative Pregnancy Care Center 27th Annual Fundraising Dinner

Monday, May 7th, 2018 at The Silo
featuring Dr. Marc Newman

An opportunity for an offering will be extended.

Seating begins at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner and Program 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Adults Only Event

For reservations call the parish office – 885-8522

Congratulations to Fr. Pike Powell and Fr. Aloysius Powers on the 70 year anniversary of their Priesthood Ordination – 04/05/48: Thursday marked a special milestone for Rev. Pike Powell and Rev. Aloysius Powers!



Both men were ordained to the priesthood in 1948 at St. Stephen Cathedral. Bishop William F. Medley joined the retired priests for lunch on Thursday at the Carmel Home to celebrate. Rev. Powell reminisced on that day 70 years ago, saying, "it was a beautiful day." God bless these men for faithfully serving God and the Church! If you would like to send them cards thanking them for their service to God and to us, these cards can be sent in care of Fr. Pike and Fr. Aloysius at the Carmel Home, 251 Old Hartford Road, Owensboro, KY 42303.

Another priest that has served here at Saints Peter and Paul and who will be celebrating an anniversary during the month of April is Fr. Carmelo Jimenez Salinas. Fr. Carmelo will celebrate 19 years of priestly service on Wednesday, April 25th. If you would like to send an anniversary card to Fr. Carmelo, please send it to St. Michael Parish, P.O. Box 705, Sebree, KY 42455.

Save the Date – Monday, April 23rd at 6:00 p.m.:

Bishop Medley has presided each year, beginning in 2011, at a prayer service for protection and healing during National Child Abuse Prevention Month in April. These prayer services are held at different locations in the diocese to make the prayer opportunity available to more people. This year Saints Peter and Paul will be the host parish. So save the date to come and join us. More information will be available soon.