



# The Crossroads Messenger

4th Quarter, 2019

The official newsletter of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

Mount Washington, Kentucky

## The Symbolism, History of Advent Wreaths

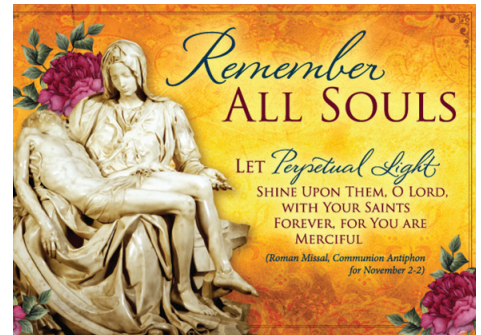
Mary Fairchild  
[www.learnreligions.com](http://www.learnreligions.com)

Advent is the season when Christians make spiritual preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas. Celebrating with an Advent wreath is a meaningful custom in many Christian traditions.

### History of the Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is a circular garland of evergreen branches representing eternity. On that wreath, four or five candles are typically arranged. During the season of Advent, one candle on the wreath is lit each Sunday as a part of the Advent services. Each candle represents an aspect of the spiritual preparation for the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ.

The lighting of an Advent wreath is a custom that began in 16th-century Germany among Lutherans and Catholics. In Western Christianity, Advent begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day, or the Sunday which falls closest to November 30, and lasts through Christmas Eve, or December 24. ■ See WREATH, page 11



During the All Souls Day Vigil Prayer Service, a candle was lit and presented to family members of the following loved ones who have left us since last All Souls Day:

Jesse Wayne Abrams  
Gordon Lee Bryant  
Charlie Conner Cecil  
Mary Elizabeth Dennis  
Jennifer Eisenmenger  
Linda Hild-Foster  
Matthew Allen Harbin  
William Michael Higgins, Jr.  
Donald R. Kiefer  
Matthew Lee Martin  
Ellis Raymond Olliges  
Donna Jean Richardson  
Thomas William Rodgers, Sr.  
Jess Arthur Sutton  
Donald Bennett Tinsley

Andrew Bagniefski  
Joetta Bass Calhoun  
Lois Ann Cleary  
Rita M. Dettlinger  
Charles Melvin Fogle  
Patricia K. French  
Mary "Liz" Harris  
Jane Audrey Luckett  
Gale Spanyer Morris  
Lisa A. Raley  
Anna Lee Hagan Taylor  
John Mario Wren

## Thanks Norma!



Sincere appreciation to Norma Mattingly for serving as editor of *The Crossroads Messenger* since its beginning in 2016. Through her vast journalism experience, attention to detail and professionalism, Norma played a vital role to help establish this important communication tool for our Parish. We thank her for sharing her time, talent and treasure in this ministry work.

# Deacon Formation

## Weathering The Contrasts And Changes Of Life

Gerry Mattingly  
Deacon



Ecclesiastes is my favorite book in Sacred Scripture. Ecclesiastes has been called a book of wisdom for living life well. The messages in Ecclesiastes are full of contrasts and changes. They remind me of the contrasts and changes that we go through at this time of year.

By the time you read my article, the Church will have transitioned from the liturgical season of Ordinary Time to the penitential time of Advent. The changing of liturgical seasons will be evident by the changing of the liturgical colors from green to violet.

As I was writing this article on the Feast of All Saints, these changes were never more apparent in the weather. The day before on Halloween we had dropping temperatures. It was a raw, windy, cloudy day with rain and even snow flurries. A sharp contrast to the 75° day that we had earlier in the week, and it was sure different than the 90° days that we had earlier in October.

In weather, there are four seasons. But in your life,

there are dozens of different seasons. And every season of life includes both good and bad times. Life is full of contrasts. We go through mountains, valleys, successes, and failures. We have wins, and we have losses.

Life is a combination of contrasting seasons. All sunshine and no rain make a desert. If you're following God's will, if you're trying to live your life according to the way God wants you to live,

then you'll eventually see that these experiences can have purpose and value in your life.

You may think that the only time you're in God's will is when you're at church or having a quiet time. You can be in God's will as you're cleaning out a closet, mowing your lawn or shoveling snow. You can be in God's will when you move to a new location or stay right where you are. There's a time and season for everything.

Ecclesiastes 3:11 tells us "God has made everything beautiful for its own time." God can take even the bad things and, in the proper season, turn them around and use them for good in the way He intends.

You may be going through a season right now that is not beautiful. Your finances or health may not be good. Your marriage or friendships are struggling. Your future looks bleak.

God can make something good out of it. Trust Him with the pieces.

margee's musings



Two ministries of our Parish that are dear to my heart are those of funeral and bereavement. During the last months of the year, we are reminded more poignantly of those we have loved and lost. There is the observance of All Souls



Margee Joseph  
Pastoral Associate

Day when we specifically recall our loved ones who have left us and are now living with God and the Saints. This is followed so closely by the holiday season which can be a bittersweet time for those who have recently lost loved ones.

Here at St. Francis Xavier, when a Parishioner dies, the family normally goes to the funeral home to make final arrangements for the visitation and the funeral service or Mass. Afterwards the family meets with me to plan the funeral liturgy. They have

the opportunity to choose the readings, one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament that speaks to the character and personality of the deceased. Lectors, gift bearers, servers and songs may also be selected. Many times the deceased one has left a plan that indicates his or her personal choices. Other times the family is left to choose.

This is without a doubt a very difficult time in the family's life. In addition to sadness they may feel totally distraught, lost and hopeless. It is at these times that I am privileged to see the Holy Spirit at work. Time and again I watch a transformation take place within the families. It's as if the Holy Spirit comes down, wraps his arms around them to hold them and comfort them. I always am in awe of the power and love of our God.

At these meetings I encourage the family to talk about their loved one--to describe characteristics, the work he/she did and hobbies that were enjoyed. Retelling events of the loved one's life often causes humorous memories to come to the forefront replacing tears of sadness with laughter. This is

the beginning of the time for healing and God is at the very center of it.

Following that meeting I make arrangements for a pianist and cantor to provide the music for the funeral liturgy. I then prepare the worship aid and share pertinent information with Fr. Dale or the deacon to use in the homily. One of our deacons is invited to conduct a vigil prayer service at the funeral home on the evening before the funeral.

On the day of the funeral another ministry steps in to provide more comfort to the family. A bereavement meal is offered to the family upon their return from the cemetery. The bereavement committee is headed by Nancy Crawhorn with Betty Tinsley as her chief assistant. They order the meat to be served and then call other committee members who bring vegetables, salad, fruit, desserts and drinks. The committee works together to present and serve the meal to the family. The Parishioners who help with this committee are numerous and the dishes they bring are varied and wonderfully delicious. Food is a great source of comfort and the families are deeply appreciative of this kind gesture.

Most people would think that the ministry ends once the funeral, burial and meal are over and families go their separate ways. At St. Francis, our ministry continues for the first year following a loved one's death. At three weeks, 3 months, 6 months and a year, surviving spouses, children or parents receive from the Parish a letter with a CareNote booklet to help them through the stages of grief during the first year after the death. At the first Christmas without a loved one, a specially designed Christmas card is sent to each family acknowledging the sadness and sense of loss they may be experiencing during what is supposedly the happiest time of the year.

These ministries are all about loving one another as Christ taught. Being with someone when they are feeling very lost and vulnerable is another way to share Christ's love with one another. If you are interested in being a part of the funeral ministry, please contact Margee Joseph at 538-4933 or if you would like to help with the bereavement meal, please contact Nancy Crawhorn at 502-538-6977 or Betty Tinsley at 502-538-6150.



### St. Francis Xavier

155 Stringer Lane  
Mount Washington, KY 40047  
502.538.4933 - or - 502.955.5366

www.sfxmw.com Like us on Facebook!

OFFICE HOURS  
Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Friday, 8:30 a.m. - noon



# Celebrating a Record Career

## Exploring Father Dale's Experiences

Most little boys will say they want to become a fireman or policeman when they grow up. Not young Dale Cieslik.

*Norma Mattingly*  
*Editor*

He wanted to be a priest.

“As a little boy, I was infatuated with the priesthood,” said Father Dale. His earliest recollection of observing a priest at Mass was Father Stanley Schmidt, founding pastor of St. Ignatius Church on Rangeland Road in Louisville. “I learned Latin and served as an altar boy in fifth grade there,” he stated.

The oldest son of Stanley and

Emogene Cieslik, Father Dale was born in Lebanon, Kentucky on May 2, 1955. The Cieslik family includes his sister Karen and brother David. In the same year, they moved to Louisville. He attended first and second grade at St. Bartholomew Parish followed by third through eighth grade at St. Ignatius. He graduated from Southern High School in 1973. His first college semester was at Bellarmine College. After working the second semester to pay off Bellarmine's tuition, Father Dale headed to Indiana where, in 1978, he graduated from St. Meinrad College with a BA in History and his Master of

Divinity in 1982.

His first Parish assignment was John Vianney and St. Leo the Great. He served there one year before moving to St. Rita Church where he caught up with his Southern High School friends (1983-1986). St. Francis of Assisi Church in the Highlands was his next Parish home from 1986 to 1989. While there, black and white movies of the church were found in the walk-in vault of the rectory's basement. The movies were transferred to a film, narrated by Parish lector Joan Lucher. This piqued his interest in finding and preserving church artifacts.

In 1989, Father Dale moved to St. Pius X Church, which marked his first pastorate. During his 5 years there, he was asked to sit on the Priest's Personnel Board, representing Peer Group 5. There are five priests on the Board. He has continuously served on this Board and is now in Peer Group 2.

During a conversation with Archbishop Kelly, Father Dale was given the role of Chancellor-Archivist, succeeding Father BJ Breen. For the next 8 years, he was Chancellor while also serving in various churches. This position worked closely with the archbishop, serving as spokesperson, leading prayers, taking care of the spiritual and temporal needs of the archdiocesan priests and other religious personnel.

Archbishop Kelly sent Father Dale to St. Leonard Church to build a gym and double the size of the school building in 2002. In 2008 he became pastor at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church where he met Margee Joseph, the Pastoral Associate. They went through a Capital Campaign (Building a Future of Hope) to renovate the 1975 church. In 2012, Father Dale joined us at St. Francis Xavier Church.

Another role Father Dale is equally proud of is Archivist in the Archdiocese in Louisville, where he recently celebrated 25 years. Father Clyde Crews



was the previous historian for 35 years. Father Dale succeeded him. “I like the role in archives. I read and organize letters,” he said. He's currently reading letters from a niece written to her uncle, Father John McGill, priest of the diocese. McGill served as Bishop of Richmond, Virginia during the Civil War. One of Bishop

McGill's great grandnieces gave Father Dale three photographs of the bishop.

One of Father Dale's greatest accomplishments came in 2006 when the Archdiocesan History Center opened. What started with 2 cabinets in the closed St. Vincent DePaul Church has grown into the largest culmination of historical relics, statues, and artifacts of Catholic churches across the Archdiocese. In 1995, Father Dale was tasked with organizing the distribution of the contents of the ten churches that were closed that year. Each item was photographed on film then given to Parishes that needed them. Most items remained within the diocese. “My mother labeled everything!” he chuckled. This instilled in him an organizational skill proven valuable to his Archivist role. It took 2 years to distribute everything. As Archivist, Father Dale is responsible for creating and maintaining the Archives as well as continued maintenance of all official records of the Archdiocese,

the Archbishop and all priests past and present. Father Dale was consulted about all the archives belonging to Thomas Merton housed at the Abbey of Gethsemani in Trappist, Kentucky and the artifacts were brought to the Merton Center in Louisville. He is currently reading one of Merton's books, “The Sign of Jonas,” a personal documentation of Merton's years in the monastery at Gethsemani.

At St. Francis Xavier Parish, Father Dale oversees the Long-Range Plan and the Capital Campaign for it, stating “I'm learning a lot now” of the future building plans for our Parish. He enjoys celebrating the Sacraments with Parishioners. His favorite hobbies are collecting books, magazines, posters and pamphlets. He has quite a collection of vinyl records. “I collect all kinds except country,” he stated.

“I have soundtracks to movies, a huge collection of church music from the 60s and 70s, classical music, and anything related to Bobby Kennedy,” he said. His top 2 favorite groups are America and Seals and Croft. Father Dale estimates he has thousands of records, winding around the rectory's basement floor in a snake-like pattern. He plays them on an old record player where he purchases parts from the Magnetic Tape store in Louisville. Annually, he travels to Las Vegas, scouring the 7 record shops for new additions to his collection.

From the little boy who wanted to be a priest, Father Dale Cieslik has come full circle in serving God, preserving our Catholic history, and celebrating each and every one of us at St. Francis Xavier Church.

# 2019 CSA

## Bringing Christ To Others

### Who benefits from the Appeal?

Individuals, families, Parishes, and schools benefit from the work of archdiocesan agencies and offices. Below is a small sample of the many works supported by the Appeal. A full listing can be found online at: [www.ArchLou.org/case-for-support/](http://www.ArchLou.org/case-for-support/)

- Trained and issued 972 new or renewed mandates for Communion ministers in 61 archdiocesan Parishes.
- Welcomed 389 individuals who completed the Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) and entered the Catholic Church.
- Convened an advisory board of 24 high school students to provide a “voice of youth” for the Office of Youth and Young Adults, as well as Archbishop Kurtz, Parish youth ministers, and archdiocesan agency directors.
- Visited 2,400 students at 32 schools and Parishes to give talks about Catholic vocations. ■ See GOAL, next page

"To change the world, we must be good to those who cannot repay us."

- Pope Francis



Donate at [ArchLou.org/CSA](http://ArchLou.org/CSA)  
Text: CSA2019 to (502) 237-1010

## CSA Goal ■ Continued from previous page

- Provided nearly 15,000 instances of food, rental and utility assistance, case management services, clothing, and other emergency items –totaling more than \$162,000 in aid –to 4,559 residents of West Louisville.
- Assisted 78 individuals who were victims of human trafficking and held 79 human trafficking prevention sessions for 2,055 attendees

St. Francis Xavier's CSA target is \$18,500. Thanks to those who have already responded with a gift to the Catholic Services Appeal. During this season of Advent, please consider making a gift. Gifts can be made through our Parish office or online at [www.ArchLou.org/CSA](http://www.ArchLou.org/CSA).

St. Francis Xavier  
**SUPER RAFFLE**



**3,727 Sold Tickets = \$50,825 Profit**

## Super Raffle Recap



**Grand Prize: \$20,000**  
*Bill Gardner*



**Second Prize: \$1,500**  
*Nikki Jenkins*



**Third Prize: \$500**  
*Thomas Blanford (accepted by his wife)*

## A Thankful Count Money Counters Recognized

Helen Hagan  
*Parish Manager*

There are many “behind the scenes” volunteers at St. Francis Xavier. Humble and dedicated volunteers, with a willing heart for their Parish, dutifully commit to volunteer and never miss. One such group is our Collection Counters.

Have you ever wondered what happens after you drop your weekly or monthly donation into the collection basket? We utilize the procedures given by the Archdiocese, which have been developed to safeguard the donations of our Parish family. We rely on each of our counter's

knowledge and attention to detail to help us maintain accurate records. This is no small task.

Our collection volunteers faithfully count on Sundays and Mondays throughout the year, ensuring that the donations of our Parishioners and guests are properly organized, recorded, and deposited.

At St. Francis Xavier we have 10 teams of two that rotate collection counting. On larger collection weekends, such as Christmas and Easter, up to four volunteers help.



As with all of our Parish volunteers, our hats are off to the great job our collection counters do to carefully monitor the donations of our church family. We thank you for your dedication to this important ministry.

## Chili Supper: “Best One Yet”

Darlene Fowler  
*DRE*



This year's Chili Supper, held October 19, was the best-ever!

Thanks to everyone who worked hard to make it so successful:

**Michelle Osborne** for sharing her cooking talents to create the delicious chili.

Our **Confirmation students** and parents who helped with cooking, serving and cleaning up.

**REparents** who fried hamburger and baked delicious desserts.

Everything looked and tasted so good. The Parish Hall was packed with folks who enjoyed this annual gathering of fellowship highlighted by the SUPER RAFFLE drawings.

# Archdiocese Gains Archivist, Cieslik Named Historian

Ruby Thomas  
Archdiocesan News

The Archdiocese of Louisville's archives include diaries penned in the 1800s by the archdiocese's first bishop, Benedict Joseph Flaget, and letters written to bishops by religious women who went on to become saints.

While these items, along with photographs, books, paintings, relics and other artifacts are cared for because of their intrinsic value, the archives serve a greater purpose — passing on the Catholic story to future generations.

For the past three decades, two priests have honed and maintained the archives, preserving local Catholic history. Father Dale Cieslik, a pastor, served as archivist and Father Clyde Crews, a professor, served as historian.

This summer, the archdiocese hired a full-time archivist to carry on this work. Tim Tomes, a member of the Cathedral of the Assumption, is the new archivist. And Father Cieslik succeeds Father Crews as historian. After more than 30 years as historian, Father Crews retired in May.

Though new to archdiocesan staff, Tomes is not new to serving the archdiocese or its archives.

Tomes served at the Cathedral Heritage Foundation, now the Center for Interfaith Relations, in the 1990s as a volunteer, intern and a staff member, he said during a recent interview in the Office of the Archives, located in the Maloney Center.

At the Cathedral Heritage

Foundation one of Tomes' responsibilities was to oversee archives and collections that came into the archdiocese, a job he loved, he said.

Tomes also helped Father Cieslik plan and set up the Archdiocesan History Center located in the Patterson Education Center, 424 S. Fifth St. The center, dedicated in 2006, is one of the accomplishments Father Cieslik said he's most proud of. He likes to think of the center as a "showroom" of local Catholic history.

"It's the big connector for Tim and I. We worked together there a lot," said Father Cieslik.

Father Cieslik was appointed archivist in 1994 by the late Archbishop Thomas C. Kelly. It was a role he filled while carrying out his pastoral responsibilities.

Father Cieslik said that back then the archives consisted of two glass cabinets containing items of historical significance. Over the years, however, he's acquired a great deal more. Artifacts have come from closed Parishes, from donations by Parishioners and objects he's collected.



In the Archdiocese of Louisville's Office of the Archives, from left, Father Clyde Crews, Tim Tomes and Father Dale Cieslik looked through a 19th century bound volume of *The Catholic Advocate* Aug. 19. Father Cieslik recently succeeded Father Crews as archdiocesan historian and Tomes has assumed the role of full-time archivist for the archdiocese. Father Crews retired in May. (Archdiocese Photo)

Among those objects are Bishop Flaget's pocket watch, ring and episcopal seal, which were donated to the archdiocese by two of Bishop Flaget's great-great-nieces in 2003.

Other acquisitions are Archbishop Kelly's pallium and pins, which are a "sweet treasure," said Father Cieslik. They are on display at the Archdiocesan History Center. Collecting antiques is a "passion" and he's particularly passionate about any objects once belonging to Bishop Flaget, he said.

"All things Flaget are important to me because he's our founder and I have admiration for

all he accomplished," said Father Cieslik. The restoration of the log house where Bishop Flaget resided upon his arrival in Bardstown, Ky., in 1811, is a point of pride, too, said Father Cieslik.

"That's where everything started for the whole Midwest. It's special that we were able to preserve that," he said. "We take pride in things that have historical ties to that era."

The log house, built next to the historic St. Thomas Church, is now a museum. Father Cieslik said he's looking forward to this next step as historian. "I'm honored partly because of the person I'm following. I'm excited to have that title and I'll try to stay worthy of it through service," said Father Cieslik. "Just as important to me is that Tim is full-time. That's an accomplishment."

See HISTORY, next page



Bishop's Pectorale and Ring  
Bishop William George McCloskey  
Fourth Bishop of Louisville (1868-1909)

Among the objects contained in the Archdiocese of Louisville's archives are the rings and pectoral crosses belonging to several bishops, including Bishop William George McCloskey, the archdiocese's fourth bishop, who's cross and ring are displayed on the left. (Archdiocese Photo)

# History Continued from previous page

Father Cieslik said he looks forward to continue serving with Tomes. The work they do “honors the people of our past and preserves the Catholic story for future generations,” he said.

“The Faithful Image” and “Faith and Mission,” which chronicled the history of each Parish in the archdiocese. Father Crews said the Archdiocese of Louisville plays an important role in the “larger picture of American Catholicism.”

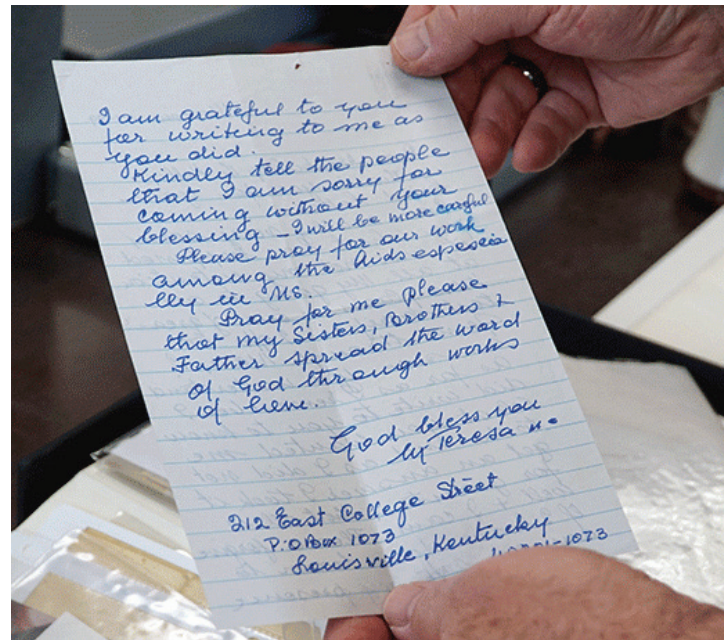
“So much of Catholic identity in this part of the country was shaped from the Holy Land,” said Father Crews.

For this reason, preserving the archdiocese’s history through the archives is an important job.

“We are the oldest diocese in the middle of the country. So many dioceses were formed out of this one here in Kentucky,” said Father Crews.

“Eight of Bishop Flaget’s priests became bishops around the country.”

Father Crews added that with Tomes as full-time archivist, he will help set the standard for what other archdiocesan offices should collect and save as well how to preserve items.



A letter penned by St. Teresa of Kolkata, above, dated January 1, 1989, was sent to Archbishop Thomas C. Kelly. (Archdiocese Photo)

# Wreath Full Of Symbolism Continued from front page

## Candle Symbolism

Set on the branches of the Advent wreath are four candles: three purple candles and one pink candle. A more modern tradition is to place a white candle in the center of the wreath. As a whole, these colored advent candles represent the coming of the light of Christ into the world.

Each week of Advent on Sunday, a particular Advent candle is lit. Catholic tradition states that the four candles, representing the four weeks of Advent, each stand for one thousand years, to total the 4,000 years from the time of Adam and Eve until the birth of the Savior.

## Prophecy Candle

On the first Sunday of Advent, the first purple candle is lit. This candle is typically called the “Prophecy Candle” in remembrance of the prophets, primarily Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ: Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14, NIV) This first candle represents hope or expectation in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

## Bethlehem Candle

On the second Sunday of Advent, the second purple candle is lit. This candle

typically represents love. Some traditions call this the “Bethlehem Candle,” symbolizing Christ’s manger. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” (Luke 2:12, NIV)

## Shepherd’s Candle

On the third Sunday of Advent the pink, or rose-colored candle is lit. This pink candle is customarily called the “Shepherd’s Candle,” and it represents joy. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. (Luke 2:8–11, NIV)

## Angel’s Candle

The fourth and last purple candle, often called the “Angel’s Candle,” represents peace and is lit on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Suddenly a great



company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” (Luke 2:13–14, NIV)

## Christ Candle

On Christmas Eve, the white center candle is lit. This candle is called the “Christ Candle” and represents the life of Christ that has come into the world. The color white represents purity. Christ is the sinless, spotless, pure Savior. Those who receive Christ as their Savior are washed of their sins and made whiter than snow. “Come now, let us settle the matter,” says the Lord. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.” (Isaiah 1:18, NIV)

Advent for Children and Families Celebrating with an Advent wreath during the weeks before Christmas is an excellent way for Christian families to keep Christ at the center of Christmas, and for parents to teach their children the true meaning of Christmas.



# Passing Along Important Values

## How Planned Giving Helps The Future

### What is planned giving?

If you plan on donating to an organization next month or next year, that’s not necessarily “planned giving.” Planned giving is something you outline now—but the benefits happen in the future after you are gone. Examples include putting the Archdiocese of Louisville or your Parish in your will or naming the Archdiocese of Louisville or your Parish as a beneficiary of an IRA.

Planned gifts allow donors to do something very impactful, often exceeding what they are able to do during their lifetimes. A planned gift is your legacy, supporting the values and community that you believe in long into the future.

### Anyone can make a planned gift

Whether you’re currently working on an estate plan, or you’ve never heard of planned giving—it’s easy to do and isn’t restricted to people with high asset totals.

It can help to think about planned giving in terms of percentages. For example, if you have two children you might plan on leaving them each 40% of your assets and earmark 20% for one or more charitable organizations that you believe in.

As you make plans—take care of your family first. Then, think about the values most important to you and how you want to pass on those ideals for future generations.

### Start with conversation

It is recommended that you talk with your attorney or financial planner to navigate the most tax-efficient methods of making a gift in your estate plan.

You should talk with your loved ones about your plans—share what’s important to you and why you’ve decided to make a planned gift. This is a way to pass on your most cherished values to those closest to you.

Also understand that sometimes things change in life. Once you create a planned gift, you have the option to make changes at any time. Now is the time to get started.

For more information, please contact: Deacon Michael Shumway, Director of Major Gifts and Planned Giving at 502-585-3291, or via e-mail at [mshumway@archlou.org](mailto:mshumway@archlou.org). Or visit the website at [www.archlou.planmylegacy.org](http://www.archlou.planmylegacy.org).



# Made for More

Ruby Thomas  
Archdiocesan News



The thousand or so people who packed St. Patrick Church in Eastwood Sept. 18 heard that the human person is irreplaceable, indispensable and unrepeatable.

That message was delivered by Christopher West, a Catholic author and educator from the Theology

of the Body Institute.

He presented “Made for More — Visions of the Promised Land,” in which he explores St. John Paul II’s Theology of the Body. The collection of papal teachings was added to elementary schools’ religion curriculum in the Archdiocese of Louisville last school year.

West delivered his message to a sold-out church Sept. 18 and offered an encore the following night. He opened his Sept. 18 presentation — which featured video and music by Mike Mangione — by asking the congregation a question.

What were the first words spoken by Jesus Christ in the Gospel of John? The answer came from a woman in the congregation: “What do you want?”

Those words “couldn’t be more important to our lives” in

today’s world, said West. They are “the cry of the heart.”

Everyone is looking for something, he said. Inside every person is a deep desire to be “loved, known and seen.”

“This is what Jesus is talking about when he asks, ‘what do you want?’ We want to be loved, known and seen at the deepest level,” said West. “Anybody can wear a mask to attract attention, but we’re looking for more than that.”

Despite the desire to be seen on a deep level, individuals often “look, but do not see,” said West.

People tend to look at another and see that person’s outward appearance. This leads to the physical body being perceived as something that’s “disposable,” he said. Individuals in society have become accustomed to treating the body as a “thing.”

But the body is truly a “revelation” of who someone is, he said.

“When we treat the body as a thing, we evaluate the body by looking at it to determine if it pleases us. We look at it as something dispensable,” said West. “The human person is irreplaceable, indispensable and unrepeatable. You are the only one like you in the world.”

Growing up, West said, he had an older brother who ridiculed him constantly. His brother “looked but didn’t see.”

West said he carried the pain from his childhood into adulthood. He was in his 30s before he was able to talk

about his feelings. During adulthood, his wife, his close friends, priests and St. John Paul II’s teachings help to reveal to him the person he was, West told the crowd. “They saw my gifts, but also my brokenness. I felt seen, known and loved.”

West said that when an individual has those positive feelings about himself, they start seeing others that way as well.

“You see others and you want them to know how valuable they are,” he said. “You’re filled with reverence when you realize that a person is made in the image and likeness of God.”

Stuart Green, a Parishioner at St. Louis Bertrand Church, was one of the hundreds who heard West’s presentation. Green said the message was “life-changing.”

“Christopher West did a great job of communicating the importance of Theology of the Body and its importance and impact on everyday life,” said Green. “It was truly a life-changing experience.”

Angela Dutton, who was in the packed audience, said the presentation resonated with her on a personal level.

“It coincides with feelings I’ve been having about unconditional love and loving myself in order to receive the love of others,” said Dutton, a Parishioner at St. Raphael Church. “It’s pertinent for me, the affirmation that we’re all seeking love and that the feelings we have inside are not bad, they are good we just have to channel them in the right direction.”

The event was sponsored by St. Patrick and co-sponsored by St. Albert the Great, St. Luke, St. Peter the Apostle, St. Raphael and St. Rita Parishes. It was organized by the Family Renewal Project, an apostolate established in the Archdiocese of Louisville in 2016. For more information on Theology of the Body visit <https://community.theologyofthebody.com>.

In cooperation with the Family Renewal Project, St. Francis Xavier is offering classes on St. John Paul II’s Theology of the Body for youth and adult learners. Contact Joe Recktenwald at [joe.recktenwald@sfxmw.com](mailto:joe.recktenwald@sfxmw.com), Dave Richardson at 502-609-9390 or visit <https://www.familyrenewalproject.com/groups/> for details.



## Outreach Ministry

Connie French  
Outreach Ministry

### *Giving Within Our Community*

Our ministry members meet with clients on Thursdays from 6 - 8 p.m., in the upper level of the Parish Hall. We offer financial support, primarily for electric and water bills. Some have very little support. It is rewarding to lighten their burden. We listen, laugh, cry and pray with them. Most clients leave feeling better knowing that someone cared about them and offered help.

As the holidays are upon us, we are reminded how blessed we are. We try to make the season brighter for our clients in need. Each year we provide the High School Youth Group with a list of families who could use a Christmas food basket. This annual

service project brings joy to those in need of a helping hand. We also refer clients to the downtown St. Vincent dePaul Santa Shop held on Dec 15. Parents are thankful to receive gifts to for their children on Christmas morning.

We have experienced some growing pains as we transitioned from a SVDP Conference to SFX Outreach Ministry in October 2018. We operate in a similar fashion to help the needy but are now able to support additional outreach activities. For instance, last December we provided a pizza party for the Sunrise Children’s Services Home coordinated and attended by members of our High School Youth

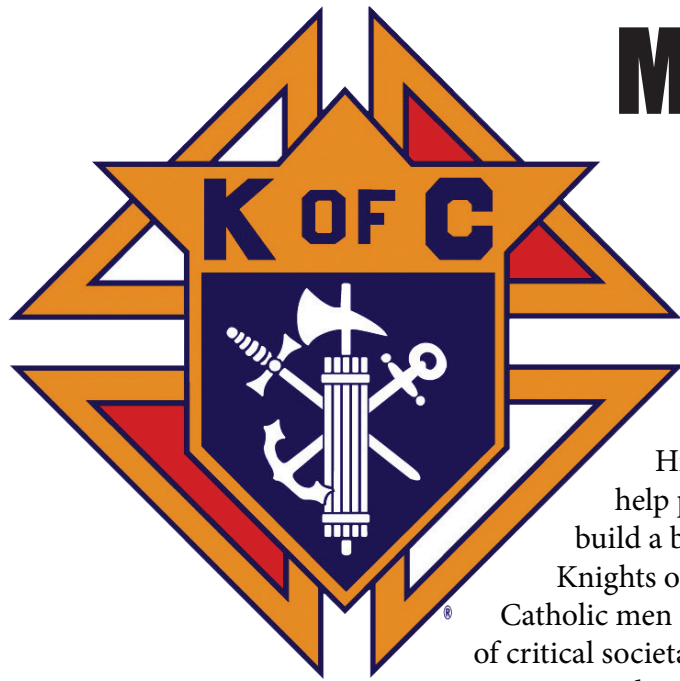
Group. We donated to the K of C Stewards of Appalachia Project in September.

Outreach Ministry operates through generous donations from our Parishioners. Envelopes are provided monthly in the SFX collection envelope packet. The Christmas Giving Tree provides tremendous support each year. We appreciate and thank everyone for helping us to help others. We could not perform our good works without your support.

If you would like to be a part of Outreach Ministry, contact Connie French at 502- 836-0020. Leave a message or text her. Happy Holidays to everyone!



The group of Saint Francis Xavier adults and teens who attended the event thoroughly enjoyed the message and fellowship.



# Membership Drive

Eric Guy  
*Knights of Columbus*

I would like to tell you about the Knights of Columbus and our local St. Joseph Council #12354 at St. Francis Xavier.

In 1882, Father Michael J. McGivney started the Knights of Columbus to help men and families in his New Haven, Connecticut Parish during a period of anti-Catholicism.

His vision was to put programs of faith in action that would help protect families, especially widows and orphans, and to build a better world.

Knights of Columbus membership offers countless opportunities for Catholic men and their families to live and grow in faith. Through support of critical societal needs, Knights leave a positive and lasting impact in local communities and around the world.

Last year, nearly 2 million members donated over 75 million hours of charitable service and nearly \$200 million to important causes around the globe. St. Joseph Council #12354 donated over \$6,500 and provided numerous volunteer hours assisting those in need.

Knights are everyday people helping people every day. Assisting individuals who are persecuted, aiding the less fortunate, volunteering locally, networking

with others who have shared values and beliefs, and participating in fun family events are among our many activities. K of C welcomes Catholic men seeking ways to put their faith into action. I have found that giving just an hour here or there can make a big difference to people in need.

During our membership drive, there's a great opportunity for Catholic men who are 18 and older, to learn more about K of C happenings via email. If you'll

share your email address with us, we will send information weekly about our activities. You may easily opt out if you decide this is not for you. You can also join the Knights online, at <http://www.kofc.org> and click 'join us'. Once you join, your membership can be easily transferred to the St. Joseph Council.

Contact Eric Guy 315-350-4113 or email him at [mr.eric.guy@gmail.com](mailto:mr.eric.guy@gmail.com) for details. Visit <http://www.kofc.org> to learn more.

4 PRINCIPLES  
4 REASONS

CHARITY UNITY FRATERNITY PATRIOTISM



The Crossroads  
Messenger 4th Quarter, 2019

# Stewards of APPALACHIA



## 2019 Mission Trip

Glenn Greenwell  
*Knights of Columbus*

It's a fact that 2019 was another busy year, and our best-to-date for our annual October mission trip working with the Saint Vincent Mission in David, Kentucky. We delivered twenty loads of donations to the people in Appalachia. Thanks to an amazing donor from Louisville, we were able to supply seven trailer loads of new clothes!

Another great company donated numerous loads of assorted sodas and bottled water. These were divided among Appalachia, the Mt. Washington Community Ministries, The Resource Center in Lebanon Junction, a group of pantries in Henry County, and three groups that work with the homeless.

Pat and Kathy Rice donated a large load of new clothes, dolls and other miscellaneous items which will be used for the Saint Vincent Mission's Christmas Program. Lauren Mann with help from her grandparents, Alvan and Sharon, collected a truck load of baby food, diapers and other infant care items.

We are blessed to be connected with so many loyal donors, sponsors and amazing volunteers who give their time and talent to help others. We had 24 volunteers during the week. These dedicated folks came together to complete the tasks at hand. We also want to thank Father Dale and St. Francis Xavier Parishioners for their support. Special thanks to the Women's Club, Rosary Makers, Outreach Ministry and the Knights of Columbus. The food collection allowed us to fill empty shelves at the food pantry. Our work would not be possible without people like you.

Six home repair projects were completed during our trip, plus some maintenance work at the Saint Vincent Mission center. After returning, we have purchased materials for three additional projects at Saint Vincent Mission, one at The Father Beiting Appalachian Mission Center and two others that will start next month. We have work planned the first of January with Good Neighbors, Inc. in Paintsville, KY. The need is great and we are blessed to have willing volunteers to help us get the job done!

We will deliver a load of toys and other Christmas items the first week of December to the Saint Vincent Mission to support their Christmas program. If you would like to donate Christmas toys/items to be included in this trip, please contact Glenn Greenwell at 502-345-9782.







**St. Francis Xavier**

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# ADVENT 2019

Daily Scripture and Reflections  
for the Sacred Season

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

**1 Salvation is Near**  
The day is at hand; put on the armor of light.  
*Rom. 13:11-14*

**2 Stay Awake**  
The Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.  
*Matt. 24:37-44*

**3 Branch of Jesse**  
A branch from the stump of Jesse will bear fruit.  
*Is. 11:1-10*

**4 I Have Compassion**  
Jesus had compassion on the crowds that followed him.  
*Matt. 15:29-37*

**5 In Perfect Peace**  
Trust in the Lord God, your everlasting rock, forever.  
*Is. 26:1-6*

**6 The Lord Is My Light**  
Wait for the Lord, be strong, let your heart take courage.  
*Ps. 27:1, 4, 13-14*

**7 Weep No More**  
You shall hear a word, "This is the way, walk in it."  
*Is. 30:19-21, 23-26*

**8 For Our Instruction**  
Through the encouragement of Scripture we have hope.  
*Rom. 15:4-9*

**9 Woman's Offspring**  
The woman's offspring will bruise the serpent's head.  
*Gen. 3:9-15, 20*

**10 Comfort My People**  
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.  
*Is. 40:1-11*

**11 Bless His Holy Name**  
The Lord is merciful, abounding in steadfast love.  
*Ps. 103:1-4, 8, 10*

**12 I Will Bless You**  
In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.  
*Gen. 12:1-7*

**13 Peace Like a River**  
The Lord leads you in the way you should go.  
*Is. 48:17-19*

**14 Elijah Has Come**  
Elijah has come and he will restore all things.  
*Matt. 17:9a, 10-13*

**15 Go and Tell John**  
The poor have the good news preached to them.  
*Matt. 11:2-11*

**16 A Star Shall Come**  
A star shall come out of Jacob, a scepter out of Israel.  
*Num. 24:2-7, 15-17*

**17 The Lion of Judah**  
The Lion of Judah holds the scepter, the ruler's staff.  
*Gen. 49:2, 8-10*

**18 Call His Name Jesus**  
Call him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.  
*Matt. 1:18-25*

**19 Filled with the Spirit**  
John will turn many in Israel to the Lord their God.  
*Luke 1:5-25*

**20 The Throne of David**  
The Lord will give him the throne of his father David.  
*Luke 1:26-38*

**21 Blessed Are You**  
Elizabeth exclaimed, "Blessed are you among women."  
*Luke 1:39-45*

**22 The Son Is the Sign**  
The virgin shall bear a son and call him Emmanuel.  
*Is. 7:10-14*

**23 His Name Is John**  
Zechariah's tongue was loosed and he blessed God.  
*Luke 1:57-66*

**24 Prepare His Way**  
The sunrise will give light to those who sit in darkness.  
*Luke 1:67-79*

**25 Go to Bethlehem**  
Let us go to Bethlehem and see what has happened!  
*Luke 2:15-20*

**This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.**  
— Luke 2:12

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## Christmas Mass Schedule

Tuesday December 24: 4 p.m., 10 p.m.  
Wednesday December 25: 10 a.m.

