
SS. Edward & Lucy News

SS. Edward and Lucy Parish is a Catholic community in Eastern Geauga County

MARCH 2020

CATHOLICS ARE THE ORIGINAL CHRISTIANS

by Fr. Burkley

One question that came up at our last GOF session is whether the accusation that we Catholics are not really Christians is really true. I thought that was settled years ago when I posted on the sign at St. Lucy "Catholics are the original Christians". Anyone who studies history can prove that in a minute. Even Wikipedia acknowledges that fact. They call the Catholic Church the 'oldest form of Christianity'. The history of the Roman Catholic Church is integral to the history of Christianity as a whole. The Catholic Church has been shown to be the world's oldest continuously functioning international institution. The Eastern Orthodox Church broke off the Catholic Church in 1054AD. The Protestant Reformation saw the Lutheran Church breaking from the Catholic Church in 1517. The Anglicans under Henry VIII left in 1534. Methodists broke off the Anglican Church in 1738. The Presbyterians broke off from the Lutherans in 1536. The Congregationalists and the Baptists broke off the Calvinists in 1607, Mennonites go back to 1537 and the Amish to 1693. All this information is from the "Family Tree of Christian Denominations", information on the internet. Matthew Kelly calls us to "be proud...be Catholic". The questions about our Christianity come from some of the young people at school. Apparently they have been told these things that are not true. I hope we appreciate the culture and the great contribution our Catholic Church has brought and preserved for our world.

7th GRADE GOF CLASS SHOWS THEY LOVE THEIR NEIGHBORS

by Michael Hanish

The 7th grade Generations of Faith (GOF) class talked about how God gave his messenger Moses the 10 Commandments for us to follow as Gods instructions. Then, related it to (Matthew 22:35-40) The Great Commandment given to us by Jesus himself after being tested by a Pharisee scribe trying to trick him into saying something disreputable, or scandalous. 1ST- AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH. 2ND LIKE IT, IS THIS: - YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.

Jesus teaches us that these commandments are the root of all the commandments that are given to his followers.

After the class reflected on these commandments given to us by Jesus himself; the question was asked: Who are our neighbors? Along with each of us and our Church community, out the window was Casa Lucia, the NEIGHBOR'S.

This being the week of St. Valentine's Day the patron Saint of Lovers it was decided that we would make each resident a Valentine's Day card. What better way to honor Jesus's commandment to love your neighbor. The class made 35 Valentines one for each of the Casa Lucia residents. Then had them placed outside each of their doors. The Valentines told the story that they are loved. Many beautiful comments were received from the Casa Lucia residents. Thank you Mr. Loveland for helping us get these cards distributed.

The 7th grade class would like you to know that you are also LOVED.



A SPECIAL INVITATION FROM THE SUNDAY MORNING MUSIC MINISTRY AT ST. EDWARD

by Alfred J. Thompson, Jr.

We are looking to expand the choral group providing music for the 8:30 am mass. There are two basic requirements to join the group: first, wish to sing at Church; second, read English. There is no age limit, no tryout, and no admission fee. We are not professionals, but we do like to give our God-given talents back to God and His people, and will welcome anyone else who would like to do so. If you think you can't sing too well, don't worry ... we help each other to learn the songs. We practice on Wednesday night at 6:30, and do a quick review for those able to make it on Sunday before mass. With the season of Lent upon us, now would be a perfect time to join us. Please come up after mass and talk to any of us, musicians or singers.

STEUBENVILLE YOUTH CONFERENCE

by Cassie Brumbaugh

On July 12-14, 2019, six of our teenagers sacrificed their weekend and traveled to Steubenville, Ohio to attend the Steubenville Youth Conference. Throughout this weekend they heard from Catholic speakers about how to live out their faith in their daily lives. They also had opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, attend Mass and sit in the presence of Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration. When asked about their experience, one of our teens said "I had an amazing weekend and enjoyed every minute of it! Too bad it couldn't be longer. I'm going to take home everything from this weekend and hopefully move closer to God every day and start setting goals for myself that I will work hard to accomplish."

When asked what the best part of the weekend was for them, three of our young people mentioned their experiences with the Sacraments (in Reconciliation and Adoration) and the other three mentioned getting closer to God. When asked to describe their weekend in one word, our young people



did not choose words like "boring", rather they said the weekend was "renewing," "enriching," and "incredible."

At the end of the weekend, all of our young people expressed that the weekend encouraged them to pray more and in a more personal way so they could connect to God and continue to grow in their relationship with Him.

Do you know a current 8th through 12th grade student who would benefit from this kind of experience? We are taking another group this summer the weekend of July 10-12. Contact Cassie at (440) 548-3812 or SSEdwardLucy.ReligiousEd@gmail.com for more information!

A PUZZLING EXPERIENCE

by Michael J. Kellis, DO, FAOASM, Precision Orthopedic Specialties, Inc. submitted by Kathleen Koller, Reprinted with written permission

A few weeks ago, my daughter asked if we could have a puzzle night. If anyone knows me, they realize how much I hate puzzles, but seeing an opportunity to spend time with my teenage daughter, I agreed. She emptied out a thousand pieces onto the table, and I looked at the daunting task before me. My daughter methodically spread out the pieces and diligently conquered a small section of the puzzle at a time. That evening, I was taught some extremely valuable lessons by my teenage daughter through an intimidating and perplexing puzzle.

There are tasks we encounter in life that appear arduous and impossible. As a whole, they are nearly unattainable, but breaking down these life challenges into smaller "chunks," they can be conquered one small section at a time. Segmenting the problems down to their least common denominator makes them easier to solve and endure.

As my daughter started piecing the puzzle together, I realized that she was starting with the outer perimeter of the puzzle then working on the base. This would set the foundation for the whole puzzle. As in life, a strong foundation is necessary to build on. Developing our children's character depends on the core values we instill in them. Values such as

the fear and love of God, education, and respect for self and others help set the basis for a fruitful and meaningful life.

As we approached the end of the puzzle, I saw that there was a piece missing. We looked everywhere until that final piece was found because without it, all the work to fabricate 999 pieces into a beautiful work of art, would have been in vain. This metaphorically represents life on earth. There are billions of people, which make up the framework of this complicated yet wonder world. They each play a role, even those seemingly insignificant individuals who appear confused, lost, and destitute.

We are all linked in an invisible puzzle and without each of us, the final masterpiece of creation would never be accomplished. Matthew 25:45 clearly states, "And He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, when you refused to help with the least of these my brothers and sisters, therefore, you refused to help me.' " Love each other, love yourselves, love our Creator, who has constructed the puzzle of life into an unequaled and incredible masterpiece.

Thank you, Marysa, for teaching an impatient and "puzzled" dad these illustrious and most certainly indispensable life lessons.

"...be of one mind, sympathetic, loving, toward one another, compassionate..."

1 Peter 3:8

by Anthony Palumbo

*The elderly have lived long,
They once were healthy and strong.
They used to be young and like all of us,
They could do what they wanted without
causing anyone any fuss.*

*But they are older now and need our aid,
They long for our company when they
are old and frayed.
They need to be seen as a blessing from
above,
They need to be noticed, they need to be
loved.*

*The pre-born's journey is just starting,
They need to be seen with respect, not as
if they're worth discarding
They have a whole future planned,
They are the most precious gift from
God, but some people misunderstand.*

*The pre-born aren't a chore,
They're a blessing, an opening door.
They're not a financial strain,
They deserve our love and care, not
disdain.*

*The expectant mother is full of concern,
She is going through something she can
barely discern.
She feels like she has to make a choice,
But she doesn't, she only needs a loving
voice.*

*The expectant mother needs you and me,
She needs our love, she needs our aid to
help her clearly see.
She needs a strong arm to hold on to,
She needs to know, God is working
through you.*

*The elderly, the expectant mother, and
pre-born are in need,
We are placed here to help them, to
intercede.
We are made to give them hope,
We are here to give them strength when
they can't cope.*

*God calls us to love and be of one mind,
To be sympathetic, compassionate, and
always be kind.*

Editors Note: This was Anthony's submission to a recent Lifeworks (pro-life organization) contest. This agency supports life at all stages and the students were instructed to use the Bible passage given.

2020 VERSES

by Marcia Mikolaj

In our daily living, we sometimes ponder God's creation of nature with its countless layers of complexity, simple beauty, purpose and balance. The 8th grade confirmation class read chapter 104 in the Books of Psalms and thought about how this connection also existed for the ancient biblical writers whether praising, glorifying, questioning, or even lamenting to God. The following are prayers/poems our students then wrote to God in a style similar to the Psalms:

Student 1:

*Praise to the Lord, for He has awakened
the sky.*

*He has given us hope to help His creation
grow.
The birds in their song, greeting all to come
sing,
Hail to our Creator, Christ our King!*

*I count God's blessing, what He has done.
He has given us the world, the moon and the
sun.
He wants us to grow, to share the love He
shows, for our world, and the home we share.*

*The heavens declare, with much joy and
gladness, that the Lord has created beauty.
I see it in the trees, birds and sky,
the things He wanted to teach us and why.
He gives us a purpose, just like the stars.
Hail to the Lord, our Creator and Superstar!*

Student 2:

*From the blue sky above,
with humans underneath,
and animals all around,
to the green grass below.
It's all a Blessing from God.*

Student 3:

*Dear Lord,
Your love is glitter, shining upon my face.
Your grace is like an owl's hoot, peaceful like
when I wake to the morning dew.
Your mercy is unfailing, like the pine cones
that re-seed and keep growing.
Let me love Your creations.
Let me walk in Your grace.
Let me shine like the sun as You shine.
Let my spirit be light.
Grant me Your mercy and may I walk humbly
to serve You, Lord.
In Precious Jesus' name, Amen*

Student 4:

*Thank you Lord for this bountiful creek,
the waters that flow through the land.
It provides water to drink for all of the
creatures in the woodland, the beavers,
raccoons, squirrels, turtles and many more.
Thank You for creating the beautiful creek,
that allows me to see all of your creations.*

Student 5:

*I sit here and pray to God under the beautiful
lit moon.
While the rain wets the sod, out comes this
little raccoon.
As he raises gently and slowly,
I give him the last of my food.*

Student 6:

*Winter is here, and the air is cold and turns
the water into ice and snow.
In the spring, the air is warmer, and melts the*

*ice and snow into water.
It feeds the trees and plants to help them grow.
Summer is here, and the air is hot, and we sit
back and watch the trees and plants get fat.
The fall months are somewhat cooler and we
see the plants and trees change their colors.
Red, orange, yellow and brown, floating in the
air, and onto the ground.
Now we are back to winter again.
The circle of life begins all over again.
So thank you God for everything.*

Student 7:

*Thank you for creating the Loon to help us see
the beauty of Your wonderful creation.
This helps us to see You.
This also helps to see that we should be kind
and respectful of Your wonderful creation.*

Student 8:

*Why, why are the trees burning?
Your wonderful creations suffering,
Why is there suffering for the trees?
They are always cleaning and helping.
They don't have sin, so why?*

Student 9:

*God, as green as can be,
land as far as some can see.
Creator of all that lives,
from the One who gives.
All connected as one in nature.*

It is always inspirational to me when our students take a challenge and turn it into something that can only be uniquely them and God above. May God continue to bless these, our prayer poets, as He blesses all while here in this beautiful world.



WORKS OF MERCY DURING THE SUMMER OF 2019

by Marcia Mikolaj

This is an additional report from a student I neglected to include in the last Newsletter. My apologies to young Aedan!

*Aedan Gardner: We were at a pharmacy
and there was this man with a kid and he
was short on cash and was not going to be
able to get his son's prescription so I gave
him the five dollars and he thanked me
and left. I chose him for three reasons.
One, he needed it for his kid so I
naturally gave it to him. Second, I
thought it would help him remember to
get the money he needed to get his kid
drugs. Third, I was eventually going to
have to use the money so I decided to use
it on his kid.*

Thank you to our students! May God bless all who show others kindness and mercy in any form.

MY HOLY ONE, MY LADY

by Grace Emmanuella Palumbo

Hi! It's Grace Palumbo again! I am a happy member of SS. Edward and Lucy Parish. I live on a farm with my family. Almost all farms have a tractor (I think!). My family and I did have a tractor and now we have a wood-burning stove! But I am getting ahead of my story! Last year, around this time, my family and I went to a pancake breakfast in Burton. There were raffle tickets for sale to win a tractor so my dad bought maybe five tickets. We never won raffles before. We went home and time passed...and then it was July. The tractor show was in July.

We decided at the last minute to go to the tractor show on the last of the three day event. It was in Burton and we saw many tractors, some even from the early 1900's. We looked at the tractor being raffled off. We talked to many nice, friendly people. Finally it was time for the drawing! The man doing the drawing of the tickets thanked everyone for coming and told all the three prizes: first prize was the tractor, second prize was a pedal tractor, and third prize was a gift bag. He drew three tickets out. The first ticket he drew would be first place, the second ticket second place, and the third ticket was third place. He placed them face down on the table. My sister Gianna and I started praying really hard to Mary for the tractor because we really needed one. My dad was holding my younger brother Patrick on his shoulders and the man read the third place winner's name, and then the second place winner's name. My sister and I started praying really hard and I said to Mary "I will say one Hail Mary every day in thanks if we win the tractor!" Then he turns over the last ticket and says, "First place winner for the John Deere tractor is....JOHN PALUMBO (my dad!)!!!!" My family was so happy, especially my dad! He let go of Patrick and put his hands on his head! My two older brothers were behind Dad and made sure my brother didn't fall off his shoulders! Then we celebrated with ice cream! This story, along with the one I wrote in the last newsletter, tells you how well Mary answers our prayers! (I still say the Hail Mary every day!) So let us always trust in Mary's help, whether it is with a test or someone is sick or anything, because She will always help you. And if Mary asks US for something, let us answer like St. Juan Diego, "My Holy One, My Lady, I will do all you ask of me!" (NOTE: we sold the tractor because it was an antique one and used the money for a wood-burning stove. It's so nice and warm!)

MY PLAN TO BECOME A SAINT

by Grace Emmanuella Palumbo

I grew up with my Catholic faith. My parents are devout Catholics and have taught me everything I know. What I often like to think about is heaven. I tend to ask myself a lot of questions about heaven. What does it look like? How big is it? Sometimes I think about how happy it must be and how it will last forever. I have started thinking about how to get there and how to become a saint. In order to get to heaven and become a saint, I think there are a couple of things we should do, and now is the best time to start! 1.) BE PURE. Purity is partly what makes a saint and is something we must strive for. 2.) PRAY. Praying is our way to talk and interact with God. We should set aside some time each day to pray. 3.) FOLLOW THE COMMANDMENTS. The Ten Commandments are God's rules of how we should live and they help to build our character. 4.) LOVE. We are nothing without love as St. Paul said (1 Cor 13:1-7).

Love brings us closer to God and each other. 5.) MAKE SACRIFICES. Even little sacrifices make a difference such as skipping dessert, not watching TV, doing your chores along with someone else's instead of doing what YOU want to do. Offer them up for the poor souls in purgatory and for sinners. It will make a difference. 6.) LOVE SUFFERING. Many of the saints have encouraged this. Suffering brings us closer to God so learn to embrace it! Offer up your suffering and ask for more. In order to become a saint, I think you should embrace suffering. 7.) REMEMBER THAT SAINTS ARE PEOPLE LIKE YOU AND ME. It is possible to become a saint! Anyone can! A lot of these are hard to do. I am still trying (and likely always will be!) but take them one at a time. Make them your resolutions as I have. Be patient and know that God loves you!

HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY, April 4 & April 5
Palms will be distributed and blessed at all weekend Masses

HOLY THURSDAY, April 9
6:00pm Pot Luck Dinner St L
7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper St L
8:30pm Adoration until Midnight

GOOD FRIDAY, April 10
12:00pm Stations of the Cross Mariapoch
3:00pm Good Friday Service St E
7:30pm Good Friday Service St L
(the churches will be open all day for private prayer)

HOLY SATURDAY, April 11
11:00am Easter Egg Hunt St L
12:00pm Blessing of Food St L
8:00pm Easter Vigil Service & Mass St E

EASTER SUNDAY, April 12
8:30am Mass at St. E
10:30am Mass at St. L

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE
Sunday, March 8 12:30pm
Lenten Penance Service at GOF @ St L
Friday, April 3, 7:00pm
Lenten Penance Service St E
Monday, April 6 7:00pm St Edward Chapel
Wednesday, April 8 7:00pm St L
Friday, April 10 4:00pm St E

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