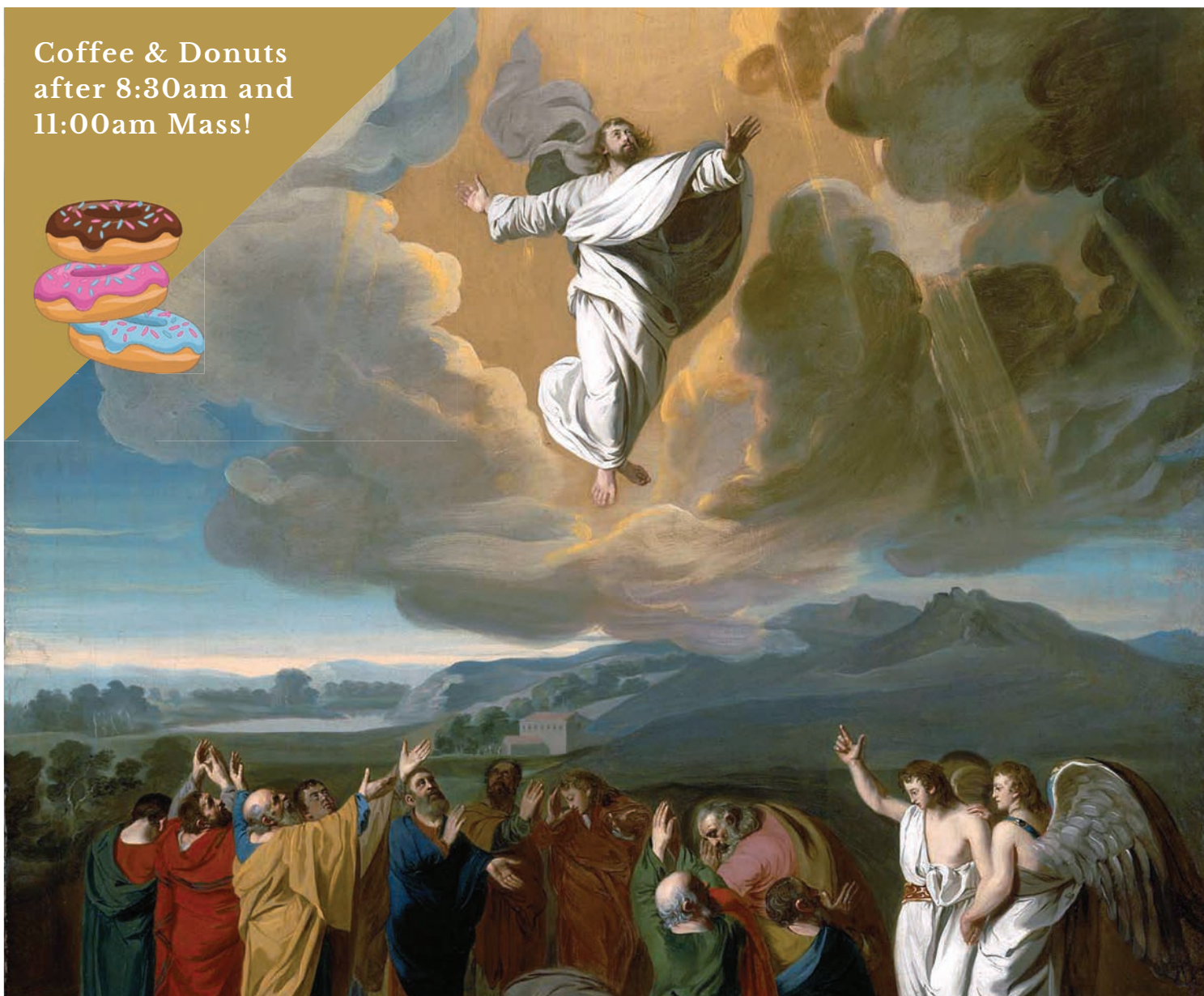


SUNDAY, MAY 17TH, 2026
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



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COLUMBUS, OH 43209
WWW.STCATHARINE.COM

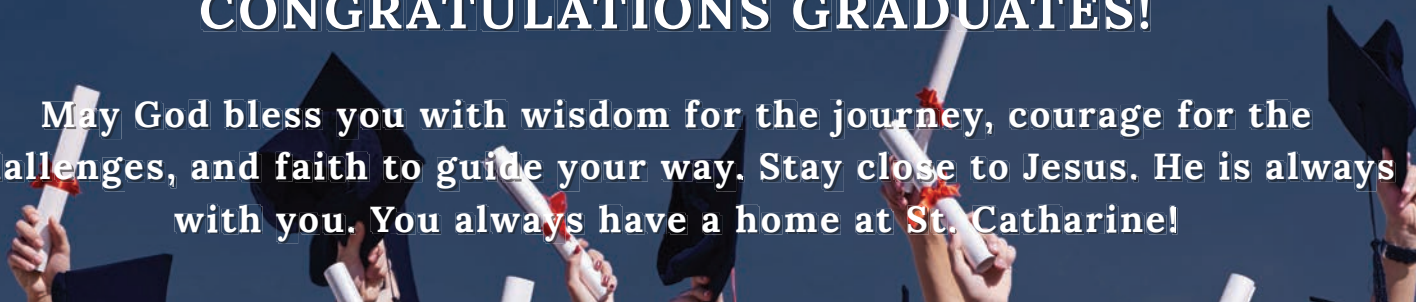
Coffee & Donuts
after 8:30am and
11:00am Mass!



No Saturday morning Mass or Confessions this week due to the
priestly ordination of Deacon Zachary Goodchild

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

May God bless you with wisdom for the journey, courage for the challenges, and faith to guide your way. Stay close to Jesus. He is always with you. You always have a home at St. Catharine!



Welcome to St. Catharine

www.stcatharine.com
info@stcatharine • 614-231-4509



WELCOME! We're so happy you're here today. God delights in you, and He desires to draw close to you in this Holy Mass. If you're visiting St. Catharine for the first time, thank you for praying with us—we're honored by your presence. Please silence your phones and help us keep a spirit of reverence in the church. **Restrooms can be found in the Undercroft and the Parish Center.** If you need help, just look for someone wearing a green lanyard. We hope you'll join us again soon!

TO THE PARENTS of LITTLE ONES... Thank you for your courage and love in bringing your children to Mass. Even when it feels chaotic, your efforts matter more than you know. God sees every sacrifice, and your children's presence is a powerful witness of faith.

If your children have some extra wiggles or need to let out a few extra joyful noises, we have a large **Quieting Room in the Church, as well as a video feed in the Parish Hall Gallery** should you need to step out. But please do come back—we want you here!

TO OUR PARISH FAMILY... Children remind us that the Church is alive and growing. Their joyful noises are music to God's ears. Let's welcome them with kindness and support their parents with a smile of encouragement.

Eucharistic Adoration Chapel



Sunday-Friday
6:00am-12:00am
Saturday
6:00am-4:00pm



Respect Life Holy Hour
Wednesdays at 4:00pm

Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Fridays at 3:00pm

Children's Holy Hour
Saturdays at 3:00pm

Confession

Wednesday • 6:30pm
No Saturday Confessions this week



By appointment
info@stcatharine.com • 614-231-4509

ADORE Night

Every Wednesday at 6:30pm

A candle-lit evening of Adoration with Confession, songs of praise & worship, prayers, and devotions.

This Week

Sunday, May 17th: *The Ascension of the Lord*

8:30am Holy Mass (Priests of St. Catharine)
9:30am Coffee and Donuts/2026 Senior Recognition
11:00am Holy Mass (Stephen Gilmore)
12:00pm Coffee and Donuts
12:00pm Baptisms
12:00pm Holy Rosary at the Grotto
5:00pm Holy Mass (People of the Parish)*
6:00pm Lumen High School Youth Group

Monday, May 18th: *Saint John I, Pope, Martyr*

8:00am Holy Mass (Frances Vautour)
6:30pm Scouts
7:00pm Choir Practice
7:00pm Women's Art Night: Drawing with Scissors

Tuesday, May 19th: *Tuesday of the Seventh Week of Easter*

8:00am Holy Mass (Doris Hecker)
7:00pm Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)

Wednesday, May 20th: *Saint Bernadine of Siena, Priest*

12p-2p Parish Offices Closed
4:00pm Respect Life Holy Hour
6:00pm Holy Mass (Howard Hackman)
6:30pm ADORE Night (Confession/Adoration)

Thursday, May 21st: *St. Christopher Magallanes & Companions, Martyrs*

8:00am Holy Mass (Mary Ann Bennett)
4:00pm Fingerprinting
6:00pm Protecting God's Children Class

Friday, May 22nd: *Saint Rita of Cascia*

8:00am Holy Mass (Frances Vautour)

Saturday, May 23rd: *Saturday of the Seventh Week of Easter*

7:00am Men's Group Gospel Reflection
No Morning Mass or Confessions: Priest Ordinations at Cathedral
5:00pm Pentecost Multicultural Mass with Bishop Fernandes

Sunday, May 24th: *Pentecost Sunday*

8:30am Holy Mass (Steve Simon)
9:30am St. Vincent de Paul
11:00am Holy Mass (Martha Abi Aoun)*
12:00pm Baptisms
12:00pm Holy Rosary at the Grotto
5:00pm Holy Mass (People of the Parish)

*Denotes the use of incense

Mass Intentions

A Mass intention is a sacred way to unite a specific prayer or need with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

To request a Mass intention or for more information, please contact the parish office at 614-231-4509 or info@stcatharine.com



May 17, 2026

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11 | Eph 1:17-23 | Mt 28:16-20

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

This year, I cannot help but notice how kingdom-centric the readings for the Solemnity of the Ascension are. In our first reading, Jesus appears to his disciples for forty days after his resurrection and speaks to them about the kingdom of God. Our psalm beckons us to rejoice that God is mounting his throne – another kingdom image! Our second reading tells us that God has given Christ authority over “every principality, power, and dominion” – a clear sign that he is the one reigning over all. These references seem to be telling us that today’s feast is Jesus’ “coronation day” – the day he takes his rightful place at the right hand of the Father. From the moment Jesus ascends to heaven, he is reigning. What a consoling thought for us, who may at times find ourselves discouraged by our lives or the state of affairs around us. We have hope because we know that despite appearances to the contrary, Jesus reigns, and it is only a matter of time until the Father puts all things beneath Christ’s feet.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In today’s Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples – and us – to “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations.” It’s a tall order – bringing every nation under the reign of Christ. But we needn’t be intimidated. The Ascension offers us hope, for – as the *Catechism* reminds us – “Jesus Christ, having entered the sanctuary of heaven once and for all, intercedes constantly for us as the mediator who assures us of the permanent outpouring of the Holy Spirit.” (667) Jesus ascended into heaven and now is constantly interceding for us before the Father, constantly pouring out his Spirit on us! In all our efforts to evangelize, we have that constant support and grace being sent our way to equip us for this work.

REFLECT

Oftentimes, we think of the Ascension as Jesus leaving us after the end of his earthly ministry. But Jesus promises that he does not leave us, but rather, that he is always with us, “until the end of the age.” Spend some time this week reflecting on the ways that, having taken his seat at the right hand of the Father, Jesus is now ever-more present, pouring out his grace and his Spirit upon us at every moment.

Welcome, Absalom Hall!

Summer Seminarian

Hello St. Catharine! My name is Absalom Hall, and I just completed my 1st year of Theology at the Pontifical College Josephinum. Originally from Portsmouth, Ohio, I am a bit older than your typical seminarian (40 years old), a convert, and prior to entering the seminary I worked for 14 years as a mental health clinical case manager for children who had been abused, neglected, or were suffering from a mental/behavioral health issue.

I am the youngest in my family and I have two older brothers, two older sisters, three nephews, five nieces, one great-nephew, and two great-nieces. During my free time I enjoy reading, collecting holy cards, sewing/quilting, and trying new foods (except veggies haha).

As a Secular Discalced Carmelite, I have a strong devotion to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, St. Joseph, and the Holy Souls. I have heard some great things about the people of St. Catharine and I look forward to getting to know everyone this Summer!

Absalom Hall • Summer Seminarian



Lord, Hear Our Prayer

"The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects."

If you or a loved one would like to be added to the Prayer Chain please email info@stcatharine.com or call 614-231-4509. Names will remain on the Prayer Chain for 4 months or until they are asked to be removed.

Fermin	Anne	Donte
Joan	Taylor	Annette
Mary	Ryan	AJ
Zoritza	JoAnn	Katie
Anne	Kathleen	Paul
Emy	William	Justin
Michael	Sr. Christella	Nora

Ascension: A Mission, Not a Goodbye

By Deacon Anthony Whalen



On this Solemnity of the Ascension, we read in St. Matthew's Gospel of The Great Commission when Jesus tells the Apostles to:

"Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you."

Before Jesus ascended to heaven, He gives us a mission to teach and to make disciples. We too are commissioned to make disciples and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with those we meet. We are blessed here at St. Catharine to have many of our parishioners involved in evangelization, from our Advent and Lent small groups to our ongoing women's and men's ministries to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. I encourage you all to find a way that fits your needs and to become part of a ministry that will make you a better disciple to evangelize others in the mission that Jesus Christ has entrusted to all of us.

When Jesus gave the Apostles this Great Commission, they doubted and were fearful because He was going to be leaving them to carry on the mission of the Church. This feast is not a fearful goodbye but just a change in how He is present to us, it is rooted in Christ's victory over sin and death, and it is carried forward in the life of the Church. This is why Jesus told them, "And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

Notice that there is no expiration date – Jesus will be with us always – and He is present to us in the Sacraments in a real and tangible way where we may encounter Him.

Lord Jesus, risen and glorified, draw our hearts to the Father. Teach us to live faithfully in your Kingdom and give us the joy of hope as we await your coming in glory. Amen.

Rev. Mr. Anthony Whalen • Transitional Deacon
awhalen@stcatharine.com

**May Food Pantry Need
CANNED MEALS**

Please leave donations at wooden boxes near Church entrances.



PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

THURSDAY, MAY 21ST

4PM: FINGERPRINTING

6PM: PGC TRAINING COURSE

Parish Hall

All volunteers in programs or ministries involving children and youth, regardless of level of contact or length of service, must complete a civilian criminal background check and attend a Protecting God's Children training session. This requirement also applies to volunteers in other parish ministries who are entrusted with the care, custody, or supervision of children and youth. All other parish volunteers, parents, and adults are also strongly encouraged to complete the training to help ensure a safe environment for children and young people.

If you are an adult who works directly with children you are required to attend a PGC class, including being fingerprinted again if you know it has been five years since this was last done.

Examples include volunteers in parish ministries and activities such as liturgical ministries, FunFest, Vacation Bible School, scouting, athletics, childcare, and field trip chaperones or drivers—especially when their role involves working with or supervising children and youth.

If you are unsure as to your status, please contact Kathy Kropp, our on-site Safe Environment Coordinator, in the school office at kkropp@cdeducation.org

Register at www.stcatharine.com/pgc



RESPECT LIFE

Prayer & Action

PRAYER GUIDE | MAY 2026

INTERCEDE



May all persons with disabilities be treated with respect and their lives protected.

PRAY

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

REFLECT

We live in a culture that idolizes productivity, efficiency, and independence, often measuring a person by what he or she can *do*. These and other false standards are used to determine whether someone's life is considered worth living. We may sometimes be tempted to believe that a person's identity lies in what the world values. But God's love—individual, real, unchanging—is the true source of our identity. Because His love will never change, nothing can reduce our God-given dignity, and nothing can diminish the immeasurable worth of our lives.

The Gospels recount that Jesus constantly drew close to the blind, the sick, and the lame. We can easily recall the stories of how Christ stooped down to heal the paralytic, the hemorrhaging woman, the leper, and the man born blind, raising them to new life in his love. Jesus shows us that a person's innate goodness is never diminished by physical, intellectual, or developmental disabilities because human dignity is not dependent on ability. Rather, every life is a *good* and *perfect* gift, created

for an eternal destiny. Looking through the eyes of His love, we can see “in every person his living image” (*Evangelium Vitae* 83). Every person is a *wonder* of God's creation, reflects God Himself, and has been created for eternal life with Him. Every person, every life is a gift. Let us bear witness to this truth in our words and actions.

ACT (choose one)

- Offer “A Prayer for Life” for today's intention (bit.ly/a-prayer-for-life).
- Learn more about the National Catholic Partnership on Disability (ncpd.org) and their mission to advance the full and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in the life of the Church and society. Consider one concrete action you can take to make persons with disabilities feel welcome and included in your parish or community.
- Offer some other sacrifice or prayer that you feel called to do for this month's intention.

ONE STEP FURTHER

In a culture that so often judges our worth based on what we can do, produce, or achieve, the beauty of a life lived with disabilities can be difficult to understand. Yet, God assures us that every human life is a precious gift, filled with inherent value, dignity, and worth. A mother of a child with Down syndrome shares her personal experience of witnessing the beauty of life in all circumstances in, “A Perfect Gift” (respectlife.org/a-perfect-gift).

Evangelium vitae (The Gospel of Life), no. 83 © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.



Get monthly prayer guides at:

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Teams are based on sign up numbers

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Elyse Hueckel • ehueckel@gmail.com

Liturgical Ministry

	LC	Lector	Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion	MC	Altar Servers	Hospitality	
Sun, May 24 8:30am	Jeff Gardner	Emily McFadden (1) Steve Kebe (2)	Mary Ann Rees - North Eric VanBuskirk - North Jennifer Hadden - South Jonathan McFadden - South	Bruce Hadden	Andrew Horn Paddy McFadden Kolbe Thompson	Rebecca Jackson - West Nathan Murphy - West Carol Lannan - North Rick Walsh - South Jim Wolfe - NE Tina Allwein - East South	Group 1 Maria Roberts
Sun, May 24 11:00am	Yvonne Moyer	Lily Bell (1) Marin Santorsola (2)	Brealie Caridi - North Wendy Currier - North Mike Heskamp - South Ijeoma Nnani - South Precious Blood: Jan Strominger Kirstin Shell Jane Isaacs David Isaacs	*1 Needed*	Elijah Heskamp Jude Keiffer Larry D Scurlock	Chuck Burkhart - West Barbara Murphy - North Rita Pearson - South Nicole Angle - NE Giana Coleman - East South	Group 2 Kasey VanBuskirk
Sun, May 24 5:00pm	*1 Needed*	Jeffrey Walker (1) John Thiel (2)	Harrison Smith - North Molly Mackessy - South *1 Needed* *1 Needed*	Jack Goodwin	Sophia Berndt Kateri Fouts Miguel Zamaripa	Megan Frank - North Matt Plank - South Scott Remeis - NE Johnean Goodwin - SE *1 Needed*	Bickford Nathan Slonaker

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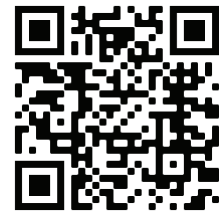
March 2026

Offertory (Envelopes, Loose, Online, Foundations)	\$97,019.00
Budgeted Offertory	\$80,013.00
Difference	\$17,006.00

Year-to-Date (July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026)

Offertory (Envelopes, Loose, Online, Foundations)	\$868,821.00
Weekly Budgeted Offertory	\$778,300.00
Difference	\$90,521.00

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JUNE 4  5  6
www.SCFunFest.com FOLLOW   

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An envelope with your name on it will be available at the ticket booth with all your prepay items ready to go, no mess, no fuss, and especially no more waiting in line. Your kids will be amazed! (Note: Pre-Sale Wristbands are \$20 each, Day-Of purchase is \$25.00.)

JUST FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW, ATTACH YOUR PAYMENT, AND SEND IT BACK WITH YOUR KIDS, DROP IT OFF AT THE PARISH OFFICE OR PUT IT IN THE COLLECTION BASKET IN AN ENVELOPE MARKED "FUNFEST PRESALE"

FORMS AND PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE PARISH OFFICE NO LATER THAN 12:00 PM, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3RD

PLEASE NOTE NEW RIDE TIMES FOR SATURDAY

----- **DETACH AD RETURN WITH PAYMENT** -----

NAME	PHONE	EMAIL	(RIDES REQUIRE 3-6 TICKETS EACH.)	
PRODUCT	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL	
3 Day FunFest Midway Pass	_____	\$60.00 each	_____	
THURSDAY, JUNE 4TH: RIDES - 5:00-10:00PM				
Midway Wristbands	_____	\$20.00 each	_____	
FunFest (Green) Tickets	_____	1.00 per ticket	_____	
FRIDAY, JUNE 5TH: RIDES - 5:00-10:00PM				
Midway Wristbands	_____	\$20.00 each	_____	
FunFest (Green) Tickets	_____	1.00 per ticket	_____	
SATURDAY, JUNE 6TH: RIDES - 2:00-8:00PM				
Midway Wristbands	_____	\$20.00 each	_____	
FunFest (Green) Tickets	_____	1.00 per ticket	_____	

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____





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2025 IMPACT REPORT

Your compassion is a living witness to the Gospel. You have brought comfort, hope, and dignity to those most in need in the Diocese of Columbus. Thank you for your 2025 Appeal gift.

The 2025 Appeal Results (as of 1/30/26):



The 2025 Appeal dollars supported our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Columbus:



catechumens/
candidates
entered the
Church in 2025



state prisons now
offer weekly Mass,
confessions, and
pastoral care



of our Diocese now
offer miscarriage
and post-abortion
healing programs



seminarians are
currently being
formed in our
Diocese



souls received
the Sacrament
of Confirmation
in 2025

Here are a few stories showing how your gifts directly impacted lives in our Diocese in 2025.



EVANGELIZATION

Our Diocese hosted its first annual Together in Holiness marriage conference at St. Matthew the Apostle Catholic Church, welcoming over 90 couples. With 192 registrants from 38 parishes, participation exceeded expectations. 96% reported increased inspiration to grow in holiness with their spouse—providing a strong impact on marriages and families across the Diocese of Columbus. We look forward to even greater participation in 2026.

“We’re very grateful for the speakers who shared their personal, day-to-day experiences. They showed that if they can do it, so can we,” said one participant.

Your 2025 Impact

VOCATIONS

Our Office of Vocations continues to experience growth in the number of seminarians we are forming. Bishop Fernandes was featured on CBS Evening News highlighting the Diocese of Columbus as one of the few dioceses nationwide seeing a significant increase in vocations. We are grateful to be forming 43 seminarians, compared to 17 in 2022.

"Since entering seminary in 2020, the Diocese's generosity has shown me the love of God, who is never outdone in generosity. The plethora of experiences and quality of formation the Diocese has offered me will continue to build up the Catholic faith in our Diocese," says Deacon Zack Goodchild, who was ordained as a transitional deacon earlier this year (pictured).



SOCIAL OUTREACH

Bishop Fernandes has made prison ministry a deeply personal commitment, making nine prison visits to celebrate the sacraments, proclaim the Gospel, and offer reconciliation. The Bishop affirmed the dignity of each person and reminded them that no one is beyond the reach of God's mercy.

"Visiting the imprisoned is a great work of mercy. The Church believes in forgiveness, conversion, and rehabilitation. Where sin abounds, grace abounds all the more. The prison ministry of the Diocese of Columbus is a witness to hope that not only does Christ not abandon those who are imprisoned, but rather He draws close to them through His ministries."

- Bishop Fernandes

CATHOLIC EDUCATION & FORMATION

Many parish Religious Education programs provide families with shared opportunities for prayer, learning, and service. Through service projects, families live out their faith by responding to local and community needs. At St. Brigid of Kildare's Family of Faith program, families complete a monthly service project. In November, they honored Military Veterans by creating thank-you cards and offering prayers of gratitude and remembrance.



As one participant noted, *"With every event, we are not only serving others in a tangible way, but these experiences have opened my children's eyes and hearts in ways I never could have imagined, helping them grow in compassion, gratitude, and faith."* - Elizabeth Kill

Through your generosity, the Appeal is changing lives across our Diocese.
We encourage you to continue supporting the Appeal and helping our mission grow.

OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT - THE APPEAL

(614) 241-2550 | 197 E. Gay Street, Columbus, OH 43215 | columbuscatholicgiving.org/appeal



On Saturday, May 9th, 48 eager hearts were united with Jesus as they made their First Holy Communion. Throughout this year, they have embarked on a journey of study and prayer, deepening their understanding and belief in the true presence of Jesus—His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity—within the Eucharist. Let us join in celebrating their milestone and fervently pray that they forever draw near to Jesus in this holy sacrament!

“The Eucharist is the highway to heaven.” - Bl. Carlo Acutis

MULTICULTURAL HOLY MASS

Vigil of Pentecost

SATURDAY, MAY 23 | 5:00 P.M.

St. Catharine Church

Bishop Earl K. Fernandes will preside

We will also have our traditional rose petal drop at the conclusion of the 11:00am Pentecost Sunday Mass

Symbolizing the descent of the Holy Spirit upon on the apostles and Mary as tongues of fire, we pray for a new Pentecost and outpouring of the Holy Spirit in our times!

“And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.”

Acts 2:4