



FROM OUR PASTORAL STAFF

Today, as our parish of St. Felicitas closes, I am sure the every emotion imaginable is being felt by you, my brothers and sisters in Christ. I have come to know, in my short time here, what this community has meant to so many and how this Church on the Hill has been a place of prayer, peace, joy, comfort and solace throughout your lives. Whether we have been parishioners for one year or fifty, this parish has been home, and so, as with letting go of someone or something we love, today is a difficult day. I was approached by a parishioner last weekend who told me that she did not know if she would be at the closing Mass, because it would just be too hard to let go. Although we celebrate all that was the parish of St. Felicitas today, I know that sadness fills the hearts of many. But let us not forget, that while we acknowledge the sadness, if we allow it to, it will be transformed into the joy of the possibilities that await us in the future. God calls each of us in this moment to treasure our past and to be truly grateful for all that this parish of St. Felicitas has meant to so many over the years, and then, giving glory to God for all that has been ours, turn our eyes to the future that is ours to shape. My community of St. Felicitas, I stand with and for you today in this pivotal and profound moment in your lives, and am humbled that I have been given the blessing of being yours in the future. May God's peace fill your hearts, minds and souls, today and every day.

We celebrate this journey a little uncomfortable with a mystery so deep.
But with hearts full of life, we hold out our hands
to receive the mystery of change, the gift of change, and sometimes we weep.

When we stand close and accept change, it isn't death anymore.
Its new name is life.
For there is no death for those caught up in God
Only a passing moment, a moment of folding up our tent,
A hard, painful, giving up moment...it is always painful to let go

O God of life, help us to embrace the mystery of letting go
Of folding up our tents
So that we, your earthen vessels, can bear the beauty of the breaking
And still hold the fullness of the life you have planned for us.

~ Adapted from Macrina Wiederkehr

St. Felicitas, pray for us.

God's peace to each of you.....Fr. Sal

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday: Dn 2:31-45; Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Lk 21:12-19
Thursday: Dn 6:12-28; Lk 21:20-28
Thanksgiving Day—Suggested: Sir 50:22-24; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19
Friday: Dn 7:2-14; Lk 21:29-33
Saturday: Dn 7:15-27; Lk 21:34-36
Sunday: Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25; 1 Thes 3:12 — 4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Parish Mission Statement

Saint Felicitas is called to be a diverse, faith-filled Christian community. Rooted in the Eucharist and Catholic tradition, we are unified in the Spirit of hope and love. Individually and collectively, we are responsible to fulfill God's will as Jesus did by striving to grow in unconditional respect for, acceptance of, and service to everyone.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Good Books on St. John of the Cross

The life and works of St. John of the Cross are truly inspiring and offer so much in helping us to grow into an ever deeper union with God. At the "St. John of the Cross Night" I told those who attended that I would provide the parish with a list of books that I have found helpful in getting to know about our patron saint and his love for God. I have enjoyed the following:

The Impact of God : Soundings from St. John of the Cross by Iain Matthew
(Available at Amazon.com)

John of the Cross : Doctor of Light and Love by Kieran Kavanaugh
(Available at Amazon.com)

John of the Cross: Man and Mystic by Richard P. Hardy
(Available at EWTN.org)

St. John of the Cross, pray for us. God's peace,
.....Fr. Sal

WOMEN'S GROUP: The next meeting will be on Wednesday December 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in meeting room #2 at the church. Join us for an evening of fellowship and faith sharing while forming new friendships. Beginning in January, our meetings will be the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. We will begin by studying the book "The Cup of Our Life" by Joyce Rupp. Please feel free to bring a friend. Refreshments will be served.

COMMITTEE FOR JUSTICE: We will be forming a committee for Justice in the Parish of St. John of the Cross. If you feel called to be part of a group that will study the writings of the Church on Social Justice and help provide our Parish with a variety of opportunities to reach out to our neighbors and to larger civic and world communities; this is the place for you. One issue that needs our attention now is the Ozanam Center. **Please call Sister Gale at the Parish Office 216-289-0770 and get your name on the list.** We will gather on Wednesday, December 9th, at 7:00pm in the church to begin this great service.

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY



Gordon Bertsch, Charlotte Farinacci, Stefanie Hainrihar, George Halgash, Andrew Jarm, Donald Justus, Cindy Kinley, Ruth Lamm, Dottie Maher, Dorothy Pinto, Joan Raddell, Justin Raddell, Norma Sedar, Tony Stepec, Milton Taisey, Richard Warman, Catherine Yert, and Jackie Zupan

Please notify the Parish Office when a name can be removed from this list.

INTRODUCING FR. TIMOTHY BUYANKSKY WHO WILL BE PRESIDING AT WEEKEND MASSES.....

I am a Benedictine Priest living at St. Andrew Abbey, and I have been there since 1962. After ordination I went to Chicago for a year to work on my degree in librarianship. On my return to Cleveland, I joined the teaching staff at Benedictine High School where I am the Librarian. I also teach drama and I am the Drama Director as well as being the Ski Club moderator. Also on my return to Cleveland, I became the weekend associate at St. Paul. I have spent the last 37 years in that position. Now that St. Paul is closing, I look forward to seeing the parishioners of St. John of the Cross.

.....Fr. Tim

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS PARISH WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Beginning December 5th, 2009
SATURDAY VIGIL: 4:00 p.m.
SUNDAY: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.

OPENING MASS WEEKEND SCHEDULE:

Nov. 29th. Sunday 10:00am Opening Mass for St. John of the Cross Bishop Lennon presiding Reception to follow in the gym

All other Masses for the weekend are canceled.



**ST. FELICITAS
PRAYER NETWORK HOTLINE
216-289-6456**

Call and leave a short message regarding your request. Let us know when your request has been answered, we can offer prayers of thanksgiving.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	Weekday <i>No Mass</i>	Nov. 23
TUESDAY	Andrew Dung-Lac, priest and martyr <i>No Mass</i>	Nov. 24
WEDNESDAY	Weekday <i>No Mass</i>	Nov. 25
THURSDAY	Thanksgiving <i>No Mass</i>	Nov. 26
FRIDAY	Weekday <i>No Mass</i>	Nov. 27
SATURDAY	Weekday <i>No Mass</i>	Nov. 28
SUNDAY	First Sunday of Advent 8:00 a.m. <i>Canceled</i> 10:00 a.m. OPENING MASS 12:00 p.m. <i>Canceled</i>	Nov. 29

BANNS OF MARRIAGE 

II. Philip Pantaleano & Melinda Lewis

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Richmond Hts. Hospital-Wed. Nov. 25.....Musarra
Grande Pointe-Sun. Nov. 29.....Sandy T.

COUNTERS

Counters for Mon. Nov. 30....."F" Team

MINISTERS SCHEDULE —NOV. 28-29, 2009

MASS	PRESIDER	HOSPITALITY	LECTOR 1	LECTOR 2	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	SERVERS
Sat. 5:00pm	<i>Canceled</i>					
Sun. 8:00am	<i>Canceled</i>					
Sun. 10:00am	<i>Bishop Lennon</i>	<i>Opening Mass for St. John of the Cross</i>				
Sun. 12:00pm	<i>Canceled</i>					

GOOD NEWS "ON THE HILL"

Breakfast with Santa: will take place on Sunday, December 6, 2009. Breakfast will be served from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Santa will be available from 9:00 a.m. until 11:30 p.m. The cost is \$5.00 per person. Children under three are free. The cost includes breakfast of pancakes, sausage, pastries, coffee and juice. Also included is a photo with Santa. The Santa Shop will be open to purchase last minute gifts. There will also be a Holiday Scholastic Book Fair where you can purchase one book and get one free. Tickets are available at the Parish Office. Tickets are limited. Contact Cathy Semerano at (440) 833-0678 or Michelle Abate at (216) 383-0962 if you have any questions.

KidStuff Coupon Books: Support the St. Felicitas PTU by purchasing your KidStuff Coupon book for \$25.00. Enjoy great savings on clothing, shoes, toys, sporting goods, electronics, activities, food and more. Books are available at the Parish Office or School until December 20th. Thank you for your support.



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER will be Saturday, December 5th. Adult tickets will be \$12.00 and Children \$7.00. Only 250 tickets will be sold. The last day to purchase tickets will be Tuesday, Dec. 1st. No tickets will be available at the door. The menu will be Italian wedding soup, salad, rolls, breaded pork chop (6-7oz), scalloped potatoes, vegetable and apple strudel. Children's menu will be breaded chicken strips in lieu of the pork chop. Doors will open at 5:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. If you can get or donate anything for the raffle, that would be great. Donation request letters are at St. Felicitas Parish Office or after Masses, if you know of any local businesses that could donate a raffle prize. Raffle ticket prices will be 6 tickets for \$5.00. We expect to have LOTS of prizes for the raffle. Don't forget to buy your TV raffle tickets too!

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS WEBSITE: The new St John Of The Cross website is published in text form on the web. The permanent address is: www.saintjohnofthecross.org

Precautions during this flu season

Many people have asked if we are going to make changes to the liturgy based on the severity of this flu season, including not shaking hands at the sign of peace and not offering the Precious Blood at Mass. What the Bishops of the United States have said up until now is that we use our discretion and keep in mind that if we are not feeling well and believe that we have the flu, not only should we not attend Mass, but also not shake hands with others or drink from the cup. If and when Bishop Lennon asks that we forgo the sign of peace or offering the Precious Blood, we will do so. Until then, please use your best judgment, and know that it is okay to simply acknowledge others and say, "Peace be with you" without a handshake at the sign of peace and okay to receive the Eucharistic Bread, but not drink from the cup if you are not feeling well. The best advice if you are not feeling well, is to not come to Mass and to take care of yourself...God knows your heart.

MANNA NEWS: Please stop by the Parish Office to purchase your gift cards for the giving tree. We have ordered extra cards for our current vendors and also added additional vendors; such as Sears, Kohl's, CVS and Walgreens.

PLEASE NOTE: Beginning November 29th. all contribution checks should be made out to Saint John of the Cross Parish. Thank you.

RAFFLE WINNER 

Congratulations to Heather Ballard of Mentor, our winner of the **Week #7 PTU Weekly Raffle**. Meghan Bretz of Euclid was the seller winner.

COLLECTIONS

Last Week's Regular Collection.....\$10,731.40
 Children's Collection.....\$8.00

**Thank you for your generosity.
 Your support is needed and greatly appreciated.**

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS QUOTE

*“May I be born anew of the spirit
in the dark silence of this night and know
in all the coming days
the hundredfold reward of your love.
Descend on my soul now like a river of peace
to take away my uncertainties,
my fear of the dark.*



NEWS FROM OUR NEIGHBORS

AN INVITATION TO CONSIDER: Have you ever thought of doing something to help your Spiritual Life? We have many programs to support you in this, but we are looking into a special opportunity for Spring of 2010. It's called *“Praying with St. Ignatius”*, an Ignatian retreat for parishes to be held at the site of the merged Holy Cross and St. Christine parishes. It presents the graces from the Spiritual Exercises and leads participants to experience God's merciful love, grow in a heartfelt knowledge of Jesus, and enter into his passion, death and resurrection. The evenings of the eight week program combine prayer at home, some group instruction and faith sharing. In addition, there is a possibility of the program to be held on Saturday mornings, dependent on the availability of a facilitator. If you think you might be interested, please contact Sister Kathleen at 216-486-0850 or at kathleen@holycrossoh.org

ADORATION WITH SONG AND PRAISE: The Center for Pastoral Leadership's Vocation Office invites all young adults, teens, and the young at heart to an evening of prayer and Eucharistic Adoration with song and praise! Join others on Wednesday, December 2nd at 7:00pm and listen to a powerful witness followed by prayer with our Eucharistic Lord. The evening will conclude with pizza and refreshments. The evening will take place in Sacred Heart Chapel, located on the campus, at 28700 Euclid Ave., Wickliffe. For more details please call Fr. Gurnick or Edie Gauvin at 440-943-7631.

Prelude
photography
proudly announces
the first Church Directory for
St John of the Cross

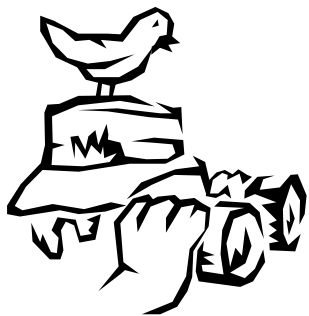
Photography continues
THIS WEEK ONLY
Anyone photographed
will get a *free* directory
and a *free* 8x10.

To make an appointment
please call
Prelude Photography
at 440.266.1677

All photography this week
will be at Prelude in
Great Lakes Mall

*Additional sessions available
during Thanksgiving weekend*

Don't miss out!
Be a part of the first
Church Directory!
And you can get Christmas Portraits!



LOOKING AHEAD

C-Church
 P-Parish Office
 S-School G-Gym
 MR1-Meeting Room #1
 MR2-Meeting Room #2
 MR3-Meeting Room #3

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23RD

MONDAY-NOVEMBER 23rd

No Mass

7:30pm Fr. Mehok's Scripture Study (S)

TUESDAY-NOVEMBER 24th

No Mass

7:00pm Legion of Mary(MR3)

WEDNESDAY-NOVEMBER 25th

No Mass

6:00-7:30pm Girl Scout Meeting (MR3)

7:00pm Adult Music Group Practice (C)

THURSDAY-NOVEMBER 26th

Thanksgiving

Parish Office is closed

No Mass at St. Felicitas

9:00am Mass at St. Paul

FRIDAY-NOVEMBER 27th

No Mass

Parish Office is closed

SATURDAY-NOVEMBER 28th

No Mass

6:45pm Bingo-Team B (G)

SUNDAY-NOVEMBER 29th

8:00am and 12:00pm Masses are canceled

10:00am Opening Mass for

St. John of the Cross

Reception afterwards in the gym

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30TH

MONDAY-NOVEMBER 30th

TUESDAY-DECEMBER 1st

7:00-9:00pm Confirmation Formation (S)

7:00pm Legion of Mary(MR2)

WEDNESDAY-DECEMBER 2nd

6:00-7:30pm Girl Scout Meeting (MR1)

7:00pm Adult Music Group Practice (C)

7:00pm Women's Group Meeting (MR2)

THURSDAY-DECEMBER 3rd

6:45pm Bingo-Team #3 (G)

FRIDAY-DECEMBER 4th

SATURDAY-DECEMBER 5th

4:00pm Saturday Vigil Mass

6:00pm Christmas Dinner (G)

SUNDAY-DECEMBER 6th

9:00am-12:00pm Breakfast with Santa

10:00am Children's Liturgy (C)



Advent