

St. Cyprian Church



Spring/Summer 2019 News



Rev. Dr. William J. Promesso, Pastor
734-283-1366 x111
wpromesso@stcyprian.com

One recent weekday morning I was viewing the church environment after Mass. The flowers that were so brilliantly filled with new life only four weeks ago have become, even with the best of care, a bit lackluster. It's hard to keep the fifty days of Easter filled with fresh flowers and greenery that signal the new life Jesus Christ shares with us. As I pondered this decorating problem, I had an epiphany: these flowers which were fresh a few weeks ago and today look tired are a metaphor for how we enter and live these sacred fifty days. We come to church on Easter filled with the excitement of new life, new clothes, new flowers, family feasts and spirits soaring. But as the season moves through eight weeks, our Easter spirits become dull and maybe even lifeless. We wilt. We dry out. We wither.

If that's your experience during this season of resurrection, know that I've seen it and experienced it myself. It's difficult to keep each day of Easter as exciting as the first. It's hard to remember that each day is a sharing in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We struggle with remembering that we are a people who enter waters of death and suffering but rise from that baptismal water to enjoy and celebrate life all the time.

May you look around this spring, also. May you see the flowers, trees and grass as living symbols of the resurrection. Furthermore, may you see in yourself the seeds of new life rising not only during these fifty days, but every day. That's how generous, merciful and kind God is to us!

Speaking of new life, come and celebrate the first Mass of newly-ordained Father Adam Nowak on Pentecost Sunday, June 9 at 11:00am. Adam spent six years in the seminary preparing to be a priest in service to the people of the Catholic Church. In Latin, the word *seminarium*, means a hothouse, nursery garden or seed-bed. The seed planted there for six years was nourished through prayer, study, service and personal growth leading to the blossoming of new life that Fr. Adam will share with us. More resurrection glory to celebrate the fiftieth day of the season and the gift of the Holy Spirit to all!

All the Lord's best,

Fr. Bill

UPCOMING Events

JUNE

- 8/9 Pentecost hospitality
- 9 Fr. Adam Nowak 1st Mass & Reception
- 19 Book Club
- 30 5th Sunday Rosary

JULY

- 4/5 Parish Offices Closed

AUGUST

- 3 Dog Days of Summer Concert & Pig Roast
- 28 Book Club

SEPTEMBER

- 15 Parish Picnic & Raffle
- 25 Book Club
- 28 SVDP Walk for the Poor

OCTOBER

- 24 & 26 Church Directory
- 27 Blood Drive
- 30 Book Club

Christian Service & Outreach Ministries



Kim Switzer
Director of Christian Service & Outreach Ministries
734-283-1366 x114
kswitzer@stcyprian.com

Welcome spring! While writing this newsletter, we are waiting for sunshine and spring temperatures. The arrival of spring is a sign of renewed life. It's everywhere we look. Trees are filling with leaves once again, the crops are going into the ground, and the birds are singing loudly. I love taking all the beauty in. When we see the visible changes of the seasons, we are reminded of God's Word. Life and renewal, the reflection of things made new!

In March, the American Red Cross came to St. Cyprian asking you to come give blood to save lives. Thank you for donating 31 units of blood. Lives were saved!

Thanks to your generosity, 85 families/individuals were able to enjoy a complete ham or pork roast Easter meal! Our religious formation students colored pictures to decorate the food boxes. It takes many hands to make this possible. Thank you to **Cheryl Tank** and the pantry volunteers who give extra time during the holiday seasons. You are a great team! You are serving those in need with smiles and laughter, and we have a lot of fun!

During the month of April, the Christian Service Commission members submitted articles for the bulletin with opportunities to write letters or join organizations to take care of our earthly home. In observance of Earth Day, parishioners will have an opportunity to purchase eco-friendly shopping bags. The eco-friendly bags not only reduce the use of plastic bags, they are made from recycled materials. Win-win.

Many acts of kindness go on behind the scenes. These acts of kindness remind us of God working in our lives. Our parishioners go above and beyond to serve others.

Our Crafters donate many items to organizations in need with donated and upcycled materials. Go Crafters!

St. Vincent De Paul purchased ground beef, sausage, eggs, and butter for every pantry client. Their boxes were full! It was beautiful to see. Thank you, St. Vincent De Paul!

The Kiwanis, the Builders Club at Seitz Middle School, the Key Club at Riverview Community High School and all Riverview Public Schools collected canned goods for our parish pantry! Our shelves were starting to run low when we received a call from Mayor Andrew Swift to set up a time to deliver the canned goods. We received truckloads of food, just in time for our Easter distribution!

The Knights of Columbus donated a large sturdy shelf for our pantry. This shelf will be able to hold our large boxes when we receive deliveries. Thank you Knights! Your continued support is greatly appreciated!

We are looking forward once again to receiving fresh produce for our pantry clients. Our clients have tables full of healthy choices. Thank you to **Ken Rygwelski** from the **Trenton Community Garden** and all its volunteers for donating and delivering abundant fresh produce throughout the growing season.

A parishioner picks up baked goods from Panera Bread on a weekly basis. The baked goods are displayed beautifully for our clients. What a treat!

Crystal Gardens is always there for us when we need an extra freezer. Southgate Meijer donates gift cards to our pantry. It is so wonderful to live in a community where they support our families in need. Thank you so much! Many busy hands and warm hearts!

Care Card ministry reaches out to those in need of comfort. A parishioner donates beautiful handmade cards for our Care Card minister to handwrite a message comforting those grieving.

(Continued on page 5)

Dedicated to Becoming Joyful, Missionary Disciples

The Easter season is upon us and we are blessed to be celebrating the new Catholic members of our parish community. The diligent study, prayer and journeying of our candidate and eight catechumens came to a joyous climax at the Easter Vigil when all became fully professed members of the Catholic Church and received the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation. May God grant abundant blessings to **Kevin and Sally Oakley, Henry Preston, Ashley Collins, Anthony Long, Myriam Moore, Lane Moore, Aidan Moore and Paul Severinski**. The transformation by God's grace and the Holy Spirit that each of them experienced was evident on their glowing faces! What a wonderful evening of new life and evidence of God's faithfulness and love being poured out upon them and our parish community. The support and encouragement of their individual sponsors was influential and indicates how vital the community is to the RCIA journey. My sincere thanks to all of their sponsors who accompanied and prayed with them along the way: **Maria Preston, Colleen Parker, Daryl Bartl, Maureen Riske, Nicole Long, Mark Ball, Debbie Kudla, Gary Ennis Sr. and John Bell**. My sincere thanks also to you our parishioners and community for praying for them and being visible witnesses to them on how to live out the Catholic faith through the love and joy of Christ.

If you attended our Easter Vigil and were inspired by the joyful witness of our newly initiated neophytes and desire to complete your Christian initiation in the Catholic Church, please feel free to contact me. If you have a family member, neighbor or friend who is considering becoming Catholic or receiving the sacraments, please encourage them to reach out to me. I would be glad to have a simple discussion with them about our RCIA program and answer any questions they may have. There is never any pressure to become Catholic, but rather to receive the invitation from Jesus to "come and see" all that the He and His Church have in store for each person – abundant life.

Denise Gorski
Pastoral Minister
734-283-1366 x112
dgorski@stcyprian.com



Our parish continues to be blessed by God in being a witness to all who visit here through our evangelization events, Christian service and welcoming atmosphere. Our **Adult Faith Formation Committee** welcomed **Adam Janke** of the **St. Paul Street Evangelization** as one of our Lenten speakers and in response to help our parishioners become better Catholic evangelists. Adam provided us with *10 Great Ways to Be An Evangelizer* that were simple and direct, allowing for people to be more at ease and to help evangelizers realize that they are equipped by the power of the Holy Spirit to share the Catholic faith. Stemming from that faith formation event our parish will be participating in the Riverview Summerfest June 14-16 in order to be faithful to the command of Jesus to "Go out and make disciples of all the nations." (Matthew 28:20) We will be praying with people, sharing the joy that being in a personal relationship with Jesus can bring as well as the fullness of life the Catholic faith offers. Your witness is crucial to bringing the love of Christ to others! These events are in response to our parish evangelization plan and the *Unleash the Gospel* letter, specifically Markers 4.1, 4.2 and 6.1 .

Our Bible study continues to experience the blessings and grace of the Holy Spirit as we study various books of the Bible, so that this living Word of God can transform our hearts and minds to proclaim Christ to others, in and through our lives. In the *Unleash the Gospel* letter, Archbishop Vigneron states that "As God's word is dynamic, so must our response be: we take the word to heart and apply it in our lives. An evangelizing parish is one in which parishioners continually study, talk about and pray with Scripture." (UTG, Marker 3.2) Sacred Scripture is essential to hearing God speak to us personally in and through our prayer and the

Worship & Music Ministries



Mason Koch
Director of Worship
& Music Ministries
734-283-1366 x120
mkoch@stcyprian.com



Beginnings and endings are important to mark any occasion, and the season of spring marks both: the beginning of a new season in the church and ending for a lot of activity in the music ministry program. This year we have remained busy in all aspects of Music and Worship.

Growth has come from the choir, handbell ensemble and instrumentalists. We have all covered a lot of ground playing weekend Mass with traditional hymns, songs and choral selections, and praise & worship music for nights of Adoration and Taizé prayer services. We look forward to providing spirit-filled music at Adam Nowak's first Mass of Thanksgiving on June 9 for Pentecost and as the last weekend before summer break for the choir and handbells. Thank you to everyone in the music ministry program for their hard work and dedication this year!

I would like to thank our Worship ministers and Worship ministries! From funeral ministry to greeter ministry to Art & Environment, everyone has

done a great job representing our church with confidence and an attitude to serve our community. Without the commitment of these different organizations, we wouldn't have a warm welcoming atmosphere, and spirited-filled liturgies.

The scope of Worship is overseeing and coordinating Art & Environment, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Altar Servers, Altar Assistants, Ushers & Greeters, Lectors, Funeral Ministry and Music Ministry. Anyone can serve in these Ministries.

Finally, a big thanks to the Worship Commission. With the responsibility of planning and implementing a spiritual environment at our Liturgies, the Worship Commission has strived to improve this at our Parish. The Worship Commission not only provides support for the different liturgical ministries but brings together various backgrounds with a desire to learn how we can make Liturgy better. Thank you, Worship Commission Members!



We are always in need of new volunteers for ministries in our parish. Stay tuned for potential upcoming training sessions that involve the different ministries. Please contact me or Jeff Evans to become involved in the various Liturgical Ministries. Your participation and commitment are what keeps everything going!

Please consider sharing your time and talent with your parish family. Enjoy the rewards of using your gifts to praise the Lord!

Mason



(Christian Service, continued from Page 3)

It takes many, many dedicated volunteers to make all this happen. We are always looking for new volunteers. If you feel called to participate on a committee or at an event, please let me know and we'll find a great place for you to serve others and in turn, serve God. Thank you for a great year!

During the summer months our parishioners continue to serve:

- Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound- weekly
- Welcome Committee- weekly
- Pantry- weekly
- USDA- once a month
- All Saints Soup Kitchen

Save the Date- Mercy in Action- American Red Cross Blood Drive Sunday, October 27, 2019

Kim

(Pastoral Ministry, continued from Page 3)

Eucharistic liturgy we participate in. We have been studying specific books this year including Ephesians, Galatians and we will be studying the Acts of the Apostles over the summer. I invite you to join us to be enriched in your faith pilgrimage and grow more deeply in love with God.

I'm also excited to announce that we will be beginning our parish Intercessory Prayer Group on Tuesday, June 4 at 10:00 am which will take place in the St. Teresa of Calcutta room. This, too, is in response to an initiative in the *Unleash the Gospel* letter which calls for the vital role of intercessors within the global Church and parish. The power of intercessory prayer is highly anointed and influences all of the parish's evangelistic initiatives, intercedes for God's blessing upon them and also lifts up the intentions of the parishioners. A key in intercessory prayer is the development of the prayer intercessor's

heart to be attentive to God's voice in order to hear what God is asking the intercessors to pray for as well. It is a powerful, prayerful ministry that can impact the universal Church. Please consider becoming a prayer intercessor and ask God if He is calling you to enter into this vital ministry here at our parish. Starting in June, there will be a prayer petitions box available in the vestibule where you can submit your petitions. These petitions will remain private and not be read by anyone, but will be prayed over by the intercessory prayer team.

May you have a wonderful summer and enjoy the beauty of God's creation each day. Thank Him for all of His works and for His enduring love and mercy.

Denise

Religious Formation



Stacey Sutowski-Shurtz
Director of Elementary Catechesis & Youth Ministry
734-283-1366 x118
sshurtz@stcyprian.com

Spring had sprung!!! Then came winter and spring again!! Hopefully by the time you are reading this it will really be spring!

So much has happened since our last newsletter. Eighteen of our high schoolers were confirmed by Bishop Battersby on March 2. We celebrated the last Mass with the Formation students at the end of April. On May 5, twenty of our grade school children received Communion for the first time.

All **Religious Formation Programs** are officially complete for this year. We are now accepting registrations for ALL grades for next year. The forms can be found on our website www.stcyprian.com. Those who are eligible for sacraments will be contacted personally.

The curriculum we follow was developed by the Archdiocese to emphasize teaching to the student as a whole person. Lessons will help the student Encounter, Grow and Witness their faith at each level of learning. Our goal is to help form people who love and serve the Lord for their whole lives.

Our program has many options for families to fulfill their formation requirements. Students in Grades 1-5 have the choice of attending the Monday evening classes from 6:15-7:30pm. The children will be in a classroom with children of their grade level and a catechist, **OR** they can attend the Family Program where the families meet together monthly. One lesson a month is geared toward the children and parents separately with a few family lessons intertwined throughout the program. The other lessons are taught at home with the parents as the primary catechists.

The Middle School Program is unique; grades 6-8 meet in sessions over a period of time. Each

student must complete 3 sessions to move to the next level the following year. This program was designed to accommodate the busyness of the Middle School student.

Our Sacramental Programs, which include Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation, are taught outside of the above programs. The sacraments are taught separately to ensure that the student will be able to gain the most out of each class. This will also accommodate those who enter the program at different levels.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all our wonderful and faithful catechists who have dedicated their time throughout the school year.

Grade 1 and 2: **Eunice Campbell**; *Grade 3:* **Amanda Rupp**; *Grade 4:* **Joe Hegedus**; *Grade 5:* **Mike Capraro**

Middle School: **Dan Davis, Laura Lauer, Heather Kirkwood, Carolyn Lyles, Mark Ball and Pete Bovee**

Family Program: Grades 1-3: **Colleen Cameron** with **Maria McKenzie**; Grades 4-5: **David Skidmore** with **Michelle Nordstrom**

Children's Liturgy of the Word: **Ann Holmes, Colleen Cameron, Patty Saenz, Susan Costello, Holly Kulik, Michelle Nordstrom, Jennifer McFarland, Jaime Phillip, Jennifer Gamet and Meredith Steinmetz**

Reconciliation/Eucharist: **Susan Costello and Patty Saenz**

Substitute Catechist: **Daryl Bartl**

As you can see it really does take a village to raise a child. All our catechists come from the parish family. I CANNOT run any of these

programs without you. I am ALWAYS looking for catechists. This coming year I particularly need catechists in the 6th-8th grade Middle School and the CLOW Program. I also am looking for catechists to team teach the Confirmation Class. It would be amazing to have someone to help with the Youth Group. Please think about it, pray about it and call me. I will answer all questions, go over the schedule and give you the necessary materials. You and your faith will do the rest.

Youth Group has been very different this year. The life of a teenager is packed with so many extra activities that it has been difficult to find a night where all teens can consistently attend meetings. However, we have continued to attend most of our traditional outings throughout the year. The workshops, retreats and service events are wonderful things, but they not bring about the comradery that a

youth group is meant to do. I am praying that this coming year we will be able to have more continuity with the meetings. The big question most parents ask is why should my teen attend a youth group? The most important part of a youth group is a community where the atmosphere is positive and uplifting. Youth Group is a place where teens can share their thoughts and feelings freely with one another without being judged. They can share their faith and pray openly. St. Cyprian Youth Group meetings consist of icebreakers, games, discussions, prayer, movies, etc. There is always a theme to each meeting that brings about a discussion or activity. Youth Group is just as important for a teen's development as school and sports. **Youth Group will kick off again on September 15th right after the parish picnic.** Let's make this year a great one!!!!

Stacey

CYO Camp Clean-Up 2019



Book Club will continue to meet through the summer months except for July. We will meet in the Parish Offices on June 19 and August 28 at 7pm. Meetings typically last about an hour and all are welcome to participate. Please watch the Connection to see what we will be reading each month.



Denise Traeder
 Director of Finance
 & Administration
 734-283-1366 x113
 dtraeder@stcyprian.com

Given to St. Cyprian @ April 30, 2019 \$761,694

How that was used:

- ADMINISTRATION: \$306,035
- WORSHIP & MUSIC: \$80,729
- CHRISTIAN SERVICE: \$27,933
- RELIGIOUS FORMATION: \$62,715
- DIOCESAN/VICARIATE SUBSIDIES: \$40,780
- CAPITAL EXPENDITURES: \$89,367
- PLANT & MAINTENANCE: \$140,586

**Net Operating Gain
 after expenses: \$13,550**

As of April 30, the parish finances are in excellent shape. Stewardship and the Christmas collection, our two biggest sources of income, are both above budget for the year. CSA is moving along briskly; we expect to meet our target very soon.

The Emergency Response Ministry is still in process. We have made some changes to security recently, and will continue to improve our best practices to be as prepared as possible for any emergency. We are still looking for Mass Team volunteers; if you are interested, please contact me. No specific training is required, just a willingness to help.

We are entering into a 5 year lease with Riverview Community School District. After evaluating their needs, Riverview decided to move in a different direction with the space we have available, and they will be opening a Cosmetology School which will serve the multiple schools within their consortium. The school's cosmetology services will be open to the public. We look forward to a continued relationship with RCSD.

We are planning to move forward with some redecorating in the Social Hall restrooms—new stalls, adding handicap hardware, resurfacing the walls, etc. This project is long overdue! We're also planning to install new drinking fountains in the Social Hall to reduce our use of bottled water.

Our volunteer Grass Cutting group is always looking for new members. If you've got some extra time on your hands this summer and would like to help make your parish grounds look their best, contact **Daryl Bartl** at 734-556-5928.

Special thanks to **Greg Lott** for the spectacular display of spring flowers. They are GORGEOUS!



Denise

Website

stcyprian.com

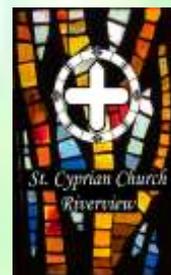
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