

St. Cyprian Church

Fall 2019 News



Rev. Dr. William J. Promesso, Pastor
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Dear Friends,

On Pentecost 2017, Archbishop Vigneron issued his pastoral Letter *Unleash the Gospel* as a follow-up to the archdiocesan synod of 2016 that included representatives from all parishes. We studied that document at our parish council and commission meetings throughout 2017-18 and I issued a pastoral letter *Ignite the Gospel* in September 2018. Both letters have guided the efforts of the archdiocese and our own parish. Now the archdiocese has begun the second phase of this “unleashing” process called “Sent on Mission.” This phase will focus on 1) the development of a Missionary Strategic Plan [MSP] and 2) our participation in a capital campaign to provide the funds for our missionary efforts. The MSP will be developed by a visioning leadership team representing the staff, parish council and other parish members. It will offer our highest “dreams” for the future of parish ministries. I expect this process to take place in early 2020 and the fundraising to occur next fall. But I haven’t received confirmation of that timeline, so wait for details as they develop. It is my hope and prayer that as we approach our parish’s 65th anniversary next June, we will be able to have clear 20/20 vision for the bright future that lies ahead. I look forward to your involvement.

All the Lord’s best,

Fr. Bill

UPCOMING Events

OCTOBER

- 24-26 Church Directory Photos
- 27 Blood Drive

NOVEMBER

- 5 Financial Planning for Millennials
- 7-9 Church Directory Photos
- 10 Pancake Breakfast
- 16 Knight out w/Fr. Bill
- 17 Blanket Making
- 21 Book Club

DECEMBER

- 1 Advent by Candlelight
- 8 LG Christmas Party
- 15 Breakfast w/St. Nick
- 19 Book Club
- 29 5th Sunday Rosary

JANUARY

- 5 Epiphany Concert
- 16 Book Club
- 19 Pancake Breakfast

FEBRUARY

- 8 Financial Planning for Millennials
- 20 Book Club
- 21 Volunteer Party—Disney Theme

Christian Service & Outreach Ministries



Kim Switzer
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As Catholics we are called to move into action and show mercy and compassion to all of God's people. When we serve one another as Jesus taught us, we have the privilege of extending ourselves to other human beings with a heart full of tenderness. In the process we are transformed. Jesus asks us to offer gestures of kindness, patience, and nearness to anyone in need. These gestures of outreach and service to those in need fill the heart with joy and offer consolation.

We teamed up with the Riverview Knights of Columbus for the Petition Drive to End Dismemberment Abortion and received over 420 signatures.

In efforts to **Care for God's Creation**, we offered ecofriendly bags to reduce the use of plastic. We installed a chilled, filtered water station in the Social Hall to eliminate the need for bottled water. We also purchased eco-friendly water bottles made from recycled plastic for use with the new drinking fountain. Every little bit helps! If you are interested in purchasing more ecofriendly bags, please come to the parish office.

Recent Christian Service events were the **Life Chain** and **Flu shots**. Our vicariate **Mercy in Action** service will be the weekend of October 26th and 27th. We are collecting supplies for our local **animal shelters** and offering a **Red Cross Blood Drive**. Our Christian Service Commission along with our Blood Drive coordinators

will be overseeing this service.

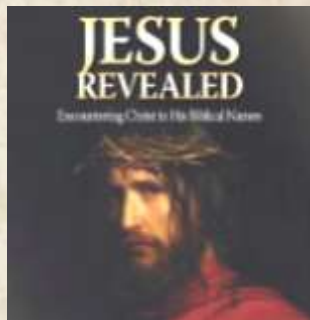
The **Thanksgiving pantry distribution** will be November 20th. Our pantry clients will be receiving Thanksgiving meals to take home to their families. The **Giving Tree Project** prep will begin soon. Our **Christmas pantry distribution** will be December 18th. I look forward to sharing in these events with you. Not only are we serving those in need together but we are a supportive community.

Thank you to all who support Christian Service! Serving can be fun and you prove it! I am blessed to work with you. Let's go forth in witness by sharing Christ's light.

Kim



This fall season we began a new bible study, *Jesus Revealed: Encountering Christ In His Biblical Names*, providing people with a wonderful opportunity to deepen their relationship with



Jesus Christ through the study of Scripture, Church teachings, the Catechism and from the lives of the saints. This enriching program was offered in the

evening, in response to many parishioner requests, and allowed many new people to participate. This bible study featured personal study, small group discussion and teaching videos to aid the participants to mature and develop in their discipleship with Christ. We will study the first nine names of Jesus this fall and then study the remaining nine names in early 2020.

In addition, our parish will be offering Bishop Robert Barron's *Word on Fire* series *The Pivotal Players Volume 1* this fall. We will feature three of the players once a month: October 16 was St. Francis of Assisi, then St. Thomas Aquinas on November 29 and concluding with G.K. Chesterton on December 18. The remaining three players will be featured in early 2020. This engaging and dynamic series illumines a handful of saints, artists, mystics and scholars who not only shaped the life of the Church but changed the course of civilization. Through this series

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people will be able to journey with six holy men and women toward a deeper intimacy with the Lord Jesus and find insights about him, prayer, the Church, virtue and more.

The Adult Faith Formation Committee continues to be open to the Holy Spirit and His directives for our parish, in order to present faith enriching opportunities that increase and build up the faith of God's people. We prayerfully consider presentations and faith filled opportunities that will allow our parishioners to respond fully to the challenges of our times by being fully equipped with solid knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith, which is expressed in service and witness to the world in imitation of the love of Jesus Christ. May God Bless you and your families as you continue to witness the love of Christ to the world.

Denise

Bishop Robert Barron's
CATHOLICISM
THE PIVOTAL PLAYERS
VOLUME I



Worship & Music Ministries



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The season of fall brings a bit of a chill, but a refreshing start to the year ahead of us! With all the activities kicking back into gear, we are off to a good start.

This year St. Cyprian Church has seen great stability in the music department. I am always encouraging new people to come and join us. If you play an instrument or have a love of singing, please consider sharing your talent by joining the choir or playing an instrument at one of our weekend Masses.

We are looking to fill one last position in the handbell ensemble this year. If you can read music and have background in playing an instrument, please consider trying out for this ministry. This wonderful group will be ringing at our All Soul's Mass of Remembrance, Advent & Christmas Season Masses, and a few weekend Masses in between.

The Liturgical Choir is our primary vocal choir for the parish that consists of 25 to 30 members. We are always looking for more people to join us! Anyone, high school age or older, is welcome and encouraged to join. Reading music is NOT a requirement, although a love of music is (and a sense of humor helps!) We rehearse weekly on Wednesday evenings at 7pm. The Liturgical Choir is regularly scheduled to sing at the 11am Mass on Sundays, but we sometimes sing at other Masses throughout the year. This year we have started early on our Christmas Music and are looking forward to adding a beautiful sound to Worship.



The instrumental ensemble we have at the 9am Mass continues to flourish. Consisting of two or three guitars, violin, flute, piano and percussion, these well-polished musicians contribute to waking everyone up with songs of praise at the early Sunday morning Mass! If you are looking for a good wake up call, consider joining us for the 9am Mass on Sundays. It's worth waking up early, I promise!

Our Resurrection Choir has continued to enhance the funeral liturgies. We also encourage instrumentalists to accompany us as well. This ministry is also a corporal work of mercy — to bury the dead.

We have begun our Worship Commission meetings for the year and are working on many different events. We had our annual Liturgical Ministers Day, which was a great success and now are preparing for All Souls' Mass of Remembrance on November 2nd at 10:00am. This Liturgy will be in Remembrance of all who have gone before us this past year. This Advent season we will offer a day of Eucharistic Adoration on December 15th with praise & worship music at 5pm. Come and spend some time in private prayer as we await the coming of our Lord.

Aside from enhancing Liturgical Ministries, the Worship Commission oversees the Art & environment of the church. They have continued to help brighten up the atmosphere with plants, candles and decorations appropriate to the Liturgical Seasons. The Art & Environment Committee is always seeking new members to help with the care of our church environment. If you have a desire for décor and a love of the Lord, consider joining this artistic Ministry.

I would like to encourage others to be a part of a Liturgical Ministry at our weekend Masses. If you feel the call, answer it! *We are most in need of Liturgical Ministers at the 11am Mass on Sundays.* Please consider this wonderful opportunity to serve, share and help grow in your faith this year. If you have been thinking about being a part of a Ministry or have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Mason



UPCOMING LITURGIES

All Saints Liturgies

Friday, November 1

12:00 noon and 7:00pm

All Souls Liturgies

Saturday, November 2

10:00 am, followed by hospitality

Immaculate Conception

Sunday, December 8

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24

4:00pm and 12:00 midnight

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25

11:00am

Mary, the Mother of God

Tuesday, December 31

5:00pm Vigil

Wednesday, January 1

11:00am





Stacey Sutowski-Shurtz
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Leaves teach us that there is beauty and uniqueness in every stage of life. A leaf is beautiful when it is new and green in the spring. It is just as beautiful when it changes color. Just like us, we change each year as we grow, and we become more beautiful along the way. How boring would life be if we were all exactly the same? God appreciates variety so he created us to be unique. We are like the leaves in that we are all different sizes, shapes and colors.

So, I say WELCOME FALL and all of its beauty.



The Religious Formation classes are in full swing. It is so wonderful to hear the sound of children enjoying one another as they learn about and share their faith with each other. We use the RCL Benziger program Be My Disciples as we follow the curriculum developed by the Archdiocese of Detroit. Lessons are taught to the student as a whole person so they will 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 Sacrament Program which includes 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 Welcome Back our returning catechists along with a couple of new ones. I am so happy you have chosen to share your faith with the children.

Grade 1 and 2 **Eunice Campbell** and **Amanda Rupp**

Grade 3 **Sandra Cotter**

Grade 4 **Joe Hegedus**

Grade 5 **Mike Capraro**

Middle School Grades 6-8: **Laura Lauer, Heather Kirkwood, Carolyn Lyles, Mark Ball, and Maria Panazzo-Preston**

Family Program: Grades 1-3 **Colleen Cameron** and Grades 4-5 **Michelle Nordstrom**

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Coordinator: **Ann Holmes** along with Catechists: **Colleen Cameron, Patty Saenz, Susan Costello, Holly Kulik, Michelle Nordstrom, Jennifer McFarland, Jaime Phillip, Jennifer Gamet,**

Meredith Steinmetz, and Amanda Teper

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

Confirmation: Stacey Sutowski-Shurtz with **Laura Lauer**

Substitute Catechist: **Daryl Bartl**

Youth Group Assistant: **Sydney Kowalczyk**

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, particularly the 11am Mass. 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 held an Open House this year at the Parish Picnic. Also, surveys have been sent via email to the parents of teens to spark interest and to find out what they really want in a youth group. Sydney and I are hoping to have a wonderful group this year. We went to Farmer Charley's Kackleberry Farm for a day of fun. The annual Vicariate event, **Night in a Box**, is planned for Oct. 26 at St. Frances Cabrini in Allen Park. This night is a way for the teens to experience what it is like to be homeless for a night. Each teen will have to supply their own box to sleep in, preferably an

appliance box. We will meet in the evening for a simple meal, participate in a service activity and listen to a presentation about homelessness. Around 11 pm we will go to bed in the boxes that are situated in the fenced courtyard by the church. In the morning, we will share a simple breakfast and attend morning Mass together before we clean up and go home. Mark your calendars for November 10th, Sacred Heart Parish on Grosse Ile will be hosting an **IGNITE** program from 6-8pm. This is an awesome night of Praise, Worship, Adoration and Reconciliation. Fr. Bill and the priests from Sacred Heart, St. Joseph in Trenton, Our Lady of the Woods and St. Mary Magdalene will participate in this event.

The **Education Commission and Family Faith Committee** will be hosting a **Trunk or Treat** on Oct. 26 after the 5pm Mass. We will be holding the annual blanket making night on November 17th from 4-6pm in the Social Hall. Please bring your fleece to make the blankets to be shared with Karmanos, shelters, veterans and others. There will be pizza and pop provided. On December 15, **St. Nick** will be returning to enjoy breakfast with you after the 9 and 11am Masses. All are welcome to attend any or all of these events please look in the Connection for further details.

Stacey



Book Club is an awesome way to meet people and share your thoughts on the different topics we read about. We read all genres of books and have lively discussions. The books we read are suggested and voted on by the members. Meetings typically last about an hour and all are welcome to participate.

We generally meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 1:00pm in the Social Hall. Watch the *Connection* for book selections.

November 21 ◆ December 19

January 16 ◆ February 20 ◆ March 19



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 Director of Finance
 & Administration
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Given to St. Cyprian @ September 30, 2019

\$232,825

How that was used:

- ADMINISTRATION: \$91,106
- WORSHIP & MUSIC: \$21,570
- CHRISTIAN SERVICE: \$7,779
- EVANGELIZATION: \$26
- RELIGIOUS FORMATION: \$14,208
- DIOCESAN/VICARIATE SUBSIDIES: \$12,013
- CAPITAL EXPENDITURES: \$8,173

**Net Operating Gain
 after expenses: \$37,223**

As of September 30, the parish finances are in excellent shape. Stewardship is above budget, CSA is over our target, and lease income is allowing the parish to move forward with improvements around the complex.

Summer is always a busy time for maintenance. We take advantage of less frequent activities and good weather to make repairs and upgrades. Our outstanding maintenance team of **Matt Ray, Daryl Bartl, Henry Preston** and **Mike Kirch** have been busy trimming trees, pulling weeds, fixing the garage, etc. in addition to major projects. We installed a new chilled/filtered water station in the Social Hall which has enabled us to stop purchasing plastic water bottles and purchased reusable water bottles made from recycled plastic. We upgraded light fixtures around the parking lot and entrances with LED fixtures to improve efficiency and provide brighter lights. We also installed a glass block wall at the front of the Parish Office entrance. This will reduce gusts of wind blowing into the office all winter—and it looks great, too! We are in the process of redecorating the restrooms in the Social Hall. About 75% of the tile work is complete, with new stalls, toilets and sinks coming soon. The chairs in the church are being reupholstered, and the kneelers are next. Many of these upgrades are long overdue, and have been made possible due to our lease with Riverview Schools.


Although the season is not quite over, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our WONDERFUL Volunteer Grass Cutting group: **Chuck Thomas, Alan Nowak, Juan Lucaire, Mark Lauer, Jeff Goga** and **Dennis Belack**. We appreciate your dedication and hard work!

Denise

Website

stcyprian.com

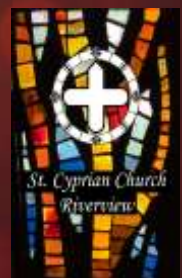
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