



FROM OUR PASTORAL STAFF

They call themselves Endangered Catholics. Note, I said that *they* call *themselves* Endangered Catholics, since I do not really want anything to do with the name or any association with it. With great passion they have done their best to protest church closings throughout our Diocese and encourage the faithful to follow suit by, most recently, encouraging them to stop donations to “*any* Roman Catholic Church” until Bishop Lennon reconsiders his decisions to close these parishes. I am really having a difficult time understanding this. First of all, there is only **ONE** Roman Catholic Church, and maybe this is where the problems begin, in that they do not see us as **ONE**. Secondly, this assumes that Bishop Lennon was the only

one involved in the decision making process, without any consultation whatsoever, which could not be farther from the truth. It also assumes that we, the faithful, know better than our Bishop, what is ultimately going to be best for the Church in this Diocese. In addition to all of this, ceasing to support our parishes, financially or otherwise, only serves to harm our parishes...this is what led to the closing of many parishes in the first place. These assumptions and accusations often come from the deep seeded emotions that Catholics feel over the closing of a church building which is completely understandable. However, we must not fail to be honest with ourselves. The reality of decreasing numbers of priests as well as people in the pews has led to a need to share resources, all in the hope that we might be able to provide ministry to the greatest numbers possible with the greatest love. I would imagine that it is a very painful thing to lose a part of one’s history, their parish, which in so many cases, has become home to them, a place in which many pivotal moments have been celebrated. That is the beautiful thing about parish life...that when we invest ourselves in the life of the Church, it becomes such a significant part of us and our lives. But, what we must realize during this time of transition is that **WE** are the Church. That what matters most is not so much **WHERE** we worship, but **THAT** we worship...not so much that we continue to have what is comfortable, but that we are using our resources in the best way, and that we have what is needed to do the work of Christ, and do it well...not so much that we protest with great fervor and anger what, in the words of many, our Bishop is doing, but that we stand up in protest to those things that Christ would have us protest and raise our voices just as strongly against atrocities in our world, namely the killing of innocent unborn children, the fact that there is still rampant hunger and injustice in our world, and hatred in the hearts of so many. **THIS** is what we, the **ONE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH** is called to be today and always...a Church that stands together in love, not one that tries to stir up controversy and anger in our faithful. Christ reminds us that a house divided against itself will not stand and calls each of us to love one another as He loves us. I would venture to guess that many in the city of Cleveland and beyond fail to see us as those who are being very loving right now, and are wondering if we **CAN** stand together. My friends, it is only if we keep this up, that we might just come by the name Endangered Catholics honestly.

.....Fr. Sal



Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52
 Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Lk 4:14-22a
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30
 Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11;
 Ps 29 or Ps 104; Acts 10:34-38 or
 Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).
Psalm — Lord, every nation on earth will adore you (Psalm 72).
Second Reading — The mystery has been made known that the Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).
Gospel — Magi from the east arrived, saying, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews?” (Matthew 2:1-12).



**ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS
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.



**REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE SICK
OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY**



Olivia & William Allender, Charlotte Farinacci, Lucy Glavac, Stefanie Hainrihar, George Halgash, Andrew Jarm, Donald Justus, Cindy Kinley, Lucille Kucharski, Ruth Lamm, Dottie Maher, Ronald Maxey, Joanne Nale, Fausta Nowosielski, Jim Nolan, Mark O'Bannon, Dorothy Pinto, Joan Raddell, Justin Raddell, Gerald Scarniench, Norma Sedar, Henry Sepko, Tony Stepec, Edward Slavkovsky, Milton Taisey, John Tarmann, Alberta Ulrich, Richard Warman, Catherine Yert, and Jackie Zupan

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

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAITH DEVELOPMENT

ADULT FORMATION: the parish of St. John of the Cross has the responsibility to meet the spiritual needs of all of its people. If you are interested in being a part of the adult faith formation by helping to provide spiritual opportunities such as parish missions, guest speakers, adult education classes and retreat experiences, please contact Lisa Radey at the parish office. Our first meeting will be January 14th at 7:30pm. Thank you.

First Ever Saint John of the Cross Ministry Fair

Our Saint John of the Cross Ministry Fair is coming up the Weekend of February 13 and 14, 2010. All ministries are asked to be represented at the informational meeting on Monday, January 4, 2010 in meeting room #3 at 7:30 p.m. Please watch the mail for your invitation letter.

"If today, you hear his voice, harden not your heart."

LITURGY STUDY GROUP:

Our parish is in the process of forming a liturgy study group to prepare for what will be the work of our future liturgy commission. By studying and discussing the Church's teaching on liturgy and assessing our liturgical experiences here at St. John of the Cross, we hope to implement plans to provide the best liturgical experience possible. If you would like to be a part of this study group, please call Lisa Radey at the parish office.

Our first meeting will be January 7th, after the 7pm Mass where we will be joined by Christina Ronzio of the Diocesan Worship Office.

FR. MEHOK'S SCRIPTURE STUDY: will resume on Monday, January 18th at 7:30pm in the School Library through February 22nd. The subject will be "The Book of Daniel".

SOCIAL JUSTICE UPDATE:

The first St. John of the Cross social justice committee meeting took place Wednesday December 9, 2009 with four parishioners and Sr. Gale in attendance. The group discussed their individual experience with social justice, learned about the (7) pillars of Catholic social justice teaching, and committed to evaluating the needs in the community and beyond through the prism of Catholic social justice teaching, thereby forming and presenting fitting and unique role(s) for the St. John of the Cross community to the service of social justice. Catholic social justice rests on the belief that all life is sacred and that the dignity of every human life is the foundation of a moral society. As the group seeks to build on this foundation and find its capacity to address social injustice it welcomes all to participate and contribute. Meetings are held every second Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm in the school library.

As a beginner's project the committee recommends all to wish the ACLU a Merry Christmas by mailing a Merry Christmas card to: ACLU 125 Broad St. 18th Fl. New York, NY 10004. The ACLU is a prime organization involved in removing God and Christ from all aspects of our Christian heritage, society and Christmas.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY 7:00 p.m.	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Karen Brozovic	Jan. 4
TUESDAY 8:15 a.m.	St. John Neumann Helen Campolieti	Jan. 5
WEDNESDAY	Christmas Weekday	Jan. 6
THURSDAY 7:00 p.m.	Christmas Weekday Joseph Mullally	Jan. 7
FRIDAY 8:15 a.m.	Christmas Weekday Joseph Osborne	Jan. 8
SATURDAY 4:00 p.m.	Christmas Weekday Tom Milo	Jan. 9
SUNDAY 8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	The Baptism of the Lord Fr. Bober Filomena & Egidio Colicchio Rose & Mic Magyar	Jan. 10



REMINDER TO ALL EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS Next weekend January 9-10th, at all the Masses, we will be commissioning all of you that completed your training and are now ministering at St. John of the Cross Parish. We thank you for your faithfulness to our community.



COUNTERS

Counters for Sun. Jan. 10....."C" Team
Counters for Mon. Jan. 11....."F" Team

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Richmond Hts. Hospital-Wed. Jan. 6.....VanGorder
Grande Pointe-Sun. Jan. 10.....Chris H. & Tina

MINISTERS SCHEDULE —JAN. 9-10, 2010						
MASS	PRESIDER	HOSPITALITY	LECTOR 1	LECTOR 2	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	SERVERS
Sat. 4:00pm	Fr. Sal	M.L. Bertsch A. Molle	M. Melfi	K. Sullivan	J. Barni, T. Burrello, M. Malta, F. Holtcamp, S. Lonchar, T. Melfi, J. Page, B. Pophal	C. Chiappero A. Perez
Sun. 8:00am	Fr. Sal	J. Buda H. Drozin	L. Cooke	L. Miller	F. Buda, W. Burnett, M. Cinalli, T. Ogrinc, P. Reilly, R. Tepley, J. Volk, R. Volk	J. Gricar S. Rosace
Sun. 10:00am	Fr. Timothy	A. Dean M. Singer	D.Apanasewicz	G.Haritonovich	T. Bernardo, M. Cox, L. Fulton, C. Goodin, F. Koballa, A.Koballa M. Haritonovich, E. Edelman	S. Caruso- Taylor S. Caruso- Taylor
Sun. 12:00pm	Fr. Timothy	R. Manning K. McMahon	J. Johnson	K. Musarra	J. Bretz, J. Martin, A. Molnar, D. Oligny, D. Rymer, M. Tracy, D. Thomas-Greaves, K. Wetzel	C. Knox J. Mello

GOOD NEWS AT ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: The parish office will now be open on Saturdays from 9:00am-1:00pm, and will be closed on Sundays. Thank you.

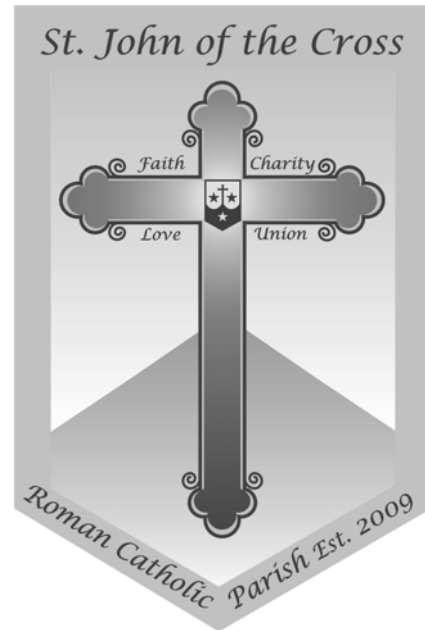
CHURCH DIRECTORY: You may pick up your finished photographs at the parish office during normal business hours. The office hours are Monday thru Friday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Saturday 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Thank you for your support.

Who doesn't love **DONUT SUNDAY!** Besides the great donuts it is a chance to enjoy the company of each other. We are looking for someone who would be willing to organize our Donut Sundays. This involves purchasing supplies and assigning different ministries to host each month. If you are interested (and you know you are out there) please call Lisa Radey at the parish office 216.289.0770.

MANNA PROGRAM: Thank you to everyone that supported the Christmas gift card program. Your support truly makes a difference.

DONATIONS FOR ITEMS FOR NEW WORSHIP SPACE Several people have approached me regarding making donations for items to be used in the new worship space. We are currently in the process of designing a statue of Saint John of the Cross and a new presider's chair, and looking to purchase a matching funeral vestment and pall as well as votive candle holders for the area where the statues of Mary and Joseph will be so that people will have an opportunity to light candles in prayer. Please note that the cost of the renovation has been budgeted for, so we have planned for the expenses that will be incurred...we will not be asking parishioners to cover any of these costs, but we also understand that there are those who wish to donate to a specific item. Should you desire to make donations to any of these, please contact Fr. Sal at 216-289-0770.

ST. FELICITAS PRESCHOOL SESSION 2 TOTS: St. Felicitas Preschool is offering an eight week program for you and your 2 or 3yr. Old non-preschooler beginning January 13th, 2010 from 9:00am-10:30am. Registration begins Wednesday, January 6th, 2010 from 8:00am-1:00pm. Cost is \$80.00. Call 216-732-9116 for further information.



Because you have shared
In his life and ministry,
Your presence and prayers are
requested
At the installation of

Rev. Salvatore M. Ruggeri

As Pastor of
St. John of the Cross Parish
140 Richmond Rd.
Euclid, Ohio 44143

On January 16, 2010
At 4:00 p.m.
By the most Reverend
Bishop Richard G. Lennon.

Mass will be followed by
A public reception in our school
From 5:00 p.m.—6:30 p.m.

NEWS FROM OUR NEIGHBORS

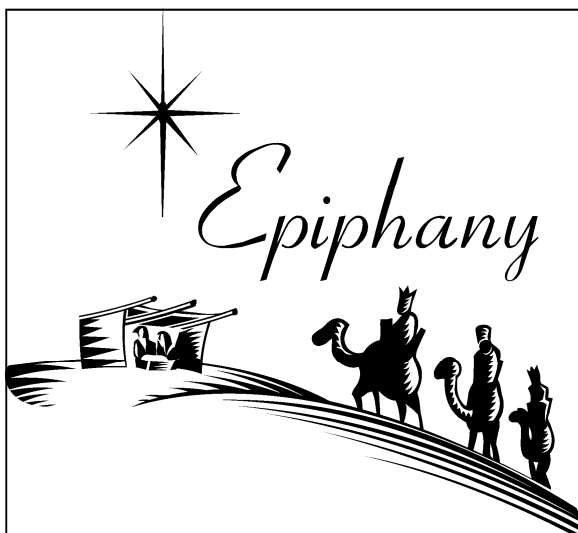
BREADTH OF LIFE: *“The Cleveland Years of Eliot Ness”* , presented by Rebecca McFarland, luncheon will be Wednesday, Jan. 13th from 12:00pm-2:00pm at St. Noel’s Parish Hall, 35200 Chardon Rd., Willoughby Hills. The cost is \$17.00. For reservations please call 216-289-3593 or Judy Schmidt at 440-946-6932 by January 6th.

HOT MEAL MINISTRY: Beginning Monday, Jan. 18th, 2010 Our Lady of Mount Carmel will serve dinner to anyone or any family that is in need of a hot meal from 5:30-6:30pm. You are invited each Monday evening for a wholesome meal and fellowship in the Lower Church Hall, at 29850 Euclid Ave.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Catholic Schools Week Open House

Come visit our school on Sunday, January 31st between 11:00-1:30 p.m.
Meet the teachers, see the fabulous displays of work from our students, and enjoy some light refreshments.
Awesome things are happening at St. Felicitas School and we want you to be a part of it!
Tell your family, friends, and neighbors.
All are welcome!



ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS QUOTE

“All of us bear some small resemblance to God. We are, after all, made in God’s image and likeness. But we are separated by an infinite difference. We cannot, however great our desire, however graced, come to know God in the way that we know any other person, any other thing.”

COLLECTIONS

Dec. 20th Regular Collection.....\$11,410.00
Dec. 20th Children’s Collection.....\$22.45
December 27th Collection will be posted next week.

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

RAFFLE WINNER



Congratulations to Carrie Walsh-Hilf of Euclid, our winner of the **Week #13 PTU Weekly Raffle**. Carrie Walsh-Hilf was also the seller winner.

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St. John of the Cross Business Office:
I need a statement for tax purposes of my 2009 church contributions.

Name: _____

Check either option:
_____ I will pick up statement at the
Parish Office by February 6, 2010
_____ Please mail statement to—

Address: _____

Please return this request to the collection basket or Parish Office by Jan. 28th, 2010.

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St. John of the Cross January, 2010

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 <i>Mary Mother of God-HolyDay</i> 10:00am Mass	2
3 10:00am Children's Liturgy of the Word(C)	4 SFS-Classes Resume 6:30-7:30pm(S) PSR 7:00pm PTU Meeting(S) 7:30pm Ministry Fair Mtg(MR3)	5 6:30pm (MR1) Finance Mtg 7:00pm Legion of Mary(MR2) 7:00-9:00pm Confirmation	6 3:00-4:00pm Children's Choir Practice(C) 6-7:30pm Girl Scouts Mtg(MR1) 7:00pm Adult Music Group Practice (C)	7 6:45pm Bingo Team #3(G) 7:30pm Liturgy Meeting (MR1)	8	9 7:00-8:30am Men's Prayer Group(S) 6:45pm Bingo Team A(G)
10 10:00am Children's Liturgy of the Word(C)	11 6:30-7:30pm(S) PSR	12 7:00pm PSR Parents Only Meeting (Gr.2) 7:00pm Legion of Mary(MR2)	13 3:00-4:00pm Children's Choir Practice(C) 7:00pm (MR1) Women's Group 7:00pm Social Justice Mtg(S) 7:00pm Adult Music Group Practice (C)	14 6:45pm Bingo Team #4(G) 7:30pm Adult Formation Meeting (MR1)	15	16 4:00pm Mass-Fr. Sal's Installation as Pastor with Reception to follow in the School Gym
17 10:00am Children's Liturgy of the Word(C)	18 SFS-No School 7:00pm Baptismal Class 7:30pm (S) Fr. Mehok's Scripture Study	19 7:00pm Legion of Mary(MR2) 7:00-9:00pm Confirmation (S)	20 3:00-4:00pm Children's Choir Practice(C) 6-7:30pm Girl Scouts Mtg(MR1) 7:00pm Adult Music Group Practice (C) 7:00pm Boosters	21 6:45pm Bingo Team #1(G)	22	23 7:00-8:30am Men's Prayer Group(S) 8:30-9:30am Market Day Pick Up(G) 6:45pm Bingo Team B(G)
24 10:00am Children's Liturgy of the Word(C)	25 6:30-7:30pm(S) PSR 7:30pm (S) Fr. Mehok's Scripture Study	26 7:00pm Legion of Mary(MR2) 7:00-9:00pm Care for the Caregiver (MR3)	27 1:30pm SFS Dismissal 3:00-4:00pm Children's Choir Practice(C) 7:00pm Adult Music Group Practice (C) 7:00pm (MR1) Women's Group	28 6:45pm Bingo Team #2(G)	29	30 9:00am-4:00pm Parish Council Retreat
31 <i>Open House at St. Felicitas School —Sunday 11:00am-1:30pm</i>						