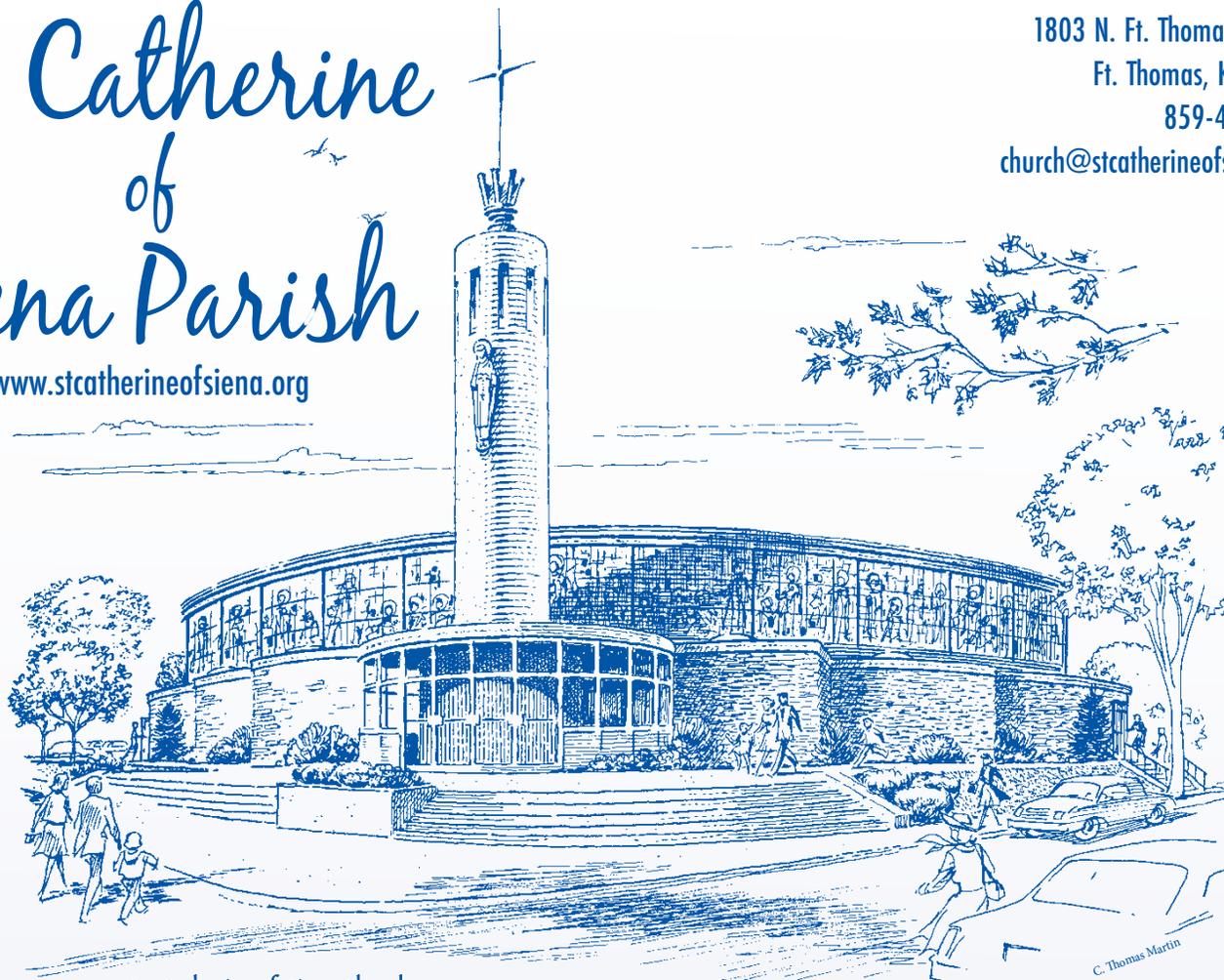


# St. Catherine of Siena Parish

[www.stcatherineofsiena.org](http://www.stcatherineofsiena.org)

1803 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue  
Ft. Thomas, KY 41075  
859-441-1352  
[church@stcatherineofsiena.org](mailto:church@stcatherineofsiena.org)



St. Catherine of Siena Church • FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY

**Pastor Rev. Stef Bankemper,**  
[sbankemper@stcatherineofsiena.org](mailto:sbankemper@stcatherineofsiena.org)

**Deacon Brian Cox**

**Deacon Barry Henry**

**CRE – John David Kimes**

[jdkimes@stcatherineofsiena.org](mailto:jdkimes@stcatherineofsiena.org)

**Masses for Sunday:**

Saturday: 4:30 p.m.; Sunday: 10:00 a.m.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:**

Tuesday: 8:30 a.m.-6:45 p.m.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Tuesday: \*5:30-6:30 p.m. (\*verify schedule in bulletin under “This Week”)

Saturday: Following the 8:00 a.m. Mass; Anytime by Appointment.

**Marriage:**

One member of the couple must be a registered parishioner of St. Catherine Parish.  
Call Parish Office at least six months prior to setting a wedding date.

**Parish Office Hours:**

Monday-Friday: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

**Communion to the Sick:** Call Parish Office.

**New Parishioners:**

Please call the Parish Office.  
Notification when leaving the parish is appreciated.

**Bulletin Deadline:**

Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. Drop off copy at parish or send via e-mail.

**Baptism:** Baptism is a joyful event “by which men and women are freed from their sins... are configured to Christ by an indelible character, and are incorporated into the Church.” (Canon 849 of the Code of Canon Law). People can be baptized as adults or infants. The preparation for adult baptism takes place in the process of the catechumenate, commonly known as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, or RCIA. Any adult desiring baptism may call the office to begin this process. Preparation for infant baptism happens in baptism classes, generally held on the fourth Thursday evening of each month in the Parish Office. No child will be baptized at St. Catherine unless both parents have attended one of these classes in the last five years. Baptism of adults generally takes place on Holy Saturday night, while baptism of infants can take place on any Sunday. Since baptism “incorporates one into the Church,” it is appropriate that the infant be baptized during a Sunday liturgy when the local Church is gathered. There are legitimate reasons for not wanting to have the baptism during a Sunday liturgy; in those cases, baptisms may be scheduled for a Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

## Parish Membership – Requires an Active Response

Active members of St. Catherine of Siena Parish have registered and provided the Parish Office with the information needed to complete the census forms. Active members regularly participate in the Saturday evening or Sunday Liturgy at St. Catherine of Siena Parish. Active members invest themselves in the parish by participating in the annual Stewardship Program pledging and contributing time, talent and treasure as God calls them. Active members hold the parish in their daily prayers.

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK****TUESDAY – March 19th**

8:00 a.m. Alana Cappellari

**WEDNESDAY – March 20th**

5:30 p.m. Joan Muench

**THURSDAY – March 21st**

8:00 a.m. Patricia Berning

**FRIDAY – March 22nd**

8:30 a.m. Olivia Hamberg

**SATURDAY – March 23rd**

8:00 a.m. Terry Kennedy

4:30 p.m. Members of the Parish

**SUNDAY – March 24th**

10:00 a.m. Mary Kohrs

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS  
OF HOLY COMMUNION  
March 23rd & 24th**4:30 p.m. **Cup:** Tom New, Gina New, Lois Roell**Host:** Heather Shultz10:00 a.m. **Cup:** Caroline Kaelin, Tom Kaelin, Louise Roth,  
Kathy Woltermann**Host:** Elise Rulli, Dana Ruwe, Betsy Stegner**LECTORS  
March 23rd & 24th**

4:30 p.m. Bruce Mirrielees

10:00 a.m. Dennis Hicks

**SERVERS SCHEDULE  
March 19th-24th****8:00 a.m. – Tuesday**

Reese Desmond, Grant Desmond

**5:30 p.m. – Wednesday**

Connor Stacey, Ryan Stacey

**8:00 a.m. – Thursday**

Lucy Gillen, Graham Gillen

**8:30 a.m. – Friday**

Colin Desmond, Matilda Faust, Natalie Kirst

**8:00 a.m. – Saturday**

Joseph Hicks, George Josten

**4:30 p.m. – Saturday**

Lilly Foley, Adelaide Foley, Tim Garlich, Morgan Kremer

**10:00 a.m. – Sunday**Josie Bozeman, Adelise Bozeman, Carden Bozeman,  
Michael Zechella**GREETERS SCHEDULE****March 23rd & 24th**

4:30 p.m. Kenny &amp; Jenny Collopy &amp; Family

10:00 a.m. George &amp; Megan Josten &amp; Family, Betsy Stegner

**SUNDAY COLLECTION RECAP**

	<u>03/03/2024</u>	<u>03/05/2023</u>
Weekly Offering	\$ 16,862	\$ 60,959
Fiscal YTD Offerings	\$ 645,845	
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$ 850,329	
Fiscal Annual Budget 2023/24	\$1,260,000	
Number of registered families	369	
Tuition Assistance awarded for 2023/24	\$0	
Tuition Assistance donations FYD	\$365	
School Registration for 2023-24	116	
School Registration for 2024-25	102	

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS**

Mk 11:1-10; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1 – 15:47

**THIS WEEK****MONDAY****TUESDAY**

Mass, 8:00 a.m.

Exposition, 8:30 a.m.

Altar Guild, 3:00 p.m., PCMR

Confessions, 5:30 p.m.

Benediction, 6:45 p.m.

Rosary, 7:00 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY**

Mass, 5:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY**

Mass, 8:00 a.m.

Children's Choir, 4:00 p.m.

Choir, 6:30 p.m.

Confirmation Parent Meeting, 7:00 p.m., McCrystal Hall

St. Catherine PTO, 7:00 p.m., LIB

Finance Council, 7:00 p.m., PCMR

**FRIDAY**

Mass, 8:30 a.m.

Fish Fry, 4:30-7:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross, 7:00 p.m., Church

**SATURDAY**

Mass, 8:00 a.m.

Confessions following Mass

Mass, 4:30 p.m.

**NEXT SUNDAY**

Mass, 10:00 a.m.

Divine Mercy Speaker, 7:00 p.m., Church

## *Please Pray For Our Sick*

Ron Braun, Bev Stegman, Carol Ewing, Tom & Mary Ann Ferring, Sherry Milleck, Peter Defoe, Kay Grothaus, Ann Basham, Bob Rulli, Cris Bear, Larry Beiting, Mary Hoffman, David Garner & Gabby Thomas. Also, remember all our parishioners in nursing homes as well as those confined to their homes in your prayers.

## *Please Pray for the Following Soldiers Serving Our Country*

William Pikar, Luke Norman, Jay Blinn, Michael Beiting, Joe Fitzgerald, Brian Clayton, Michael Dunn, Trent Moeves, James Taft III, Drew Cecil, Zack Hehman, Adam Kramer, Wolfgang Davis, Clint & Sarah Brandt, Mark Marten, Zachary Dunn and Fr. Bill Appel.

## IN OUR PARISH

**LEARNING TO TRUST IN GOD, WHILE LIVING A LIFE OF SUFFERING** – Carson and his younger brother suffer from a rare, extremely painful skin disease requiring extensive care every day. At the beginning of COVID, 12-year-old Carson started praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet on Facebook for the end of the pandemic and people's personal intentions. This humble gesture of faith went viral when EWTN aired an interview with Carson that received 1 million views worldwide. The daily family ministry continues to be aired online. Do not miss this beautiful witness from a young man who recognizes he does not have to suffer in vain, and instead offers up his suffering for others. A lesson for us all! Join us on Palm Sunday, March 24th at 7:00 p.m. in church. Family appropriate. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. No tickets required. Love offering taken.

**PRAYER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 40 DAYS FOR LIFE SPRING CAMPAIGN** – Thanks to all who have signed up for an hour. We are still short of all the volunteers we need to cover the St. Catherine Parish commitment to silent prayer in front of Planned Parenthood on March 21st. The hours still needed are 11:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon, 1:00-2:00 p.m. and 2:00-3:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board at the Rossford entrance to church or call or text Carol Desmond at 859-653-0553. Carol is covering the 9:00-10:00 a.m. hour but will move to another open hour if someone would prefer that time.

**LENTEN FASTING AND ABSTINENCE** – The following is what the Church teaches regarding Lenten fasting and abstinence.

**Fasting** requires a Catholic from the 18th to the 59th birthday to reduce the amount of food eaten from normal. The Church defines this as one meal a day, and two smaller meals which if added together would not exceed the main meal in quantity. Such fasting is obligatory on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

**Abstinence** requires a Catholic 14 years of age until death to abstain from eating meat on Fridays in honor of the Passion of Jesus on Good Friday. On the Fridays outside of Lent, Catholics in the US may substitute a penitential or even a charitable practice of their own choosing.

The other traditional Lenten practice is prayer. Although there is no church regulation regarding it, it is a good practice to pick a new or additional way of praying during Lent.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** – Praying the stations is a wonderful Lenten practice that is appropriate for the whole family. Children are never too young to expose them to this beautiful way of praying and meditating on Christ's sacrifice for us. During Lent, Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. in church. On Good Friday, they will be held at Noon.

**ANNUAL LENTEN SERVICE PROJECT** – Each Lent, our parish participates in a service project to benefit local service agencies. There are grocery bags to fill for the agencies in the back of church. Attached to each bag will be a wish list from one of the agencies. If you are able, please take one (or two) bags, purchase the items and return the filled bags to the old baptistery area in the back of church with the wish list still attached. All bags should be returned by Holy Thursday. They will be distributed to the agencies on Good Friday morning.

**LENTEN SERVICE PROJECT OPPORTUNITY** – Your help is needed!!! We are in need of volunteers on Good Friday morning to help distribute the grocery bags collected by the parish. This is a great opportunity for families to participate in a service project together. Service hours will be given. If you are interested, please text or call Melanie Hansbauer at 513-477-9735 or email at [melaniejvc@gmail.com](mailto:melaniejvc@gmail.com).

**LAST CHANCE TO JOIN OUR FISH FRY TEAM!** Fish Fry season is wrapping up and our last one is this Friday, March 22nd. If you haven't been able to volunteer to work a shift yet, there's still time to do so! We're in need of many adults and kids to cover all of the volunteer shifts. Working a shift (or two!) is always a great way to meet your fellow parishioners and to serve the parish. If you're new to the parish, this is a great way to meet and have fun with your wonderful St. Catherine faith community. For all your service-seeking students, there are opportunities for them as well. You can sign up to work at <https://signup.com/go/mYEiuMq>.

### PARISH WEEKLY RAFFLE WINNER

The winner for the week of March 11th was Bob Venable.  
Congratulations!

**COUNCIL MEMBER NOMINATIONS** – We are kicking off our annual nomination process for new council members. All parish councils (Parish Pastoral Council, Board of Catholic Education, and Finance Council) rotate memberships and each year there are openings. Currently, we are asking you to nominate someone, or yourself, to consider serving our parish on one of our councils. We will be taking nominations through April 21st. You can nominate someone online at our St. Catherine website, email the parish office or fill out a nomination card and drop it in the box in the back of church. A description of each council can be found on the nomination page at <https://www.stcatherineofsiena.org/councilnominations>. There is no limit on nominations. Nominees will be contacted by Parish Council and asked to discern for themselves if they are willing or able to serve. Council terms begin in July.

**SUMMERFEST 2024** – Although it may not seem like it, our summer festival will be here before you know it and plans are underway for this fun and important event! This year’s Music Fest will be held Friday, June 7th and the Festival will be on Saturday, June 8th. Join Jenn and Andy Faust, this year’s Festival Chairs, on Wednesday, March 27th in the Parish Center Meeting Room at 7:00 p.m. to find out how you can help make this year’s event successful. We would love to hear any ideas you may have for new games, raffles, etc. that will make our festival bigger and better than ever.

If you’re new to the parish, please consider joining us, as it’s a great way to get to know other parishioners and have a good time while helping the parish. Any questions, contact Jenn Faust at [jfaust117@gmail.com](mailto:jfaust117@gmail.com).

**FR. STEF’S HOMILIES** – Now that we have our new sound system installed, we are once again able to record Fr. Stef’s homilies so that they can be put on YouTube. They can be found by going to <https://www.youtube.com/@fr.stefbankemperhomilies> or you can access them on our website under “Parish” and then “Homilies”. If you subscribe to the channel, you can get a notification when a new homily is posted.

**WORD OF LIFE** – “To celebrate the Gospel of life means to celebrate the God of life, the God who gives life... In every child which is born and in every person who lives or dies we see the image of God’s glory. We celebrate this glory in every human being, a sign of the living God, an icon of Jesus Christ.”

– *The Gospel of Life* 84

**ST. BERNARD PANTRY** – The pantry is always in need of any nonperishable food items, (peanut butter, cereal, pasta and sauce, canned soup, beans, etc.), paper products and hygiene items for their clients. Additionally, they need clean, plastic bags for food distribution purposes to their clients. All donations are gratefully accepted and can be dropped off in the box at the Rossford entrance or Parish Office. Please be mindful of the Expiration Date or the Best Used by Date when considering your donation. If each family donated just one food item per month, what a difference we could make!

### CATHOLIC ORDER OF FORESTERS COURT #2514 18TH ANNUAL PARISH CAMPOUT

Our annual campout will again be at the Kentucky Horse Park, Friday, June 21st-Sunday, June 23rd. Reservations can be made now by doing the following:

1. Book soon to get your preferred camping spot.
2. Call Group Camping at 1-800-370-6416, and select Option 2 for Campground Store. You will need to speak to a person to confirm a spot.
3. Let them know you are with “St. Catherine Foresters.”
4. You can request a particular site or they can randomly assign you one.
5. Pay by phone or make arrangements with KHP staff.
6. MOST IMPORTANTLY –
  - a) Let us know which site you reserved.
  - b) Let us know how many people will be attending, names and T-shirt sizes for each attendee! We need this information for supplies!
  - c) We will also need to know if you’re just coming down for the day or staying elsewhere instead of camping.

Contact the Campout Captains with your reservation information or if you have any questions: Rob Hans, [rlhans1966@gmail.com](mailto:rlhans1966@gmail.com); 859-750-2242 or Tom Kaelin, [tomkaelin@fuse.net](mailto:tomkaelin@fuse.net); 859-630-3217.

### IN OUR DIOCESE

**THE DIVINE MERCY CHOIR** from the shrine of Divine Mercy, Vilnius, Lithuania, will be live in concert at St. Patrick Church, Taylor Mill, singing the music of St. Faustina, Thursday, March 21st at 7:00 p.m. First class relics of St. Faustina and Bl. Father Michael Sopocko will be available for veneration. This will be an unforgettable event.

### LOCAL LENTEN PILGRIMAGE

Begin your Holy Week by attending the 2nd Annual Lenten Pilgrimage of five historic Covington churches on Saturday, March 23rd. Churches will be open from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., rain or shine. Come at any time and start your journey at one of these churches – The Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, St. Benedict, St. Augustine, St. John the Evangelist and Mother of God. The route will be clearly marked. Walk (or drive) to any or all of the 4.3-mile pilgrimage. Visit [covdio.org/lenten-pilgrimage/](http://covdio.org/lenten-pilgrimage/). For questions, email: [CovLentenPilgrimage@gmail.com](mailto:CovLentenPilgrimage@gmail.com).

No Tickets  
Needed  
A love Offering  
will be Taken



# Learning to Trust in God, while Living a Life of Suffering

**Palm Sunday · March, 24 · 7:00 PM**

Doors open at 6:30 PM · St. Catherine Church · Ft. Thomas, KY

*Carson will lead us in the Divine Mercy Chaplet - bring your rosary*



The incredible story of Carson Kissell and his family who learned to trust in God by radically living and spreading God's Divine Mercy!

Carson and his younger brother suffer from a rare painful skin disease, Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB), that makes the skin so fragile it can tear at the slightest touch. They are bandaged from neck to feet to protect the skin. Every other day they painfully remove the bandages, bathe, and replace them. Every day there is pain.

At the beginning of COVID, 12-year-old Carson started praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet on FB for the end of the pandemic and for peoples' personal intentions. This humble gesture of faith went viral when EWTN aired an interview with Carson that received 1 million views! Many people benefited from Carson's prayers; it has also helped to recover his family's joy and peace as they offer up their many daily sufferings. A perfect talk for any age group, showcasing the remedy for suffering: our Eternal God's endless Mercy.

## MAGNETIC PULL

Reflection on John 12:20-33

In the story of Abraham, we encounter faith as obedience to the summons of God; faith as a venture, a journey, where God is present in the midst of our historical lives, in the realm of concrete events and personal relationships.

This is clearly the God we encounter in today's readings, in the prophecy of Jeremiah, who tells us that God is written into our hearts, and in the Christ of the Gospel, who is even now drawing all hearts to Himself. Our hearts are like magnets, drawn by their very design to the source and power of love that is God. Christ is doing the drawing; He is the magnetic field, if you will. And our lives are a journey, like Abraham made, to that place of blessing promised to us by God. We walk by faith, our obedience to facing the demands of the journey.

Jeremiah unveils a certain truth, a key to the mystery of obedience along the journey with Christ. The prophet says, "No longer will they have to teach their friends and kinsfolk how to know the Lord. All, from least to greatest shall know me, says the Lord." The leap into the light, the illogic that is faith, is not unknown to us. It is written into our very hearts, our very beings, if only we would allow Christ, the magnetic pull of God's love, to draw us to Himself.

~ Fr. Jay

# LENT

*"A clean heart create for me,  
O God, and a steadfast spirit  
renew within me."*

PSALM 51:12

## WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

### Sunday, March 17, 2024

*Fifth Sunday of Lent*

Ez 37:12-14  
Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8  
Rom 8:8-11  
Jn 11:1-45

### Monday, March 18, 2024

*Lenten Weekday*

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62  
Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6  
Jn 8:1-11

### Tuesday, March 19, 2024

*Saint Joseph, Husband of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary*

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16  
Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29  
Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22  
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

### Wednesday, March 20, 2024

*Lenten Weekday*

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95  
Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56  
Jn 8:31-42

### Thursday, March 21, 2024

*Lenten Weekday*

Gn 17:3-9  
Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9  
Jn 8:51-59

### Friday, March 22, 2024

*Lenten Weekday*

Jer 20:10-13  
Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7  
Jn 10:31-42

### Saturday, March 23, 2024

*Lenten Weekday*

Ez 37:21-28  
Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13  
Jn 11:45-56

Access Daily Readings from  
the New American Bible,  
Revised Edition (NABRE) online at  
<https://bible.usccb.org>

*Loving God,*

*You have heard my  
complaints, my impatience.*

*Sometimes I become  
frightened when I move  
away from You.*

*Guide my heart back to You.*

*Help me to think beyond my  
own wants and to desire only  
to do Your will.*

*Thank You for the many  
blessings in my life and  
for the ways I feel Your  
presence.*

**CHRISM MASS** – The Most Rev. John C. Iffert invites you to attend the celebration of the Chrism Mass to be held at the Cathedral on **Tuesday, March 26th** at 7:00 p.m. The Chrism Mass is the only occasion when as many Catholics as possible celebrate the Eucharist together with their priests and representatives from every facet of Catholic life. We come together as one church to celebrate one Eucharist.

**JOB OPPORTUNITIES** – St. Edward Parish in Cynthiana is seeking a part-time Business Manager with necessary skills in accounting. If you are interested or know of someone who could possibly fill the position, please apply immediately to the church office at 859-234-5444. Their school is also seeking someone for the position of principal. If you are interested or know of someone who could possibly fill this position, please call the St. Edward - Cynthiana school office at 859-234-2731.

**GREECE PILGRIMAGE** – Join Bishop John Iffert, Father Eric Andriot, and Father Aby Thampi on a life-changing Pilgrimage to Greece: In the Footsteps of Paul the Apostle, from October 22nd-November 1st 2024! On this journey, feel the spirit of the New Testament as you walk in the footsteps of the great apostle St. Paul, patron of the Diocese of Covington. Experience the places where Paul lived and preached, gaining a deeper understanding of the biblical narrative. Highlights include daily Mass, a 3-night Greek Islands and Turkey Cruise, and tours of Athens, Corinth, Ephesus, Philippi, and more! Learn more information and pricing details at [www.covdio.org/stewardship](http://www.covdio.org/stewardship). Deadline is April 20th – save your spot today!

**CONSIDER BEING A FOSTER PARENT** – As God the Father gave St. Joseph to be foster father of Jesus, God also gives him to us. He is our role model to care for the children in our community who desperately need a human foster father. He is our intercessor, too; please pray for youth in foster care and consider becoming a foster parent. Contact DCCH Center for Children and Families at 859 331-2040 or DCCHCenter.org.

**PARENTS OF ADDICTED LOVED ONES (PAL)** PAL meets on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Catholic Charities, 3629 Church Street, Latonia. It provides continuing education and support, at no charge, for parents with a son, daughter or spouse suffering from addiction to alcohol or drugs. No cost. Just come. For more information, contact Client Care at 859-581-8974.

**DINE TO DONATE AT HIGHLAND SQUARE!** Stop by for lunch on Sundays with your family and friends while earning funds to support St. Catherine of Siena. Now through the end of April, with each receipt presented from your purchase, Highland Square Cafe will donate 10% of food sales back to us! Simply put your receipt in the box marked St. Catherine after you place your order. Valid Sundays only, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (Closed Easter Sunday, March 31) Dine in or carry out, 654 Highland Avenue, Ft. Thomas.

**MEMORIAL MASS FOR THE LOSS OF A CHILD** will be held on Thursday, April 11th at 7:00 p.m., Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Burlington. The Very Rev. Ryan L. Maher, V.F. will be the celebrant. This Mass is being offered for parents, grandparents, family members and friends of those who have lost a child through miscarriage, stillbirth, early infant death, abortion, illness, suicide, accident, or any other reason. All are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact the Diocese of Covington Pro-Life Office at 859-392-1545.

**WORKSHOP ON THE PROPHET EZEKIEL WITH FATHER TIMOTHY P. SCHEHR** to be held April 13, 2024, 9:00-11:30 a.m. God appointed Ezekiel to be a watchman. It was this prophet's responsibility to look out for the safety of the people. Let's read through his book and discover how Ezekiel carried out this important task and how the people responded to him. Everyone is welcome to attend! The cost for the workshop is \$35.00. To register, visit <https://covdio.org/bible-workshops/> or call Isaak A. Isaak, Office of Catechesis and Evangelization, at 859-392-1529. Walk-ins welcome! The workshop will be held in the Diocese of Covington Curia Building, 1125 Madison Avenue, Covington.

## Sponsor of the Week



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