



From The Heart

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Oberlin, Ohio

Summer 2018

A Fond Farewell

When I read in church the letter I had received from Bishop Perez stating that for health reasons he has granted me early retirement, I said that on July 1 I will be opening a new chapter in my life. For the last 46 years I have served as a parish priest, 30 of them as a pastor. To suddenly have no pastoral responsibilities will be somewhat of a shock to my system. But to be honest it's one that I will enjoy. While I will be retiring from being a pastor I will not be retiring from being a priest. I will continue to be of service to the Church by celebrating Mass, hearing confessions and in other ways as my health permits and as I so choose. My residence at St. Mary Parish in Berea will enable me to live with other priests and no longer have to be alone. I am certainly looking forward to that.

As I prepare to leave Sacred Heart I want to thank you for the many kindnesses you have shown me and the wonderful support you have given me these past ten years. I will take with me many fond memories and I will indeed cherish them. I think we have worked well together and have a wonderful parish that we will be handing over to the leadership of Fr. David Trask.

As much as this will be a new chapter in my life, it will also be a new chapter in yours. The last time we shared a pastor with another parish was back in 1919. I have no fears for the future of our parish. Fr. Trask brings with him a deep faith, a love for the Church, and a commitment to Sacred Heart Parish. When coupled with the many hands that currently are the heart and soul of this parish, the future looks bright. Granted, some changes will have to be made but I am sure they will be seen as minor growing pains. Please welcome Fr. Trask as warmly as you welcomed me in January of 2008. Know, too, the challenges he faces in doing "double duty" being the pastor of two parishes. This will be a new adventure for him as well.

Again, thank you for letting me be of service to you this past decade. Know that part of my heart will still be here in Oberlin and that I will always think of you fondly.

Fr. Robert Cole

"We can't be joyful without being thankful. And we can be thankful, even with clouds on the horizon. Our faith can help us here because we believe that in every period of life God will continue to bless us, even as our horizons shrink and our days shorten." (Homily 10/9/16)

Trust and Transitions

One of my favorite humorous quotes is one that's often attributed to St. Teresa of Calcutta: *"I know that God won't give me more trouble than I can handle ... but sometimes I wish He wouldn't trust me so much."* For me, the practical reality is: *"I know that God won't give me more trouble than I can handle ... I just wish I trusted Him more."*

Time and again, over these last 32 years of priesthood, I've discovered that God has challenged me to trust Him a lot more – and to rely on myself a little less. My first strong recollection of this message was in the interim between my first and second diocesan assignments. I was nearing the end of my first assignment (at Ss. Cosmas and Damian Parish – Twinsburg) when the first Gulf War started. As a member of the Air Force Reserves, I was called to active duty as a priest at Chanute AFB in Illinois. As the war was brief, so too was my time on active duty. Returning to Cleveland, I hesitantly accepted an assignment as associate pastor at St. John the Evangelist Cathedral. Why the hesitation? When describing cathedral ministry Fr. Jack Murphy, Director of Clergy Personnel at the time, related how it was markedly different from parish ministry; it was definitely a specialized ministry that was heavily sacramental. Personally, I didn't think this specialization would be a good fit for me. And boy, was I wrong! Truth was: God was calling me to this ministry → and was calling me to place my unconditional trust in Him.

Since the early 1990s (I served as associate pastor, as well as *administrator pro tem*, from 1991-1996), I've worked at placing ever-greater trust in the Lord. And I've discovered that greater trust is the foundation upon which the Lord is able to accomplish the otherwise impossible.

In January 2016, when I sat before the Clergy Personnel Board and interviewed for the position of Pastor of St. Patrick Parish, I was told that Bp. Lennon envisioned the Pastor of St. Patrick eventually serving as Pastor of Sacred Heart upon Fr. Cole's retirement. The Personnel Board then asked me how I felt about that; I replied something to the effect of: *If that's what the Bishop envisions, then that's what I'll do.* I was once again being called to place an ever-greater trust in God.

Even before Fr. Cole approached Bp. Perez about retirement, he asked me how I felt about the prospect of becoming Pastor of Sacred Heart two years earlier than anticipated. Though I don't recall my exact verbiage, the sentiment I shared was: *It is what it is. You need to do what you need to do.*

Fr. Joe McMahon, a former spiritual director of mine, used to tell me constantly: *If you're not good for you, you can't be good for anyone else.* Fr. McMahon used to drill those words into me concerning days off, vacations, retreats, etc. But as Fr. Cole was relating some of the issues that had brought him to consider retirement, I heard myself sharing with him the same sentiments Fr. McMahon once instilled with me: *You need to be good for you, so you can be good for others.*

I have been profoundly touched by the concern of parishioners (both those of Sacred Heart Parish as well as those of St. Patrick) about my health and well-being as I prepare to serve as Pastor of two distinct and lively parishes. Will there be increased responsibilities? Absolutely. But I am greatly comforted by the fact that many dimensions of ministry are properly fulfilled by a parish deacon or members of the faith community. Could it be that the Lord is not just calling *me* to trust in Him more completely; He's calling each of us to do the same. And, with stronger trust comes a greater willingness to embrace those opportunities for involvement that the Lord will place before you and me during (and following) this time of transition.

by Fr. David Trask

"The beauty of nature, the goodness of people and the faith of others – three signs that point to the truth that Jesus is alive. There is no proof, but if we let those signs speak to us, they can lead us through doubt and to the daring assertion that God in fact raised the Son of God from the dead and we are called to share in his new life." (Homily, 3/26/16)

Celebrating Our First Year with The Abdis

On March 10th, we gathered with Hamdi, Ikran, Abdihakim, Maryan, Abdifatah, Idman, Ikrah and our wonderful translator Bakisa to celebrate the Abdis' first year in the US. It was exciting to celebrate this milestone with the Abdis who, though ethnically Somali, have spent the majority of their lives in a Kenyan refugee camp.

Several of us from Sacred Heart (Chmuras, Prills, Lori Taylor, and Kathy Spencer) joined the Abdis for lunch at Kifaya's Kitchen, a Somali restaurant in Cleveland. We shared a wonderful meal and reflected on our first year together. The food was amazing, and we were surprised to learn that spaghetti Bolognese is a common

Somali dish that dates to Italy's colonization of the nation at the end of the 19th century.

At the end of the meal, we spoke of how grateful we were to the Abdis for our time together. We shared how much we have learned from them and the tangible, positive impact they have made on all of our lives. We reflected on meaningful experiences we shared over the past year: learning how to ride bikes; playing bocce, basketball, and Jenga; buying their first washing machine; going to the bank, library, post office and Aldi's; practicing English, math, science...In the year we've had together, there has never been a dull moment.

We look forward to continuing to teach and learn from the Abdis for years to come.

“Blessings and abundance are not necessarily a sign of God’s favor. And with that insight, I think our Lord is inviting us not to ask the question, “Why did such a terrible thing happen to them?” but instead to ask the question, “What should I be doing since it didn’t happen to me?”” (Homily, 2/28/16)

**Thanks Fr. Cole for so many things: for your inspiring homilies, your wonderful work supporting IHN, and other parish groups, and in particular your visionary planning and execution of the sale of the old rectory and design/construction of the wonderful new one. You’ve been a blessing to us in so many spiritual AND material ways!! Enjoy your well-deserved retirement. –
Eric & Kathy Carpenter**

Thank you Father Cole for all the support, guidance, and confidence you have given me the last 9 years in leading the PSR program. You have allowed me to grow in our faith and I am forever grateful.

Anne Linden

Thank you for the homilies that week after week and day after day have challenged us. Thank you for sharing our joys and helping bring perspective to our bad times. Thank you for supporting us, for praying with and for us, and for giving us opportunities to serve. Thank you for showing us, by your own example, how to walk the narrow path that leads to Life. You've taught us so well that love is not what you say -- or at least not *only* what you say -- real love is what you *do*. - Anon

Fr. Cole, congratulations on your well deserved “retirement” from administrative duties as pastor. May God bless you as you go down the road of life and continue your sacramental ministry. You have been a faithful shepherd of your flock at Sacred Heart. Gerry Findlan



Back row left to right: Deacon Tom, Davis Dyer, Robert Gurich, Maxwell Thompson, Father Cole
Front row left to right: Cy Vanderpool, Seth Reichle, Natalie Smith, Michael Nelson, Daniel Mitchell

*Congratulations to the First Communion class of 2018.
As the years go on may you grow in your faith and love of Jesus!*

“Don’t insist on focusing on the things you lack. Try to find the goodness in the things you possess. In faith, know that that can make all the difference in the world.” (Homily, 12/25/15)

Catholic Homeschooling

It is a beautiful May morning, and our youngest, Levi, has just come into the house, clutching a fistful of violets. He is wearing his pajamas and mud boots – a striking combination. “These are purple!” he exclaims with enthusiasm. Linus, who is 10, decides to take a break from his math to check for eggs with us. We head out into the beautiful morning, admiring the newly opened peach blossoms, our hands full of clover for the hens as we make our way to the coop. There is no rush to catch a bus, eat breakfast, or even to dress. This is a slice of homeschooling at its best.

My husband, Pete, and I are blessed to have five children ranging in age from 4 to 28. Our oldest two attended St Joseph in Amherst and St Paul High School in Norwalk. Our middle child, Zachary, attended Murray Ridge. I hadn’t had a lot of exposure to the idea of homeschooling, and I had always imagined that my children would attend Catholic school. Somewhere along the way, that changed.

I don’t remember the exact moment when God set the undertaking of homeschooling Linus on my heart. What I do know is that once the seed was planted, I kept getting what I like to call “God nudges” to pursue it. You know that gentle, yet persistent thought or feeling that you should be doing a specific something? That is what I fondly refer to as a “God nudge.” The older I get the more I learn to trust the nudge! I began to have encounters with homeschooling parents and children, and I came to understand it was something God was calling me to do.

It takes a leap of faith to jump into something unfamiliar and a bit out of stride with mainstream society. In His goodness, God sent me the encouragement and support I needed, people who verbalized their faith in my ability to teach our son. I realized I knew more homeschooling families than I initially thought, and they were happy to share their knowledge. One of the best pieces of advice I received from a veteran homeschooler was “Nothing is ever written in stone. Decide each year what is best for your child and your family.” It took a lot of pressure off me to hear that wise perspective. Learning to recognize that no two families educate in exactly the same way was also freeing.

One of my favorite things about homeschooling is embracing God in each aspect of our day. The *Catechism* advises “Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children” (CCC 2223), and I consider this part of the blessing, gift, and challenge of being a parent. I love that the boys and I can talk about God and His great gifts and amazing goodness throughout the day. We are each on our individual faith journeys, but we get to grow together. The innocence and clarity of children provide an amazingly profound and beautiful perspective. I am sure I learn as much from them as they learn from me, and our interaction is mutually enriching.

We are fortunate to live in an age where finding curricula is just a computer search away. Seton, the Catholic curriculum we use, has a conference at St. Adalbert in Berea each summer. Materials are available for perusal and purchase. Lorain County and Cleveland Metroparks host a variety of homeschool activities, and Oberlin College offers physical education opportunities during the school year. There are Facebook groups for homeschooling parents, and even a Cleveland-area Catholic homeschooling group. To satisfy the local board of education requirement to demonstrate academic progress, Linus takes the Iowa Test of Basic Skills with a Christian school in Norwalk each year. Another option is to keep a portfolio for professional assessment near the end of the school year.

Homeschooling is not a decision that fits the needs of every family. It is beautiful and important that parents have options which will help them best nurture and support their child’s individual growth, including the growth of their faith. If you do think God might be “nudging” you to homeschool, pray about it, seek out what God is asking of you, and trust in His providence. I did, and I am ever so thankful!

by Maria Mutnansky

“Anything that enriches our life, anything or anyone that makes us or our world more peaceful, a bit freer or a little safer is truly of God. Anything that brings a smile to one’s face, a twinkle to one’s eye or rest to one’s spirit is a divine blessing that needs to be recognized and appreciated.” (Homily 11/23/17)

First Communion Memories

It's hard to believe, but it has taken 20 years for the entire Sobieski-Thompson brood to receive their First Communion. From daughter Mayle to son Max, we have completed the cycle. Not a bad accomplishment for a disorganized Catholic mother like myself.

Sacred Heart holds all my memories of First Communions past, mine included, spanning nearly four decades. And while I do not remember precisely at what point in the preparation process Father Cole explained to a room full of kids and parents that they would forever remember their First Communion, I can tell you I thought often about that point as I followed Max from the beginning of second grade to its near finale.

Maybe it's a girl thing, but I remember -- almost vividly -- my First Communion.

My memory begins with the dress, borrowed from Kelly Cunningham, whose mother Sue was my second-grade CCD teacher. It was beautiful and not at all like the dirty t-shirts and terry cloth shorts I ordinarily wore.

Fast forward a few years, and Sue would reappear in my sacramental life as my Confirmation sponsor. And while at that point no borrowed dress was necessary, memories of my First Communion were already replaying, and I was thankful to share them with Sue.

Looking back at my First Communion picture from the 1980s, most prominent is my gappy smile, having knocked out a front tooth while climbing trees. Less obvious, perhaps, is the veil, which belonged to my mother from her own First Holy Communion in the 1940s, although altered to disguise the holes moths had chewed in the lace.

It is striking, the similarities between my mom as a young girl and me. Black and white photos of her compared to color pictures of me illustrate we shared the same smile and the same bad perm. We looked like sisters, separated only by time.

Somehow, I don't think memories of a suit and tie will hold any real significance for Max when he thinks back on his special day.

As for me, I can't wait to see him dressed in something besides underwear, his preferred attire when he's at home.

It is amazing how many people are involved in the journey toward First Communion. It takes a village to get each of us from the baptismal font to the altar. It's funny how some memories are so close to the surface, while others need some gentle teasing to recover.

I wonder what Max will remember when he is my age. For me, whenever I hear "Celebration" by Kool & the Gang, I think of the recessional song Father Bonnell chose for our First Communion Mass. And while it seemed silly to me at eight years old, today it makes me smile.

Another sacramental memory.

So yes, Father Cole, you are correct. I do believe we always remember our First Communion. Thank you for being part of the memory that Max will forever remember, too.

by Marla Thompson

"Everyone in heaven knows, and all of us still here on earth should realize, that being holy or being saintly isn't a 'do-it-yourself' project. It's not what a person has done for God that makes anyone saintly. It's what God has done for each of us. ... 'Salvation comes from our God.' Hear those words. Believe those words. Live those words." (Homily, 11/1/17)

DID YOU KNOW? Catholics and Science

So often we hear attacks on religion because it is anti-science, and maybe some religions are. In the Catholic church, however – and in some other Christian churches as well – this is not the case. What does the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* [CCC] say about faith and science?

“There is no insoluble contradiction between faith and science, because there cannot be two kinds of truth.” [CCC 159]

“Although it is a different kind of knowledge, faith is open to the findings and hypotheses of the sciences.” [CCC 282-289]

Don't let anyone tell you faith and science are mutually exclusive.

The Catholic Church encourages work in the sciences, and Catholic scientists have made many and great contributions in physics, mathematics, medicine, economics, and physiology. At least 10 have won Nobel Prizes in recognition of their work: Guglielmo Marconi for his contributions to wireless telegraphy, Peter Grunberg for his discovery of giant magnetoresistance, Santiago Ramon y Cajal for his work on the structure of the nervous system, and Alexis Carrel for his work on vascular suture and the transplantation of blood vessels and organs. A convert to Catholicism, Karl Landsteiner discovered human blood groups. Check out Gerty Cori and her (and her husband's) contributions to medicine. Very impressive. [from Wikipedia]

Among those mentioned in an on-line list of great scientific thinkers are included more Catholics than can possibly be listed here – and many of those are priests (even bishops, an archbishop, and a cardinal), men and women religious, and converts to Catholicism. Some familiar names on the list: [St.] Hildegard of Bingen, an abbess, considered to be a co-founder of scientific natural history; Joseph Murray, a pioneer in transplant surgery; and Fr. Stanley Jaki, OSB, who wrote on the idea that “modern science could only have arisen in a Christian society.” How about Wilhelm Roentgen, who discovered X-rays? Fr. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, the co-discoverer of Peking Man and who was noted for his work on evolutionary theory and Christianity? Sr. Mary Kenneth Keller, the first woman in the U.S. to earn a Ph.D. in computer science? And Jerome Lejeune, pediatrics and genetics doctor who did research into chromosome abnormalities? Galileo Galilei (who was not, by the way, kept in a dungeon by the Vatican or anyone else)? Don't forget Antoine Lavoisier, the “father of modern chemistry.”

Did you know the "Father of Modern Genetics," Gregor Mendel, was a friar? That Georges Lemaitre, the “Father of the Big Bang Theory,” was a priest? [Trent Horn, *Why We're Catholic*.]

One does not need to give up being a Christian to work in the sciences. We have medical professionals and scientists right here in our parish. These are people of faith who are people of science as well. If you're interested, there are innumerable books and papers written by faith-filled Catholic scientists. Check it out.

by C. Wilhelm

“We're surrounded by saints. ... We should give thanks for the people in our lives whose goodness leads us to God. Today we should recognize the goodness of the people around us and call them blessed.” (Homily, 11/1/16)

“Remember, hope isn't just some kind of wishful thinking. Christian hope is grounded in a God who stands with us no matter what happens to us. Hope is a confidence in God—whether or not we live to see our prayers answered the way we want. Hope is not something that we hold; hope is something that holds us.” (Homily, 10/22/17)

PARISHIONER HIGHLIGHT: Agnes Bacon

Agnes was born in Hungary, where she lived with her parents and brother. After World War II, they lived in a displaced persons (DP) camp in Germany, where they were under American protection. There were many Hungarians living there. Life was very difficult, but it was as normal as it could be at that time. There was even a resident priest, and children had religious education classes.

Around 1950, Agnes' father applied for the family to emigrate to the United States, which he considered the best destination offered. Part of that process included ascertaining that the family had a sponsor in the States, that all were healthy, and that their arrival wouldn't cause authorities to exceed their quota of immigrants from Hungary.

In 1951, after six years in the camp, the family boarded a U.S. troop ship heading for New York City. There, they weren't required to stop at Ellis Island, but were happy to see the Statue of Liberty as they passed by it. From the Big Apple, they took a train to Cleveland, where many Hungarians already resided. Her father didn't speak English and took a job at a tool and die business which was owned by a Hungarian gentleman who made a habit of hiring immigrants.

Agnes, who now resides at Kendal, is bilingual. As an adult, she worked as a technical librarian at Union Carbide and Nordson; later she became a computer systems person for Glidden. She was also employed by the information technologies team at the Georgia Department of Corrections.

Agnes has one brother, to whom she is very close; he lives in Valley City. She has two stepchildren in North Carolina and, through them, five grandchildren aged 16 to 30. The grandchildren live in various states, so it isn't as easy to visit them as she'd like. Agnes' husband of 35 years died 16 years ago. She describes him as "the most thoroughly decent human being I ever knew."

Agnes shared a few memories about her early religious life. When she was a girl, the Feast of Corpus Christi was celebrated in the DP camp by priest and people in procession with a monstrance holding the Body of Christ. In December, they celebrated St. Nicholas Day by putting out shoes in expectation of small presents from the kindly saint and bishop. On Christmas Eve, they didn't expect Santa Claus; it was the Christ Child who brought their gifts. After that, the family went to midnight Mass.

Concerning Sacred Heart, Agnes said she's been moved by the energy and devotion of the people in helping, advancing, and facilitating the parish's spiritual life. She also remarked on our sense of community.

Her thoughts on how to help other immigrants? "Be supportive. Be welcoming," pointing out that although we are all different, everyone is still welcome.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 21: Parish bus trip to Our Lady of Lourdes National Shrine (Euclid), Severance Hall, Hofbrauhaus, St. John the Baptist Byzantine Cathedral (Parma), and Krieg's (for ice cream). Cost: \$35/person (includes everything but lunch). Pay by check made out to Sacred Heart Church (memo: BUS TRIP). Place envelope in collection basket, drop off at rectory during regular office hours, or mail to 410 West Lorain, Oberlin, OH 44074. Reservations must be received by June 11th. Be sure to include phone number.

June 24: Celebrate our parish's 138th anniversary with our annual outdoor Mass at 10:30 a.m. Following that we will have our parish picnic at the New Russia Township picnic shelter (rain or shine) with a time for farewell with Fr. Cole indoors in The Lodge. The picnic will immediately follow the Mass, so about 11:45.

August 4: Oberlin Family Fun Fair. Help us make Sacred Heart parish more visible in the greater Oberlin community. We'll need help with set-up, take-down, and staffing the table (running a Plinko game for children and handing out flyers to those who are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith). Watch the bulletin for more information.

On the Road with Hal and Cathy Lang

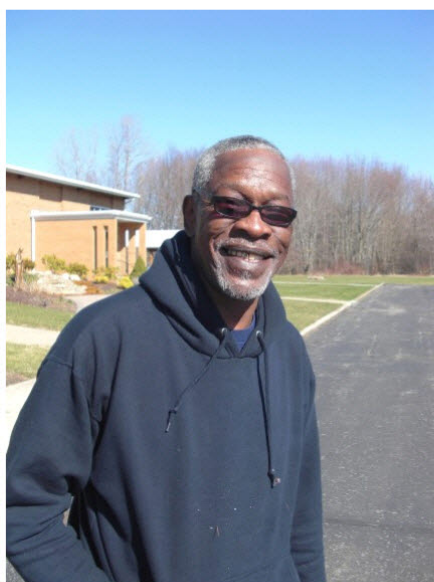


Hal and I have been traveling across the U.S. on the motorcycle now for about 10 years. Our daughters and son finished their college educations by the Spring of 2002 and, happily, my mother and Hal's mom were able to attend their graduations. My mom asked me if Hal and I were planning to travel since the kids were on their way to careers and lives away from home. We told her about our desire to ride a motorcycle across the country, and she gave us her blessing. It took us about four years to realize that dream, but a new 2005 Harley-Davidson motorcycle was under our Christmas tree that year. We have traveled through many states on our adventures to several Harley Owners Group state rallies and, of course, to see our children in their new homes and careers outside of Ohio. Usually our trips take us out on the road 2-3 weeks, but just recently -- in 2016 -- we put together a six-week trip [retirement package for both of us] to the Pacific Northwest: Glacier National Park, the Spokane Washington Harley

Rally, the Columbia River Gorge, Oregon Sand Dunes, Pacific Ocean, California Redwoods, and, of course, the Sturgis (South Dakota) Harley Museum, Mt. Rushmore, and the Badlands National Parks.

Along the way we have made a point to visit the local Catholic churches, cathedrals, missions - it is not hard to find a local church - and when you drive up on a motorcycle (and sidecar) you are an instant curiosity and friend. Everyone along the way has a story to tell, and we have the time to listen. It is those memories that keep us happy and thriving in this next stage of our life journey. We've had our challengers -- those who've asked why we'd travel so far from home this way. "Because we can and because we have placed our trust in God, and He is our pilot, guide and mentor." Our travels have shown us a beautiful country that we are a part of, and it is filled with all sorts of folks who have shown us a means by which we can share in God's plan.

Staff Highlight: Willie Young



If you've been in and out of our Education Building any weekday morning, you likely have crossed paths with our parish custodian – the man who, among many other tasks, does minor plumbing and repair work for the parish, paints as needed, keeps our walkways cleared of snow and ice, sets up tables and chairs, and keeps the Education Building and church fit for classes, meetings, celebrations, funeral luncheons, and liturgies.

Willie is an Oberlin native. He graduated from Oberlin High School and is a member of Mount Zion Baptist Church. He and his late wife, Sondra, had two sons. Sadly, the older of the two died of kidney failure at age nineteen. Jason, the younger son, was diagnosed with leukemia at age three. Willie and Sondra were told he wouldn't live, but they opted for him to undergo experimental drug treatments, and

he's grown now and still in remission. (Thanks be to God.)

Willie served in the United States Air Force for four years. He was stationed in Texas, Colorado, Nebraska, Alaska, and Vietnam. Following his discharge, he worked for General Motors-Chevrolet as a production supervisor.

These days, he spends as much time outdoors as possible. He gardens. He enjoys sports generally and fishing in particular. He collects African art.

Willie has worked at Sacred Heart the past 9 years. Best part of the job? The people.

Thank you, Willie, for your help and friendship and for that great smile that greets us when we come in the Education Building.

“At Your Service,” Highlighting Tyler Wakefield

Tyler, 16, is the son of Amy and Scot Wakefield. A sophomore at Keystone High School, he plays right and left tackle on the Wildcats football team. His is a face familiar to most of us because he’s been an altar server since fourth grade.

He has many interests. He helps with the family’s “work in progress” – a Jeep – with his dad, grandfather, and uncle. He likes to shop. He likes to bake. [*Note to Tyler: please consider baking cookies for our seminarians in December!*] In addition, we have it on good authority (his grandmother Edie Taylor) that he’s a computer geek and loves playing video games. He also loves to fish.

Tyler has two Great Danes (rescue animals), a cat, and a blue and gold macaw. His current favorite book is Rick Riordan’s *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief*. His favorite car: the 1969 Dodge Charger.

Currently, he’s doing classwork for driver’s education. He has chores to do around the house, and he works on strength conditioning at the gym in Grafton. Next fall he’ll begin studies at the Lorain County JVS to prepare for a career as an industrial electrician.

Thank you, Tyler, for your years of service to God and our parish.

"So here we are, imperfect men, women, teenagers and children, living in imperfect families and working with imperfect people. If we follow the example of Christ, we'll try to accept that reality and make the best of the little part of the world in which live. ... We can't quit. May we be as patient with each other as God is with us. It takes a special grace to be able to do that. Let's make sure that we pray for that grace every day." (Homily, 7/23/17)

Meet Our Music Director: Carl Lee

"He who sings," said St. Augustine, "prays twice." The holy Bishop of Hippo meant that singing adds to our praise and worship of God.

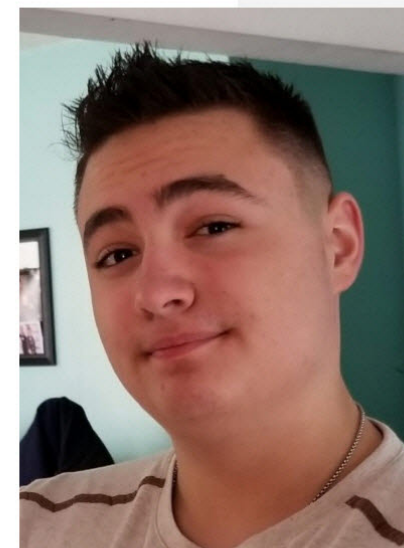
Hello,

My name is Carl Lee. I'm the music director here at Sacred Heart. I must admit I have an awesome job. I absolutely enjoy singing and playing the organ/piano. With my job comes the responsibility of planning and picking the music for our Masses. I always choose music to coordinate with the readings. In addition, I'm responsible for rehearsals. We have a small choir, but the voices are wonderful. I just wish we had more choir members. [If anyone is interested, just come to the choir corner and share your talent.]

I've been married to my wonderful wife Maureen for 21 years. Our son Matthew is 18 and has been awarded a scholarship to play football at Tiffin University starting in the fall. Our daughter Katy is 13. We live in Amherst. I have a full-time job working for the Ohio Department of Public Safety.

I never had an organ lesson or vocal lessons. When I was seven, I starting teaching myself to play piano by ear. I played trombone in the high school marching band. I just use the talent the Lord has given me to share with you.

I thank Father Cole for his full support and appreciation of the choir.



RECOMMENDED READING

Why We're Catholic (Trent Horn, Catholic Answers, 2017). How do you answer when a non-Catholic asks you (or you ask yourself!) "How can you believe all this stuff?" We believe God exists; became a man, died, and resurrected. We believe our church was founded by Jesus; that it is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. We believe in the Real Presence of Christ in holy communion. We support science. We believe there are 7 sacraments and believe in their efficacy. We have such a rich tradition – so many wonderful (and reasonable) beliefs. Find out where they came from and how to explain/defend them.

Mother Teresa's Prescription (Paul A. Wright, M.D., Ave Maria Press, 2006). Dr. Wright, a successful Ohio cardiologist, went to see Mother Teresa directly to find a better way. He discerned the "prescription," which includes compassion and love, contentment and gratitude, forgiveness, humility, and so much more. This book is an "insightful, unique, and practical approach to Mother Teresa's wisdom and life." (Sr. Mildred Ely, HM, CHE; chair, Catholic Healthcare Partners Board of Trustees

Pope Fiction (Patrick Madrid, Basilica Press, 1999). This book dispels "common myths about the papacy" ... "with a welcome tinge of humor." (Marcus Grodi, EWTN host and director of the Coming Home Network). Madrid addresses accusations about many alleged heresies and real and alleged scandals involving the popes, as well as disputes about papal infallibility.

Scattered throughout this newsletter are quotes from some of Fr. Cole's homilies. We have included them as a way of saying thank you for his years of faithful service to our parish and recognition of the time and effort that went into his homilies.

Father, you are an inspired and inspiring preacher of God's word!



St. Patrick Parish

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Sacred Heart

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Oberlin, OH 44074
☎: 440.774.6791

WEEKEND MASSES

6:00 pm Saturday **4:00 pm**
8:15 am..... Sunday **10:30 am**

WEEKDAY MASSES

8:45 am..... Monday
6:30 pmWednesday
Thursday..... **6:30 pm**
Friday **8:45 am**

StPatrickWellington.com

SacredHeartOberlin.org

Sacred Heart Parish
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Thank you to Fr. Cole for your friendship, example, support, and encouragement, over the years.

*“Faithful friends are a sturdy shelter; whoever finds one finds a treasure. Faithful friends are beyond price, no amount can balance their worth. Faithful friends are life-saving medicine; those who fear God will find them. Those who fear the Lord enjoy stable friendship, for as they are, so will their neighbors be.”
(Sirach 6:14-17)*

*Feel free to submit your comments, suggestions for future items or an article of general interest to our parishioners. This newsletter goes to all registered parishioners and is a way to reach out to the entire Sacred Heart community and hopefully beyond. You can send your comments to EDITOR at:
sacredheart1newsletter@gmail.com*

Thank you, we would love to hear from you.