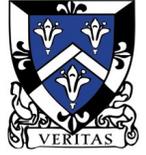




St. Thomas Aquinas Church

September 14, 2014, 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time



Pastor's Corner

Two things will be different about this weekend. First of all, we will have visiting us Fr. Ken Letoile, who was elected prior provincial of the Dominican Province of Saint Joseph this past summer, during our provincial chapter (where Fr. Stephen Dominic was during June). Secondly, we have a guest preacher to ask your generosity toward our mission in East Africa (Kenya and Tanzania). A brief word about these.

Many people are interested in the structure of the Dominican Order (and other religious orders) and how it relates to the hierarchy of the Church. I won't speak for other religious orders, but in the Dominicans, superiors are normally elected—provided there exist a sufficient number of electors, and provided also the particular community isn't otherwise impeded. So, most local communities with a stable number of six or more friars who have made solemn religious profession are accounted "pories" (or "convents" though most Americans think of convents as communities of sisters). Pories have the right to elect their own superiors, called priors. Different geographical territories are called "provinces" once they are established as such and can promise an abiding Dominican presence, draw their own vocations, etc. 200 years ago there was only one Dominican province in this country, then finally the Western province was formed, then the Chicago, and then finally, just about 30 years ago, the Southern province (headquartered in New Orleans). The superior of a province is called a prior provincial. Finally, governing the entire order is the successor of Saint Dominic, called the Master of the Order. All members of the Order make promise him obedience, whether they are friars, nuns (cloistered not active sisters), even Dominican laypersons (formerly called tertiaries or Third Order members), though their life and work is much different. The Master of the Order has direct authority over every member of the Order, and could, for example, assign any of us friars to any ministry or location he deemed suitable and good. All of us friars are subject to local and regional superiors, as well as the universal authority of the Master. (It should go without saying that, wherever we live, we are also subject to the authority of the local bishop and only

operate within a given diocese with his blessing.)

About Fr. Letoile personally: I hope you all have the opportunity to greet him. He has spent most of his priestly life as pastor (Jersey City, Providence, Cincinnati) and so is very experienced as a pastor. Most recently, before being elected provincial, he was elected as prior of the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, D.C., our largest community.

A word about our foreign mission: after being for a while missionary territory ourselves (with one of our first foundations at nearby Somerset), we began exporting mission priests, as well as brothers and sisters, to bring Catholic Christianity to foreign lands and lend support where it was fledgling. Among our recent missions (20th century), we have been in China, Pakistan, Peru, and the Solomon Islands; now East Africa is our sole missionary focus. Speaking of provinces, our missionary in East Africa is not yet one, but is rather considered a *vicariate* not yet to the point where the Order is able to flourish without without external helps (the superior of such a vicariate is known as a vicar provincial).

Our preacher this weekend, Fr. Dosch, is currently pastor at Saint Patrick's in Columbus and served before that at our parish in Cincinnati, alongside Fr. Letoile.

Altar server training. Many people have asked me since I arrived here when we could offer training for new would-be altar servers (and current servers who might like to brush up on a few things). Well, when would work for most families? I was thinking Saturday morning some time? But I know that might clash with sports. Weekdays are obviously out. One person mentioned to me the possibility of staying behind after Sunday Masses are over some time, though I'm not as confident that would be agreeable for most people. Ideas welcome. I'll try to set something up for later this month or early next, but I'd like to hear from parents of those who might receive training just when might work for you the best.

2nd Collections

September 13/14: Dominican Missions

September 20/21: Church in the Middle East

September 27/28: Muskingum Valley Right to Life



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MASS INTENTIONS

Sun, Sep 14	EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
5:00pm	Peg Mattingly (+)
7:00am	People of the Parish
9:00am	Jeannette Harnetty (+)
11:00am	Floyd Denton (+)
Mon, Sept 15	Our Lady of Sorrows (M)
8:00am	Edwin Sawyers (+)
Noon	Marie A. Nestor (+)
Tue, Sept 16	SS. Cornelius & Cyprian, martyrs (M)
8:00am	Linda Ann Sentivany (+)
Wed, Sept 17	
8:00am	Jeremy Haley
Noon	Mary Bowman (+)
Thu, Sept 18	St. Juan Macias, O.P., religious (M)
8:00am	Ruth Hepburn (+)
Fri, Sept 19	Most Holy Name of Mary (Opt.)
8:00am	Fallen-away Catholics
Noon	Charles & Leota Schaumleffel (+)
Sat, Sept 20	SS. Andrew Kim & companions, martyrs (M)
9:00am	Poor Souls in Purgatory
Sun, Sep 21	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00pm (Sat)	Bob & Bette Mattingly (+)
7:00am	Beverly McLoughlin (+)
9:00am	People of the Parish
11:00am	Roger Arnold (+)

(Incense will not be used at 7:00am Masses; it may be used at other Sunday Masses, as well as evening Masses on Holy Days of Obligation.)

Parish Finances

Week of September 2, 2014

Envelopes (255)	\$8,239.00
Loose	1,017.70
Total	9,256.70
Weekly Budget	11,538.00
Deficit	2,281.30

Week of September 8, 2014

Envelopes (267)	\$12,537.50
Loose	949.73
Total	13,487.23
Weekly Budget	11,538.00
Surplus	1,949.23

Thank you!

BAPTISMS

Usually celebrated first and third Sundays of the month, after the last parish Mass. Contact the pastor to schedule. First-time parents please also schedule a "Pre-Jordan" preparation class.

WEDDINGS

Must be scheduled no later than six months before desired wedding date. Please contact the pastor for more information about marriage preparation.

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION

Wednesdays after Noon Mass until 8:00 p.m.
For information, contact Lynn Seward at (740) 688-0314 or Regina Cano at (614) 582-8588

FUNERAL LUNCHEONS

Contact Mary Margaret Murphy at (740) 452-4454

RENTAL INFORMATION

To reserve Rosary Hall or Activity Center contact Mary Ann Ewart at (740) 319-0265.

PREGNANCY COUNSELING

Heartbeat Family Center/Pregnancy Distress
(740) 450-5437/ www.heartbeats.org

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

Contact Lori Gnau at (740) 453-8501.

PRAYER REQUESTS

(740) 454-2700, (740) 297-7164,
(740) 588-0314, or (740) 704-3136.

BISHOP FENWICK SCHOOL

Tel: (740) 454-9731; Fax: (740) 454-8755
www.bfw.cdeducation.org
Principal: Mrs. Kelly Sagan

TELEVISED MASS—WHIZ TV

Sundays on channel 2 at 7:00 a.m.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, Sep 14

10:00 a.m. CCD (School)
Coffee and doughnuts after 9:00 and 11:00 (Rosary Hall)

Monday, Sep 15

7:00 p.m.: Children of God prayer group (Parish ctr.)

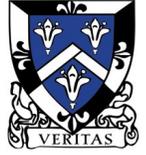
Tuesday, Sep 16

6:00 p.m. Rosary for Life (Church)



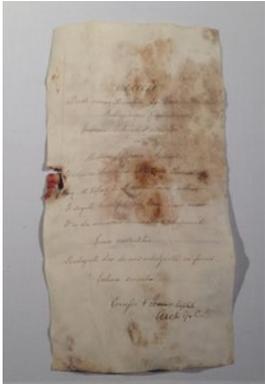
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A History of St. Thomas Aquinas Church Part XVI – Consecrated to the Worship of God

The Church was dedicated in 1844 and consecrated on December 14, 1851, by Archbishop John B. Purcell of Cincinnati. Within the altar was enclosed a document of consecration written in Latin.



The English translation of the document reads: *On the 14th day of December, 1851, I John Baptist, Bishop of Cincinnati, consecrate this church and altar in honor of St. Thomas Aquinas; and I enclosed in it the relics of the holy martyrs, Crisantus and Darian, Blessed Villana (widow) and have granted to all the faithful of Christ on this day, one year of true indulgence, and on the anniversary of this consecration to them that shall visit it 40 days in the usual form of the church. (Signed) John Baptist, Archbishop of Cincinnati.* This document was first found when the original altar was razed to make room for the new one, which was consecrated by Bishop James Joseph Hartley, Bishop of Columbus on October 15, 1929. At the direction of Bishop Hartley, the document was placed in



the opening where it was found. It was then placed under the new tabernacle, where it resided for many years. The document was discovered again during one of the more recent renovations. It now resides in the reliquary under the altar. The sealing wax used by Archbishop Purcell is still evident on the document, along with his handwriting and signature. At that time Saint Thomas Aquinas Church was the only consecrated church of the Archdiocese except for the Cathedral in Cincinnati. The walls of the church structure were anointed with oil, and if you look at the walls of the church today, there are sconces that have a Dominican cross as the base. These sconces represent the points of the anointing of the consecration of the building.



A local paper from May 1929 has an article that was written during the restoration, and is as follows: *Altar of Brick Found Inside of St. Thomas Altar: Workmen Make Interesting Discovery in Church on Erecting New Altar-Hidden for years under the heavy wooden sides of the great wooden altar in St. Thomas Church, the original altar, constructed when the edifice was built in 1842, again found the May sunlight pouring through the stained [glass] windows*

of the church as it must have shone during the month of May 86 years ago. The plain little altar, of brick and plaster, was uncovered when workmen erecting the new marble altar, tore down the wooden covering which has served as an altar since the days of the Civil war.



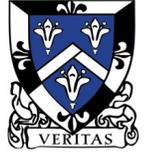
Although the existence of an altar underneath the wooden altar was not generally known, it has served as the actual foundation for the outer covering for many years. Constructed of brick and heavy stoneware, it extended from the floor of the church to the ground underneath the basement and incidentally forms the base of the small altar in the lower church.

The wooden altar, now torn down to make way for the new one, formed merely the hull of the altar, as the laws of the church require that the foundation for a consecrated altar must reach to the ground on which the church is erected. Thus the altar built 86 years ago and entombed for years within walls of solid walnut, was actually the altar of the church. And when the new altar is erected, the little brick altar will again form the actual altar, as the marble will be built so as to enclose the old altar. (To be continued)



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Parish Life

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Fall is rapidly approaching with changes all around us. We may recognize some changes within us as well, as God invites us to draw closer to Him in the Catholic Faith. For those who are interested in becoming Catholic, or for those who may have been baptized Catholic, but never raised or fully initiated in the Catholic Church, why not join us for the RCIA process? If you have any questions, please call Melanie Von Gunten at (740) 453-3301, extension 15. Why not "come and see"? First meeting will be Tuesday, Sept 16, at 7:00 p.m. in parish library for participants only. The following meeting (and most meetings thereafter) will be in Rosary Hall and open to all parishioners. A schedule will be kept in the pages of this bulletin.

Muskingum Valley Right To Life group will be going to the abortion clinic on Broad Street in Columbus Saturday morning, September 20, 2014 to pray the Rosary for the unborn and their mothers. Cars leave the church at 6:30 a.m.

Neighbor Helping Neighbor Saturday, September 27th. 9:00 - 1:00 p.m. High School Students will be available to help with fall projects and minor home repairs. If you have a job for our students, call Patty Boggs at (740) 453-5173. We will be happy to put you on the list.

Beauty of the Feminine Conference All women of Saint Thomas Aquinas parish and friends are invited to a day of fellowship, fun, food, and faith for women. Please join us for the 3rd annual *Beauty of the Feminine: Vine Catholic Women's Conference*, Saturday, October 4th, at the Saint Thomas Activity Center. Registration and breakfast 7:15am, and the first conference is 8:00am. The last conference ends at 4:30pm. Cost is \$20 for those registering before September 27th; after that, \$25. Special fee for students and religious is \$10. Please send checks to the parish office with "Beauty of the Feminine Women's Conference" in memo line, along with the names of those registering. For more information, call the parish office or visit

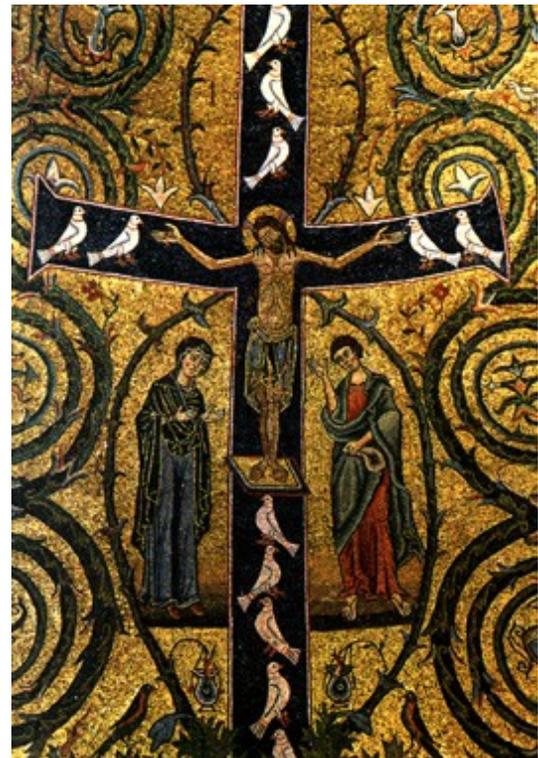
www.thebeautyofthefeminine.weebly.com. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word" (Lk 1: 38).

Varia

The Daughters of Isabella will be sponsoring a card party September 18, at 6:30 p.m., at Saint Nicholas Church basement. \$3 entry fee. There will be door prizes and refreshments. For more information, please contact Sandy Black at (740) 454-4879.

A "Protecting God's Children" Session will be held on **Saturday, September 20 from 9 a.m. until noon. All employees and volunteers in the Diocese of Columbus must take one of these sessions and be fingerprinted.** Register on-line at www.virtus.org and follow the registration prompts on the left side of the screen. If you have any questions or difficulty registering, please call Melanie Von Gunten at 453-3301, extension 15.

Birthday Open House Come celebrate Joe Pishner's 90th birthday! Sunday, September 21st from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Join us out at the Knight's of Columbus Hall, Sunrise Center, Zanesville. Light refreshments will be available. No gifts - your presence is your gift.



We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee,
Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world!



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Catholic Community News & Events

Breakfast with the Bishop Friday, October 3, 2014
7:45 - 9 a.m. at the Hyatt Regency, 350 N. High Street, Columbus. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. Speakers for the event are Bishop Frederick F. Campbell and Jodi Pfarr, Minneapolis, MN, *Bridges Out of Poverty* certified trainer, advocate, and teacher. All proceeds from the breakfast will support the programs and services of CSS. For tickets or event sponsorship call Peggy Welch at (614) 857.1254 or visit the website: www.colscss.org.

Healing for the divorced A Catholic Divorce Survival Guide Training will be offered Thu., Oct 2, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Grove City. Keynote Speaker is Rose Sweet, author and frequent speaker on divorce and annulments. Registration fee: \$45. Contact the Marriage & Family Life Office of the Diocese at familylife@colsdioec.org or at (614) 241-2560.

Diocesan Family Rosary Day will be celebrated this year on Sunday, Oct 12, at 3:00 p.m. at Saint Joseph's Cathedral. Bishop Frederick Campbell will preside. Success for this celebration requires your prayers, but also your material support. Please consider making a donation of \$20 or more. All contributors will be named in the Family Rosary Day program booklet. Printing deadline is Sep 19, so please respond by then to have your name included.



Checks should be made out to Diocese of Columbus, and all donations should be sent to: Family Rosary Day, 198 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215.

—Deacon Thomas M. Berg, Jr., Chancellor of the Diocese

Around the Diocese

Goodbye, Sister Maureen!

Like a comet pulled from orbit, as it passes a sun. Like a stream that meets a boulder, halfway through the wood. Who can say if I've been changed for the better? But because I knew you, I have been changed for good.... So let me say before we part, so much of me is made of what I learned from you. You'll be with me, like a handprint on my heart. And now whatever way our stories end, I know you have re-written mine, by being my friend.... Like a ship blown from its mooring, by a wind off the sea. Like a seed dropped by a sky bird, in a distant wood. Who can say if I've been changed for the better? But because I knew you, I have been changed for good. —Stephen Schwartz

It is hard to say good-bye to someone who has cared so much for so many people, not only in St. Thomas Parish, but in Muskingum County and beyond. Sr. Maureen Mahon has been part of our daily presence for the past fourteen years. Many people believe that the charism of the Franciscans is poverty, but in reality, it is joy. Sister Maureen has made joy live in the hearts of the people that she has ministered to and served as she embraced them with the love and compassion of Christ. She has exemplified the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Sister cared for the physical needs of the poor and suffering, providing food, encouragement and recognition of their dignity as children of God. Countless hours of her ministry included visiting the sick and carrying Our Lord to them in Holy Communion. The dying have been comforted and their families have been consoled by Sister's gentle words of healing and peace. Sr. Maureen is a woman of great faith and of prayer and all of us have been lifted up in her prayers and benefitted from them. No doubt that she will continue to hold us in her heart and in her prayers as she returns to Oldenburg. A true daughter of St. Francis, Sr. Maureen has been an instrument of peace, love, faith and hope for all of us. She has not only changed us for good, but for the good, and she is leaving her handprint on our hearts. Sr. Maureen, until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.