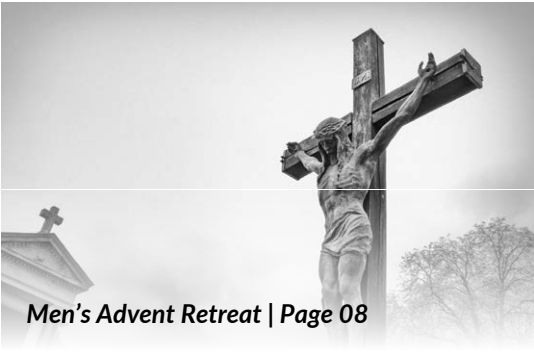




St. Gertrude PARISH

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | OCTOBER 12, 2025



Men's Advent Retreat | Page 08



Bourbon & Books Annual Event | Page 08



Memorial Mass for Pregnancy Loss | Page 09

Listen to our parish podcast on Spotify or Apple Podcasts!



Spotify Apple

02 WELCOME

Become a Parishioner
Mission, Vision, Core Values
Become Catholic

03 FROM OUR PASTOR

Letter from Father John Paul

04 PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Parish Podcast Episode
Christmas Wreath Sales
World Mission Sunday Collection
Ladies of Charity Bake Sale
Baptisms
Let Us Pray

05 PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Support the Culture of Life
Next Fun Bunch Gathering
Boys Basketball Registration
We're Hiring
Reigning in Life

06 PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week
Parish Theme
Become a Eucharistic Guardian
Miscarriage Kit Box
Create Your Will for Free
Are You in Need of Forgiveness?

07 PARISH EVANGELIZATION

Respect Life Ministry Article

08 PARISH EVANGELIZATION

Respect Life Ministry (Cont.)
Men's Advent Retreat
Bourbon & Books Annual Event

09 PARISH EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Gift of Life Collection
Pancake Breakfast
Mass for Pregnancy Loss
Coats for Kids Program

10 SCHOOL NEWS

11 AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

Mass of Hope
Medical Ethics Talk
Date with Father Nate
Heaven's Gain Ministries Job
Communion to Those in Need
Annual Evening for Life
Serenelli Project Gala

12 PARISH INFORMATION

Liturgical Schedule & Intentions
Care for Sick and Homebound
Prayer Ministry for the Dying

13 PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Directory
Bulletin Deadline
Financial Summary

ST. GERTRUDE PARISH

6543 Miami Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45243

(513) 561-5954 stgertrude.org

parishoffice@stgertrude.org

stgertrudechurch

Church Hours

Daily, 7 a.m.–9 p.m.

Parish Office Hours

M-F, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

School Office Hours

M-F, 7:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.



WELCOME

Welcome to St. Gertrude Parish—it is good that you are here!

Whether this is your first time worshiping with us, you have been here many times and want to become a parishioner, or you have questions about the Catholic faith and want to learn more, the information on this page is a great place to start.

We look forward to getting to know you and accompanying you on your faith journey.

MISSION

Who We Are

We are a Roman Catholic parish of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati that is shaped and enlivened by the charism of the Order of Preachers (the Dominicans). We teach and preach the Truth, reverently celebrate the liturgy and sacraments, and gather as a community so that all may encounter Jesus here.

VISION

Who We Aspire to Be

To be a community of disciples united in our Eucharistic Lord and sent to transform the world in the light of the Gospel.

CORE VALUES

What We Cultivate

Reverence, Humility, Magnanimity, Generosity, Intentionality

BECOME A PARISHIONER

Ready to join our vibrant parish of missionary disciples?

Register as a parishioner at stgertrude.org/register. Paper copies of the registration form are also available in the parish office.



Been away for a while or curious about Catholicism?

WE WOULD LOVE TO WALK WITH YOU.

To connect with us, get your questions answered, and learn more about returning to the Church or becoming Catholic, contact Tyler Castrucci at tcastrucci@stgertrude.org or scan the QR code.





THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND DIVORCE

Over the past few years, I have had several conversations with divorced Catholics during which the person I was speaking with said to me, “I never knew that. I

wish I had known sooner.” Every time I have such a conversation, I make a mental note that it would be a good topic to write about in one of my bulletin letters. It is unlikely I can say everything that needs to be said in one letter, but this week I will at least begin to explain—and perhaps clarify—some questions that many Catholics might have about divorce and the status of divorced Catholics in the Church.

Q: Is getting a divorce a sin?

A: No . . . at least, not always.

Explanation

As I suspect everyone knows, the Catholic Church teaches that once a man and a woman enter into a sacramental, consummated marital bond, there is no human authority on earth (including even the pope) that can break that bond. Only the death of one of the two spouses ends that bond. As such, every married couple—even those experiencing challenges and difficulties in their marriages—has a grave obligation to do everything possible to work through problems to maintain the marriage. The permanent and indissoluble nature of marriage is not a creation of the Church nor of any human society; it is Jesus’ teaching (Matthew 5:31-32, Luke 16:18, and several other places) and applies to all peoples of all places, through all times, until the end of the world.

As such, divorce (taken as broad “institution”) is an objective evil. As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC) teaches, “Divorce is a grave offense against the natural law. It claims to break the contract, to which the spouses freely consented, to live with each other until death. Divorce does injury to the covenant of salvation, of which sacramental marriage is the sign” (CCC, 2384). It goes on, “Divorce . . . introduces disorder into the family and into society. This disorder brings grave harm to the deserted spouse, to children traumatized by the separation of their parents and often torn between them, and because of its contagious effect which makes it truly a plague on society” (CCC, 2385).

That being said, there can arise situations where salvaging a common life together is truly impossible, especially in cases where adultery has occurred or where domestic abuse puts the life/health of one spouse or children in danger. In such situations, separation is allowed by the Church (cf. *Code of*

Canon Law, 1151-1155). Furthermore, the *Catechism* teaches that, “If civil divorce remains the only possible way of ensuring certain legal rights, the care of the children, or the protection of inheritance, it can be tolerated and does not constitute a moral offense” (CCC, 2383).

The Church also recognizes that, “It can happen that one of the spouses is the innocent victim of a divorce decreed by civil law; this spouse therefore has not contravened the moral law. There is a considerable difference between a spouse who has sincerely tried to be faithful to the sacrament of marriage and is unjustly abandoned, and one who through his own grave fault destroys a canonically valid marriage” (CCC, 2386).

Q: If I’m divorced, I can’t receive Holy Communion, correct?

A: Perhaps true, perhaps false.

Explanation

Being divorced, in itself, does not prevent one from worthily receiving Holy Communion at Mass. What does prevent one from receiving Communion is being divorced *and remarried outside of the Catholic Church*. It is not the divorce that is the problem; it is the remarriage that is the problem. This is because a civil divorce does not break the sacramental bond between spouses. Thus, someone living a conjugal life with a second person is, objectively, committing an act of adultery. It is this ongoing, adulterous circumstance that prevents one from being able to approach to receive Communion.

A Final Note

I know there are many reasons why marriages fail. I encourage any parishioner who has been through a civil divorce to consider speaking with a priest regarding the process of annulment—which is an investigation by the Church to see if there were defects at the origin of the (now-failed) marriage that would indicate that a sacramental bond had not taken place. If it is determined there was no sacramental bond in the first marriage, then a person would be free to enter into marriage in the Church or, if there has already been a subsequent civil marriage, to have that civil bond sacramentally convalidated by the Church. I know that the topic of marriage and divorce can be difficult and painful to talk about, but I encourage anyone who has any questions or concerns to make an appointment to speak to myself, Father Luke, or Father Reginald. Any of the three of us would be happy to learn about your situation and provide pastoral guidance.

God bless,

Rev. John Paul Walker, O.P.

Father John Paul Walker, O.P.

NEW PARISH PODCAST EPISODE

On Tuesday, October 7, we had a solemn High Mass in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary. Check out the newest episode on the St. Gertrude Parish Podcast to hear the homily from this beautiful, traditional form of the Mass.



Spotify



Apple

CHRISTMAS WREATH SALES

St. Gertrude Parish Cub Scout Pack 555 and Boy Scout Troop 555 are selling Christmas wreaths/sprays and other decorations from Mickman Brothers. Order your wreaths/sprays after any Mass next weekend, October 18-19, and the weekend of October 25-26. The wreaths are scheduled to be delivered the weekend of November 22-23, which is the weekend before Thanksgiving. Payment (cash or check) is due when you place your order. If you have any questions, please contact a Troop 555 cub or scout you know or Mary Jo Schuette at Mjschuette2@gmail.com or (513) 207-1836.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY COLLECTION—OCTOBER 18-19

Celebrated yearly on the second-to-last Sunday of October, World Mission Sunday is the day when Catholics around the world in every parish, in every diocese, in every country, join in prayer and giving to ensure that missionaries can continue their vital work—building churches, forming priests, supporting catechists, and serving communities in need. It is the only annual global collection that directly supports the 1,124 mission territories where the Church is young, struggling, or persecuted. Thank you, in advance, for participating in this collection and being generous with the resources God has given you.

DO YOU LOVE TO BAKE?

The St. Gertrude Parish Ladies of Charity are asking all bakers to help with the Bake Sale at their annual Craft and Gift Show on Saturday, October 18, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Baked goods may be dropped off in the Parish Center on Friday, October 17, between 2:30 and 5 p.m. and on the day of the event. All proceeds go to charities around the Cincinnati area. If you have questions about the Ladies of Charity, please contact Jean Wilkinson at (513) 498-5085.

BAPTISMS - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2025



Child

Dominic Ethan Bissonnette

Parents

Cianna & Ethan Bissonnette



Let Us
PRAY

THE SICK

Johnny Burns, Vicki Calonge, Triset Defonseka, Diana Doll, Mark Doran, Lisa Ely, Octavio Flores Resendiz, Ron Freudenberg, Will Freudenberg, Dick Gelhaus, Goad Family, Elsa Hall, John Holden, Hummel Family, Steve Kaimer, Andrea Kattel, Aiko Kimura, Robert Lantz, Karen Larkin, Kevin Lewis, Gertrude Maxwell, Kim McClung, Elaine O'Connell, Sue Paas, Gert Patterson, Romualdo & Maria Pelle, Heather Pfeiffer, Paula Scalo, Pegge Schuermann, Nancy Silvers, Patricia Strauss, Judy Sullivan

THOSE IN THE MILITARY

Patrick Burke, Gabe Dorsey, Jacob Dorsey, Curtis Flores, Luis Flores Jr., Cole Foster, Kyle Foster, Dominic Geraci, Daniel Holian, Mike Huber, Aaron Jacobson, Jacob Kramb, John Kramb, Kelly Leugers, Seth McGann, 2nd Lt. Miles Mayer, PFC Charles Mayer, John Murdock Jr., John Oscar, Dan Roseman, Andrew Shannon, Michael Stein, Ian Tester, Jack Thornton, and Gus Voto

THE RECENTLY DECEASED

† All Our Beloved Deceased



SUPPORT THE CULTURE OF LIFE

Parishioners of all ages are invited to help install 3,000 Crosses of the Innocent on our parish grounds next Saturday, October 18, after the 8 a.m. Mass. (Please bring a hammer.) These small white crosses serve as a reminder of all the innocent children who have lost their lives to abortion.

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Archbishop Elder Council #1195 and the St. Gertrude Parish Respect Life Ministry.



NEXT FUN BUNCH GATHERING

Everyone age 55+ is invited to join us on Tuesday, October 21, at 12:15 p.m. for the second Fun Bunch meeting of the fall. Our theme is Celebrating Pope Leo XIV! There will be games, prizes, and a talk by Father John Langlois, O.P., on the significance of Pope Leo XIV and the history of Leonine popes. Lunch will be Chicago-style hot dogs and all the fixings. Please bring a side dish, dessert, or drink, and sign up at bit.ly/octoberfun25 to let us know what you are bringing. If you plan to come, please RSVP to Diane Kennedy at mkennedy06@aol.com or (513) 791-6075 so we have an estimated headcount for food. Walk-ins are welcome. We hope you will join us, and bring a friend!



BOYS BASKETBALL REGISTRATION DEADLINE

All boys of St. Gertrude Parish in grades 3-8 are eligible to participate in the 2025-2026 Bulldogs basketball program! Late registration ends this Friday, October 17. Visit bit.ly/stgbulldogs or scan the QR code for details and to sign up. If you have any questions, contact Robert Franer at franersports@gmail.com.



WE'RE HIRING!

Are you looking for an opportunity to serve our parish—and get paid while doing it? We're hiring a part-time administrative assistant for our Office of Evangelization and Faith Formation. The administrative assistant will ensure a healthy and high-functioning office environment and serve as administrative support for the evangelization efforts of the parish. To view the job description, visit stgertrude.org/employment. If you are interested in applying for this role, please email your resume and a brief letter stating your interest to our director of evangelization, Tyler Castrucci, at tcastrucci@stgertrude.org.



REIGNING IN LIFE: BECOMING PROVIDER—A SMALL GROUP FOR MEN

Do you have what it takes to lead your family in faith? This fall, join other men for Reigning in Life: Becoming Provider, a Catholic small group for husbands and fathers. The group meets twice per month between October and April. Sessions include a reflection on a Gospel passage and Church teachings, conversation on two to three principles that are directly relevant to being a husband and father, and a resolution to implement. Use discount code GERTRUDE25 to get \$30 off registration. If you have any questions, please contact Tyler Castrucci at tcastrucci@stgertrude.org.



This WEEK

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13

- 7 p.m. | Become Catholic (St. Dominic Lobby)
- 7 p.m. | Healing Rosary (Church)
- 7 p.m. | Seasons of Hope (Church Vestibule)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14

- 12:30 p.m. | *True Devotion to Mary* (St. Dominic Lobby)
- 7 p.m. | Boy Scouts (School Cafeteria)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15

- 6:30 p.m. | Cub Scouts Den Meeting
(School Cafeteria & Classrooms)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

- 7 p.m. | Young Adults Group (Church)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

- 8:30 a.m. | Placement of Crosses of the Innocent
(Parish Center Lawn)
- 9 a.m. | Ladies of Charity Craft Fair (Parish Center)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

- 9 a.m. (After 8 a.m. Mass) | Coffee & Doughnuts (Gym)
- 11 a.m. (After 10 a.m. Mass) | Coffee & Doughnuts (Gym)
- 7 p.m. | L'alto: High School Youth Ministry Night (Parish Center)

BECOME A EUCHARISTIC GUARDIAN

Eucharistic guardians are people who sign up for and commit to a weekly Holy Hour in our Mother of Mercy Adoration Chapel. The chapel is open daily from 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. and overnight on Wednesday. **We need at least two people signed up for every hour; many spots are available.** To learn more or sign up, scan the QR code, or visit stgertrude.org/adoration.



MISCARRIAGE KIT BOX

Are you or someone you know facing a first trimester miscarriage? You are not alone. Heaven's Gain Ministries has provided our parish with a box of free miscarriage kits to support your physical and emotional needs during your tragic loss. The box is located in the landscape bed to the left of the circle drive in front of the church. If you have questions about the kit, call Heaven's Gain at (513) 888-4200. Learn more about Heaven's Gain's services at heavensgain.org. We also encourage you to contact one of our parish priests so we can help you along your grieving journey.



CREATE YOUR WILL FOR FREE

As a Catholic, your faith is your most valuable asset. Thanks to St. Gertrude Parish's partnership with MyCatholicWill.com, you can pass on your Legacy of Faith and plant seeds for the next generation of Catholics in an incredible way. Scan the QR code or visit MyCatholicWill.com/StGertrude to start writing your will for free today! Use referral code **STGERTRUDE**.



ARE YOU IN NEED OF FORGIVENESS?

God is always ready to forgive. Experience his merciful love through the sacrament of Reconciliation. Priests are available to hear confessions Monday–Friday at 4 p.m., Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 3:30 p.m., or by appointment.





HOW WILL YOU SHARE YOUR (LIMITED) TIME AND (UNTAPPED) TALENT?

By Mary Smithers, Parishioner and Member of the Respect Life Ministry Core Team

The St. Gertrude Parish Respect Life Ministry has been a long-standing and robust presence within our parish and wider community through the vigorous support of our pastor and parish staff and the dedicated leadership of many volunteers. We are a dynamic group of pro-life advocates striving to promote and protect the sanctity and dignity of life from natural conception to natural death, while cultivating our parish's core values of reverence, humility, magnanimity, generosity and intentionality.

After the Dobbs decision in June 2022 placed legislation of abortion rights in the jurisdiction of individual states, the subsequent crushing defeat of Issue 1 in November 2023 that enshrined the right to abortion in the Ohio Constitution, and the recent February 2025 ruling that a 2020 law requiring the humane disposal of aborted fetuses was unconstitutional, the fight for life has not ended, but merely changed.



In Hamilton County alone, 4,161 pre-born children lost their lives to abortion as reported by the Ohio Department of Health (October 2025). Statewide, there were 21,829 abortions, of which at least 10,155 were non-surgical abortions (chemical abortifacients). Abortion pills are easily accessed online, and the *actual number* of babies lost behind the closed doors of one's own home or college dorm room go unreported and far exceed those done in other facilities. Even more tragic, according to the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), less than 0.5 percent of abortions in Ohio were for "medical necessity"; 99.6 percent of

the elective abortions were for reasons of convenience. Ohio has seen a 143 percent increase in out-of-state abortions since the June 2022 overturn of Roe v. Wade. Our proximity to neighboring states makes Cincinnati an "abortion destination."

Every day, many out-of-state cars enter the gates of Planned Parenthood on Auburn Ave. Embryos lost to IVF exponentially eclipse the losses to abortion. Euthanasia is creeping closer and closer, even taking place in "Catholic" facilities.

Pro-life work is urgent and unrelenting: legislation to prevent taxpayer dollars from funding the killing of innocent lives must be advocated for and passed, messaging and tactics must evolve, and prayer must continue. **The St. Gertrude Respect Life Ministry needs the help of every parishioner and family.** While progress is being made, there is much untapped talent in the parish and many exciting opportunities waiting for you to say "yes" to what God is calling **you** to do!

Efforts are being made to collaborate with intra-parish ministries—St. Vincent de Paul, Ladies of Charity, Knights of Columbus, St. Gertrude School, youth and young adult ministries, etc.—as well as with the numerous community crisis pregnancy resources—Cincinnati Right to Life, Pregnancy Center Plus, Mater Filius Queen City, and more.

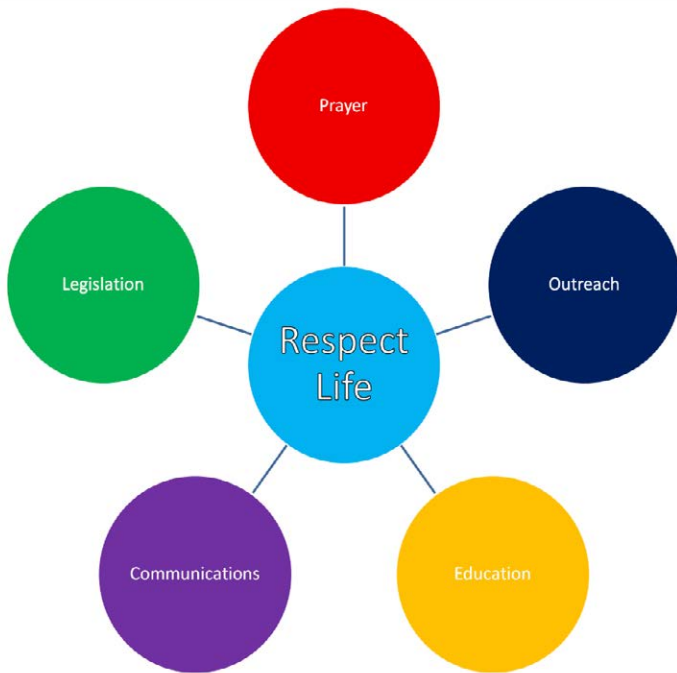
The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) initiative Walking with Moms in Need (WWMIN) is nearing an official launch within St. Gertrude Parish and the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Simply put, it's "care beyond the crisis (pregnancy)." That is, offering long-term relational versus short-term transactional support through friendship, prayer, and accompaniment—putting our faith into action within and without our parish boundaries.

Getting involved is easy—be it hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, or annually. No matter your age or stage in life (single, active family life, retired, or infirm), **you have unique gifts to offer!** Here are examples of things you can do:

- **Pray:** Pray at home, in the church during the Holy Hour on the first Wednesday of the month, or in our adoration chapel; a daily rosary; participate in 40 Days for Life; Project Rachel prayer support; pray for local/state/federal legislators.
- **Outreach:** Participate in Crosses of the Innocent, Gift of Life donations, Mary's Wardrobe, Mothers' Day Flower Sale, Crossing the Bridge for Life, Heartbeat for Life Run/Raffle.
- **Education:** Invite speakers and organize workshops on topics such as IVF, miscarriage support, end-of-life issues, maternity homes, foster care, body literacy (Theology of the Body).

Continued on the next page.

Continued from the previous page.



- **Communication:** Join the Respect Life Ministry core team or be a member-at-large, maintain documents, intra-parish ministries, liaison with Ohio regional pro-life groups.
- **Legislation:** Get involved in voter education/registration, organize parish panel discussions/town halls, contact legislators about pro-life issues and legislation, attend local/state/national rallies (such as March for Life)

Respect for and honoring life at all stages and abilities begins in the domestic church of each and every one of our own homes. How will **you share** your (limited) time and (untapped) talent to promote and protect the sanctity and dignity of life from natural conception to natural death?

We invite you to contact stgertrudeprolife.org or our director of stewardship, Hope Ramundo, at hramundo@stgertrude.org or (513) 561-5954, ext. 2120, for more details and to get involved.

2025 MEN'S ADVENT RETREAT

All men ages 18+ are invited to the annual Catholic Men's Advent Retreat, sponsored by the St. Gertrude Parish Catholic Men's Fellowship. Father Louis Bethea, O.P., will be our retreat master. This year's theme, "I Thirst: A Message of Hope from the Cross," will guide you to greater intimacy with Jesus and the Holy Eucharist as the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope draws to a close.

CONTACT
If you have questions, email info@catholicmensretreat.org or call (513) 289-5268.

REGISTER TODAY!
Scan the QR code or visit catholicmensretreat.org. Ends November 29 or until the retreat is sold out. Space is limited!

WHEN & WHERE
December 5–6, 2025
Begins 6 p.m. Friday and concludes 4 p.m. Saturday
Jesuit Spiritual Center
Arrupe Building
5361 S. Milford Road | Milford, OH 45140

COST
\$160 - Overnight option
\$115 - Days only option (includes three meals)

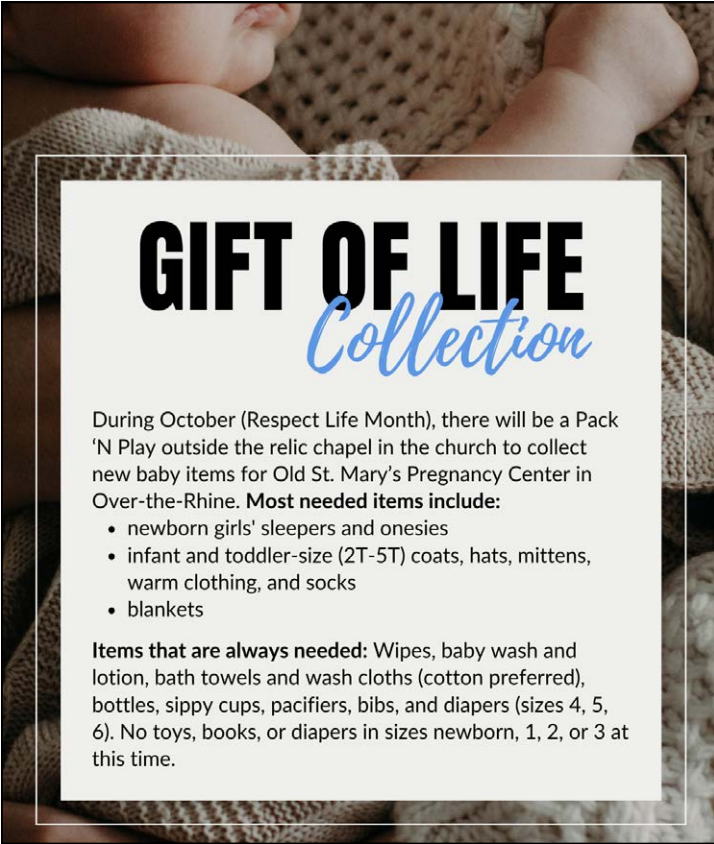
BOURBON & BOOKS ANNUAL EVENT

Thursday, October 23 2025 | 7 p.m.
St. Gertrude Parish Center

Are you looking to develop community with other men of the parish? Do you have a group of friends with whom you want to grow?

All existing members and men interested in this ministry are invited to celebrate the first year of Bourbon & Books and our year two launch. Please join us for good bourbon, great conversation, and an opportunity to learn more.

Visit stgertrude.org/bourbonandbooks or scan the QR code to learn more.



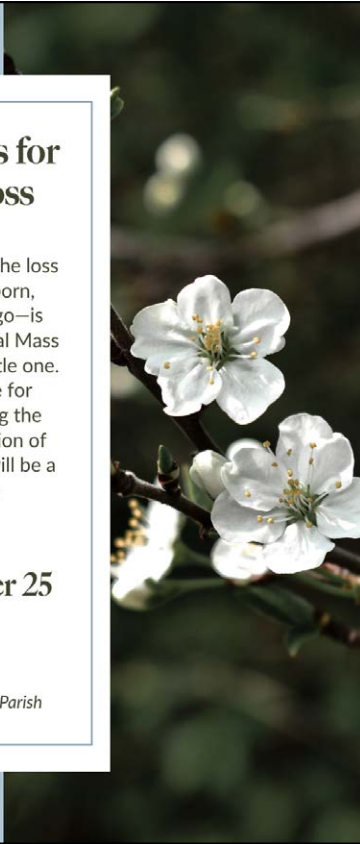
GIFT OF LIFE

Collection

During October (Respect Life Month), there will be a Pack 'N Play outside the relic chapel in the church to collect new baby items for Old St. Mary's Pregnancy Center in Over-the-Rhine. **Most needed items include:**

- newborn girls' sleepers and onesies
- infant and toddler-size (2T-5T) coats, hats, mittens, warm clothing, and socks
- blankets

Items that are always needed: Wipes, baby wash and lotion, bath towels and wash cloths (cotton preferred), bottles, sippy cups, pacifiers, bibs, and diapers (sizes 4, 5, 6). No toys, books, or diapers in sizes newborn, 1, 2, or 3 at this time.



Memorial Mass for Pregnancy Loss

Anyone who has suffered the loss of a baby—born or pre-born, recently or many years ago—is invited to attend a memorial Mass in remembrance of their little one. Candles will be available for families to bring up during the offertory in commemoration of their lost children. There will be a reception in the gym following Mass.

Saturday, October 25
11:30 a.m.

*Sponsored by the St. Gertrude Parish
Respect Life Ministry.*

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT

Pancake Breakfast

Enjoy pancakes, eggs, sausage, and fellowship with your St. Gertrude Parish family! (Gluten-free pancakes and dairy-free scrambled eggs available.)

Children 5 and Under	FREE
Children Grades K-8	\$5
Adult	\$10
Family	\$35



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26
8:30 A.M. – 12 P.M.
GYMNASIUM

All proceeds go to the Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids Program, an initiative that provides new winter coats for needy children.

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Elder Council #1195.





KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Coats for Kids Program

The Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids Program is a vital initiative that aims to make a significant difference in the lives of children. By providing warm winter coats to those in need, the Knights enable children to attend school, participate in after-school programs, interact with their peers, and engage in activities that are essential for their growth and development. Since the program's inception in 2009, Knights councils across the United States and Canada have distributed over one million new winter coats to children.

Once again, Knights of Columbus Elder Council #1195 is stepping up to the plate to participate in the Coats for Kids program, ensuring that children from low-income families in Catholic schools within the Cincinnati area will receive the essential gift of a winter coat.

How can you help? Come to our pancake breakfast on Sunday, October 26! All proceeds support this program!

PRIORITY ENROLLMENT FOR PARISHIONERS

Enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year opened October 1 for parishioners, with priority registration available through October 21. This is a wonderful opportunity to give your child the gift of a Dominican education, marked by academic excellence and unparalleled faith formation.

To secure your child's place, please visit stgertrudesch.org.

PARISHIONER
PRIORITY

OCTOBER 1-21



Discover The *Dominican* Difference



At St. Gertrude School, our students are formed in rigorous academics, intellectual discipline, and an unshakable commitment to truth found in the person of Jesus Christ. Standing out in high schools across the region, our graduates are distinguished by their moral clarity, academic excellence, and a profound sense of purpose. For families seeking more than a Catholic education in name alone and for those who desire true formation in wisdom and virtue, St. Gertrude School stands apart.

NOW ENROLLING
K-8TH GRADE

MASS OF HOPE FOR THE BLESSING OF CHILDREN

All married couples and their families, and friends are invited to the annual St. Gerard Mass of Hope for the Blessing of Children from 7 to 9 p.m. this Thursday, October 16 (the feast of St. Gerard, the patron saint of expectant mothers), at St. Bartholomew Church (9375 Winton Road, Cincinnati). Hosted by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, this free event provides an opportunity for prayerful support for married couples experiencing infertility or pregnancy loss. It includes Mass and a reception with fellowship, hors d'oeuvres, and resources. For more details, contact Deacon David Ulmer at dulmer@catholicaoc.org.

MEDICAL ETHICS TALK

Father Eric Wood, professor of moral theology at Mt. St. Mary's Seminary, is offering two talks with discussion, reviewing some basic principles of medical ethics and considering special areas of focus. If you are a Catholic nurse, doctor, medical student, therapist, or other healthcare worker, these talks are for you! Coffee and bagels will be provided. Please RSVP to Tricia Rahner at rahner@fuse.net or (513) 482-1265. *Sponsored by the Catholic Medical Association of Cincinnati.*

- October 18 | 9-10:30 a.m. | St. Mary's in Hyde Park, Marion Room (Focus - End of life)
- November 15 | 9-10:30 a.m. | St. Mary's in Hyde Park, Marion Room (Focus - Reproductive care)

DATE WITH FATHER NATE

All married couples are invited to an event on Saturday, October 18, to celebrate their marriages and reflect on what is truly important. Using humor and inspiration, Father Nathan Cromly will help couples make sense of the ordinary struggles they face and give them tools to renew and reenergize their marriages. Attire is Sunday best; dressy for a date. The event will take place at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Memorial Hall (4011 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, KY) and includes a 5 p.m. Vigil Mass (optional), a cocktail hour with live music, talks from Father Cromly, heavy appetizers, dessert, a marriage blessing, and dancing. Visit brushfire.com/eagleeyeministries/saint-john-leadership-network/609543 to learn more and get tickets. Reach out to Margaret Pluta with questions at margaret.pluta@saintjohninstitute.org.

HEAVEN'S GAIN MINISTRIES IS HIRING

Heaven's Gain Ministries needs a part-time supplies manager in our Cincinnati office. This is a middle management position, responsible for managing inventory and e-commerce order fulfillment. Hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday with an option to add up to five hours each on Tuesday and/or Thursday. View the job description at heavensgain.org/our-team. If interested, email our office director, Kate Hein, at kate@heavensgain.org. Heaven's Gain provides for the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of families experiencing pregnancy loss—before, during, and after the delivery of their precious babies.

BRING COMMUNION TO THOSE IN NEED

Are you an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion? Do feel called to bring the Eucharist to those in the need? Good Samaritan Hospital is looking for ministers of Holy Communion to bring Jesus to their patients. The schedule is flexible. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Kim Henry-Kuehn, Good Samaritan region volunteer coordinator, at Kim_Henry-Kuehn@TriHealth.com, (513) 862-2374, or (513) 862-2368.

ANNUAL EVENING FOR LIFE

Don't miss Cincinnati Right to Life's Annual Evening for Life on Thursday, October 16, at the Sharonville Convention Center. The VIP Social begins at 5 p.m., followed by a reception at 5:30 p.m. and dinner and the program at 6:30 p.m. The evening will feature emcee Anna Mitchell from Sacred Heart Radio/EWTN; speakers Kaya Jones, recording artist and defender of life, and Michael Seibel, attorney and co-founder of Abortion on Trial. Reservations required. More details and to register, visit CincinnatiRightToLife.org or call (513) 728-7870.

**Serenelli Project**
REBUILD • REPAIR • RESTORE

You're Invited
to the annual Serenelli Project Gala

NOVEMBER 6 2025

Join us for our annual gala, an evening of laughter and inspiration featuring **comedian Shayne Smith**, the premiere of our new mission video, and the chance to win a one-of-kind, handcrafted prayer kneeler. Event ticket includes two drink vouchers with heavy hors d'oeuvres and desserts.





Tickets \$50 per person and doors open at 6:30 pm.

Memorial Hall | 1225 Elm St, Cincinnati, OH 45202

Liturgical **SCHEDULE &** Mass **INTENTIONS**

Monday, October 13 | Weekday

7 a.m. | Mass – Kathryn Gale by Rick Sammons
8 a.m. | Mass – John C. Pachuk by The Pachuk Family
11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Deceased Members of the Dominican Order
4 p.m. | Confessions

Tuesday, October 14 | Weekday

7 a.m. | Mass – Jayden Connelly by Matt Schlotman
8 a.m. | Mass – † Owen Hughes by The Wood Family
10 a.m. | Moms & Littles Holy Hour
11:30 a.m. | Mass – † William Clark by Marian Clark
4 p.m. | Confessions

Wednesday, October 15 | St. Teresa of Jesus (M)

7 a.m. | Mass – Sister Anne Therese, O.P., by The Morande Family
8 a.m. | Mass – † Marianne Klekamp by Donald Klekamp
11:30 a.m. | Mass – Griffin & Michelle Morris by Robert & Joan Ragusa
4 p.m. | Confessions
7:30 p.m. | Holy Hour & Confessions

Thursday, October 16 | Weekday

7 a.m. | Mass – † Patricia & Norman Murdock by The Murdock Family
8 a.m. | Mass – Leo Pearson by The Morande Family
11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Robert J. McCarthy by Molly & Bruce Vollmer
4 p.m. | Confessions

Friday, October 17 | St. Ignatius of Antioch (M)

7 a.m. | Mass – Become Catholic Program by The Isaacs Family
8 a.m. | Mass – † Ted Bayer by Judy Bayer & Family
11:30 a.m. | Mass – † Stephen Nordloh by Jo Anne Nordloh
4 p.m. | Confessions

Saturday, October 18 | St. Luke the Evangelist (F)

8 a.m. | Mass – Father Luke VanBerkum, O.P.,
by St. Gertrude Parish Staff
11:30 a.m. | Mass – Octavio Flores Resendiz by Maria Resendiz
3:30 p.m. | Confessions
4:30 p.m. | Mass – The Miller & Schnelle Families by The Runk Family

Sunday, October 19 | 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8 a.m. | Mass – † Ted Leugers by Peter Bertoli
10 a.m. | Mass – The People of St. Gertrude Parish
12 p.m. | Mass – † Dino Pelle by Mike & Lynne Harris
6 p.m. | Mass – † Dot Effler by The Effler Family



PASTORAL CARE

Are you or a loved one unable to attend Mass due to illness or being homebound? As a sign of Christ's love, our parish community earnestly desires to bring comfort and healing to these individuals. **Please call the parish office at (513) 561-5954, and we will direct you to the most appropriate ministry.**

Here are ways we can help you:

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

This healing sacrament is given to those facing serious physical or mental illness, advanced age, or surgery due to one of these. When one is near death, anointing is offered as part of the Last Rites, along with the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.

Communion to the Sick or Homebound

Our priests and lay ministers are available to bring Holy Communion to individuals who are unable to attend Sunday Mass due to illness or being homebound. This important ministry is a vital sign of the parish community's love and support for all of our members.

Prayers for the Sick or Deceased

Each week, our bulletin lists the names of individuals who are sick or recently deceased so that our entire parish community may pray for them. Simply contact the parish office to add yourself or a family member to this list.

PRAYER MINISTRY FOR THE DYING

Is your loved one actively dying? Contact our Prayer Ministry for the Dying. Members of this ministry pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet for those approaching death. To request prayers for your loved one, please call Pat Collins at (513) 265-1897. If you would like to join this ministry, visit stgertrude.org/prayersforthedying to learn more.

PARISH STAFF DIRECTORY

CLERGY

Father John Paul Walker, O.P., Pastor
frjohnpaul@stgertrude.org
Father Reginald Hoefer, O.P., Parochial Vicar
frrreginald@stgertrude.org
Father Luke VanBerkum, O.P., Parochial Vicar
frluke@stgertrude.org

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Don Regan, Business Manager
businessmanager@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954, ext. 2102
Emma Golias, Admin Assistant & Safe Environment Coord.
egolias@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954, ext. 2103
Susan Kane, Parish Secretary
parishoffice@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954
Teri Forlini, Parish Secretary
parishoffice@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954

OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION & FAITH FORMATION

Tyler Castrucci, Director of Evangelization
tcastrucci@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954, ext. 2108
Michelle Dushensky, Director of Communication
mdushensky@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954, ext. 2121
Kristen Eggers, Office Coordinator
kristen@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954, ext. 2109
Walter Plummer, Director of Children & Youth Evangelization
wplummer@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954, ext. 2122
Shannon Loughrey, Coordinator of Youth Ministry
sloughrey@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954
Mary Beth Thiemann, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Coord.
mbthiemann@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954, ext. 2110
Lauren Mays, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Assistant
lmays@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954, ext. 2110

OFFICE OF STEWARDSHIP

Hope Ramundo, Director of Stewardship
hramundo@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954, ext. 2120

OFFICE OF WORSHIP

Father Luke VanBerkum, O.P., Director of Worship
Christopher Holman, Director of Music
cholman@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954, ext. 2213
Pam Chmiel, Administrative Assistant
worship@stgertrude.org | (513) 561-5954

ST. GERTRUDE SCHOOL

Travis Johnson, Principal
tjohnson@stgertrudesch.org | (513) 561-8020, ext. 1103
Sister Mariana Thayer, O.P., Vice Principal
smariana@stgertrudesch.org | (513) 561-8020
Madeline McCauley, Dir. of Marketing & Community
Engagement
community@stgertrudesch.org | (513) 561-8020, ext. 1138

ATHLETICS

Jake Dummermuth, Athletic Director
jdummermuth@stgertrudesch.org

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Bulletin: October 26
Materials Due: October 15

Please submit your bulletin information and Mass
announcements to bulletin@stgertrude.org.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Sunday, October 5, 2025	
Collection	\$50,378
Weekly Budget	\$47,059
Weekly Surplus	\$3,319
Second Collection: Respect Life	\$4,405
Fiscal Year-to-Date	
Year Ending June 30, 2026	
Fiscal YTD Actual	\$573,904
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$658,824
Fiscal YTD Deficit	(\$84,920)

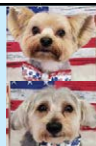


To give online, scan the QR
code or visit bit.ly/GiveToSTG.

Thank you for your generosity!



STRAWSER & STALEY
FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATION SERVICE



Meet Eli and Bennett, our two fur-children! We understand how much pets mean to people, and we are proud to offer pet death care to the area with the same dignity that we show for all we serve!

Area's Oldest Death Care Leader
StrawserFuneralHome.com
513-791-7203



St. Gertrude Parishioner
Providing Legal Counsel for
Businesses and Individuals
TAX | TRANSACTIONS | ESTATE PLANNING

Nick Eusano

Partner, DBL Law
513-357-5292
neusano@dbllaw.com



DBL Law

**CALL US FOR
FREE NURSE
Consultation!**

WE OFFER:

- Meal preparation
- Light housekeeping
- Companionship
- Laundry
- Medication and therapy reminders
- Eating/feeding
- Bathing/Dressing
- Continence/toileting
- Dementia Care
- Transferring and Ambulation

CINCINNATI

(513) 321-4444

Right at Home
22 YEARS
In Home Care & Assistance

All caregivers are highly screened, including drug testing, thorough background checks, continuous training, insured and supervised by nurses. We're here to help make care accessible. Our services are private pay, but we also honor VA benefits, long-term care insurance, and other aging benefit programs.

NORTHERN KENTUCKY

(859) 328-1647

Premier Pools & Spas
Largest pool builder in the country
In ground fiberglass...

concrete...

vinyl...

New, remodel, service

Call us for a free in-home consultation

513-416-4533



St. Columban Parishioners

**CASTRUCCI
COLLISION**



MILFORD
Body Shop Direct Call
831-5460

OPEN HOUSE
OCTOBER 26 & 27

Litwin
CUSTOM JEWELERS
(513) 621-1123 • litwins.com

KLEKAMP PAVING
Asphalt Paving
Patching
Asphalt
Sealcoating
513-561-4600
www.klekamp.com



McCord
Insurance Agency
Paul Stucker, Agent
513-746-9144
Home-Auto-Life-Business
Former Catholic Missionary

ERIC D. BENDER
Attorney at Law
Moeller (1984)
University of Notre Dame (1988)
U.C. Law (1991)
Family Law • Wills & Probate
Lawsuits • Guardianship
Adoption
(513) 891-5630
9764 Kenwood Road in Blue Ash
Visa/Mastercard Accepted

GEO. H. ROHDE & SON
Funeral Home Since 1910
STEVE ROHDE, DARRELL SCHNEIDER & BELINDA HARPER
115 Years of family service to Eastern Cincinnati & Beyond
3183 Linwood Avenue
Mt. Lookout Square
321-0404
ROHDEFUNERAL.COM

For all your real estate needs please contact me, a faithful and hard-working St. Gertrude parishioner and professional realtor.



CAROLYN TRAUTH
Realtor
SIBCYCLINE
513-706-4239
www.sibcycline.com/ctrauth

MEDICARE QUESTIONS? I HAVE ANSWERS!
Contact me for a no-obligation consultation. Never a fee for services!

Bohlen Benefits
Insurance Agency
Your Trusted Insurance Provider



SHARON BOHLEN
Your Medicare Resource
513-476-4062
SharonBohlen65@gmail.com



SCHUMACHER DUGAN
CONSTRUCTION, INC.
513-777-9800
General Contractors and Land Development Company

**TO ADVERTISE HERE,
CALL DEE PRINTING
AT 800-292-9020**

SUMMIT
FIRE & SECURITY
510 W Benson St., Cincinnati, OH 45215
Phone: 513-948-1030

SULLIVAN
FLOWER FARM
Specialty Cut Flowers
Weddings • Events
603-727-2590
Anne & Ryan Sullivan
Parishioners
www.sullivanflowerfarm.com

ROYALMONT ACADEMY
OPEN HOUSE
Nov 13 | 5:00-7:30 PM
Preschool | High School
Royalmont.org | 513-754-0555

Skyline Chili
Skyline Chili, Loveland Ohio
10640 Loveland Madeira Rd.
Bring this bulletin in to receive a
FREE Cheese Coney
With the Purchase of a (3,4,5) Way
Feeling good, it's Skyline Time!



TRANSFORMED INTERIORS
At Transformed Interiors, we don't design interiors; we create soulful spaces that support a more harmonious way of living.
513-403-2120
diana@transformedinteriordesign.com
transformedinteriordesign.com

James M. Schirmer, DDS
The Center for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
at Countryside
513-932-9991
1726 Deerfield Rd. Lebanon OH, 45036
www.schirmeroralsurgery.com

AHP Anderson Hills Plumbing
Residential – Commercial – **FREE ESTIMATES**
Over 69 Years Experience & Satisfaction
Ernie, Jack, Ralph & Barb Vilardo
6229 Beechmont Avenue **513-232-3821**

OVERBECK Auto Services
Your Automotive Expert Since 1976
Now 3 Locations!
6403 Madison, Madisonville-271-1670
1793 E Ohio Pike, Amelia-797-4888
11452 Springfield Pk, Springfield-386-7800

T&J Electric and Controls
513-368-2700
www.TJElectric.com
7441 Shawnee Run Road
Madeira, Ohio 45243

Thomas-Justin Memorial
Four Generations of Service
to the Community

7500 Montgomery Rd., Cincinnati, Ohio 45236
ThomasJustinMemorial.com
513-791-5353
Jay T. Justin and Jane M. Ludlow, Directors



Treating Your Home
Like Our Own
CALL TODAY! 513-755-ROOF
7663
10 Year Workmanship Warranty
Locally Owned & Operated
titan
SIDING AND ROOFING
7100 Sennet Place
West Chester, OH 45069
0% INTEREST
for 24 months Financing Available

Hand made **table linens**
crafted for hospitality.
BAREFOOT HOME
TABLES & TREASURES
scan to shop
Tablecloths, napkins,
runners and much more..
Here in Madeira!
barefoothomemade.com

Dial ONE Security, Inc.
(513) 527-4400 • DialOneSecurity.com
Servicing Maderia
and Indian Hill since 1979

TRADITIONS
AT CAMARGO
INDEPENDENT LIVING
ASSISTED LIVING • MEMORY CARE
7650 CAMARGO ROAD • MADEIRA, OH 45243
513-422-5499 • WWW.TRADITIONSATCAMARGO.COM

beatrice
HOME IMPROVEMENT
TIM BEATRICE
HANDYMAN
513-254-5620
timbeatrice5@yahoo.com

Dr. Frederick A. Heiselman
General • Implant
Dentistry
Parishioner
513-561-8600
7140 Miami Ave., Ste. 201
fheiselmandds.com

WCI
Woodward Construction, Inc.
Jeff Woodward,
Parishioner
513-247-9241
Celebrating 30 years in business
www.wciconstruction.com

WITTE
LANDSCAPE SPECIALISTS, INC.
Hardscape Landscape
• Walkways & Patios • Installations
• Driveways • Renovations
• Retaining Walls • Maintenance
• Drainage Systems • Snow Clearing
Quality Service for Over 35 years
396-6400
Ed Witte, Parishioner

Kitchen & Bath Remodeling
Kinsella
561-5285
7880 Camargo Rd.
kinsellakitchens.com

GILSON'S
ENGRAVING
ELEGANT GIFTS
Engraved gifts for all occasions
7116 Miami Ave.
891-0730
www.gilsonsonline.com

Gilligan
Funeral Homes
Family Owned
& Operated
ESTABLISHED 1877

MRW INSURANCE
MORRISSEY RIES WINTER
Auto, Home, Business, Health
513-984-5565
mail@mrwinsurance.com
7713 Camargo Road Cincinnati, OH 45243
www.MRWinsurance.com

MADEIRA DENTISTRY
Keith D. Jackson DDS
Laura K. Jackson DDS
7113 Miami Avenue
Madeira, OH 45243
Tel: (513) 561-5318

KANE LAW LLC
small businesses • nonprofits
Contact@Kane.Law

8225 MONTGOMERY RD
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45236
513-891-8373
PETER J. GILLIGAN, SR.

Walter St. Clair Roofing
Serving Cincinnati Since 1923
Roofing & Sheet Metal Work
Slate & Tile Repair
Box Gutters & Seamless Gutters
JERRY ST. CLAIR, PARISHIONER
641-3265

REDDEN
FINE MEATS
(513) 407-8998

Certified Arborist OH-6592A
Tree Risk Assessment Qualified (TRAQ)
Tree Care • Consultations • Diagnostics
513-675-0024 mcastator@gmail.com
Mark Castator, Parishioner

Howard Hanna
Real Estate Services
Largest Real Estate Broker in Ohio
513-335-4039
charles.borchers@gmail.com
chuckborchershomes.com

Chuck Borchers
Parishioner
REALTOR SINCE 2009

Evans Funeral Home
Traditional Funeral & Cremation Services
Funeral Pre-Planning Available
www.evansfuneralhome.com
741 Center St., Milford 1944 St. Rt. 28, Goshen
513-831-3172 513-722-3272

Pendery
CONSTRUCTION, INC.
Remodeling by professionals
Kitchens • Bathrooms
Room Additions
Screen & Covered Porches
Lower Levels & Basements
513.492.8429
7264 Columbia Rd., Ste. 600, Maineville
www.PenderyConstruction.com

CRISTINA GENUNG
REAL ESTATE
513-404-6011
Cristina@Genung.realtor

Comey & Shepherd
REALTORS
Contact me today for all your Real Estate needs!

Secure the Future
Protecting your unique and special needs loved ones with tailored financial solutions.

Kristina Markiewicz, FIC
(513) 540-0329
kmarkiewicz@blackbulcapitalpartners.com
www.blackbulcapitalpartners.com

Castellum Financial Advice
Robert L. Franer III, AAMS®
513-434-3583 (C)
robert@castellumfinancialadvice.com
castellumfinancialadvice.com
Parishioner & Founding Member
of The Catholic Financial Planners Network
Securities offered through LPL Financial, a Registered Investment Advisor, member FINRA/SIPC

LawnPhD • Donnelly Lawn Service •
Services Offered
• Mowing
• Herbicide Application
• Fertilizer Application
Madeira Resident - Contact Us Today
513-315-6648
Lawn PhD
lawnphd.donnellylawnservice@gmail.com

HALPIN PLUMBING, INC.
"WE'LL MAKE IT HALPIN"
513-631-2001

AMADA
SENIOR CARE
Services we provide:
• Non-medical home care
• Dementia care
• Companionship care
• Long-term care insurance claims management
We are experts in helping seniors use their long-term care insurance to fund home care services.

Better Hearing is Better Living
As a proud member of Saint Gertrude Catholic Parish, I'm dedicated to helping our community hear life's precious moments. Whether it's listening to Sunday Mass or chatting with loved ones, better hearing can make all the difference.
Schedule your free hearing consultation today!
513-561-4327
10615 Montgomery Rd., Suite 202 | Cincinnati
Jennifer Katafiasz, Au.D. Doctor of Audiology

Schedule your
COMPLIMENTARY long-term
care insurance policy review.
513-548 5512
www.AmadaCincinnati.com

Monika DeRoussel
Get the latest market scoop in MADEIRA Scan here!
No.1 eXp Realtor in Ohio
+20 years of experience.
513-289-1039