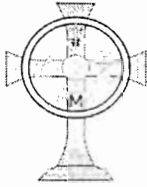


# Summit South 6 Cluster News

*Working together for our future*

## Nativity of the Lord Jesus, Queen of Heaven, St. Francis de Sales and St. Paul



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### **Your Cluster Task Management Panel**

*Fr. G.D. Bline- St. Francis*

*Fr. Dave Durkee- Queen of Heaven*

*Fr. Dave Halaiko- Nativity*

*Fr. Ralph Thomas- St. Paul*

*Dave Anthony- Q of H*

*Mike Cercell- Q of H*

*Joe Hercules-St. F*

*Dave Lawless- Nativity*

*Mike Merle-St. P*

*Joe Powell- Nativity*

*Joanne Reich-St. F*

*Dan Russo-St. F*

*Transitional Leadership:*

*Bill Bertsch- St. F,*

*Chairperson*

*Wjbbjb@sbcglobal.net*

*Carina Klockner- Q of H,*

*Communications Liaison*

*cklockner@yahoo.com*

*Summit South 6 Cluster*

*Regions of: Akron, Coventry,*

*Springfield and Green, Ohio*

### **Updates on the Clustering Process**

As you know, your Cluster Team has been working hard to determine how to put our Bishop approved Cluster plan into action. However, the Bishop directed that the Cluster Team be dissolved by June 2010 so that the active Councils of the parishes would be the ones implementing the plan. With this end in mind, we formed an alternate group, The Cluster Task Management Panel (CTMP), to carry out the tasks identified in the plan. This panel is comprised of the Chairpersons of each of the Parish

and Finance Councils along with the Pastors/Administrators from each parish (total panel of 12 persons). Transitional management assistance to the CTMP by the former Chairman and Communications Liaison of the Team is being provided to assure continuity. Please note the banner on the left for the names of the new representatives from each parish. The CTMP is extremely grateful to the original Cluster Team for the amazing hard work they did. Without their help and guidance, the CTMP would not have been able to meet deadlines and implement these plans.

The CTMP is responsible for establishing Task Forces and ultimately Sub-Committees to carry out the directed missions of the Bishop approved Cluster Plan.

### **Task Force 1 Progress Update: Pastoral Care**

Task Force 1 has comprised a Master document of all dates for the four Parishes for RCIA, Adult Confirmation, Infant Baptism, etc. This list will be shared among parishes in various ways.

Task Force 1 is also considering implementing a ministry for caring for the sick, homebound and those in nursing homes.

### **Task Force 2 Progress Update: Community Outreach and Care for the Poor**

Task Force 2 was expanded in order to respond to the Bishop's comment that "With regard to community outreach and care for the poor, I would like to see further plans developed, possibly in partnership with Parishes in adjacent clusters."

Task Force 2 has completed and is working on distributing a Cluster Community Service Booklet to create awareness and encourage participation in the greater community.

The Task Force will consider establishing sub-committees with specific direction for

these key areas with the ideas noted below:

1. Evangelization of Non-Catholics by evaluating existing programs and practices at our parishes, establishing recommendations and best practices, working to strengthen and support what works, and developing new procedures and programs
2. Service to the Poor by continuing to create awareness of existing programs/opportunities (the booklet mentioned above), promoting and monitoring participation throughout the Cluster, and evaluating and supporting new programs.
3. Support for the "Cluster to the North" by meeting with inner city Parishes/schools to gain an understanding of their mission and programs, evaluating areas of greatest need and opportunities for support, and developing programs for collaboration. The Task Force itself should evolve into a cluster standing committee for Outreach and Service to the Poor to coordinate and direct the work of the sub-committees.

### **Task Force 3 Progress Update: Re-evangelization**

The goal of revitalizing the liturgy is to be accomplished by improving the Mass ministries (Usher-greeters, music, EMHC, Lectors, servers). Some individuals from each ministry will be asked to meet as a group with a member(s) of the Task Force to ever widen the circle of Parishioners excited about the Cluster concept and to establish consistency and cooperation within our Parishes.

The project for "Neighborhood Clustering" will be in place by Lent 2010. This is a plan to have 2 people responsible for visiting 20 Parishioners 4 times per year. Mailing and e-mails are ineffective. We believe knocking on a door and seeing the face of Jesus in our fellow Catholics will give them and

us a connection. This program will take a lot of Parishioner participation!

## Cluster Success Stories

*St. Francis kicks off Catholics Returning Home*

Queen of Heaven piloted Catholics Returning Home for the Cluster. After its success, they have helped implement it at the other parishes beginning with St. Francis, which will begin their program on November 10<sup>th</sup> until December 15<sup>th</sup>, each Tuesday from 7 to 8:30pm.

*Communal Penance Services*

Instead of just one Communal Penance Service, three of the parishes will offer this chance for the Advent season:

- ❖ Sunday Dec. 13 at 7pm, QoH
- ❖ Monday Dec. 14, 7 pm, St. Francis
- ❖ Wednesday, Dec.16, 7 pm, St. Paul

*Prayer Shawl Ministry Makes*

*Headlines*

The Cluster Prayer Shawl Ministry was featured in the Akron Beacon Journal on Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>. To view the article, go to [Ohio.com](http://Ohio.com) and search "prayer shawl". This great ministry has members from all four parishes.

## Cluster News

We extend a warm congratulations to Father Schleicher who will celebrate 55 years of Ordination Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> as well as his 80 birthday on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>.

*Nativity of the Lord Jesus*

- ❖ The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** will meet on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 am and Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm as well as Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> at 10 am and Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.
- ❖ **Women's Bible Study** meets on Thursdays at 10 am to discuss the women of the Bible. Call Rosemary Frey at the parish office for more information: 699-5086.
- ❖ **Generations of Faith** will be Wednesday, Nov. 18 at 5:30 pm and Sunday, Nov. 22 at Noon. The topic is "Happy New Year...Advent". In December the only session is Sunday, Dec. 6 at Noon.
- ❖ **Thanksgiving Day Mass** is at 9:30 am.

- ❖ Enjoy our **church, Bethlehem Chapel and Nativity Museum**—a collection from around the world. Call the parish office for times around Christmas or to schedule your own guided group tour. Individuals may ALWAYS take their time to look around whenever the church is open. Contact Kathleen Conrad at 896-0565.

*Advent schedule:*

- ❖ Dec. 21 and 22- Confessions from 7:30-8:30 pm
- ❖ Weekday Masses remain at 8 am daily except Tuesday, which is at 7 pm. Tuesday and Wednesday Masses are in the Bethlehem Chapel...a great place to celebrate **Mass** during Advent!
- ❖ Christmas Masses: Christmas Eve—Children's Mass at 4:30 pm, and Midnight. Christmas Day—9 am.

*Queen of Heaven*

- ❖ Join us for our Annual **St. Nicholas Celebration**—a Silent and Oral Auction with Dinner on Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$30. Call 896-2345.
- ❖ The **Homeless Outreach Ministry Program** meets every Thursday in the PLC at 5 pm to make and pack meals. After a short prayer, the distribution team drives the meals into Akron to feed the homeless.
- ❖ Queen of Heaven is pleased to host a **Thanksgiving Day feast** from 11:30 am to 1 pm in the PLC where they will serve a full free meal to neighbors who are alone or experiencing economic adversity.
- ❖ Father Martin Connor LC will present, "**Touching Hearts in Advent**" on Monday Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> through Thursday Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> beginning at 6:30 pm each night. Each evening will include either Mass or Rosary and Benediction, a reflection, Confessions, and a social.

*Advent Schedule:*

- ❖ Tuesday, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>--Confessions from 9 to 10 am and 7-8 pm
- ❖ Wednesday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>--Confessions from 5-6 pm and 7-8 pm.
- ❖ Christmas Masses: Christmas Eve—4 pm, 8 pm, and Midnight. Christmas Day—9 am and 11 am.

*St. Francis*

- ❖ Thursday, Nov. 19 - **Special Needs Pizza Party and Bingo** from 6-7 pm.
- ❖ Enjoy an **Advent Family Night** following the 5 pm Mass on Saturday, Nov. 28.
- ❖ The **Women's Group** meets Friday, Dec. 4, from 9-11 am and 6:30-8:30 pm.
- ❖ Join our **St. Nicholas Night of Gifting**, an Advent Gathering and Social with Car Raffle on Sunday, Dec. 6 in the School Refectory.
- ❖ In the Month of December, the **Children's Choir is singing at the Weathervane Playhouse** for "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup>.

*Advent schedule:*

- ❖ Tuesday and Wednesday 22 and 23—Confessions from 7-8 pm
- ❖ Christmas Eve—Confessions from 9-10 pm
- ❖ Christmas Masses: Christmas Eve—the Children's Mass at 4 pm, 6 pm, and Midnight. Christmas Day—7:30 am, 9 am, and 11 am.

*St. Paul*

- ❖ On Friday, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, St. Paul will host internationally known **singer and songwriter, Tajci**, as she performs in concert "Emmanuel-The Story of Christmas".
- ❖ On Sunday, Nov, 22<sup>nd</sup> from Noon-8 pm and Monday, Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7 am to 7 pm, we will have a special **Eucharistic Adoration**. The Monstrance has been blessed by Pope John Paul II in Rome.
- ❖ Join The **Men's Fellowship** at 7 pm in Room 111 for our meeting of prayer and Bible study, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month. Our monthly breakfast is the third Saturday of each month at 8 am in Boeke Hall.

*Advent Schedule:*

Please contact the Rectory at 724-1263 or refer to the bulletin.

**Reminder**

.Support your Cluster! Volunteer!