

THE COMPANION



NEWS ABOUT SAINT TIMOTHY PARISH IN UNION, KY

Feb-Mar 2023

Spiritual But Not Religious *By Fr. Rick Bolte*

According to a number of surveys over the past decade and more, the fastest growing faith is the category “Spiritual but not Religious”. It means that the person believes in God, usually a Christian God, but is not affiliated with any particular religion. I’ve been told by parents in our parish that this applies to some of their children as well.

On the surface this can seem a smart choice. After all, what religion doesn’t have their embarrassing moments and their bad actors. Who wants to support a church that has sexual scandals, embezzlers, and, generally, hypocrites. Many have decided they can read the Bible for themselves and they feel closer to God by a walk in a park than going to church with all the distractions, hypocritical people, and leadership they don’t trust.

What could be wrong with a “just me and God” relationship? One reason is because we naïvely presume that our understanding of God is correct. Many of our beliefs about God were formed when we were children and we haven’t questioned them as we became adults. What adjusting of our beliefs we do have are usually adjustments to fit what choices we have made with our lives. Our God is not a God who easily challenges us to grow but easily becomes more and more a God created in our imagination.

Another reason the “just me and God” church doesn’t work is that there is nothing to hold one accountable to even spend time with God. We can get mad at God and stop talking with him. We can be going through a time in our life that doesn’t fit the Gospel message and we stay away. That relationship too often degenerates to simply asking God to do what we want just when we fear

we can’t get it ourselves. What keeps us coming back when we feel lost in sin and doubt, is that even then God loves us.

It is true that Church is messy. It always has been. Just look at how the Christian religions began. Jesus had a follower who betrayed him, one who denied he even knew him when times were tough and even tried to talk Jesus out of his mission, and two who were trying to get ahead of the rest by asking to have the top positions in Jesus’ kingdom. The earliest Christian writings we have are Paul’s letters. They are filled with entreaties for the newly formed churches to reform their behavior. It has been said that the Church is “not a museum for saints but a hospital for sinners.” The Church is a place, not for those who think they already know what they need to know and are already doing what they think God wants, but for those who know they are sinners and need the help of God and one another.

Jesus tells us, “where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in the midst of them.” Even in our imperfections, we can help one another. We can encourage each other when we are feeling lost or in trouble. We can witness to God’s power by showing what God has done for us when we were lost. The needs of those around us call forth the love, compassion, and generosity that helps us know who God really is. Love is messy. You don’t know the love of God by a general attitude of “I love everybody.” The messy Church calls us out of our comfortable smugness of believing “if only everyone was like me.” To learn to love the imperfect, the sinner, the unapprecia-

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tive, and even our enemy is what God calls us to be about in this messy Church and in this messy world.

To be part of a Church of human beings is to be part of a broken, messy group who are trying to follow God. Church challenges us to grow, to hear the whole Gospel message, and to try to live it out in the real world. Our messy church gives us the freedom to

recognize our sin, limits, and imperfections. We can be free of the pride where we pretend to have it all together.

Church is that place where we try to encourage and help one another. It is that place where we learn to love without expecting to get something back. And we do it in a broken, imperfect, and messy way that is the real human Church united only in God.

Stewardship of Treasure	
January 2023	
COLLECTIONS:	\$126,818.98
5% TITHE:	\$6,340.95
City Heights	\$500.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$500.00
Diocesan Collection - Opportunities for Life	\$5,340.95
February 2023	
COLLECTIONS:	\$85,703.41
4% TITHE:	\$3,428.14
City Heights	\$500.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$500.00
Grant Recipient: (Max \$3,000)	
PIN Ministry	\$2,428.14
\$\$ to 1% Tithe	\$0.00
1% TITHE	\$857.03
\$\$ from 4% Tithe	\$0.00
Total to STYM/Outreach:	\$857.03
STYM	\$471.37
Outreach	\$385.67

Dear Church *family*,
It's time for a New Directory!

Parishioner Online Scheduling NOW Available Weekdays & Weekends!

Universal Church Directories will be at St. Timothy for photo sessions the following 3 weeks in April 2023:

April 12-15 in Parish Center Building
 April 19-22 in Brodnick Hall
 April 26-29 in Brodnick Hall, Sat (Parish Center)

Wed - Fri 2:00 - 8:30 pm Sat 10:30 am - 4:00 pm

Our Parish Family

New Families

- John and Mamie Adombe Mbuwa
- Justin and Danielle Butler
- Chris and Renee Fischesser
- Kyle and Jessica Johnson
- Patricia Kelley
- Tim and Cathy Kreimer
- Jordan and Meghan Leport
- Angela Marshall
- Alex and Kaitlin Martin
- Kyle and Courtney Molitor
- Tom and Lauren Shriner
- Hai and Tiet Tran
- Valentin and Susan Urraco
- Todd and Amanda Vokas
- Robert and Kimberly Wilcher
- Joseph and Kelly Wuellner

Weddings

- Maria Franxman and Joseph Hayes

Baptisms

- Ivy Rose Barnhorst
- James William Bell
- Luke Jacob Bell
- Mary June Ann Benvie
- Hazel Ogden Clutsam
- Braylen Scott Connor
- Lydia Joyce Ernst
- Heidi Claire Jansen
- Wren Layne Lendenski
- Brynn Elise McCarty
- Millie Shannon O'Gwynn

Deceased

- Kim Bunger
- Diane Culyer
- Harold Jetter
- Pat Lense
- James Meihaus
- Marian Sholar
- Mary Willenborg
- Michael Wills

SVDP Annual Report



Because of your generosity, St. Vincent de Paul makes a significant contribution to the lives of our neighbors who are in distress. St. Augustine wrote about the idea of “loving thy neighbor:”

“What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like.”

Even here at St. Tim’s, a relatively well-to-do parish, most of us have experienced financial challenges during our lifetimes. So, we understand what it means to struggle to buy essentials. For most of us this condition was temporary. **Yet almost 12 percent of Americans live in spirit-crushing poverty.**

Despite a very difficult economy, the parishioners of St. Tim’s have been truly generous in support of our ministry. Because of your contributions to the food drives run by our partners (the Knights of Columbus and Boy Scouts) and your generous financial support, we have been able to assist many of our neighbors through difficult times.

This past year, **603 families (1644 individuals)** requested our help.

We were able to provide food, clothing, household items, furniture, Remke and Kroger vouchers, gas gift cards, bus passes, Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners and gifts. The total value more than **\$83,000**.

Moreover, our parish Vincentians offered more than **2,220 hours** and nearly **7,000 miles** in the service of the poor and needy families.

Other volunteers donated countless hours to:

- stocking shelves
- driving to get food for the pantry
- Preparing Christmas presents
- Distributing Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners.

We can only do all we do because of your continued support.

“It is more blessed to give than to receive.” Acts 20:35

The Diocesan SVDP Council provides tremendous support directly to our parish Conference and neighbors. The four SVDP stores offer lightly used clothing, furniture, and other necessary items at low or no cost.

With almost **97,000** members in more than **4,400** parishes across the United States, the National Council of St. Vincent de Paul provides Vincentians with resources to assist millions of people who need assistance:

Home Visits	273,107
Prison Visits	5,085
Hospital Visits	5,131
Eldercare Visits	33,419
Other Visits*	1,268,029

Vincentians in the United States serve more than **5 million people** annually. National expenditures are nearly **\$500 million**. Worldwide, the Society has **800,000** members in over **150** countries.

“I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger, and you took me into your home.” Matthew 25:35

Our primary purpose is more than simply providing goods and services. Our mission is to grow in spirituality and love, seeing the face of God in those we serve by visiting, listening, and caring.

If you are interested in becoming a Vincentian, or learning more about what we do, please contact **Debbie Curtin, 513-532-6958**.

Thank you for your generosity and support.



Outreach

By Pat Seuberling, Outreach Ministry

PIN Ministry Service Project

After a 2-week collection for blessing bag items, we held a sort and pack evening on Tuesday, March 14. With the help of several parishioners, the Outreach committee and the AHG Troops we were able to pack 110 complete bags into backpacks for those experiencing food and home insecurity for PIN Ministry. The additional donated backpacks and supplies went to Rose Garden Mission, Be Concerned and a few were saved for our Mission trip in June. Thank you to everyone who participated in this service project.

You all are ROCKSTARS!!!!



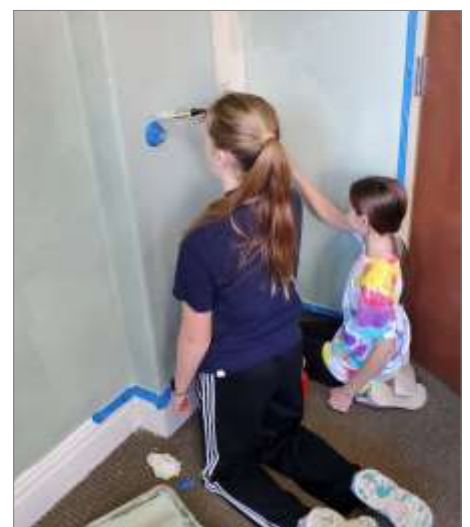
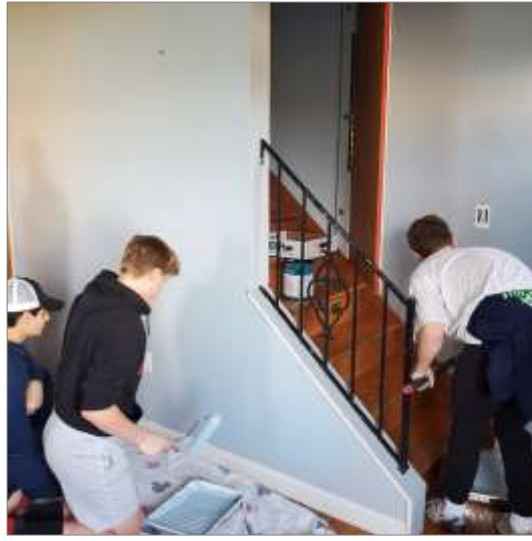
Thank you
volunteers!



DCCH Service Project

On January 28, we gathered at DCCH to paint several rooms in one building and several more rooms in another outbuilding. Thank you to the Villa Madonna Baseball Team and Coach Jim Kahmann for taking on the outbuilding painting job. The house was rocking with music and high spirits as the boys completed a great job. Also thank you to the families and parishioners who helped to paint in the main building. The staff and residents were thrilled with the completed results. After several hours and a lunch of pizza, we were able to clean up and head back to St. Tim's.

Thank you everyone!!!!





THE COMPANION



Dear Lord, through the intercession of St. John Paul II, we ask that you come to the aid of our youth. Through the many distractions and confusing messages present in our world, please help the young people hear your voice. May they grow ever closer to you!

St John Paul II., friend of youth, pray for us.

St. Timothy YOUTH MINISTRY

PSR Registration for the 2023-2024 School Year is Open

By Carol Lense, Director of Religious Education

Registration forms can be found on the St. Timothy Webpage, as well as in the Parish office. Please register early so we can be sure to reserve rooms accordingly. Thanks.

We are always looking to add volunteers to our program, maybe this is the year that it works for you to share your faith with the children of our Parish. Please contact Carol Lense at clense@saint-timothy.org or 859-384-1100 ext. 1509 to see what great options are available.

Sacrament Preparation Programs

First Reconciliation & Communion

- * Students in public schools preparing for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion must have a year of religious education prior to the year the sacraments are received. So, students must attend in 1st grade to receive the Sacraments in 2nd grade.
- * Catholic school and Catholic Home School students must register in the PSR program for their 2nd grade year so they can attend the retreats and sacrament celebrations.

Confirmation

- * Students in public schools must attend PSR through their 7th grade year and complete the required service hours and participate in the Mass activities.
- * Confirmation happens in the 8th grade year. This is a busy year with a group service project, Sponsor activities and retreat. PSR students continue to attend classes. Catholic Home School and Catholic School students attend the extra events, and all students sign in for Mass and complete independent service hours.

Continuing Education Classes - 3rd through 6th grade

- * Between the Sacrament years our religious education program strengthens our students' faith knowledge focusing on the Mass, Ten Commandments, Sacraments and the Covenants. These are great years to include your children in so they are ready in their 7th grade year to begin an in-depth look at Jesus' life, and prepare to confirm their faith.

Save the Date!!! Don't miss out!

St. Timothy Vacation Bible School 2023



Monday June 5th – Friday June 9th

Children of all ages should join in the fun at Vacation Bible School!

Watch for registration forms in the bulletin or pick one up in the Parish Office.

Congratulations Confirmation Class of 2023

By Carol Lense, Director of Religious Education

On February 7th Bishop Foys joined us for the Confirmation of our 75 students. It was a wonderful celebration, concluding a busy faith filled year. In their Service Learning project our students raised \$5,000.00 for our Outreach Agencies. It was a great year combining our Christmas Giving Fair with online giving through Give Smart.

Confirmation is not the end but just the beginning of adult life in Christ and the church.

A special thank you to the St. Timothy Choir and Director, Andrew Mason, PSR Catechists and Catholic school teachers, the ministers in the service of the Mass and our decorating committee for sharing their time and talent to make this year's Confirmation Mass a beautiful and meaningful celebration.



Youth Group Updates

By Kristen Meiser, Director of Youth Ministry

St. Timothy YOUTH MINISTRY

Our group has grown since we invited 5th graders to join our Middle School Youth Group and our 8th graders moved up to the High School Youth Group.



Through games and conversation, we discussed the importance of our Church family, explored the opportunities for growth during Lent, and investigated the different parts of the Mass.

St. Timothy YOUTH MINISTRY

Our Middle Schoolers had a blast during our Defy trip in February. Outings like this are incredible opportunities to foster friendships and grow closer as a group.

I look forward to more trips like this in the future!



Speaking of the future, we have several exciting upcoming events!

- On April 7 (Good Friday), pray the Stations of the Cross during the Youth Group Passion Play at 7 PM. This is a powerful way to experience the sacrifice of Christ.
- On April 10, take a family day to the bowling alley AND support the members of our youth group who are fundraising for Mission Trip and NCYC this year. Find a member of our youth group at Strike & Spare from 4-9 PM and we will receive a portion of the sales.



Mission Trip

2023

This summer, our parish is sending a group of volunteers to Morganton, NC.

JUNE 11-17

We will be staying at a school for the deaf to assist with the needs of the school and the community. Projects typically consist of restoring residential homes, assisting food banks, and working in children's centers.

Space is limited, so register ASAP

- \$150 deposit due with registration.
- Must be entering 8th grade or older
- Fundraising opportunities available

More information

Contact Kristen (Teens): kmeiser@saint-timothy.org

Contact Pat (chaperones): pseuberling@saint-timothy.org

ST. TIMOTHY 2023 BUNNYFEST

Saturday APRIL 8TH 9-11am in Brodnick Hall

- \$7 per person (no charge for children 2 years old and under)
- You can register and pay in two ways:
 1. Register online (<https://Bunnyfest.givesmart.com>) and pay with a credit card.
 2. Turn in the registration form below (with cash or check) at the Parish Office or drop in the collection basket.
- Registration deadline is April 3rd but registration may close earlier if we reach capacity.



ST. TIMOTHY APRIL 8TH BUNNYFEST TURN-IN REGISTRATION FORM

Include cash or check and turn in at Parish Center or in collection basket

FAMILY NAME _____ EMAIL _____

OF KIDS 3 YRS & OLDER (\$7 EACH) _____ # ADULTS (\$7 EACH) _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

View From the Pew *By Mary Jo Rehtin*

By the time you are reading this, Lent will be almost over and we will be approaching Holy Week. I encourage you to take part in the Holy Week services on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. They are some of the most meaningful services of the Church year.

During this week, we are reminded of the Paschal Mystery-The suffering, death and Resurrection of Jesus. We should also be mindful of the Paschal Mystery in our own lives. We often experience suffering, dying and rising. For example, you might experience the pain of moving from one location to another, leaving friends behind only to make new friends and establish new connections in your new community. Same thing can happen when you switch jobs. There are lots of examples if you think about it.

In 2015, I was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. I am currently taking treatment for my 4th recurrence. I have experienced losing my hair, twice. Although my hair was never what I would call spectacular, it was still quite a loss when it fell out. I was used to being a busy person, volunteering for every thing, serving others as best I could. Chemotherapy has put a stop to a lot of that. It was difficult going from the one who helped everyone to being the one who needed help.

I have learned many things on this journey. Hopefully some of

these things will help you as well. I now keep a gratitude journal. Almost every morning, I reflect on the previous day and jot down a few things for which I am grateful. I do this during my Morning Prayer time and often write down Scripture passages or other inspirational sayings that I read. This prayer time is a gift I have received from my cancer. I was always an early riser, bouncing out of bed ready to get going on my day. Morning prayer often suffered as a consequence.

So many people have sent me cards, texts, words of encouragement and offers of help that I realized how uplifted I was by these messages. I have become a card sender and I fully intend to be a helper again when this is over. Go to the Dollar Store. They have lovely cards for fifty cents or a dollar. Send one to someone who needs a little support.

I have learned how much I need to be in church and be supported by my St. Tim's Community. Every time I am at church, someone stops me to say they are praying for me. What a gift! I also offer to pray for others. I have a long list of people I pray for each day. Prayer is a powerful thing. You can join the prayer team at church and receive current prayer requests from the parish.

During this Easter season, I ask you to be aware of the Paschal Mystery in your life and be grateful, be prayerful and reach out to others.



Community
THE COMPANION



The St. Timothy
Knights of Columbus
Are Looking for You!

Looking for a way to give back to your
Parish and Community?

JOIN THE KNIGHTS TODAY!

The Knights are open to
any Catholic Man over 18

For membership information visit
www.kofc-st-timothy.org or contact
TJ Mueller - tjmueller17@gmail.com



St. Timothy Men's Group

The St. Timothy Men's Group meets in Brodnick Hall on the **2nd and 4th Saturday of each month** following the 7 am morning Mass.



To receive the email with the meeting details, contact:
Greg Egbers at gegbers@fuse.net or 859-240-6679.



ST. TIMOTHY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

LIVING, LEARNING & SERVING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

PRESCHOOL



HOW TO APPLY:

Complete Registration Form

Pay the Non-Refundable
Registration Fee (\$130)

A supply fee of \$150 is due
in August. *

*Supply fees cover all supplies
including art, academic, gross
motor skills, and sensory
activities for students.



THREE YEAR OLD PROGRAM

- Meets Three Days Per Week (M/T/TH or M/W/F) 8:30am-11:30am
- \$235/Month
- Must be 3 years old by August 1st

FOUR YEAR OLD PROGRAM

- Meets five days per week (M-F)
8:30 am - 11:30 am
- \$300/Month
- Must be 4 years old by August 1st

KINDERGARTEN READINESS PROGRAM

- Meets five days per week (M-F)
8:30 am - 11:30 am
- \$300/Month
- Must be 4 years old by June 1st
- The Kindergarten Readiness Program (KRP) is designed for students who do not make the birthday cutoff date for kindergarten, or for students who would benefit from another year of preschool due to maturity or academic progress. It is not meant to replace the four-year-old program.

ADDITIONAL ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Early Morning Drop-Off

- Drop-off at 7 am
- \$10 per day
- 1 hour of playtime before class

Enrichment Hours

- 11:30 am-2:00 pm on student's scheduled days
- Lunch and a variety of lessons in Art, STEM, Reading, Social Skills, and more

Aftercare

- Available for students in Enrichment Hours ONLY
- 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
- \$10 per hour

St. Timothy Thunder: Storm Watch

We are blessed to have a parish school that provides quality education, assists the needs of our local community, and supports our Church. Here are some of our recent accomplishments and events.

Catholic Schools Week



On Sunday, January 29th you may have noticed some purple, black, and white uniforms in our Church! We kicked off National Catholic Schools Week by encouraging our students to wear their school uniforms to Mass. We want our parish family to know the faces of the students they are supporting AND to see how involved we are. From altar servers to choir members and AHG to scouts, our students are easy to spot around the parish.

During Catholic Schools Week we also celebrated our community by bringing cards to some important services and organizations in Boone County including Boonespring Nursing Home, Union Fire Department, Boone County Bus Garage, Boone County Sheriff's Department, Florence Police Department, Boone County Emergency Management Department, Boone County Animal shelter, and the diocese Catholic Schools Department.

We celebrated our country with a patriotic rosary, celebrated vocations with classroom visits from our pastor, and celebrated our students and staff with a spirit day and games.

Catholic education is so important in forming the minds, bodies, and souls of the future of the Church. If you want to learn more about our school, you can visit saint-timothy-school.org.

Sports



St. Timothy's basketball program closed out the 2022/23 season with multiple teams going to the final weekend in their league tournaments, and one going all the way to be champions.

Jaxton Lux, 3rd Grade (pictured above) was selected by referees and those involved in the league to join the All-Tournament team. Being selected for this team is an honor. Jaxton was selected due to his outstanding play in the tournament and his sportsmanship.

The 2nd grade boys' team won the MQH league championship and we had a couple of others that played in the finals of their respective league tournaments.

This season we had a record 18 teams representing first to sixth grade with multiple teams at each level. We have a very strong foundation with multiple teams at each level of the younger grades which is very exciting as we continue to grow as a school and look forward to utilizing the gym for practices and hopefully at some point in the future, a league.

Little Flour Competition

Little Flour Baked Goods hosted a contest to see which school in the Diocese of Covington has the most school spirit. Our fabulous art teacher, Mrs. Kramer, entered St. Timothy into the contest and our school won! Students were treated to free cookies the following week.



Read Across America and our Scholastic Book Fair

Students celebrated reading in early March with Read Across America Week, celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday, and our Scholastic Book Fair!





ST. TIMOTHY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

IS PLEASED TO PRESENT

Annie JR.

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OUR SCHOOL'S FIRST SHOW WITH
LIVE MUSIC

Dates

tickets available soon

Friday, March 31

Saturday, April 1

Time

7 PM (both nights)

Location

Saint Henry
District High School

CONCESSIONS AND FANGRAMS WILL BE AVAILABLE.



St. Timothy Parish

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www.saint-timothy.org



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Holy Thursday - April 6

7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper



Good Friday - April 7

1:00 pm Liturgy of our Lord's Passion

Confessions to follow

7:00 pm Passion Play - presented by Youth Ministry



Holy Saturday - April 8

9-11 am Bunnyfest & Egg Hunt

8:30 pm Easter Vigil Mass

HOLY WEEK

Easter Sunday - April 9

Masses 8 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am