

THE COMPANION



NEWS ABOUT SAINT TIMOTHY PARISH IN UNION, KY

June-July 2023

40 Years a Priest: What have I Learned? *By Fr. Rick Bolte*

I think one of the biggest things I have had to learn as a priest is that we rational beings do not really behave rationally even most of the time. When I was first ordained, I thought I and most everyone acted rationally. Our faith journey was about learning what was really true and challenging ourselves to live according to that truth.

It wasn't long before I realized that didn't work. Not only was I not living according to what was rational, others did not either. We could all agree that something was right but that didn't mean we lived that way. At first it seemed we just didn't try hard enough. Eventually I had to accept that it was more than that.

I came to realize, through the school of hard knocks, that I could fool myself. In my mind I could tell myself that what I was doing was good for me and others involved. It was a difficult realization to recognize that there were irrational motivations that not only affected my behavior but also distorted my thinking and led me to rationalize behavior that was harmful to all involved.

In trying to live rationally, it is easy to dismiss the effects of our emotional life. We like to think we can control our emotions with our willpower and we can make ourselves the person we want to be. And with distorted rationalizing, we can convince ourselves that we are succeeding in that effort. It usually takes others; best friends, authorities, or even enemies to make that clear that it is not working.

I eventually came to realize that ignoring the emotional side of my life was not

working. Our emotional side is built up starting from the earliest days of our lives. We're affected by not just what happens to us in life but also how we perceive it. It's easy when we examine our emotional selves to recall past hurts and to blame others. Parents are often the easiest target. No parent is perfect and too often pass on to their children their own emotional past.

Perhaps the biggest trap here is for us to get stuck in the blame game and play the victim. We can point out the faults of others and feel sorry for ourselves. That just about guarantees we will not find healing for ourselves and that we'll pass our hurts on to others, like our children. Acknowledging our emotional woundedness has to move beyond victimhood to healing.

To say God is essential in this process is an understatement. Recognizing God as other than ourselves, knowing that the moral order in not just what we can justify in our own minds is critical for both our awareness of our brokenness and for our seeking healing. To find healing requires facing the dark places of our lives, those memories we'd just as soon forget, and encountering in our hearts the pain we tried to push away. God is often our only lifeline as we plumb these depths. As we move deeper into our awareness of our sin and the ways we have hurt others and ourselves, we cling to God who assures us we are both forgiven and still beloved.

Sin is often described as missing the

Continued on next page



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Stewardship of Treasure

May 2023

COLLECTIONS:	\$103,904.73
4% TITHE:	\$4,156.19
City Heights	\$500.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$500.00
Grant Recipient: (Max \$3,000)	
Welcome House	\$3,156.19
\$\$ to 1% Tithe	\$156.19
1% TITHE	\$1,039.05
\$\$ from 4% Tithe	\$156.19
Total to STYM/Outreach:	\$1,195.24
STYM	\$657.38
Outreach	\$537.86

June 2023

COLLECTIONS:	\$82,449.12
5% TITHE:	\$4,122.46
City Heights	\$500.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$500.00
Diocesan Collection -	
Peter's Pence	\$3,122.46

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mark; to pursue something of limited value as if it were our greatest value. When we hurt, we need to find a way to feel better. When the loving care we need isn't there, we find substitutes. We can end up making idols of most anything that makes us feel good, successful, popular, powerful, etc. All these false idols are limited substitutes for what our hearts really desire. When we hurt, we need the healing power of love. When small children stub their toe, they come crying to mom or dad. With a bit of care and a kiss, all is better and the child goes back to playing.

With bigger hurts, that loving care isn't always available. Human beings,

being limited, always let us down in some ways. Only God has the love that is truly unconditional. It is the power of God, His love and forgiveness, that can bring us healing. Only with the confidence that we are loved as we are do we dare to face the roots of our sin. Only with the lifeline that assures us we are loved do we face the darkest recesses of our inner lives. Only discovering that we are beloved can we let go of the false idols and come to the life and joy God wants us to enjoy eternally. It is neither our rationality or willpower that sets us free; It is the power of God who is love who takes away our sins.

Our Parish Family

New Families

Robert and Stacey Caldwell
 Chad and Annalise Calo
 Janith Duffy
 Charles and Linda Eilers
 Conner and Olivia Hempel
 Carolyn Huffman
 Daniel and Nicole Lacasse
 Meena Mahabir
 Wilhelmina Mahabir
 Joshua and Lisa McIntyre
 James and Mindy Naugle
 Michael and Diane Olding
 Diego and Catalina Ricon
 Amalia Sanchez and Misael Aguilar
 Brian and Christine Smith
 William and Sara Torbeck

Weddings

Traci Daugherty & James Laskodi
 Michael & Diane Olding
 Kenneth & Sarah Prudhomme

Baptisms

Ivy Rose Ballman
 Abigail Marie Gosselin
 Anthony James Heinrichs
 Hayes Mitchell Howard
 Myles Andrew Johnson
 Brooks William Reimer
 Preston Lawrence Showalter
 Liam LeRoy Shriner
 Olivia Quinn Shriner
 Noah Lee Smoes
 Andersyn Mae Steinhauser
 Brooklyn Kate Steinhauser
 Reese Marie Torbeck

Deceased

Darlene Faig
 Doris Flesch
 Kenneth Frohlich
 Jeff Hatter
 Sharon Koenig
 Kenneth Vaske

Meet Our New Parochial Vicar



Hello, everyone! My name is **Fr. Michael Elmlinger**, and I am the new parochial vicar for Fr. Rick Bolte at St. Timothy Parish! A little about me: I am 24 years old and am the third of five children in my family. My parents names are Polly and Steve Elmlinger.

I grew up in Florence for about thirteen years and have lived in Union (on Hempsteade Drive) for the last ten years. My home parish is St. Paul Parish in Florence, which is also where I went to school from kindergarten to sixth grade. After sixth grade, I went to Covington Latin School, where I graduated in 2016.

I felt the call to the priesthood at a very young age, so after a lot of prayer and discernment, I entered seminary right out of high school and began my studies at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, OH. I spent my first three years of seminary at the Josephinum, and then afterwards I spent my last

four years of seminary at St. Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, PA. By the grace of God,

I was ordained to the priesthood on June 2, 2023 by Bishop John Iffert and am now beginning my first assignment here at St. Timothy. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to be here with all of you, and I am greatly looking forward to walking on this journey of faith together. Please pray for me as I begin my priestly ministry, and I promise to pray for all of you. God bless all of you!

View From the Pew

By Mary Jo Rechten



I have an 88 year old brother-in-law who, though physically frail, has a mind as sharp as a tack. When we are together, he loves to remember things from the past and always insists that I should remember those same things. Most of the time I don't remember. I am beginning to feel the same way about my life at St. Tim's. When I mention things that happened early on in the parish, many of our current parishioners don't remember because they weren't here. Please indulge me as I reflect on some past times at St. Tim's.

Our parish was founded in 1989, with Fr. Ed Brodnick as our first pastor. It was an exciting time for us. Early on, Saturday night Mass was held at Union Presbyterian Church and Sunday Masses were held at Camp Ernst. In 1990, we had our first Mass in the Parish Center

Building, which served as our church for 8 years. Fr. Brodnick was a motorcycle riding, fun loving, kind and gentle leader, getting us off on the right track, helping us form a parish community. Fr. Ed is retiring this year and we wish him well.

In 2001, Fr. Mark Witte became our pastor. He brought with him a fresh perspective and had several contributions to our parish life that we still do today. He helped us form our commitment to Outreach and started our Octoberfest celebrations for the parish in the lower parking lot. Octoberfest has come a long way since then. He also established our motto "Stir into flame the gift of God" which is a quote from St. Paul's 2nd letter to Timothy.

In 2005, we had a short time with Pastoral Administrators, Fr. David Gamm and Fr. Al Ruschman.

Fr. Al recently celebrated his 70th anniversary as a priest. His lasting legacy is the Garden of Gratitude, grown by parishioners to help provide fresh produce for people in need.

In September, 2005, Fr. Rick Bolte became our pastor. Under Fr. Rick's leadership we have fine tuned many of the ideas proposed by our previous pastors and expanded our horizons, most notably in the building of our school. Early on, I spent a brief time teaching at St. Tim's and it warmed my heart to see Fr. Rick greeting the students every morning. His commitment to education has been a real gift to the parish.

Each of these men have left his mark on this parish and we thank them for all they have done. Perhaps we should think about how we, too can leave our mark.



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.



Filled with out of this world Snacks!



Crafts that were a blast!



Fun songs of Praise and Worship



Amazing Stories of Jesus



Outdoor games



Space Exploration!



Great teams of kids led by outstanding leaders!





St. TIMOTHY YOUTH MINISTRY

Our Summer started strong with an incredible Mission Trip in Morganton, NC. We cannot thank our fellow parishioners enough for the prayers and financial support you provided. You made this trip possible.

As Clara Howard said, *"This mission trip was an amazing experience! We got to help a lot of people and show God's love through our service. I feel that the trip really brought our Youth Group together and we became closer to God and to each other. Thank you to everyone who supported us through your donations and prayers!"*

So, what did we do during our week in North Carolina?

Each morning we woke up (or were woken up) by 6:15 for a quick breakfast. We celebrated Mass and were given information about the day. And then we were off to our worksites, generally arriving around 8:30 AM.

Most of our group was sent to work at a school, where they pulled weeds, removed old paint, painted railings, cleaned buses, and laid mulch.



The rest of our group was sent to different worksites. Including helping a single mother replace her deck, working in a food pantry, assisting elderly members of the community with home projects, completing projects on a small, family farm, doing yard work in various places, and more. Wherever we went, we brought the love of Christ to the residents and agencies we served.



At lunch, each day, we paused to pray together and discuss some reflection questions that kept us mindful of how God was working in our lives during the week. Then we were back to work until 3:30.

When we returned to campus there was time to shower, eat dinner, and catch up with the other work groups. And then the evening was spent with high-energy programs that you would often find on a retreat. Dynamic speakers shared the theme of the week, that we are Made for More. Teambuilding activities had the whole room laughing. And we concluded most nights with an opportunity to encounter God in adoration, reconciliation, and/or prayer.



A few nights were followed up with small group discussions, where we discussed our day and how we could bring this energy, love, and service back home.

This was an unforgettable week and we are so grateful to you, our fellow parishioners, for making it possible. You can find more highlights on our Youth Group Instagram: @SaintTimYouthMin



St. Timothy Scout Troops 702 + 1702
Family Kayak and Canoe Trip
Saturday July 22nd at Thaxton's Canoe Trail



St. Timothy's 21st Annual Golf Tournament



Boone Links Golf Course

Saturday, August 19, 2023 - 1:30

Format Four Person Scramble - Registration Begins at 12:30

AWARDS 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Prizes
Hole-In-One Prize - Set of Calloway Irons
Putting Contest

ADD ONS Long Drive & Closest to the Pin
Skins, Pot-Of-Gold, Split the Pot & More

COST \$110 for Single Player or \$400/Foursome

HOLE SPONSOR \$125 (other sponsorships available - contact TJ Mueller)



*Sponsored by the St. Timothy
Knights of Columbus*



Steak Dinner after tourney and complimentary drink tickets!

Registration: Clip & Mail to T.J. Mueller (address below) or online at www.sttimothygolfouting.com

CAPTAIN: _____ TEAM MEMBER 1: _____

ADDRESS: _____ TEAM MEMBER 2: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ TEAM MEMBER 3: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Make Checks Payable to: St. Timothy Knights of Columbus

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Net proceeds benefit the ongoing charitable activities of the St. Timothy Knights of Columbus. At least 25% will be used to fund our donations to St. Timothy Catholic School



St. Timothy Knights of Columbus

C/O T.J. Mueller

7926 Driftwood Dr.

Florence, KY 41042

513-477-1931 tjmueller17@gmail.com



Service

THE COMPANION



Volunteers Helping package the Fathers Day gifts



Some of our wonderful volunteers who passed out the packages to Dads on Father's Day!



Father Ruschman's Garden Days!



In June we harvested 149 lbs. Beets, 60 lbs. Broccoli, 123 lbs. Cabbage, 369 lbs. Collard Greens, 91 lbs. Kale, 156 lbs. Lettuce, 107 lbs. Onions, 36 lbs. Red Potatoes, 5 lbs. Turnips. That totals **1096 lbs. of vegetables** we have given to Rose Garden Missions, Union Presbyterian Church Abraham's Pantry and Be Concerned. July has been busy, too. As of July 13th, we have harvested 124 lbs. Beets, 388 lbs. Cabbage, 29 lbs. Cucumbers, 100 lbs. Green Beans, 125 lbs. Onions, 316 lbs. Red Potatoes, 107 lbs. Zucchini, 120 lbs. Kale. We average 12-14 volunteers each Monday and Thursday. Our Gardeners range in age from 3 years old to 85 years old. Come join us, we could use the help!

Outreach Service Projects!



Fire pit Spruce Up

Thank you to Mark Brown, Gina Brown, Evelyn Brown, Tom Rottinghaus and Phil Seuberling for helping me to finish spreading the gravel and pulling weeds. Thank you to Ben Terlau for the gravel donation. This is a great place to hold a meeting, meet with friends and enjoy a fire. We could still use more mulch. I would gladly accept any amount of dark shredded mulch for our fire pit.



K of C Drive-Up Food Drive

St. Timothy Knights of Columbus sponsored a food drive to support St. Vincent de Paul Pantry and your donations helped them to reach the 10,000 lbs. goal to be able to purchase coats for Children at Christmas. Thank you!!!



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

Patriotic Rosary

Members of our parish gather every Tuesday evening at 6:30, rain or shine, to pray the Patriotic Rosary. The Patriotic Rosary was written by a member of Caritas Community, Alabama. It dedicates one Hail Mary in the traditional Catholic Rosary to each state of the United States and asks God's protection of and guidance for the nation. All are welcomed, come join us!



Rosary Group Says Goodbye to Fr. Sam

The Rosary Group met to say goodbye to Fr. Sam Owasu and share cake and ice cream. We wish you well as you move to Mary, Queen of Heaven. Thank you for always coming to say the rosary with us!



No Time to Volunteer? SVDP wants YOU!!

By Mike Vogt



The **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** is noted for the work of volunteers who directly provide food, help with utility bills, clothing, beds, and other assistance to our needy neighbors.

But... many of us work full-time or have days full of caring for kids or other relatives.

The good news is that even if you can't volunteer for home visits or to help in the pantry, there is still plenty you can do in the time you have. So here are a few suggestions...

Contribute to the PARISH PANTRY

There are, of course, several food drives throughout the year, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. But you can contribute any time by leaving food in the blue barrel in the gathering space. Possible items to contribute...

- Hamburger/Tuna helper
- Cereal
- Canned vegetables
- Soups/Hearty/Ravioli
- Canned chicken or tuna
- Canned beans
- Peanut butter
- Canned fruit
- Jar or can of pasta sauce
- Applesauce
- Jelly
- Beef, stew/chili
- Mac & cheese boxes
- Liquid detergent
- Toilet paper

Buy from the SVDP Store

Our SVDP stores sell things *cheap* in order to finance our operations and donations. If you don't absolutely need something brand spanking new (perhaps an overstuffed chair for your "man cave" or an almost like-new table for the "she shed") the SVDP store may be for you! There are two stores near us:

Erlanger: 2655 Crescent Springs Road **Florence: 7110 Turfway Rd.**

Contribute to the SVDP Store

- As you look through your closets, there are probably lots of good quality clothing – for adults and children (and maybe some work boots) - that you don't use anymore. There's a better use for them at the SVDP Store.
- In your kitchen, there are probably plates, glasses, pots and pans, and utensils that are no longer needed, but are serviceable. There's a better use for them at the Saint Vincent de Paul Store.
- In your basement or attic, you probably have some furniture that you no longer need: beds, tables and chairs, and games. There's a better use for them at the Saint Vincent de Paul Store.
- In your garage or basement, there may be tools that are in still decent condition. (Do you really need that pole saw you bought 3 years ago for that giant maple tree that was knocked down in that windstorm 5 years ago?) There's a better use for them at the Saint Vincent de Paul Store.

Don't forget, there is a St. Vincent de Paul contributions container in the Church parking lot near the Rectory. (I saw SVDP truck picking up material from the box the other day. It was amazing the number of items that were generously contributed.)

Contribute to our SVDP St Timothy Conference

And, of course, you have the opportunity to contribute financially.

- * Send or drop off a check for SVDP (St. Timothy Conference) in care of the Parish office: PO Box 120, Union, KY 41091
- * Set up a monthly payment online to SVDP on the Parish website
- * Contribute to the Saint Vincent de Paul box in the gathering space
- * Contribute cans and boxes of food any time in the barrel in the gathering space

Faith Fact: St. Vincent de Paul did not establish the St. Vincent de Paul Society – he had never heard of it. When Vincent was canonized by Pope Leo XIII, he became the patron of charitable societies. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul was actually founded by Blessed Frédéric Ozanam in 1833, in honor of St. Vincent de Paul.

Mission Trip 2023 – Morganton, North Carolina

Mission Trip allows us to speak about our faith and live it with others. Thank you Deacon Kevin for encouraging more people to join us on our missions.

The following is an excerpt from Deacon Kevin's First Homily:

"We are called to be ready and willing to speak up, to bring the true word of Jesus Christ to others, to evangelize. I know that's a scary word for many of us. I used to say over and over, I'm not good at that. That's not for me. Who was I trying to fool, it wasn't an option, it was a command from Jesus Christ and the Apostles.

Always be ready for the opportunity. Do we have opportunities? Of course, we do.

We have families, children, siblings, co-workers, classmates, friends, acquaintances, and strangers we meet in our daily lives out in the world.

Last week I spent 6 days with some of our St. Timothy youth group and adults on our annual mission trip.

- * The faith I witnessed from these young adults and chaperones was truly inspiring to me.*
- * They were doing exactly what Jesus is expecting of us.*
- * We'll do it again next summer, get involved. Get your children involved.*

I've heard people say, this evangelizing stuff, that's the priest's job. After all, they trained for years for this.

Priests are not out in the world like we are. They spend most of their time with us, believers. Or with their brothers in faith. We have opportunities every single day. And when we are not speaking about our faith we are observed by others. You may have heard the quote, "Preach the Gospel always, use words if necessary."





VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

SIGN-UPS ARE NOW POSTED



QUESTIONS?
CONTACT JAMIE HOPPIUS

JHOPPIUS@SAINT-
TIMOTHY.ORG

(859) 384-1100 EXT 1106

[HTTPS://WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS.COM/
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OKTOBERFEST#/
/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084FACA929A5FDCE9-OKTOBERFEST#/)

OKTOBERFEST DONATIONS



ITEMS NEEDED

KIDS GAMES PRIZES

CANS OF PRINGLES

RING POPS

BOTTLES OF ALCOHOL

2 LITER SODAS

DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF IN THE
GATERING SPACE OR THE PARISH OFFICE

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00AM-2:00PM



Free Concert at St. Timothy on August 20



 Music by

Brad Whittle

For the Liturgy and Personal Prayer

Brad Whittle, Piano & Voice

Trevor Johnson, Guitar

Matt Spencer, Flute

And More!

St. Timothy, Union

Sunday, August 20th, 2023

2:30pm

A Freewill Offering will be accepted
to support the Outreach Ministry
work with the mobile homes in Union

