

THE COMPANION



NEWS ABOUT SAINT TIMOTHY PARISH IN UNION, KY

Nov-Dec 2025

Two Kinds of Love *By Fr. Rick Bolte*

Mother Maria Skobtsova, a Russian-born monastic who was killed in the Ravensbrück concentration camp and canonized by the Russian Orthodox Church in 2003, offers a profound reflection on the nature of love in her 1937 essay "Types of Religious Life." She distinguishes between two forms of love: one that takes and one that gives. Both can appear passionate and self-sacrificing, yet their motivations and their fruits are markedly different.

The first kind of love identifies so closely with the object of affection that it projects personal desires onto the other. It seeks what it believes is good, but usually in terms of worldly achievement, status, or success—often without regard for others and sometimes even at their expense.

Consider, for example, a father whose devotion to his son's soccer career consumes his time, energy, and resources. He attends every game, invests in private coaching and equipment, and sacrifices his own comforts to support his child's advancement. Yet this same love can quietly become distorted: the desire for his son to receive preferential treatment, the insistence on winning at any cost, or the subtle pressure placed on the child to fulfill the father's own aspirations.

A similar dynamic can appear in patriotism. A person may ardently desire the greatness of their nation—its wealth, strength, prestige, athletic victories, or international accolades. But this love of country, too, can turn inward and exclusive. It may overlook the needs of fellow citizens or disregard the harm inflicted on other nations. It can even become a

source of pride when national success is achieved at the expense of others.

In both the devoted father and the zealous patriot, Mother Maria sees "the love that takes"—a love that seeks fulfillment through the other rather than for the other.

The second kind of love—the love that gives—seeks to nurture the goodness within the other and create space for it to flourish. It is not concerned with worldly triumphs but with cultivating compassion, humility, and the capacity to recognize and honor the worth of every person.

A father guided by this love still supports his son wholeheartedly, but his focus shifts from personal achievement to teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect. He teaches his son to celebrate the gifts of others, to attend to the needs of teammates, and to value character over victory. His involvement may look similar on the surface, but it is free from the emotional intensity that stems from personal ambition.

Likewise, a patriot inspired by the love that gives, cherishes their nation as a community bound by mutual responsibility. They desire greatness not for its own sake, but as a reflection of the nation's care for all its people—especially the weakest and most vulnerable. Such a patriot longs for their country to contribute to the flourishing of the wider world, to be a leader not only in power but in compassion, justice, and solidarity.

This, Mother Maria reminds us, is the higher love: a love that enlarges the heart, lifts others up, and seeks the good not just of the beloved, but of all.



The Companion
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Stewardship of Treasure

October 2025

COLLECTIONS:	\$106,083.74
5% TITHE:	\$5,304.19
St. Tim Scholarship	\$500.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$500.00
Diocesan Collection -	
Educ. Seminarians	\$4,304.19

November 2025

COLLECTIONS:	\$108,205.94
4% TITHE:	\$4,328.24
St. Tim Scholarship	\$500.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$500.00
	\$3,328.24
Grant Recipient: (Max \$3,000)	
Faith Comm. Health	\$3,000.00
\$5 to 1% Tithe	\$328.24
1% TITHE	\$1,082.06
\$5 from 4% Tithe	\$328.24
Total STYM/Outreach:	\$1,410.30
Outreach	\$775.66
STYM	\$634.63

Our Parish Family

New Families

Paul and Beverly Brown
 Thomas and Nancy Dahl
 Wolfe and Catherine Fite
 James and Cristina Kennedy
 Jeremy and Gina Ramage
 Robert and Lisa Stokes
 Alexander Welter
 Amanda Welter

Baptisms

Ace William Argo
 Sophie Lucille Davis
 Mason William Ellis
 Natasha Ann Knapp
 Magdalene Audrey Metzger
 Bladimir Isaac Sanchez
 Avery Rose Skerczak

Deceased

Florence Baker
 Francine Landolfi
 Joseph McClure
 Gregory Schulte
 William Wills

Weddings

Brayden Joseph Roberts
 And Kathleen Yvette Roberts

Let's Party
 IT'S OUR FEAST DAY
Jan 24 | 4:30 PM
Brodnick Hall
 Join in celebrating the feast of Saint Timothy with Mass, dinner, & fellowship.
 Featuring a talk from Fr. Michael Hennigan on his vocation journey.

Like the Apostles, is Jesus asking YOU to "spend just one hour with ME?"

We need people for the following hours:

Just 4 people to answer His request!



1 Person 11:00 am - Noon
 1 Person Noon - 1:00 pm
 1 Person 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
 1 Person 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm



Please contact: Miriam Burkart 859-746-1443 or miriamburk@icloud.com
 and make a commitment to BE with Jesus for one hour.

View from the Pew

By Mary Jo Rechtin and Jayson Putnam



I have been a member of St. Timothy Parish from the beginning. Over the years I've watched us bloom and grow and become the vibrant parish that we are. I have been involved in many outreach projects and I'm so proud of the work we have done and what we continue to do. One of the things that has touched me most recently, is the care and love I have received from St. Tim's during my illness. I have had ovarian cancer for 10 1/2 years and I am constantly feeling loved and prayed for by the congregation. I have had people stop me in Kroger's and ask me my name and then tell me they're praying for me. I don't even know them. The love they share is a constant reminder of God's presence in our lives.

I realize I have been very fortunate to live 10 1/2 years with this cancer. I know sometimes people get a cancer diagnosis and they're gone within a few months. I've had the continued privilege of being able to be involved in my family's life and in the life of St. Timothy.

I am so thankful to all of you. Please continue to be the wonderful people that you are and reach out to those in need. - Mary Jo



By the time you're reading this Mary Jo will have begun the process of entering hospice. During this season of Advent she and I pray that the candles we continue to light each week symbolizing Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, will bring us all increasing light, as we await the birth of Jesus, the "Light of the World."



We pray this time of Advent has allowed you at least a few moments to focus your heart and mind on welcoming Jesus, deepening your feelings of hope, peace, joy, and love – to be better able to soon welcome our infant savior.



May the Holy Spirit continue to lead all of us to help the poor among us. They are everywhere including our neighbors, friends and our St. Tim's family.

God bless all of you and Merry Christmas.



THE COMPANION





**St. Timothy
YOUTH
MINISTRY**



Saint Timothy PSR / Youth Ministry

By Jenna Kemper, DRE/Youth Ministry

PSR Schedule for week of:

- Dec 28 - NO PSR Classes - Boone Co. Christmas Break**
- Jan 04 - Classes on Sunday and Wednesday**
- Jan 11 - Classes on Sunday and Wednesday**
- Jan 18 - NO PSR Classes - Martin Luther King Holiday 1/19**
- Jan 25 - Classes on Sunday and Wednesday**

The Confirmation Retreat is Saturday January 24. Please keep our students in your prayers as they walk this final steps of the path to Confirmation.

Middle School Youth Group

Middle school students, grades 6th to 8th, will meet every Wednesday from 7-8 PM and will have a **Play and Praise Night** once a month on the 4th Wednesday evening.

High School Youth Group

Sports & Adoration Night: Friday nights from 8 - 10 PM in St. Timothy School gymnasium/church

- ⇒ January 2
- ⇒ January 16 - **Cancelled** due to youth **Revive** event happening here that evening.

Sports & Adoration Nights - A unique opportunity for high school teens to come together for sports and fellowship, followed by time for adoration and prayer. This balance of active fun and quiet reflection helps teens build friendships while deepening their relationship with Christ.

REVIVE is a Diocesan event for middle and high school youth (grades 6-12) and their families which will be held at St. Timothy on **January 16 (7:30-9:30pm)**. Join us for Mass, confession, Adoration, and fellowship. **Spread the word and bring a friend!**



We are seeking Assistants to help with our Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) program. CLOW takes place during the 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM Sunday Masses, when children in grades 1-4 are invited to Brodnick Hall for an age-appropriate reading of the Sunday scriptures and a brief reflection led by a Catechist. The children return to Mass for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

We are especially looking for students from 7th grade through high school to assist the CLOW Catechist Leader. Service hours will be provided for all volunteer time. If interested contact Jeremiah Barth at JBarth@Saint-Timothy.org.

Living, Learning, Serving, Christ: The Heart of St. Timothy Catholic School

By Carie Holley

The St. Timothy Catholic School mission is woven into four simple and powerful words: Living, Learning, Serving, Christ. These values are more than a motto; they provide an outline for our purpose, serving as the guiding pillars of every experience we create for our students. From the moment a child enters our doors in preschool or kindergarten until the day they graduate from 8th grade, we endeavor to form young people who exemplify these values with confidence, compassion, and a faithful heart.

Living - reminds us that each day is a gift from God. Students are encouraged to live joyfully, with a giving heart. Showing gratitude for God's blessings and a deep awareness of His presence in their daily lives is encouraged. Prayer, community service, and participation in the sacraments remind students that their lives have meaning and purpose. Students are reminded to live with integrity and to make choices rooted in faith, kindness, and responsibility to themselves and to others.

Learning reflects a commitment to achieving our academic best. Every child is created in the image of God, with a uniqueness waiting to be discovered and nurtured. Our teachers challenge all students to think critically and work diligently; however, we believe that learning goes beyond textbooks. Learning forms the mind and heart, develops academic grit, and cultivates a lifelong love of discovery. We aspire to prepare students not just for the next grade but for life, as we believe that every student learns, and though the journey may look a little different for each, together we all achieve.

Serving - is the core of our Christian faith journey. Jesus called us to love our neighbors, and we answer His call through acts of service. Our students participate in service learning projects that support the parish and our local community. We instill the belief that service is not just an activity but a way of life and modeling God's will. Service is an expression of love, humbleness, and caring for others, where students live out service through meaningful opportunities that help our parish and local community.

- * **St. Vincent de Paul, HONK – food drives, clothing drives, holiday outreach**
- * **St. Timothy Parish Ministries – parish kitchen, support projects, parish-wide service efforts**
- * **School Campus Service – beautification, event volunteers, stewardship activities**
- * **Visible and Invisible Differences – awareness programs, product and fund raisers**

Christ - is the foundation that holds our school together. Modeling His grace is our guide for how we live, how we learn, and the reason we serve. Keeping Christ first forms students who seek Him in prayer, in each other, and throughout the world. Our classrooms, hallways, and service learning programs are rooted in our Catholic faith. This helps each student recognize their place as a child of God. Christ is the heart of our mission.

Living. Learning. Serving. Christ. These are more than words; they are the legacy we seek to instill in every child. As our students grow from curious preschoolers or kindergarteners to confident 8th graders, these four values shape their character and guide their journey. Our hope is that every student who attends St. Timothy Catholic School leaves with a strong academic foundation, a generous spirit, and a deep and lasting faith. We pray they go forward prepared for high school, ready to bring God's mission into the world.



Preschool: volunteering, food collection and organization



4th grade: visible and invisible differences, raising funds and collecting products



Middle School: rebuilding, making a safer community



A Once-in-a-Lifetime Moment on the Great Stage

By Andrew Mason

On Thursday, December 4th at 5 p.m., fifty middle school performers from our St. Timothy Catholic School stepped onto one of the most iconic stages in the world: *Radio City Music Hall*. We were there to open for the Rockettes Christmas Spectacular, a phrase I still can't believe I get to write.

You can try to explain how big the Great Stage is. You can show pictures or tell stories. But nothing prepares you for that first walk out into the lights, looking across the sweeping arc of more than 6,000 seats. I watched our students take it in. Eyes wide, jaws dropped, standing in absolute awe of the space in front of them.

And then they sang.

Our group performed a Christmas medley that included "Somewhere in My Memory," "Christmas Canon," "A Child Is Born in Bethlehem," and "Angels We Have Heard on High." Somehow, in that moment, every rehearsal, every note, every correction came together. They sounded better than they ever had — full, warm, confident. That magical "performance bump" you hope for as a director arrived right on time.

One of the most surreal parts of the afternoon happened before the audience even entered the building. We were given the

chance to warm up inside an empty Radio City Music Hall, something very few performers ever experience. Standing in that silent, historic room, hearing their voices echo through a space that holds nearly a century of legends... it was unforgettable.

Beyond the performance, the entire trip felt like a celebration. We skated under the Rockefeller Christmas Tree, visited the Top of the Rock, and squeezed into Ellen's Stardust Diner for a group meal. I loved running into students and families all over the city. Passing them inside Grand Central Station, spotting them in line at FAO Schwarz, or bumping into them as we came and went from the hotel. Everywhere I turned, our kids were smiling, exploring, and taking in New York and having their eyes opened to a different kind of place than Union, Ky.

After we performed, the texts, Facebook messages, and compliments poured in. It felt like everyone could sense just how rare this moment was, not only for the kids but for our whole community. For many of our students, this was a once-in-a-lifetime experience, something they'll remember long after middle school is over.

It was our first time attempting anything like this. And watching those kids stand on the Great Stage, singing their hearts out with poise and maturity... I couldn't have been prouder.

What a gift it was to witness.





November: Closing Fr. Ruschman's Garden



Thanksgiving Food Drive



Yard Sale Clean Up



Ladies Day Out—November



Making Bedrolls for the Homeless

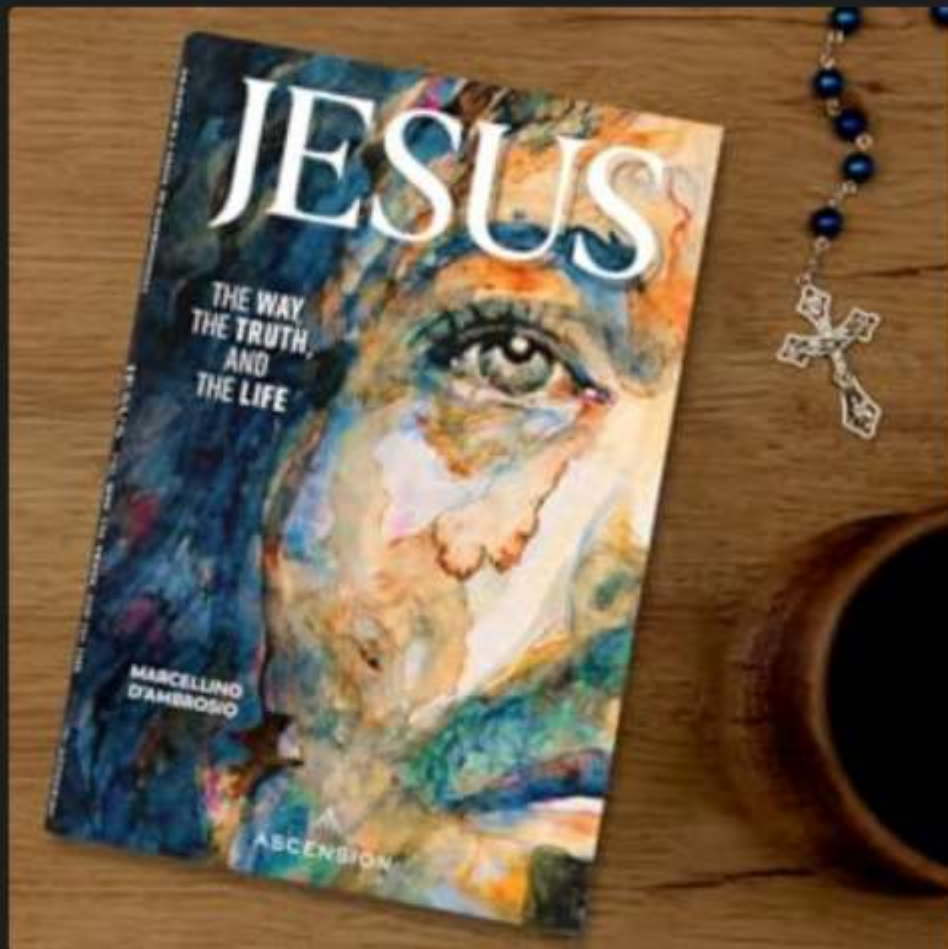


Angel Giving Tree in Stages — December



JESUS:

*The WAY
The TRUTH
& The LIFE*



WEDNESDAYS
JAN 7-MAR 18
STCS ART ROOM

6PM

THE MARVELOUS TREASURES OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH—THE EUCHARIST, MARY, THE SAINTS, AND THE CREED—ARE ALL CENTERED ON A SINGLE FIGURE: JESUS CHRIST. JESUS IS MORE THAN A HISTORICAL OR THEOLOGICAL FIGURE. HE IS OUR SAVIOR, OUR REDEEMER, OUR LORD, AND OUR GOD. WHILE MANY OF US ALREADY KNOW A LOT ABOUT HIM, HOW WELL CAN WE SAY WE REALLY KNOW HIM? FILMED ON LOCATION IN THE HOLY LAND, JESUS: THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE IS A NEW AND FRESH LOOK AT JESUS—WHO HE IS, WHAT HE IS REALLY LIKE, WHAT HE TAUGHT, AND WHAT HE DID FOR OUR SALVATION. THIS ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST WILL INSPIRE AND EMPOWER YOU TO CENTER YOUR ENTIRE LIFE ON HIM AS YOU COME TO KNOW AND LOVE HIM IN AN EVER-DEEPER AND MORE INTIMATE WAY. **JOIN US. NO SIGN-UP NEEDED.**



**“What does it profit, my brethren,
if someone says he has faith but does not have works?
Can faith save him? James 2:14**

Charity is a fundamental teaching of Jesus. Vincentians recognize that all of us need spiritual and emotional charity, as well as material charity from time-to-time.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul fosters acts of charity by building on a spiritual foundation. SVDP Volunteers seek spiritual growth for themselves and our neighbors through works of charity.

At the moment, you may not be in a position to become a Vincentian volunteer. However, your generous support of the Society's programs is a direct contribution to the good works of the Society.

In difficult times, it is certainly more challenging to give. At the same time, increasing costs for food, fuel, utilities, and rent make this a difficult time for many families struggling to make ends meet. Your contributions are carefully managed to ensure that our neighbors in need get the maximum benefit from each contribution.

**“If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them,
“Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give them the things which
are needed for the body, what does it profit? Thus also faith by itself,
if it does not have works, is dead.” James 2:15-17**

If you are considering becoming a Vincentian Volunteer. We have opportunities for important works, including Volunteers who:

- Make home visits or meet at church to assess and provide for our neighbors needs
- Manage the food donated to the Pantry by parishioners
- Provide financial support for SVDP programs (rent, utilities, basic needs)
- Manage financial and material contributions
- The Knights of Columbus which provides winter coats and food for the pantry

**“For 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 invited Me in...” Matthew 25:35**

Our monthly meetings begin with a spiritual discussion that reminds us that we are to be good stewards of the resources God gives us through your generosity. It's a reminder that when you become a Vincentian, it's an opportunity to grow spiritually by providing Works of Mercy to those in need.

“Serviens in Spe” (Serving in Hope) is the motto of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Our goal is to bring hope, through our service and with your support, to our neighbors by revealing the love Christ has for his flock. Saint Vincent said, **“Charity is the cement which binds communities to God and persons to one another...”**

**If you're interested in being part of our volunteer ministry, or if you'd like to donate, please
contact Debbie Curtin, 513.532.6958 or Bill Anderson 412.295.3441.
(You can go on St. Tim's website to donate to SVDP, either one time or monthly.)**



DONUT SUNDAYS

You donut want to miss this opportunity!

Is your group or organization looking to earn service hours or spread the word about what you do? Come serve donuts on Sunday mornings in Brodnick Hall! It's a fun, simple way to connect with others, build community, and enjoy great fellowship.

For more details and how to sign up...
<https://tinyurl.com/z8vv7esd>



Questions? contact Jamie Hoppius
jhoppius@saint-timothy.org



CRUSADER YOUTH LEAGUE

JOIN US FOR **FLAG FOOTBALL**

- Season runs from April 8th - May 27th
- Wednesday Evenings, 4:30-9:30 PM
- Open to boys and girls, grades 1st-8th
- All games at St. Henry District High School Football Field
- Uniforms included in registration fee
- Food trucks at every game

*** REGISTRATION ENDS 2/28**
CLAIM A SPOT TODAY!

JOIN US FOR **TACKLE FOOTBALL**

Interest forms are now open!

JOIN US FOR **CHEERLEADING**

Interest forms are now open!

JOIN TODAY AT
CRUSADERYOUTHLEAGUE.COM

* Use code STT026 when registering
and CYL will donate \$10 to St. Tim's as a thank you.



@CrusaderYouthLeague



/CrusaderYouthLeague



@CruYouthLeague

ST. TIMOTHY
WILD BEAST
Feast

10272 US 42, UNION, KY 41091

Friday January 9th 2026

AT 6:30 P.M.

COME ONE AND ALL – MEN, WOMEN & CHILDREN
**BRING YOUR FAVORITE
WILD GAME DISH**

OR A SIDE TO SHARE. FISH AND WILDLIFE
COMMISSIONER WILL SHARE AN UPDATE ON
HUNTING AND CONSERVATION IN KENTUCKY.

NO COST TO ATTEND.

HOSTED BY ST. TIMOTHY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS





UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVE

St. Timothy Catholic Church
Wednesday, January 21, 2026
12:00pm-2:15pm & 3:30pm-5:45pm
Blood drive will be in Brodnick Hall

Schedule online at: <https://hoxworth.org/groups/sttimothy>
or call Hoxworth at (513)451-0910
All donors will receive a UC Puffy Vest!



All Types Welcome.

Hoxworth
BLOOD CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI 