

THE COMPANION



NEWS ABOUT SAINT TIMOTHY PARISH IN UNION, KY

Mar-Apr 2026

Catholic Church and Politics *By Fr. Rick Bolte*

It is not uncommon in our present age to hear the claim that the Catholic Church has become overly political. Such an accusation arises in various circles, particularly as the Church continues to speak on contemporary issues. Yet this perception misunderstands her mission. The Church, through the voice of the Pope and the bishops, is entrusted with the responsibility to teach—not only matters of doctrine, but also the moral dimensions of the realities that confront the faithful.

At times, the Church may appear aligned with particular causes or even political movements. However, this is not because she seeks political identity, but because she remains faithful to her enduring mission: to proclaim the dignity of every human person and the call to stewardship of all creation. Whenever the Church speaks, she does so in light of the Gospel.

Historically, in the United States, the Church was often associated with the Democratic Party during the mid-20th century, particularly as she advocated for the rights of workers against unjust labor conditions. Many Catholics at that time were members of urban, working-class communities and labor unions. In more recent decades, the Church has spoken with particular clarity on the sanctity of unborn life, which has led some to associate her more closely with Republican positions. Today, the Church continues to raise her voice on issues such as the treatment of immigrants and the suffering caused by war—where countless individuals are killed, wounded, or deprived of basic human necessities.

Despite these shifting perceptions, the Church's purpose has remained constant. As Catholics, we are called to stand with the poor, the marginalized, and the vulnerable, following the example of Christ Himself. Our primary identity is not found in political affiliation, but in our vocation to imitate Christ—even when doing so sets us apart from prevailing opinions. It is often easier to conform to the views of the majority or the influential, and we may even attempt to justify our positions by selectively invoking Scripture.

However, as Christians, we affirm that the fullness of truth is revealed in Christ alone. He established a new covenant and calls us to a higher standard of righteousness. In the Gospel of Matthew, particularly in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus presents Himself as the fulfillment of the Law, declaring, "You have heard that it was said... but I say to you" (cf. Matthew 5). To be truly Christian is to follow Him in both word and action.

It must be acknowledged that few, if any, political leaders fully embody the totality of Catholic teaching on human life and dignity. Some aspects of these teachings challenge us deeply. The suffering of those in distant lands—whether due to war, disease, or famine—can easily escape our attention. Likewise, the needs of those closer to us—the poor, the imprisoned, the disabled, and the uneducated—may be overlooked, particularly when their circumstances are complex or uncomfortable.

In our deeply divided world, we are called to something greater: unity in

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Stewardship of Treasure

February 2026

COLLECTIONS:	\$96,173.50
4% TITHE:	\$3,846.94
St. Tim Scholarship	\$500.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$500.00
	\$2,846.94
Grant Recipient: (Max \$3,000)	
Emergency Shelter NKY	\$2,846.94
\$\$ to 1% Tithe	\$0.00
1% TITHE	\$961.74
\$\$ from 4% Tithe	\$0.00
Total STYM/Outreach:	\$961.74
Outreach	\$432.78
STYM	\$528.95

March 2026

COLLECTIONS:	\$147,939.01
5% TITHE:	\$7,396.95
St. Tim Scholarship	\$500.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$500.00
Diocesan Collection -	
International Needs	\$6,396.95

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genuine concern for all people. The moment we begin to measure human worth or assign differing levels of dignity; we risk retreating into mere intellectual argument and losing the compassion to which we are called. While we may not always agree on

the most effective means of serving others, a sincere commitment to seek the good fosters unity of purpose and refines our efforts.

Ultimately, we are called to be one in Christ (cf. John 17:21), allowing His love to guide both our convictions and our actions.

Our Parish Family

New Families

- Jonathan and Hailey Baeten
- Cassady Batner
- Kort and Elizabeth Branscome
- Chase Carlisle
- Miriam Cole
- Jamie Craddock
- William and Mary Di Grezio
- Andrew and Lois Ellison
- Craig and Judy Foresman
- Ryan and Brittany Gardner
- Kevin Horner
- Thomas and Jane Leone
- Carole Leppo
- Benjamin and Alyson Mullen
- John O'Rourke
- Connor and Renee' Ray
- James and Kasee Stanzak
- Margaret Vagedes
- Gary and Julie Wolf
- Michael Woodford

Baptisms

- David James Bockweg
- Eloise Anne Gosselin
- EHelena May Kennedy
- Lucas Alexander Kroger
- Campbell Robert Leport
- Adalyn Grace Merman
- Lee Alexander Morgan
- Eli Gerald Nisle
- Margaret Ann Ray
- Benson Joel Romo
- Morgan Lee Vokas
- Leo John Wilcher
- Christian Alexander Yehli
- Henry Detric Zumwalt

Deceased

- John Carroll
- Marion Judge
- Joseph Klingenberg
- Carrie Moeves
- Lawrence Pieper
- Clifford Rolfsen



CALLING ALL SERVERS

There will be Server Training for all existing Servers and any others interested (4th grade and higher)

Saturday, May 16
9 am - Noon in Church
Pizza Party afterwards
NO RSVP required

View from the Pew

By Mary Jo Rehtin and Jayson Putnam



The ambo. Is it a tool your grandfather used out on the farm to fix something? Is it something you use to decorate the mantle in your home? Is it something used to serve or prepare something else on? To us Catholics, it's actually none of these. But from it comes words of repair, something beautiful you can bring in your home and something that you can use to feed the souls of those you spend your time with.

You may also know it as the lectern or even possibly a pulpit—a word used mostly in Protestant churches. Either way, it is the place where the church's readers read, cantors chant and priests or deacons preach.

Ambo originates from the Greek word "ambon," which refers to a raised area or elevated desk used in early Christian churches. The ambo is elevated to ensure the speaker is visible and audible to the congregation. It is also elevated to symbolize God speaking from on high—like when God spoke from a mountain to the people below. Think of that—the word of God truly and actually coming down to YOU during every Mass — like from Mt. Sinai and the Ten Commandments or the Sermon on the Mount. WOW. JUST WOW!

The ambo is a reminder that God still speaks to us today. In other words, it is also a place where the reader proclaims the word, acting as a

bridge where Christ speaks to his people. That is why we stand for the reading of the Gospel. As Christ speaks. That is why when the Gospel is read candles often are present on each side of it. As Christ speaks. That is also why incense rises from beside it. As Christ speaks.

So the next time you are at Mass be mindful that just as the ambo is elevated for many reasons, the most important reason may be so that the word of God is coming to meet you where you are. TO MEET YOU. RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE. On your worst days, best days and the many that are in between.

It's hard for me to write this and not want to go on and on how God has met me, His word has spoken to me, when the Holy Spirit has whispered or when Jesus took my hand to lead me through what would be the most challenging part of my life.

So I challenge you to let the words spoken from our ambo to pierce your heart. To let them change you. To let them fix your brokenness. To let them create something beautiful in you that fills your home with the love of Jesus.

So the next time you look up to the ambo as a lector is reading realize they are speaking the Word made flesh, the word of God coming to you — meeting you right where you are.



THE COMPANION





Save the Date for Vacation Bible School 2026!!!

June 22nd - June 26th
6 pm to 8 pm

Please join our planning team!

Help us make this week the BEST!

Contact Jenna Kemper jkemper@saint-timothy.org



The Easter Vigil

By: *Debbi Cranley, OCIA Coordinator*

The Vigil Mass begins outside in the dark. We slowly enter the Church looking for the light – *the light of Christ*. This is similar to how the faith journey begins for our candidates and catechumens who enter the OCIA/OCIT/OCIC process. We had 23 adults, 13 teens and 8 children learning, studying and attending Mass with the anticipation of coming in full communion with the Catholic Church. On Saturday night, April 4th, 17 people received the sacrament of Baptism and along with the newly baptized, several received Confirmation. The most anticipated sacrament, however, was receiving the Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ for the first time.

It was wonderful to see the faces of these faith filled people as they rose from the waters of Baptism, received the anointing of Confirmation and then processed joyfully through the communion line. The Holy Spirit was truly present with us all!

We would like to thank all of you who attended the Vigil Mass, helped with the preparation and most importantly – the prayers that you offered for all of us. We are very blessed to have a loving and welcoming parish community!

Congratulations to all our new Catholics!



This is some of the group after the Easter Vigil Mass

Forming Faithful Leaders for Life

The Power of a Leader in Me School

By Carie Holley, STCS Intervention Specialist

At St. Timothy Catholic School, leadership is more than a program, it's part of who we are. As a *Leader in Me* school, we are committed to forming students who grow not only in knowledge, but in character, faith, and purpose. We believe each child is uniquely created by God with gifts meant to be discovered, understood, developed, and shared.

A strong partnership between school and family is essential to this mission. When families engage in the habits and language of leadership at home, it strengthens the connection between faith and daily life. These shared values build lasting bonds which deepen relationships within families, foster respect among peers, and nurture a Christ-centered community.

Through *Leader in Me* guidelines and teacher support, our students learn to set meaningful goals and take responsibility for achieving them. They are encouraged to prioritize what matters, persevere through challenges, and reflect on their growth. Students develop the confidence to advocate for themselves and for others as they use their voices to lead with integrity, kindness, and courage.

As we continue our journey toward Lighthouse status, an internationally recognized distinction within *Leader in Me*, we remain focused on excellence in leadership, culture, and academics. Lighthouse reflects a sustained commitment to student empowerment, strong school culture, measurable academic growth, and meaningful family and community engagement. This recognition affirms the dedication of our students, staff, families, and supporters who believe in developing the whole child.

The impact of this work is lasting. We are proud to see our students return in high school to volunteer and stay connected to our community. Many choose to complete student teaching experiences here, and it is our hope that some will someday return as educators, completing the circle while continuing the mission of faith-filled leadership for future generations.

We are grateful for the support of our families, parishioners, and donors. Your partnership makes it possible for us to continue forming leaders who will live their faith, serve others, and make a meaningful difference in the world.

Shawnie's Testimonial:

To start, growing up with Leader in Me, even as an eighth grade student, has really proven to be beneficial in every aspect of my life. It is not just about the memorized pledge, the poster on the wall, but instead it is the kind of person it has taught me to be. Learning these skills have allowed me to build a voice, make connections, be a productive student, be courageous, and understand what it means to be a leader. Without Leader in Me, I'd be lost going into high school. Thankfully, I know the skills it takes to speak up, build relationships, complete work with my best effort, stand up for what is right, and guide others in the right direction, inside and out of the classroom. Not only do I know who I am, but what I can do, all thanks to growing with Leader in Me.

It is not hard to see where leadership shines through. In me, leadership is taking action for myself and others and having a limitless mindset. Some examples are in my everyday life here at St. Timothy. Recently, I've volunteered to paint the backdrop for my school play. The skills I've learned have taught me how to use my skills to benefit others and to make necessary sacrifices. Over the summer I even coached a basketball team of first and second graders completely on my own. I know how to use my knowledge to help others with kind authority. These are only small things I do that reflect how useful the Leader in Me skills are in any student's life.





THE COMPANION



Help Support our St. Timothy Missionaries!

By Pat Seuberling, Outreach Director

Praise the Lord! We have 30 people attending Mission Trip 2026. This includes 14 adults, 2 Young Adults and 14 students! This also includes 3 families of parents with their children attending. God is Great! Our Mission trip to Harlan, KY will be work projects geared toward home renovation for the poor, elderly or low-income families. This will include framing, roofing, siding, sheetrock, flooring, insulation, painting, and landscape work.

The church pictured, Holy Trinity Catholic Church, is where we will be staying.

Excitement is building and plans are still being formulated!

To date, we have been able to raise \$12,325 from deposits and donations towards our mission trip. Thank you to everyone who has already donated. God bless you. We still need to raise \$4,775.

We are asking for your financial support. It will help to offset our costs, purchase supplies, rent cars and maybe even purchase t-shirts! Please prayerfully consider donating to sponsor a student, help a family with raising funds or funding for supplies. Donations can be cash, check or credit card. Checks can be made out to St. Timothy Mission Trip. Place your donation in an envelope with Pat Seuberling Mission Trip on the outside. If you wish to use a credit card, you can call the office at 859-384-1100. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at pseuberling@saint-timothy.org or 859-476-5738. Thank you!

We are ever grateful for our St. Timothy Parish Family's support!



Who will feed my sheep?



If you've ever worked around sheep, you know that, like all of us, they sometimes wander from the herd only to get a bit lost or caught in a briar patch. The sheep need the Shepherd – and Shepherd's helpers. And in the end, they always show their appreciation by nuzzling the hand that helps them.

"Feed my sheep." Jesus asked us to do that.

As Volunteers for **Saint Vincent de Paul**, we are the Shepherd's helpers. Jesus' helpers.

It doesn't matter, whether you formally volunteer or contribute food or money, or donate clothes to our SVdP stores. You are doing your part to help our neighbors who are going through a rough patch.

Mother Teresa said, **"If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one."**



Dozens, or hundreds, or thousands, or millions, of individuals doing small acts of love add up to a world of difference.

The most important thing we do is pray. We pray before and after meetings, with and for each other and for our neighbors, and we encourage a life of prayerful reflection as a community of faith.

The most visible things we do are the managing the SVdP Food Pantry in the Church basement and meeting with our neighbors.

If you feel that Jesus is calling you, **contact Mary Rose Kahmann, 513-310-4168, maryrosek16@gmail.com, or Bill Anderson, 859-817-0187.**

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." (Hebrews 13:16)



Service

THE
COMPANION





Service

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CARE NET

CELEBRATE MOMS & DADS

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

MOTHER'S DAY-FATHER'S DAY 2026

Your change changes lives. God himself designed the family, and Care Net Pregnancy Services of Northern Kentucky is committed to helping moms and dads choose life and build healthy families. Your generosity makes our ministry possible. From pregnancy tests to ultrasounds to mentoring and material support, we help moms and dads gain knowledge and confidence to make life-affirming decisions.

Your spare change can help them choose life.

It's fun and easy to participate!

- ♥ Take a baby bottle home and place it in a visible spot.
- ♥ Fill the empty bottle with coins, bills and checks.
- ♥ Return the filled bottle to your church **on or before June 21.**
- ♥ Or donate online at carenetnky.org or scan the code.



CARE NET
Pregnancy Services of Northern Kentucky

Saving babies and mentoring their parents since 1999.
859.431.9178 • carenetnky.org
Cold Spring • Florence • Williamstown

Pick up a Baby Bottle from the gathering space!
Our Baby Bottle Campaign starts on
Mother's Day weekend (May 9-10)
and runs through
Father's Day weekend (June 20-21).



**St. Timothy
Catholic Church**

BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, May 14, 2026

11:00am-1:15pm & 2:30pm-4:45pm

Blood drive inside Brodnick Hall

Schedule online: <https://hoxworth.org/groups/sttimothy>

scan QR code or call Hoxworth at (513) 451-0910



**Every donor receives an FC Cincinnati 40 oz tumbler!
Appointments Encouraged! | Donate [Red Cells](#) or [Platelets](#)!**

Saving Lives Close to Home.



Partners in Hope for the Poor Annual Dinner
“20 Years of Hope”
to benefit The Friends of the Rose Garden Mission

Thursday, June 4, 2026
 6pm Social Hour | 7pm Dinner
Receptions Event Center
 1379 Donaldson Road | Erlanger, KY

Keynote Speaker:
REV. REYNALDO S. TAYLOR


Honorees:
TO BE REVEALED AT THE DINNER

Go to partnersinhopeforthepoordinner.com
 for more information or to register today!

Please RSVP by May 15th!



“Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.” Romans 12: 12



St. Timothy Knights of Columbus

All members of the St Timothy Parish are invited to attend the Council Social on March 24. Our guest speaker will be Fr. Bolte or one of the Deacons. The topic will be "Love." The Social will begin at 7:30 PM and the speaker will begin at 7:45 PM. Light snacks and non-alcoholic refreshments will be provided after the topic is concluded. The Council



St. Timothy Men's Group

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

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

St. Timothy's 24th Annual Golf Tournament



Boone Links Golf Course

Saturday, August 15, 2026 - 1:30

FORMAT	Four Person Scramble - Registration Begins at 12:30
AWARDS	1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Prizes Long Drive & Closest to Pin Complimentary beverages on the course!
ADD ONS	Skins, Pot-Of-Gold, Split the Pot & More
COST	\$120 for Single Player or \$440/Foursome
HOLE SPONSOR	\$150 (other sponsorships available - contact TJ Mueller)



*Sponsored by the St. Timothy
Knights of Columbus*



***Fried Chicken Dinner after the tourney and now
with even more 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.



St. Timothy Knights of Columbus

C/O T.J. Mueller

7926 Driftwood Dr.

Florence, KY 41042

513-477-1931 tjmueller17@gmail.com



Support
**OUR FESTIVAL.
 MAKE AN IMPACT!**

Your sponsorship helps bring our community together for a weekend of faith, fun, and tradition. Thank you for your support!



SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

- 

DONUT LEVEL **\$100**
 Donut sponsors will be recognized on the donut trailer during Oktoberfest weekend. Each donut sponsor helps offset the cost of several dozen Holy Donuts!
- 

KEG LEVEL **\$200**
 Keg sponsorship helps offset the cost of a keg. Donors will receive a beer mug as a thank you gift and donor names will appear in the Bier Garten during Oktoberfest.
- 

SILVER LEVEL **\$300**
 Silver sponsors will have their company name/logo on a sign in an Oktoberfest booth. Special booth requests are first come first serve.
 *Excludes Duck Derby Tent.
- 

GOLD LEVEL **\$600**
 Gold sponsors will be announced by the emcee during the Oktoberfest and will have their company name/logo on a sign in an Oktoberfest booth. Special booth requests are first come first serve. *Excludes Duck Derby Tent.
- 

PLATINUM LEVEL **\$1,200**
 Platinum sponsors will be announced by the emcee during the Oktoberfest with a custom message and special recognition on signage in booths and parking area. Special booth requests are first come first serve. *Excludes Duck Derby Tent.
- 


BAND SPONSOR *(Limit 4)* **\$1,500**
 Bands are a big draw for the festival! The Band Sponsor will be advertised on a large banner on the band stage and announced by the bands during performances.
- 

DERBY DUCK SPONSOR *(Limit 1)* **\$5,000**
 Become the exclusive sponsor of our Duck Derby Tent. This tent stays busy ALL WEEKEND LONG! It is a FUN and popular spot! Your business will be featured during every duck race, advertised inside the tent, promoted after Mass during pre-sale weeks, and highlighted by our emcee. This is a fun, high-impact way to showcase your support and connect with the community.
- 

SUPREME SPONSOR *(Limit 3)* **\$10,000**
 This is HUGE! Supreme Sponsors will be featured on beer mugs and receive special recognition on signage during Oktoberfest. Beer mugs are a BIG hit during the festival!

SPONSORSHIP FORM

Please complete and return this form with your contribution by **Saturday, August 1st.**

 **Mail to:**
 St. Timothy Parish Office
 PO Box 120
 Union, KY 41091

 **Drop Off:**
 Parish Office
 8am – 2pm, Mon–Fri

 Or place in the offertory baskets during weekend Masses.



NAME AS YOU WOULD LIKE LISTED:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

SPONSOR LEVEL:

DONATION AMOUNT:

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

-  Cash (enclosed)
-  Check (make check payable to SAINT TIMOTHY OKTOBERFEST)

QUESTIONS?

Contact Jamie Hoppius

 859-384-1100 ext 2187

 jhoppius@saint-timothy.org