

THE COMPANION



NEWS ABOUT SAINT TIMOTHY PARISH IN UNION, KY

May-June-July 2026

Toward an Intimate Union with God *By Fr. Rick Bolte*

In *A Course in Christian Mysticism*, Jon Sweeney edits and presents a series of Thomas Merton's lectures on Christian mysticism. In the chapter, "St. Bernard's Sermons on the Song of Songs," Merton explains that St. Bernard of Clairvaux (1090–1153) approached Scripture very differently from the way it is commonly studied today. Modern biblical exegesis seeks to uncover the author's intended meaning by examining the historical, literary, and cultural context of the text. In Bernard's day, however, the literal meaning of the Latin Vulgate was largely taken for granted. His concern was not simply to analyze the text but to allow Scripture to interpret the soul. As Merton writes, Bernard's exegesis was "letting his own heart speak, by seeing Scripture in the light of his personal experience of God that has been granted to him by his own reading of Scripture, by the action of the Holy Spirit."

The Song of Songs celebrates the growing love between Solomon and the Shulamite woman, yet Christian tradition has long understood it as a profound picture of the love between Christ and His people. For Bernard, this love points to the believer's mystical union with Christ through the Holy Spirit. In Sermon 10, he describes three anointings of the Holy Spirit that prepare the soul for this divine union: penance, devotio, and pietas.

The first anointing is penance. Bernard teaches that this is the foundation of the spiritual life because without repentance nothing else can truly please God. As he writes, "The soul is thus anointed and softened and consoled by humility and compunction." Through the work of the Holy Spirit, we are given the courage to

acknowledge both our sinfulness and our inability to save ourselves. Penance requires us to surrender the carefully crafted image we present to others and to relinquish the pride that insists we can fix ourselves through our own strength. In its place, the Spirit gives humility, freedom, and the confidence to entrust ourselves to God's abundant mercy and forgiveness.

The second anointing is devotio. Unlike earthly comforts, the ointment of this anointing is found in the goodness of God Himself. It is marked by gratitude for God's blessings, confidence in His mercy, and joyful praise of His greatness. Here the believer grows in awe and reverence before the Lord, echoing the words of Proverbs 9:10: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." This anointing draws the heart into loving contemplation of the mystery of God's grace, deepening both faith and worship.

The third and highest anointing is pietas, or fraternal compassion. It is striking that Bernard places compassionate love for one's neighbor above even devoted love for God. The "ointment" of this anointing is made from the needs, weaknesses, sufferings, and burdens of others. Though these ingredients may seem undesirable, the mercy they produce is of immeasurable value. As Jesus teaches, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy." Genuine compassion is not sentimental kindness, condescending charity, or self-congratulatory philanthropy. Rather, it is the willingness to enter into another's suffering, to bear their burdens as our own,

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The Companion
is the newsletter of

St. Timothy Parish
P.O. Box 120
Union, KY 41091-0120
(859) 384-1100

Contributions are welcome.
Contact Lynn Profitt
lprofitt@saint-timothy.org

Publisher

Fr. Rick Bolte, Pastor
rbolte@saint-timothy.org

Editor

Lynn Profitt
lprofitt@saint-timothy.org

Contributors

Fr. Rick Bolte
Julie Aylor
Jayson Putnam
Pat Seuberling
Michael Vogt





Stewardship of Treasure

April 2026

COLLECTIONS:	\$130,727.71
4% TITHE:	\$5,229.11
St. Tim Scholarship	\$500.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$500.00
	\$4,229.11
Grant Recipient: (Max \$3,000)	
Welcome House	\$3,000.00
\$ to 1% Tithe	\$1,229.11
1% TITHE	\$1,307.28
\$ from 4% Tithe	\$1,229.11
Total STYM/Outreach:	\$2,536.39
Outreach	\$1,141.37
STYM	\$1,395.01

May 2026

COLLECTIONS:	\$114,834.22
4% TITHE:	\$4,593.37
St. Tim Scholarship	\$500.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$500.00
	\$3,593.37
Grant Recipient: (Max \$3,000)	
Rose Garden	\$3,000.00
\$ to 1% Tithe	\$593.37
1% TITHE	\$1,148.34
\$ from 4% Tithe	\$593.71
Total STYM/Outreach:	\$1,741.39
Outreach	\$783.77
STYM	\$957.94

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and to sacrificially love them in the way Christ has loved us.

Merton's presentation of Bernard reminds us that Christian mysticism is never an escape from reality but a deeper participation in the life of Christ. The journey toward union with God begins with humble repentance, grows through grateful devotion, and reaches its fullest expression in self-giving love for

others. Bernard's three anointings reveal that the closer we draw to God, the more His mercy transforms our hearts to reflect His own. A life of genuine communion with Christ will always bear the fruit of humility, worship, and compassionate service, demonstrating that love of God and love of neighbor are inseparable in the Christian life.

Our Parish Family

New Families

Marlene Ashburn
Hannah Autry
Joseph and Erin Aylor
Kevin and Maria Bonfield
Trevor and Courtney Gronefeld
Garey Holbrook
Thomas and Janet Holocher
Robert and Letitia Kusak
Ray and Mariby Linares
Michael and Susan Morgan
James and Kristen O'Neill
Vinh and Thi Hong Phuc Pham
Andrew Reilly
Ryan and Rebecca Riegler
Milton and Aracely Sanchez
Alejandro and Noelia Santana
Andrew Smith
Riste and Emily Stefanov
Grant and Abbie Willmott
Patricia Wolf

Weddings

Alejandra Arrieta and
Victor Peregrino
Abbie McKenzie Supe and
Grant Harris Willmott

Baptisms

Cassandra L. Babbie
Emmeline Grace Bach
Avery Grace Baeten
Rebecca Ann Beers
Jose Jahizel De La Sancha Aguilar
Liam Patrick Gardner
Alanis Hernandez Arellano
Victoria Elena Kelly
Carson Arthur Kulas
Noah Bao Le
Emery Mae Ludlow
Henry Donald Ludlow
Nora Jane Lux
Owen Peterson
Rosemary Grace Peterson
Isabel Lynn Rieger
Maiyury Jeanette Sanchez Castanon
Milton Yael Sanchez Castanon
Ada Marie Schmidt
Philip James Bernard Skudlarek
Hailey Than
Leonardo Overton Torres

Deceased

Robert DePue
Timothy Grogan
Edith Hampton
Scott Huntington
Kelli Kramer
Robert Lindley
Jerald Messer
Charlene Shaw
Phyllis Yates

View from the Pew

By Jayson Putnam



Saint Joseph could be the ultimate example of being seen and not heard.

He is one of the most important figures in salvation history—yet he doesn't even get one direct quote in the Bible. He is a humble and silent servant who does his task well. No more. Two of our Gospels report what he did, but nothing of what he said. Think of that! That's crazy and somewhat mysterious to think about. The foster father of Jesus, spouse of the Virgin Mary and protector of the Holy Family—and we truly know little about him.

We do know this: Joseph was born in Bethlehem in the first century BC. According to the Gospel of Matthew, Jacob was Joseph's birth father and no church records name his mother. He was a descendant of the house of King David and most likely met Mary in Nazareth. After they married he found Mary already pregnant. To protect and save her he decided to divorce her quietly, but an angel came to him and told him the child was the Son of God and was conceived by the Holy Spirit and Joseph took Mary as his wife. After Jesus was born in the same village as his foster-father, another angel came to Joseph and Mary and warned them about King Herod. Joseph led his family out of Bethlehem and into Egypt to escape Herod. Once it was safe Joseph returned with his family to Nazareth, in the Holy Land. They settled permanently in Nazareth where Jesus grew up.

In Nazareth, Joseph taught the craft of carpentry to Jesus. These skills would likely support Jesus until his public ministry began.

Joseph is last referenced in the Gospels when young Jesus was lost and Mary and Joseph found him days later in the Temple in Jerusalem.

It is widely accepted that Joseph died before the public ministry of Jesus began. The bible implies he was dead before the Crucifixion (John 19:26-27). This means he did not see Jesus turn water into wine at the wedding. He did not hear the Sermon on the Mount. He did not see Jesus' passion or painful death on the cross for us.

The Bible does not record the death of St. Joseph. Catholic tradition holds that he died peacefully in the arms of Jesus and Mary, perhaps in 18 or 19 AD. Although the location of his burial is unknown, it is likely that he died and was buried in Nazareth, where the family lived.

Joseph is remembered through the actions he took and his obedience to God's commands, not what he said.

So as you turn to the side or towards the back of church during Mass and view our hand carved statue of St. Joseph don't hesitate to slow or stop for a moment after Mass. Joseph is the patron saint of families, fathers, travelers, immigrants, working people and even house sellers and buyers, among others. Our family prayed to him a few years ago when we found ourselves moving. After two deals fell apart through no fault of our own, we purchased and buried a statue of St. Joseph upside down in our front yard. Another full-price offer came and the deal closed on time. The rest is history!

So if you find yourself in a spot before a trip, or struggling with a job, trying to sell or buy your next home, or having trouble at home, stop for a moment at our statue of St. Joseph and share a prayer with him. He may help you and your family similar to how he did for ours!



Prayer for St. Joseph's Protection

Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so prompt, so strong, before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires. Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me your Divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage of the most loving of fathers.

Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while he reposes near your heart. Press him in my name and kiss his fine head for me and ask him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath.

St. Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for me.

AMEN.

ST. TIMOTHY PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO THE GARDENS AT ST. PATRICK

On July 10th Fr. Bolte led a pilgrimage of 51 parishioners down to the Gardens of St. Patrick's in Maysville. He said Mass at the beautiful St. Patrick's Church. The group then traveled to The Gardens where Father lead us in prayer at each of the stations of the cross. Each station with its life-size bronze statues combined with the serenity and beauty of the gardens inspired each of us to remember and reflect on Christ's sacrifice for us. It was truly a spiritual day for everyone.







It Takes a Village: The Gift of Volunteering at St. Timothy School & Preschool

One of the greatest strengths of St. Timothy School & Preschool is our incredible community. Our students thrive because they are surrounded by parents, grandparents, parishioners, alumni, and friends who generously share their time and talents. Whether you have an hour to spare or can commit to a larger project, your volunteer service makes a lasting difference in the lives of our students.

There are countless opportunities to become involved throughout the school year. Volunteers help bring classroom learning to life by assisting with holiday celebrations, accompanying classes on field trips, supporting hands-on science experiments, serving lunch in the cafeteria, cheering students on during Olympic Team Days, providing prizes for MAP testing success recognition, and helping make special events such as Fall Fling and Derby Day successful for our entire school community.

In addition to these ongoing opportunities, **we are currently seeking volunteers** for two exciting campus improvement projects:

- **Preschool Playground Project** – We are rebuilding a larger, safer playground for our preschool students to enjoy for years to come.
- **Outdoor Basketball Goals** – We are looking for volunteers to help install outdoor basketball goals to enhance recess and physical education opportunities for our students.

If you have experience in construction, landscaping, equipment installation, or simply enjoy lending a helping hand, we would love your support. For more information about these two specific projects, please contact **Pam Ollier** at 859-384-5100 or via email pollier@saint-timothy.org.

To ensure the safety and well-being of our students, VIRTUS training is required for all volunteer opportunities that involve direct interaction with children, including classroom activities, field trips, cafeteria duty, and school events. VIRTUS training is not required for construction or campus improvement projects where students will not be present and should not be on site during the work.

Information about VIRTUS training is available on the school's website or by contacting **Mrs. Riggs** in the school office 859-384-5100. She is happy to provide the information that will help you complete this important requirement so you can become part of our volunteer team.

Thank you for considering how you can share your time and talents at St. Timothy. Every hour volunteered strengthens our educational foundation, enriches our students' experiences, and embodies the spirit of service that makes our Catholic community so special.

Together, we are building more than a school and preschool: We are building a spirited community where every child can learn, grow, and thrive.

St. Timothy
Parish School of Religion (PSR)
2026-2027 Registration

For Office Use Only

Date: _____

Cash \$ _____

Check # _____

Check \$ _____

Catechist _____

Complete all applicable information (front and back) and return this form with payment.

Parent's Names: _____

Mother's Maiden Name: _____

Address: _____

Preferred Email: _____

Cell Phones: #1 _____ #2 _____

(relationship to student)

(relationship to student)

Sunday Morning PRESCHOOL - During the 9:30 Mass

Child's name: _____ DOB: ____/____/____

Other Information: _____ Preschool or Kindergarten

Child's name: _____ DOB: ____/____/____

Other Information: _____ Preschool or Kindergarten

Religious Education Classes
GRADES 1 Through CONFIRMATION

Weekly classes as a companion to regular Mass attendance.

Students in a Sacrament Year (2nd grade and 8th grade) need to complete the information on the top of the backside or provide a copy of the Baptism Certificate if it was not celebrated here at St. Timothy.

Child's Name: _____ DOB: ____/____/____

Grade Fall 2026: _____ School: _____

Session: _____ Additional Information: _____

Child's Name: _____ DOB: ____/____/____

Grade Fall 2026: _____ School: _____

Session: _____ Additional Information: _____

Child's Name: _____ DOB: ____/____/____

Grade Fall 2026: _____ School: _____

Session: _____ Additional Information: _____

Child's Name: _____ DOB: ____/____/____

Grade Fall 2026: _____ School: _____

Session: _____ Additional Information: _____

Session Days/Times

Session 1

Grades 1-Confirmation
Sunday 8:00 - 9:15 am

Session 2

Grades 1- Confirmation
Sunday 10:00-11:15am

Session 3

Grades 1- Confirmation
Wednesday 6:00-7:15

Session 4

Catholic School

Session 5

Home School students

REQUIRED SACRAMENT INFORMATION: for 2nd graders and Confirmation Students

Please complete this information or provide a copy of the Baptism Certificate or note that the Baptism was completed at St. Timothy Parish.

☐ Baptism completed at St. Timothy Parish

Child's full name: _____

First Middle Last
Place of birth: City: _____ State: _____
Date of Baptism: ____/____/____
Church where child was baptized: _____
Church address including city and state: _____

First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation (grade 2) Students must have completed a full year of religious education prior to the sacrament year. If the student did not attend religious education classes in 1st grade contact Pat Seuberling, Director of Religious Education at (859) 384-1100 x2184 or PSeuberling@Saint-Timothy.org

Catholic School and Homeschool 2nd Grade Students who are St. Timothy parishioners will celebrate their sacraments with the St. Timothy Parish Family. This includes the retreats, rehearsal and Sacrament Celebration dates. They should register as Session 4 or 5.

Students in grades 3-6 who have not celebrated the sacraments may participate in our Order of Christian Initiation for Children (OCIC), which meets on Sunday Mornings at 9:30 am. This program prepares older students for the sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation.

Confirmation Students in a Catholic School or Homeschool program that does not include our Confirmation Curriculum in their current year will be required to attend PSR classes, in addition to all event dates.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Our religious education programs strive to fit the needs of all children. The PSR program offers a variety of placement options.

For any questions or information, please contact Pat Seuberling, Director of Religious Education at (859) 384-1100 x2184 or PSeuberling@Saint-Timothy.org for additional information.

CATECHIST, LITURGICAL MINISTERS AND ASSISTANTS

Continue your role as the leading instructor of your child's faith by joining our Catechist team!

Name: _____

Volunteer area of interest: _____

TUITION PAYMENT

Registration Costs:

	Discount Period	After		
Program:	Before 8/31	9/1	# of children:	Total:
Sunday Preschool and Kindergarten	\$85	\$110	_____	\$_____
Parish School of Religion - Sessions 1-3	\$85	\$140	_____	\$_____
Catholic School/Home School Session 4	\$45	\$60	_____	\$_____

Total Tuition: \$_____

Payment Options: Check or Cash; must be included with registration to confirm session choice. You can contact the Parish Office to pay via Credit Card.



ST. TIMOTHY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

LIVING, LEARNING & SERVING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Kindergarten & Preschool Space Available!

LIVING

Our Catholic faith is integrated into the daily lives of our students.

LEARNING

We strive for academic excellent

SERVING

Community Service is at the core of our mission.

St. Timothy Catholic School and Preschool proudly offers quality catholic education, hands-on learning in all grade levels, intervention and support staff, service learning and so much more! Call today for more information and a tour!

Now Enrolling!
859-384-5100



Ashley Rehkamp
Principal
arehkamp@saint-timothy.org

Pam Ollier
Preschool Director & Assistant Principal
pollier@saint-timothy.org

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

Need one more person for the following hours:



Noon - 1:00 pm	1 Person
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	1 Person
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	1 Person
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	1 Person
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	2 People
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	1 Person
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	1 Person



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



THE
COMPANION



Mission Trip 2026 - Harlan, KY

Another wonderful St. Timothy Mission Trip Adventure!

By Pat Seuberling, Outreach Director

Mission trip 2026 was a huge success. I was blessed to take 31 adults and students to Harlan, Ky to work with Catholic Mission Trips, Inc. We were able to serve 3 families and Holy Trinity Church. Heralding from Boone, Kenton and Campbell Counties, we had students from Ryle, Conner, Cov Cath, NDA, Beechwood, St. Timothy, and Home Schooled. We came from several different parishes. We ranged in age from 8th grade to seasoned adults. An incredibly great group of people brought together by the Holy Spirit!

First and foremost, THANK YOU to everyone who financially supported our missionaries. Your scholarship support allowed every student to attend mission trip at a greatly reduced price. Additional funds were used to purchase materials and supplies for the worksite projects. It helped us secure rental cars and paid for the gas for the week. It also allowed me to purchase additional food to feed the very hungry teenagers who seemed to have bottomless stomachs. Each year I ask for your support for our trips and every year you never waiver in your support for us. Thank you.

I can share that our missionaries had a very impactful trip. Life in the hollers can be hard. Students and adults were surprised at the impoverishment of the families we served. Our families were proud of their homes and grateful for the help we provided. They were happy and kind and loved sharing their stories of growing up and everyday life in Harlan.

We worked on building decks, ramps, stairs. We built an addition to a home, and we replaced and repaired rotted floor joists and floor portions providing a safe standing place for cooking and dishes and walking in the living room. We cleaned up landscaping and

played with neighboring children. They worked hard, they played hard, and they prayed hard.

This was the most spiritual mission trip I have ever been on. The depth of the student's faith went beyond anything I have witnessed before. They requested daily Mass, adoration, rosary and confession. To experience such fierce faith and prayer is something I will treasure forever. They truly are devoted to God. It gives me hope for the future of our Catholic faith.

Thank you to everyone who donated food, cleaning wipes, gloves and tissues. These were welcomed items after long days in the heat, dirt, and sawdust. Thank you to those who donated or brought snacks for everyone. They gobbled up everything on site. All of it was greatly appreciated.

Lastly, thank you to everyone who prayed for us. Your prayers were welcomed and felt. They kept our travels, our worksites, and our base camp safe. We almost made it without any accidents. One of our members fell and cracked a few ribs but he is home and healing.

We celebrated 2 birthdays on our trip. Cake, ice cream, cards and singing brightened our after-dinner meals. Healthy competition through team games, frisbee tossing and keeping balls in the air created laughter in the evenings and the award of the golden sombrero.

We witnessed incredibly beautiful scenery. The hollers of Appalachia were lush and green with the occasional smokey mountain haze hanging in the air. We saw several bear, snakes, the biggest slug I have ever seen, crickets, dragonflies, Ruckus the dog, eagles and more.

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On our free day we travelled to the mining town of Lynch to Portal 31, an underground rail tour of the mine and learned of its history and explored the surrounding buildings of the once upon a time world's largest coal camp. This tour highlighted the mining technology, safety innovations and the history of the region along with a memorial to fallen miners.

Lunch was some of the best pizzas I have eaten and then we headed to Kingdom Come State Park overlook viewing areas to see the incredible mountains. After a short hike we were off to Martins Fork Lake Recreation Area to swim at a beautiful white sand beach. They had the lake to themselves. Our God is an Awesome God!

Thank you to everyone who supported our group. I saw the Holy Spirit everywhere. I saw our group extend warmth, kindness and love to our fellow man. I saw our missionaries helping and encouraging each other, which is a true gift to behold.

The missionaries will have beautiful memories of the people we served, the mountains and hollers we worked in and the community of friendships that were made for a lifetime.

Lastly, thank you Fr. Hennigen and Deacon Cranley for your spiritual support. Thank you Fr. Bolte for your faith, hope and trust in me to lead this group to Harlan. Thank you to the missionaries that heard God call them to follow Him to Harlan. I hope they come again next year! I will hold each of them in my heart and pray they continue to spread His word and find comfort in His grace and mercy. God bless all of them.

P.S. Ask me about the Turtle Rock!

Comments from students and adults:

Brayden Proud:

Hey all, thank you for an amazing trip. I am grateful for every single one of you who was there. The last day of mission trip is the feast of St. Benedict. Benedictine order is "ora et labora" meaning prayer and work. "He who labors as he prays lifts his heart to God with his hands. " – St. Benedict.

Sloan Pangallo:

Thank you to all the adults again for all they did to make this happen. You all are truly a blessing and I'm also so glad for all we got done together.

Emily Gross:

Thank you so much for making this possible! Lucas and I had an amazing time and I am forever grateful for this experience.

Gabe Brown:

Mission trips have no age limit and you can keep coming every year.

Jenni Von Leyman:

What a great privilege it was to share this week with all of you unique and beautiful souls. My own soul feels saturated with God's goodness through the mountains, the mountain people and each of you.

William Owens:

Thank you all for an amazing trip. Something I will definitely be doing next year.

Carden Bozeman:

Also, the mission trip was an absolute blast and I think the impact we made on those kids at Cheyenne's house was my favorite and probably the most important part of that trip. It's those little things that can help those kids break free from the cycle they are in so thank you to the girls especially for the love you guys showed them and thank you to everyone for making this happen.

Maria Bozeman:

What an amazing trip! I am so grateful to have met and worked with each of you.

Letter to Maria

Bozeman's Church:

Dennis, Joseph, and Maria Hicks, Maria, Carden and Adeline Bozeman attended a mission trip with St Tim's and high schoolers across the diocese, 32 in total, kids and chaperones. The money raised from St Tim's kept the cost of the trip to about half of the estimated cost per person which was \$600 originally. What a blessing!

Our mission trip to Harlan, Kentucky, was an opportunity to live out Christ's call to love our neighbor through works of mercy. While the focus of the week was construction, we were reminded time and again that the true mission was not simply to repair homes, but to encounter Christ in the people we served.

Our team completed three construction projects that addressed real and pressing needs. One crew replaced a severely rotted kitchen floor, another built a new front porch and wheelchair-accessible ramp for an elderly gentleman, and a third team worked on a much-needed bedroom addition for a family with five children.

Yet, some of the most meaningful moments happened when the tools were set down. The children who wandered over to play, laugh, and talk with us, and the conversations shared with the homeowners, reminded us that every person is made in the image and likeness of God and worthy of our time, attention, and love. We came to build houses, but God

invited us to build relationships. In serving others, we discovered once again the truth of Jesus' words: "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40).

We are grateful for the opportunity to serve the families of Harlan, KY, and pray that the work completed on their homes will be a lasting blessing. But, as with every mission trip, the greatest work was the one God accomplished within us. He softened our hearts, deepened our gratitude, strengthened our faith, and reminded us that when we answer His call to serve, He transforms not only the lives of those we meet, but our own as well.

Jenni Von Leyman Article:

Finding Jesus in the Mountains Of Kentucky

Harlan KY: in the mountain hollers of Appalachia. We were hot, sweaty, dirty. We went to Mass first thing when we didn't get enough sleep. We went to the chapel to pray in the evening when we were tired from working all day. The work we were sent to do turned out to be only part of the experience, yet looking back, what we accomplished in such a short time was remarkable. We disassembled the decks of 2 houses, replaced them with beautiful, strong new decks (including two sets of stairs and a ramp), repaired sagging floors of a trailer, and built a new addition onto the back of a third house. We did lots of cleanup and yard work, and our children were able to engage with the kids of the neighborhood in beautiful ways.

When we weren't busy with work, we could get bored and restless for a moment or two. And that was okay. Often, we got to play- games, games, games! We even had time for a breathtaking hike, a visit to an old coal mine, and a swim in a gorgeous lake. Regardless of the activity, all of our time was

spent in community, and we loved every minute of it. Even in the hot, sweaty, uncomfortable hours, the lesson I learned is that sacrifice + love= Heaven on earth.

I loved every minute of my trip. I loved the beautiful people that we met and the community that we built together. I loved that many of the high schoolers asked for daily adoration, and I loved watching them during adoration while experiencing my own intimate encounter with Jesus.

The trip to Harlan KY was truly the highlight of my year, and I can't wait to go back. God is so good: God is so generous. He likes to surprise us when we're least expecting it- in people, in poverty, in the magnificence of His creation. Which is why I now ask: Did I find Jesus in Harlan, or did He find me?

Deacon Kevin Homily

(Written the week prior
to being in Harlan)

One of the easiest things to do is to look at a crowd without really seeing the people in it. We pass hundreds of people in the hallways at school. We scroll through countless faces on social media. But how often do we truly notice the people around us?

In today's Gospel, Jesus notices everyone.

Matthew tells us that Jesus looked at the crowds and was moved with compassion because they were "troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd." That word—compassion—is at the heart of who Jesus is. Compassion means more than feeling sorry for someone. It means entering into another person's struggles and letting them know they are not alone.

That's exactly why we're here this week.

Yes, we're painting, building, repairing roofs. But if this week is only about construction, we've missed the point.

The real mission isn't fixing things. The real mission is helping people know they are loved by God.

Sometimes the greatest thing we do isn't with a hammer or a paintbrush. It's sitting on a porch and listening to someone's story. It's learning someone's name. It's playing with a child. It's offering a smile or a prayer. Those simple moments often leave a deeper impact than anything we build.

Then Jesus says something that really stands out: "The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few."

Notice He doesn't focus on the problems. He focuses on the opportunity. The harvest is abundant.

Every person we meet this week is part of that harvest. Every Harlan resident. Every teammate. Every person who simply needs someone to care.

Then Jesus says, "Ask the Master of the harvest to send out laborers."

Before he tells us to work, He tells us to pray. "Ask the master of the harvest."

Why? Because prayer changes us. It teaches us to see people the way Jesus sees them. It's why we begin with Mass.

Maybe our prayer each morning should simply be: "Jesus, help me see people the way You see them."

If we prayed that every day, we'd probably complain a little less, encourage each other a little

more, and notice the people who are often overlooked.

The Catholic Church teaches that every baptized person is called to be a missionary disciple. That isn't just for priests or religious sisters. It's for every one of us. It's why you answered the call to be here, and our mission doesn't end when this trip is over.

When we go home, the harvest is still there—in our schools, on our teams, in our neighborhoods, and even in our own families.

Today, as you pick up a hammer, a paintbrush, or some shingles, remember this: the most important thing you build this week may not be with your hands.

It may be a bridge between someone's heart and the love of Christ.

Let's ask Jesus today to give us His eyes, His compassion, and His heart, so that everyone we meet this week leaves knowing they are seen, they are loved, and they are never forgotten by God.

2nd Homily for a Mission Trip – Matthew 10:7-15

There is something I suspect we've all learned by now.

This trip isn't quite what we expected. They never are.

Some jobs have taken longer than we thought. We've discovered that we encountered hidden challenges.

We've battled the heat, the humidity, sore muscles, thirst and maybe even a little frustration. And by now, we're beginning to feel tired. So we are in the perfect place to hear today's Gospel.

Jesus sends His disciples out and tells them, "Go and proclaim that the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." He doesn't send them

because they're experts. He doesn't send them because they have unlimited energy. He sends ordinary people who are willing to trust Him.

That sounds a lot like this group. We're not professional contractors. We came because we wanted to love our neighbor. We came because somewhere deep inside we heard Christ inviting us to serve.

And over these last few days, we've discovered that the work is about much more than roofs, insulation, and painting.

We've also built relationships.

We've laughed, we listened, and we prayed with each other and with those we encountered. We've shared meals together. In doing so, we've discovered that every place we entered is holy ground because Christ is already there waiting for us.

Sometimes we think we're bringing Jesus to the people we serve. The truth is, we're meeting Jesus in them.

Jesus tells the disciples to offer peace to every house they enter. Think about that for a moment.

We're not offering perfection, or solutions to every problem. Just Peace. Yes peace, because sometimes the greatest gift we give isn't what we accomplish with our hands but the peace we bring through our presence.

When someone realizes that complete strangers have traveled hundreds of miles simply to help them, they experience God's love.

That's evangelization. Not with speeches, not with confrontation. But with compassion.

St. Teresa of Calcutta often reminded her sisters that they were called to do "small things with great love." That's exactly what we've been doing this week. Every nail we've driven, every paintbrush we've picked up, every shingle we placed has

become an act of love offered to Christ.

And there is an additional lesson Christ offers us in today's Gospel.

Jesus tells His disciples not to carry extra provisions because He wants them to depend on God.

I don't know about you, but I think we've all depended on God this week. We've depended on Him for patience, when things didn't go as planned. For strength, when we were exhausted. For kindness, when personalities were different. For gratitude, instead of complaining.

And maybe we've discovered that God has provided exactly what we needed—not by making the work easier, but by giving us one another.

Today, I invite each of us to ask a different question. Instead of asking, "What else do I have to do?"

Ask, "Lord, who do You want me to notice today?" Maybe it's those we are serving who simply need someone to listen to them. Maybe it's another member of our group who is discouraged or homesick.

Mission work isn't only what happens on the construction site. It happens every time we choose patience over irritation, generosity over selfishness, and love over indifference.

When we return home, people will ask us, "What did you build?" We'll probably talk about the work, but I hope we'll also remember what God built in us. A stronger faith, new friendships, a greater appreciation for what we have, but most of all a deeper understanding that whenever we serve those in need, we encounter Christ Himself.

Let's pray that we finish this week with the same joy and generosity with which we began, trusting that God is still at work—not only in the jobs we're completing, but in each one of our hearts.

2026 Mission Trip to Harlan, KY









Save the Date - Next Mission Trip will be in early June 2027!!!



The Heat is ON!!!

Our neighbors are feeling the heat this summer. Requests to St. Vincent de Paul for assistance have increased significantly during the past few months. Your willingness to assist is truly appreciated.

SVDP volunteers and resources are stretched pretty thin as they provide help with rent and utility bills, food, clothing, beds, and other necessities to our neighbors.

No Time to Volunteer?

Not everyone can be an SVDP Volunteer. Work, school, family keep us busy. The good news is that even if you can't volunteer for home visits or help in the Pantry, there are still **vital contributions you can make** in the time you have.

Here are a few suggestions:

Contribute to the Parish Pantry.

You can contribute anytime by leaving food in the barrel in the gathering space.

- Canned vegetables
- Soups/ravioli
- Canned beans
- Canned fruit
- Peanut butter
- Jars or cans of pasta
- Applesauce
- Canned chicken or tuna
- Jelly
- Beef stew/chili
- Mac & cheese boxes
- Detergent/Toiletries



Buy from the SVDP store

Our SVDP stores sell good things *cheap* to finance our operations and donations. If you don't absolutely need something brand spanking new, the SVDP store may be for you! There are two stores near us:

Erlanger: 2655 Crescent Springs Road

Florence: 7110 Turfway Rd.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive" 1 John 3:17

Contribute to the SVDP store.

As you look through your closets and around the house, there's probably lots of good quality clothing – 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 is probably somebody who can make better use of them when they shop at the Saint Vincent de Paul Store.*
- In your *basement, garage, or attic*, you probably have some furniture that you no longer need: beds, tables and chairs, and games. *There's likely a need for them at the Saint Vincent de Paul Store.*

Contribute to our SVDP St Timothy Conference

Of course, financial contributions are deeply appreciated.

You can send or drop off a check for SVDP (St. Timothy Conference) in care of the Parish office: (10272 US Highway 42, PO Box 120, Union, KY 41091) or set up a monthly payment online to on the Parish website.

You can also contribute to the *Saint Vincent de Paul* box and food barrel in the gathering space.

SVDP History: St. Vincent de Paul was *not* the founder of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul. In fact, he never heard of it. The Society was actually founded by Blessed Frédéric Ozanam in 1833. When Vincent was canonized by Pope Leo XIII, he became the patron of charitable societies.

To volunteer or if you would like more information, contact Mary Rose Kahmann, 513-310-4168, <mailto:maryrosek16@gmail.com>, or Bill Anderson, 859-817-0187.

"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

Summer 2026 Update on Project Sheluka

By: Joe Meiman, Jr.

Summer time in Kentucky is winter time in Zambia which means it is the dry season. When I started this Project the idea was to bring reliable water to traditional villages on the Matebele Plain. The results are exceeding my expectations.

Fundamental Change

In early June our Foreman John Simasiku received word that the Barotse Strong Pump (BSP) in Mulamba Village needed repair. I thought this was a bit strange as it was installed last year and it seemed early for a maintenance trip. When John arrived he soon discovered why this pump was needing attention. It is being used. **A lot.**

Last year we installed a BSP in Mulamba Village. Headman Mr. Waluka Walumweya and villagers examine the new pump installed directly in the former watering hole.



Mr. Walumweya immediately saw the potential in this new source of water and planted a large garden focusing mainly on tomatoes.

This is what John found in mid June (the middle of the dry season). The BSP has been in nearly constant use since installation. The repair issue was they had worn out the handle. They were using the original design handle. The redesigned handle will keep this from recurring.



Because of the proximity of Malumba Village to the roadway outside marketers are now purchasing tomatoes from the village. A year ago this village struggled to find enough food and water. Now they are selling excess crops. After the national elections in August we will install the remaining BSPs and replace all handles with the new design.



What we are seeing in Malumba Village is occurring wherever we install the BSPs (not all gardens are of the scale of Mr. Walumyewa's effort). Before the BSP villagers were at the mercy of the rains with no hope to irrigating during the dry season. With a BSP they have not only a source of reliable water but food security. I think back to my first visit to Kalenge Village in June 2019 when the old farmer asked me if I could make it rain.

I want to thank you on behalf of the people of the Matebele and Mulonga Plains for making this happen. They continue to be absolutely amazed that strangers on the other side of the world are doing this. These fundamental changes in lives of thousands people are the direct results of your support.

I received this photo from Liyumbo Village on the northern edge of the Matebele Plain. We installed several Barotse Strong Pumps (BSP) in late 2024 in this large village. Again, for the first time villagers are able to grow crops in the dry season thanks to your help.

The attached image show a large garden of a favorite green called rape, similar to our collard greens. Notice the spacing on the plants allows leaves to be picked from either side. The villagers are farmers. Very talented farmers who have learned to grow food as a matter of survival. Now with the BSP they can irrigate crops throughout the year and grow a surplus of food. This is what your support looks like!





Join Cub Scout Pack 702!

A Scouting Tradition at
St. Timothy's Church for Over 25 Years

Cub Scouts is a great way for children to make friends, build confidence, learn new skills, serve others, and enjoy outdoor adventures. Join us for fun activities like camping, hiking, service projects, Pinewood Derby, and more.



Boys and girls in
grades K-5 welcome



Meetings on certain
Thursdays



Brodnick Hall,
basement of
St. Timothy's Church



Family involvement
encouraged



For more information, contact:

Anna Painter

Committee Chair, Pack 702

513-499-0490



★ Building character, leadership, and faith through Scouting. ★

Rooted in Faith. Guided by Values. Prepared for Life.



St. Timothy American Heritage Girls Troop KY1412

American Heritage Girls (AHG) is the premier national faith-based character development organization for young women ages 5-18 that embraces Christian values and encourages family involvement. The AHG program enhances girls' life experiences with fun-filled activities supervised by trained adults, supported by families, and implemented by its members. The AHG program helps prepare girls to become responsible, contributing members of their families, community, society, and the world. Our mission statement is **"Building women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country."**

Join us at one of our meetings!

**Tuesday, August 25th - South Fork Park
or Sept 8th - Brodnick Hall
6:00-7:30 p.m.**



- * "Try before you buy" to see if it's a good fit for your family
- * See Faith-Service-Fun in action!
- * Get the Troop Year Calendar
- * Complete registration forms
- * Order uniform and handbook
- * Registration is open through 9/30

For more information,
please contact AHGCoordinatorKY1412@gmail.com.



LEAD. SERVE. CELEBRATE!

BE A LEADER. BUILD COMMUNITY. HELP MAKE OKTOBERFEST A SUCCESS!

Saint Timothy's Oktoberfest is our parish's biggest fundraiser—and it takes passionate leaders like YOU to make it happen!



LEAD WITH PURPOSE

Step into a leadership role and help guide one of our parish's most important events.



SERVE WITH HEART

Bring your time, talents, and energy to support our parish and community.



HELP IN ALL AREAS

From setup to tear down, we need committed individuals in every area!

INTERESTED IN BEING ON OUR COMMITTEE?

CONTACT

Jamie Hoppus

jhoppus@saint-timothy.org



FESTIVAL DATES SEPTEMBER 18TH – 20TH, 2026

YOUR LEADERSHIP. OUR COMMUNITY. ONE UNFORGETTABLE OKTOBERFEST.

LET'S MAKE 2026 THE BEST ONE YET!

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



CRUSADER YOUTH LEAGUE

JOIN US FOR **FLAG FOOTBALL**

- Season runs from Sept. 20th - Nov. 8th
- Sunday Afternoons, 1-5 PM
- Open to boys and girls, grades K-6th
- All games at St. Henry District High School Football Field
- Uniforms included in registration fee
- Concessions at every game

REGISTRATION ENDS 8/23
CLAIM A SPOT TODAY!

JOIN US FOR **TACKLE FOOTBALL**

Registration is open!

JOIN US FOR **CHEERLEADING**

Waitlist is open!

JOIN TODAY AT
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