

NEWS & VIEWS

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Fr. Laniauskas with Gesu faculty members, Margaret Casey and Joe Ciuni, and their spouses, Bill and Amanda, after the recent baptismal celebration of their children.

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Gesu Community,

Before I arrived at the parish, a strategic plan was underway. Due to COVID, my arrival as a new pastor and multiple other factors, the process was halted. As the pandemic subsided and the transition to new leadership took root, the process came alive again. The hard work, surveys and conversations that were previously done served as the basis for formulating the plan you will see come alive in the pages to follow. This plan is exciting as it directs and guides our future and ensures the vibrancy of the Gesù community for many years to come. We look through the lens of this strategic plan to our hundredth anniversary in 2026 and to the further planning of a capital campaign.

We seek the patronage of the great Sts. Ignatius of Loyola and Francis Xavier to direct our plans. St. Ignatius spent most of his Jesuit life at home in Rome founding the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits), while St. Francis was sent on mission to the furthest corners of the world. Inspired by their lives and example, the core of our strategic plan is *Gesu our Home* and *Gesu on Mission*. This is beautifully

symbolized in the two primary stained-glass windows we have in our Church.

I pray that as you look through the following pages, you become inspired by this plan, part of which is already being implemented throughout our community. I also ask you to dream with me about the parts of the plan that have not yet been implemented and need to come alive and be made new. As we know, our Gesù community is strengthened by our common service to the Mission of Jesus. May we continue to find ourselves actively working for *Gesu our Home* and *Gesu on Mission*.

+A.M.D.G.+

Fr. Lukas M. Laniauskas, SJ

Celebrating 100 Years: Gesu Looks to the Future

Our Purpose and Goals

Embrace Spiritual Development and Faith Formation...

- Accompany parishioners on their faith journey
- Provide vibrant worship
- Weave Jesus' teachings into our daily lives



...and Evangelize by Word and Action

- Invite the greater community to find Jesus in their daily lives
- Provide opportunities for faith sharing
- Help ourselves and others to deepen the understanding of the Catholic Faith and teachings

Engage Parishioners to Enter More Fully into Parish Life...

- Engage new and lapsed parishioners and be welcoming to all
- Invite participation through new ideas and initiatives
- Deepen connections among parishioners



...and Respond to Those in Need

- Raise awareness of people and communities in need
- Share our time, talent and treasure with those in need

Gesu Parish has completed a long-range planning process to guide us as we approach our 100th anniversary celebration in 2026. The purpose of this long-range plan is to consider not only our own individual and parish life, but also how we share the message of the Gospel with the wider community. **“Gesú Our Home”** focuses on faith development, parish life and our future as a parish and school; **“Gesú on Mission”** focuses on Jesus’ invitation to take the Gospel into the world, respond to the needs of others and be a prophetic voice in the community.

Build a Solid Future...

- Assure short- and long-term financial stability
- Develop a new generation of leaders and volunteers
- Foster an excellent school accessible to all



...and Together Be a Prophetic Voice in the Community

- Address challenging community issues by learning and practicing applicable principles of Catholic social teaching
- Invite open and compassionate dialogue to heal division

Gesú Our Home



St. Ignatius of Loyola

Gesú on Mission



St. Francis Xavier

Gesu Our Home - Invite Participation Through New Ideas and Initiatives

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD HELPS FORM FAITH

By Mary O'Neill and Keri Cupp



Throughout the Fall of 2022, the music room of the Church was transformed into the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Atrium. This was accomplished through the reception of a Diocesan Strengthening Our Faith Grant from the Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope Campaign. The Atrium is a sacred, prepared space where children are able to “draw closer to God by themselves” through materials that serve their developmental stage. They are based on the Bible and the liturgy, thus preparing the child in a small community for the larger Church community. In January we were excited to welcome our first group of three- to five-year-old children to the weekly Atrium session.

As part of our initiative to provide more faith formation opportunities to our children, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd offers this opportunity within the specially prepared environment called the Atrium. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd teaches that children are already in relationship with God, and it is through the beautifully prepared materials and themes presented that they are able to fall more deeply in love with God. In the Atrium, the children's work becomes their prayer.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd follows the Liturgical Year of the Church, which enables children to make the connection to the Mass more easily. They learn the gestures of Holy Mass and the geography of Israel; hear the Kingdom of God parables; prepare the model altar; and work with the Good Shepherd. The sessions are two hours in length, thus allowing each child to work at his or her own pace. The practical life activities provide the children with control of movement, fostering independence throughout life. Each session ends at the prayer table with prayer and singing. One of the children's favorite activities is to “make

silence” with their bodies. This enables them to prepare themselves to hear the Word of God and listen with the ears of their hearts. The hope is that the children share their experiences from the Atrium with their families, thus creating faith sharing moments within the home.

Assisting families with this journey and leading Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is parishioner Keri Cupp. As the trained catechist of this initiative, Keri is able to share the faith formation program with the children on a weekly basis.

Gathering in the Atrium each Tuesday afternoon, Keri prepares the space for the children and aids them in their experience through the presentation of themes. She is blessed to have fellow parishioners and certified Level I catechists Megan Curran Mastrianni and Joanne Schwabauer helping her in the Atrium. It is such a gift to serve the children! It is truly a privilege to witness the beauty that takes place between the child and Our Creator, as it is the child that leads the adults to Christ.





One of our hopes for the future is that others within the parish will desire to be formed as catechists. The Catechesis of the Formation Course is a tremendous way to deepen one's faith. Formation courses occur throughout the year in all parts of the country. Those interested can visit the National Catechesis of the Good Shepherd website at cgsusa.org for more information, or contact Keri at kcupp@churchofthegesu.org.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a way to help fulfill our parish mission of Lifelong Learning and Eucharistic Living as the entirety of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd points to the Eucharist. By offering this faith formation opportunity to the young children, we are able to generously serve their needs. As Jesus states in Matthew 18:3, "Unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven." We are blessed as a parish to have begun this program and are excited for the ways that our Good Shepherd will grow it in the years to come. We welcome all to this ministry! For more information please contact Keri Cupp, and stay tuned for registration details for the next session.



Gesu on Mission: Share Our Time, Talent and Treasure With Those in Need

EXPANDING GESU'S MISSION WITH SUMMER SERVICE DAY

In December, 2022, the Gesu Community continued its 16-year tradition of Service Day. Over 600 volunteers worked on 40 different projects throughout Northeast Ohio. Service Day is an opportunity for Gesu Parishioners to serve our local community and share the love of God through practical acts of kindness. Our hope is that through Service Day volunteering enhances our mission throughout the year. Simple acts of selfless love open our hearts to Jesus, and together we make a difference.

On Saturday, June 3, 2023, Gesu will be expanding its mission with a Summer Service Day! We plan to send 100 plus enthusiastic volunteers out to seven partner agencies: Boys Hope Girls Hope, Cleveland Furniture Bank, Habitat for Humanity, L'Arche Cleveland, Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry Men's Shelter, Medwish and Zelig's Home.

What better way to kick off the first day of summer vacation for our Gesu School families! This is a great opportunity to give back to our community, celebrate our legacy of shared service, and even earn service hours. Because this is a "scaled down" Service Day you are able to select your site when you register. Sign up and help Gesu expand its mission through summer service!

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER, VISIT [HTTP://BIT.LY/3ZDSPZS](http://bit.ly/3ZDSPZS)



Gesu Our Home - Accompany Parishioners on Their Faith Journey

SACRAMENTS PROVIDE SPECIAL SUPPORT IN OUR LIVES

By Fr. Michael Vincent, SJ

The ministers of the Church are able to accompany our people through times of both joy and sorrow, and we have the opportunity to console and to celebrate. When we think of what our staff members do in the area of “Faith Formation,” I’m sure that we all think of the Baptism Preparation Classes that new or soon-to-be parents are asked to take part in when they have their first child. It is here they learn that as parents they are the primary “formers” of their children in the faith. However, as ministers of the Church, we have an important role in accompanying our parishioners on their journeys of faith.

One way we do this is through sacramental preparation. In the Roman Catholic Church, there are three “Sacraments of Initiation” - Baptism, Eucharist (“First Holy Communion”) and Confirmation. In the Eastern Churches, these all happen on the same day. In our Western Church, however, they take place at different times during a person’s life. Baptism generally takes place near the time of birth (or, in the case of an adult, after some instruction in an RCIA Program, at the time of conversion to the faith.) In the case of children, they receive the Eucharist for the first time at the “age of reason,” around seven years old, or in second grade. Our bishops mandate that children’s first experience of Reconciliation take place before their First Holy Communion. Here at Gesu, young people generally receive the Sacrament of Confirmation during their first three years of high school.

There is another sacrament aside from the “Sacraments of Initiation” for which preparation is also necessary – the Sacrament of Matrimony. Most Catholic dioceses mandate

a period of preparation that begins at least six months before the actual wedding date. During that time, engaged couples are encouraged to pray, to attend Mass, and to receive the Eucharist on a regular basis. Part of this preparation also includes the future bride and groom discussing important topics

with each other, sometimes in the presence of the priest, deacon or church minister who is working to prepare them for married life. These topics might include careers, finances, where they should live, relationships with outside family members and future parenthood. Most importantly, they are encouraged to discuss how to communicate with one another as well as how to resolve conflicts. Another major part of their conversations should involve how they plan to worship together and to teach the faith to their children, especially if they are not both Catholic.

To help the couple in these discussions, they each separately take a one-hour online personal assessment to see if they are “on the same page” regarding these important topics. The one working with the couple helps them to evaluate their answers and suggests further conversations, especially if they are not in general agreement on these items. We try to encourage couples to talk freely in front of the priest or deacon or minister, while also suggesting other conversations that should happen just between the two of them.

It is always a real pleasure for me to share the joy of a couple’s engagement and marriage planning. This is a great way for the parish priests to get to know them and their families. More than once, the question comes up: “What does a celibate priest know about marriage? Why should a priest help couples prepare for marriage?” My answer, or at least part of it, is that most people grow up in families, and all families have their successes and their dysfunctions. Our own experience as family members can help engaged couples understand and perhaps avoid common pitfalls.

Another important ministry that parish priests partake in is helping a grieving family plan and carry out a Funeral Mass for a loved one who has died. Not only do we help relatives pick relevant scripture readings and prayers for the Funeral Mass, but we also ask their help in planning the homily for the Funeral Mass. This can result in a more personal and meaningful celebration that allows the family to reflect on how God has gifted them through the life of the loved one who has died. These can be difficult conversations, but sometimes they help the family to endure and, eventually, to learn to remember the good times while allowing the times of pain and sorrow to recede somewhat into the past.

I like to think jokingly of Church of the Gesu as “a full-service parish.” It is always a privilege to work with families, both those that are celebrating a happy event and those whom we accompany during times of grief and sorrow.



Gesu on Mission: Invite the Greater Community to Find Jesus in Their Daily Lives

MEET ONE OF GESU'S NEWEST MEMBERS

By Maria Tayek



Derek Korane began his Catholic faith journey in January, 2005. His parents, Jodi Sourini and Ken Korane, presented him as an infant for Baptism at Church of the Gesu. Many years went by when Derek had no real connection to his Catholic faith until he started investigating his ethnic origins. His mother is Italian, and his father is Polish. Derek recognized his Catholic faith as a part

of his ethnic identity. Or *was* it just ethnic identity, he wondered. “I began to read further,” says the 18-year-old Cleveland Heights High senior, “and I realized that the Church wasn’t simply a part of ethnic identification, but also intrinsic to moral development.”

Derek set on a course to learn more about his Catholic identity by reading the Gospels and *Rerum Novarum*, Pope Leo XIII’s 1891 encyclical on social and economic issues. This document is foundational for Catholic social thought. “After reading those I was sure that I wanted to embrace my Catholic identity,” says Derek.

But his was not just a cursory reading of the writings of a pope. Derek, a Heights High Advanced Placement student in economics, saw not only the economic impact of such a doctrine on society but its moral implications as well. More importantly, he conceptualized how this doctrine, written at the dawn of industrialization, impacted his religious beliefs about a fair and just society. Referring to Pope Leo XIII, Derek explains, “I was amazed by the diligence of his thinking, as well as how all arguments led back to scripture and Christian morality... It made me realize that scripture had practical application and how the teachings of Jesus could be put into practice to solve social problems.”

Both the Gospels and *Rerum Novarum* have had life altering effects on Derek. “After reading those I was sure that I wanted to learn more about Catholicism, and I contacted Fr. Laniauskas in December, 2021. He was more than happy to help me fully enter the Church.”

In January 2022 Derek returned to Gesu and started regularly attending Mass. In September of that same year he entered the RCIA program (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) and will receive the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil Mass.

Scripture and the saints have given Derek direction in his quest to learn more about his Catholic identity. He is inspired by the writings of the Apostles and quotes Mark 8:34, “If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.” Derek also

states, “The Catholic Church has traditionally been the institution most faithful to that command.” He sees the sacraments, the lives of the saints, the fasting, service, self-denial and defense of Church teachings as beacons that light the way for his Catholic journey. In particular, he focuses on confession. “Our sacraments demand discipline. We cannot participate in the summit of the Catholic faith, the Eucharist, unless we are cleansed of mortal sin in Confession, for instance. For me, that discipline is the more fulfilling alternative to the comforts of the secular world,” says Derek.

Derek has not been alone in his RCIA journey and his return to Church of the Gesu. His parents have been supportive. “For them my decision was indicative of spiritual maturity,” he explains. He says they realize too that his quest has made him a better person. His extended family members have been very enthusiastic about his Catholic journey and are happy to now share their Catholic identity with him as well.

Derek’s RCIA sponsor, Jim Grover, serves as a traveling companion for his candidate on his faith journey. Jim remembers seeing Derek at eight o’clock Mass, even before he joined RCIA, always very neatly attired in a suit. “A young man at a Mass wearing a suit does tend to stand out. Most of us, even as we dress for church, are not usually that formal, so I believed that it was a statement of some kind. In his case it was apparently a statement of his desire to come fully into the Church. He has a strong desire to fully enter the Church and a strong interest to know God through the Church,” says Grover.

This extraordinary young man defies statistics that show only 30% of Catholics age 18-29 attend Mass weekly. His devotion to his faith and depth of knowledge of scripture sometimes makes him the subject of curiosity among his classmates. “I sometimes have to explain certain practices and beliefs to my friends and why I do certain things such as the Sign of the Cross or saying grace before eating,” says Derek. Though, not surprisingly, sometimes these curious and interested young people even ask him for advice too.

Spring will be an exceptionally busy time for the young Korane. He is a Heights High honor student whose course load includes Advanced Placement classes in Calculus BC, Physics, Economics and a college level composition course. He is a Heights High Symphony Orchestra violinist, a saxophonist with the school’s Symphonic Winds, saxophone sergeant (section leader) in the Heights High marching band, a member of the school’s Academic Challenge team and a runner on the track and field team. In the fall, Derek will enroll in The Ohio State University where he plans to major in civil engineering. “Entering the Catholic Church and completing my high school education at the same time is very exciting,” explains Derek. “Both are the culmination of a lot of studying and work, and both are real points of pride for me. It’s almost like graduating twice and getting to look forward to all the great things to come.”

Gesu is thrilled that Derek and 14 others will celebrate the sacraments at the Easter Vigil Mass on Saturday, April 8.

Record # of New Parishioners:



134 in 2022

38 New Parishioners
to Date in 2023
(More Than 2x
Last Year)

6,530 Active Parishioners



4 students in Gesu's CAN Ministry
(Catechesis for Adaptive Needs)

30 participants in Gesu's YACAN
Ministry (Young Adult Catechesis
for Adaptive Needs)

46 People Involved in Our
Leadership Commissions



15 Catechesis of the
Good Shepherd
Students



69 Children

Baptized in 2022

89 Children Receiving
Their First Communion

47 Confirmation
Candidates



42 Extracurriculars
Offered in the School



81 PSR Students



GESU IS THRIVING

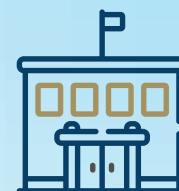
150 Active
Families in
Gesu Young
Families



13 RCIA Participants for
2022-2023



642 Students (K-8)
92 Preschool Students
434 Families



Each year Gesu's Outreach
Ministries fill more than
2,000 volunteer slots, give
financial support and collect
in-kind donations to help our
64 partner organizations in
Northeast Ohio, Honduras
and Africa.



47 Faculty & Staff (K-8)
17 Preschool Staff
18 Support Staff

10 Faculty & Staff Who Are Gesu Grads

Gesu Our Home - Provide Vibrant Worship

NORBERT HAS A KNACK FOR SUPERB SCULPTING

By John Betchkal



When he was just seven years old growing up in Germany, Norbert Koehn, the craftsman responsible for some of Gesu's most beloved statues, carvings, and fixtures, knew that he would be a lifelong wood and stone carver.

"I was only three or four when I watched my grand-

father create wood onion-shaped church steeple domes. I went to his job sites. My grandfather was a very talented craftsman. I knew I wanted to do something like he did during my life."

To fast forward, in 1973 Norbert met Clevelander Victoria Peck, a young senior at Beaumont School, who traveled to Oberammergau, Germany to study at the Bavarian State School for Wood Sculptors. They met on her first day there, and five years later she and Norbert were married. The newlyweds decided to begin married life in Cleveland, landing in the city during the Blizzard of 1977-1978. Norbert remembers, "I was from the mountains in Bavaria, but the winter here was almost too much for me. It was hard at first, but the Ursuline sisters graciously offered us a studio for our work and a small apartment. The sisters were very kind to us. We probably would not have made it without their help."

"We entered a religious art show at the Newman Center at Case Western Reserve University and won first prize. That success, along with Vatican II creating a demand for religious statues in America, brought us commissions to work for the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland and across North America. I did not expect to focus on religious work. It just happened."

As the Koehns became increasingly well known in the art world, they also were raising two sons, Aaron and Sasha. Both boys attended Gesu Catholic School. Sasha and his family are currently living in California, while Aaron and his family remain in Cleveland.

What once was part of a large artichoke farm is now the Koehn Sculptors' Sanctuary located on Green Road in South Euclid. A 140-year-old barn has become Norbert's fascinating studio, filled with mallets and chisels collected over the years. Recently Norbert made the short trip from his studio to Gesu to reminisce about his accomplishments. He recalled his first major assignment at Gesu was in 2003 when Fr. Jack White, SJ, was pastor. "I collaborated with Tom Gravino, who was my best friend and a brilliant architect. Sadly, he is now long deceased. He and I worked together to design and help build the Marian Chapel. I designed and carved the chapel altar, the Tabernacle area, the lectern, candle holders, the processional cross, wall sconces and the holy water fonts. We paid a lot of attention to detail. For example, worshipers can see the Ignatian relics placed inside a glass container right below the altar."

Another major achievement was Norbert's redesigning of the Baptismal font in the church to become larger and "seamlessly" connected to the new adult immersion font. "That sculpting was a very difficult job. We searched to get marble that would match with the rest of the church. And we succeeded!"

Near the narthex, there is an eye-catching life-size statue which Norbert carved from a portion of a Catalpa tree. "Catalpa trees are sturdy. This one was on the west side of Cleveland where the tree had become too big for the yard," recalls Norbert. "I took an eight foot section of the trunk and carved what I call 'Bringer of Peace.' It is a rendering of a young man offering a dove to the Heavens."

Norbert's most recent Gesu carving can be found toward the rear of the main church where a confessional was once located. It is a statue of St. Ann, the mother of Mary, which was carved while Father Lorn Snow, SJ, was Gesu's pastor. "I carved that from Linden wood," recalls Norbert. "The wood came from the Mahoning Valley. I worked 500 hours on the statue, and I matched its pedestal with the same marble that is in the rest of the church."

Norbert tells a beautiful story about the Good Shepherd sculpture which stands invitingly outside in a serene area between the main church and Marian Chapel. Norbert explains, "Jack and Mary Jane Breen were my friends. They commissioned me to sculpt the statue for the patio of their home. It is life-size. I carved it out of Indiana limestone. When the time came to sell their house, the Breens donated the statue to Gesu. That pleased all of us. It is in a great spot."

Having carved and sculpted thousands of pieces of impressive art for churches and patrons all over the United States and beyond – including the well-known statue of St. Ignatius of Loyola at St. Ignatius High School in Cleveland – Norbert surely must have a favorite work created from his head and hands. Not so! "That would be like having a favorite son. I don't have a favorite son and I don't have a favorite statue," says Norbert. "I had excellent professors at carving schools and they taught me to see every work as my last one. 'Try to do the best you can' – that is my mantra."



Gesu Our Home - Embrace Spiritual Development & Faith Formation

SCHOOL TRADITION REMAINS A FAVORITE AMONG STUDENTS & TEACHERS

In 2019, the Gesu Catholic School mission statement was adopted. It placed "Catholic Faith Formation" as the first pillar and focal point of education. In keeping with this mission, Gesu students regularly meet in Faith Families to learn about Catholicity and deepen their understanding of Faith.

Faith Families are multi-grade level teams led by 8th graders and generally include two students from each grade level. Groupings are purposefully selected so that buddies from each grade level are placed in the same Faith Family. For example, seventh grade students meet with second grade buddies and sixth grade students meet with kindergarten buddies. These buddy pairings gather for a variety of activities throughout the school year, are each assigned to the same Faith Family, and sit together in Church during all-school Masses. Both buddies and Faith

Families have been integral components of crafting a Faith-based school community and provide opportunities for the older students in the school to serve as positive role models for the younger ones.

While Faith Families were founded over twenty years ago, the mission of Faith Families is alive and well today within the walls of Gesu. Students enjoy the activities and interactions with other grade levels as they practice living their faith. This year, students have learned about saints, made emotion bracelets to practice Zones of Regulation, and have participated in a trivia game about vocations.

Hear what our teachers and students enjoy most about Faith Families!

"My favorite Faith Family activity this year was building the big rosary out of paper because we all had a part to do. I feel like when everyone has something to do it makes it more fun. It shows what we can do when we all come together."

Alaya, Grade 8



"I like Faith Families because I get to be a leader and because I am able to interact with younger students in the building, which I don't always have the opportunity to do."

William, Grade 7

"I love Faith Families. The program is a great way to bring our Gesu community together in order to share and reinforce our core values and school pillars. Seeing our 8th graders lead and interact with the younger grades is undoubtedly one of the most valuable parts of their education, and further exemplifies what it means to be One Proud Gesu Family."

Mr. Nate Luengo,
8th Grade English Language Arts Teacher



"I like hanging out with my buddy and learning with my Faith Family. My favorite part of Faith Families this year was the game where we answered questions together!"

Drew, Kindergarten



"Faith Families promote a sense of community and unity amongst our school. Students across grade levels get an opportunity to not only meet and get to know each other, but also work toward a common goal. We enjoy completing various projects while learning and sharing about our faith."

Mrs. Kristy Cervenik,
6th Grade Mathematics &
Social Studies Teacher



Gesu Our Home - Foster an Excellent School Accessible to All

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK – A TIME FOR CELEBRATION

Each year, students and faculty at Gesu Catholic School look forward to Catholic Schools Week to celebrate our school community and how we live our mission. Catholic Schools Week takes place annually at the end of January and the beginning of February to celebrate the value Catholic education brings to our church, communities, and nation. This year's theme was "Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service." Each day of Catholic Schools Week allows the school community to celebrate a different aspect of Catholic education.

Celebrating Our Teachers

At Gesu, our teachers are experts in their fields and put their hearts and minds into crafting meaningful lessons for our students each day. We are so grateful to Gesu's Parent/Teacher Organization for sponsoring a luncheon for faculty and staff during Teacher Appreciation Day. Teachers were also recognized for their commitment to Catholic education during Sunday Mass on January 29 to kick off Catholic Schools Week, followed by an Open House to showcase all of the wonderful things happening at Gesu.



Celebrating Our Students

The annual Students vs. Teachers Volleyball Game is a tradition like no other! This year, Eighth Grade students dressed in red, white and blue, challenged members of the faculty and staff dressed in Hawaiian shirts. The game came down to the wire in the third set when the faculty finally pulled ahead for the win. The eighth graders were praised for their sportsmanship and camaraderie. Students across all other grade levels cheered on their peers and their teachers with signs and chants. At the end of the game, the entire student body prayed the "post-game prayer" together.

Celebrating Vocations

The Catholic Schools Week Faith Family meeting centered around different vocations. As with all Faith Family meetings, eighth grade students led the activities. This week included a trivia game related to vocations, a short slide show on a saint, and some festive coloring pages. Students got to spend time with members of other grade levels and act as mentors to others as they all learned about vocations.



Celebrating Our Community

Gesu's Open House took place this year on January 29 following the 11:30 am Mass. During Open House, families were invited to tour the school to see their children's classrooms and the STREAM Center, and learn about extracurricular activities. In classrooms, teachers showcased student work from throughout the year with a particular focus on project-based learning. In the STREAM Center, families could speak to specials teachers, see student artwork, and explore various technologies used to enhance lessons. In the Family Center, students spoke about extracurricular clubs and activities offered at Gesu, and students could take pictures with members of the cast in this year's production of *The Wizard of Oz*.



April 22 & 23

Fair Trade Festival & Donut Sunday
After all Masses in McAuley Hall

May 11

Women's Guild "A Spring Soiree"
6:00 pm at The Country Club

June 3

Summer Service Day

August 19

Parish Block Party

MISSION STATEMENT

Gesu Parish, a Catholic community in the Jesuit tradition, is committed to:
 Eucharistic living, Lifelong learning, Generous serving “all for the greater glory of God.”

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

April 2-9, 2023



Palm Sunday

Masses:

4:30 pm Vigil Mass (Saturday)
 8:00, 10:00 & 11:30 am

Taizé Prayer: 7:00 pm,
 Marian Chapel

Monday

Masses: 7:30 & 8:30 am

Tuesday

Mass: 7:30 am

Wednesday

Mass: 7:30 am

All School Mass: 8:30 am

Tenebrae: 7:00 pm,
 Marian Chapel

Holy Thursday

Morning Prayer: 9:00 am

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00 pm

Good Friday

Morning Prayer: 9:00 am

Good Friday Service: 3:00 pm

Stations of the Cross: 7:00 pm

Holy Saturday

Morning Prayer: 9:00 am

Blessing of Easter Food: 12:00 pm,
 Marian Chapel

Easter Vigil Mass: 8:45 pm

Easter Sunday

Masses: 8:00, 10:00 & 11:30 am

PARISH AND SCHOOL STAFF

Rev. Lukas M. Laniauskas, SJ, Pastor
 Rev. Michael Vincent, SJ, Associate Pastor
 Rev. Gregory Hyde, SJ, Priest in Residence
 Rev. Dr. James O'Donnell, Deacon
 Sr. Kathleen Flannery, OSU, Parish Life Director & Liturgist
 Marcia Leous, Director of Faith Formation for Adults
 Mary O'Neill, Director of Faith Formation for Children & Families
 Mark Ehrbar, Director of Music Ministry
 Susanne Knauer, Director of Finance & Operations

Mary Kate Farrar, Development & Communications Director
 Colleen Clemens, Development Assistant
 Brittany Lynch, Graphic Design & Communications Specialist
 Amy Zucca, Outreach Coordinator
 Regan Kazel, Principal
 Katelyn Seliskar, Assistant Principal
 Debbie Lautenbach, Preschool Director
 Matthew Culkar, Athletic Director
 Michael Martinek, Technology Director

VOLUNTEER EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Gesu Communication Committee

Printing courtesy of LPi.

All efforts have been made to provide accurate information. Please contact us for corrections.