

The Miraculous Chapel

Last week at Mass, I noticed a beautiful young sister in her flowing grey and white habit. I stopped her after Mass, introduced myself, and asked who she was. She told me that she was from Ohio but that she had heard about our Adoration Chapel and came to visit it a couple of years ago. It was there that she heard God's call to religious life. She entered a convent in Texas and had come back to visit. This is one of at least three Religious Vocations that began in our chapel. There are others, I am sure.



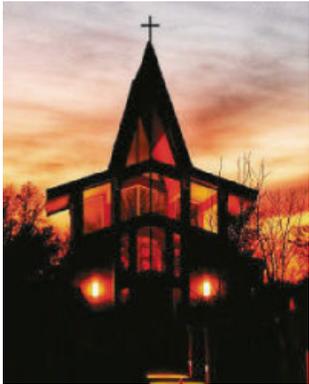
Before Mass on a Saturday, a glowing couple came in and said that they had just gotten engaged in our Adoration Chapel.

I myself sat and prayed there one evening when I could feel the warmth of the sun hitting my body. The sun's rays flowing into me and the chapel. Then I looked at the Monstrance, with the real presence of Jesus, and realized how truly present The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit were there with me. It was a truly life-changing religious experience.

We sometimes forget how truly blessed we are to have this one-of-a-kind Chapel on our parish campus. If you need some peace, clarity, and closeness with God,

stop by for a visit. And thank you once again to the Zalla Family for making our chapel a reality.

~God Bless,
Fr. John



Pastoral Council Guides Our Parish

Our parish's Pastoral Council assists the pastor in making his vision for the parish a reality and will meet soon to establish goals, based on the needs of the parish, for the coming year. Father John Sterling, Deacon Chuck Melville, Coordinator of Religious Education Jackie Koop, and Youth Minister John Kidwell are the non-voting members. Voting members are nominated by parishioners and the names of new Council members are drawn on Pentecost Sunday. New members Joe Barth, Ross Emerson, Dennis Kennedy, and Jeanne Sperry will join returning members Beth Penn (president), Mike Schroth (vice president), Kathy Dorsey, Julie Hermes, Rob Munson, and Don Randall. Thank you to Marybeth Bosko, Penny Kramer, Barb Osborne, and Diane Wendeln for serving for the past three years.

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Jerusalem Comes Alive at VBS

By Jackie Koop, Coordinator of Religious Education

After a two-summer hiatus, Vacation Bible School returned to St. Barbara with a trip back in time, over two thousand years, to explore what Jesus' life was like as a boy and young adult. In Jerusalem Marketplace, participants experienced synagogue school, marketplace craft activities, music, drama, games, and stories. Perhaps best-loved were the delicious home baked treats provided daily by Mary Ann Ehلمان and Adelma Dwertman! The kids were inspired to make their own mini loaves of bread to take home. Many thanks to all families, adult leaders, and teens who made Jerusalem come alive for the children.



DPAA Gifts Bring Love & Hope

As of May 31, our parish pledges to the 2022 Diocesan Parish Annual Appeal total \$148,095 from 330 parish households. All monies collected over our goal of \$109,300 will be returned to our parish to be used for IT upgrades in our classrooms and facilities.

It is not too late to make your gift. To do so, use the pledge envelope mailed to your home or one found in the church pews, then place it in the collection basket at Mass. Pledges, credit card, and EFT donations can also be made on the diocesan website, covidio.org/stewardship-missions. Our gifts bring the love and hope of Christ to thousands of our sisters and brothers in our Diocese of Covington. Thank you for your generosity!

Gearing Up to Rock!

Join us at our parish festival and bring your family and friends! Browse in the Bid N Buy tent, enjoy delicious food and drinks, and rock to live music all weekend. Enjoy midway rides, games for all ages, and the popular Ducky Down races. Tickets for the \$5,000 Grand Raffle are available now and can be returned to the church or at the festival.

We need your help for a successful festival weekend. A variety of jobs are available such as Food and Drink concessions, Bid-N-Buy, Happy Hour, and Games. Shifts are only 2 or 3 hours depending on the booth, and it is a great way to get to know fellow parishioners! Help is also needed for setup and teardown. Sign-ups begin on August 13 after weekend Masses and on the online volunteer signup.

The Rocktoberfest festival steering committee is a collective of parishioners: Tina Bowen, Dawn DiVita, Gary Stegman, Chuck McHale, John Mikula, Dave Pauly, Tony Buerger, Therese Cloar, Peggy Tuemler, John Wood, Molly Wheeler, and Tom Duggan. If you want more information on how you help with the festival, please contact Tina Bowen at 859.640.8766.

For info and updates, visit: www.stbarbaraky.org/news-and-updates.



Rocktoberfest Dates and Times

Sept 9 from 6 PM to midnight
 Sept 10 from 5 PM to midnight
 with Mass at 4 PM
 Sept 11 from 2 PM to 7 PM



St. Barbara's festival committee, chairs, and supporters came out in full force at the 2022 Ft. Mitchell Independence Day Parade. It was a wonderful way to help promote the festival and share our Faith, Fun, and Fellowship with the community.

Faith Formation News

CCD classes for the coming school year will take place on Wednesdays beginning Sept 21 from 7 - 8 PM in the Baumann Hall and Ruschman Annex classrooms. Registration for grades 1st through 8th, and Confirmation and First Communion preparation is available at stbarbaraky.org/ccd-registration or by contacting Jackie Koop after Masses on Sundays. Please contact the parish office at 859.371.3100 to make arrangements for Baptism if any student has not yet celebrated that sacrament.

Our returning CCD instructors are Christie Menke, Cyndi Dennemann, Kayla Bunch, Cindy Boehmker, Pat Wilson, and Diane Blackwood. We express our gratitude to them and also to Patti Smith and Don Rohman, who are stepping down after many years of dedicated service to our middle school students. We also thank Julie Reinhart for sharing her teaching talent with us all last semester.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process by which the Catholic Church invites people of any background to inquire about Jesus Christ and the Church He established. Weekly faith formation sessions provide teachings on God, faith, and the Catholic Church. Participants in RCIA also attend Sunday Mass weekly and gather to explore how the Word of God can be applied to their own lives. RCIA sessions begin Sept 18 at 10 AM. To learn more about the RCIA for yourself or for someone you know, Contact Deacon Chuck Melville at cmelville@stbarbaraky.org or call 859.371.3100.

Our Parish Family

New Parishioners

Michael & Sandra Cooper
 Eric & Katie Cox
 Benjamin & Kennedy Eisberg
 Michael & Brittany Haught
 Brian & Buffy Kuehne
 Jerome & Eileen Moser
 Lisa Myers
 Rebecca Ross
 Thomas & Emily Scanlon
 Trevor & Bethany Wendt
 Jim & Jane Wiess

Marriages

Joseph Barth & Lee Anne Ryan
 Michael Dickey & Mary Jo Birrer
 Bryan Summerlin & Emmy Cady
 Alexander Welch & Margaret Lehmkuhl
 Shawn Hyrb & Kelley Potter

In Memoriam

Mark Pieper
 Anna Styers
 Skyler Stiltner
 Julia Meier
 Robert Livingston
 Joseph Zembrodt



By Karen Riegler, Families for Life

The U.S. Supreme Court's decision stating that there is no constitutional right to an abortion and sending this issue back to the states for the people to decide was a very welcomed decision. Welcomed by so many who have been laboring in the pro-life vineyard for almost 50 years. Welcomed because it means that unborn lives will be saved, and women will be spared the trauma of destroying their unborn child.

Many Catholics are not aware of all the pregnancy centers that have been established (many by Catholics) over the past 50 years to accompany women who find themselves in an untimely pregnancy. Many Catholics also do not recognize the Church's pastoral response to helping women who choose life for their babies, as well as the compassionate response through our post-abortion ministry for those who choose abortion.

"Walking with Moms in Need" is the latest initiative by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops where they are urging dioceses, parishes, and Catholic agencies and institutions to ramp up our involvement and for Catholics to get involved in this effort. This is a brief synopsis:

- To redouble our efforts to accompany women and couples facing unexpected or difficult pregnancies.
- Ensure Catholic parishes are places of welcome for women who find it difficult to care for their children after birth so that any mother needing assistance will receive life-affirming support.
- Help Catholics recognize the needs of pregnant and parenting moms in their communities.
- To be witnesses of love and life by expanding an extensive network of comprehensive care including pregnancy help centers, maternity homes, and Catholic health care and social service agencies.
- To proclaim that our society can and must protect and care for both women and their children.
- Redouble our advocacy for laws that ensure the right to life for unborn children, and that no family lacks the resources to care for their children.
- Continue to advocate for public policies and programs directed toward building up the common good with a special concern for the needs of low-income families and immigrants.

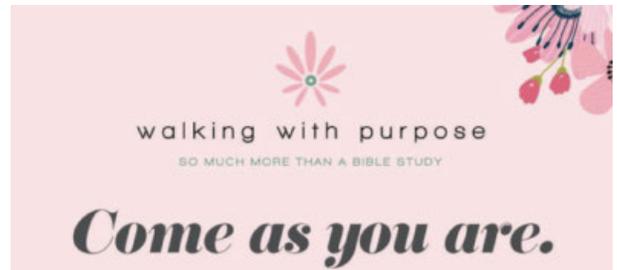
Even though Catholics have been doing so much of this for so many years, we now must continue and redouble our efforts to build a Culture of Life where pregnant mothers are cared for, unborn children are cherished, and the act of abortion becomes unthinkable!

Plans are being made to implement this program in our parish so now is your opportunity to get involved with our efforts through our Families for Life Committee. Please call Karen Riegler 859.393.7304 or Connie Ehlen 859.991.2860. Learn more at www.walkingwithmoms.com.

Yes f♥r Life

By Karen Riegler, Families for Life

While we continue to be thankful for the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision to overturn Roe vs Wade and return this decision back to the states for its people to decide, we have a critical battle going on in Kentucky. The Yes for Life Amendment will stop activist state judges from putting their own personal politics ahead of the will of the people. This Constitutional Amendment "To protect human life, nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to secure or protect a right to abortion or require the funding of abortion." will be on the state ballot in November as Amendment #2 asking for a yes/no vote at the end of the ballot. Please encourage your friends and family to vote YES FOR LIFE this November! Learn more at www.yesforlifeky.com.



WWP Bible studies combine personal study with small group discussion, linking our everyday challenges to the solutions given to us through the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church. If you desire to grow in your faith—in a supportive community of Catholic women—Walking with Purpose is for you!

WWP Bible Studies offered for 2022-2023:
"Discovering Our Dignity"

and
"Opening Your Heart"

Meets for 22 weeks, beginning Sept 26
Mondays from 6:30 - 8 PM
St. Barbara Sterling Event Center

Learn more:

www.stbarbaraky.org/walking-with-purpose
www.walkingwithpurpose.com

Registration information will be announced
in the bulletin and at church.
Email wwp@stbarbaraky.org with any questions.

Youth Group: Moving Forward Together

By John Kidwell, Youth Minister

The goal of the St. Barbara Youth Group is to spread the word of God through our words and actions within the community. We have numerous activities throughout the year including retreats, outings, volunteering at parish events, participating in pro-life activities, feeding the homeless, and helping the elderly and the less fortunate both in our area and throughout the world. Youth from 8th to 12th grades are invited to join us on Wednesday evenings from 7 - 9 PM in the parish's gray building basement. The upcoming schedule is published in the weekly parish bulletin and on handouts available at church.

Being part of a group, hanging out with friends, and practicing our faith are the cornerstones of our youth and our youth group. These past two years were difficult for our youth. During the pandemic, we may have covered our faces but did not cover our hearts. We may have been six feet apart, but we were still together. We may have been restricted in our activities but not restricted with caring in our hearts. Now I am more appreciative and understand how much the activities of caring, sharing, and helping others mean to me and the youth group. This did not stop in the last two years but increased. We adjusted and made decisions about what needed to be done for our activities. Our willingness to be together is our top priority.

We are the future of the church, we are the past, and we are the present. We are moving forward to an even better time. We are looking to recruit to add to our 70-strong group and to be even stronger. We have made some big-time adjustments through prayer and deep thought to make this group better. You will see in the upcoming year how much we improved. There is a careful balance of respect, work, and play. The youth group only wants one thing - to be treated as part of the church, not as the servant but as an equal part. All the youth wants to do is feel like they have accomplished something, be part of something, and have fun!

We appreciate the prayers, contributions, and continued support of the parish. To assist with the cost of our activities, please consider donating online on the parish website, in the Sunday collection, or by sending a check to the parish office. Thank you and God bless!

Contact info:

John Kidwell | 859.750.3380 | johnkidwell1957@gmail.com

For youth group activities, updates, and photos please visit our [St. Barbara Youth Group Facebook page](#).



Stewards Among Us

Born in Covington, Linda Kaiser and her husband, Deacon Bernard (Bernie) Kaiser, came to St. Barbara Church in 1974. Linda went through the RCIA program and was baptized into the church in December 1974. In 1976, Linda and Bernie got involved in the Charismatic Prayer Group. They both underwent a profound spiritual experience that ignited a spiritual journey that continues today.

Linda enjoys a healthy prayer life. Early on while praying, she felt she was being called to ministry but was not sure when or how this would happen. It was not long before Bernie came home and said he wanted to become a deacon. Bernie was accepted into the first class of Deacons for the Catholic Church, and Linda was privileged to attend all courses with him. Bernie was ordained as a Deacon in 1985, and Linda earned a certificate for lay pastoral ministry. God had provided the way.

Eventually, Linda became the leader of the RCIA program. Both she and Bernie spoke on finances at Pre-Cana marriage prep classes and also were able to assist with annulments. Linda later assumed the Woodcrest Nursing Home ministry and recruited others to become involved. When Father Greer asked her to set up a bereavement committee, Linda went to several parishes to learn about their programs and then developed the St. Barbara Bereavement program. Linda has also been part of the Cursillo, Welcome, Grief Share, and Walking with Purpose programs. She currently serves as a Lector, Rosary Leader, and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, and is also an active Bible Study member.

Grateful that she was led to St. Barbara Parish, Linda believes that her faith continues to grow because of her involvement in this parish, where the Holy Spirit is alive and well. St. Barbara's parishioners are blessed to have many ways to nourish our faith and spiritual journeys. Linda has learned that we cannot live our faith without others' support, encouragement, and prayers. Many in this parish have supported Bernie and Linda, and they are both grateful to serve here.

Linda and Bernie recently celebrated 62 years of marriage. They have four children - David (deceased), Tim, Sandy (deceased), and Chris and have been blessed with 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

We are grateful to Deacon Bernie and Linda for their service to the Church, and to Linda for sharing her story.



Learn about stewardship opportunities at our parish!

Go to the Ministry tab on our parish website or app.

Who inspires you? Share the good news!

Suggestions for the Stewardship and Ministry features are welcomed and can be sent to crosstalk@stbarbaraky.org.