

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ –

Here is some news about things happening at St. John Fisher.

Parish office hours will increase to six days a week as of August 17. Office hours will be:

Monday-Thursday; 8:30am –Noon, 1:00pm – 4:30pm

Saturday from 10am to 1pm

Sunday from 9:00am-1:00pm

There will be limited staff in the office, but our employees are working from home and are very responsive to email and phone messages for your needs.

Philip Cheung, a Philadelphia seminarian, has completed his summer internship at St. John Fisher Parish. His video presentations on the Saints of our stained glass windows can be found on our parish Facebook page. Philip spent time this summer making calls to the members of the St. John on the Hill Seniors to check on their well-being and needs. He began a bible series on the Psalms which will continue again in September. Watch the Sunday bulletin for more information. Philip expressed his thanks to the parishioners for your welcome and wonderful example of a faith filled community. We continue to pray for all seminarians including Philip, Sean Phillips, Ed Town, and Henry Graebe, and that our youth may respond to God's call to a religious vocation.

To mark the completion of the church remodeling, a booklet filled with many photographs is now available for all donors at the parish office. This is a wonderful way to remember the efforts and generosity of so many. In addition to the names of all donors and volunteers, information chronicles the evolution of our project and rededication. All donors are asked to visit the parish office to pick up their copy. Additional copies will be available after all donors receive their copy. Special thanks to Barksdale School Portraits for preparation and printing.

PREP News

We are committed to a full year program to catechize and prepare our young student for the Sacraments. With the limitations and concerns for health during this COVID 19 pandemic, PREP will be conducted via various formats. In class instruction, Zoom capability and homeschooling are options for parents and their children to insure the continuation of our faith formation for young people. Resources and good practices will help provide a safe environment for our children. We are committed to a full year program to catechize and prepare for sacraments. The First Holy Communion celebration originally schedule on May 9, 2020, which was postponed due to the closure of Church, will take place this Fall. Please pray for our dedicated catechists and youth parishioners for a steady and enriching year.

Holy Family Regional Catholic School is excited for the beginning of a new but evolving school year for our parish children at Holy Family in Aston. The teachers and staff have been preparing for a safe and educational environment. The focus is on providing the lowest risk in-classroom live instruction. In-classroom instruction will be limited to 12-13 students to allow for beyond 6 feet of spacing. Alternative schoolroom locations plans will compliment for live instruction as well as live streaming for virtual access. All care is being made to allow the 2020-21 school year at Holy Family to be another banner success.

For many years, the former parish grade school in Marcus Hook had been leased by the Delaware County Intermediate Unit for the Head Start program. With the completion of a new DELCO IU facility in Aston, the Head Start program is being relocated there and the DELCO IU has ended their lease of the parish building. The Immaculate Conception school is now vacant. Our parish does not have any immediate usage that would warrant the continued expenses for the building, and we have lost the yearly rental income the building generated. After consultation with the Finance Committee and Pastoral Council, I have asked the Archdiocese for permission to sell the school building. Immaculate Conception Church will remain a worship site for the parish. Any income from the sale of the school would remain with St. John Fisher Parish.

Praying for your intentions and good health.

Blessings,

Fr. Robert McDermott