

A quarterly publication of the
St. Stephen Cathedral parish



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and more!

“Where Play is Our Work”

By Pam Weafer

Thirty years ago, Fr. Ed Bradley and Mrs. Dee Dee Baur took a huge step in faith which led to the opening of Cathedral Preschool. Initially, it was intended to encourage young families to become members of St. Stephen Catholic parish, but throughout the years, the preschool served families of all faith traditions as a pillar in our community.

The school began with a small staff teaching only 4-year olds. Today, it has expanded to include 3, 4, and 5-year old students with a dedicated staff of eleven and students numbering over 100.

Larry Lyon, who headed this project, was on staff at St. Stephen Cathedral about 30 years ago working for 26 years before retiring. He did not “officially retire” because he remains devoted in supporting the preschool in various ways. Larry became invaluable when any need arose.

Recently, it became necessary to replace the playground equipment which was installed in 1987. A combination of various fundraising events and generous grants fulfilled this need. The preschool received generous grants from The Michael E. Horn Family Foundation and The Catholic Foundation of Western Kentucky. Many more donations and support flooded in from St. Stephen parishioners and preschool families and friends. These gifts to our preschool made it possible to finance and install the playground.

(Continued on next page)



Dee Dee Baur and Larry Lyon, with the help of Annabelle Baur, cut the ribbon to the new playground at Cathedral Preschool. Fr. Jerry Riney and Fr. Suneesh look on after offering a blessing on the new equipment and all who will play there. The ribbon is held by Pam Weafer and Bonnie Stuart. The ceremony was attended by the preschool students and many preschool families.

“Where Play is Our Work”

(Continued from page 1)

In January 2016, the work began and today the new playground is a beautiful sight. The children enjoy the play area, and it brings such joy to hear their laughter and watch them play.

On Monday, March 28th, the preschool staff, students and their families and friends celebrated the official opening of the playground with a blessing and prayer led by Fr. Jerry Riney, pastor of St. Stephen Cathedral and Fr. Suneesh Mathew, Associate Pastor.

Dee Dee Baur and Larry Lyon were asked to perform the ribbon cutting after which they were shown the plaque naming the new playground “The Larry Lyon and Dee Dee Baur Playground; where play is our work.” It will be hung on the playground wall for many years to come, reminding everyone of two people who worked together for many years after taking that first step of faith that led to the beginning of an institution that continues to teach with the love and principles first established 30 years ago.



Crowning of Blessed Mother



Confirmation



Danielle Henning, Kate Weafer, Ashlin McCarthy, Katelyn West, Yasmeen Williams, Etienne Forsythe, Donna Murphy, Matt Brown, Vonn Williams, Mary Grace Hemingway, Charles Brown, Isabella Wright, Andrew Ellis, Isabella Henning, Lily Moore and Cecilia Clemens at the Confirmation retreat



Ash Wednesday



LENT

Holy Th



2016

Thursday



Fish Fry



Dn. Dirck Curry, Bern Tooley, Marianna Robinson, Shirley Taylor, Lisa Taylor, Kathryn Wimsatt, Charlotte Hagan and Chona Curry



The Booth family-Mary Bryan, Robin, Maggie, Noah McGovern, Tom Ed, BJ, Paula, Sam, John Henry and Peyton Booth.



Ecumenical Service 2016



First Communion Class of 2016:

(Back row, left to right) Cayden Roper, Reagan Engineer, Jaxson Farmer, Maya Montalvo, Jacob Breeden

(Front row, left to right) Joseph Kurtz, Michael Calhoun, Grace Calhoun, Max Knoop, Kennedy Payne

Back to Our Roots

By Fr. Jerry Riney



As a Church we have just experienced the Lent/Easter season; hopefully, we have experienced dying and rising, coming to grips with sin and destructive behaviors, yet rising to resurrection and the new life which the risen Lord calls us. We have also experienced two transitional feasts:

the feast of the Trinity, the community of the Father and the Son, giving birth to the Spirit; and the feast of the Body and Blood of Jesus (Corpus Christi), becoming community, becoming more and more Christ-like! Lots of things have changed but not the essence of Eucharist!

Did you know that in the year 350, the Council of Nicea outlawed the practice of kneeling, saying the preference was the older custom of standing during the Eucharist?

Did you know that Protestants originated the use of pews/benches (first stone, then wood) and that Catholics used chairs in the early Church, as we still do today in St. Peter Basilica in Rome?

Did you know that tabernacles were not introduced in churches until the 12th century, and did not become standard until a few hundred years later?

Did you know that so few people were receiving Holy Communion in the 13th century that the pope made a law at the Fourth Lateran Council in 1215 saying that people must receive Communion at least once a year? This became

known as our “Easter duty.” Shortly after this time, the veneration of the Blessed Sacrament at Benediction and the Corpus Christi procession became a substitute for receiving Holy Communion.

Did you know that the Mass changed from Greek to Latin under Pope Damasus, who died in 384, so that people could understand and participate better, and that was not changed again until 1963 for the same reason?

Did you know that laypeople had their roles at Mass slowly eliminated around the year 1000, and those roles were not restored until Council of Vatican II in 1962-65?

The Mass today is more like it was in the early years of the Church. The Eucharist has undergone many changes in its form, but its essence is still the same. We still gather to hear the Word; we still “take, bless, break and give” as St. Paul’s letter to the Corinthians reports (Dom Gregory Dix, *The Shape of the Liturgy*). Baptized believers have gathered around the Word of God, and bread and wine having become the Body and Blood of Christ to be nourished, strengthened, energized, and transformed for 2000+ years.

Eucharist--what a gift! It is, indeed, Bread for the journey, strength for the living, an intimate meeting between a loving God and His adopted children. Eucharist is at the heart of what being a Catholic is all about!



Congratulations Graduates!

St. Stephen Cathedral honored students who are graduating this year from the High School. In the Picture are Mary Katherine Lanz, Claire Lewis, Mary Keaton Clemens, Morgan Ballard, John Augenstein, Will Hemingway, Brent Thompson, Will McCrady. Not in the picture are Annabel Moore, Jamison Bowlds, Jimmy Stiveson, Lucy Kurtz, Molly Head.

Youth Group



An evening at Malco to watch the movie *Miracles from Heaven*



Ready for Youth 2000. Max Kurtz, Luke Payne, Michael Sullivan, Kate Weafer, Payton Sanford, Lucy Wright, Rachel Kyle, Taylor Norton, Aaron Carrico, Veronica Wilhite, Katelyn and Taylor West, Sarah Lutz, Isabella Wright, Mary Katherine Gough, Sarah Murphy, Sam Polio, Vonn Williams, Cecilia Clemens, Isabella and Danielle Henning, Matt and Charles Brown and Yasmeen Williams.



Thanks to Steve and Peggy Gardner for their generous heart in sponsoring the tickets, St. Stephen Youth Group saw the Broadway show *Annie* on February 12th. Pictured are: Fr. Jerry Riney, Mary Grace Hemingway, Hannah Padgett, Brenda Clark, Annie Sullivan, Meghan Payne, Haley Fitzgerald, Abbey Kyle, Paul Iracane, Austin Gough, Rachel Kyle, Kevin Payne, Mary Katherine Gough, Tanner Cecil and Fr. Suneesh



St. Stephen youth worked with Habitat for Humanity on a home.



Sarah Murphy, Molly Payne and Lucy & George Kurtz shoveled the walk ways at church after a big snow.



Service Project: The youth group did a service Project at the Wendell Foster Center on March 13th. In the picture are: Jeff Hagan, Brenda Clark, Natalie Ellis, Molly and Luke Payne, Brooklyn Reynolds, Max Kurtz, Clayton Lewis, Justin Millay, Taylor Norton, Drake Steel, Andrew Ellis, Abbey Kyle, Christian Leigh and Dn. Dirck Curry.

Sing a New Song to the Lord

Contributions from Doreen Harney, Cindy Bornander, and Pat Taylor. Compiled by Beni Howell

“Sing a new song to the Lord [. . .]/ Break into song; sing praise. / Sing praise to the Lord [...]
Psalm 98:1, 4-5

The Diocese of Owensboro was blessed to have Joe Simmons hold a cantor intensive workshop, “Vocal Performance to Vocal Prayer,” on July 30, 2016, at the McRaith Catholic Center. Simmons is a nationally recognized music minister who serves as Principal Cantor at St. John the Baptist in New York City and travels across the United States presenting concerts of inspirational music and clinics for cantors and lectors.

July’s cantor workshop combined key formation topics with skill-building experiences and was followed by coaching sessions. Cantors were engaged individually and given transformational techniques to better serve the assembly gathered during the Liturgy. Nine dedicated St. Stephen’s cantors attended the workshop, and 15 participated in the coaching session. Here is what a few of those cantors had to say.

Doreen Harney stated:

I have served as a cantor in three parishes since the 1980s [...] Over the years, my choir directors have always stressed the importance of learning the music, pronouncing the words distinctly, and have given encouragement to overcome the fright of standing in the front of church and singing! But [...] Joe Simmons [...] presented a new and challenging perspective to the role of cantor. Mr. Simmons focused on the cantor’s role as the proclaimer of the responsorial psalm in dialogue with the assembly. It is a comfort to know that I am not singing *for* the people as much as singing *with* the people. He gave us specific ways to help open this dialogue with the people by using eye contact, facial expressions, inviting gestures, and artistic expression.



(Back Row, left to right): Cindy Bornander, Doreen Harney, John Wells (Middle Row) Matthew Constant, Rachel Lorenz, Sally Halbig, (Front Row) Pat Taylor

Not Pictured: Dan Halbig, Lauren Calhoun, Stephanie Carrico, Katie Ellis, Jennifer Payne, Molly Payne, Sarah Roby, Sr. Suzanne Sims, Adam Hayden, Jerry Kuntz, Alison Kuntz

Pat Taylor shared:

Joe involved us all in participating with our voices and thoughts, inspired by his expertise [...] The follow up, individual session was so valuable for me to glean even more [...] I was able to apply the lessons learned immediately and have seen my confidence grow not simply because I better prepare myself, but I prepare myself with a purpose and a passion.

Cindy Bornander said:

A big thank you to the Diocese for the very special gift I received from Joe. The cantor workshop helped me discover that my offering of music is truly a music ministry and not merely an obligation. There is so much more than just learning words and notes. Proclaiming the Psalm is delivering scripture to the assembly, and that is an awesome responsibility.

Harney agreed with Bornander saying, “What a glorious song to the Lord! I am grateful to Mike Bogdan, Director of the Office of Music, for making this workshop a reality for our Diocese. And thank you to James Wells, Director of Music at St. Stephen, for encouraging me and many of our other cantors to share this learning experience.”

Baptisms



Congratulations to Chris and Audrey Miller as they baptized their baby Emmet Richard Miller on the 17th of April. In the picture are Fr. Suneesh, Meghan Payne, Emmet, Chris and Audrey Miller, Nicholas Johnson and Dn. Dirck Curry



On January 30th Andrew James Lisby was baptized at St. Stephen Cathedral. In the picture are Fr. Suneesh, Meghan Zoglmann, Sarah and Matt Lisby Nicolas Lisby and Matt Johnson



Jonathan and Renee Bickett baptized their baby girl Blakely Renee Bickett on the 23rd of April. In the picture are Fr. Suneesh, Jonathan Blakely, Bryan Bickett, Renee Bickett, Marla Conner, Blakely Bickett and Dn. Dirck Curry



Congratulations to Ty and Lindsey Petway as they baptized their baby Molly Louise Petway on the 17th of April. In the picture are Fr. Suneesh, Haley and Scott Riches, Ty and Lindsey Petway and Dn. Dirck Curry



Brian and Molly Howard baptized their baby Lily Aileen Howard on the 5th of June. Maggie and Allen Knoop are the Godparents.

Thank you Michael Conley!

St. Stephen Cathedral honored Michael Conley on the 17th of April for his selfless service to the Church for the last 37 years. We wish him blessings of good health in mind and body.

Fr. Jerry's Birthday



St. Stephen Cathedral Parish would like to welcome the following new parishioners since January 2016

Christina Howe

Cain, Courtney, Genevieve, & Lily Drury

Brian & Molly Howard

Jackie Durbin

Ed & Karen Hodskins

Johnny Merrill

Mark Moore

Austin & Sarah Rice

Joe & Jeffrey Day

Eric, Christine, Carly, Greg, & Nick Buckner

Troy, Carol, Sarah, Emily, & Eleanor Halem

Johnathan, Renee, & Blakely Bickett

Bill, Kathy, Christian, Katelyn, Madlyn, & Will Murphy

Kristen Clark

Benoit, Laurence, Lucas, Manon, & Noe Georges



Congratulations Molly!

Molly Payne received the Diocese of Owensboro's Servant Leaders Award for St. Stephen Cathedral. An incoming senior at OCHS, Molly is a cantor, lector and Eucharistic minister; assists with Children's liturgy and Faith Formation; and is very active in the youth group.



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Farewell Fr. Suneesh!

Thank you for your years of
service at St. Stephen Cathedral.
We wish you the best as pastor at
Precious Blood.

Welcome Jeff Payne!

Our new Director of Buildings
and Grounds

