

A quarterly publication of the  
St. Stephen Cathedral parish



First  
Communion  
*Page 3*



Welcome New  
Parishioners  
*Page 6*

# *the* Parishioner

## What's Inside

May Crowning  
*Page 4*

Ministers of Praise  
*Page 5*

A Mosaic Which  
Welcomes!  
*Page 7*

Formed.org  
*Page 8*

Hungry for Love  
*Page 9*

Confirmation  
*Page 19*

Enjoy the Exploration  
*Page 11*

*and more!*



## The Parting of Ways By Beni Howell

Shakespeare said, "Parting is such sweet sorrow (that I shall say goodnight till it be morrow)." Holy Scripture tells us, "There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens. . . a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces. A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away. . . . He has made everything appropriate to its time." (Ecclesiastes 3: 1,5b-6, 11)

June is a month of saying farewell, but sending best wishes and prayers with Fr. Jamie Dennis and Donna Murphy. Fr. Jamie will be heading to Whitesville, KY to be the Associate Pastor of St. Mary of the Woods under the tutelage of Fr. Brian Roby. Donna Murphy is "semi-retiring" to spend more time with her family, especially her mother--during her golden years. Tears will be shed.

Fr. Jamie took care of those who were in the hospital and home bound, worked with the youth of our parish, and brought the Liturgy of the Hours (Vespers) to life in our parish. Theresa Ray says, "I want to [say] THANK YOU [to] Father Jamie for teaching us how to sing the Liturgy of the Hours and saying the night prayers. The

*(Continued on next page)*



## The Parting of Ways *(Continued from page 1)*

Cathedral was blessed right away.” Parishioners were lining up to take Fr. Jamie to visit the hospital and the homebound, to the Owensboro Catholic Schools for classroom visits and Mass, and to Hermitage and Fern Terrace Nursing Homes to celebrate Mass. One of his regular chauffeurs, Jim Duffy, said, “Thanks for making our time together such a joy when visiting the hospital, eating breakfast, and sharing time with students at OCS schools. I will always treasure our friendship and the opportunity you have given us at Saint Stephen [Parish] by ‘opening our eyes’ to YOUR joy for life and God’s love for all of us. Shalom.” Pat Baker shares that, “Fr. Jamie has become a very dear and spiritual friend, bringing me closer to Christ. Far more importantly, he has taught me how to laugh again.” Charlotte Hagan confided that he “helped me grow prayerfully and spiritually, has made me see that a disability doesn’t stand in your way to succeed in life and has taught me to be comfortable with people who have disabilities. He is an amazing priest.” Mary Horn told us, “Fr. Jamie is a man of deep faith and an amazing priest! It was an honor to assist and serve at Mass with him. I thank you Fr. Jamie for sharing your many gifts with us at St. Stephen Cathedral.”

Donna Murphy, Director of Faith Formation, has touched many lives in her 5 ½ years as a team member of this parish. She organized the Sunday classes for young people who attend public schools, organized Vacation Bible School, prepared those seeking the Catholic faith in the RCIA process, provided Baptism Preparation for new parents, and “anything directed by the pastor.” Parishioner Laura Smiley told us, “Donna was one of the first people I got to meet when I began coming to St. Stephen’s when I attended a Welcome Back meeting! Since that day we have laughed, cried, and prayed together. She has helped my family in the process of faith formation, RCIA, and getting my marriage blessed by the church. She will forever hold a special place in my heart and I wish her all the best on her new journey!” “Donna has been such a blessing to our family. She helped our family every step of the way in becoming new members of this wonderful Church and myself going through RCIA. We cannot thank her enough,” says Sarah McCarter. Katelyn West worked closely with Donna, assisting with preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. She shared, “Donna was

so easy to work with! She was always so grateful for any help I could give, but I don’t think she realizes how much help she gave to me. She is wise, kind, helpful and a wonderful leader. It is hard to imagine this role without her in it.” Donna Biggs from the Office of Faith Formation for the Diocese of Owensboro said, “I found Donna to be very dedicated, faith-filled, and competent in her ministry of work. During my conversations with her she was always so pleasant and easy to talk to.” “I have known Donna for more than three decades. She is such a witness to me of how to live a faith-filled life. She is firmly rooted in her relationship with Jesus, and her words and actions flow from that relationship. She is Spirit-led, gracious, and grace-filled. Her gifts are numerous, and she has a very long history of using those gifts in the service of others. She is wise and learned and always the calm in any story,” shared Martha Hagan, Vice-Chancellor of the Diocese and Assistant to Bishop William Medley. Donna Murphy’s hats would not be complete without speaking of her work with the seminarians that have come through the Cathedral during their appointed times while in Seminary. Donna has worked with Father Bascillio Az Cuc, Corey Bruns, and Deacon Mark Schuster. Corey had so much to share, he found it difficult to be concise. Corey says, “Over the course of my pastoral year I came to know Donna, not just as a supervisor, or member of the parish team, but more importantly as a woman of deep faith, with a passion for service, a heart filled with love for her family and the Cathedral community, and much like our Blessed Mother, a woman of reflection, with a vibrant prayer life that enriches not only her life but mine and each person that she encounters. Donna has become a mentor, colleague, confidant, and most importantly a dear friend to me through her ministry at Saint Stephen. . . . May God continue to bless the good works of her hands, and the love of her heart as she continues to better others for His glory in this next chapter of her life!”

We are PLEASED to announce that Donna will continue part-time as Director of our RCIA Program.

Farewell, good luck, best wishes, and God’s Blessings. “What now is has already been; what is to be, already is; and God restores what would otherwise be displaced.”

Ecclesiastes 3:15

# First Communion

Sunday, April 30, 2018



*Front row: Mary Evelyn Knoop, J. W. Kurtz, Wesley Padgett, Ryleigh Owen  
Middle row: Brian Payne, Kirsten Zoglmann, Lyla Mahoney, Benjamin Payne  
Back row: Donna Murphy, Lauren Calloway, Simon Ray, John Paul Carrico, Katie Calhoun , Father Jerry Riney*





# May Crowning

**1st Communicants honor Mary with flowers at the annual May Crowning after 9am Mass , Sunday, May 6th.**



Katie Calhoun and  
Lauren Calloway



Lila Mahoney, Kirsten Zoglmann, Mary Evelyn  
Knoop, Simon Ray, and Katie Calhoun

The Allen and Maggie Knoop family



Lauren Calloway

# Ministers of Praise

By Marianna Robinson



Our Cathedral is blessed with a number of committees, each of which give a parishioner an opportunity for involvement. There's something for everyone; and as Fr. Jerry often comments, "Pitching in one or more of the committee opportunities 'makes for light work' for the whole of our parish."

One fairly new ministry added to our list of committees is the Ministry of Praise with George and Margaret Frey serving as coordinators. Our Directory states, "this ministry is perfect for parishioners who are no longer able to be as actively involved as they would like. Volunteers are commissioned by our parish priest; at this time, they receive a wood cross and a prayer book. Volunteers agree to spend time daily in prayer for a variety of intentions."

One volunteer, Carrie Wieder, enjoys being on the prayer team and says Fr. Jerry makes regular contact with members by sending them a list of prayer intentions to include in their daily communication with God. Carrie sees this ministry as a valuable resource for parishioners, as well as for countless other causes in our world. There are many within our own parish listed in our bulletin who are sick and appreciate prayer. The daily news heightens our awareness about the suffering around the world, and the need for peace in our troubled world is a worthy daily intention. Another volunteer is longtime

parishioner Margaret Mills who enjoys her "heart time" with God on a frequent daily basis. Carrie and Margaret appreciate the value of prayer, both for the one who prays as well as the person/issue that is the prayer intention. Spending quiet time with God brings peace to the soul.

Currently, these parishioners participate in the Ministry of Praise: Margaret and George Frey (coordinators), Henry Lockett, Linda Sikes, Tony Sikes, Debra Sikes, Bernard and Mary Hagan, Bob and Roberta Berry, Cheryl Hayden, Regina Lewis, Helen Miles, Margie Hill, Gerald and Joyce Nalley, Lucy Neal, Maurice Schaefer, Sr., Louise Thompson, Margaret Velotta, Mary Alice Wethington, Ruth Zachary, Paul and Rose Bender, Norma Axley, Sharlene Hatfield, Margaret Mills, Norman and Lillian Gentry, Dorothy Fulton, Wilma Fenwick, Joe and Ann Staples, and Richard and Mary Ann Clouse.

For inspiring reading about reflective/contemplative prayer, famed Catholic theologian Fr. Richard Rohr has written several books on the topic; his books are available through Amazon.com or locally at St. Maximillian Kolbe Catholic Book Store.

If you would like to become a Minister of Praise, please contact the Parish Office.



# Welcome New Parishioners!

New parishioners and Welcoming Committee members enjoy  
a recent New Member Reception at the Rectory



Theresa, Noah, and Andy Edelen



Sarah McCarter and Charlie Mac

## St. Stephen Cathedral Parish welcomes the following new parishioners since January 2018!

Harry & Charlene Baumgarten, Jr.  
Dave & Linda Beckman  
Mike & Jean Bertram (Shelby and Sydney)  
Jordan & Megan Bickett (Molly)  
Johnnie Brandau  
Steve Brown  
Bill and Monique Craig, Jr.  
Emily DeMoor

Andy & Theresa Edelen (Nicole and Noah)  
Stephen Hagan and Sherri Stevens  
Charlie & Megan Hardesty (Nolan and Grace)  
Justin & Jamie Marks (Landon, Levi and Luke)  
Ron & Marcia Rhodes  
David & Oliva Spears (George & Mary Catherine)  
Darlene Wells

# A Mosaic Which Welcomes!

By Fr. Jerry Riney



As you ascend the steps to enter St. Stephen Cathedral, cast your gaze upward above the main front doors. You will notice a magnificent mosaic of Christ with arms extended in welcome! Notice the words in bold lettering, “Peace To All Who Enter Here!”

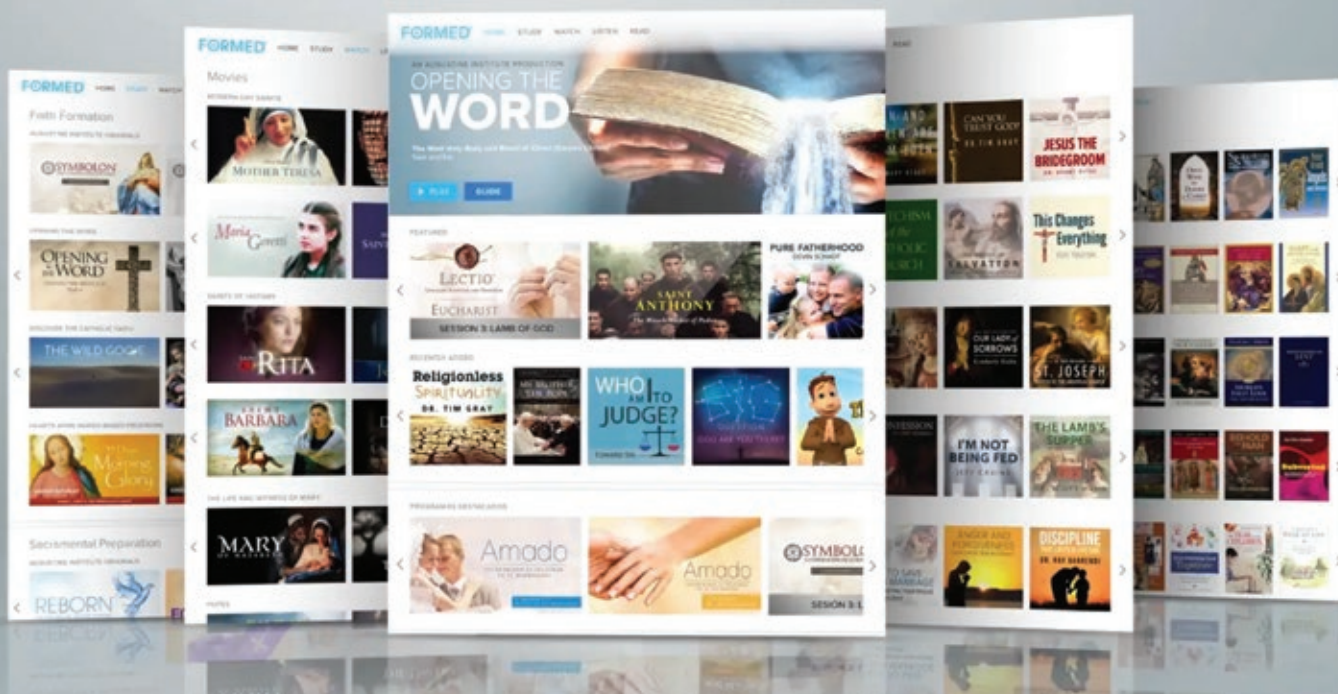
To me this mosaic is Jesus saying: Whatever you are experiencing at this stage in your life--the ecstatic joy of an engaged couple preparing to be married, the deep sadness of a widow following her husband's casket, the worried parent of a straying child, the childlike innocence of a youngster eager to receive Jesus for the first time in Holy Communion, the sorrowing penitent burdened with a regrettable sin that begs for mercy, the seasoned love of a couple celebrating their golden wedding anniversary, the heartbroken spouse who has just been asked for a divorce, the skeptical young adult who questions God's love and plan, the proud graduate whose hard work has accomplished a milestone, the incredulous sterile couple weighed down by the possibility of a childless marriage--yes, whatever you are experiencing, you are welcome here in this sacred place, and I long to sustain you with my peace.

Is there anything more sought after and valued in our life than peace? Peace of mind. World peace. Peace in our country. Family peace. Peace within myself. Inner peace. Money can't buy it and prestige can't acquire it. Faith in the Lord can bestow this invaluable fruit of the Spirit.

Peace is often described as the absence of conflict, distraction or anything that makes us feel uncomfortable or disturbed. A person is at peace when one feels relaxed and comfortable; a nation is at peace when not involved in war. “Daughter, your faith has saved you,” assured Jesus, “Go in peace and be cured of your affliction” (Mark 5:34). Like this anonymous tortured woman, we long to be whole. We yearn for serenity, restfulness, calmness, tranquility, peacefulness in our hearts.

What if I told you that the biblical idea of peace sometimes means diving into conflict, choosing discomfort, and being disturbed? The biblical notion of peace is much broader than simply the absence of conflict, but the presence of harmony. It's not cease fire; it's community. According to Ephesians, Jesus is our peace, and came to reconcile us both to God and to each other (Ephesians 2:14ff). Therefore, at times we are called to stand up and speak out when the rights of another person--regardless of background, ethnicity, gender, religion, status, disability--are infringed upon. In these cases, it is not acceptable to marinate in our comfortableness. We must speak out! There is that inner voice within us that gives us the courage to do what is right in the face of injustice.

Yes, Jesus extends his arms to welcome everyone into His house. Peace to all who enter here! Then, strengthened, healed, and renewed by Word and Sacrament, we are sent forth to be Jesus' presence in our world. Go, love and serve the Lord, and His people. Peace be with you!



## Formed.org By Robin Tomes

I am here to tell you about an exciting learning and entertainment tool we have at St. Stephen. Fr. Jerry was gracious enough to purchase Formed.org for our parish at the beginning of Lent that gives all parishioners access to log on for free.

Formed.org is Catholic digital content featuring video, audio, e-books, and films from well-known and respected Catholic sources. It was created by the Augustine Institute to give solid Catholic resources to people and help them to learn more about Catholicism. Some of the most popular videos are Bishop Robert Barron's Catholicism series; Divine Mercy; The Jeweler's Shop, a movie based on St. John Paul II's bestselling book; and Symbolon.

Parishioners Tom and Amy Payne have viewed several saint movies and some of their favorites are about St. John Paul, St. Bernadette, and St. Joseph. They have also listened to many of the audio talks

as they travel and enjoyed Who Am I to Judge and Understanding Luther. They have also enjoyed the Wild Goose series.

To date we have 131 parishioners signed up with about 75% engaging with the content. The most watched adult study series is Divine Mercy and Symbolon, and The Day the Sun Danced and St. Patrick for the kids. The newest series, Presence, explores the beauty and truth of His real presence in the Eucharist.

Formed.org is available on your smart phone or tablet with the Formed App, on your computer, and will soon be available on Roku. A Chromecast can be used to stream content on your television from your computer.

Sign up today at [ststephencathedral.formed.org](http://ststephencathedral.formed.org) for free and start learning more about the wonderful traditions and beliefs of the Catholic faith.



# Hungry for Love

By Maggie Knoop

“The hunger for love is much more difficult to remove than the hunger for bread” – St. Mother Teresa. St. Mother Teresa was on to something! The slums of Calcutta not only showed St. Mother Teresa what physical hunger looked like, but more importantly the slums showed her what a starved soul looked like. There are no slums in Owensboro, but there are starved souls yearning for love, kindness, compassion, and a shared meal. The St. Stephen Cathedral Soup Kitchen, in partnership with the Daniel Pitino Shelter, is a wonderful place to spread God’s love through cooking and serving a meal for those who need compassion, dignity, and love. The volunteers who serve St. Stephen Cathedral Soup Kitchen provide service to the hungry, and through this service offer love to living, breathing souls. The Daniel Pitino Shelter is open 365 days per year, serves over 100,000 meals each year, and is currently housing 300 residents. The Daniel Pitino Shelter is more than the numbers; it is a place in which my daughter and I consider it a privilege to walk through the doors and know people by name. Each person is part of the same big, beautiful world God created. It is a privilege to cook a meal and serve that meal with others from our church community. Our St. Stephen Cathedral Soup Kitchen volunteers make a difference in the lives of others. In conclusion I reflect upon the quote by St. John Paul the II who reminds us, “The ultimate test of your greatness is the way you treat every human being.”

For volunteer opportunities contact Maggie Knoop at [mmk1051251@gmail.com](mailto:mmk1051251@gmail.com)

## Confirmation

Pentecost Sunday, May 27, 2018



*Front Row:* Donna Murphy, Annie Sullivan, Meghan Kyle, Andrew Aud, Jonathan Drury, Katelyn West;

*Middle Row:* Bishop William Medley, Grace Moseley, Connor Calhoun, Nicholas Clemens, Keaton Leigh;

*Top Row:* Claire Augenstein, Bailey Padgett, Jeffrey Day, Jacob Warren, Fr. Jerry Riney



April 21st Retreat at Clark Lake – Confirmandi along with Fr. Jerry, Fr. Jamie, Donna Murphy, Katelyn West, and seminarian Mark Schuster

# Parish Celebrations



Casey Hamilton (center) received the sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation through RCIA with Fr. Jerry on Sunday, April 29th. Casey is surrounded by his family, who also recently came into the Church through RCIA.



Emma Katherine Rhodes, with parents Ben and Kelsey Rhodes, was baptized Sunday, April 15th



Buddy and Sarah McCarter with Charlie Mac and Fr. Jerry. Charlie Mac was Baptized on April 15th



Clara Anne, daughter of Zack & Sarah Roby, was baptized into the community of the Church on April 15th! Godparents are Haley Riney and Will Payne.





*We have a 5-Star Rating  
from the State of Kentucky*

## Enjoy the Exploration

By Pam Weafer

We try to have fun at Cathedral Preschool every day, showing students that school is a fun and loving place to be and that learning can be fun! We fill their days with activities to encourage exploration. Our last days this school year were busy with a fieldtrip to the Riverpark Center for a play and an ice cream party to celebrate raising almost \$1000 in BoxTops this year! Our five-year-olds hosted a fabulous Art Show. We also had a visit from Cadence, an American Saddlebred horse belonging to Shelby Pagan, in Mrs. McNulty's four-year old class. Cadence was pampered with all the apple and carrot treats she could eat from Shelby's classmates.

There were some tearful good byes and best wishes on graduation days as we said good bye to some families that have been here for several years in a row. It is hard to say good bye, but exciting to see these little ones move on to kindergarten.

Registration for next year is ongoing until school begins in August. Please call or email for registration information. (270)926-1652 [pam.weafer@pastoral.org](mailto:pam.weafer@pastoral.org) or log onto [cathedralpreschool.com](http://cathedralpreschool.com).





610 Locust Street  
Owensboro, KY 42301-2130

NONPROFIT  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
OWENSBORO, KY  
42301  
PERMIT 900

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### ***Newsletter Contributors***

#### **Writers**

Beni Howell  
Maggie Knoop  
Fr. Jerry Riney  
Marianna Robinson  
Robin Tomes  
Pam Weafer

#### **Editor**

Katie Pagan

#### **Layout Designer**

Taylor West

#### **Proofreader**

Haley Roby

## **Congrats Graduates!**

Congratulations to our High School Graduates! Best Wishes and Good Luck! Ignite your Faith and may God Bless you!

Robert Ballard III  
John Henry Booth  
Natalie Nicole Ellis  
Francesca Rae Hoffman  
George Henry Kurtz

Donta Millay  
Lillian Margaret Mathis  
Sarah Marie Murphy  
Lucille M. Wright



Franny Hoffman was honored with the Harold Mischel Award - the highest honor for a graduating senior at OCHS



Honoring High School Seniors  
at 11am Mass



Robert Ballard



Lucy Wright



John Henry Booth