



# Connections

News of Little Flower Catholic Parish

Toledo, Ohio ❖ February, 2013



## Look at us now, Dorr Street!



Photos: Mike Tressler

*The image of a simple but strong Christian church is the view of Little Flower from a major Toledo street. It was dedicated following mass concelebrated (below) by Fr. Dave Nuss and Fr. Joe Steinbauer.*



**Fr. Dave Nuss**

### The Church of tomorrow

THESE DAYS I seem to be asked often how I see the Church of tomorrow.

For sure, the Church of tomorrow cannot be other than the Church of **Jesus Christ** and His apostles – the Church of **Saints Peter and Paul, Saints Teresa and Catherine, Saints Thérèse and John Vianney, Blessed John Paul and Blessed Teresa of Calcutta.**

It is the Church whose life and continuity is marked by great Councils and Synods.

It is a Church *fully subject to God's Word*. From God's Word the Church of tomorrow grows and becomes more fully alive in its praise of God, love of each other, and service to those whose needs are especially pressing.

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*St. Thérèse of Lisieux*  
Our Patron

**Little Flower Grows**

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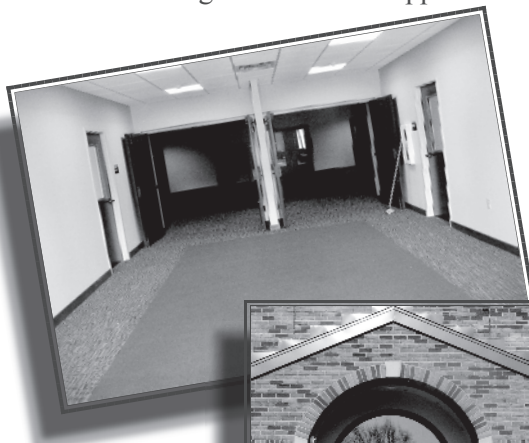




# Thank you, everybody!

## Little Flower's new face

WE'VE GROWN, thanks to you who are reading this. Thanks to every member of Little Flower of Jesus Parish. A new and entrance from Dorr Street, a new gathering space to greet each other, a new and updated suite of leadership staff offices to serve this Christian community. Thanks to all of you who contributed to this Seeds of Faith project and thanks to God for all the blessings that made it happen.



*Entering the new doorway leads to an open gathering space -- a bright traditional church narthex.*

There is a new way for the people of Toledo to see and know about Little Flower of Jesus Catholic church.

It's a fresh -- and bright -- vision for those who pass by on Dorr Street, a major thoroughfare. The new look is an attractive and easy view from Dorr. It's the look of a stately but understated church front, a traditional, yet fresh, image that proclaims:

"We are here, a Catholic Christian community. We welcome all! Turn in, come and meet us. Walk in, we will greet you and be glad you are here. Join us and help us be close to God.

"Join our community, too, if it works for you. We are simple people, and humble. But we are friendly and loving, and we are strong in service to the least among our neighbors -- and inviting like the new tower entrance you can see."



*Paul Figliomeni at the Dec. 8 dedication.*

## Parish members made it happen, say 'Seeds of Faith' leaders

### Paul Figliomeni:

Since the Seeds of Faith initiative began in 2005, it has always been about being forward thinking and building a future for our parish, for our younger families, and for future families.

With completion of our new building, we have achieved a big accomplishment in making our parish community more visible and accessible from busy Dorr Street, and more

identifiable as a Catholic community where all "are welcome." This could not have happened without perseverance, generosity, and committed spirit of parishioners. We are now well on our way to completing the last phase of the project to transform our worship space. The worship design team has established a vision. We can soon share designs and deliver on a promise for a more permanent and beautiful space to worship and praise the Lord.



*John Gentle checking early construction.*

**Steering Committee:** John Gentle and Paul Figliomeni (co-chairman), Joel Nedrow, Vicki Flahie, Jackie Bensman, Mike Tressler, Sue Madden, Marianne Hassen, Chris Lewinski, Jim Frey, Carol Huss, Martha Nasset







# The Dedication

*PARISHIONERS, including a smiling Marisa Patino, right, got a first look at the new entrance and gathering space.*



*Fr. Joe Steinbauer, who shepherded the planning, joined Fr. Dave Nuss, who gave the work his own stamp to move it forward. Together, they called for God's blessing. 'When I drove in the parking lot, it was like coming home,' said Fr. Joe.*

*Little Flower Pastoral Council chairperson Marianne Hassen, left, was the emcee.*



*U.S. Congresswoman Marcie Kaptur, right, a lifelong LF parishioner, spoke to the dedication's crowd, including Deacon Doug Bullimore.*

Photos: Mike Tressler



*The Little Flower of Jesus logo is embossed on the high wall of the new entrance.*



*The ribbon blurred when cut by a group of parishioners. Among them from left, U.S. Representative Marcie Kaptur, Fr. Joe Steinbauer, St. Benedict School principal Carol Huss, Bill Rudolph of Rudolph/Libbe builders, music director Tom Williams, student Danielle Dastoli, committee co-chairman John Gentle, and business manager Chris Lewinski.*



*Checking out a new office were Pastoral Council member Joe Koerper, business manager Chris Lewinski, worship design member Martha Nasset, and Vicki Sorgenfrei, and Marianne Cappiello, both Pastoral Council.*







PEOPLE IN OUR PARISH



**ON THE JOB FOR SVdP** -- Parishioners Bob Rennert, left, and Dave Westfall, volunteers for LF's chapter of the St. Vincent dePaul Society ministry, tote goods that will go to families in need in the southwest Toledo neighborhood..

*A week before dedication of a new LF entrance, parishioner Al Brady tried the new doors. Al had just served as a lector, using his booming voice to proclaim the word at a Saturday mass.*



*Among the 'celebrity' chefs who served at a fundraising dinner to benefit Little Sisters of the Poor was none other than the Rev. Eric Schild, a former Little Flower seminarian, pictured in The Blade wearing chef's regalia. Also serving was Msgr. Mike Billian, former LF member and LF School student. More than \$62,000 was donated toward resident care at Sacred Heart Home.*

Photo: Lori King, The Blade



**AT THE DEDICATION**, were, above, Dick and Diane Gasiorowski and fundraising chairperson Sue Madden. At left, were Tom and Karen Wisniewski and Dick McGee.

Photos: Mike Tressler



**Sr. Karen writes a healing guide**

LITTLE FLOWER parishioner Sister Karen Zielinski, a Sylvania Franciscan and former Little Flower School teacher, has taken another step in her ministry of helping others cope with disease and disability, often using her own experience as a model. Sr. Karen, who has written for several health journals, has authored a book titled *Hope and Help for Living with Illness*, a book about dealing with personal health issues. Stricken with multiple scler-



Illustration: The Catholic Chronicle

osis 30-some years ago, Sr. Karen draws on experiences of herself and others to advise on ways to cope.

The book, published by Franciscan Media, is available at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) or [www.allgoodthingsosf.org](http://www.allgoodthingsosf.org) and at the Franciscan Art and Gift Shop in the Sylvania Franciscan Village.

Sr. Karen taught junior high classes at Little Flower and also at Central Catholic High School. She has spoken at LF "Soup and Bread" nights during Lent.

An illustrated article described the book in a recent Catholic Chronicle.







# PEOPLE IN OUR PARISH

## A peaceful place for a break



*DURING a hard day's work moving St. Vincent dePaul into the Parish House, Frank Reynolds and JoAnn Newmeyer took a break by the Little Flower prayer garden and talked to a passerby.*

*Frank: 'It's amazing how much this (LF) parish does. I wasn't active for a long time, but this parish inspires people to be active in ministries.'*

*JoAnn: 'I've belonged to other parishes. This is the friendliest parish I've ever known.'*

[JoAnn was chosen to lead the SVdP ministry. See Page 6.]

Photos: Mike Tressler

## Friends . . .

*The Rev. Mark Davis, pastor of Bowling Green St. Aloysius Parish, dropped by to see his friend, Little Flower's Fr. Dave Nuss, and inspect the new tower entrance going up. Fr. Mark viewed progress made since the new LF pastor's arrival and said something like: 'This is amazing! It's like magic.'*



Photo: Sylvania Advantage

*Sister Mary Jon Wagner, left, Sylvania Franciscan Congregational Minister, joins three sisters who taught at Little Flower School, from left, Sr. Shannon Schrein, Assistant Congregational Minister Sr. Theresa Darga, and Congregational Treasurer/Councilor Sr. Pat Gardner. Sr. Shannon was honored for exemplifying St. Francis' love for the church. She is a professor of theological studies at Lourdes University.*

## Former LF teacher urged voters: 'Challenge environment stands'

**Sr. Sharon Havelak**, former Little Flower School second-grade teacher, was quoted in a Catholic Chronicle article about a pre-election forum.



**Sr. Sharon**

The gathering, headed by **Dr. Geoffrey Grubb**, Lourdes University dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, focused on voting formed by "feeding your conscience" and understanding the teaching of the Catholic Church.

Sister Sharon, a Sylvania Franciscan, stressed importance of addressing, personally and politically, the needs and resources of the planet. She spoke of the need to live simply and insure resources for a future. She urged voters to challenge candidates on environmental issues, saying "Effective initiatives for energy conservation and the development of alternative, renewable and clean energy resources are critical."

LF members recall Dr. Grubb as a Lenten "Soup and Bread" speaker. It was noted on the **ToledoFAVS** website that Sr. Sharon was part of a group urging voters to not vote based on the single issue of abortion.

**Ryan Behan**, a graduate of Little Flower School, performed on the piano in October at the Center for the Visual and Performing Arts Recital Hall at University of Toledo.

*The Blade's arts writer, Sally Vallongo, noted that Ryan, a member of the Ohio State University faculty, leads a busy recital schedule of classical performances and "has won numerous performance competitions around the country."*

*His Toledo performance was part of the UT Dorothy McKenzie Price Piano Series.*





## JoAnn Newmeyer new SVdP president

AS LITTLE FLOWER'S St. Vincent dePaul ministry moved into parish house quarters, **JoAnn Newmeyer** began work as its newly elected president.

JoAnne joined the parish a year ago after moving from Michigan. She almost immediately began volunteering at the St. Vincent dePaul ministry, in its work to feed, clothe, and in other ways help less fortunate neighborhood people.

A social worker 15 years, she says, "Being involved in the St. Vincent de Paul Society is a good fit for me and gives me a chance to give back to the community as well as utilize my social work skills to assist those in need."

The SVdP chapter of that international society is one of Little Flower's busiest, with parish volunteers going in and out of the parish house quarters to fill shelves and refrigerators and, two days a week, to distribute to people who arrive to be aided by the ministry.

JoAnn said she was quickly struck by how dedicated the organization's work was. "The goal of our ministry is to treat those we encounter, our brothers and sisters in Christ, with dignity and respect. We do not question the need and we don't turn people away without some type of assis-



Photo: Dawn Ando

**Installed as president of Little Flower's Saint Vincent dePaul Society chapter, JoAnne Newmeyer received a blessing and challenge from Fr. Dave Nuss.**

tance, even if it is a phone number to another church or social service agency," she said.

The new SVdP leader said she recognizes the legacy LF has and the work of its leaders before her.

"The Little Flower St. Vincent de Paul Society is a vibrant group providing needed service to the community. I only knew former president **Bob Kertesz** a short time, but I often feel his presence and influence. By his leadership, and the dedication and hard work of recent presidents **John Saggese** and **Frank Reynolds**, it has grown and developed.

"These men have left me with big shoes to fill. I especially thank them for the work in moving into the Parish House."

**Dianne Brandt**, a longtime worker and leader in that ministry, said, "JoAnn offers person-to-person service to all our members and most especially the suffering and needy. I personally witness each week her compassion and belief in the dignity of the human person. Under her leadership, Little Flower SVdP will certainly experience growth and exciting change in the years ahead."

JoAnn said she has been impressed by the commitment of Little Flower "to provide food, clothing, and household items to the needy. We provide groceries and other items to more than 500 people a month, a considerable feat for a group of volunteers! I have respect and admiration for members who volunteer many hours to purchase food at best prices, stock pantry shelves, distribute food, and collect and distribute.

**JoAnn Newmeyer: 'I have big shoes to fill'**



Photo: Mike Tressler

"Our members also pray together and support each other in our 'inner ministry'."

The new Vincentian leader said she recognizes the commitment of many at LF. "The food baskets we distribute at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter to more than 300 families can only be done with the help of the Boy Scouts collection. Every day our office is open, parishioners donate clothing, canned goods, blankets, and household items. We are able to continue in this ministry due to support of Little Flower parishioners, which we greatly appreciate.

JoAnn's daughters, Central Catholic High School graduates, are Annaliese, studying for a masters degree in education, and Kate, with a social work degree living in North Carolina.

## Outreach Center named for Bob Kertesz New St. Vincent dePaul center honors late LF leader



**Bob Kertesz**

WITH A blessing from **Father Dave Nuss**, Little Flower's new center for its St. Vincent dePaul ministry was dedicated and named in honor of the late **Bob Kertesz**.

The "Bob Kertesz Outreach Center" immediately swung into full operation. Quarters for the busy ministry that serves neighborhood families in need were moved to the parish house. In attendance at the blessing was **Amy Aschemeier**, president of the Diocesan Council of SVdP, and other parish representatives. On hand was longtime LF member **Cathy Kertesz**,

wife of Bob, who led the LF chapter and who died earlier in the year, and Kertesz family members.

"Tons" of goods had to be moved, after renovation of the parish house lower level. "We thank Father Nuss for offering us new space. We are



Photos: Mike Tressler

**At the dedication were, from left, Anna Kertesz, Cathy Kertesz, Julie Roehl, and Max Roehl.**

blessed to have this new Bob Kertesz Outreach Center, which is used for the food pantry, storage for donated clothes and household items, and office," said **JoAnn Newmeyer**, LF SVdP chapter president.





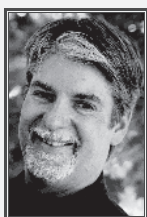


## ToledoFAVS 'Faith And Values' religion web site, spans the traditions

IN NORTHWEST Ohio, there is a new place to go to for information, news, events, commentary, and updates of religions, spiritual activity, and individual worship communities. It is a website called **Toledo Faith & Values**.

Find it at [www.ToledoFAVS.com](http://www.ToledoFAVS.com).

"Say it like 'faves,'" said **David Yonke**. The former religion editor of The Blade now writes and edits the online Toledo Faith & Values news site that is attracting website visitors from a myriad of spiritual faiths.



*Dave Yonke*

The nonprofit, nonsectarian site focuses on Toledo's diverse religious community and includes news, features, and photos by Yonke as well as articles and columns by more than 20 contributing writers of different faith communities and traditions.

In December, ToledoFAVS contained an article about Little Flower's dedication of its new entrance and offices.

In addition to local news of spiritual interest in the Toledo area, the website is updated regularly with national and international religious news of interest. Also, readers can submit free calendar listings and obituaries.

The ToledoFAVS site is one of several in the country, each presenting its local/regional news and features and adding stories of more widespread interest.

*ToledoFAVS had a story  
about Little Flower*



## UPDATE

Timely notes distributed to ministries  
by Carmen Barbosa, for Pastoral Council



*Marianne Hassen*

"Father Dave and Father Joe were our leaders and both contributed in so many special ways, for that we thank you both. We have been so fortunate to have two great leaders see us through this project.

Marcy Kaptur (Representative, U.S. Congress and Little Flower parishioner) and her comments pulled in the Sylvania Franciscans and they commented to me how much that meant to them. They have been a treasure to us at Little Flower."

**Marianne Hassen, for Pastoral Council,  
about the dedication of the new church entrance**



*Laurie Baker*

"The school children learned about Advent. The visitation of Mary to Elizabeth, the birth of Jesus and the adoration of the shepherds. The children are filled with the love of God in this time of celebration of the birth of Jesus. It is awesome to be able to teach in a Catholic School where God is present and Jesus is alive in the children's hearts."

**Laurie Baker,  
for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd**

## Women's group pledges to help buy a bell

If the new tower entrance to church and school becomes a "bell" tower, some thanks will go to Little Flower's chapter of the Altar Rosary Society.

"At our December meeting, the A&R voted to contribute \$3,000 toward the purchase of a bell for the tower," said **Marcie Grathwol**.

The ever-active women have been making baby blankets for Heartbeat, said Marcie, and the blankets will be given to that organization that counsels and helps pregnant women.

"All are welcome to be part of Altar Rosary," Marcie reminds women of the parish.



## The touch of God comes to homebound in the hands of parish Tarcisians

Tarcisians continue to do what the ministry is all about -- visiting Little Flower parishioners who are not able to attend mass, and bringing them friendship and Eucharist, said **Sandie Roccia**.

"As always, we also brought them Christmas cookies made and decorated by **Chris Thornton's** girl scout troop. That brings an extra-special touch and helps to spread the blessings of the Christmas season."

Anyone who would like to become a part of this ministry, please contact **Gerri Mouch** (531-8005) or Sandie (841-7616).





## What is Pastoral Council?

TWELVE Little Flower members serve on Pastoral Council, a board that stays on top of all that happens in the Catholic community.

According to recommendations of the Church, first formed during the Second Vatican Council in 1965, the council “considers, plans, and recommends ways for the parish to accomplish the mission of Christ.” A council . . . “works closely with the pastor to keep the parish focused on the divine purpose; that is, continuously seeking ways to follow God’s will and inspiring the members of the parish family to do the same so to build an increasingly robust, generous, and grateful community of faith.”

Little Flower of Jesus pastoral council members are **Marianne Hassen (chairperson), Ron Arnett, Carmen Barbosa, Jim Bishop, Marrienne Cappiello, Ed Gillig, Pat Johnson, Joe Koerper, Lynn Nedrow, Judy Polcyn, Vicki Sorgenfrei, and Frank Terrill.**



## Fish Fries on the menu Men’s Club raises \$1,500 for school

Some of the most anticipated “events” in Little Flower Parish – Lenten fish fries -- are coming up, reports **Tom Coy** of the Mens Club.

“Mark your calendars for March 8 and 22,” says Tom.

The annual fish dinners are popular enough to attract many visitors to the O’Grady Center, as well as hundreds of Little Flower families.

Fish fries are not all the men’s organization does for the LF community. A November feather party netted \$1,500 for expenses of St. Benedict, the Catholic School supported by both Little Flower and Our Lady of Lourdes parishes.

The Mens Club also will help finance with \$500 the LF youth who travel to Washington for the March 4 Right to Life demonstration.

Money is earned from the club’s concessions during Tuesday bingo nights. “We thank all who support our activities in the past year and hope all will have a great and rewarding 2013,” says Tom.

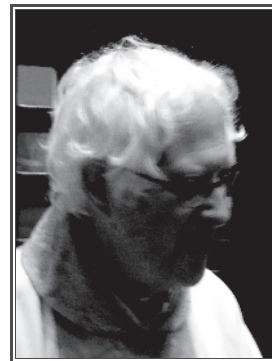
All men are invited to attend Men’s Club meetings the fourth Monday of each month, in the O’Grady Room.



## Meet Father Tom Landgraff

The **Rev. Tom Landgraff** is another welcome new guy in the Little Flower neighborhood.

At the New Year, Father Tom began adding his priestly talents and liturgical experience – as well as his charm and good humor, to celebrations of the mass.



*Fr Tom Landgraff*

Little Flower’s pastor, **The Rev. Dave Nuss** was in touch with Fr. Tom since arriving at Little Flower in mid-summer, and encouraged the retired priest to be part of the LF community.

“It is wonderful reconnecting with my dear friend and priestly mentor, Father Tom

Landgraff, OSFS,” noted Fr. Dave. “As a very young priest, I was privileged to live and work together with Father Tom. Though he retired from full-time active ministry several years ago, he remains eager to share his priestly life and ministry and I am glad to have invited him to join us at Little Flower as often as he is able.

“Except for his poor choice of a favorite baseball team -- the dreaded Yankees,” joked Fr. Dave, “he is an outstanding priest and a faithful friend.”

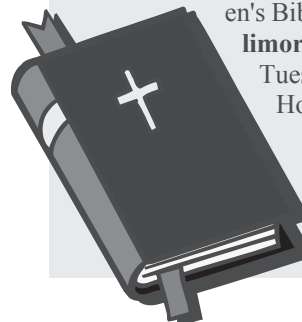
LF parishioners are urged to meet Father Tom and he’s eager to get to know members, he told a congregation on New Year’s Eve, at one of his first LF liturgies.

## Bible Study at Little Flower

The Bible is “our” book, our reference, our gateway to faith. To learn more of its richness:

Bible study for women is held Tuesdays 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the Parish House, and includes light refreshments, said **Fr. Dave**. Women’s Bible Study, led by **Sally Bulimore** continues, too, on Tuesdays 9-10:30 a.m. in the Hospitality Room.

Men’s Bible study is on Saturdays, 7:30-8:30 a.m., with coffee in the Parish House.







## Music is their ministry

FOR Mike and Debbie Bercher, their love for Little Flower Church always has come back to music.

The Berchers have sung (Debbie) and strummed guitar (Mike) at Sunday masses for more than 34 years.

“Well, I sing, too, but Deb has the real voice,” said Mike with his usual broad smile.

Mike’s guitar has accompanied Debbie’s crystal-clear voice in solos, with small groups and entire choirs, at weekend liturgies, special ministry and retreat teams, and Christmas cantatas,

Both have been involved in many events and activities in the parish, but their uninterrupted ministry has always put them front and center to lead the singing at perhaps as many as 1,500 liturgies. Almost the only interruption has come about as they deal with Mike’s cancer, diagnosed last year.

Churchgoers in recent weeks have missed the ever-smiling couple and their special music that has added their signature spirituality to so many liturgies.

Mike and Debbie, who raised two children, **Mark** and **Jennifer**, have worked with six pastors, beginning in 1978. In those early years, they joined other musicians and voices to make music that, at the time, was often known as “folk masses.”

*Mike and Debbie Bercher have sung 10,000\* songs for us*



Photo: Mike Tressler

*Debbie Bercher sings and Mike plays guitar at a Sunday Morning mass, as they’ve done for more than three decades at Little Flower.*

Through all those years, both Berchers have served in parish ministries, committees, teams, and councils. A banker, Mike has served many years on the parish finance committee and was an original member of the Seeds of Faith Steering Committee. Both have been active in parish retreats, usually tapped to provide, or add to, the music.

The Berchers’ commitment to the health and wealth of the parish community has sometimes led them to openly encourage fellow Little Flower families to do likewise.

They have, in fact, talked to congregations from the pulpit about the rewards of stewardship. At one mass a couple years ago, Mike described the sense of spiritual well-being that comes with contributing talent, energies, time, and financial offerings to the service of God and his people.

“We all can give what we can of ourselves,” Debbie, too, told a congregation. “For us, first we share our talent for music. Then we share what we can in money or time.”

Mike always has echoed that “Deb and I give what we, like anyone else, can give, not because we have to but because we want to. We believe that we, as Christians, should take care of what God has entrusted to us.”

\* In 30-some years of singing at masses, it could easily be 10,000 songs, give or take.



**NEW!**

Click! it's the **Little Flower Website!** Go online to [www.littleflowertoledo.org](http://www.littleflowertoledo.org). Learn what happens at LF. See schedules of liturgies and activities, names and phones of ministries and leaders, staff members, athletics, special events, Sunday bulletins, youth group and more, with links to other sites, including St. Benedict School! And . . . another click and readers find the *CONNECTIONS* newsletter.





## ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC SCHOOL

### New offices are at church entrance, but it's the same unchanged, spirited school

EXCITING things happen at St. Benedict Catholic School. The most obvious was the move into new offices, in the new front entrance to Little Flower Church.

The first weeks of the school year, construction was going on all around classes, but spirited school life went on with students moving in and out of classrooms.

Congratulations have been heard for the St. Benedict Quiz Bowl team that recently finished second in its division, competing against teams from Franciscan Academy of Lourdes University, Christ the King, Holy Trinity, and St. Joseph Sylvania schools. We are proud of that showing and congratulate coaches **Robert Orlet** and **Tammy Hinkle**.

Middle school students are participating in both Science Fair and History Fair.

On the technology front, St. Benedict began the school year with 60 new laptop computers and 2 charging stations. We have stations for 30 computers on the first and second floors.

First graders have used Skype technology to see and talk face-to-face in real time with an author of a book they were reading.

Students versed on computer use will be able to show comprehension of projects, many of which will be technology based,



Photos: Mike Tressler

**DAY IS DONE:** Eighth-grade students **Sklyer Barnhart** and **Patrick Bishop** lower the American flag at the end of a school day.



**Carol Huss**  
Principal  
St. Benedict  
Catholic

when teachers present topics, especially those of Project-Based Learning for CORE state standards presentation.

The first semester two student teachers from Lourdes University were here. It is always a wonderful thing to have student teachers in the building. We welcomed **Katelyn Helminiak** to first grade with teacher **Kristin Honisko** as her cooperating mentor. We were also glad to have **Jennifer Nowak** in **JoAnna Brouwer's** third-grade class.

Both student teachers said they enjoyed their experience at St. Benedict, remarking about the camaraderie of faculty and staff and enthusiasm of students and families. I'm sure none of their college classmates who were student teachers had the chance to watch the construction going on around them.

Please remember that St. Benedict Catholic School will have its annual **open house Sunday, March 3, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.** Anyone knowing of someone who might be interested in the school please invite them to attend. Interested parents can contact the school, too, for a personal tour. The staff is proud of what and how teaching is done.

### More safety, security built into school entrance

Safety of children in school -- is a topic well discussed wherever parents, teachers, and officials talk.

While St. Benedict School principal **Carol Huss** says that the first weeks of class have been "exciting" and "most

obvious is the move into new offices," she emphasized that the "new surroundings provide more safety and security for our students."

The new entrance, hallway, and offices are attractive and religiously

welcoming, and more secure throughout a school day, the principal said.

"Increased security is a fact of life and we are pleased to have added several levels of increased security in the new wing," said Mrs. Huss.







## Fr. Dave: the Eucharist remains at the center

Continued from Page 1

“Tomorrow’s” Church still *places the Eucharist at the center* of its entire life. It sets its sights squarely on the Lord and does everything “in memory of Him” (Luke 22:19).

It is a Church that interacts with contemporary culture, diverse peoples, confidently and compassionately *proclaiming the simple words of Christ’s Gospel*.

It is a Church that *says more by its actions than its words*, witnessing conformity between what it says and the actions that follow.

It is a Church that is especially *attentive TO the presence of the Spirit* in ordinary experience, however the Spirit may choose to appear.



Fr. Dave Nuss

*‘Let us dare to build the Church of tomorrow together . . . ’*

It is a Church acutely aware of the arduous and difficult journey that characterizes the trek of far too many people. It wants to share deeply in other’s sufferings so to be an *instrument of Christ’s peace and hope*.

It is a Church that does not privilege any one category of persons, instead *welcoming all people with love* and forming its own to love in imitation of Christ’s love.

It is a Church that respects venerable institutions yet remembers Peter’s words: “. . . better to obey God than men” (Acts 5:29).

Let us, then, dare to build the Church of tomorrow together, making certain our parish is anchored wholeheartedly in the Catholic Tradition while remaining open to the Spirit of God.

Toni McCarthy  
Michelle Rheinbolt  
Alisa Smith  
Mary Ellen Sommers  
Carol Rosenbalm  
Bridget Eardley  
Kenneth Gembolis and  
Denise Brown  
Chester and Joanne Bodi  
Patrick and DeLores Miller  
Michael and Angela Bugert

Meet the  
new  
parishioners  
of . . . 

Mary Wesley  
Craig and Sarah Barker

Diane Gedert  
Holly Earl  
Rod and Chantell Shock  
Thomas and Erica Miley  
Edward and Catherine Ujvagi  
John and Patricia Lyczkowski  
Frank Ancrile  
Bruce Rutkowski  
Daniel and Elaine Jackson  
. . . and their families

## A spirited welcome to newly baptized members of the parish

Daniel Cherry, son of John  
and Melissa  
Isabella and Sophia Retana,  
daughters of Jorge and Dana  
Marcia Shordt, daughter  
of Ernest and Maria  
Nathan Barrett, son of Jeffery  
and Brandy

Kaelie Toth, daughter of Kirk  
and Laurie  
Taylynn Hall, daughter  
of Chad Hall and Melinda Smith  
Margaret Dumas, daughter  
of Kevin and Amy

Eleanor Smith, daughter  
of Corey and Elizabeth  
Violet and Austin Pierce,  
children of Phillip and Lauren  
Marissa Webb, daughter  
of Christopher Webb  
and Mary Wesley

**Baptisms will take place the third Sunday of each month. Contact the Parish Center.**





Little Flower Church  
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## *Little Flower of Jesus Catholic Community*

**The Rev. Dave Nuss, *Pastor***

**Masses: Saturday 4:30 p.m., Sunday 8:30 and 11 a.m.**

***Reconciliation: One-half hour before each mass***

**Sue VanHersett, *Pastoral Associate***

**Doug Bullimore, *Deacon***

**Tom Williams, *Liturgist & Music Director***

**Cathy Figliomeni, *Youth Minister***

**Chris Lewinski, *Business Manager***

**Lynn Harman, Laurie Fitzpatrick, *Secretaries***

**Missy Gillig, *Parish Bookkeeper***

**Jeff Sharp, *Parish Head Custodian***

Parish office: 5522 Dorr St..

open Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

419-537-6655 - FAX: 419-537-1469

parishcenter@littleflowertoledo.org

[www.littleflowertoledo.org](http://www.littleflowertoledo.org)

### **St. Benedict Catholic School**

**Carol Huss, *Principal***  
419-536-1194

**The Rev. Dave Nuss, *Superintendent***  
[www.stbenedicttoledo.com](http://www.stbenedicttoledo.com)

**Little Flower *Connections*** . . . is a journal containing news for and about the people and ministries of Little Flower of Jesus Catholic Parish. Parishioners and organizations wishing to submit reports or notes for editing and publication should follow guidelines or request guidelines from the Parish Center or from Mike Tressler. All submissions are welcome and will be considered. Submit by email to [parishcenter@littleflowertoledo.org](mailto:parishcenter@littleflowertoledo.org). Deadlines are noted in Sunday bulletins. Please note that editing, design, printing, and mailing take several weeks beyond a deadline date and submissions should not include information that will be outdated or events that will be past by the time *Connections* is delivered.

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