

Father Tom Konopka Installed as Pastor at Tri-Parish Picnic

Pictures by Julie Ashcroft



Intermittent rain could not dampen the joy and excitement at the Tri-Parish picnic when Fr. Thomas Konopka was installed as the pastor of the three churches. The rite of installation is what makes the pastor's presence official. Often times it is months (like in our case) after he begins. The ritual is a blessing that entrusts the parish to that pastor who has been appointed by the bishop. The bishop does not have to attend, it is typically handled by the Vicar of the Vicariate. In this case, that was Fr. James Belogi.

The ritual and blessings should make clear who the pastor is and what his responsibilities are - which boils down to him being the loving shepherd of our communities. The ritual blessing comes from the Book of Blessings; it is uniform throughout the church. Typically it is done IN the sanctuary, but doing so three times in three places would be difficult, so Fr. Tom got special permission for Fr. Belogi to offer it for all at the picnic.

For additional pictures of the picnic, see page 4

Ministry Updates

Bethlehem Tree
By Vivian Swank



This Christmas marks a return to our gift-giving Bethlehem Trees. After a few years of only generous gift card donations, we are now able to return to the purchase of presents for our organizations.

This year the requests will be from the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Birthright of Schenectady, St. Mary's Outreach Program, which provides for the homeless, and Equinox.

All the organizations report a decrease in donations these past few years due to the pandemic, with a marked increase in need. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

The Bethlehem Trees full of request cards will be in the church through the following dates: November 19-20, November 26-27, and December 3-4. All gifts are due in by noon on December 11. Please bring them to the Parish Center near the Flicker Room. Thank you.

St. Vincent De Paul Holiday Update
By Joan Bunn

Thanksgiving and Christmas

We will be giving food baskets to families of need. This year we will also be distributing Christmas gifts to the children. Our green cards will be hanging from the Bethlehem Trees.



Food

Due to the high cost of food, we have not been getting as much food as in previous years. If possible, could you buy one item from our list and leave it in our boxes in the Church entrances. We need the following items: peanut butter, instant potatoes, pasta and green beans.

Help needed

Besides food, we are looking for strong individuals to help transport food items from the garage to the church hall on Tuesday November 15th. We also need help sorting the food items on Thursday, November 17th. If you are able to help, please call or text Joan at 518 669-6300. Thank you for all your help!



Ministry Updates

Respect Life Ministry Update

By Larry Smith

Respect for life is a tenet of our Catholic faith. Your parish Respect Life Ministry strives to help parishioners educate themselves on respect life issues. On October 4, 2022, Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, called for "radical solidarity" with pregnant women in this article:

U.S. Bishops' Pro-Life Chairman Affirms Church Teaching on Dignity of Human Life

WASHINGTON – Marking 100 days since the Supreme Court of the United States' decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, which overturned *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, called for "radical solidarity" with pregnant women, and reiterated Catholic teaching on life in response to recent public comments from people in public life who distort the Catholic Church's teaching.

"The Catholic Church recognizes that all people, born and unborn, have been created in the image and likeness of God, and therefore have inherent dignity, and the right to life. When a woman is carrying a child, both mother and child are valued and should be protected, and the life of one should not be set against the life of another. The goal is always to save life, never to intentionally destroy life. The Church seeks the protection of all unborn children, this includes the innocent child conceived in rape or incest.

"Mothers should also be protected and supported, and we all have a responsibility to stand with mothers in need and provide the material and emotional support necessary to allow mothers, children, and families to live in dignity. In the post-*Roe* world, we must act in radical solidarity with the pregnant woman and her child, as we work and pray for the day when abortion is unthinkable.

"Whereas the Church always seeks the protection of all unborn children, it is licit to support legislation that falls short of this goal, if it advances protections and limits harm. *Evangelium Vitae*, Sec. 73: 'This does not in fact represent an illicit cooperation with an unjust law, but rather a legitimate and proper attempt to limit its evil aspects.'

"The USCCB supports legislation that seeks to limit the harm of abortion, including some legislation that includes exceptions. We will continue to pray and work for the day when all human life is welcomed in love and protected by law."

Source: <https://www.usccb.org/news/2022/us-bishops-pro-life-chairman-affirms-church-teaching-dignity-human-life>

Fun for All at the Tri-Parish Picnic, pictures by Julie Ashcroft and Marge Rizzo



Father Jerry Honored and Remembered

Pictures by Julie Ashcroft

On Saturday, October 8, the Garden of Grace was dedicated in memory of Father Jerry. Father Tom Konopka presided at the ceremony. At the 5 pm Mass on that day, his family received the cross from Father Jerry's funeral which had hung on the wall in the church for one year.



Father Jerry's sister, Rochelle Gingras Benoit reads the "Prayer for Visiting the Garden of Grace" which she wrote.



His family receives Father Jerry's cross.

Spotlight on the Cathy Terwilliger by Annette Botsford

In this *Pipeline* series, we hope to familiarize parishioners with those among us whom we see often but know little about. Readers are invited to contact Annette Botsford at annettemarie829@gmail.com with suggestions of future subjects for this feature.



Cathy Terwilliger, after a long and busy day, was willing to sit down and talk to me about her life and her participation in the Stars and Angels Program (formerly called The Rainbow Group). Cathy has lived all her life in the Glenville area. She originally attended St. Joseph's church in Scotia when living with her mom and dad. She graduated from Scotia-Glenville High School and moved to Glenville from the village of Scotia when she married. Cathy and her husband Tim have been married for 46 years.

She first worked full time as a registered nurse until her two daughters were born. Cathy and Tim have two married daughters, Ashley and Jessica. They are proud grandparents of an infant granddaughter and a grandson. They became parishioners of Immaculate Conception when their girls were young. Both girls were baptized at ICC.

In her career as an RN, Cathy has worked both full and part time at community health sites, Visiting Nurses, Community Hospice, in palliative care, and in case management. Although officially retired, Cathy presently works per diem for a nursing company that provides biometric assessments, health coaching, and preventative care. When she is not working,

she enjoys going to the YMCA, doing water aerobics and playing pickleball. She likes to read and do crafts occasionally. Her family has owned a camp on Sacandaga Lake for over 60 years. She and her family love spending time there. Cathy likes to kayak. In fact, any time spent with family is precious to all of them.

For many years, Cathy taught Faith Formation classes. Eventually, Mary Cinelli asked her to teach what was then called The Rainbow Group for children with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Cathy estimates that she has been teaching this class for about 20 years now. Both Debbie Cianfarani and Bernice Ormsbee have also been involved as teachers. Parents have been very supportive and also help during the classes.

Cathy says that her main focus is to teach the children: "God loves them no matter what. He takes care of us." They begin the class session with the "Our Father" and one decade of the rosary. She usually links the lesson to a previous gospel then they play games, get up and move around. Cathy uses the book Have You Filled Your Bucket Today? They play a game where they will write down how they may have "filled someone's bucket" with an act of kindness. The pieces of paper are put in a bucket.

One of her favorite stories is when then Deacon Mike Melanson came in to sing with them. One child was pretty active and moving around. He went to Mike and gave him a hug. When it was time for First Communion, Cathy and Bernice observed this child with his arms open wide giving Father Jerry a big hug. They have also prepared students for confirmation with great joy in their hearts as they stand behind the candidates during the ceremony.

Cathy has been a faithful and dedicated volunteer, taking on a much loved mission with very special children.

Stars & Angels Faith Formation



Our "Stars and Angels" Faith Formation program (formerly called "Rainbow"), is offered for children between the ages of 6 and 15 who would like a little extra support due to an Intellectual or Developmental Disability. Perhaps they are interested in receiving sacraments or maybe they would love to be a bigger part of our Faith Community through participation in the Faith Formation Program. We welcome all with open arms. Led by Mrs. Terwilliger, an experienced and dedicated Catechist, we are blessed to offer this program.

The sessions are held in our St. Michael the Archangel classroom, which is adorned with a beautiful rainbow mural painted by Jenna Appleton as part of a Girl Scout award project. The classroom is a warm and welcoming space designed to help our little angels nurture & grow their faith. Stars and Angels meets 2 Sundays a month, 10:15am-11:30am in the Parish Center at Immaculate Conception Church. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact our Coordinator of Family & Elementary Faith Formation, Sarah Stygles.

Phone: (518)399-9210 or

Email: formation@icglenville.com

Times of Joy Sacramental Milestones

Congratulations and welcome to these children who received the Sacrament of Baptism from July 11, 2022 to October 11, 2022. We pray for the grace these families need to grow in their faith.

Vincenza Marie Nardini, child of Daniel & Renee

James Gabriel Chamberlin, child of Michael & Rebecca

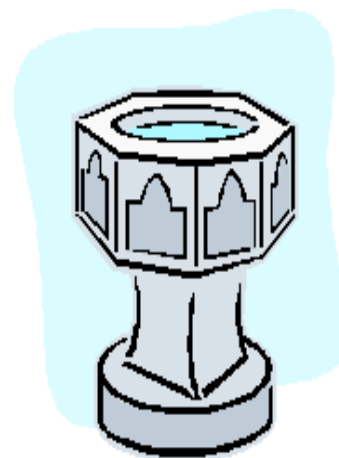
Anastasia Valentina Duffy, child of Casey & Jessica

Connor Michael Behrens, child of Kenneth & Courtney

Joseph Lawrence Galarneau, child of Kyle & Emily

Eden Juniper Augusta, child of Corey & Bernadette

Colton James McKeown, child of Brendan & Angelica



Blessing of the Animals Held on October 9, Pictures by Julie Ashcroft

