

### Postponed: The Bishop's Pilgrimage For the National Eucharistic Revival

Due to scheduled knee surgery on Aug. 18, the diocesan pilgrimage by Bp. Rice for Aug. 27-Sept. 3 is postponed. Please stay tuned for an updated schedule and cease usage of the previously released schedule. As part of the three-year *National Eucharistic Revival*, Bishop Rice will make a pilgrimage across the diocese called, "Encountering the Eucharist, East to West," traveling to a parish in each deanery. New dates will be announced in the next Diocesan Newsletter.

### Helping Hands Food Bank Really Needs Your Help

Helping Hands here in Kennett has almost nothing to give to the poor and hungry in our area at this time. Please bring any non-perishable food items to church and Beth Johnson will be sure to get them to the food bank. You may also drop by Helping Hands and bring your gift in person. Please consider picking up something this week to help the most vulnerable in Kennett.



### Visiting the Sick and Homebound

Please consider visiting those in our parish who are homebound like Bob and Sharon Hines in Piggott. Caregivers also need love! They would both love to see you!

### Delta Fair is Coming in September!

The Delta Fair is a great fundraiser for our parish that helps keep everything running day to day. We sell delicious food and drinks, but we need your help to do this! Please bring a **12 or 24-pack of soda** and drop it off in the classrooms! (There will be a sign.) Thank you so much for your support to keep St. Cecilia!

### Parish Council Meeting September 7<sup>th</sup> After the 6pm Mass

If you are on Parish Council, please come to our first meeting of the year to discuss implementing spiritual growth in our parish!

### PSR Classes Begin September 11<sup>th</sup>!

These classes are for anyone seeking the sacraments of First Communion or Confirmation. We have parent classes at the same time as the children's classes, which is 11:45am.

### September 21<sup>st</sup>: Family Movie Night at St. Cecilia!

After mass, we will gather to watch the movie Juan Diego: Messenger of Guadalupe. Popcorn and drinks provided!



**August 28, 2022**  
**Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### St. Cecilia Catholic Church

1226 College Avenue PO Box 306

Kennett, MO 63857

[www.stceciliakennett.com](http://www.stceciliakennett.com)

### Fr. David Baunach, Pastor

417-851-7136 davidbaunach@gmail.com

Luis Hernandez, Hispanic Ministry (417) 496-5622

Joanie DeLisle, Bookkeeper/Secretary

Vanessa Cowart, PSR Director (561) 351-1380

Magda Cazares, Youth Group Director

### Fr. David's Parish Office Hours:

Kennett Monday and Wednesday 10-4, Tuesday off,  
Thursday and Friday in Portageville 10-4

Fr. David is available for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** during Adoration or by appointment.

### Holy Mass Schedule

Monday and Wednesday Adoration at 5; Mass at 6pm

Sunday Masses: 10:30am Mass in English; 10:05am Rosary

1pm Mass in Spanish

### Please pray for /Oramos para:

+Pedro Orocio, The Melendez Family, James Hargett, +Sandy DeLisle, +Bill Anderson, Polly McAtee, Bob and Sharon Hines, Vera Gleuck, and Kathy Larsen.

Especially let us remember Bishop Rice, Fr. David, and our homebound.

### Mass Intentions

August 24 Health and Well-being of Carolyn Cox

August 28 +Bob Bradley

September 3 +Greg Bradley

## Parish Collection for August 21<sup>st</sup>

\$895

Remember that we have an online tithing system set up on our website!

### A Request From Bishop Rice

Bishop Rice has asked us to update our parish directory so that everyone receives a copy of the Mirror. Please stop by the vestibule table and update your address today!

### You Are Called to Evangelize!

Do you know anyone who is interested in the Catholic Faith? RCIA is a great place to ask questions and find out more. Please help spread the Good News! Contact Vanessa for information about RCIA classes at St. Cecilia.

### Effective Evangelization Commences with Joy by Bishop Robert Barron

One of the great icons in the Catholic Church today is Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York making his way up the aisle to commence Sunday Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral. While the congregation belts out the opening hymn, the good cardinal thumps his episcopal crozier on the ground, beams at all and sundry, kisses babies, embraces young and old, calls out the names of friends he recognizes, and generally speaking, spreads good cheer in every direction. One would have to be either catatonic or positively Scroogian in temperament not to find the scene utterly delightful.

And this is far more than effective PR. In point of fact, it's one of the reasons why Timothy Dolan is, arguably, the most persuasive Catholic evangelist in the country today. The Cardinal of New York is a remarkably intelligent man (his principle academic interest being American Catholic church history), and he brings his significant gifts of mind to whatever he says and does; but he also knows that radiating a sense of the joy that comes from friendship with Christ is the key to bringing others to the Lord. In the opening chapter of the Gospel of John, we hear about two young men who, at the prompting of the Lord, come and stay with Jesus. So thrilled are they by this encounter that they immediately begin to announce to anyone who would listen that they had "found the Messiah." In that little episode, we see the fundamental rhythm of effective evangelization: they meet Jesus, they find the experience life-enhancing, they want to tell everyone about it. The very best bearers of the Gospel are those whose joy in Christ is contagious.

*Help us proclaim Christ in the culture*

The second part of Thomas Aquinas's masterpiece the Summa Theologiae deals with ethics, the question of how precisely we ought to live. It is most instructive to note that this massive

treatment of Christian morality begins with joy, what Thomas called beatitudo. Ethics is all about what makes us happy. After determining that wealth, pleasure, power, and honor, though good, are not the source of true joy, Thomas argues that only the infinite good of God satisfies the deepest longing of the human heart. Next, Aquinas analyzes the habits and virtues that inculcate in us the moves that properly order us to our ultimate good. And finally, in question number ninety (!), Thomas broaches for the first time the issue of the law—and thereupon hangs a tale. Laws, he argues, are those prescriptions and prohibitions that place in us the habits that produce the virtues that in turn give rise to joy. The relegation to question ninety shows clearly that moral laws are not the heart of the matter, nor are they the starting-point for ethical deliberation. They are utterly subordinate to and ordered around happiness. When I was coming of age in the Catholic Church—in the seventies and eighties of the last century—Catholics were utterly preoccupied with law. What I mean is that they focused relentlessly on ethical matters, especially in the area of sexuality. And this was true whether one was on the right or on the left. I think of the endless disputes around the morality of birth control, divorce and re-marriage, pre-marital sex, etc. that ripped the church apart in those days. Mind you, I'm not suggesting for a moment that those issues were unimportant or that the people who staked out positions on both sides were unserious. But I am indeed suggesting that a church battling with itself over ethical law presented a deeply disedifying and unattractive face to the wider world. And that is precisely why the church of that period proved so evangelically ineffective. It was so preoccupied with defending (or changing) the church's teaching on sexual matters that it forgot how to invite people into joyful friendship with Christ Jesus. The huge number of people from my generation who have either left the church for other Christian denominations or, more likely, drifted into a bland secularism testifies to this failure.

*First the joy, then the ethics. Getting this right makes all the difference.*

Am I subtly implying here that sexual ethics doesn't matter? By no means! I am arguing that moral law follows and attends upon something far more basic, namely, the happiness that comes from intimate union with God. Once one has caught the zest of Christian life, one wants to know how to maintain that life. We might compare it to someone who has experienced the exuberance of a baseball game well played and who then endeavors, on his own and with enthusiasm, to search out the rules and disciplines of the game. Ethics is important; but joy is more important. And when the joy is in place, the ethics won't be shunned; it will be embraced.

If I might return to my original image, I would say that a good Catholic evangelist could commence with the contagious joy of Cardinal Dolan walking up the aisle at St. Patrick's. Once he has drawn someone in, he might say, "did you ever wonder how he got that way? Let me show you." First the joy, then the ethics. Getting this right makes all the difference.