



the Columban

Advent 2018

Loveland, Ohio

Learning, Living, Loving ... our Catholic Faith

Advent is ... What Is This Waiting Really About Anyway?



Back in 1981, the rocker Tom Petty wrote and released a song with the lyrics, "You take it on faith. You take it to the heart. The waiting is the hardest part." Whether these words are applied to the time apart from another in a relationship, or the anxiousness before going on stage to perform, or countless other scenarios, this sentiment of waiting can certainly also be applied to how one approaches Advent.

(Advent is ... a time of waiting.) Even though the hours of daylight are technically shorter during Advent, for children (and for many adults too!) the days of this festive season typically seem like the longest of the year. This is because Advent signals that Christmas is practically at hand, and yet it still remains just beyond the grasp of toddlers' tiny fingers.

To complicate matters more, society seems to strive to decrease the spirituality of these weeks, and to increase the secular characteristics and characters. Thus as our young ones try to persevere and patiently wait for Advent to end, parents have the arduous task of convincing the family to look beyond all of the hustle and bustle of the Grinch, Rudolph, and Frosty, and instead focus on the true reason of the season.

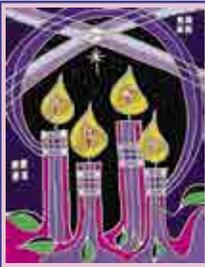
(Advent is a time of waiting ... in joyous preparation.) But how can we effectively wade through this period of waiting, to allow it to be joyous and hopeful? Maybe the most effective and easiest way is to refrain from the temptation to wish Advent away, and to instead consider this time of the year as an annual gift that the Church gives to us. In her wisdom, Advent was deemed a liturgical season, so we could take time to get ourselves ready. Therefore rather than leapfrogging over Advent, should we not seize the opportunity to slow down and celebrate our time of preparation?

There are many tools that can assist us, and the most common could be the Advent wreath. While knowledge of its symbolism might be uncommon and unknown to many people, a greater awareness of it, can make its use and practice more meaningful. For example, the evergreens represent life and their arrangement in a circle (which is a shape with neither a beginning nor an end) suggests the everlasting nature of our lives in union with Jesus. The lighting of the candles reminds us of Christ's role as the light of the world, and our responsibility to help spread that light. Even the rose color that we wait until the third week to burn, shines with the message of joy.

(Advent is a time of waiting in joyous preparation ... for the coming of Jesus.) Other popular Advent activities include Advent calendars, manger scenes and ornaments on the tree. The challenge with these is to ensure their holy nature is emphasized and not lost along the way. Calendars with pictures and words behind the windows that are Christian in content, discussions about the different figurines in the manger scene, and ornaments with a religious reminder, all can serve to assist us in centering ourselves on the coming of Christ.

For Advent celebrates the kingdom here and now, and the kingdom yet to come. We are called to look to the past to Jesus' arrival, while also keeping our eyes fixed to our Savior's return in the future. Every time a baby is born into a family, all of the relationships change and are affected. This Advent season, perhaps we can pray that the birth of Jesus could so significantly impact each of us that we would more joyfully prepare for the Lord's permanent residence in our lives. Yes, the waiting of Advent is the hardest part, but the reward of Christmas is definitely something worth singing about.

~ Scott Mussari
Director of Faith Formation



LESSONS AND CAROLS

It's the week before Christmas. You have shopping to finish, cookies to bake, packages to send....and all you really want is a few minutes of peace or some time for prayer, or both. Our youngest parish musicians can help you with that!

Join us on Wednesday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m. for our annual Advent Lessons and Carols service.

This service of scripture readings and music for the season is led by students from our school – the choir, handbell choir, lectors and servers. Among the churches who celebrate this tradition, our service is truly unique because it is led by our youth. In the rush of busy Christmas preparation the children of our parish invite us to quiet ourselves and recall with grateful hearts the salvation we have received in the birth of Jesus Christ, God becoming human. Why not join us?

For more information, contact Mary Bellman at the Parish Office at mbellman@stcolumban.org



Brighten your holiday season with nativity tours!

Have you ever wondered where all of the unique nativity sets you see around the Gathering Space, Day Chapel and Family Room each Christmas come from? All over the world! Fr. Larry has over 200 sets and this year will again be offering narrated tours! Enjoy brunch or lunch and fellowship with other parishioners before learning about the many nativities St. Columban parish proudly displays.

There are 5 tours to choose from and the cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. This year's dates are: 12/9, 12/10, 12/13, 12/20, and 1/2. The time listed on the Sign Up Genius is when lunch or brunch will be served and the tour will follow. To RSVP, please click on the link on our homepage: www.stcolumban.org.

STOCK DONATION PROCEDURE

As we approach the end of the calendar year and you are thinking about your year-end contributions, please consider donating stock. Below is the information you will need:

Company Name: Fifth Third Bank
DTC Number: 2116
Account Number: 0104471751BJ
Account Name: St. Columban

The Archdiocese of Cincinnati Gift Acceptance Policy requires a donor name to be included with each transfer. Please notify your broker of this requirement and kindly email Katelyn Viscomi in the Parish Office with the following information: amount of stock, number of shares and stock name. All stock transfers without a donor name will be returned and there will be a delay in your donation.

If you have any questions, please contact Katelyn Viscomi in the Parish Office at (513) 683-0105, ext. 2106 or kviscomi@stcolumban.org.



SoulCore

What could be better than combining exercise and the rosary? Colleen Furey, an ERE parent, has been trained as a leader of SOULCORE which combines core strengthening, stretching and functional exercises with the prayers of the rosary. It is an invitation to integrate body and soul in prayer, fully orienting the heart and mind toward Christ while discovering the beauty of the rosary.

Colleen will lead these classes during ERE on 11/28, 12/5, and 12/19. The class was so popular they will continue for the next few months. The class lasts about 50 minutes and will begin about 7:15 p.m. in the Parish Hall. There is an optional \$10 donation with a portion being donated to St. Columban.

Please RSVP at colleenfurey@hotmail.com if you want to attend a class. You can sign up for any week or several weeks. For Colleen, SOULCORE has allowed her to grow closer to Jesus and our Blessed Mother through reflecting on the mysteries while connecting with mind, body and soul.

January Trivia Night



Come join the hundreds that come out for Trivia Night and have a little fun this winter! Our next event is Friday, January 25th in the Parish Hall. Doors open at 7:00 and the game begins at 7:30 p.m. Test your knowledge and have FUN in a fast-paced, competitive setting! A local trivia company, popular at restaurants and bars around town, will lead the questioning and scoring. Form your own team of 6-10 or meet up with fellow parishioners to make a team. Your team just might win a fabulous prize!

The cost is \$5 per person plus a non-perishable food item or household cleaning item for St. Vincent de Paul. Light appetizers will be provided. Bring your own beverages. Please RSVP at cnagy@stcolumban.org. Babysitting will be provided for \$5 per child.



Lil' Bobcats Basketball

Interested in starting out your little athlete on the fundamentals of basketball? Lil' Bobcats is open to all St. Columban parishioners/students, boys and girls, in grades 1 & 2. The cost is \$99 per player. The season is 8 weeks long from 1/5/18 - 2/23/19 and teaches the fundamentals of the game, culminating with a game the final week. Hoops start at 8 feet, with the ability to move up or down. We do not play other schools, but give very basic drills and the practices are instructional. Due to its popularity, and limited gym space, registration is open to the first 20 registrants at the Beginner & Intermediate level. Registration will close when classes are full. Class times are Saturday mornings 7:40-8:40 a.m. & 8:45-9:45 a.m. Reach out to Rob Stineman at rstineman99@hotmail.com or 513-673-9708.



Advent Calendar

Each day read about God's sacred family and add a Jesse Tree ornament to your tree. A different ornament is listed in green for each day!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 1 st Sunday of Advent Wait! Light one purple candle. <i>Find a large stick or tree.</i>	3 Advent is a season of waiting: have you been waiting to say, "I'm sorry" to someone you have hurt? God	4 Clean your room without being asked. Adam and Eve	5 Put a smile on someone's face by calling or stopping by to say hello! Noah	6 St. Nicholas' Feast Day Do a task that you have been avoiding. Abraham	7 Write "I love you" notes to your family and put them under their pillow. Isaac	8 Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation Mass at 9:00 a.m. Jacob
 2 nd Sunday of Advent Watch! Light 2 purple candles. Joseph	10 Advent is a season of watching: watch for signs of God's love for us all week. Moses	11 Reconciliation 7:00 p.m. Read about John the Baptist Matt 3:1-12 Mark 1:1-8 Luke 3:1-20 Israelites	12 Reconciliation 7:00 p.m. Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day - eat Mexican Food today. Joshua (12:30 p.m. Mass)	13 Bake Christmas cookies and give them to the sick or elderly. Gideon	14 Stop by church and look at the 200+ Nativity sets. Samuel	15 Look up at the night sky and say thanks to God. David
 3 rd Sunday of Advent! Expect! Light 2 purple candles and the pink candle. Elijah	17 Advent is a season of expectations: help someone who is not expecting it! Hezekiah	18 I will keep calm and not lose my temper, today! Isaiah	19 Advent Lessons and Carols 7:00 p.m. Thank God for all expectant mothers! (12:30 p.m. Mass) Jeremiah	20 Make a Christmas card for someone you don't see often. Nehemiah	21 Advent Lessons and Carols 8:30 a.m. Church Pray The Hail Mary. John the Baptist	22 Read Mary's Canticle in Luke 1:46-56 and then pray the <i>Magnificat</i> . Mary
 4 th Sunday of Advent Get Ready! Light all 4 candles. Advent is a season of getting ready! Elizabeth	24 Christmas Eve Masses 3:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 12:00 a.m. carols at 11:30 p.m. Joseph	25 Merry Christmas! Masses 9:45 a.m. 11:30 a.m. Baby Jesus	May your family have a very blessed Christmas!			



Advent Facts

Who established Advent?

Thomas J. Talley, in *The Origins of the Liturgical Year* (Pueblo Publishing Company), sees the beginning of an advent season in the Fourth Canon of the Council of Saragosa in 380. In 567, the Synod of Tours established a December fast. And in 581 the Council of Macon ordered an advent fast for the laity from the Feast of Saint Martin (November 11) to Christmas. This took the name of Saint Martin's Lent.

In the seventh and eighth centuries, lectionaries (books containing the scriptural readings for the Liturgy of the Word) provided for six Sundays in Advent. According to the *Harper Collins Encyclopedia of Catholicism*, edited by Richard P. McBrien, Gregory the Great, who died in 604, was the real architect of the Roman Advent. Gregory fixed the season at four weeks and composed seasonal prayers and antiphons. Gaul (France) enriched the season with eschatological elements. And the fusion of the Roman and Gallican observances returned to Rome by the 12th century.

What is a Jesse tree?

An ancient tradition revived in the mid-20th century as an Advent practice, the Jesse Tree represents the family of Jesse, father of King David. Out of this family line, God would take flesh and live among the people of earth. The Gospel of Matthew's genealogy of Jesus (Mt 1:1-17) names a person from each generation before Jesus' birth. Stories about these people are in the Old Testament. The Jesse Tree itself can be made from paper, cloth, branches or a tabletop Christmas tree. Make or add an ornament each day of Advent to represent the ancestors of Jesus.

Why is the rose-colored candle lit on the third Sunday of Advent?

The third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday because in Latin, the first words of the opening antiphon for that day's Mass are "*Gaudete in Domino semper*" ("Rejoice in the Lord always"). On this Sunday, rose-colored vestments are permitted and the rose-colored candle is lit as a reminder that we are called to rejoice.

Reconciliation In Our Family



Who has not had a rushed morning, and found themselves yelling at their children. Do you have your homework? Where is your soccer uniform? How many times have I told you....? Our children are best friends, and the next moment at each other's throat. Conflict is a daily part of family life, and we must offer and accept forgiveness over and over again.

Here are some ways to make Reconciliation an authentic part of family life.

Ask for and offer "Mulligans".

In golf, players can take a "mulligan" or a "do over" if they make a bad shot. If, as a parent, we snap at our child, tell them you are sorry and ask for a do-over or mulligan. When your child is being sassy, or beginning the throws of a lie, stop them and warn them to think carefully about what they are going to say and let them try again. Remind them that our God is a God who loves second chances. Read the story of the Prodigal son together and talk about how our family can allow each other to take a mulligan.

Practice assuming the best of others.

We usually think we have the best intentions of our actions, but too often assume the worst in others. The next time you are tempted to make a quick judgment about your child or spouse, stop and consider how the other person might see the situation differently than you do and have the best intentions at heart. If your children are arguing and there seems to be no solution, ask each one to explain calmly what happened and how it felt to them. Give them time to cool down and get distance from the situation. True forgiveness and reconciliation are not easy and are usually not achieved in an instant.

Model reconciliation.

We can lecture our kids all day long but how we behave and model forgiveness is more important than what we say sometimes. Let your children see and hear you apologize. Let them catch you asking another person how you can fix a broken relationship. Tell your kids you are sorry when you have hurt their feelings or misjudged them.

Attend a Reconciliation service together as a family.

Attend one of our two Reconciliation services at St. Columban, this Advent. We will have a Parish Reconciliation service for all families on December 11th and 12th at 7:00 p.m. Let's commit our families to practice reconciliation and to extend grace to one another every day!



THANK YOU!

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank our sponsors:

Tony's | EagleOne | Rumpke
Mike Brown Construction
The Landing at Long Cove
St. Columban Athletics

and the over 90 participants who helped make our first annual golf outing a success. With your help, the KofC was able to provide \$5,000 to the St. Columban Tuition Assistance program.

ST. COLUMBAN GIVING TREE



For many years The Giving Tree has been a part of St. Columban. Each Advent season you expect to see the tree in the Gathering Space filled with multi-colored tags. And, if you're like most people, you enjoy picking a tag or two and shopping for that perfect gift to help make someone's Christmas extra special! The Giving Tree continues to be successful year after year due to the dedication of many people throughout the parish. It is certainly a team effort! Parish staff, school staff and students, Knights of Columbus and parishioners work together to make this ministry successful and to make Christmas truly special for those in need. Each year families, adults and children throughout our community are supported by the parishioners at St. Columban and that support does not go unnoticed. The agencies we give to are overwhelmed by what we do. Last year we provided gifts to 14 agencies supporting 122 families and 1,216 individuals. Thanks to everyone for your efforts and continued support!

Organizations we help and their Mission Statements:

- **Loveland InterFaith Effort (LIFE) Food Pantry** ~ The Loveland L.I.F.E. Food Pantry is a faith-based organization that provides food, financial assistance, and services to needy residents within the Loveland School District and to members of supporting congregations, who qualify under Federal guidelines of "persons in need" encouraging self-sufficiency in individuals and families.
- **Joseph House/VA** ~ Joseph House meets the needs of the homeless veterans within the community suffering from addiction and provides them the support they need to maintain a life long commitment to recovery and to thrive in the community.
- **Glad House** ~ Glad House is a certified mental health and prevention agency that works with high-risk youth who have been impacted emotionally and behaviorally by a family member with an addiction.
- **Loveland Health Care Center** ~ Loveland Health Care is a newly renovated nursing home community dedicated to bringing comfort and recovery with a personal touch and without the institutionalization that most other facilities embody.
- **Ethel M. Taylor Academy** ~ Ethel M. Taylor Academy is a neighborhood school and Community Learning Center - "Building a better future, one student at a time". It serves as a hub for community services, providing students and families access to health and social services, as well as recreational, educational and cultural opportunities.
- **The Loveland Initiative** ~ The Loveland Initiative was founded in 1996 by a group of neighbors with the mission of providing educational support and assistance to underserved children and their families.
- **Caracole House** ~ Caracole's mission is to provide housing and supportive services to individuals and families living with HIV/AIDS.
- **St. Leo's** ~ St. Leo's is a welcoming Catholic community, grounded in Eucharistic prayer, celebrating diversity and sharing God's love through ministries of serving and being present in urban neighborhoods, while focusing on the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. They collect personal care items and diapers for their immigrant and refugee population.
- **Mary Magdalen House** ~ Mary Magdalen House is an oasis of hospitality providing a safe and pleasant place for persons in need to shower, shave, brush their teeth, use a toilet, have clothes laundered, have use of a phone and have a place to receive messages and mail.
- **Swan House** ~ Swan House houses women who have been abused, homeless women, and women that need a new start in life.
- **Bethany House** ~ Bethany House Services empowers homeless and at-risk families with the solutions to achieve housing stability and long-term self-sufficiency.
- **First Step Home** ~ First Step Home helps women break the cycle of addiction and abuse so that they can become self-sufficient and provide a safe and nurturing environment for their children.
- **St. Vincent de Paul** ~ St. Columban works with St. Vincent de Paul to aid those in need, offering essential items through clothing drives and other events throughout the year.
- **Florentine Gardens** ~ Florentine Gardens is a private, 70 bed skilled nursing facility in the Loveland area. The facility offers a full service nursing care center including short, recuperative stays or long term care.
- **Interfaith Hospitality Network** ~ Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greater Cincinnati (IHNGC) provides Emergency Shelter and housing programs for homeless families in Cincinnati, Ohio and surrounding areas. IHNGC provides the tools, resources, and support that families need to overcome homelessness and achieve long-term stability.

The Giving Tree will be in the Gathering Space beginning the weekend of November 17. If you are able, please take a tag or two to help those in need. Please check the tags you take for when the items are due back at church. Some gifts are due by Sunday, December 2nd and others by Sunday, December 9th. The final day for all gifts is December 9th.

More information about the organizations we serve is located in the Gathering Space.

Thank you in advance for your support!





St. Columban Spirit and Truth Award

While we are all called to worship and live out our lives in *spirit and truth*, there are some among us who go well beyond such a call. We know them. We see them. We experience their *spirit and truth* in the daily market places of our lives. Often such people go unnoticed. Yet, their contribution to our parish, our city and this world is enormous. Started in 2009, our St. Columban Catholic community gives the *St. Columban Spirit and Truth Award* on an annual basis.

To honor these parishioners, *The St. Columban Spirit and Truth Award* will be bestowed on parishioners each year who are nominated as the “unsung heroes” of our parish, who provide a good example to others, invite others into Catholic stewardship and promote the Gospel message in their everyday lives. It also offers a way to help raise awareness of everyone’s baptismal call to service. Please fill out the attached form to nominate a member of our parish. The honoree will be notified by the Parish Office of their selection. We will also notify you so that you may then congratulate the individual. Individuals that are not selected this year will be considered in future years. The Spirit and Truth honorees will be recognized at The Grand Affair, held on February 23, 2019. Please be sure to send your nominee’s name to the Parish Office before the **January 6, 2019** deadline.

Nominator’s name, address and phone: _____

Please accept the following person as a Spirit and Truth honoree: _____

Honoree’s name, address and phone: _____

Please include a paragraph on why you are nominating this person as a Spirit and Truth honoree.

Criteria: A member of St. Columban parish who participates in Sunday liturgy and who exemplifies discipleship, stewardship, and fellowship. A person or couple who lives his or her baptismal call in an extraordinary way.



JAZZ UP YOUR NECKLINE

Win some unstoppable sparkle at this years Grand Affair on **February 23, 2019**. Play the jewelry game for a chance to win this striking cascading fan necklace donated by James Wolf Jewelers!

This stunning 14-karat, white gold necklace featuring eighty-nine pave' set diamonds totaling .63 carats has a value of \$1750.

Invitations coming in January



We warmly welcome the families who have recently joined the parish!

Mrs. Jean **Bishop**
Lisa **Bryson**
Michael, Diane and Anna **Goldcamp**
Jon & Diana **Groh**
Mike, Stephanie, Cooper and Lucas **Rosier**
Mrs. Betty **Sullivan**
Roger, Caroline (Tamborski) and Kaz **Taylor**
Joshua, Samantha and Kennedy **Worley**

Welcome to our newly baptized members!

Addelyn **Berling**, daughter of
Jeff & Erin
Jonathan **Kurth**, son of
Dan & Sandra
Henry **Milheim**, son of
Daniel & Carolyn
Beckett **Motz**, son of
Jason & Nicole
Ansley **Ragiel**, daughter of
Casey & Melissa
Nash **Smith**, son of
Darrell & Lori
Peter **Suddendorf**, son of
Mike & Elyse
Oliver **Warriner**, son of
Kyle & Kim
Quinn **Zimmerman**, daughter of
Brian & Megan



**Stewardship Spotlight Ministry:
St. Vincent de Paul**

Thank you for your recent support of our food drives. Our food pantry is now well stocked. Our phone never stops ringing. Last year we helped over 400 needy and less fortunate families here in the Loveland area. We are here to help all. Whether it is trying to get a recovering heroin addict back on his feet, giving a homeless person lodging, fixing a car for basic transportation, or paying a rent bill to keep a single mother with children from being evicted between job changes, we are here to support. We also help our neighbors pay their rent and utility bills, and provide them with food, clothing, furniture and household items. Along with providing material goods we also share the word of the Lord with them.

Please consider the St. Vincent de Paul Society in your year-end financial giving. Contributions earmarked for SVDP and placed into the Sunday offertory basket or given via Online Giving will benefit those in need here in Loveland. Interested in joining a growing group to help do God's work of serving the poor here in Loveland? Stop by our table at Donut Sunday on **December 2** and chat with a Vincentian.



**Women's Christ Renews
His Parish**

Calling all women of St. Columban - could you use a break from your busy life? How about some quiet time to submerge yourself in a prayerful and reflective weekend? The 2019 Women's CRHP (Christ Renews His Parish) weekend retreat will take place Saturday, January 19 through Sunday, January 20. We invite you to prayerfully consider spending the weekend with us. Come prepared to have fun and renew your heart and deepen your sense of belonging to the parish. The retreat and overnight accommodations will take place in the Parish Hall and all meals will be provided. If you are interested or have any questions please contact either Barb Tilltson btilltson@fuse.net or Alison Shimala at alisonshimala@gmail.com.

Special events schedule through the Christmas season

Bring your family and friends to visit all the nativities around church!

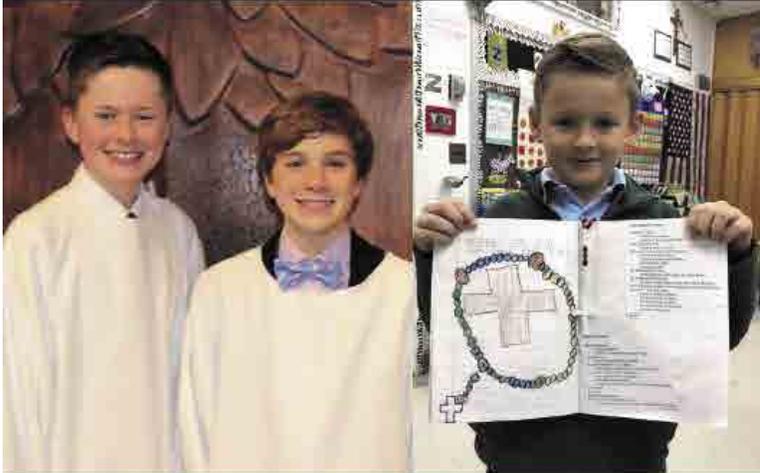
- November 25** "Advent"ure (Family Advent Event): 2:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria
- December 5** Day of Prayer for the Sick with Eucharistic Adoration: 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- December 8** Immaculate Conception Mass at 9:00 a.m.
- December 11** Parish Reconciliation service: 7:00 p.m.
- December 12** Parish Reconciliation service: 7:00 p.m.
- December 19** Advent Lessons and Carols: 7:00 p.m.
- December 21** Advent Lessons and Carols: 8:30 a.m.
- December 24** Christmas Eve Masses: 3:00 p.m.*, 5:30 p.m.* and Midnight (carols starting at 11:30 p.m.)
* *In the interest of hospitality and safety, overflow seating and a video feed of Mass will be available in the Parish Hall for the 3:00 and 5:30 p.m. Masses*
- December 25** Christmas Day Masses: 9:45 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.
- December 31** Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God: Vigil Mass at 4:30 p.m.
- January 1** Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God: Mass at 10:30 a.m.

ST. COLUMBAN SCHOOL

Faith · Family · Future

Our school mission is to empower students to be ambassadors of the Catholic faith and prepare them to think critically, compassionately and globally for the 21st century.

Our school meets this mission in collaboration with the unwavering support of the parish community... Thank You!



Faith Based Education



Community Outreach



Challenging Academics



Champion Sports Programs



ST. COLUMBAN SCHOOL

Faith · Family · Future

Open House

Sunday, January 27, 2019

12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Pre-K - 8th Grade



At St. Columban I felt like I was getting the best grade school experience available. The academics were challenging but the teachers made it feel easy. The community was always welcoming and I always felt like I had a place. During my high school experience I have repeatedly thanked St. Columban for preparing me so well academically and faithfully.

- Anna Belesi, Class of 2015

UPCOMING DATES

New Parent Information Night

for Pre-K and Kindergarten

Thursday, January 17

7:00 pm

Open House

Sunday, January 27

12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Catholic Schools Week

January 27 - February 1

New Student Registration Opens

January 27

Can't make it to Open House?
Call the school office to schedule a tour!

NATIONAL PERCENTILE RANKINGS FOR 2018 SPRING IOWA SCORES

GRADE	MATH	ENGLISH
3 RD	78%	92%
4 TH	98%	99%
5 TH	85%	94%
6 TH	75%	89%
7 TH	98%	99%

Faith-based education in all grades: weekly liturgy, all-school Mass, Liturgy of the Word, prayer services and Taizé

Technology in every classroom Pre-K-8 (*Smart Panels, desktops, tablets, etc.*)
1:1 Tablet for 6-8th grade

Spanish, Music, Library, Art, Phys. Ed. for all grade levels

Extracurricular activities include Drama Club, Dance Team, Football, Basketball, Volleyball, Golf, Track and Cross Country, Boy/Girl Scouts, Chess Club and various after school programs

After-school care through Champions

STATE OF OHIO RECOGNITION

21 students from the Class of '18 took the State Algebra 1 test. 100% placed in the top two categories: advanced and accelerated.

20 Jr. High students participated in 2018 State Science Fair. 19 received a Superior rating and the school was awarded the Harold C. Shaw Outstanding School award for the fifth time since 2009.

OUTREACH

2 Magnified Giving projects by student teams from the Class of '18 earned grants for local non-profits: \$1000 for IHN and \$650 for Cancer Free Kids.

Individual class and all-school fundraising events for non-profit organizations keep students focused on service to the community and around the world.

We are a new family to St. Columban and the community here is incredible. We've had so many people reach out to welcome us. Our daughter loves the school and the education has far exceeded our expectations. We are very happy with St. Columban!

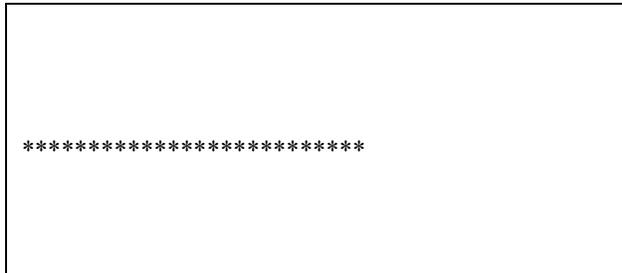
-Maura Walker, parent



**Our Lady of Guadalupe
(Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe)
December 12**

This feast is not merely celebrated in Mexico, but rather is recognized by Catholics across the globe. December 12th commemorates an event in 1531, when a simple Aztec Indian named Juan Diego, saw a vision of Mary, the mother of God. She had olive skin and dark black hair and was dressed as an Aztec princess in clothes of bright colors.

Mary's message to Juan was to tell the bishop to build a church where the encounter occurred. At first, the bishop dismissed Juan, but when he returned with proof of the image of Mary in his cloak that he had just recently placed roses in, he was convinced of this miracle meeting. A church was built on that spot, and every year millions of people make a pilgrimage to be inspired by its beauty, and to remember that blessings and grace are as alive today, as they were hundreds of years ago. For our God did not merely enter into the world at Christmas, but has always been, and will always be, present in our lives.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

St. Columban Parish
894 Oakland Road
Loveland, Ohio 45140
513.683.0105—Fax 513.683.1389

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