

Ascension's Baptisms

Welcome to our newest members. The community of Ascension proudly announces these children who have been baptized this year.

Quiles Marie Grant

daughter of Larry and Luzelenia Grant

Benjamin Matthew Houchin

son of Robert and Gretchen Houchin

Lillian May Bane

daughter of Scott and Allison Lane

Sarah Diane Argabright

daughter of Brian and Rachel Argabright

Lydia Kate Hubbs

daughter of Gerald and Tracy Hubbs

McKayla Ryann and Payten Ashley Seawood

daughters of Michael and Patricia Seawood

Gavin Roby Forrest

son of Brian and Karen Forrest

Jeffrey Alexander Strickland

son of Jeff and Suzanne Strickland

Karli Elizabeth Knepler

daughter of Richard and Chris Knepler

God has called you by name and so do we. We are your adopted family by water and by faith. Our prayers, love and support will surround you each day.

Fifty-Something Social Club

by Marjorie Leist

The fifty-something club is a social club for people aged 50 or over. It meets on the third Wednesday of every month. Meetings often include potluck or catered luncheons from the cafeteria. Special dinners include a catered meal during the Christmas holidays and a summer cook-out. Activities, such as games or entertainment from the Mayor's Winter Scene and Summer Scene, accompany meetings. Members work the fruit booth at the summer festival.

Fifty-something is not a money-making organization, but does contribute to SEAM, Thanksgiving baskets, Christmas baskets, before-school giving tree, and the Christmas giving tree. Members can expect to go on day trips around town and also some overnight and longer trips.

If you're looking for good food, travel, friendship and fun, come join us.

Attention Ascension Newsletter

volume 1 march 2006

From Father Gary



This newsletter is another means of celebrating and communicating among the Ascension community and the larger community as well. We are in the process of completing the first stage of our stewardship renewal campaign, and we are continuing the ongoing process of growing our community. In the coming year, our Stewardship community will be organizing family-oriented events to bring us closer together. Soon we will announce the successful completion the Ascension Building Campaign and the retirement of the parish debt. Also, we are assembling a team of parishioners to develop a long-range plan for our community as we continue to build our future together.

To our visitors and potential parishioners, welcome! We hope you will want to be a part of this vibrant and growing community. Because we are located in the neighborhood rather than the main road, few people come to Ascension by accident. So we invite you to come visit and join us on purpose.

Parish News

by Rosemary Cavanaugh

The season of Lent is marked by the disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Even though we are halfway through our Lenten journey, there are still many opportunities available to help us experience a meaningful preparation for Easter:

Word Among Us and the **Little Black Book** provide meditations and spiritual reading.

Operation Rice Bowl is faith in action. The home calendar guide gives us the chance to make a difference in the lives of others and change ourselves in the process. Reflect. Learn. Fast. Give.

The Door Hanger project offers us the occasion for assisting our neighbors through corporal works of mercy.

Way of the Cross: A Walk for Justice takes place on Good Friday, April 14. The 9th annual walk calls us to prayerfully reflect and respond to current issues.

Fifty days of celebration - the Easter Season - Resurrection - New Life

Easter Baskets for the Sister Visitor Center help us to bring joy to many children within our community.

Respect Life projects focus on the unborn. We are following the development of Albert and Andrea our "spiritual twins." While we learn about their growth, we are planning a baby shower for **April 22/23**. We will provide them with necessary items, including cribs, clothes, diapers, love, prayers and support. Watch the kiosk, bulletin and Tuesday Thoughts for more information.

The **Mother's Day Rose Sale**, on **May 13/14**, benefits the Pregnancy Resource Center. The Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts help with these projects.

Precious Life, we are called to respond when it is threatened in any form - poverty, injustice, abuse, neglect, the death penalty or abortion.

One Spirit, One Will, Zero Poverty, the **Bread for the World Offering of Letters** for 2006. On **May 20/21**, we will write our Congress members about issues that affect hungry and poor people.

What a vibrant and active community! We are the hands and feet of Christ on earth today.

Financially Speaking

by Theresa Garrett

We are seven months into our current year. At the beginning of our fiscal year, July 1, 2005 we had \$336,938 in the bank. As of February 2006 we have \$281,715 in the bank. This is a drop of \$55,223. In the bulletin we publish the amount we receive through our Sunday offerings. As of February 2006 we are \$88,000 behind versus what was budgeted. It is very important that people fulfill the pledge they made.

Please continue to use your Kroger Gift Cards and Meijer Guest Cards when shopping. So far this year (July - December 2005) we have received \$20,732.16 from Kroger. Of this amount \$13,622 was applied to school family's registration fees. If you do not have a Kroger gift card, they are available after Masses and in the parish office. For all our Meijer shoppers, we received \$500 from Meijer in 2005. If you are

a Meijer's shopper and do not have a guest card, contact the Parish Office for information on how to get one. Remember, using either of these cards requires no financial commitment from you.

Many employers match charitable contributions, especially for educational purposes. Please check with your employer to determine if you can apply for matching funds.

For more information:
dritter@insightbb.com

Church of the Ascension
4600 Lynbrook Drive
Louisville, KY 40220

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From the Principal's Office

by Mary Jo Ellis

There are exciting things happening at Ascension. Our 8th Grade students received the sacrament of Confirmation on March 16 and we support them as they take this next step in their Christian journey. We pray that the choices they make will be guided by the Holy Spirit and that they will have the courage to face obstacles in life with the assurance that God is always with them.



Our 2nd Graders will make their First Communion on April 30. We are excited that they will be able to share more fully in the Eucharist and that they will be playing a more active role in our celebrations at Mass. It is still a memory of awe for most of us when we think back to the first time we were able to receive Jesus.

We are grateful for the parents we have who give so selflessly of their time. Several parents have helped provide information for a Respect for Life campaign from January to May. The students have chosen names for a set of twins, and we are following their development through the gestation period. We will have a baby shower in May and the gifts we collect will go to the Sister Visitor Program to help clothe new infants. We are also looking at ways we can celebrate life worldwide in all areas: the unborn, the elderly, the homeless, and the hungry. Students have rice bowls they are using to collect money to reduce world hunger. We are trying to live our faith, not just study Religion.

We ask your prayers as we continue to work toward excellence in all we do. Changes take time, but when we stay focused on the children and do what is best for them, we know the time will be well spent!

School News



We are very excited that our school is the recipient of the Catholic Schools for Tomorrow *INNOVATIONS IN EDUCATION* award from Today's Catholic Teacher magazine. We are featured in the March issue of this magazine for the In Search of God project we completed as a school and parish last spring. Single-page copies have been printed for each family at Ascension School; extras will be available in the Gathering Space for parishioners to see. Mrs. Tribbey and I will be traveling to Atlanta in April to receive the actual award and will be anxious to show it to all of you. We continue to look for God among those we work with at school and hope all can see God in us!

Alumni News

by Missey Mussler

- Mark your calendars for the **Summer Festival June 2-3**. Join your fellow alumni on Saturday, June 3 at the Alumni Tent near the beer garden to catch up and reminisce about your Ascension days.
- Don't forget to support the Annual Fund. Money raised will be used to add more interactive technology to extend learning and to cover standardized testing for non-mandated grade levels.
- Did you know the following alumni have children currently attending Ascension?

Kathy Baron Arnold	Lynn Baron Marshall
Laura Ernwine Norris	Diane Jones Ritter
Kim Corbell Reed	Doug Marquess
Shannon Willinger Tyra	Lynn Willinger Goranflo
Kristen Wolczyk Walter	Billy Roby
Danny Walter	Bruce Kramer
Meghan Kelly Westenhofer	Jerry Passafiume
Cathy Murr Young	John Rousseau
Angie Schnell Hazelwood	Angie Dugan Becker
Tracy Thomas Hubbs	Tonja Goodrow Logsdon
Jerry Hubbs	Doug Clan
Stephanie Oeding Hubbs	Courtney Kenney
Keith Hubbs	David Schneidtmiller
Dennis Jones	Pam Brodarick Amon
Missey Robbins Mussler	Greg Weber
Jeff Melcher	Tina Murphy Young
Craig Mudd	Karen Bramer Skaggs
Steve Grether	Susan Young Collins
Bruce Jackel	Matthew Duddy

We've also got an Ascension Alumni blog that you can access through the parish website (www.ascension-parish.com). Feel free to contact us by sending an e-mail to ascensionalumni@ascension-parish.com.

Sports News

By Darla Radcliff

Ascension's sports teams have always had a reputation for excellence. For the 30+ years that our teams have been competing in the CSAA tournaments, we have won many championships. The banners in the gym are testimony to our achievements. This year has been no different. During our Fall and Winter seasons, we have won 2 championships and were runners up in 6 more. Our girls volleyball teams won 2 championships and were the runner up in 2 others. The basketball season was also a success with 2 girls' teams and 2 boys' teams playing in the championship title games.

For all those Ascension alumnae who like to come back and cheer for their alma mater it is also fun to see familiar faces. Some of our coaches have been coaching almost as long as long as Ascension has been playing. Mr. David Schneidtmiller has been coaching football for 27 years. He IS Ascension football. Mr. Joe Schuetter has been coaching boys' basketball for over 20 years and hopefully will be around for 20 more. Make it a point to try to come to an Ascension game. We are definitely continuing the winning tradition and all fans are welcome. Go Longhorns!

Church of the Ascension
4600 Lynnbrook Drive
Louisville, KY 40220
(502) 451-3860
www.ascension-parish.com

Weekend Mass Times: Saturdays: 5:30 p.m.;
Sundays: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.
Nursery, Sunday School and Children's Liturgy
available during Sunday 10:30 a.m. Liturgy.

The Ascension Sunday bulletin is available online at www.catholicweb.com or on our website at www.ascension-parish.com.

Cub Scouts News

By Diane Ritter



The Cub Scouts in Ascension's Pack 348 have been very busy this year and are preparing for their next scouting levels. We just finished our annual Scout Mass, Blue Gold Dinner and Pinewood Derby. Congratulations to this year's Pinewood Derby winners - Aaron Gordon, Richard Miller, Grant LeNeave and Ben White. If you are a current or former Cub or Boy Scout and would like to assist in our community's Pack activities, please contact Diane Ritter at 452-2417. Leadership is always welcomed!

Girl Scouts News

By Barbara Wagner

Ascension's Girl Scout Troop 1499 is very busy planning several service activities. Girl Scout Sunday was celebrated on March 19. Girl Scouts from various troops participated in the mass as readers, hospitality ministers and gift bearers.

On Sunday, April 9, following the 10:30 a.m. mass, the 4th grade Girl Scouts will host an Easter Egg hunt for all children of the parish age 0 through 3rd grade. There will be candy, prizes and possibly a visit from the Easter Bunny.

On Sunday, April 23, the Girl Scouts will host a baby shower for the twins Ascension has "adopted". We will be collecting baby clothes and items to be donated to a local charity.

In addition to these service projects, there are several activities planned including an overnight camping trip and horseback riding.



Information presented in this newsletter is collected, organized and provided for the convenience of the user. If you do not wish to receive future correspondence from Ascension, please contact Diane Ritter at ascensionalumni@ascension-parish.com, or contact the Parish Office at 502-451-3860. Please note that Ascension Parish did not pay for the production of this newsletter.