



ATTENTION ASCENSION

News You Can Use

Church of the Ascension

Volume III, Issue III

Fall 2019

From the Spiritual Father...

Dear Ascension parishioners and friends,

I have lived, prayed, laughed, and cried with you for more than three months now. What a challenging and yet blessed season it has been! While it might be odd, I want to reintroduce myself so that everyone has an opportunity to learn a bit about me. I was born and raised in Saint Aloysius parish in Pewee Valley and graduated from grade school in 1997. The oldest of four siblings: Kevin (Tara), Amanda (Adam), and + Kurtis; I learned early on what it is like to lead by example. I attended Saint Xavier High School, class of '01, and then on to UofL, where I graduated in 2006 with a bachelor's degree in history. Soon after graduation, I began the labor of discerning priesthood, and entered Saint Meinrad Seminary in 2008, graduated and was ordained a priest in 2015. I had served the people of Saint Gabriel as Associate Pastor until the summer of 2016 with a new assignment as Associate Pastor of Saint Patrick. Then, in February of 2017, I also became the Associate Pastor at Saint Boniface. Having been an Associate Pastor for four years now, I am excited, a bit nervous, but truly blessed to be called to this new assignment.

My goal for the initial year at Ascension is twofold. First, I desire to learn from you what it is like to worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and live a life of discipleship, at Ascension Parish. Every parish has a unique personality, and after three months, I am just beginning to uncover the depth and beauty of that personality!

In my estimation, there is no better compliment than to be called humble and kind, and that is what I want to be for you. I have a variety of hobbies: gardening, hiking, biking, woodworking, and candle making. I also have a bit of an obsession with old church candlesticks, and because of that, I spend a good deal of time polishing antique brass. I have a dog, and her name is Lady. I often call her Our Lady of the Rectory, but Our Lady of Brown's Lane has a beautiful ring to it! She's a five-year-old mutt, and when people ask what kind of dog she is, I respond with energetic! The rectory is on the corner of Lincoln and Brown's lane. Any time you pass by, and I'm out in the garage working on some project, please feel free to stop by! I'd love to show you what I've been working on! Some aspects of ministry that I particularly enjoy are preaching, getting to know the people of God, evangelization, primarily through social media, and involvement with the school. These interests, among others, make Ascension seem like the perfect fit! Many of you have already found me on Facebook @FrAdam Carrico, I am also on Instagram @Spiritual.Father, and Twitter @Fr_AdamCarrico. You can also find a collection of my work at SpiritualFather.org. If you are so inclined, I even have a few YouTube videos and hope to do more in the future.

So, that's a bit about me. In the months and years to come, I hope to share more of myself with you and to grow in knowledge and love of you, and your family. One of the best ways, I believe, for us to get to know one another is to have a meal together. These sacred times are an opportunity for the people of God to share in God's bounty and one another. Other happenings around the parish that I would like to mention are the continuing success of our parish school and the upcoming annual Catholic Services Appeal. Ascension school continues to shine brightly with high-quality teachers and exceptional formation in preparing our students in all aspects of being a disciple of Jesus Christ and a good human being. The recent National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence recognition that we have received verifies what we have been saying for years – you do want to be a part of this! Ascension parish school is not just an effort that calls upon the skills of our teachers and administrators but takes the support, and prayers, of the entire parish. These young people are our present, and future, Church and I for one desire to do all I can to help them be all that Christ is calling them to be! Another aspect of going outside of ourselves to support the greater community is the Annual Catholic Services Appeal – the CSA. Our goal for this year's CSA is about the same as Ascension's goal from last year. We have surpassed our collection amount goal for the past three years, and have exceeded, or come close, to our participation goal two of the past three years. So what are our goals? This year we hope to raise at least \$45,900 by 171 households. Simple math tells us that if 171 families contribute \$268, we will once again achieve our goals. Some of you are able, and will be called upon to provide more than \$268; many will be called upon to contribute less. Every dollar helps because it allows us to work on both our monetary and participation goals. I will be talking about the CSA more in the coming weeks but please be on the lookout for the letter from the Archbishop and be open to what God is calling on you to do.

Please know that Ascension is everything I hoped it would be, and more! I am pretty confident that I am where God is calling me to be, and I hope and pray that you feel the same way! If you have any thoughts or concerns, please don't hesitate to bring them to me whenever you are most comfortable. Please know that I look forward to getting to know each one of you more and more!

In the Peace of our Ascended Lord,
Fr. Adam Carrico



Reverend Adam Carrico
Administrator
Church of the Ascension

Can't make it to church this weekend?

You can watch weekend Mass online. The link is located on the parish website ascension-parish.com

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ASCENSION
SCHOOL

**YOU'LL WANT TO BE A
PART OF THIS!**

From the Desk of the Director of Worship & Music...
Upcoming Mass Dates & Times

Youth Led Weekend

November 9th & 10th

Thanksgiving Day Mass

Nov 28th: 10:00 am

Christmas Masses:

Dec 24th: 4 pm, 7 pm and midnight

Dec 25th: 10 am

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God

Dec 31st: 11:30 PM (Vigil)

Jan 1st: 7:00 PM

**Looking Ahead...*****Ascension's Community Christmas Cantata***

Greetings in Christ!

We are looking forward to an amazing Advent and Christmas Season here at Ascension! One of the highlights this year will be our Community Christmas Cantata as we share the good news and joy of Christmas. This opportunity is open to any and all who wish to be a part of something fun with others and share in the joy of Christmas. This is a great opportunity for families to join together once a week for rehearsals in preparation of a musical program to share with the community. Rehearsals will be on Sundays from 6:30–7:30 PM beginning on November 3rd in the Church. The final performance, open to the community, will be on Sunday, December 15th at 6:30 PM.

Christmas is a time for gratitude, a time for celebration and expectation! And it is a time for music! Songs of the season are everywhere around us, reminding us of the birth of the Savior, the anticipated coming of the Christ Child, the advent of the Messiah, and the JOY that is ours as believers. As followers of Christ, we have done more than just anticipate His coming; we have lived the reality of having received the Son of God into our hearts, of knowing Him as Savior, and worshipping Him as the King of kings and Lord of lords! And because of the wonderful gift of God's Son, given to us, we not only hear the music of Christmas, we SING the song of Christmas, the Song of Joy!

Songs both new and old, celebratory and worshipful, joy-filled and awe-inspired, soul-searching and soul-soothing, weave a tapestry of Christmas wonder that invites the believer to worship and rejoice in His presence, while offering Hope to the downtrodden and Salvation to the lost. In perhaps some of its most powerful moments, Song of Joy ushers the listener into the serene and peaceful strains of the beloved carol Silent Night! Holy Night!, followed by compelling narration leading to the poignant and reflective new song, Somewhere in Your Silent Night (made popular by Casting Crowns). That is followed by a song of invitation and worship with Crowder's Come As You Are, encouraging the lost to come to Christ and give Him their heart. This song of invitation leads us into the declaration that He is the King of kings who will reign forever in the medley featuring Tomlin's, He Shall Reign Forevermore, and Elevation Worship's, Only King Forever.

For more information contact Music & Worship Director, Holly Smith hsmith@ascension-parish.com



Check Out What's Happening at Our School

By: Terry Mullaney, Principal

Happy fall, Ascension!

I want to share some news from the summer as well as other big happenings around school:

Ascension Honored as 2019 National Blue-Ribbon School of Excellence!!!!

The Fastest growing Catholic elementary school in the Archdiocese of Louisville was honored for first time since the school's inception 54 years ago.

The U.S. Department of Education has named Ascension School a National Blue-Ribbon School for 2019. This national honor is the first received since Ascension opened its doors in 1965. Adding to the accolade is the understanding that less than one-third of all public and private schools achieve this honor each year.

The National Blue-Ribbon Schools Program is the highest honor any public or private elementary, middle, or high school can achieve in the United States. Since its kickoff in 1982, more than 8,500 schools have been awarded the honor.

The Department recognizes all schools in one of two performance categories, based on a compilation of student scores, student subgroup scores, and graduation rates. Ascension was named an Exemplary High Performing Schools.

Some highlights of Ascension school include:

- Offering 1:1 iPads to all students in grades K-8
- The only Catholic Elementary school in Louisville, Ky with the entire faculty being trained in Project Based Learning
- STEM-focused, with the opening of a Robotic & Technology Lab
- Departmentalized classes (faculty teaching their strongest subjects) in grades 2-8
- Small class sizes, offering an individualized learning approach

"As the fastest growing Catholic elementary school in Louisville, it's an honor to win this prestigious award. We've seen our enrollment growth spike due to a commitment, as a team, to adapting within a rapidly changing digital world. This is truly a testament to our outstanding and dedicated faculty, parents and community," said Ascension Principal Terrence Mullaney.

In November, members from Ascension will attend an awards recognition ceremony in Washington, D.C. where all 2019 Blue Ribbon Schools will be honored.

A HUGE congratulations to Ms. Trinity Shell, our grades 2-5 math teacher, who won the Innovative Teacher Award from the Catholic Education Foundation, which was presented to her following the Archdiocesan Back to School Mass on August 9th.

Nominees for this award must:

Be currently employed, with 1-5 years of experience, as a teacher in a Catholic elementary school in the Archdiocese of Louisville.

Hold current teacher certification in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Have a positive influence on the lives of their students.

Utilize innovative and creative teaching styles and methods that produce outstanding academic results from their students.

Ms. Shell received a \$2,500 monetary gift for her own use.

The 2019-20 school year is off to a great start! I want to share with all of you some of the exciting changes in our school as well as thank those who make so much possible.

This summer, we put carpet in six classrooms, as part of our commitment to 21st century educational practices, painted the elementary wing bathrooms, removed the old student desks in middle school and replaced them with new tables, and have five new faculty on our team (Mrs. Jahnna Harvey -middle school LA; Ms. Erin Raque – middle school Math; Mrs. Vilma Makram – Spanish; Ms. Nina Cornell – grades 2-5 LA; Mrs. Margaret Burchell – Kindergarten assistant; and Mrs. Kellie Hood – Learning Coordinator).

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A HUGE thank you to Tony and Susan Forns for paint and supplies (plus a few posters).

We also want to thank the following volunteers for helping install carpet: Clancy Decuir, Louie Schweickhardt, Patrick and Melissa McCoy, Eddie Brock, Aaron Thompson and Trevor Church.

Spread the Word...

Parents interested in enrolling their children at Ascension School can contact the school's main office at (502) 451-2535 to setup a private tour. There is a standing invitation for tours (individual or group) anytime. Just email me terry@ascension-parish.com or call the office 451-2535 to set up. I love showing you all our amazing school!

A Huge Thank You to our own Mr. Jim Grider!!!!



A few words about our beloved Mr. Jim Grider – custodian.

Mr. Jim has been keeping our school clean, greeting our students, helping wherever needed and cooking two community breakfasts for over 20 years.

Over the past 20 years, Mr. Jim has donated close to \$100,000! This money has been used to improve our technology lab, new tables in classrooms, a science lab, treats and prizes (tv's, Nintendos, stuffed animals, pizza parties, ice cream, cafeteria equipment, carpet for classrooms and so much more). Mr. Jim takes care of our school in so many ways!

Many often ask how Mr. Jim is able to donate so much money to our school (16k in 2019). His response is, "I like to keep people guessing: some say I hit the lottery, some say it's a rich brother and still others say it was Wall Street." I suppose all we need to know is that Mr. Jim is an extremely kind man who LOVES our students and school – he wants nothing but the best!

Mr. Jim attended Chenoweth Elementary and graduated from Waggener High School. He has three children, Mary Ann, Patricia and Sid, Jr. and eight grandchildren. When not at Ascension, Mr. Jim enjoys Nascar Racing and spending time with his grandchildren. And, he just turned 70!

Thank you, Mr. Jim! We love you!

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

A Thriving Parish on the Move....

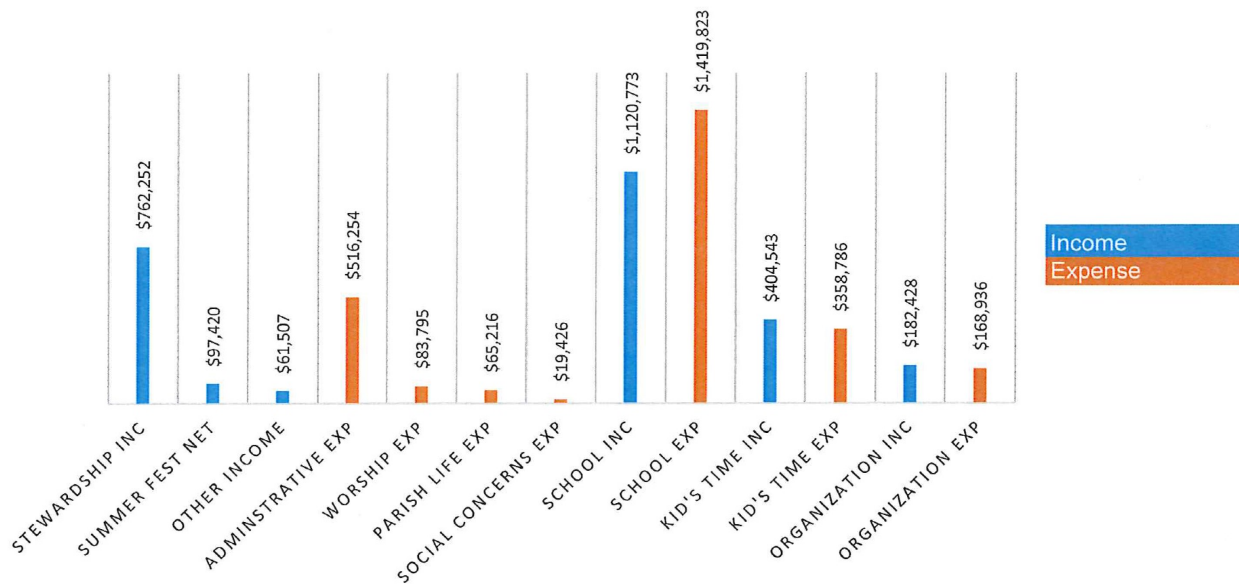
2018-2019	July 2018-June 2019
Sacramental Summary	
Baptisms	36
Funerals	14
Marriages	14
Registered Families	755
Total Individual Members	2122
Quarterly Mass Attendance	July (2018)-June (2019)
Quarter 3 (2018)	4pm– 199, 8:30– 135, 10:30-219
Quarter 4 (2018)	4pm– 200, 8:30– 144, 10:30-237
Quarter 1 (2019)	4pm– 211, 8:30– 144, 10:30-222
Quarter 2 (2019)	4pm– 197, 8:30– 173, 10:30-266



ASCENSION FINANCIAL REPORT July 2018 - June 2019

	INCOME				2019-20 Budget	19-20 Budget % Incr (Decr) vs. 18-19 Actual
		2018-19 Actual	2018-19 Budget	2018-19 Over (Short)		
The Numbers	Stewardship Contributions	\$ 762,252	\$ 824,300	(8.1%)	\$ 793,000	4.0%
	Tuition/School Income	\$ 1,120,773	\$ 1,147,360	(2.4%)	\$ 1,169,291	4.3%
	Kid's Time Fees	\$ 404,543	\$ 416,225	(2.9%)	\$ 394,650	(2.4%)
	Bequests/Gift Income	\$ 21,867	\$ 10,000	54.3%	\$ 7,000	(68.0%)
	Summer Festival Proceeds	\$ 97,420	\$ 75,500	22.5%	\$ 79,500	(18.4%)
	Other Income	\$ 39,640	\$ 26,500	33.1%	\$ 28,100	(29.1%)
	Organization Income	\$ 182,428	\$ 189,030	(3.6%)	\$ 184,670	1.2%
	Total Income	\$ 2,628,923	\$ 2,688,915	(2.3%)	\$ 2,656,211	1.0%
	EXPENSE					
	Total Administrative Expenses	\$ 516,254	\$ 443,200	(14.2%)	\$ 472,950	(9.2%)
	Total School Expenses	\$ 1,419,823	\$ 1,425,635	0.4%	\$ 1,393,036	(1.9%)
	Total Worship Expenses	\$ 83,795	\$ 72,591	(13.4%)	\$ 88,248	5.0%
	Total Parish Life Expenses	\$ 65,216	\$ 92,668	42.1%	\$ 82,688	21.1%
	Total Social Concerns Expenses	\$ 19,426	\$ 41,852	115.4%	\$ 27,298	28.8%
	Kid's Time Expenses	\$ 358,786	\$ 413,823	15.3%	\$ 390,484	8.1%
	Organization Expenses	\$ 168,936	\$ 200,969	19.0%	\$ 201,241	16.1%
	Total Expense	\$ 2,632,238	\$ 2,690,737	(2.2%)	\$ 2,655,944	0.9%
	Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (3,315)	\$ (1,822)	(0.1%)	\$ 267	

The financial information for 2018-19 reflects the tremendous commitment of the Ascension community to our multiple ministries. While the overall income was slightly less than budget, careful control of expenditures almost completely offset this shortfall. With a look to our future, designated funds and reserves are believed to be adequate to support future ministry growth and minor budget shortfalls.





SOCIAL OUTREACH RECAP FROM SUMMER DONATIONS

It was a very warm summer with lots of activities going on with our parish community. Let me take this time to say thank you to everyone who keeps giving from your heart.

We have been successful in providing much needed donations to our parish organizations through-out the summer months. Please continue to check out our monthly charity and the supplies they so desperately need. Every item is truly a blessing to them and helps to ease the stress of daily living.

Hildegard House, St. John's Shelter, Schumann Center, & Sister Visitor's Center

- 134 can of food
- 5 lbs. of sugar
- 11 lbs. of coffee
- 23 cans Beverage Items
- 12 Religious Medals with prayers cards, pamphlets and books
- 4 set of twin sheets
- 48 wash cloths
- 4 hand towels
- 4 bath towels
- 5 bleach wipes
- 1 bottle of bleach
- 99 travel sized personal care products
- 32 razors
- 92 rolls of toilet paper
- 14 rolls paper towels
- 16 pairs of socks
- 2 rain ponchos'



Diaper Bank

- 2 cases of diapers and \$150.00 donations for supplies

My Dog Eats First

- 20 cans of food (dog & cat)
- 66 lbs. of dry dog & cat food
- 42 lbs. of kitty liter
- 25 boxes of dog treats
- 4 collars
- 8 bowls
- 3 toys for dog & cats
- 11 cans of tuna
- 18 boxes of Mac & cheese
- 2 boxes of cereal
- 2 peanut butters jars
- 12 rolls of toilet paper

Bike Drive (Portland Community Center)

- 40 Bikes given





Church of the Ascension

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Louisville, Kentucky 40220

Parish Office: 502-451-3860
Fax: 502-458-9782
www.ascension-parish.com

We are a Roman Catholic parish
focused on developing our community
through worship, outreach, education
and fellowship guided by the teachings
of Jesus Christ.

**ALL
ARE
WELCOME**



Ladies
**BUNCO
NIGHT**



Come join us for a fun
“Ladies Night Out”!
Hosted by the Ascension PTO
Saturday, November 9th 6PM-9PM in the
cafeteria
\$10/person
Dessert & Drinks Available for purchase
/Bring snacks to share!

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Louisville, KY
Permit No. 1362



Save the Date!!!!
Ascension's Live Nativity
Sunday, December 15th from 6:00-8:00pm
This ever popular Advent experience includes
a manger scene with live animals, nativity
characters, music, scripture, and refreshments
Please make plans to attend this inspiring and
powerful event that has become a favorite holi-
day tradition with families. **ALL** are welcome!