

**Important Dates:**

1/28-2/2....Catholic Schools Week  
2/1 .....Open House (current families)  
2/12 .....No School, Walk Incentive Day  
2/16-19.....No School, winter break  
2/28 .....11:30 dismissal, School of Faith

K-8 Absent/Tardy ..513-347-2231  
Preschool Absent ...513-347-4450  
Early Dismissal.....note to teacher  
Aftercare .....513-371-0371

**AUG'S BLOG**

There is nothing quite like ripping off the January page of the calendar! This year has brought with it gloomy clouds and rain...lots of rain. Before too long, Lent will be here (Ash Wednesday is Feb. 14th). This is a time to focus on prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Have you thought about how you can improve your prayer life, give alms or fast? What do you need to do to get closer to Our Lord? What do you need to do to live out God's love?

We are in the middle of Catholic Schools Week. We are certainly all blessed to live in a country where we can

attend school while celebrating our faith. Yesterday morning, students were cheered into the building with songs, pom-poms and shouts of joy from the staff. The smiles are a great way to start their morning. Thank you to our wonderful PTO for a fantastic Student Appreciation Day! There were snack carts with sweets, salty snacks and a drink to go with it. Thanks so much to Mrs. Cebula and her snack team for getting around to all the classes! In addition, student raffles were held throughout the day. Each homeroom numbers the students up to 30. I then roll my 30-sided dice and announce numbers. Students get to visit my office and pick out a prize. IF they chose an out of uniform pass, that day is Monday, February 5th.

Today is Staff Appreciation Day! Our staff with significant years of service to Catholic Schools were announced after mass today. In addition, PTO provided the staff with a delicious lunch. Thanks parents, for all your support of the Walk a Thon which helps finance all the fun this week!

Also today, we dedicated 2 benches for Cece Sharp. Thank you to the parents for coming and thank you to Beth Cebula and the PTO for this beautiful memorial.

Thursday Night is our Open House for current families. This is a time to drop in to see your child's work, visit classrooms and meet some teachers. We look forward to greeting all of our parents from **4:15-5:45 p.m.** You will need to be finished by 6:00 p.m.

**7th Grade Parents**-The ESAP Butch and Karen Humbert Scholarship is an award presented to 7th grade students who embody the Christian spirit of giving back and helping others. 7th graders can complete an application online at ESAP.org. They are due March 1st. Recipients are announced at the end of May.

Re-enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year is going on now. An email was sent to parents for each student. It must be completed by this Friday to ensure your spot for next year.

Lastly, there have been many rumors spread about Catholic schools closing and merging. Other than St. Martin's, I am not aware of any other schools closing. In addition, Our Lady of the Visitation and St. Jude Schools do not have plans to merge. Both of our schools are thriving and have waiting lists.

You should have received an email that addresses tuition and the RE-ENROLLMENT process for Ed Choice for current students. Please note the turn in days of Feb. 5th and 12<sup>th</sup> will be here at Visitation in the library. If you completed the process earlier this year, the re enrollment process should be much easier!

Blessings,

*Spely M. Aug*

### COOK'S CURRICULUM CORNER

Catholic Schools week has kicked off with a flurry of excitement! Tomorrow is parent appreciation day. We are grateful for the sacrifices you make to send your child to a catholic school. Students have been working hard writing thank you letters that will come home today along with a little appreciation treat from the school! Be on the lookout!



A free website that offers read aloud stories for students to age 12 is <https://www.storyberries.com/>. Children and parents can choose books based on the child's age, topic and/or length of the book. Children can choose to have the book read to them and then answer follow up questions regarding the story. There is a parenting resource on the site that offers advice on childhood milestones and lessons that correlate with children's books to help them learn to navigate subjects such as overcoming fears, being kind and/or being responsible.

### CATHOLIC EDUCATION FUND SCHOLARSHIPS

This is to clarify some information about the Catholic Education Fund (CEF) Scholarships given by the Archdiocese. Information about these scholarships was sent out last week.

There are three different CEF scholarships.

1. An Elementary Scholarship for Preschool-8th grade students based on financial aid.
2. A Welcome Scholarship for new families to a Catholic School (you have never had a child attend a Catholic School prior).
3. An Employee Scholarship for employees of the Archdiocese.

To apply for the elementary scholarship, **you need to apply through your FACTS account**. By applying to FACTS, you automatically are applying for the elementary CEF scholarship.

To apply for the Welcome or Employee Scholarships, please go to [Catholicbestchoice.org](https://Catholicbestchoice.org) >affordability>click on either the Welcome Scholarship or Employee Scholarship Box.

**As a reminder, if you receive a full EdChoice Scholarship for your child, that child would not qualify for any of these scholarships.** The Elementary Scholarship is based on the financial needs of your family.

For further questions, please email Leslee House at [lhouse@olvisitation.org](mailto:lhouse@olvisitation.org)

### RE-ENROLLMENT

Re-enrollment for current students is going on now. An email was sent to parents for each student. Please complete by February 2<sup>nd</sup> to ensure your spot for the 2024-2025 school year.

### FACTS ACCOUNTS

Please be sure that your FACTS tuition account has current address, telephone number and email information for all authorized parties on your account. This information can be updated, by you, by logging into your FACTS account. It is important that this information be kept current. Thank you! Questions, contact Leslee - [Lhouse@divinemeracyfam.org](mailto:Lhouse@divinemeracyfam.org)

### REDIKER

All Rediker issues, primary email changes or primary household phone number changes should be emailed to [rediker@olvisitation.org](mailto:rediker@olvisitation.org).

### **8th GRADE PARENTS**

Knights of Columbus: St. Joseph of the Three Rivers Knights of Columbus will be awarding \$1,500.00 scholarships to three 8th grade students who will be attending a Catholic High School. Essays are due by February 15th. Please see attached.

### **ART DEPARTMENT**

Congratulations to the Scholastic Art Award Winners! The Scholastic Art Competition strives to recognize students in junior high and high school for their incredible gifts in the Visual Arts. This year, our region, Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky, received over 4000 works of art. Our Lady of the Visitation had 8 winners this year!

- Silver Key winners are: Ian F., Brayden D. and Brayden D.
- Honorable Mention winners are: Audrey B., Audrey B., Kate M., Riley C. and Josie S.

Congratulations to our artists!

### **LEGO CLUB**

Please see the attached flyer for the next session of Mrs. Brady's Lego club for Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade. It begins on February 21<sup>st</sup> until March 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **STRIKING VIKINGS**

Please see the attached flyer about Visitation's Striking Vikings music ensemble for students in Grades 3 through 6, beginning February 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **GIRL SCOUT DANCE**

The Father Daughter dance will be held on Friday February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please see attached for details.

### **RIGHT TO LIFE POSTER CONTEST**

Please see the attached flyers for information on this year's Right to Life poster contest. The contest is open to all students in grades K-8. There will be cash prizes across three age groups.

### **CHURCH CHATTER**

Pictorial Directory: The Divine Mercy Family of Parishes is creating a Family pictorial directory. Please see attached to book your appointment. Your student could win an ice cream treat and an out of uniform pass. Please see attached.

Family Feast: Please see the attached flyer about our Family Feast on Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>. Please RSVP at <http://bit.ly/3vxjcO2>

### **PTO and SPIRITWEAR**

Spiritwear: You can shop online at [visispiritwear.weebly.com](http://visispiritwear.weebly.com). Any questions, please contact Nikki Niemann at 513-379-8478.

### **VISITATION ATHLETIC CLUB (VAC) – [www.vacsports.com](http://www.vacsports.com)**

#### **Important Dates**

- 2/3 – Boys basketball Orange Out Night
- 2/4 – Boys volleyball open gym
- 2/5 – Last day to register for girls softball (*date change from April 16*)
- 2/7 – Boys volleyball 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade tryouts

Boys Basketball – Orange-Out Night: Join us this Sat., Feb. 3 in the Auditorium for the boys basketball Orange Out Night. Wear your orange to this fun family event to cheer on all our teams and celebrate our 8<sup>th</sup> grade players. Game schedule: 5:30pm (Wheeler), 6:30pm (Pace), 7:30 (Horvath) and 8:30pm (Fortkamp)

#### **Boys Volleyball – Open Gym & Tryouts**

- \* Open Gym Feb. 4 (optional) - 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-7:30pm; 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> from 7:30-8:30pm in the Auditorium
- \* Tryouts Feb. 7 – 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade tryouts from 8:30-9:30pm in Auditorium; no tryouts for 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade

Girls Softball – Sign-ups end Feb 5<sup>th</sup> (visit [vacsports.com](https://vacsports.com) and login to sign-up): Softball sign-ups for girls in grades PreK to 8<sup>th</sup> end on Monday, Feb. 5. Please note the sign-up end date has changed from the previously communicated April 16 date.

Spring Sports Sign-Ups Continue

- \* Feb. 25 – last day for Baseball sign-ups for 4U/5U (t-ball), 6U/7U (coach pitch), 14U & 15U
- \* March 1 – last day to sign-up for Track & Field (grades K-8)

Save the Date – Field Clean Up Day Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>: Volunteers needed to help prep our fields and facilities for the Spring season. Volunteers of all ages are welcome with service hours available for teens. Come for a bit or stay all day, every little bit helps! (Alternate weather date will be Saturday, March 9)

For VAC updates, be sure to follow VAC on Facebook (Our Lady of Visitation Athletic Club) and Twitter/X (VACSports)

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Elder High School: Tuesday, February 6 – *Elder Basketball Grade School Night*, Free Admission to all Grade School Students, Varsity game begins at 7:00pm. Thursday, February 15 – *Elder Moms Club Sip & Shop Vendor Night* at the Elder Schaeper Center at 6:00pm. Please see website for details.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Date	Day	Playground Upper lot	Playground Lower lot	Lunchroom (wiping tables)	Cafeteria (food service)
2/5	M	Dan Kaiser Nick Neurohr	Aunnie Wertenberger Jamie Donovan	Kerri Todd	Alex Coffaro Laura Hampel
2/6	T	Shannon Clifton Andrea Griffith	Elizabeth McPherson Jennifer Weil	Amanda Bruner Deb Tisch	Bob Johnson Sue Stautberg
2/7	W	Betsy Horvath	Angela Graman Theresa Marzhauser	Kirsten Law	Christina Yockey Kristina Kelly Brandon Rainier
2/8	Th	Sarah Re Jamie Streder	Dan Kaiser	Emily McKenna Amy Burns	Jillian Edwards Angela Hayes
2/9	F	April Rischmann Stephanie Schiller	Dana Ellsworth Sarah Re	Shannon Clifton Lauren Eagan	Sarah Re LeAnn Brock

LUNCH MENU FOR FEBRUARY 5-9

Please note, due to manufacturer shortages, menu may change.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
-Chili Cheese Hot Dog - Tater Tots - Chili & Cheese offered -Fruit -Vegetable -Milk	-Hamburger or Cheeseburger -Fries -Pickles -Fruit -Vegetable -Milk	- La Rosa’s Pizza (1 Slice) Cheese or Pepperoni -Fruit -Vegetable -Milk	Soft Taco -Taco Meat -Shredded Cheese -Shredded Lettuce -Fruit -Vegetable -Milk	- LaRosa’s Cheese Rondos (2) -Pizza Sauce -Fruit -Vegetable -Milk
A La Carte				
-Hot Dog with chili & cheese on the side	-Hamburger or Cheeseburger	-La Rosa’s Pizza 1 Slice	-Soft Taco taco meat, cheese, lettuce	-LaRosa’s Cheese Rondos (2)

Cash can be used for milk, snacks and ice cream. Assorted bagged snacks daily for \$.75. Ice cream for \$1.50. Milk and water for \$.50, may be purchased daily with cash or online.

To purchase the regular lunch or hot a la carte items, you must set up an account and order through <https://olvlunch.ahotlunch.com/login>. Lunches must be ordered by 8:00 a.m. daily. Regular lunch is \$4.00. Hot a la carte is \$2.00.

If your student has an appointment and will not be here for lunch, please do not order lunch for that day. If your student is sick or leaves early due to emergency or sickness, your account will be credited for that day's missed lunch. Please note, you can always go into your account and cancel any lunch up until 8:00am daily of the day ordered.





# St. Joseph of the Three Rivers Council Knights of Columbus

## THE DEHMER/NIEPORTE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

### APPLICATION

### COVER SHEET

The St. Joseph of the Three Rivers Knights of Columbus will be awarding three \$1500.00 scholarships to three eighth grade students who will be attending a Catholic High School for the 2024-2025 school year.

To be eligible for the scholarship the student must complete the Application Form (both pages) and submit an ESSAY which completes the following:

**“ How will your education in the Catholic Faith equip you to succeed as a Christian in the world of high school and beyond.”**

The essay must be the work of the student alone.

The essay can be no more than one page typewritten or two pages handwritten.

Both pages of the “Application Form” must be completed. The Application Form must be signed by both the student and his/her parents. The Form is to be placed inside a plain white envelope and stapled to the essay.

There can be NO identifying information on either the envelope or in the essay.

The completed Essay along with the envelope containing the Application Form must be returned by the date determined by your building Principal.

A representative from the Knights of Columbus will collect the envelopes of the Finalists on Friday, February 23, 2024.

The winners will be announced the week of March 18th.



**ST. JOSEPH OF THE THREE RIVERS**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**DEHMER/NIEPORTE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**APPLICATION FORM**

Both pages of the Application must be completed along with an Essay on the following prompt: **“How will your education in the Catholic Faith equip you to succeed as a Christian in the world of high school and beyond?”**.

Please place your completed Application Form (both pages) in a plain white envelope and secure it to your Essay.

Do not put any identifying information in your essay or on the outside of the envelope.

This Application Form is to certify that the attached essay is the work of the undersigned student. The ideas and narrative are that of the student alone.

Student Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Catholic High School you plan to attend \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

List all the activities, events and organizations in which you participated in your school.

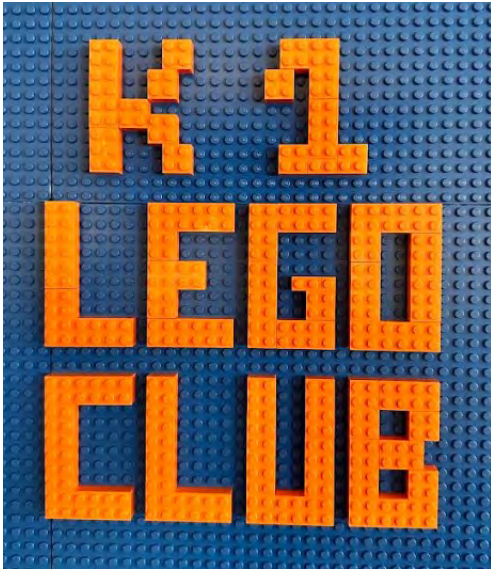
(ex. Band, Choir, Student Council, ACT, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Drama/Plays, Chess Club, Coding Club, Kindness Club, EGO, Peer Tutoring, Computer Aide, Fishing Club, etc.)

List all the Church related activities and events in which you have taken part. (ex. Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Choir, Right to Life Marches and Fundraising, etc.)

List all the sports in which you have participated,  
(ex. Baseball, Basketball, Football, Lacrosse, Swimming, Volleyball, etc.)

List anything you have done in your Community.

(ex. helped with picking up trash along our roadways, helped on the Township Beautification Committee, helped collect can goods for the Food Pantry, visited shut-ins, etc.)



Kindergarten and 1st  
graders are invited to  
join LEGO Club!

**When: Wednesday's in the library after school from carpool 2 until 4:00**  
**(pick up in the large lot outside the library doors)**

**Dates: February 21st, March 6th, March 13th, March 20th**

**Cost: \$30.00 per child**

**If your child is interested, please return the form to Mrs. Brady.**  
**Checks can be made payable to Our Lady of the Visitation.**



**K/1st Grade LEGO Club Sign Up**

**Child's Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

**Homeroom Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

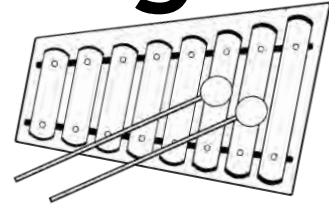
**New LEGO challenges**  
**each week!**







# ***The Striking Vikings***



*Who?* Students in grades 3-6

*When?* Fridays 3:15-4:00 beginning February 9

*Where?* Mrs. Neeley's music room

This group will be a combination choral and instrumental group, using the xylophones, glockenspiels, tubanos, woodblocks, and all the other percussion instruments students know from Mrs. Neeley's class. Students will not need to provide any of their own materials (for students in 4th-6th grade, if you still have a recorder hanging around the house, there may be opportunities to bring it!). There will also be a mix of a more "traditional" choir rehearsal with an emphasis on learning modern or popular repertoire.

The Striking Vikings will perform at the Visitation spring concert on Tuesday, April 30, 2024.

"That sounds great! How do I sign up?" Return the bottom portion of this paper along with the participation fee (make checks out to Our Lady of the Visitation) to your homeroom teacher or school office.

Participation for 1 child: \$50

For siblings: 2 children: \$80 3 children: \$100

Any additional information will be sent home the week prior to rehearsals beginning!

Questions? Please contact Lauren Neeley at [LNeeley@OLVisitation.org](mailto:LNeeley@OLVisitation.org)

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I have enclosed the participation fee and will be at rehearsal on Friday afternoons beginning February 9.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# 80'S DANCE PARTY

FATHER DAUGHTER GIRL SCOUT DANCE

FRIDAY - 2/23/24

6:30 - 9:00PM

-VISI AUDITORIUM-

EARLY BIRD TICKETS - PURCHASE BY 1/26: \$15

GENERAL TICKETS - PURCHASE BY 2/16: \$20

NIGHT OF (AT DOOR) TICKETS - PURCHASE ON 2/23: \$25

PRICING IS FOR A FATHER/DAUGHTER COUPLE

\$5 EXTRA PER ADDITIONAL DAUGHTER

VENMO - @MARIA-KERSTING

PUT NAME OF GIRL(S) AND ADULT ATTENDING IN MEMO

OR CHECK - MAKE PAYABLE TO TROOP 4397

SEND ENVELOPE INTO SCHOOL WITH NAME OF GIRL(S)

AND ADULT ATTENDING. ADDRESS TO MARIA KERSTING

VIA CARMEN KERSTING/MS. FISCHESSE

RAFFLE AND SPLIT THE POT

TICKETS \$1 EACH OR 6 FOR \$5

PRIZE FOR BEST DRESSED!!



Announcing . . .

## Right to Life of Greater Cincinnati's 2024 PRO-LIFE POSTER CONTEST

President  
Rachel R. Citak,  
Attorney at Law

Vice President  
Robert Enouen

Treasurer  
Bob Meyers

Secretary  
Mary Clark

Members  
Jennifer Black  
Robert Burger, M.D.  
Chuck Donabedian  
Beth Eichhold  
Jane Elfers  
Susan Enouen  
Kristina Fiore  
Jack Hart  
Jim Kathmann  
Joe Platt  
Nick Stockhauser  
Marie Willke Meyers, M.D.

Executive Director  
Laura Strietmann

The Right to Life of Greater Cincinnati Pro-Life Poster Contest is open to all students in kindergarten through 8th grade from private, public, home schools or home.

There are three age categories: K-2nd, 3rd-5th, and 6th-8th. Cash prizes and prize ribbons for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will be awarded in each age group. All participants will receive a certificate of participation.

Each poster will be evaluated on its originality, use of medium, interpretation of theme and presentation of a pro-life message, and overall effect. Please no copyrighted material.

*This year's theme, "Human from the Start"* is a great teaching opportunity and demonstrates that human life is the most valuable creation. Even at the smallest stages, human beings are unique and unrepeatable. The students should be creative in pronouncing this truth through their art.

Entry forms and rules are enclosed and may be reproduced. Additional copies may be obtained from the Right to Life Office (513/728-7870) or downloaded from [CincinnatiRighttoLife.org](http://CincinnatiRighttoLife.org).

**Deadline for entries is Friday, March 1, 2024.**

Please note the size requirement of 9" x 12". If you have any questions, please call Karen Byrne at the Right to Life office, 513-728-7870 ext. 206. We look forward to seeing your creative and inspiring artwork!



# Right to Life of Greater Cincinnati 2024 Poster Contest Rules

- ☺ One entry per student.
- ☺ Student must currently be a Kindergarten through 8th grade student.
- ☺ Finished art must be **9" x 12"**.
- ☺ Artwork must be original work by student. (no collaborative work).
  - ♦ Use of photocopies or copyrighted material is prohibited.
- ☺ Use any type of medium, one or many.
- ☺ Use the theme specified. This year's theme is - **"Human from the Start"**.
  - Why are YOU pro-life?
  - Show us your support for all innocent human life: born & unborn.
  - How do you value human life as a gift from God?
- ☺ Artwork must be received by Friday, March 1, 2024 to be considered.
- ☺ Artwork must have completed information form (below) permanently attached to the back.
- ☺ Each poster will be evaluated on: originality, use of medium, interpretation of theme and presentation of a pro-life -message, and overall effect.
  - ☺ There are three age categories:
    - ♦ Kindergarten thru 2nd grade
    - ♦ 3rd – 5th grade
    - ♦ 6th – 8th grade
  - ☺ Awards given in each age category will be:
    - ♦ first place - \$100, 1st place ribbon
    - ♦ second place - \$50, 2nd place ribbon
    - ♦ third place - \$25, 3rd place ribbon
    - ♦ Honorable mentions will be awarded at the discretion of the judges.
    - ♦ Every student who enters will receive a certificate of participation.
  - ☺ Upon submission, all artwork becomes the property of Right to Life of Greater Cincinnati, Inc. All decisions by the judges are final.

Cut off the form below, attach to your poster and send to:  
Right to Life Poster Contest, 1802 W. Galbraith Rd., Cincinnati, Ohio 45239

*Please use appropriate information, **either school OR home**,  
use home information ONLY if submitting from home or if you are home schooled.*

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Please print

student's first and last name: \_\_\_\_\_

student's grade: \_\_\_\_\_

student's age: \_\_\_\_\_

teacher or parent's name: \_\_\_\_\_

teacher or parent's email: \_\_\_\_\_

school name: \_\_\_\_\_

school or home address: \_\_\_\_\_

school or home phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

# Need an updated family photo?

Choose your best matching outfits and have your family photo be a part of The Divine Mercy Family of Parishes directory. Book your appointment for our Pictorial Directory and you'll get a free 8 x 10 photo and copy of the directory!

## Book Now

*You may have your photo taken at any parish*

**Schedule your appointment after Masses  
January 27 & 28** for photography session  
at Visitation.

Or schedule online at [www.UCDIR.com](http://www.UCDIR.com)

Enter church code:

oh2727a (appointment at Visitation)

oh2727b (appointment at St Joseph)

oh2727c (appointment at St Jude)

Password: photos







# Ice Cream Prize

## Win

### An Ice Cream Party and Out-of-Uniform Pass

Have your family photo taken for the new Divine Mercy Family Pictorial Directory and your child is entered to win. The homeroom class with the highest participation in the Pictorial Directory will win an Ice Cream Treat from Fr Don and an Out-of-Uniform Pass.

### Book now!

Schedule online at [www.UCDIR.com](http://www.UCDIR.com)

- Enter the Church code:
  - oh2727a (appointment at Visitation Welcome Center )
  - oh2727b (appointment at St Joseph Eliz Seton Room)
  - oh2727c (appointment at St Jude Undercroft)
- Enter password:
  - photos

Included with your photo session is a free 8 x 10 photo and copy of the directory!





## Join us for a Family Sunday Feast



Join us to celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and the last Sunday before Lent begins! The goal of this new event is to bring families together for a potluck brunch after a Sunday Mass to celebrate a liturgical feast with community, food, and activities for children of all ages. We'll provide coffee and juice and ask that each family bring a food item to share.



**Date: Sunday, February 11**  
**Time: Following the 10 am Mass**  
**Location: Visitation Church Hall**



**RSVP**  
BY FEB 9

Questions? Michael Bissonnette  
[mbissonnette@divinemercyfam.org](mailto:mbissonnette@divinemercyfam.org)