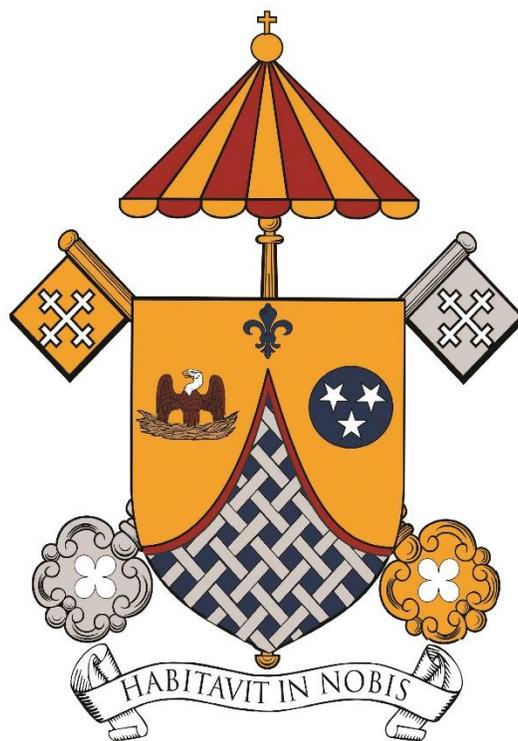


**THE BASILICA OF STS. PETER AND PAUL**  
**CHATTANOOGA, TN**



**2018 PARISH MINISTRIES REPORT**  
**NOVEMBER 14, 2018**

## Table of Contents

State of the Parish 2018.....	4
2018 Ministries and Contacts.....	9
Adoration Ministry 2018 Report.....	11
Altar Guild Ministry 2018 Report.....	11
Altar Server Ministry 2018 Report.....	12
American Heritage Girls 2018 Report.....	13
Bereavement Ministry 2018 Report.....	13
Bilingual Community Events 2018 Report.....	13
Cause for Sainthood of Fr. Patrick Ryan 2018 Report.....	15
Catholic Motherhood Ministry 2018 Report.....	15
Council of Catholic Women (CCW) 2018 Report.....	16
Community Outreach 2018 Report.....	16
Docents Ministry 2018 Report.....	17
Ecumenical and Spiritual Life Ministries 2018 Report.....	17
Evenings of Recollection Ministry 2018 Report.....	18
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) 2018 Report.....	19
Facilities Engineering & Maintenance Advisory Committee (FEMAC) 2018 Report.....	19
Finance Council 2018 Report with Parish Statistics.....	20
Haiti Committee 2018 Report.....	22
Hispanic Ministries 2018 Report.....	22
Historic Preservation Ministry 2018 Report.....	27
Knights of Columbus 2018 Report.....	27
Lector Ministry 2018 Report.....	28
Liturgy Team 2018 Report.....	28
New Parishioner Welcoming Ministry 2018 Report.....	28
Nursery Ministry 2018 Report.....	29
Ombrellino Religious Articles Store 2018 Report.....	29
Parish Dinners 2018 Report.....	30
Parish Pastoral Council 2018 Report.....	31
Potlucks 2018 Report.....	31
Pro-Life Ministry 2018 Report.....	32
RCIA Ministry 2018 Report.....	33
Receptions 2018 Report.....	33
Religious Education Ministry 2018 Report.....	34
Sacred Music Ministry 2018 Report.....	34
Sacristan Ministry 2018 Report.....	37

Security Committee 2018 Report ..... 37  
St. Ambrose Homeschool Co-op 2018 Report..... 38  
Technology 2018 Report..... 38  
Trail Life USA 2018 Report..... 39  
Usher/Greeter Ministry 2018 Report ..... 39  
Women’s Ministries 2018 Report..... 39  
Youth Ministry 2018 Report ..... 40

## State of the Parish 2018

Fr. David Carter, Pastor and Rector

2018 has been a full and active year here at the Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul. From the ministry reports, it is clear that we are sustaining and maintaining many of the ministries and initiatives that have begun over the past few years, including our homeschool co-op, bilingual events, as well as expanding our offerings to include a Trail Life and American Heritage Girls troop. All of these ministries and services of the parish require commitment and dedication. I have seen many people step up into these roles, and for that I am very grateful for their contribution to our parish. However, a lack of participation and commitment within the ministries has been a source of consternation for not a few ministry leaders. It seems that our modern life is full of activities and other commitments, and one gets the impression that most of the things done around here are done by a few people doing multiple things. The future of the parish will be well served by attention to this aspect of parish life and increasing the participation of people in all of our ministries and inviting more people to join in rather than turning to the same few for everything. To this end, I have been working on developing a Volunteer Resource List that will be populated by names surfaced by ministry leaders and other parishioners so that I have someone to turn to when they ask for help. This is an ongoing list and suggestions are always welcome.

Among the many initiatives that we have begun here at the Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul, none have been as momentous as the one that we are currently undertaking, that is, the sanctuary renovation of our beautiful Basilica church. This renovation was first conceived in the Town Hall meeting in the summer of 2014 when we were preparing for the HOME Campaign. Among many initiatives that have since been fulfilled, like the nursery renovation, the safety and security upgrades to the campus, the new sound system, and even the rectory renovation, the next big project that was on the hearts and minds of our parishioners was a much-needed renovation to our sanctuary. Specifically brought out in that town hall meeting was the desire to move the Tabernacle to the center of the sanctuary, to restore the altar rail, and to replace the carpeted flooring with something more durable. That durable surface was suggested to be marble. God laughed, and in the course of our preparations and doing the hard math of the budget, the marble changed to hardwood, with surprisingly pleasing results and a providential harmony with the art and architecture of the church, making it more of a restoration of the original intent of the architects.

Throughout 2015 and 2016, while the HOME Campaign was going on, we pursued the other initiatives mentioned above, but by early 2016 we had worked with James McCreary, the noted church architect who designed the new Cathedral in Knoxville. He drew up for us the plans for the sanctuary renovation that we had longed for. Throughout 2017 we attempted to prepare for the renovation by obtaining quotes and bids and sourcing materials. We made the conscious effort to hold off beginning the renovation until such time as we had secured our funding and would not have to incur debt. By the spring of 2018 we had arrived at that place, and with the permission of Bishop Stika and the Diocesan Finance Council, we began our renovation project by awarding our first contract to the woodworkers who have now produced our beautiful new altars. At the end of July this past summer, we made the arduous move down into the basement of Varallo Parish Hall and set up a temporary sanctuary that has served us for the duration of the renovation project. Many people came out to help us make that move, and even though we are in exile and in a temporary sanctuary, it is a beautiful place to offer the saving Sacrament.

While in Varallo Parish Hall, the work continued upstairs, the first step being the remediation of the asbestos underneath the carpet and vinyl tiles. After this work was complete, we made the first of several discoveries that has led to an even more beautiful restoration than we could have imagined. Underneath the carpet and vinyl tile and the thin-set layer of concrete, underneath both, we found the original heart pine floors laid in

## State of the Parish 2018, cont.

1890. The decision was made to simply restore these floors to their original glory. In an irony that is not lost to those who value tradition, those things which were laid down as the least expensive at the time have now become a sought-after and valuable commodity that fits very well into the project we have here of rejoicing in Sacred Tradition.

We also noticed that those same floors continued into the vestibule and so we made a decision to extend our renovation into that area of welcome and greeting that is an essential part of our fellowship as Christians. While looking into this space, we made the second discovery that has brought great joy, namely the two alcoves with vaulted ceilings, that for eighty years had been hidden behind plaster and wood walls. They have been opened and refinished and painted and now add considerable space to our previously cramped vestibule and will no doubt be one of the more awe-inspiring parts of our already awesome renovation of the church.

In addition to the new altars and the flooring, we also wanted to improve the lighting situation in the church. This led us to the third great discovery, that the power that had been coming to the church was antiquated and even potentially dangerous in the way it had been retrofitted in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. While it was an added expense, it was also an opportunity for us to bring fresh, clean power in new wires and conduits to the whole church, replacing outdated circuitry and panels, and bringing the Basilica into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, at least from an electrical point of view.

The centerpiece of our sanctuary renovation is, of course, the new Altar of Sacrifice. This altar was handsomely carved from white oak according to the architect's specifications and is a noble and beautiful representation of Christ Himself. Atop the wood of the altar is placed the altar stone. The choice of stone for the altar top was the result of many hours of deliberation and discussion about the diversity of options. We could have gone to far-flung places and obtained marble like in many a church in Italy. The cost and the lead time necessary for choosing that path was undesirable, in particular because the suggestion was that we not get the full slab of stone, in order to save cost, but instead use thinner pieces arranged to make it look like it was thicker. This inauthentic construction for appearance sake did not appeal to my heart, that longed for integrity, especially in the altar of the Holy Sacrifice. Furthermore, I had on my heart a desire that the very mountains that surround us and show forth the glory and majesty of God should produce for us an adequate and even elegant stone, made worthy for the sacrifice by the Bishop's consecration. We found such a stone in the Cumberland Mountains to the north and west, within the bounds of the Diocese of Knoxville, and even in the most impoverished of counties, Morgan County, north of Rockwood, Tennessee: a beautiful blue stone that will be raised to the dignity of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Just as Our Lady said, "He has put down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly," so, too, this humble stone from our surrounding mountains will lead us to the Holy Mountain of Zion in the New Jerusalem.

All told, this sanctuary renovation project has been a fitting expression of our Joy of Tradition. We have been able to do something new that at the same time restores the original vision and grandeur of this beautiful church, now bearing the title, Minor Basilica. It is my hope that this momentous renovation, in succession to the previous renovations, will allow this building to continue its mission of proclaiming Jesus Christ to future generations by its Beauty, the Truth proclaimed from her pulpits, and the Goodness of the parishioners who enjoy it.

It is our hope to be back in the newly renovated sanctuary sometime during Advent. Bishop Stika is scheduled to consecrate the new altar on December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10 am, the Fourth Sunday of Advent, so that we might welcome the Christ Child at Christmas in a fully restored and consecrated church and altar. Another thing to note will be that Bishop Stika will consecrate this new altar using the newly issued *Rite of Dedication of an Altar*, making our altar the first that he will have dedicated using it.

## State of the Parish 2018, cont.

Following the return to our sanctuary, our organ will be dismantled to remove debris that has blown in through the open bell tower over the years, a cleaning it needs to keep functioning. It will require us to do without the organ during Lent. At Easter we will again have the joy of hearing our historic pipe organ, completed with 122 new pipes that were part of its original design, a project made possible through your generosity this past year, when the opportunity arose.

In reflecting on this past year's ministry and our sanctuary renovation, the theme that comes out most clearly is discipleship, and the great example of this theme, given to us by our Hispanic Community. They have grown in size and organization to form now half of our parish numbers in both Mass attendance and weekly events. In fact, in this latter, oftentimes they surpass the English speaking community in the amount of activities that are held on a weekly basis. Furthermore, whenever a call goes out for volunteers, it is wonderful to see those who have not much to give in financial ways give so much by way of time and talent and hard work. Just a few examples can highlight this reality; namely, the great showing of support when we were removing the old flooring in the church, when we had to move the pews to All Saints Academy, and the weekly cleaning of Varallo Parish Hall after all of the Masses. These and many other times, the organization and zeal of our Hispanic brothers and sisters have greatly benefitted our parish.

We continue the process and the attempt to integrate both communities, and we know it is a long and arduous road. I in particular would like to highlight the event that happened on the weekend of Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. With the coming of President Donald Trump to a rally five blocks from the parish, and the worries about traffic on Sunday afternoon, as well as the more obvious fear that many of our Hispanic community feels, giving that they are in this country without documentation, we decided to cancel the 1:30 pm Spanish Mass and move it to Saturday night at 8:30 pm at the House of Prayer, the Immaculate Conception, on Rossville Blvd. Six hundred people showed up to that cramped space with the garage doors open wide, even though it was cold outside, and celebrated with joy the saving Sacrifice of our merciful Lord. Their sense of community and family was even more exemplified by the sharing of a meal and fellowship afterwards, even later into the night.

This event moved me to recognize that these brothers and sisters of ours can teach us so much about the living out the Christian faith, and I pray that it becomes more of an inspiration for our parish to embrace those who are our neighbors and who share the common bond with us of the Catholic faith, even if we don't share the same language and ethnicity. This is one of the reasons why we have begun a greater emphasis on our bilingual Mass. Though it is tedious and at times discomfoting, it is an attempt at doing the Catholic thing of bringing from the diversities of nations and tongues a unity of praise and worship. We have the unique ability in our Catholic faith to be united in our liturgy through the use of the Latin language, which is ironically the thing that unites us even though very few are familiar with it. However, here at Sts. Peter and Paul, we recognize that there is a great heritage of faith that has oftentimes been overlooked and under-utilized in unifying all those touched by Western civilization, and we rejoice in the opportunity that it provides for unity in a time of great division in our society.

As I have presented the wonderful things happening in this past year at our parish, it is also important for us to look forward to the years to come. To that end, we have also been in the process, in the last half of this year, of developing a five-year strategic plan. I am grateful for Dr. Jimmy Turner for his gift of time and talent in leading us through this process, which included interviews of people outside of our parish, inside of our parish, staff and volunteers alike, and which had a select group meet on two Saturdays to compile the data and discern the statements that will guide us in the future. The following statements are the product of that labor. These statements will guide the Parish Pastoral Council in the months to come to produce a strategic plan.

## THE BASILICA OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

### We Believe – Guiding Principles

- All people need to be reconciled to God; Our Tradition is rooted in God's gift of His Son to the world to accomplish that reconciliation.
- The Catholic Church exercises this ministry of reconciliation through the celebration of the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, the source and summit of our faith.
- We believe that the Truth, Beauty, and Goodness of the traditional liturgical expressions and practices handed down to us by the universal church naturally lead people to these sacraments and thereby reconciliation with God through Jesus Christ.
- The work of our parish follows in the footsteps of the apostles, doing on a local level what is morally and objectively good for all humanity.
- Coming from diverse languages and backgrounds, united by our Roman (Latin) Rite heritage, we are called to be one community of faith grounded in the Eucharist.
- As a parish enjoying the title of 'Minor Basilica,' we accept the gift of the sacred art and architecture of our parish church. We acknowledge the responsibility to steward these gifts and share them with the greater Chattanooga community as an apostolate of beauty.

### Mission Statement

**The Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Chattanooga, Tennessee, exists to proclaim Jesus Christ, the font of all Truth, Beauty, and Goodness, and we continue His mission to form disciples from all peoples according to the tradition and patrimony of the Catholic Church.**

### Vision Statement

The Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul will be a parish of actively engaged, invested, and committed followers of Christ living the fullness of the Catholic Faith.

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## State of the Parish 2018, cont.

At a general priest meeting last year, when discussing the role of the parish in the life of the Church, a phrase was used that I think is very applicable. The parish was described as a “school for saints.” How very apt. As you know, we have opened a Cause for Sainthood for a member of this parish, in fact, her pastor from 1872-1878, the Servant of God, Fr. Patrick Ryan. I’m sure by now you’ve heard his story and of his heroic sacrifice during the yellow fever epidemic of 1878 and how he offered his life in service to his flock, knowing full well the danger. His cause continues to progress with the diocesan phase, and we hope soon to welcome his body into the church building in a tomb that will be prepared for him inside the Basilica church. But this reminder of a Servant of God in our midst should inspire all of us to put our lives in the service of God and our fellow man.

**Discipleship** is the theme that I would like to highlight this coming year. We exist as a parish to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to form followers after His example. We have many resources at our disposal to accomplish this mission, from our beautiful church building and our dedicated and generous parishioners, but the greatest resource of all is the sacramental presence that our God gives to us in the Eucharist. My hope is that as we move the Blessed Sacrament to the center of our sanctuary that the Eucharistic Lord might become also the center of our lives and the life of this parish. With Jesus Christ at the center of our parish, we will be able to accomplish the mission of discipleship in Chattanooga and be the parish that He desires us to be to the glory of God the Father.

Humbly Submitted by:

Rev. J. David Carter, JCL

Pastor and Rector

## 2018 Ministries and Contacts

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Bilingual Community Events	Sister Imelda Quechol	quechol13@yahoo.com
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Cause for Sainthood for Fr. Patrick Ryan	Dcn. Gaspar DeGaetano (Vice Postulator)	deacongaspar@me.com
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New Parishioner Welcoming	Shannon Hinson	shannonk.hinson@gmail.com
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Parish Dinners	Becky Dempsey	office@stspeterandpaulbasilica.com
Parish Pastoral Council	Joe Pricer	jmpricer@gmail.com
Potlucks	Shannon Hinson	shannonk.hinson@gmail.com
Pro-Life	Deirdre Cooper	dcooli04@gmail.com
RCIA	Terrance Jones Dan Pacitti	Terrancejoneslaw@gmail.com Danielhuzzah@gmail.com
Receptions	Florence Porter	flomporter@yahoo.com
Religious Education	Danielle & Michael Stradley	dre@stspeterandpaulbasilica.com

<b>Ministry</b>	<b>Leader / Contact(s)</b>	<b>Email</b>
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St. Ambrose Homeschool Co-op	Sandy Pricer	slpricer@gmail.com
Technology	Joe Pricer Chris Wesson (System Administration)	jmpricer@gmail.com wesson.chris@gmail.com
Trail Life USA	Pete Ohotnicky	peter.ohotnicky@gmail.com
Ushers/Greeters	Adam Foster	adamleefoster@icloud.com
Women's Ministries	Nikki Pacitti	nicole.klein2@gmail.com
Youth Group	Debbie Cliche	debbiecliche@gmail.com

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## Adoration Ministry 2018 Report

The Basilica currently offers exposed Adoration on First Fridays from 12:30 – 5:30pm and all night from 9pm – 7am, led by the Hispanic community. Additionally, we have a Holy Hour during the monthly Evenings of Recollection. There is a desire to increase the Adoration opportunities and extend the hours.

Father Carter recently spoke with the Parish Pastoral Council about the desire for Adoration and the various ways of offering it. The council supported the possibility of having the church open more often or possibly all day during office hours, for people to come and adore the Blessed Sacrament reserved in the Tabernacle. This still leaves the possibility open for exposed Adoration at designated times.

The challenge of supporting exposed Adoration is the required commitment of people to come and stay. Our First Friday afternoon Adoration so far has not attracted many people. Recently there have been several hours when no lay person was present, and so a priest needed to devote his afternoon to being there. We often have either no one sign up for any of the hours or just a few blocks are covered, and people do not come at their promised time. We offer Adoration all night on First Fridays, which is well-organized and attended by our Hispanic community, and yet our non-Hispanics do not come.

The more hours we offer it, the more hours must be committed by people. As with other ministries in our English-speaking community, lack of commitment is common and often leads to disappointment and burnout among a small number of committed people.

One of the ways we might increase commitment is by educating people and promoting the devotion, even within our First Friday schedule. That might be one of the aspects of the ministry we pursue next. If First Friday were better attended, it could open the door for additional hours.

Another idea is to have special holy hours for a certain cause (the Pro-Life ministry has suggested having one holy hour for life each semester). There is discussion about having a Sunday Sung Vespers once a month and have exposed Adoration during this time. These functions might be easier to support at first than regular added weekday hours.

Father Carter has a desire to grow the ministry. Appointing a ministry leader to promote Adoration is a first step towards that. Opening the church after the renovation during daytime hours could be the next step. It might take time to blossom into more regular exposed Adoration hours, but it is worth aspiring for.

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## Altar Guild Ministry 2018 Report

by Shirley Lautigar

The activities of the Altar Guild are Church Calendar driven and not something that is in need of being added to the yearly events of our parish. Typically the activities are ongoing and change with the liturgical needs in coordination with the Sacristans. Dcn. Hicks Armor is our director and coordinator and Becky Dempsey is in charge of ordering all the consumable supplies.

### **Activities include:**

The weekly scheduled cleaning and ironing of all small altar linens: including corporals, purificators, finger towels as well as credence table linens, chalice veils and amices.

## Altar Guild Ministry 2018 Report, cont.

### Activities, continued:

- Cleaning and resetting of large altar cloths on all altars (including Rectory Chapel) as needed.
- Alteration and repair of all linens as needed.
- Set-up and reset of all candles, crosses and relics for *Versus populum* or *Ad orientem*.
- Weekly cleaning of candle wax on all altar candles, credence table candles and processional candles.
- Cleaning and replacement of vigil candles – as needed.
- Weekly cleaning and refilling of Holy Water fonts.
- Placement, removal and maintenance of all flowers in the sanctuary.
- Placement and dusting of all relics on St Joseph Altar.
- Cleaning of baptismal font.
- Placement of prayer cards and other handouts in pews.
- General cleaning and straightening of displays in church entry.
- Servers' Room order and cleaning and repair of surplices and albs.
- Cleaning of dripped wax and incense in preparation area behind main altar.
- Coordination and set-up for all Holy days and seasons such as Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, etc.
- This year the Bell Tower storage rooms were set up for necessary storage of items to unclutter the Sacristy area. This included cleaning, placement of shelves and providing lighting. Altar Guild was also active in helping to move all items from the sacristy and altar area for our renovation project. We will also be active in the transition and reset of Sanctuary and Sacristy after the renovation which will take place in November and December.

### Future: 2019

- Transition to our new sanctuary will require activity rescheduling and assignments.
- We will be ordering, as well as, making and altering new altar cloths.
- General activity schedules will continue.
- We will actively recruit new members.

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## Altar Server Ministry 2018 Report

by Dcn. Gaspar DeGaetano

In the last year we have had 8 new servers join our ministry. This brings our server group to 26. Three of these eight are first time servers.

In the next year we plan on having a 3 Saturday Server Workshop by Dcn. Hicks Armor to introduce younger potential servers to serving at the Altar.

We will also be conducting 3 continuing education sessions with existing servers on additional responsibility (Incense, Weddings, Funerals) and additional reverence initiatives as a result of the new sanctuary.

## **Altar Server Ministry 2018 Report, cont.**

I am visiting with the CCD classes on a regular basis to learn younger potential servers and to let younger adults see and learn who and what a Deacon is and does.

For our Ancient Form celebrations, Chris Hinson organizes the altar servers. In 2018 our server crew has consisted mostly of five experienced servers from the UTC Newman Center who serve the Basilica regularly, along with a few youth who have learned to serve in both forms, and occasional adult servers.

As our youth servers turn 18, we are working to ensure that they receive the required VIRTUS training and that all our adult servers are certified under diocese's Safe Environment policy.

We held our second annual Altar Server Recognition and Appreciation event in June. All servers from English, Spanish, and Latin Masses were invited to serve at the 5:30 Vigil Mass, followed by a reception with honors given to those servers who were graduating. Many could not make it to the event this year, which was held during summer break. Next year's appreciation event will be on August 10, after the school year begins, and we hope to have greater participation as we did the first year.

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## **American Heritage Girls 2018 Report**

by Sherry Ohotnicky

American Heritage Girls Troop TN0629 chartered this summer and began meetings with the girls in August 2018. We currently have 18 girls involved and 15 women volunteering their time to assist the troop in various roles. We continue to meet weekly on Monday nights. We have participated in a Rosary Rally and made thank you cards for Bishop Stika. Some of our members attended the Knoxville Diocesan Scout retreat in September.

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## **Bereavement Ministry 2018 Report**

The St. Mary Magdalene Bereavement Ministry, organized by Florence Porter, within the umbrella of the Women's Ministries, has offered a reception following funeral for five families during 2018. The ministry is always in need of volunteers to come together on short notice to serve our grieving members of the parish family.

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## **Bilingual Community Events 2018 Report**

by Maria Rist

This year our English and Spanish speaking communities again came together for our fifth annual Corpus Christi procession, and it was the first year that both communities celebrated First Holy Communion on Corpus Christi.

We had our annual All Saints Parade and Reception following our bilingual Mass on November 1. This is our biggest social event with our bilingual community. Our wonderful Hispanic community has mostly taken charge of this party. The parish picked up pizza to contribute. This year we had the added challenge of having to set up for the party in the space we had just had Mass, while the children were processing, but everyone came together to make that happen quickly.

## Bilingual Community Events 2018 Report

On the evening of October 17, 2018, the Catholic Motherhood hosted our first Bilingual Rosary for mothers of both communities, with fellowship afterwards. We hope offer future evenings such as these and include all family members.

Our Hispanic Community should be commended for the regular volunteer service that they do by cleaning all our facilities regularly during the year and providing food for many of our parish events. While we are in Varallo Parish Hall for Mass they take on the added responsibility of moving all the chairs aside before cleaning and then set the space back up for Mass and meetings that will be held during the week.

This year the Sanctuary Renovation has provided an opportunity to unite our communities in volunteer service, as we moved pews and other items out of the church, and pulled up the flooring and nails.

**Below are events that we have hosted in support of our bilingual communities in 2018 and are also planning for next year (2019 dates are noted).**

- Bilingual Masses for major feast days – 9 planned in 2019
- Parish Cleanup the Saturday before Holy Week (April 14, 2019)
- Corpus Christi Procession with both communities celebrating First Holy Communion (June 23, 2019)
- Altar Server Recognition Mass and Dinner/Program (August 10, 2019)
- All Saints Parade and Reception (Nov 1, 2019)
- English language classes offered to Hispanics 10am Sat and 6pm Wed
- Spanish classes offered to English speakers have been suspended until we can find another teacher

**Here are recent additions to our offerings for our bilingual community:**

- Bilingual Rosary every Sunday at 12:45pm between the 11:30 English and 1:30 Spanish Mass
- Friday Lenten “fish fry” dinners at 6:30pm to include both English and Spanish speaking communities
- Help Our Immigrants program to communicate needs of our Hispanic community members to members of the English community who have volunteered to help as they are able, especially in a time of crisis.

\*\*\* We are hoping to bring in a representative from the TN Immigration and Refugee Rights Coalition for an **informational meeting on Sunday, December 1 at 10am** between the 9am and 11:30 Masses, to discuss ways of preparing to provide rapid response in an emergency. Stay tuned for announcements.

**Objectives for 2019**

- Fr. Carter has written a pastoral letter on the desire for unity between our communities: “That They May Be One,” which will be posted to our website.
- Begin forming relationships among the families of our communities, across the language barrier.
- Increase participation of our English speaking community at the celebrations where our Hispanic community is present, including bilingual Masses and other events listed above, as well as the Our Lady of Guadalupe festivities on December 11.
- Find ways for our English-speaking community to serve our Hispanic community. Sister Imelda will help us identify opportunities for this service.

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## Cause for Sainthood of Fr. Patrick Ryan 2018 Report

by Dcn. Gaspar DeGaetano, Vice Postulator for the Cause

The Historical Commission has been making progress on their report towards making the case for Father Ryan under the new category of sainthood called the “offering of life.” The Vatican has given the Cause the green light to pursue this avenue in the diocesan phase. The Historical Commission Report will be evaluated by a diocesan Tribunal before it may be sent to the Vatican. Release of the Diocesan Acts to the Vatican may happen in early 2019.

The design concept for the new tomb for Father Patrick Ryan has been approved and is being coordinated with the Basilica Renovation. The team for the exhumation and Transposition of Father Ryan’s remains is being developed. Planning has also been underway for civil permission for the Transposition of Father Patrick Ryan’s remains from Mt Olivet Cemetery to the Basilica. Vatican approval also needs to be obtained. The Transposition may occur in early 2019.

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## Catholic Motherhood Ministry 2018 Report

by Rachel Wesson

The Catholic Motherhood Ministry seeks to provide support and encouragement to mothers in their vocation of motherhood. We also seek to grow in our love and knowledge of God through studying and talking about our Catholic faith. We pray together and for one another. We meet on The second Tuesday of each month from 10-11:30am in Varallo Parish Hall. We are currently reading Scott Hahn’s book, *The First Society: The Sacrament of Matrimony and Restoration of the Social Order*. We have studied Cardinal Sarah’s book, *The Power of Silence*, for most of the past year. We have also had Sister Imelda Quechol speak to us regarding her vocation and ministry to the Hispanic community. We also had Father Adam Royal speaking to us regarding how all mothers have a role to be “a Mother of Christ.” We met for “moms night outs” and we prayed the rosary together. We provided food to new mothers and sick mothers, any mother in need. We brought household items and clothing to our “giveaway table” to share with each other and the Hispanic community through Sister Imelda.

We have prayed a bilingual rosary for families with the Hispanic Community and then had snacks and fellowship together. We hope that the evening rosary gathering that started will expand to a more regular gathering to integrate the English and Spanish speaking parishioners of all ages, and that other ministries will join in as well. Sister Imelda mentioned that the social time might include craft activities for the children. It might be one Friday evening a month (not First Friday).

We have been able to provide a nursery thanks to Connie Blackwell. We give her a donation of money (whatever we are able). Mary Kyle has also consistently dedicated her time to volunteer in the nursery. We are currently looking for another Virtus-trained volunteer to help us consistently. We have also been meeting on the last Tuesday of every month from 7-9:30pm in the St. Dominic building, for a study entitled “Momnipotent” by Ascension Press. This is facilitated by Sandy Pricer. This is an encouraging time for fellowship and study regarding our vocation.

For the rest of this year we plan to keep these studies going as well as add “Moms night out” back in, once a month. Mothers of all ages are welcome to all of our get togethers.

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## **Council of Catholic Women (CCW) 2018 Report**

by Geraldine Charton

In April 2018 the Chattanooga Deanery hosted the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (CCW) Convention at St. Stephens. Basilica ladies attended and some served on the planning committee, registration and silent auction. The Basilica CCW hosted a luncheon for the Follow-up Evaluation of the Diocesan Planning committee. Ten (10) members attended.

In May at the Women's Ministry Brunch the Basilica CCW officers were elected:

VP Program Chair - Brenda McConnell

Corresponding Secretary - Patti Dungan

Treasurer - Geraldine Charton

Parliamentarian - Debi Crabtree

Spirituality Chair - Charlene Reynolds

Service Chair - Florence Porter

Leadership Chair - Mary Hertel

Vice Pres. B. McConnell hosts meetings in her home in Hixson entitled "All Things Catholic". Corresponding Sec. P. Dungan sends cards to the sick and shut-in of the parish. Treasurer G. Charton has paid the National dues of \$100. Parliamentarian D. Crabtree will work with the Leadership team (Past Presidents and Officers) to revise the by-laws.

The Spirituality team attends Adoration, Evenings of Recollection, daily Masses, prays the Rosary together, serves as Eucharistic ministers, lectors, altar guild, and participates in retreats and pilgrimages. Many are members of the Serra Club, St. Benedict, Dominicans, the newly formed St. Vincent and volunteer with Ladies of Charity.

The Leadership team members serve on the Parish Pastoral Council, Restoration, Haiti Committee, Hispanic Ministry as well as Religious Education, Youth and volunteer in the business of the Basilica office with the staff.

The Service team helps with hospitality, bereavement, church dinners/potlucks and Varallo Parish Hall functions as needed. Some serve as greeters and volunteer in the religious articles store. Many have helped with church cleaning, organizing and storing during the renovation.

All women of the Basilica are included in the Women's Ministry Council of Catholic Women and the Hispanic Women's Ministry.

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## **Community Outreach 2018 Report**

by Dcn. Gaspar DeGaetano

### Blessed Virgin Mary Visitation Guild

The Guild consists of 6 extraordinary communion minister members. Its ministry is bring Holy Communion to parishioners who are unable to make it to Mass.

### Charity Outreach

Under the leadership of Satoko Theil our parish has been serving at the Community Kitchen on a regular basis. Deacon Gaspar is on the Board and the Strategic Planning Committee of the Community Kitchen. Deacon Gaspar is also on the Catholic Charities Community Action Council.

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## Docents Ministry 2018 Report

by Debi Crabtree

Few docent-led tours were conducted at the Basilica during this past year due in part to the construction and due in part to a reduced demand. During the time the Basilica was a designated site for the Holy Doors, demand for tours was greater and we were likely to see groups rather than individuals. When the Basilica sanctuary reopens following the renovation, requests for tours may again increase. The Cause for Sainthood for Patrick Ryan, Servant of God, will also provide impetus for pilgrimage should his remains be re-located to the Basilica and the application for sainthood be granted.

Historical data presented during the tour may need to be updated to reflect any additions, subtractions, or renovations that add to the significance the of the architecture, worship areas, and so on.

The Docents Ministry needs additional volunteers to be available on an as-needed basis who are able to serve in this capacity. At present, no one is available to tourists following Mass, and this would be a nice service to offer once the sanctuary re-opens and during the spring and summer when we are like to have more visitors from out of town.

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## Ecumenical and Spiritual Life Ministries 2018 Report

by Dcn. Tom McConnell

Ecumenism and Spiritual Life of the Parish Ministries have been combined as the Ecumenical & Spiritual Life Ministry. Experiences from Brenda and my extensive pre-conversion work in Protestantism, as well as our numerous military overseas assignments, continue to positively influence our new ministry.

The goals and spiritual principals of this combined ministry continue to be the enhancement of Ecumenical & Spiritual Life of parishioners by being a positive Catholic presence in the Ecumenical Christian Community sharing common peals of faith in both Catholic and Ecumenical circles, while reinforcing in parish life the Spiritual Principals of a Personal Relationship with Jesus, an Active Prayer Life, and a Love of Scripture...all focused on empowering total living of one's Catholic faith.

Venues for this new ministry become what we call in the military: "Targets of Opportunity". They do not lend themselves easily to long-term planning with specific calendar entries. Space, especially during our Sanctuary Renovation, has been quite limited, as have funding. Space and funding will continue to be challenges for the near future as well.

In 2017-18, however, the following initiatives were launched:

1. Deacon-led Evening Prayer on Monday and Wednesday evenings
2. Expanded Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
3. Met with the leaders of Adult Formation, Religious Education, and Youth Program to explore opportunities for Ecumenical & Spiritual Life in what I call a "Sunday School" concept
4. Became involved in 7 Ecumenical Christian communities: Chattanooga House of Prayer (ChattHOP), Chattanooga Institute for Faith and Work (CIFW), The House (UTC Campus Ministry), ReNew Chattanooga, Launch, Fellows, and Camp House
5. Hosted two meetings of Deanery Deacons at the Basilica to hear presentations by Adam Whitescarver (ChattHOP) and Clark Taylor (CIFW)
6. Invited Deanery Deacons to numerous CIFW breakfast/lunch programs
7. Investigated establishment of neighborhood Prayer/Study/Fellowship groups...waiting on completion of our parochial map (Sam Martin)

## Ecumenical and Spiritual Life Ministries 2018 Report, cont.

In 2018-19 I hope to explore the following targets of opportunity:

1. Further embellishment of the Sunday School concept and investigate venues to accommodate Adult Formation/BACON, Guest Speakers, Classes for Parents of PRE/Confirmation students
2. Continue to investigate small neighborhood groups for potential Bible Study, Prayer, Theme Study, and Fellowship
3. Expand Brenda's current adult class on Wednesday mornings at St. Jude ("All Things Catholic") to deanery-wide invitations
4. Explore sessions on Spirituality led by Brenda and me on a social media platform or at a place outside Basilica grounds

May God richly bless all the ministries of the Basilica!

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### Evenings of Recollection Ministry 2018 Report

by Dan and Nancy Fisher

The primary purpose of this ministry is to encourage and promote the Sacrament of Reconciliation in our parish. An Evening of Recollection consists of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction, examination of conscience, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, personal prayer, and a meditation based on the writings of St. Josemaría Escriva. Separate Evenings of Recollection for men and for women of the parish were conducted in 2018, and will be continued in 2019. The evening includes a short talk on virtue and an opportunity for fellowship afterwards in the Parish Hall.

This ministry helps our parishioners practice their faith in the ordinary circumstances of their lives, and provides a practical means of formation for adults. The Second Vatican Council proclaimed that all the faithful, including the laity, are called to live the fullness of the Christian vocation. We recognize that Christ's entire life was a single work of redemption, including thirty years of quiet, ordinary life in Nazareth. Therefore any upright human task done well may become holy. As we come to understand the reality of being sons and daughters of God, we desire holiness in our ordinary lives. The Evenings of Recollection provide a means for holiness by improvement in our interior lives, which will benefit our families and parish.

In 2018, attendance varied from about 7 to 20 parishioners for each evening. Additional formation opportunities were provided by Supernumeraries of the Work outside the Evening of Recollection times.

We are changing the following for 2019:

- These will be called "Evenings of Formation"
- They will be limited to once per month and offered on the 2nd Wednesdays (unless Fr. Carter has conflict)
- There will be no EOF on December or July
- They will start January 9 with the men (then the women the next month - alternating)
- We have revised the format to have Fr.'s talk at the beginning, leaving one longer time for confession before benediction

We are greatly indebted to Fr. Carter for providing his help and necessary assistance in conducting the Evenings of Recollection.

# Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) 2018 Report

by Amy Long

## Activities in 2018

Members of the EMHC ministry will serve at every weekend Mass in 2018. We will also serve at all special liturgy Masses at which we are needed.

In addition, several members of Saints Peter and Paul received training to become Extraordinary Ministers in 2018. Those trained are now serving at weekend Mass times and several are also taking Communion to the homebound through the Blessed Virgin Mary Visitation Guild.

## Planned Activities for 2019

The EMHC ministry will continue to serve as needed at Masses in 2019.

The ministry will offer a training session to current members. This training will review current practices and teach any changes that will be made for the distribution of Communion once we return to the church Sanctuary.

The ministry will also offer new member training to anyone who wishes to become an Extraordinary Minister in 2019.

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## Facilities Engineering & Maintenance Advisory Committee (FEMAC) 2018 Report

by Ron Lautigar, Chairman and Parish Facilities Engineer

Fr. David formed this committee in March 2015 so that he would have a source for him to seek advice. The committee members beside myself are Mary Hertel, Rick Thompson, Duane Pontak, Dwight Wilhoit, John Mahoney and Mauricio Zario. We meet here every 4-6 weeks on a Monday at 5:00 PM.

## Completed Projects for 2018

- Roof – We oversaw a roof patch effort which eliminated many leaks. However, we now know that the roof will require repair on an ongoing basis or we will have significant water problems.
- Altar Renovation – We managed the design of the Altar Renovation and are providing assistance to the Project Manager to execute that work. This relatively large project is expected to end in December, 2018.
- Air conditioning – One of the air conditioners for the church has significant mechanical problems and after investigation, it has been isolated at this point.
- We coordinated the modifications and refinishing to make a new classroom on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the RE Building
- We provided additional electrical service to the Gift Shop area
- We are continuing provide assistance on the work on the future of All Saints' Academy and the Fr. Patrick Ryan project.
- We oversaw installation of protective window film on VPH
- We oversaw installation of new speakers in the church
- We oversaw a cleanup and organize effort of the bell tower storage area's.
- We procured and installed TV's, dry erase boards and HVAC's in the Religious Education Building.
- We continue assisting and/or performing minor maintenance projects.

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## Finance Council 2018 Report with Parish Statistics

### Year End Financial Summary

( July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 )

#### INCOME:

Offertory Contributions	\$	695,925
Other Revenues and Subsidies Income		
<u>(includes rental and fee income and gift shop sales)</u>		<u>69,381</u>
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>765,306</b>
Renovation, Restoration & Repair, and Home Campaign Contributions	\$	245,877
National & Special Collections		42,534
Haiti Contributions		41,594
<u>Designated Donations</u>		<u>189,393</u>
<b>Total Pass Through Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>519,398</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,284,704</b>

#### EXPENSES:

Administration	\$	606,717
(includes Diocesan assessments, priest and staff salaries and benefits)		
Operations & Maintenance		177,540
<u>All Saints Academy</u>		<u>25,069</u>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>809,326</b>
Capital Expenditures (including Sanctuary Renovation)	\$	136,186
National & Special Collections		41,124
Haiti (donations sent during fiscal year)		28,127*
<u>Designated Donation Expenditures</u>		<u>37,574</u>
<b>Total Pass Through Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>243,011</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,052,337</b>

\*Less an emergency advance sent in 2017.

#### OFFERTORY UPDATE

Overall offertory contributions in 2017/2018 were up 6.4% from last year. Approximately 30% of parish offertory, renovation, restoration, and Haiti contributions are made by parishioners using the WeShare online system. Thank you to all who continue to contribute financially to the parish for your compassion and dedication to the ideals of Christ's Church.

## Finance Council 2018 Report with Parish Statistics, cont.

### SANCTUARY RENOVATION

Costs include:

Demolition and re-installation	\$ 86,000
Electric/Sound/Fire Protection	101,000
New floors throughout	70,000
New altars	143,000
New additions to Narthex	12,000
<u>Project Management</u>	<u>63,000</u>
<b>Total Cost of Sanctuary Renovation</b>	<b>\$ 475,000</b>

### ORGAN PROJECT UPDATE

Costs include:

Cleaning and repair of organ	\$ 41,000
<u>Installation of new pipes</u>	<u>\$ 35,000</u>
<b>Total Cost of Organ Project</b>	<b>\$ 75,000</b>

Sources of funds for the Sanctuary Renovation are the balance of the HOME Campaign parish monies and contributions made to our Renovation and Restoration and Repair accounts. Sources of funds for the organ are the parishioner donations and bequests from our May 2018 fundraiser. The remaining \$4,000 will come out of our annual maintenance budget, supported by Offertory collections. **Donations are still needed to cover the unanticipated costs that resulted during the sanctuary renovation.**

Many thanks to all who have contributed to the HOME Campaign, the Renovation project, and the Organ fundraiser. Through your generosity we were already able to upgrade our security systems and property signage and renovate the nursery. We have installed new kneelers, kitchen equipment and partitions for Varallo Parish Hall, as well as our new Sound System. We are currently completing the Sanctuary and Altar renovations, with the added enhancements to the narthex. We look forward to completing the organ project during Lent.

<b>Parish Statistics</b>	
(July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018)	
<b>Households</b>	380 registered and contributing 739 total contributing (registered and unregistered)
<b>Mass Attendance</b>	<b>1206</b> Average per weekend
5:30 English	124
9:00 English	260
11:30 English	249
1:30 Spanish	545
Missa Cantata	116 (4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday only)
<b>Religious Education</b>	318 students (118 English, 200 Spanish)
<b>Easter Vigil/RCIA</b>	35 people entered the Church
<b>Confirmations</b>	103
<b>Baptisms</b>	106
<b>First Communion</b>	46
<b>Weddings</b>	33
<b>Funerals</b>	9

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## Haiti Committee 2018 Report

by James Gallagher

In 2018 our mission trip had four participants vs. six the previous year and four and three the previous two years. We participated in another successful multi-couple wedding which consisted of 18 newly married couples. It was a very exciting and gratifying ceremony. Afterwards, we provided a beautiful reception for the couples and their immediate families. We finally had the opportunity to see the newly repaired dome for the very first time and needless to say we were so pleased for the parishioners that they would no longer have to shut down the church anymore during the rainy season of each year. We also travelled to the two of our three mission parishes to celebrate Mass with them on Sunday. They only have the priest come out to them for Mass and Communion about once every three weeks as they are on a rotation. As always, these are very special services in which we get the opportunity to participate with these very humble and wonderful people. We again had the opportunity to spend time in the school meeting with the teacher and students. This is always a joyful experience.

We are in the process of planning our Mission trip for 2019 which likely will be sometime in March. We meet at the rectory for our committee meetings on an irregular basis, generally once every two to four weeks. We meet much less during the summer.

Further plans include:

- Three-minute presentation after Mass on Nov. 17th and 18th.
- Using the new Parish App

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## Hispanic Ministries 2018 Report

Sister Maria Imelda Quechol, MAG

We have meetings with the School of Evangelization every two weeks. We are in the second topic of the first stage with a group of 20 participants. Meetings are on Sundays at 4pm.

We continue with the apologetic formation with the leaders every two weeks at 5:30 p.m. and a Bible study with the families.

In the month of January, the second retreat of the evangelization school (Emmaus) was carried out, and 45 people participated.

In the month of February, the retreat of leaders took place, and 200 people participated. This retreat was given by the Apostles of the Word.

We began our catechesis on the last Saturday of August. We have 190 children participating, including the youth. On this occasion the attendance has dropped because some parents or mothers have been reported.

During the course of catechesis, 3 meetings are held with the parents of the children.

In the second week of March, a mission was celebrated with the Apostles of the Word. During this mission the families were visited in the morning and part of the afternoon and later in the evening there was a talk every day from 7:00 p.m. 9:00pm. in the House of Prayer of the Immaculate Conception.

## Hispanic Ministries 2018 Report, cont.

Different organizations have come to give information to the Latino community because of the different changes that have been made in the migration process so that they can prepare and have the necessary documents. (Mexican consulate, Guatemalan Consulate, Hamilton County Police, Immigrant & Refugee Rights, Catholic Charities of the Tennessee State, Diocese of Knoxville office of the Hispanic Ministry, Consulate General of Mexico. Power of Attorney Letters Workshop (Nancy Quinones, Project Administrator TN Immigrant and refugee Rights Coalition). All this has been possible because of Father's support.

On Easter a group of RCIA and babies received the Sacraments of Initiation.

In our Diocese we received the blessing that the new Cathedral was already open, for this reason our bishop gave us the opportunity that the young people of Confirmation would receive this sacrament there on May 5. and the rest received Confirmation in the Basilica.

A group of catechists participated in the RCIA training that took place on June 15 and 16, Lenoir City.

The preparation continues for the sacraments of initiation (for adults and children) and of matrimony.

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### V Encuentro (Fifth Encounter)

I was given the opportunity to participate in the V Encuentro National Meeting in Texas from September 20 to 23. This V Encuentro is a moment of grace and follows the pastoral line of appearance, where we can invoke the Holy Spirit and ask where God is opening doors, a door for your Church today and here, that the Holy Spirit help us to discover the door and be able to see what we need, we have to review structures, and strategies. The Church needs more sources and the ability to heal wounds, from the hearts of the faithful closeness, proximity. We have to heal the wounds!

The characteristics of an evangelizing community are weighted according to the life and ministry of Jesus the Divine Master. We are his disciples called to be happy missionaries in the peripheries of our world.

The missionary disciple is an outcast because the center is Jesus Christ who calls and sends. When we are together we can be the Church that Jesus Christ wants us to be with him at the center of our lives, our conversations and our safe ministries of the Blessed Virgin of Guadalupe accompanying us, and by witnessing with us, we can always advance in hope by making known the joy of the Gospel. It is prudent and wise to know what tools we have, since we have heard during the whole process of meeting that the laity asks for formation, a formation in which the laity meets Jesus Christ in prayer and in the sacramental life of the Church and a formation. It has to be formally given in the clear knowledge of the scripture and the message of Jesus Christ.

The worst poverty that a human being can have are those who have no voice or face. We are all witnesses of people who have shed tears in our presence. The daily must be bathed in the Holy Spirit, the domestic Church encouraged, we will have the priestly religious vocations we need in the United States. The family is the seedbed of the present and the future of our Church.

We cannot wait for our neighbor to do it. We have to do it.

## Hispanic Ministries 2018 Report, cont.

### V Encuentro (Fifth Encounter), cont.

These proposals are some of the highlights of the fifth meeting.

#### VOCATIONS

- Improve the area of vocations in families, in schools.
- Create in the parishes a culture of Vocation that goes beyond ....
- Catechesis and liturgy - We are all called to a mission to be priests, prophets and kings. Every father and mother have that call in their home. Parents are helped to be priests in the liturgy, learning that the liturgy is educational.
- Annually a vocational promotion is carried out in the different parishes and Catholic schools.

#### LEADERSHIP

- Bridges must be created in a joint pastoral council. 1. Create dialogue, the programs have to lead an authentic conversion; 2. All the programs have to be sprinkled with the joy of the Gospel, because we are glad of our vocation because the Lord has called us. 3. Pastoral and leadership training must launch us to the mission because it makes us recognize our vocation. Because we have been deeply formed not to be a self-referential Church but to be a Church in mission.
- The presence of the bishops in the different activities of the diocese and processes of the V meeting is important

#### AREAS OF EVANGELIZATION, IMMIGRATION, SOCIAL JUSTICE

- Commit ourselves to integrate immigrants into the life of the Church and give them pastoral support.
- Take into account the needs of immigrants, but of a pastoral place.
- Have recourse to immigration offices at the diocesan level for her to reach the parishes.
- Organize workshops for citizenship.
- Look for support offices and organizations to have orientation workshops on migration.
- Have workshops in the parishes to make the culture traditions known to the Anglo-Saxon community.
- The bishops must have a commitment, a voice and a clear position so that in their diocese there are offices where they give advice and information to the different parishes on migration, to speak with the congressmen so that the laws are not so hard for the migrants.
- The action of the Church and its mission of accompaniment through its physical, legal and spiritual support, offering humanitarian aid, creating a list of trusted lawyers, offering training workshops to study and determining what types of Church sanctuary can be offered.
- Create and promote in all the dioceses of this country and in the local parishes an immigration committee or office that supports accompany and advocate for our immigrants in general. Promote the importance of those who can vote do it.

## Hispanic Ministries 2018 Report, cont.

- That our bishops be an active and participatory voice in defense of the rights of immigrants, that each pastor and at each Mass speak in support of immigrants. In prayer for our entire immigrant community, not only Latinos, we are all in the same place.

### V Encuentro (Fifth Encounter), cont.

- Encounter: Going out to the peripheries with the one who called us to go out, we cannot give what we do not have, we cannot love the one we do not know; formation: it helps us to know Jesus, to understand our mission and this is lived in the family ministry where the children are also the educators of the parents, where the parents owe the educators in the faith of the children. Where families live this process of formation, which transforms.
- The church should look outward in each diocese, centralize assistance to migrants with attention to local laws.
- In each parish there are teams of accompaniment professionals to psychologically help migrants (children, young adults) in different situations they have lived.

### SUMMARY OF PHRASES

- WE WILL ACHIEVE EVERYTHING IN THE PASTORAL OF SET, MANY ROSTERS IN THE HOUSE OF GOD, ENCOUNTER, COMMUNION AND CELEBRATION, YOUNG PEOPLE, FAMILY, NEW PROPHETS FOR A NEW GENERATION, LIVE THE FIFTH MEETING, THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL, LEADERSHIP OF IMMIGRANTS WILL MOVE THE MOUNTAINS, IN LOVE WITH JESUS

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As every year, we celebrate the “day of the child” with the children of catechesis in each class.

This year some families participated in the Latino festival. Ms. Gladys, organizer of this festival, gave tickets for children to eat without paying and enjoy together with their families in this activity. (This day were the confirmations in the Cathedral)

At the end of May the coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary took place.

This year the first communions were held in the celebration of Corpus Christi, 25 children had the first communion; both communities participated in the procession.

The altar servers are thanked with a dinner on August 10, after the 5:30 pm Mass. Father and children were very happy; the Hispanic community cooked this day.

We also have a group of young people who after Confirmation continue participating in these meetings is a group of 30 young people, it is an achievement that the young people who made the confirmation continue to be trained. It is one of the results of the fifth meeting.

This year the youth increased thanks to God. Alex, Daniel and Alejandra are coordinating.

In the month of August, 40 leaders participate in the Diocese of Knoxville and in the parish of San Jose in Dalton, Ga. 25 catechists in a training course for catechists and leaders.

Father David participated in our pastoral council meeting and listened to the concerns of each of the representatives of each ministry. It was agreed that the quinceañeras will be once a year. In the future the Masses in Spanish may be changed to 8:00 am (the suggested time of the pastoral council). The meetings continue of the Hispanic pastoral council on the third Sunday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

## Hispanic Ministries 2018 Report, cont.

5 leaders of the young people went to be trained in the Diocese. Father David supported them so they can prepare themselves and be good leaders. Some of them will be helping when I have Virtus.

At the first meeting I agreed that each month the Church, the catechesis area, and the All Saints Academy will be cleaned up.

On Sundays after Mass the Church will be vacuumed and the trash removed. We will add the people who take pre-baptismal talks to help as part of their commitment.

On November 1, the two communities took part in All Saints Day. The children dressed in some saint that they chose; the Hispanic community prepared dinner for the adults and the parish bought pizza for the children. 500 people participated in the Holy Mass. It has been a very blessed year for the community since our children are inculcating devotion to the saints and practicing to be a saint too.

On the weekend of October 12, 13 and 14 we will have a retreat of Christ renew his parish of men's, 25 are registered and 27 servers.

This year Confirmation Youth and First Communion children participated in the spiritual retreat with the American community.

The training of women after spiritual retreat will take place every two weeks on Saturdays at 3pm in the auditorium. The team of the Archdiocese of Atlanta will come to support us for growth of the themes.

The teams for the novenaries of Our Lady of Guadalupe and of inns are being organized.

The novena of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be held in different houses of families.

The festivity will be held on December 11 at 7:00 p.m. with prayer of rosary and songs to the Virgin of Guadalupe. At 8:00 p.m., we begin with the procession; immediately afterwards we will start with Holy Mass. The feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe was very well attended last year, all groups supported it, and the celebration was very crowded. Nearly 800 people participated in this celebration. We will have a dinner afterwards where the theater work will be performed, representing the apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe with a group of adults from the parish.

Father David participated in the novena of inns in the two communities (Santa Cruz and Immaculate Conception).

The Posadas was done with catechesis students, and most of the families with their children also participated. Father David distributed candy to the children and some gifts to the catechists in gratitude for the Spiritual support they are giving with the children in the auditorium of the All Saints Academy. We will have a representation of the birth of the child Jesus, made by the children of catechesis.

One of the members of our community is participating in the planning of our parish; Sister Imelda is, too.

November 10 we will have the Virtus course for the new leaders.

We are organizing with the men of Christ Renew His Parish so that we can clean up after Mass.

The Catholic Motherhood group and our Basilica Hispanic mothers invited all mothers to pray a rosary together in Varallo Parish Hall for the intention of their own families and all Parish Families. 5 Hispanic families met.

## **Hispanic Ministries 2018 Report, cont.**

The Mexican Consulate will be from November 19 to 21. It will be held in the House of Prayer of the Immaculate Conception.

English classes continue, Wednesday 6:00pm and Saturday 10:00 am.

The third women's retreat of Christ Renews His Parish will be from December 1 to December 2, 2018

There is a project to train the group of young people with the program that the young Americans are taking (Saul Oñate will support us in this project).

In the spiritual retreat of couples was very blessed. 60 couples participated.

May the Holy Spirit continue guiding us to continue being one community and that all the projects are carried out as God wants.

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## **Historic Preservation Ministry 2018 Report**

by Mary Portera

Upon completing work for the Cause of Servant of God Father Patrick Ryan, I will talk with a resource in the History Department at the Chattanooga Public Library regarding correct preservation procedure of the Basilica History, submitting the information in a proposal to Father Carter.

With the suggestion and help of John Mahoney, I have taken a photo of each title plate of the Stations of the Cross and its reverse. The Station's donor name is found on the reverse. I will develop these photographs to confirm what is in the Archives.

I have taken photographs on my phone of the ongoing process of the renovation of the Basilica. Unless someone else is doing a more documentary endeavor, I will develop the pictures by date for the Archives.

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## **Knights of Columbus 2018 Report**

In 2018 the Knights of Columbus have contributed at the Basilica parish in numerous ways, including:

- Hosting our Friday Lenten dinners
- Participating in the Eucharistic processions on Holy Thursday and Good Friday
- Participating in our Corpus Christ procession
- Recruiting several new ushers to join our usher/greeter ministry
- Volunteering in full force as needs arose during our renovation project, particularly by moving pews
- Hosting the pizza dinner at the Humanae Vitae Documentary and Dinner in October

We look forward to continued presence of the Knights of Columbus. Additional plans for 2019 include:

- Parish-wide fish fry for our Friday Lenten dinner, which we hope will increase participation at our Friday Lenten program and provide a much needed fellowship opportunity
- Fourth Degree Exemplification at the 5:30 Mass on March 16, with dinner and program to follow.
- Regular Corporate Communion at the Basilica, whereby the Knights sit together in Mass

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## **Lector Ministry 2018 Report**

by Cynthia Jones and Julie Szemborski

The first lector workshops of 2018 were offered on February 27, 2018 as well as on March 6, 2018.

Father David Carter and Deacon Hicks conducted the workshop with the assistance of Cynthia Jones/lector ministry coordinator. A total of 24 candidates were deputed to continue to serve as proclaimers of the Word, to the community of Sts. Peter and Paul.

Three lector appreciation dinners were initially scheduled in 2018. However, due to scheduling conflicts, only one appreciation social was held, on April 22 for the 9:00 am Sunday Mass lectors. Deacon Hicks and Cynthia Jones both attended the appreciation brunch on April 22.

In 2019, lector workshops will be offered on two dates: Tuesday, February 26 and Tuesday, March 5 @ 6:00pm in the Basilica. The current lectors could be videotaped while proclaiming the Word in front of Father Carter and Deacon Hicks, as well as in front of fellow lectors. Feedback could then be generated by the workshop participants regarding the delivery of the reading.

Will attempt to reschedule the lector appreciation dinners that were cancelled in 2018 at a later date.

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## **Liturgy Team 2018 Report**

by Dcn. Hicks Armor

- Held planning meetings prior to Advent, Lent, Holy Week, and Ordinary Time.
- Recruited and trained new Altar Guild members, EMHC, Lectors, Sacristans, and Ushers
- Held training workshops to commission Lector volunteers
- Held Usher training sessions. Ushers are now taking on more including greeting at all entrances, dismissing rows at Communion, handing out worship aids, scheduling volunteers, and planning potluck dinners
- Began integrating new Security Team through training sessions with Ushers/Greeters and clergy
- Have successfully planned eleven bi-lingual liturgies this past year, blending; Sacristans, Lectors, EMHC, Ushers, Servers, Sacred Music
- Successfully transitioned to temporary sanctuary in Varallo Parish Hall
- Held an appreciation dinner for team leaders in the rectory after Holy Week and Easter

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## **New Parishioner Welcoming Ministry 2018 Report**

The New Parishioner Welcoming Ministry was started in 2018. Under the leadership of Shannon Hinson, its first task was to provide welcome gift bags to our new Catholics at the Easter Vigil. About 60 bags were put together with books and religious articles, for both our English and Spanish speaking candidates and catechumens.

## **New Parishioner Welcoming Ministry 2018 Report, cont.**

In the future we hope to offer a welcome package to each new member or family, which would include the sign-up forms for parish registration, stewardship appeal, and ministries, as well as welcome gifts. Gifts could include religious articles and books that we have on hand or have been donated, as well as “Basilica bling” and other interesting items, and could be customized for the individual or family.

Ultimately, we would like to make a personal connection with each person or family who begins attending the Basilica and encourage and help them to find their way into the parish life with the use of their gifts. This goal will require building the ministry with volunteers. These volunteers might come through the support of the Women’s Ministries, Knights of Columbus, or other groups who serve the parish. Fr. Carter’s call to discipleship this year presents the opportunity for our Welcoming ministry to flourish.

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### **Nursery Ministry 2018 Report**

Connie Blackwell continues to serve as our paid nursery staff on Sunday mornings for the 9:00 Mass, 11:30 Mass, and the time between Masses. As of fall 2018 our nursery policy is that we have two adults in the nursery at all times in order to accept children. One is our paid staff member, but we are in need of VIRTUS-trained volunteers to be the second person. A sign-up sheet is on the door of the nursery. Parents wishing to use the nursery must sign up to serve for a minimum of one Mass for the current calendar quarter. There is also now a donation box in the nursery to defray the \$45 cost of keeping it staffed each Sunday.

The nursery is a valuable, pro-life service to our families with young children, which can allow them to find peaceful worship time at Mass. We would like to see it continue consistently. It also serves the Catholic Motherhood ministry, other groups, and special events in the parish. We invite especially those who are not caring for young children to consider volunteering time in support of this ministry to our families.

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### **Ombrellino Religious Articles Store 2018 Report**

Marina Delaney, Parish Bookkeeper

Ombrellino sales in 2018 totaled \$16,177, a 2% increase over 2017. The store is undergoing some changes in 2018. We are renewing our commitment to partner with the Paraclete Bookstore in Knoxville to offer a wide variety of items on a rotating basis. This has streamlined our inventory and purchasing process while allowing us to continue to serve the needs of our parishioners and Basilica visitors. In addition, special orders can be made from the Paraclete’s online catalogue and delivered to the Basilica or a home address on request. We are updating our look as well. Be looking for an expanded Spanish section, a sales and specials table as well as seasonal offerings.

Thanks to our dedicated volunteers the Ombrellino is open Saturday and Sunday to accommodate all the Masses and purchases can also be made during the week during office hours. Cash, checks, and credit cards are accepted.

Thank you to our volunteers for helping us to continue this beautiful ministry!

Natalie Angel, Rachel Collins, Kyle Gentner, Lilly Gustavus, Mayra Post, Pam Way... and several others who have answered the recent call for volunteers.

If retail is your thing or your volunteer time is limited or you just love to look at religious articles, consider a once a month shift at the Ombrellino, conveniently chosen before or after the Mass that you attend.

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## **Parish Dinners 2018 Report**

by Becky Dempsey, Parish Secretary

### **St. Nicholas Dinner**

In 2017 the dinner was December 3<sup>rd</sup> in VPH at 6 pm. The committee was Florence Porter, Shannon Hinson and Becky Dempsey, with many women of the parish assisting. Food was prepared by the committee and Brad Grafton. We had a visit from St. Nick and once again Fr. David had a trivia game with the kids. There were other activities and entertainment by our very own Youth Schola, Andrea Tierney, and Terry Jones.

The 2018 St. Nicholas Dinner has had to be canceled due to the renovation and lack of space. The 2019 St. Nicholas Dinner will be 6pm Sunday, December 8, organized by Nikki Pacitti and Florence Porter.

### **Seder Meal**

The 2018 Seder Meal was held on Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> with the help of Geraldine Charton and Brad Grafton. In 2019, the Seder Meal be held on Wednesday, April 17, at 6:30 pm. It will be handled by the CCW, with Geraldine Charton being the contact person.

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## Parish Pastoral Council 2018 Report

### Current Parish Council Members

Joe Pricer – Chair; Homeschool

Ann Cho – Secretary; RE

Guadalupe Morales – Hispanic Ministry

Theresa Ohotnicky – Youth Representative

Warren Diegal - Lector Ministry

Debbie Cliché – Youth Ministry

Sam Martin – Vice-Chair; KofC

Christina Sapala – Women’s Ministry

Alma Rose Perez – Hispanic Ministry

Gretchen Von Peters – Young Adults

Debi Crabtree – Technology and Music

Kody Cooper – Young Families

### Ex-Officio

Fr. David Carter, Pastor and Rector

Deacon Gaspar DeGaetano

Deacon Tom McConnell

Fr. Colin Blatchford, Vicar

Deacon Hicks Armor

Sr. Imelda Quechol

The PPC has met Jan. 18, Mar. 1, May 3, and Sept. 28.

### Parish Pastoral Council Dates for 2019

Tues., Jan. 22 6-7:30pm - PPC Meeting

Thurs., Mar. 7, 6-7:30pm - PPC Meeting

Thurs., May 2, 6-7:30pm - PPC Meeting

Thurs., Aug. 8, 6-7:30pm - PPC Meeting

Thurs., Sep 26, 6-7:30pm - PPC Meeting

Tues., Nov. 12 6-9pm - Parish Ministries Town Hall Meeting

Thurs., Dec. 12 6pm - PPC Advent Dinner

Over the past year

- Coordinated with the Parish Finance Council, Facilities Engineering and Maintenance Committee (FEMAC), and the Parish Technology Council to make repairs, renovations, and additions to the facility and the campus.
- Coordinated efforts into improving All Saints Academy.
- Brought concerns of the Parish to Fr. Carter such as having an adoration chapel.
- Encouraged using a QR code in the bulletin to make it easier for potential donors to donate online regularly.
- In the process of developing a strategic plan for the Parish.
- Initiated the My Parish App
- Provide a sounding board for happenings in and around the Parish.

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## Potlucks 2018 Report

The Potluck Committee, led by Shannon Hinson, hosted potlucks after each 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Missa Cantata through May 2018. Having struggled for over three years to gain volunteers to rotate duties for setup, serving, and cleanup, the small committee decided, with Fr. Carter’s support, to suspend the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Basilica Potluck, and to reconsider starting it after the renovation is completed.

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## Pro-Life Ministry 2018 Report

by Deirdre Cooper

While there was not an active pro-life ministry at the Basilica last year, there were still several pro-life events that the Basilica was involved in. Some of the teens from the youth group attended the March for Life in Washington, D.C. in January and held fundraisers at the Basilica to raise money to afford the trip. Our St. Ambrose Homeschool Co-op participated in a Rosary for the unborn on January 22, the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, while placing wooden crosses in the rectory lawn to commemorate each year abortion has been legal in the USA. We now have a teaching couple who started teaching NFP classes at the Basilica. Finally, we held a Humanae Vitae Dinner & Documentary evening on October 14. About 30 people attended for the movie and pizza provided by the Knights of Columbus.

### Planned pro-life events at the Basilica:

- Youth attending the March for Life in Washington, DC, January 18, 2019
- Rosary for Life and placing Crosses in front of rectory for anniversary of Roe v Wade, January 2019
- Baby Bottle drive for Catholic Charities Pregnancy Help Center, the weekends of March 9 & 17 (1st two weekends of Lent)
- NFP classes - fall and spring sessions

### Ideas for future pro-life outreach:

- Promote spiritual adoption prayer
- Mass with blessing for expectant moms - Fr. Carter has given this blessing in the past
- Mass/blessing for those who lost children to miscarriage
- Churching of women Mass/blessing for mothers who have given birth within past year
- Sign up for a Basilica day for 40 Days for Life at abortion facility in Marietta, GA if there is enough interest
- Basilica Holy Hour for Life - maybe once a semester?
- Additional Rosary for life during October, Respect Life month
- Promote attendance at national March for Life, Friday January 18, 2019 in Washington, DC
- Help youth raise funds to attend March for Life
- Promote the Georgia March for Life in Atlanta on Tuesday, January 22, 2019
- Bioethics educational series on end of life, stem cell research, contraception, NFP
- Promoting meals for new mothers, sick, elderly
- Encourage pro-life voting
- Diaper drive for maternity home/ CPC
- Caroling at a nursing home - St. Ambrose Homeschool Co-op is caroling at The Home Place on December 5 at Noon

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## RCIA Ministry 2018 Report

by Dan Pacitti and Terry Jones

RCIA has had several administrative changes happen over this last summer: RCIA was split off from the rest of the Adult Faith Formation ministry, and both Barbara Golder and Katie Albright had to step away from assisting with ministries (Barbara temporarily, Katie permanently). Terry Jones and myself (Dan) are now heading up the RCIA ministry.

Last year we had at least 25 new members come into the Church at the Easter Vigil, and we currently have (at last count) 17 new catechumens. We also have 5-7 mystagogia students who continue to attend as well, to great effect for the rest of the class.

We have received great assistance from the community, who help with the RCIA Rosary (already in progress), providing refreshments and coffee for the classes, as well as prayer support and sponsorship.

Terry hosted a social for the RCIA staff and those who wanted to assist, which went very well and fostered great connections.

Expenditures for RCIA currently are small (so far being used to purchase Bibles for the new catechumens), with plans to possibly use funds for an upcoming retreat we hope to plan in the next month or two. More info will be provided as plans develop, with lead time for notification and approval.

We currently are meeting in the All Saints building every Sunday at 10:15 a.m.

RCIA currently needs:

- 1.) Continued requests for help with sponsors
- 2.) Continued request for RCIA rosary volunteers
- 3.) Request for volunteers to help with refreshments and coffee for regular classes
- 4.) Lastly, request for donations of any prayer cards, tchotchkes, etc., to hand out to class members

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## Receptions 2018 Report

Florence Porter, with the support of our parish Women's Ministries, coordinates the major receptions for special events such as the sacramental celebrations, concerts/recitals. This year we hosted a Trumpette Bombarde organ/trumpet concert prior to the renovation, with over 200 in attendance. The reception, organized by Florence, was a big success and was funded entirely by donations from our volunteers.

In 2018 we had two guest choirs sing at the 5:30 Vigil Mass, during Lent and on the Nativity of John the Baptist. For these smaller receptions, the Gloria Dei Schola provided small receptions to welcome these choirs, with the assistance of Victoria O'Connor.

In the coming year we anticipate the need for receptions for the following events:

- Altar Dedication Mass with Bishop Stika Sun., December 23, 2018 at 10am
- Christmas Pageant Sat., December 29, 2018 at 6:30 pm
- Chattanooga Bach Choir concert Sat., January 26, 2019 at 7:30 pm
- Organ Recital by Therese Ohotnicky Sun., May 5, 2019 at 7pm
- Confirmation either Sat., May 25 or Sat., June 29, 2019 at 5:30 pm Mass
- Organ Recital by Dr. Sarah Harr on Sun., September 29, 2019 at 5pm
- Schola concert in fall 2019 (date TBD)

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## Religious Education Ministry 2018 Report

by Danielle Stradley

For 2018-19 class year we have 128 students enrolled, with 11 (English) preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, and 18 for First Holy Communion.

This year we started out Catechesis of the Good Shephard Atrium. They children are loving it. We currently have 24 children in this class. We have been blessed with grant funds from the diocese to set up the Atrium so we have not had to come out of pocket as of yet. We are currently splitting costs of the Atrium with the Co-op, who use it during the week. We also have been blessed with a benefactor who has offered to help us with ongoing supplies needed.

We will be presenting our first, hopefully annual, Christmas play this year after the 5:30 Mass on December 29<sup>th</sup> followed by a reception.

We will be sponsoring a Father/Daughter dance on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, open to the whole church body. Ticket will go sale after the Christmas Holiday.

This past summer, we hosted our second Parish Vacation Bible School entitled, 'Vocations'. We had roughly 60 kids from both the English and Hispanic communities join in. We could definitely use more volunteers in the coming years.

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## Sacred Music Ministry 2018 Report

by Maria Rist

In 2017, we worked to offer sacred music at all our sung Masses according to the ideals presented by the Church.

We coordinated the liturgy plans for all weekend Masses and major feast day Masses, providing a choir or cantor and usually organ for all of them (excluding the 7am). There were about two dozen sung feast day liturgies outside of the Sunday Mass schedule, including the May Crowning service enhanced with traditional chants, and our Corpus Christi procession which incorporated Latin, Spanish, and English hymns.

We coordinated the music and liturgy plans for nine funerals.

We coordinated the music and liturgy plans for 12 weddings according to the revised *Rite of Marriage*, including three sung by our schola (in various sizes) and one sung by the Spanish choir ("coro").

We have planned and sung ten bilingual Masses. These Masses are centered with the universal songs of the Church in Latin, with due respect to both Spanish and English, and they give all of us an opportunity to experience the music and prayers that unites us as Catholics.

We provided music for the ecumenical Candlelight Service for Babies, sponsored by Erlanger hospital.

We joined in celebrating the dedication of the new Cathedral in Knoxville by collaborating with two other scholae to sing the "Vigil with the Relics" Vespers service that was held at the Cathedral on March 1, 2018, the Friday before the Dedication. This was our first choir road trip.

Trompette Bombarde, Chattanooga organ and trumpet trio, presented a glorious recital on July 15, just prior to our sanctuary renovation.

## Sacred Music Ministry 2018 Report, cont.

### 9 am Basilica Choir

This past year has been a time of tremendous growth for the 9 am Basilica Choir, under the devoted leadership of Debi Crabtree. We have seen growth in the number and quality of our singers, and the utilization of an excellent sound system has helped us create a full sound with limited voices. The singers have exhibited extraordinary dedication in committing to two short practices each week -- Tuesday evenings and Sunday mornings. As a result of this we have been able to add a number of more difficult pieces to our repertoire, including polyphonic and traditional Catholic music from the rich tradition of the ancient church. Midnight Mass attracts a number of singers from other area churches, and we appreciate this opportunity to not only have the additional trained voices, but also to use this as an outreach of the Basilica music ministry. Our plan next year is continue to add to our repertoire from *The Little Catholic Choirbook*, a rich resource of traditional music, and to attract additional singers who read music and tune well to other voices.

The 9 am choir has also increased in proficiency with Gregorian chant and has added three Sequences to our repertory: the Easter, Pentecost, and Corpus Christi Sequences.

### Gloria Dei Schola

The Gloria Dei Schola lost several singers due who had to leave due to moves, work schedules, or taking on additional responsibilities in the parish. We were pleased to add two new members and to have one member step up to become a cantor.

We would like to introduce another Gregorian chant setting of the sung Ordinary of the Mass at the 11:30 Mass: Mass XVII for Sundays of Advent and Lent. The timing of this introduction is yet to be determined.

### Partnership with UTC Choral Music

We have been offered a partnership with neighboring UTC's Choral Department, and through that partnership we were offered a new music student who is on scholarship at UTC. He is receiving a modest scholarship from the Basilica which bridges the gap to enable him to attend UTC. In turn, he is contributing to our Gloria Dei Schola every week, at a time when we had lost so many men's voices. Although he is not Catholic, he is learning much about our faith tradition through the experience of Ordinary Form and Ancient Form liturgies, faith-filled homilies, and the witness of Catholic prayer. He is also learning and experiencing Gregorian chant and polyphony as the basis of Western liturgical music, and can use this foundation wherever he goes in his career. So far it has been a two-way enriching experience for him and the schola and the parish. We are very thankful for his presence – so much so, that when he received notice of a class schedule change for next semester that would prevent him from coming to our Thursday rehearsals, the schola unanimously agreed to move our long-time Thursday rehearsal to Wednesdays next semester, in order to keep him singing with us. This change required four members to make significant sacrifices of other plans that they had on Wednesdays. God provides and He always has a plan for us.

### Spanish Choir ("Coro")

In 2016 and 2017 we made the transition to chanting most of the parts of the Mass by the priest, deacon, and people. On Pentecost of 2018, a new edition of the Spanish *Misal Romano* was released to be used by all Spanish Masses in the U. S. We began learning the sung parts as soon as they were released, and have now completed integrating them into the Spanish Masses. We are working on learning and memorizing the new tone for the sung Creed in Spanish. It is based on the same *Credo I* melody that we sing at our English and Latin Masses. The eventual goal is for both communities to be familiar with the Latin version of the Creed so that we can sing it together at bilingual Masses, as the Church encourages.

## Sacred Music Ministry 2018 Report, cont.

Fr. Santiago Gassín Ordoñez again visited over the summer and with his experience and zeal he inspired the choir to learn some beautiful songs of the Spanish culture that we are now singing in our Spanish and bilingual Masses. He also led us with the transition to the new *Misal Romano*.

### Jubilate Deo Youth Schola

In order to ensure that our young singers are able to read well and can learn at a pace along with our older students through high school age, we revised our Jubilate Deo Youth Schola program this year to begin in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade rather than 1<sup>st</sup> grade, and thus we only have 2 new youth singers this year. We have been able with this more experienced set of singers to learn more complicated pieces and harmonies this year, to expand our repertory. In the future we may start a choir for just our younger/beginning students, if God provides the teachers to support a branching of the program.

### Organ Program

Our organist, Andrea Tierney, studied diligently for two years and achieved the Service Playing certification by the American Guild of Organists. Less than 10% of the local organist guild have any certification. She is now studying for the next level of certification, the Colleague Examination.

Besides Andrea's 14 students at the St. Cecilia Room, we have five student organists in the parish (four taught by Andrea). These students play for parish funerals, special services, parts of the Spanish Mass, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday-of-the-month preludes and postludes, and student recitals. We are especially grateful for Therese Ohotnicky, who has been playing for funerals and some of our Sunday Masses.

With the move to Varallo Parish Hall for the renovation and without our pipe organ, the decision was made to retain the sound of the organ, as is the king of sacred instruments, rather than change to piano. While most electronic keyboards have a much compromised organ sound, Andrea researched and networked with fellow organists to learn to put together an organ simulator, with the use of a computer. This electronic organ sounds like a real pipe organ, and has allowed us to retain the reverent sound at Masses in Varallo Parish Hall. The simulator will also serve us next Lent in the main church, while our organ is dismantled for cleaning and installation of the new pipes.

Following the return to our sanctuary in December, our organ will be dismantled to remove debris that has blown in through the open bell tower over the years, a cleaning it needs to keep functioning. It will require us to do without the organ during Lent. At Easter we will again have the joy of hearing our historic pipe organ, completed with 122 new pipes that were part of its original design, a project made possible through the generosity of many parishioners, who raised over \$36,000 within a month's time, as well as a timely bequest for the organ from one of our past parishioners.

### Plans for Concerts in the 2019 liturgical year

- Our Jubilate Deo Youth Schola will present their second concert at Alexian Village on December 19, 2018. This concert will include special choral pieces as well as Christmas carols. We plan to do another concert in December of 2019 (date and location TBD).
- On Saturday, January 26, 2019 at 7:30pm, the Chattanooga Bach Choir will offer our inaugural concert after after the sanctuary renovation. In collaboration with Voci Virili and Voice of Reason, they will once again present Rachmaninoff's *All-Night Vigil*, a rarely performed challenging work, which they maintain is best suited to the Basilica, of all venues in the Chattanooga area. It will be an a capella concert, and we will host a reception afterwards.

## Sacred Music Ministry 2018 Report, cont.

### Plans for Concerts in the 2019 liturgical year, cont.

- Our student organist and schola singer, Therese Ohotnicky, will present her Senior Organ Recital on Sunday, May 5, 2019 at 7pm, with a reception to follow. This recital will be open to the parish as well as the public.
- Dr. Sarah Harr of the Chattanooga American Guild of Organists, will give a recital on September 29, 2019 at 5pm, with a reception to follow. This event is expected to attract many organists and music-lovers in the community, and we would like for the parish to enjoy it. All are invited to attend.
- We hope to present a second Gloria Dei Schola concert during the fall of 2019
- Our Spanish choir would like to offer a sacred music concert in the future

The concerts we offer serve to unify our parish community as well as bring more visitors to the Basilica. The donations collected at the concerts we have been offering exceed the cost of receptions and advertising fees. We can use this money to host future sacred music concerts.

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## Sacristan Ministry 2018 Report

by Amy Long

### Activities in 2018

The Sacristan ministry met in July of 2018 to receive training in how to complete the Sacristan duties while Mass is held in Varallo Parish Hall during the Sanctuary renovation.

Individual Sacristan training has been held in 2018 for parishioners who wish to join the Sacristan ministry.

We hope to have a training session for all current Sacristans in November or December of 2018 once we are nearing the move of Mass back to the Sanctuary from Varallo Parish Hall.

### Planned Activities for 2019

We will hold a training session for anyone wishing to become a Sacristan. This will be after the annual appeal on January 19-20 for parishioners to join the church ministries.

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## Security Committee 2018 Report

by Marvin Scott and Curt Dearing

### **Security Committee Meetings in 2018:**

- Meeting for the establishment of the Basilica Security Committee. Tuesday, 6:00 PM 1/23/18, in the Mahoney Conference Room at the Church Office. The purpose of the meeting was to establish a Basilica Security Committee and to chart a way ahead.
- Security Committee Meeting Monday 7:00 PM 3/5/18 in the Basilica. Discussed Emergency Response scenarios and Active Shooter Scenarios. Meeting was attended by Ushers and Security Team Members. Discussed plans for Placement of first aid kits, trauma bag, and AEDs. Initial active shooter training questions and answers. Planned for first aid training. Approximately 20 attendees.

## Security Committee 2018 Report, cont.

- Security Committee/Usher Responsibility Emergency Response Training. Saturday 6:30 PM 7/21/18. The purpose of the meeting was to train Ushers and Security Team Members in ways to respond to emergency situations and to identify the locations of the fire extinguishers, trauma bag, first aid kits, and AED in Varallo Parish Hall. Attendees included ushers, greeters, and security team committee and team members from all Masses (5:30, 9:00, 11:30, & Hispanic) Meeting lead by Adam Foster, Marvin Scott, Bucky Dearing, and Chris Bower. Hands-on training for active shooter situations and safety. Father Carter participated.
- Security Committee Meeting 8/28/18, designed to train remaining clergy in active shooter response. Dcn. Hicks Armor, Dcn. Gaspar DeGaetano, and Fr. Colin Blatchford attended. Briefed clergy on defensive tactics.

### Proposed Security Committee Meetings for 2019:

- January 2019, Evaluate Hispanic Community for Emergency Preparedness and Active Shooter Response. Word of mouth recruitment.
- February 2019, CPR and First Aid Certification for Ushers and Security Team Members (STMs)
- March 2019, Biannual Meeting for Emergency Response and Active Shooter Hands-on Training with Ushers and STMs.
- April 2019, Safety and Proficiency Training and Assessment
- September 2019, Biannual meeting for Emergency Response and Active Shooter Hands-on Training with Ushers and STMs.
- November 2019, Safety and Proficiency Training and Assessment

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## St. Ambrose Homeschool Co-op 2018 Report

by Sandy Pricer

- Our goal and mission is to strengthen our children's Catholic faith and knowledge.
- We currently have 20 families and about 50 students.
- For 2019, we will continue to enrich with Catholic materials, classes and activities.
- We currently offer Theology, Sciences, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, art, drama, PE and Latin.
- We offer afternoon enrichment on Fridays and various field trips throughout the year.

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## Technology 2018 Report

Joe Pricer and Chris Wesson

### Projects completed during 2018

- Ongoing IT support and upgrades
- Moved sound system to be used for Mass in Varallo Hall
- Launched the **myParish** cell phone app to increase communication and engage parishioners in the parish
- At the completion of the renovation, sound will be installed in the sacristy, nursery, and hallway by the Ombrellino Gift Shop

## Technology 2018 Report, cont.

### Plans under discussion for 2019

- Digital kiosk - take away the paper visitor book, allow for visitors to get more information, donate, prayer requests. Will design a easy friendly functional system to allow data flow to the parish office for filtering out the parish needs. Expandable for any data collecting needs.
- Digital signature - similar to the entrance to the cathedral, these would be well placed flat screen TV's that would allow announcements, wedding information or wedding picture collages. The idea here is to get information out in clean environment and enhance the ministries in the parish. Location TBD since the renovation has changed the environment.
- Videography offerings for weddings and events (source of income)
- Sound recordings of homilies

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## **Trail Life USA 2018 Report**

by Peter Ohotnicky

Trail Life Troop 0629 was chartered in the spring of 2018. The chartering leaders were Fr. J. David Carter (Pastor), Rebecca Dempsey (Charter Org Representative), Bill Chimiak (Committee Chair), Terry Jones (Treasurer), and Peter Ohotnicky (Troopmaster). The number 0629 was selected as the feast day of Sts. Peter and Paul. Meetings began on 20 Aug, and the troop started with 16 boys. Regular meetings continued through the fall and the troop had its first campout on 26-28 October at Harrison Bay State Park. Fr. Carter attended on Friday night, and the event included Adoration, Benediction, Mass, and confessions.

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## **Usher/Greeter Ministry 2018 Report**

by Adam Foster

In the past year the Ushers/Greeters for the Vigil Mass, 9AM, and 11:30 Mass have developed emergency response plans for a number of situations. These plans came into play at the 9AM Easter Mass when an elderly parishioner had a medical emergency during mass and our Ushers responded promptly.

We have also been working on presenting ourselves in a more formal fashion, more suitable to Basilica Ushers. Everyone is wearing our new usher sashes. We have taken on some new responsibilities also such as helping late comers find seats and dismissing pew by pew during communion.

In the coming year we hope to add a parking ministry between the 9AM and 11:30AM masses.

We will have a meeting after the renovation is completed upstairs and again before Lent. There will be an appreciation party for Ushers and Greeters after lent. No dates set in stone.

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## **Women's Ministries 2018 Report**

by Nikki Pacitti

The women's ministries umbrella was established throughout November 2017 and 2018. At the December 2017 meeting, the ladies voted to have an executive chair or co-chairs managing the umbrella. The office of chair will be for a two-year term and cannot be held in consecutive years by the same person (people). After consultation with Fr. Carter, it was determined that the women's ministries umbrella would cover the following sub-ministries: The Motherhood group, Blessed is She, Hospitality, and the Council of Catholic Women. Please note that Blessed is She is not currently active, and Hospitality has been absorbed by the other three groups. Originally Bereavement was to be covered as well. Once better communication has been established bereavement should be reincorporated within the women's ministries.

## Women's Ministries 2018 Report, cont.

The role of the women's ministries umbrella has been defined as one part business organizational and one part spiritual. The organizational side is responsible for gathering information on the needs of the women of the parish through quarterly meetings, fostering communication between the groups, and reporting to the Rector of the parish. The primary focus of the umbrella is to foster community and spiritual growth across the groups and the parish. Thus far, spirituality has been placed at the forefront of the quarterly meetings while business is being handled between meetings as frequently as needed.

The upcoming calendar for the women's ministries includes the autumn day retreat November 3<sup>rd</sup> and the St. Nicholas dinner on December 9, 2018. On December 17<sup>th</sup> at the parish penance service, the women of the parish will try to coordinate a rotation to provide additional hospitality and to ensure that everyone is able to fully participate in the sacrament. It is hoped that a system can be established for both the Advent and Lenten Penance services. Quarterly meetings will be held at the end of January, April, July, and October with the following activities planned according to need and availability by the combined group: day retreats or full weekend retreat, Fat Tuesday pancake race/meal, the Seder meal, parish penance service help, Mother's Day brunch, and the St. Nicholas dinner.

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## Youth Ministry 2018 Report

by Debbie Cliche

### 2018 -

- Middle and High School Youth meets every Sunday, 6:30-8:30pm except when church has activities for families to attend.
- Invested in new Youth Program for Middle School called Conquest & Challenge Summer 2017 and continued in 2018. Conquest & Challenge is a Catholic Youth program for boys & girls in Middle School to grow in knowledge of their Catholic faith, friendship with Christ, and make a difference and positive impact on their families, friends and Church Community.
- Youth Minister (Debbie) attends twice a month Deanery Meetings with Youth Ministers and Adult Core Leaders to impact Youth to encounter Christ. And these meetings allows us to share ideas to increase participation and bring Youth closer to Christ.
- Encouraged Youth to attend Deanery activities to include: Chili Bowl @ St. Augustine's and Underground Christmas @ St Jude's.
- Started Taco Tuesdays with Father David and Debbie for the month of July to stay connected to the youth and provide social event while youth out of school. Very successful.
- Youth Minister (Debbie) attended Search in 2018 to encourage our teens to attend.
- Service Sunday continued in 2018 and our Youth Group supported Community Kitchen and McKamey Animal Center.
- Purchased t-shirts for youth to wear at all Youth Group meetings and Chattanooga Deanery events.
- Teens attend Sts. Peter and Paul's church activities to support our church and build relationships with other youth: Missa Cantata and St. Nicholas dinner.
- Overnight Retreat scheduled for December 2018 for High School youth.
- Increased participation of Youth to participate at all Masses as Greeter, Gift Bearer and Lector.

### 2019 -

- Youth will continue to meet every Sunday 6:30-8:30. Location will change to KofC Hall and Varallo Hall starting January 2019 due to renovation of All Saints Academy.
- Youth will continue to be encouraged to attend Deanery events, Search and service opportunities. One other event is scheduled in November: NCYC.
- Movie nights will be scheduled quarterly for Middle and High School for social time.
- Fundraising activities to be scheduled to help fund other Deanery events and NCYC.
- Focus on increasing attendance to Youth Group. Trip to Cathedral in Knoxville was postponed from October 2018 to 1st quarter in 2019.