

The Great Gazette

The Stories of Saint Albert the Great Parishioners

DECEMBER 2011 & JANUARY 2012



Nativity Scene (Church Side)

The Buerschen family loans and arranges yearly. Our gratitude to them.



Parish Advent Events

New Roman Missal readings begin the first Sunday in Advent, November 27

Caring Tree

Sunday, November 27 - Sunday, December 11

This annual project gives us an opportunity to give a Christmas gift to a child or adult in need in our community. Trees in the church and chapel are decorated with cards suggesting items.

Christmas Cookies, Caroling & Coffee Thursday, December 15

Following 12 Noon Mass

Join us in the Parish Center as our school children entertain Senior Citizens from the surrounding area.

Breakfast with Santa & Baby Jesus Shower December 18

Breakfast with Santa Following 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am Masses

Join us in the school cafeteria for breakfast with Santa. Free event sponsored by Knights of Columbus

Baby Jesus Shower 9:30 - 11:00 am

Join us in the school cafeteria for Advent activities.

Donations of baby items are accepted for Catholic Social Services.

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Altar (Chapel Side)



Caring Tree and Tabernacle (Church Side)

A thletic A ssociation Fish Fry

Date: Friday, January 20, 2012

Open: 7pm-Midnight

Carryout: 5-6:30pm \$8 meal \$3 sandwich

Cost: \$12 pre-pay or \$15 at door

Donate:

- Your Time: Volunteer!
- Silent Auction Items
- Become a Table Sponsor

St. Albert the Great Athletic Association is holding its annual Fish Fry on Friday, January 20, 2012! This event is the primary fundraiser for our school and Religious Education student athletic programs. The funds generated are used to maintain and improve fields/facilities and provide equipment and uniforms for all sports.

Each year the Silent Auction at the Fish Fry plays a major part in our success. We would appreciate any donated items (gift certificates, product samples, tickets, vacation homes/rentals, services, or any creative idea that you may have) which could be auctioned for this cause.

Contacts:

- Any Athletic Board Member
- Matt Overton
President
903-7626
overmta@gmail.com
- Helene Conrath
Silent Auction Coordinator
293-0901
theconraths@hotmail.com



We want to thank you, in advance, for your generosity and your support of St. Albert the Great Athletics!

A dvent Craft



Cinnamon

Christmas Tree Ornaments
by Meghan McCormick

Ingredients:

- 1 cup applesauce
- 3/4 cup cinnamon

- 1 T. crushed cloves
- 1 T. nutmeg

Directions:

Mix all ingredients. Roll to 1/4 inch thick and cut with cookie cutters. Separate. Place on flat, dry surface and turn each day until dry. Be sure to make a hole at the top of the ornament while the cut out is still moist—the ribbon will be threaded there. Seasonal shapes include Christmas trees or gingerbread girls and boys. The ornaments emit a great aroma!

Our Pastoral Management Team & Staff

Parish Staff 293-1191

Fr. Tom Meyer, Pastor
pastor@stalbertthegreat.net
Fr. Ned Brown, Assoc. Pastor
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RCIA /Adult Faith Formation

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rcia@stalbertthegreat.net

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kfitzharris@stalbertthegreat.net

Parish Center Staff 298-6843

Sally McBride Solarek, Coordinator

Maintenance Staff 293-1191

Jack Beckett, Supervisor x230
Mike Lee, Staff x230

Visit our Website!

www.stalbertthegreat.net

E ighth Graders and T heir S ponsors C ome T ogether for C onfirmation S pirit Day!

On Saturday, October 22nd, the Confirmation students and their sponsors attended the annual Confirmation Spirit Day at St. Albert's. The day started out with guitarist and singer Nick Cardilino, who succeeded in getting the students and sponsors invigorated for the day! He used high school volunteers to help with hand motions to add some pep to his inspirational songs. Brett Chmiel followed Nick's performance with a powerful message about the Holy Spirit. The group of high school volunteers from Alter and C.J. were a huge help in making the day a success.

Seven posters with the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit were unveiled. They were the work of the students who put together definitions of the gifts. The posters will be used throughout the Confirmation learning process. (see picture)

Throughout the morning, the students and their sponsors attended sessions on prayer, scripture, Confirmation symbols, and setting spiritual goals. Nick, Brett, Father Ned and Diane Gothard led the sessions, demonstrating true commitment to our young people by volunteering their time to further our students' faith walk. After a pizza lunch, the day ended with a prayer service led by Brett Chmiel. At the closing ceremony, sponsors were given a prayer/bookmark to help them in praying for their candidates. Thanks to all the sponsors and students who took time out of their busy schedule to prepare for Confirmation with their fellow classmates.



Confirmation Spirit Day

Attention 8th Grade Parents!

Due to Archbishop Schnurr being called to the Vatican for a meeting, we have to change the date of Confirmation. The re-scheduled date is WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15th at 7:00 p.m. Practice for students and sponsors will be Thursday, February 9th at 7:30 p.m. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. We are thrilled that the Archbishop will be able to pre-side over this special event. Thank you for your understanding. Julie Penno, Confirmation Coordinator 298-2402



8th Grade Confirmation: February 15, 2012



Shining Stars

A *Shining Star* is someone who is showcased for their outstanding involvement in St. Albert the Great Parish. If you would like to nominate a *Shining Star*, call the Involvement Office at 298-1122.

The St. Albert the Great MUSIC DEPARTMENT



Jim Butler is the Music Director and leads the Cantors, as well as the Cantica Nova, Celebration, Handbell, and Resurrection Choirs. Jim got started in music when he was very young. “My parents thought I showed talent at a very young age, and signed me up for piano lessons around the age of 7,” says Jim.

When Jim was in the 6th grade attending St. Charles, he was waiting for his mom and started toying around with the piano. Little did he know that the pastor of the church was listening! “The Pastor, Fr. Klug, told my mom that I would be playing piano for the school Masses and on Sunday with the folk choir. Father Klug started me on my career path right then and there,” says Jim. “I went on to study organ while attending Archbishop Alter high school.”

In the early 1990’s, Jim accepted a position at St. Mary’s Church. That position expanded to Holy Family Church a year later. This is where he met his wife, Tammy. Tammy and Jim have one son, Henry.

In 2003, Jim joined the staff at St. Albert the Great. “My main focus is playing Masses each weekend, as well as playing all weddings and funerals. I also play daily Mass Tuesday through Friday,” says Jim. He also sits in as ex officio member of the Worship Commission, is a past regional Dean and a current scholarship chair of the area’s American Guild of Organists chapter, is a member of the preservation group The Organ Historical Society, and works with the National Pastoral Musicians organization.

Mary Toale, the music teacher for the upper grades, has been a member of the parish since 2009. Music has always been a part of Mary’s life. “My mother was a church organist, and music was always encouraged at home,” says Mary. After years in business, Mary turned to where she knew God wanted her to be, involved with music. “Music is my second career. I spent many years in the business world,” says Mary.



Judy Drake is the Music Teacher for the younger grades. For the past 11 years, she has also directed the Youthful Singers Choir. Since 1972, she has directed the *Choraleers*. This is a group of adults that love to sing and bring music to retirement and nursing homes, as well as other organizations.



Judy has been a member of the parish all her life. She was baptized at St. Albert, and attended our school through the eighth grade. Judy was a member of the 50 voice Girls Church Choir in 7th & 8th grade and decided then that she wanted to be involved in music. As a student at Archbishop Alter High School, she sang in choirs at school and church. After graduating from Wright State University with a degree in Music Education, Judy was hired to replace the St. Albert Music teacher that was leaving to have her first baby.

Little did she know then that this was to be the place that God wanted her to be: teaching the joy and love of music to the children of St. Albert the Great, as she had been taught!

Judy and her husband, Mike, have three grown sons, all of whom attended St. Albert the Great School. This year is Judy’s 33rd year of teaching. “I have been very lucky to have had a great deal of support for the musical arts from my family, our PTO, the teachers and all of the students that show me every day how important and gratifying it is to have music in their lives and sing the praises of the Lord,” says Judy. “God has blessed me with an occupation and an avocation that are one in the same and allows me to enjoy coming to work every day!”

Mary graduated from Wright State University and started working at St. Albert the Great in 2007. The students at St. Albert learn to dance, sing, play music, star in musical productions and appreciate all kinds of music. “I am very excited because the school just purchased violins, flutes, and clarinets to use in the classrooms, and hopefully soon, in Mass,” says Mary.

Art & Craft Fest 2011

The Involvement Office would like to thank all those who participated in our 2011 Art & Craft Fest. The combination of beautiful weather, creative artisans, and hundreds of shoppers made the Art & Craft Fest a huge success. Over \$1,000 was raised to help pay for New Roman Missal expenses. Neighbors from the surrounding community shopped for hand-made items from our own parishioners! Items for sale included stationary, jewelry, fine art, scarves, OSU items, baked goods, rosaries, Advent wreaths and candles, nativity sets, baby gifts, and much more!

Dayton Church Supply set up a booth, manned by the Worship Commission. One of the most popular items was Fr. Ned's Pie Raffle. The winner, Peggy Fromholt, won 2 pies, hand-made by Fr. Ned Brown. He made a special delivery to the Fromholt residence on Thanksgiving day with the gourmet pies. All proceeds went to our youth group, SAYM, who also had a booth selling cookies.



Henry and Tammy Butler, Helping Buckeyes, Worship Commission, and Jill Keyes with their Art&Craft Show displays

Ask the Priest with Fr. Ned Brown

Fr. Ned Brown is visiting classrooms this 2011-12 school year in the forum of allowing the students to ask him questions about our Catholic faith.

Mrs. Betsey Redinger's 1st grade class invited Fr. Ned to join them in Church so they could ask him questions about our Catholic symbols. The meanings, origins and ancient traditions surrounding Catholic symbols date back to times when the majority of ordinary people were not able to read or write and printing was unknown. When religious ceremonies were conducted entirely in Latin, Catholic symbols were adopted which enabled people to understand its meaning regardless of whatever country they were in.

Fr. Ned was impressed with the students and their knowledge about the baptismal font, altar, Tabernacle, Crucifix, Stations of the Cross and various other symbols.



Fr. Ned with Mrs. Redinger's Class

On Sunday, October 23, St. Albert the Great held the annual *Legacy Society Brunch* to thank all the Legacy Society members for their generosity.

The Legacy Society provides a way to recognize our benefactors who have helped to secure the future of St. Albert the Great through the inclusion of St. Albert the Great Parish in their financial planning. The event began with 11:00 Mass celebrated by Father Tom. Twenty four Legacy Society members then came over to the Spirit Center where they

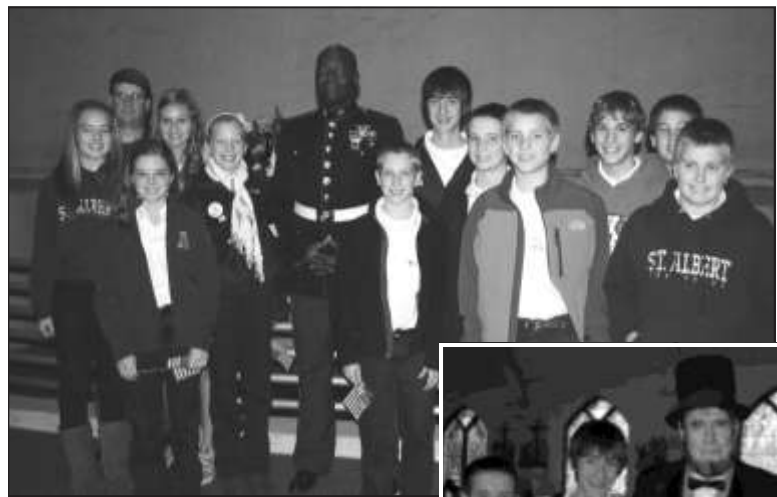
enjoyed coffee, mimosas (orange juice and champagne), and good conversation. Following a prayer by Father Tom, the members sat down to a delicious brunch. "It was a lovely event. It is good to be appreciated!", said one of our Legacy members. Father Ned Brown, and Deacon Jeff Hall also attended.

If you have any interest in joining the Legacy Society, please contact the Rectory Office at 293-1191 for more information.



St. Albert the Great Honors Veterans

This year, Veteran's Day fell on 11/11/11 and what a magical day it was! Several St. Albert the Great 7th and 8th grade students were proud to pay tribute to the men and women who have served our country at the Veterans Day Celebration at the Dayton VA Center. "It is a privilege to show our thanks to our real heroes," said 7th grader Abbey Schimpf. The students participated in the Operation Welcome Home celebration in the theater, delivered handmade cards to patients in the VA Medical Center and escorted honored guests to their seats at the Community Covenant Signing in the Catholic Chapel. Chaperone Mr. Tom Alig thought it was curious that Honest Abe didn't attend the events in the theater! Abe did, however, capture our students' interest at the chapel!



St. Albert the Great students with Gunnery Sergeant Antonio Kitchens (above) & Honest Abe (right)



St. Albert the Great School PTO Annual Christmas Tree Sale

Let our family tradition be a part of yours. The perfect Christmas Tree is waiting for you!!

Beginning Saturday, November 26th
until they're all gone!

Hours:

Monday - Friday: 6 to 8:30 p.m.
Saturdays: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sundays: Noon to 6 p.m.

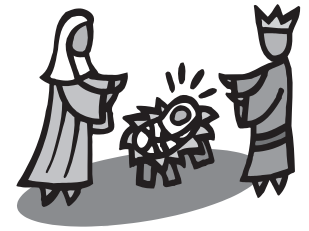
Sponsored by the St. Albert PTO. All proceeds benefit the students of St. Albert the Great School.



Christmas Tree Sale Volunteers



December 2011



St. Albert the Great Parish

A detailed parish calendar can be found at stalbertthegreat.net

Sun

Mon














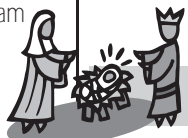
Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

 Coffee, Donuts & Fellowship in Cafeteria after the 8 & 9:30 Masses <hr/> Digging Deeper into the Word: Adult Faith Formation 9:30-10:30 Cafeteria Rm 31. Sign-up or Drop-in! <hr/> Fingerprinting Schedule: Mondays and Wednesdays 6:30-8:30 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-12am, 1-3pm; RE Office (School Rm 16) Joan Bayer 499-1310 	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 15%;">1</div> <div style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="width: 15%;">2</div> <div style="width: 25%; text-align: center;"> Caring Tee Final Gift Drop-Off This Sunday December 4th! </div> <div style="width: 15%;">3</div> <div style="width: 25%; text-align: center;"> St. Vincent Hotel Casserole Drop-off 9-10am (Place on truck) </div> </div>					
4 2nd Sunday of Advent  	5 Child Protection Class 7-8:30 Chapel <hr/> Advent Penance Service 7pm Church	6	7 Children's Mass 8:30 am Vigil Mass 4:30 pm	8 <i>Feast of the Immaculate Conception</i> Masses: 7:00, 10:00 am 12 Noon, 6:00pm	9 Education Commission 7-8:30pm Virtual Meeting <i>Thursday 12/8</i>	10 Food Collection 8am-6pm 
11 3rd Sunday of Advent   Food Collection 8am-1pm	12 Athletic Assn 7 - 9pm Spirit Ctr Rm D PTO 7 - 8:30pm Teachers Lounge	13 School Musical 1:30, 7 pm Parish Center	14	15 Cookies, Caroling, Coffee After Noon Mass Parish Center Worship Comm Mtg 7-8pm Rectory Mtg Rm	16 School Spirit Day 	17 Visit the Perpetual Adoration Chapel this Advent! 
18 4th Sunday of Advent <hr/> Breakfast with Santa & Baby Jesus Shower 	19	20 	21 School Christmas Break	22 Winter Begins	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i> Masses 3, 5, 7 & 11pm 
25 <i>Christmas Day</i> Masses 9:30, 11am 	26	27	28 School Christmas Break	29	30	31 New Years Eve St. Vincent Hotel Casserole Recipe Pick-Up In Gathering Space













January 2012



St. Albert the Great Parish

A detailed parish calendar can be found at stalbertthegreat.net

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>1 Feast of Mary, Mother of God Feast of the Holy Family 8, 9:30, 11am Masses</p> 	<p>2</p> 	<p>3 St. Albert the Great School Reopens from Christmas Break</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 St. Vincent Hotel Casserole Drop-off 9-10am (Place on truck)</p>
<p>8^{DD} Feast of the Epiphany RCIA Rite of Acceptance and Welcome 9:30 Mass</p> 	<p>9 Athletic Assn 7-9pm PTO 7-8:30pm Teachers Lounge Child Prot Class 7-8:30 pm Chapel</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 Senior Luncheon Following 12 Noon Parish Center Education Mtg 7-8:30pm</p>	<p>13 School Spirit Day</p> 	<p>14</p>
National Vocation Awareness Week						
<p>15^{DD}</p> 	<p>16 Martin Luther King Day No School Today St. Albert the Great Students</p>	<p>17</p> 	<p>18</p>	<p>19 Early Dismissal 1:45 pm St. Albert the Great Students Worship Commission Mtg 7-8pm</p>	<p>20 Athletic Assn Fish Fry</p>  <p>7pm - Midnight</p>	<p>21 Confirmation Retreat 9am - 3pm Bergamo</p>
<p>22^{DD}</p>  	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 Parish Council Mtg 7:30-8:30pm Rectory Meeting Room</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 St. Vincent Hotel Casserole Recipe Pick-Up In Gathering Space</p>
<p>29^{DD}</p>  	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Catholic Schools Week</p>	<p> Coffee, Donuts & Fellowship in Cafeteria after the 8 & 9:30 Masses</p> <p> Digging Deeper into the Word: Adult Faith Formation 9:30-10:30 Cafeteria Rm 31. Sign-up or Drop-in!</p> <p> Fingerprinting Schedule: Mondays and Wednesdays 6:30-8:30 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-12am, 1-3pm; RE Office (School Rm 16) Joan Bayer 499-1310</p>			