SAINT JULIE BILLIART

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

CHURCH-CATECHETICAL CENTER • 440-327-1978 5500 Lear Nagle Road • N. Ridgeville, OH 44039

> CHAPEL-ADMINISTRATION BUILDING 5545 Opal Drive • N. Ridgeville, OH 44039 Hours: (Monday-Friday) 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Phone: 440-327-1978 • Fax: 440-327-1994 Email: stjbc@stjuliebilliart.org Fr. George: frgv@stjuliebilliart.org Website: www.stjuliebilliart.org

PASTOR: Rev. George A. Vrabel

Deacons:	Rev. Mr. John Rivera Rev. Dr. Ken DeLuca, retired
PSR Princip	al: Kelly Reed
Music Direc	ctor: Danny O'Brien

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday	5:00 p.m.				
(This Mass is Live Streamed & Recorded)					
Sunday	9:00 & 11:00 a.m.				
Weekday Masses at the Church					
Monday-Friday	8:30 a.m.				
(Excluding Th	ursdays)				
Holydays	Consult the Bulletin				

For updates check St. Julie's Website

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays......4:00 - 4:30 p.m. In the Church

PSR - PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES Grades K - 8: 9:30 - 10:45 a.m.

RCIA & RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and Children)

> **BAPTISMS** Call or email the office.

MARRIAGE Arrangements must be made 6 months in advance

NEW PARISHIONERS You are welcome to call the office or register on line.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

April 24, 2022

St. Julie Billiart is a welcoming Roman Catholic community that deepens our personal relationship with Jesus Christ by worshiping together, reaching out to others and building up the Kingdom of God.



2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." - Jn 20:28-29

St. Julie Billiart Parish

From the desk of Fr. George...

Greetings Parishioners and friends of St. Julie's,

As we celebrate the Easter Season, the Resurrection of Jesus continues to strengthen the grace of our Baptism. From those sacred waters we are called to live in the flowing stream of His love. Every sacrament strengthens us and encourages us to live as sons and daughters of a loving God. Saturday - May 7th is First Communion Day and Friday - May 20th is Confirmation Day. Please join me in prayer as our younger children receive the second Sacrament of Initiation and our older youth complete their initiation into our Catholic Faith.

On this Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday), grace flows into the lives of the disciples and the early church. Thomas' disbelief turns into belief upon the sight of the resurrected Lord. While we experience Jesus is through Sacrament, Scripture and Church, our personal relationship with Him is no less powerful. "Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him. In this way we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments." (1 John 5:1-2)

Take time this week to experience God's grace and mercy. The Easter Season lasts until Pentecost for a reason: We need to celebrate and be refreshed... our sins have been forgiven and Christ has conquered death, giving us eternal life and the promise of our own bodily resurrection on the last day. Alleluia!

Fr. George

Did You Know?

Divine Mercy Sunday: It was in 2001 that the Holy Father celebrated the first universal Divine Mercy Sunday. This devotion was popularized by the diaries of a young Polish nun, Sister Faustina. Her diaries contain private revelations given to her by Jesus to spread the message of His divine mercy. Sister Faustina was beatified by Pope John Paul II prior to his death. April 2nd was the 17th anniversary of the death of Servant of God, Saint John Paul II, Pope.

Please take some time to read today's bulletin insert regarding The Synod process. Thank You.

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your goodness and faithfulness in my life. Thank You for refreshing and renewing my heart. Fill me with Your peace; fill me with Your strength. Help me to do good and stand firm until I see my harvest of blessings. In Jesus's name...Amen!

Second Sunday of Easter

Dear Fr. George and Parishioners of St. Julie's I want to acknowledge and thank you for the El Salvador-Latin American Collection. It is one of the most important appeals of the year because it directly supports our priests and religious missionaries who work in El Salvador.

Between the parish collection and the clergy contributions to this appeal, we have been able to maintain our long history of service to our Diocesan Mission. Your parish collection contributes to the salary and health benefits of our missionaries as well as the gas for their vehicles and food for their tables. When these most basic needs of our missionaries are covered, they are freely able to serve the people in the poor country.

Thank you again and may God bless you for your goodness in supporting our Diocesan Mission in El Salvador.

Sincerely in Christ, Rev. R. Stephen Vellenga Diocesan Mission Director

Lenten Rice Bowls

You still have time to turn in your Lenten Rice Bowl. You can put it in the collection basket or bring it to the parish office.

Vacation Bible School

We are having Vacation Bible School on June 13-17 (in the evening). Please put this on your calendar as you plan your summer events. Kids, this is a fun way to celebrate good times together. Teens, we need your help. Adults, share your faith with God's youngest disciples.



Parish & Community Events

Religious Education

PSR-Parish School of Religion, Pre K - 8th grades, 9:30-10:45 a.m.

Mass Intentions for the Week

April 23 Saturday	5:00 p.m. Mary Lou Jufko (Dennis Jufko)
April 24 Sunday	9:00 a.m. St. Julie Billiart Parishioners
	11:00 a.m. Janice Modock (Nick Modock)
April 25 Monday	8:30 a.m. Nick Arguello (Barb Arguello)
April 26 Tuesday	No Mass
April 27 Wednesday	No Mass
April 28 Thursday	No Mass
April 29 Friday	No Mass
April 30 Saturday	5:00 p.m. Gary Halvin (Harriet Halvin)
May 1 Sunday	9:00 a.m. St. Julie Billiart Parishioners
	11:00 a.m. Frank Jr. & Jim Valenta (Agnes Valenta)

The Week Ahead

Sun. PSR

- Mon. Parish Council
- Tues. Choir Rehearsal

Wed. Rosary, 1:00 p.m., Church

- Thurs. Crockpot Drive-Thru, 5:30-6:15
- Sat. Jesus Day

Sun. PSR

Coming Events

May 3 Election Day May 5 K of C May 7 First Communion May 8 Mother's Day PSR Mass & Last Class Confirmation Practice after Mass

St. Julie's Golf League is looking for players!

The St. Julie is welcoming new players to the 2022 season. New members are not required to go to St. Julie. We



play at Bob-O-Links golf club in Avon on Thursday evenings with tee off at 4:37 pm. Please call or email Ed Kollin at (440) 864-7574 or email edkollin@hotmail.com

April 24, 2022

PRAY FOR

the health of, and caregivers of: Fr. George, Susan Mahoney, Marian Kessler, Terry Flanagan, Carol Polak, Barb Vrtachnik, Jean Rasmussen, Kathleen Sobczak, Dolores Rivera, JoAnne Bellomo, and Carol Straub; for our men & women in uniform; for our police, firefighters, doctors & nurses; and for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life, and for the people of Ukraine.

Names on the Prayer List will be taken off after one month unless you call the office.

If you or someone you know has had an abortion, be assured that it is never too late to seek God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Additionally, other confidential, compassionate help is available. Select "Find Help" from the menu on

<u>www.hopeafterabortion.org</u> to find the diocesan Project Rachel Ministry near you.

Mercy is a "bridge that connects God and man, opening our hearts to the hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness." —Pope Francis, in "Bridges of Mercy for Healing after Abortion" www.usccb.org/bridges-of-mercy



SUNDA

This Week's Sponsor is: North Ridge Tours 5795 Tree Moss Lane North Ridgeville, OH 44039 440-465-1578 Specializing in Escorted Group Travel and Tours. Come Along - It's Fun To Travel! When mailing contributions to St. Julie's please use the 5545 Opal Street address.

Parish Stewardship	
April 17, Easter.	\$16,148
Online Giving:	\$217
School Subsidy:	\$5
Capital Improvement:	\$250
Net Offertory:	\$16,620
Online Mass including 35 livestream:	
In Person Mass Attendance	

Minister Schedule							
Date	Time	Sacristan	Lector	Eucharistic Minis- ters			
April 23 <mark>rec</mark>	5:00 p.m.	Beth Paoloni	Jessica Angelo	Deacon John	Jim ™ Nolan		
April 24	9:00 a.m.	Suzanne Snyder	Barb Arguello	Tom Lamoda	Gene TM Morrison		
	11:00 a.m.	Suzanne Snyder	Mark LaLonde	Leslie Rozman	Larry™ Rozman		
April 30 rec	5:00 p.m.	Chris Vacca	Donnie Schiff- bauer	Deacon John	Greg ™ Dubecky		
May 1	9:00 a.m.	John Burghard	Linda Vasiloff	John Burghard	Laura TM Knob- lauch		
	11:00 a.m.	Suzanne Snyder	Amy Shealy	Chris Snyder	Gene™ Morri- son		

Men's Breakfast

Please join us for the St Julie & St Peter Men's Fellowship breakfast on Saturday May 21st @ 8:20 am. Breakfast will be served at St. Peter's in the Gym. Enjoy a hearty breakfast and meet some new people and an old friend, Jesus. We know that you probably have a lot to do on a Saturday so we will end promptly at 9:45 am. So we have an idea of how much food to prepare **please RSVP** by sending an email to Mike Jessup at <u>sjspbreakfast@gmail.com</u> by May 16th.

The First Friday Forum of Lorain County will present Fr. Jack Manning, retired, speaking about 'Saints Among Us' on Friday, May 6. Lunch begins at 11:30 and speaker at 12:00 at the Spitzer Conference Center of Lorain County Community College, 1005 N. Abbe Rd. Elyria. Reservations need to be received by 6:00 Monday, May 2. Call 440-213-2132 or email <u>ffflorain@gmail.com</u>. Cost is \$25.



Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to - Jn 20:27-28

Then he said to

him, "My Lord and my God!"





News on the Synod for Synodality

It's hard to believe that it has already been six weeks since we held listening sessions here at St. Julie Billiart Church to 'hear the voices' of those who comprise the church. Thirty-six individuals attended the three sessions and generated pages of data in response to this inquiry among the People of God who are part of the Universal Church.

As the Universal Church seeks a path forward 60 years after Vatican Council II, I want to share with the parish a summary of the report to the Diocese containing the dialogue that was guided by the Holy Spirit during our Listening Sessions. This information will eventually be compiled from churches and dioceses throughout the world and be delivered to Rome for even further review and consideration by the Universal Church. It means a great deal not only to me but also for St. Julie's future planning as we adapt to the needs of our community in a post-pandemic world. Keeping pace with the evolving Universal Church is an obligation we need to take at its highest level.

Our report has been submitted to the Diocese and we have received confirmation of its reception. They are now in the process of collating information from all the parishes of our diocese. Their work will ultimately generate a report to be delivered to Rome as well as defining 'work' that can be accomplished within the Diocese of Cleveland. I can only begin to imagine their task, but from what I have read they are using a computer analysis of all the data that is being divided into categories. Even so, it is a daunting task.

On the local level – here at St. Julie's – we are reviewing your feedback from the sessions and will be studying the data to see how it will best benefit us. This is a planning process which will take time, effort, and even more discussion. In a recent letter sent to all the priests about the synodal journey from Archbishop Lazzaro You Heung Sik (*Prefect of the Congregation for the Clergy*) and Mario Cardinal Grech (*Secretary General of the Synod of Bishops*), the importance of this undertaking was strongly re-iterated.

"So that we do not fall into the risks highlighted by Pope Francis – that is, formalism, which reduces the Synod to an empty slogan; intellectualism, which makes the Synod a theoretical reflection on problems; and immobilism, nailing us to the security of our habits so that nothing changes – it is important to open our hearts and listen to what the Spirit suggests to the Churches."

"Without a doubt, it is a matter of progressively discovering the fundamental equality of all the baptized and of stimulating all the faithful to participate actively in the journey and mission of the Church. In this way we will have the joy of finding brothers and sisters who share with us the responsibility for evangelization. But in this experience of the People of God, the special charism of ordained ministers to serve, sanctify and animate the People of God can and should also come to the fore in a new way."

Therefore, as your pastor, I will embrace this responsibility to lead us along the next step of our journey and keep you informed as it unfolds. Join me in prayer that the Holy Spirit will be our guide along the way, and our dialogue will bear fruit that will last.

Sincerely,

Fr. George Vrabel

Synthesis Report to the Diocese – St. Julie Billiart Parish, North Ridgeville, OH Summary of Listening Sessions

Parish involvement of participants- Parish council, Finance council, Ministry coordinator. Ministries represented were: Music, Eucharistic ministers, Sacristan, Lectors, Environment, prison, outreach (community meals), Chaplin, Hospitality/usher, vacation bible school, PSR, Rosary, IT, recording secretary for Parish Council

1. What are the most common themes that emerged from the listening sessions?

- Greater role and recognition for **both** women and men in the church. We must find ways to increase vocations. Some of these present practical logistical challenges (i.e. housing etc.), but nothing that is insurmountable. For example, women deacons, elevation of nuns to greater roles and recognition, married clergy, Ordain deacons as priests
- Involvement of youth in the Church
 - Personal interaction by both adults and other youth is paramount. The example of Yamileydis in the Catholic Charities "Be the Light" video is a good example.
 - Recognize the gifts of adults and youth and encourage them to use them
 - Meet youth where they are. Don't make the venue the focus.
 - Engage with other parishes and organizations to learn best practices. We don't have to reinvent the wheel.
 - o Share programs among parishes
- Catholic Education in schools and for laity
 - o Catholic school status
 - Cost is prohibitive for some. Make it more affordable
 - We need more continuity throughout education from elementary through college
 - How can we use the "rules" too our advantage to engage youth?
 - \circ $\;$ Teach why Catholics do what they do. We are not dumb.
 - o Improve messaging
 - Take a position that Christianity is of value not judgmental and is the most important thing in life
 - Call a sin a sin
 - We are not only a church of rules but also guardrails. Teach the difference. When is it a rule and when is it a guide.
 - Faith is a verb
 - o Be more inclusive
 - Encourage and exemplify positivity
- Increased outreach and evangelization
 - The laity must be energized
 - The effect of the pandemic has caused us to find new ways to do things. Expand those don't withdraw to where we were.
 - We need to find out what is keeping people away from church mailings, surveys?
 - How do we share these data?
- Get out of our comfort zone.
 - Our catechesis prepares us to evangelize but we fall short. How can we better prepare ourselves?
 - We need to get back those who left in the pandemic as well as those who left the faith.

- The poor and disenfranchised population has been growing. We need to better identify these marginalized people and serve them better.
- Share ministries among parishes. Work together to increase resources and improve results.

Which points of view were mentioned less but are interesting and noteworthy?

The Synod is to prepare the Universal Church to move forward together in our challenging world. But, we can't do that if there are barriers for laity and parishes to move forward as well. This means more help from the diocese is necessary to effect the changes that will move us forward and not revert to the status quo because we lack resources. Those resources could be monetary or they could be in provision of services to parishes. The level of support could be based on the size of a parish and its ability to finance themselves. Locally

- The diocese needs to provide help e.g. provide \$\$ or management services to support a role such as a parish office manager in each parish so that the Pastor and clergy can focus on our spiritual beings. Few priests have administrative skills to manage all of the schools, grounds etc. The diocese could provide the resource(s) (apps, IT support, etc.) to help alleviate this issue.
- Diocese find a way to assist the parishes (especially small parishes) to implement suggested changes that have come from these sessions to move us into the future. Without that, parishes will just fall back on the familiar.
- Review goals for parishes to decrease competition and increase working together. Don't expect this to happen organically.

Universal Church

• Wealth Distribution – The Church has vast wealth around the world that could be put to use to reach the marginalized and effect very real changes for the world population.

What did participants have to say about areas where the Church is in need of healing and conversion?

Mistreatment and exploitation slowly seep into every layer of life. Healing is a slow process and requires an equally thorough process of rebuilding.

- Hierarchy of the Church do not have all the answers
 - For example pedophilia It broke the trust of Catholics and the handling of the problem fed the anti-Catholic rhetoric. As a result, the ordained are less approachable and the reputation of the Church has been damaged.
 - \circ $\;$ If the Church does not acknowledge its failings, lack of trust grows
 - o Transparency is a must
 - Allow for questions without judgment
 - The Church can ask forgiveness from its laity?
- Increase awareness of the contributions of the laity throughout the Church with respect and recognition

What dreams, desires and aspirations for the Church were expressed by participants?

- Be a beacon of Hope Lead don't follow
 - Propose faith don't suppose it
- There is clearly disconnect between the hierarchy and laity of the Church. We would like to see them come together with a shared vision and lead by example to achieve that vision.
- Ability to share the wealth of the Church with the poor and disenfranchised.

2. What are the emerging actions recommended?

- Greater role and recognition for **both** women and men in the church. We must find ways to increase vocations. Some of these present practical logistical challenges (i.e. housing etc.), but nothing that is insurmountable.
 - o Women deacons
 - Elevation of nuns to greater roles and recognition
 - o Married clergy
 - o Ordain deacons as priests
- Involvement of youth in the Church
 - Engage with other parishes and organizations to learn best practices.
 - Share programs among parishes
- Catholic Education
 - o Provide continuity and support throughout education from elementary through college
 - o Improve funding options
 - Be more inclusive
 - Increased outreach and evangelization and getting out of our comfort zone
 - Provide training to laity of best practices. Make it consistent.
 - \circ $\;$ Improve our catechesis so we can put it into action.
 - Make a significant effort to identify the ever growing marginalized population (poor imprisoned, etc.) so we can serve them.
 - o Share ministries among parishes. Work together to increase resources and improve results.
 - o Hierarchy should show some contrition and ask forgiveness

What challenges or opportunities do these reflections pose for us in our personal lives, in our communities, and in our diocese?

The source of these ideas came from listening to our laity and the Holy Spirit. These changes will not come if we cannot keep the laity of our parishes involved. While the output is intended to be a base to start changes in the Universal Church, we cannot let this opportunity address only the Universal Church. The people in the sessions were energized by the opportunity to make such a significant difference and help our Church. We MUST effect changes at the parish level to truly be successful. We will need help for this continuity to occur. The diocese has a significant role in our success.

What are the consequences of not addressing these issues?

This is a simple question to answer. Re-read the list of opportunities. If we cannot prioritize and make some changes, the parishes and the Universal Church will remain static. Our issues will not be addressed and we will revert to the status quo from where the issues arose.











I will talk to God whenever I am afraid.









GOSPEL

After Jesus died on the cross, the disciples were afraid people would want to hurt them, too. They stayed together in a room and locked the door. Then Jesus came to his friends, to show them he was really alive again. Jesus changed their fear into gladness. Have you ever been so afraid that you just wanted to hide? Remember that Jesus is with you when you are afraid, too.



BECAUSE VIBRANT CHURCHES MATTER

Dear God, thank you for being with me when I am afraid.



Draw a picture of Jesus next to you when you are afraid.



When I am afraid, I will ask Jesus to come and help me.



Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.





Jesus, the best friend of the apostles, had just been killed for his teachings. The apostles were afraid the soldiers would come and kill them, too. They were so frightened that they locked all the windows and the doors in the upper room where they had the Last Supper. They huddled together in fear. When Jesus appeared right in the middle of them, they were amazed. He said, "Do not be afraid. I am with you."



BECAUSE VIBRANT

DRAW

Draw Jesus in the middle of the apostles with the doors and windows locked.