

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR IMPORTANT MASS TIME CHANGES AT ADA!

THOUGHTS FROM YOUR PASTOR: It's Fair Time! Let's Be Welcoming!

'Tis Fair Time! The Hardin County Fair will be happening the first week of September. I found it to be a fun experience last year during my first year in town. I was also very happy to see (and to help out with) our Hardin County Catholic Church information fair booth! I think it is very important for our parishes to have a presence at the Fair and to show that we have very active and inviting faith communities open to welcoming new folks (or returning folks). Thanks to our Knights of Columbus, we are in the process of organizing the County Fair Catholic Booth once again. It's a booth that is meant to benefit and showcase BOTH of our Hardin County parishes. But we need you to help staff the booth! It's a fun and friendly way to show the members of the general public all the things we have going on at both Our Lady of Lourdes and Immaculate Conception. The booth will already be set up to offer pamphlets, brochures, and other materials about the Catholic faith and about our specific parishes, including cards on how to enroll in RCIA. So, don't worry: you won't be expected to answer deep theological questions, and we are not there to "hit people over the head" with the Catechism. But your presence with a smiling face and helping those who ask to learn about the activities of the parish and what great parishes we have, is a huge help. So, sign up in the narthex of either parish; shifts are two-hour blocks. Passes for entry can be arranged by contacting Kathy Klingelhofer in the Kenton office. This is a great opportunity to witness to our positive faith in the Lord Jesus as His disciples!

ONE MORE WAY TO BE WELCOMING: The RCIA: Let's Invite Folks to Come!

In a few weeks, our Hardin County parishes will once again offer the "RCIA" program. "RCIA" stands for "Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults." It is a process for non-Catholics who would like to learn more about the Catholic faith to do so in a friendly, prayerful, environment. The "RCIA" seeks to invite inquirers into a deeper relationship with Jesus as disciples in the context of the community of believers that goes back to the Apostles, known as the Catholic Church. The RCIA incorporates several important elements of being disciples: coming to know Jesus more personally through prayer and the sacraments, learning more about His teachings on God and a life of virtue and holiness, and learning how to give worship to God in the Holy Mass. The RCIA strives to meet people "where they are", and we recognize that different inquirers come with different faith backgrounds and life experiences. Logistically, the RCIA will meet at each parish on Sunday evenings beginning September 8 and will continue until Easter. Typically, at the Easter Vigil Mass, an inquirer then receives Baptism (if not already baptized in another Christian community), Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist. But a longer process of discernment and preparation can be arranged if needed. Again, the RCIA strives to help people enter the flock of the Catholic Church in a way that best suits their needs, as they come closer to the Good Shepherd.

I am making our parish aware of the RCIA because we need your help with an important task: please encourage those you know who have expressed curiosity about the Catholic faith to take part in the RCIA. Let them know that it is a wonderful opportunity to come, to learn, to ask questions, to pray, and to meet others who are undergoing a similar journey of faith. If they wish to talk to me or to our parish RCIA directors privately ahead of time regarding any questions or concerns, they are welcome to do so. But as parishes called to evangelize and to spread the faith here in Hardin County, we are counting on all parishioners to encourage someone you know who is seeking a deeper faith experience with Jesus, to check out the RCIA. For more information or questions, any person is welcome to contact me or our RCIA directors (Desiree Tosatto at Ada, and Stacey Stacklin at Kenton) by calling the respective parish office. Thanks for your support of the New Evangelization!

Fr. Ferguson is available to help you with any questions or concerns you may have; please contact him at hamilton.college@outlook.com or at 419-634-2626.

The Ada Food Pantry is expanding its mission by instituting the 'Bulldog Backpack Blessings Program.' This program will provide weekend food for Ada students in grades K-5 who have been identified by the school as being in need. The Pantry will deliver food packages to Ada Elementary each week, and school personnel will discretely transfer the packages to student backpacks. The Pantry is very enthused about starting this program. Watch for more info about particular food donations; your \$\$ contributions are welcome! Checks & cash can be given to OLL with "Ada Food Pantry" on the memo line or envelope.



Hi boys and girls! My name is “Jackie”, and as you know, I am Father Ferguson’s cat. I hear that many of you are going through a tough time right now: summer vacation has ended, and you are having to go back to school! And there’s also a lot of new big kids coming to our parishes who are starting their first year at the special school nearby called a “University”! I know it can be tough to see summer end, and have to make so many changes. As a cat, I don’t like change very much. I sleep on the same couch and I stare at the same trees out the window at the same times every day. It was hard for me to start Kitty School when I was a kitten. But soon, I discovered that learning is fun, and it’s also fun to get to know other kittens...err...kids when you start back to school (or University). So, don’t be sad or anxious: make the most of the new school year! And, every day after school, don’t forget to be like us cats, and take your nap! Have a “purr”-fect week!

Parish School of Religion – PSR

PSR Classes will begin on Sunday, September 15.

We meet from 9:45 – 10:45 am.

Since we will be going to our new Mass Schedule before classes begin, Fr. Ferguson (or Fr. Jeffrey) will dismiss PSR Catechists and students in attendance for the 8:30 am Mass at the end of that Mass. Anyone who plans to attend the 11:00 Sunday Mass should be sure to have their children here for class by 9:35 or 9:40 am. We plan to begin classes *promptly* at 9:45! We will continue the practice of meeting every Sunday except the last Sunday of the month with some extra Sundays “off” around Christmas and Easter. *We encourage you to enjoy making those Sundays ‘focus on the family’ days!*

There are packets for each of our PSR parents and teachers on the counter in the parish hall. The packet includes a letter from Fr. Ferguson, a notice regarding the upcoming Mass Times changes, a PSR Calendar and Reminder page, and a Registration form. *The registration form can be returned in the basket on the table in the vestibule or via the offertory collection basket.*

IF you don’t find an envelope with your name on it, please take one of the available extra packets. (If you are new the PSR or are just beginning with a Kindergartner, there is probably not an envelope with your name on it there!)

Adult Faith Formation – Epic Series

As noted in the bulletin, this 10-part series will begin Wednesday, September 18 and continue every Wednesday until November 20. The textbook for the series is \$25 – payable to Our Lady of Lourdes with “AFF” on the memo line- due on or before the first session. **YOU NEED TO REGISTER EARLY** so we can order enough books and get your copy to you to do the required reading before the first session on September 18. **Register on the sheet in the vestibule or by emailing the office at oll@wcoil.com.**

1	September 18	The Mustard Seed	6	October 23	The Arian Attack
2	September 25	The Ways of Life and Death	7	October 30	The Bitter Fruit of Heresy
3	October 2	Martyrs and Apologists	8	November 6	Heroes of God
4	October 9	The Faith Attacked	9	November 13	Councils and a Great Pope
5	October 16	The Dawn of Christendom	10	November 20	Splintering of an Empire