



THE LITTLE FLOWER GARDEN

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 3

AUGUST 2022

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Mentoring
- Summerfest Recap
- Love Our Sponsors!
- Choir News
- RCIA Wrap-up
- Summer at LF
- National Night Out
- LF PPS
- Kickball and STEM
- Gabriel Project
- Power of Prayer

*We would love to hear from you if you have any upcoming events. Take lots of pictures so we can use some of them in future issues. Submit photos and info by **10/28/22** in order for them to be published in the **November 2022 issue.***

Please e-mail all pictures and info to lfparishnews@yahoo.com. Thanks!

Access the LFG online at:
Littleflowerparish.org

CHRISTIAN MENTORING

My Brothers and Sisters,

After the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter, I am always happy to return to Ordinary Time when the readings suggest multiple themes. As Paul wrote to Timothy, “All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching...” [2 Tim. 3:16].

In today’s first reading [13th Sunday in Ordinary Time in Year C], God chose Elisha to succeed Elijah as prophet. Elisha then followed Elijah as his attendant. Elisha became Elijah’s disciple. For us to live well, we have to be lifelong learners. I would argue that we primarily learn from the example or witness of others.

God puts people into our lives who can be role models, witnesses, and examples to us. Parents, with God, are co-creators of their children. Children learn from their parents and often their grandparents what it means to be a boy or girl, man or woman, and what it means to be a couple. As I have often quoted, children learn what they live and live what they learn. Life often comes full circle. We often learn how to grow older gracefully (or not so gracefully) as we watch our parents grow older.

Teachers and coaches play a formative role in the life of young people. For example, when I go to Scecina Class Reunion dinners, it always amazes me that after so many years, the alumni still address their former coaches as “Coach,” a sign of deep respect. Certainly I was influenced profoundly by the priests, sisters, and lay teachers here at Little Flower. Likewise, I can think of teachers from high school, college, and theology who profoundly influenced my life. In almost all cases, it was the person of the teacher more than what he or she taught me that influenced me. I certainly have learned how to be an older priest from some of the older priests with whom I lived.

Many people have mentors in their jobs or careers and relationships. One of my college professors gave me the best advice before I went to Rome. He encouraged me to choose as friends people who were more intelligent and better than I was. We can certainly learn what it means to live a good Catholic and Christian life from the example and witness of the best Catholics and Christians we know.

As Christians, it goes without saying that Jesus should be our primary role model.

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CHRISTIAN MENTORING

Being both fully divine and fully human, Jesus perfectly embodies what it means to be human, what it means to be the best-version-of-ourselves. Jesus calls us to make our own and live the attitudes and values he lived. However, to make him our primary role model, we have to develop a personal relationship with him. In today's Gospel, Jesus' words to the men who wanted to follow him or whom he called to follow him suggest the urgency of following him.

In his letter to the Galatians, Paul reflects on the true meaning of freedom. Too often we think of freedom as freedom from laws, rules, and other constraints. Freedom, in other words, is freedom to do whatever we want to do. However, for Paul, true freedom is the freedom to serve one another through love. In other words, Paul's definition of freedom is freedom for rather than freedom from. In fact, he reminds us that the whole law is fulfilled in the commandment to love our neighbor as ourselves. What this suggests is that all the other commandments of God are expressions or specifications of this one commandment. For Christian adults, love for others becomes the guiding principle of their lives.

My brothers and sisters, when Jesus was not welcomed by the Samaritan village, James and John wanted to call down fire from heaven to destroy them. Jesus, however, rebuked James and John. Sadly, in our divided country and church, we tend to have an us versus them mentality. If we listen to talk shows or follow social media, people are figuratively calling down fire on others. This is not the way of Jesus. The way of Jesus is the way of love.

(From Fr. Bob's homily the weekend of June 25-26 exploring the meaning of mentoring and role models.)

SUMMERFEST 2022 - A SMASHING SUCCESS IN EVERY WAY

Summerfest 2022 – “Flip Flops and Bottle Tops” – was a big hit! We had nearly perfect weather all three days, and attendance and energy were high! Thanks to the determination of the leadership team, the hard work of all the festival volunteers, and all who attended Summerfest, we had our most financially successful festival in history, realizing a net profit of over \$83,000!

The single highest money-maker of the festival was the silent auction, with a net profit of over \$20,000 alone. The all-digital platform and the hard work of the silent auction team deserve a big thanks for making it such a success. Sponsorships were also a major factor in the success of Summerfest. A record 41 businesses, families, and individuals stepped up to support the festival at various sponsor levels, with an additional 39 becoming “keg sponsors” for \$50 each at the beer wagon. The wine booth also showed a respectable increase over previous years, thanks to their daily specials of fun beverages.

A new (and quite popular!) addition to Summerfest this year was a massage booth, hosted by parishioner and LF alum Marlaina Pertile, CMT. Festival-goers and workers alike benefitted from a relaxing 5-minute back, neck, and shoulder massage given by licensed professionals. Quite a few folks asked why we had not thought of this in the past!

Various bands kept the crowds entertained all weekend and, as usual, our friends at Steer-In provided a delicious indoor meal on Saturday night.

Proceeds from this year's festival will fund a new roof on the parish center.

Mark your calendars for June 2, 3, and 4, 2023 for next year's Summerfest!



SUMMERFEST 2022 - SPONSORSHIPS SECOND TO NONE

**An Anonymous Parishioner
Anonymous Member of the Class of '68
Bill Harris Construction, Inc.
Brothers Construction
Dr. Brian E. Nunley, Family Dentistry
Eric and Kelli Tromiczak
Fab Five Ladies of Little Flower
Firehouse Pools
In Memory of Virginia Stoops
In Memory of ZAC
Indianapolis Auxiliary FOE #211
Indianapolis Firefighters Emerald Society
J. C. Veerkamp, Inc.
James Babcock Inc., Electrical Contractors
Jeff and Jennifer Lathrop and Family
K & K Fence Company
K & R Tool Shed
Kendra's Floral Kreations
Law Office of Mark Nicholson
LF 56 Kickball by Michael A. Maio and John A. Maio
Little Flower Adult Choir
Little Flower Class of 1963
Little Flower Invite Commission
Lowell Family
Manley's Irish Mutt
Marlaina Pertile - Certified Massage Therapist
Oakley-Hammond Funeral Home
Pam McGinley, Neora Indep. Brand Partner
PNC Bank - Linwood Square
Prime Smile
Printing Partners
Residential Remodeling & Maintenance
Seccina Memorial High School
Shirley Brothers Mortuaries & Crematory
Silly Safaris
Steer-In
Thiele Heating and Air Conditioning
Tom Wood Nissan
Tronitech Document Imaging
VERTICE Industries, Inc.
Z Shirts Custom Printing**

**A big
thank
you
for all your
support.**

WE NEED SINGERS!



It's not too soon to think about joining the adult choir this fall. The adult choir sings at the 9:30 A.M. Mass on most Sundays from September through May. Practices are held on most Tuesday evenings from 7:00 P.M. until 8:30 P.M. Our first practice for the coming year will be on Tuesday, September 6th at 7:00 P.M. in church.

Several members have recently "retired", and we have 8 to 10 spots to fill in order to return to pre-pandemic levels. **We could use some new voices in ALL voice sections. with a little more need in the men's sections.**

There is no audition needed and no minimum skill level required. Many of our members started with no previous choir experience or music-reading ability. Please start to give some serious thought to see if God is calling you to serve in this important ministry. It's a significant commitment, but one that can be satisfying as we hear the fruits of our labor nearly every weekend. If you have questions, call Tom at 317-357-8352 or better yet, e-mail tcostello@littleflowerparish.org. Let this year be the year when you take the step!

MUSIC MINISTRY GATHERS FOR "THANK YOU" DINNER

On Thursday, July 14, our cantors, choir members, and their guests attended a special dinner to thank them for their generous stewardship of time and talent in our music ministry over the past year. Thanks to Peg Beikes, Mary Martha Costello, and Eileen Pfeiffer for their help with set up and clean-up, and to Mark Misner and Angel Adorey for a lot of help with clean-up. Thank You once again to all of our music ministers!



RCIA 2022 WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS TO THE FLOCK

Left: April Jones and Eugene Daniels were selected to participate in the feet washing at the Holy Thursday service.

Center: Members of the RCIA Class of 2022, April and John Jones and Tricia Poplicean, have jumped right into Stewardship by joining the Church Cleaning Crew. Thank you!

Right: RCIA Rite of Sending ceremony for the RCIA Class of 2022.



94 YEARS DEDICATED TO THE PRIESTHOOD!

Father Bob and Father Jim Farrell, sons of Little Flower, concelebrated their 47th anniversary Mass in June 2022. They were both ordained in Rome by Pope St. Paul VI on June 29, 1975. Congratulations to two wonderful priests! Pictured below are: Julie Mundell from Our Lady of Lourdes; Father Jim; Father Bob; River and Rocket Mundell; and John Mundell, all three of Little Flower.



ANNUAL DAVID O'CONNOR AND ALL VETERANS MEMORIAL MASS

Jim Hefferman, speaker at the gathering after Mass at the Irish Mutt, honored Tom Blandford, LF '61, who recently died from injuries associated with his time in Vietnam. Tom had a long history of serving other veterans after his formal service. RIP Tom. Mass attendees posed for a photo, shown below.



INVITE COMMISSION - SUMMER AT LITTLE FLOWER

VEGETABLE GARDENING MADE EASY?

Little Flower student Mary Mann waters one of the neighborhood vegetable gardens sponsored by the Invite Commission. Neighbors are encouraged to help themselves to the tomatoes and peppers!



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Perfect temps, a bright blue sky, and friendly people contributed to a successful National Night Out sponsored by the Little Flower Invite Commission on August 2nd. Parishioners and neighbors enjoyed free food, free school supplies, live music, food trucks, fire engines, police cars, information tables, and even a visit from Mayor Joe Hogsett. Lots of neighborhood memories and new friends were made as people of all ages enjoyed a delightful summer night. Thanks to the many who volunteered time and talent to make this annual event a neighborhood favorite.



WHAT'S THE 411 ON PPS?



Did you know the 2021-2022 school year saw the beginning of a revamped Parent Teacher Organization at Little Flower School? Instead of a traditional PTO, Little Flower launched PPS (Parish, Parents, School). This change was made as a positive opportunity for the school to better engage and connect with the larger parish community.

While this organization has taken on many of the roles of a traditional PTO such as fundraising, teacher appreciation, room parents, etc., there are so many other wonderful things happening at both our church and our school for us to share. Together we are stronger, and everyone benefits.

Some of the ways parishioners can become involved in PPS include participating in various fun events and fundraisers throughout the school year. This includes the Walk-A-Thon, trash bag sales, marching in the St. Patrick's Day parade, pancake breakfasts, book fair, attendance at an Indians baseball game, teacher appreciation activities, and more. The monies from fundraisers help pay for field trips through the school year, scholarships for 8th graders, teacher appreciation activities, and events during Catholic Schools Week.

What skills do you have that can benefit our school? What ideas do you have for the school to better engage the parish community? Please come to an upcoming PPS meeting to learn more information and share ideas about being involved and working together.

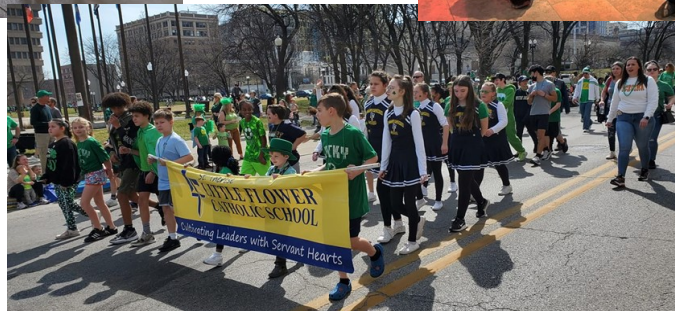
Meetings take place the 3rd Thursday every month at 6:30 in Duffey Hall. Please join us for our first meeting on August 18th. We look forward to working together for the common goal of making the Little Flower community the best that it can be!

Feel free to reach out to PPS President Jennifer Lathrop at 317-326-6252 or lathropjj@gmail.com with questions or for more information.

Left: Little Flower School choir at an Indianapolis Indians game after singing the national anthem.

Center: Little Flower School is well-represented in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in downtown Indianapolis.

Right: School field trip to the Rhythm Discovery Center.



LITTLE FLOWER KICKBALL TRADITIONS CONTINUE



As Forest Gump might say, August and CYO kickball go together like peas and carrots. Little Flower hosted or participated in pre-season tournaments in the 34 (3rd/4th grade), 56 (5th/6th grade) and Cadet (7th/8th grade) leagues.

Upper left: The 34 team prepares for an upcoming contest.

Upper right: Members of the 56 team chose to "twin" as the theme of their first game by pairing up and wearing the same t-shirts.

Lower left: While a bit beyond the age of eligibility to play kickball, nonetheless the Little Flower Men's Club graciously ran concessions during the week-long tournament games at Little Flower.

Lower right: Father Bob celebrated his birthday August 6. And what has this to do with kickball, you ask. Not just an avid fan, Father Bob is one of the authors of the game rules used throughout CYO kickball.



ATTENTION LITTLE FLOWER CATHOLIC SCHOOL ALUMNI

Our annual all-class reunion will take place on Saturday, November 5. Details will be forthcoming, but all alumni should mark their calendars now! This is a great annual event and we would appreciate everyone's help in spreading the word and encouraging attendance.

LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL STEM LAB CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

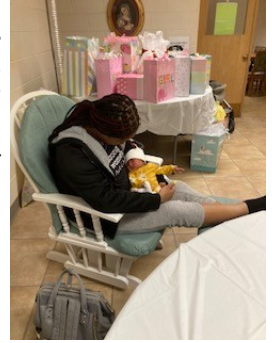
Construction has begun on Little Flower School's new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) lab! Demolition is ongoing and soon there will be reconstruction of one of the existing classrooms into a state-of-the-art STEM lab, with additional equipment for certain life skills (kitchen, washer/dryer). Science is moving in the right direction here at Little Flower! Stay tuned for online updates on the progress of the STEM lab and of other exciting changes occurring in the school.



GABRIEL PROJECT CELEBRATES NEW LIFE



Our Gabriel Project teamed with Holy Spirit's ministry, Mary's Garden, to give a baby shower for our newest infant. We had a wonderful afternoon and our mom was blessed with many lovely gifts from our neighbors at Holy Spirit. We have been busy serving moms in need. We thank you for your support.



*Editor's Note: This open letter from parishioner Dick Kramer is the **sixth** in a series of personal thoughts about contemporary Catholic prayer. His goal is to elicit comments, advice and criticisms about how the words with which we pray impact our faith. Dick has provided his contact information at the bottom of this article if you would like to reply to him. The viewpoints expressed here are his alone.*

THE POWER OF PRAYER - A POSER: "AMEN" or "AHMEN"

Greetings Fellow Parishioners of Little Flower,

I have long wondered if there was some difference in meaning between the use of the two pronunciations of the words "Amen" and "Ahmen." In the scriptures Jesus began many of His teachings or proclamations with "Amen, Amen I say to you..." (at least that is how it is pronounced in the readings). However, at the conclusion of the consecration, we chant "Ahmen" up to as many as eight times. Could it be a matter of spoken (Amen) as opposed to sung or chanted (Ahmen)?



The pronunciation of many of the letters in each of the alphabets of the world's languages differs to some degree or another. The letter *A* in the English language is "A" but in Spanish it is "Ah." Also, think about the fact that many other languages use silent letters in their common words; for example, our spelling of "Wednesday" could be written as "Whensday" or "Wensday" and still sound very much the same. On top of that, there are as many as 7,100 languages and dialects used on earth today. (There are also over 500 known extinct languages.) Several years ago, linguists started a research project to find words that are common among languages and learned the word "huh" seemed to be universal.

When an author writes a book, a poem or a letter and it is translated into, say, fifty or more languages, it may not be possible to convey the sentiment or message he or she wanted. The same may be true about the Bible. Biblical scholars are still re-interpreting entries and discovering possible new meanings of what was originally written. It is beyond my comprehension to imagine how the translation of anything from one language to another can be precise.

The only thing about the use of "Amen" or "Ahmen" I have been able to find is that it is "only a difference of choice in pronunciation and nothing more." However, I remain intrigued with the thought that there could be a subtle difference between the two that exists but is yet unknown. Perhaps some day we will have an answer.

Feedback anyone? I welcome your comments.

Contact Dick Kramer 801 N. Wallace Avenue Indianapolis 46201 Cell: 317-965-1869 E-mail: kramerdick7@gmail.com

**PLEASE CONSIDER REMEMBERING LITTLE FLOWER
PARISH AND SCHOOL IN YOUR ESTATE PLANNING**



In Sympathy

*Please pray for our parishioners who have died,
and for their families...*

- ✠ Charlene Runge – April 7, 2022
- ✠ Kenneth Moloy – May 22, 2022
- ✠ Dan Pierce – June 6, 2022
- ✠ Isabel Trevino – June 22, 2022
- ✠ Charles Aughe – July 5, 2022
- ✠ Vince Steiner – July 9, 2022
- ✠ Jean Manley – July 18, 2022
- ✠ Chico Quiroz – July 18, 2022



WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST LITTLE FLOWER PARISHIONERS!

Tricia Poplicean
Sarah Mundell
Sandra Pritchett
John and April Jones and son, Keeghan
Christopher Rollett
Mary Spencer
Corey and Abigail Zeigert and children, Hazel, Polly, and Alma
Don and Cathleen Meier
Andrea Thomas
Lex Martin and Bridget Delaney
Carol Jones
Eric and Rebecca Kramer
Madison Dolan
Joy Range
Kevin McGinley and Ashley Brown and children, Ryleigh, Michael, and
Kameryanna
Mary Barr



Please Welcome Those Recently Baptized into Our Christian Community

- * Marie Claire, daughter of Jim and Melissa Masler
- * Monroe Davis, daughter of Justin and Liz Piercy

St. Therese of the Infant Jesus Catholic Church
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Indianapolis, IN 46201

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THE LITTLE FLOWER GARDEN

If there is anything that you would like to see featured in future issues, please contact us at lfparishnews@yahoo.com

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Dates to Remember

August 18: PPS Meeting (see page 6)

August 21: Parish Picnic!

Sept 5: Labor Day (parish offices closed)

Sep 21-Oct 1: Novena to St. Therese

Oct 1: Annual Blessing of Pets

Oct 1: Parish Appreciation Dinner

Oct 31: Halloween Party in the school

Nov 1: Mass of Remembrance

Nov 5: Little Flower School All-Class Reunion

Wishing you the best this fall in Indiana!
See you in November

