

CityScape



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A Word from Sr. Mary Jean Raymond, OSU

Tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.

~African Proverb

Dear Friends of St. Aloysius,

It has been a year of remarkable accomplishments for our parish and school communities. But first, let's take a short walk down memory lane.

In June of 2025, we will celebrate the 125th anniversary of the dedication of our church. The church building was dedicated and consecrated at the same time. It was unique in the history of the diocese of Cleveland for this to happen because it meant that at the time of consecration the church building was entirely paid for.

I like to think this long ago accomplishment is a lasting reminder for our parish community. A reminder about being fiscally responsible in order to continue to attend to the needs of our people, our programs, and our property.

When Bishop Perez was in Cleveland and visited St. Aloysius for the first time, he said to the staff, "On paper, this place should not work. How do you make it happen?" Bishop Perez was referring to what we took in with our weekly collections and other support we received from our parishioners and yet we were able to keep a hunger center, church building, school, preschool, St. Vincent de Paul, sport program, court ordered community services, etc. etc. all going and all paid for.

When the Marianist community lived and ministered at St. Aloysius, their community supported our parish with numerous donations and grants for specific programs. During the time that Fr. Mark Hobson was pastor, the Friends of St. Aloysius supported our parish and our numerous outreach programs. Many of you who are holding this newsletter in your hands and reading it today have been incredibly generous in supporting the mission and ministry of St. Aloysius Parish and School.

Currently, the Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland and the Sisters of Charity Foundation are very generous in responding to our numerous grant requests for specific programs. The Catholic Community Foundation of the diocese also has us "on their radar" so to speak and steers donors to us whenever they can.



St. Aloysius - A Beacon of Hope in Glenville

This past year, with the support of many of our generous donors like you we have accomplished the following remarkable milestones.

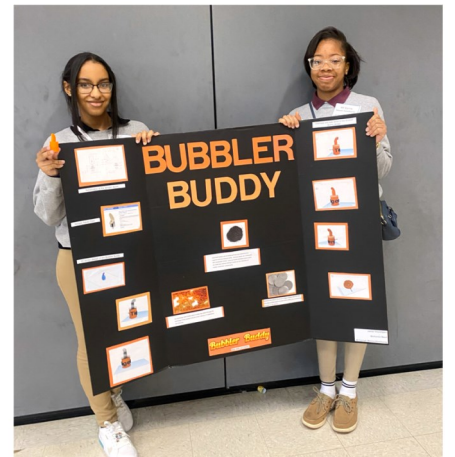
The dedicated preschool staff achieved a ranking of 4 stars. Our program is now recognized as a gold level program by the state of Ohio. We have already seen an increase in applications for enrollment because of this achievement. Our four preschool staff members all participated in the first diocesan Pilgrimage for Justice this summer which visited a number of sites from Cincinnati, Ohio to Selma, Alabama on the Civil Rights Trail.



Students from our parish elementary school won third place in this year's diocesan STEM competition. St. Aloysius is one of the few urban Catholic schools that has a viable STEM program in place. This is a program that emphasizes the study of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math across the curriculum. Our students created a water purification device entitled "The Bubbler Buddy". You might one day see it for sale at your favorite store.



Preschool teachers celebrate 4 stars!



STEM Winners!



Unloading Hunger Center Van

Our parish family continues to grow and to make our presence felt in the Glenville neighborhood. Each week after Mass, we hold a demonstration for non-violence on the front steps of the church. We read the names of all those who have been victims of gun violence in the past week in our city and in our country. In seven years, there has been only one week that we have not had any names to read.

A number of our parishioners attended the National Black Catholic Congress in Baltimore last year and four members traveled to Tanzania on a cultural/spiritual pilgrimage in May. St. Aloysius Parish was the host of this year's diocesan Juneteenth celebration at which 300 people came for an outdoor Mass in 92 degree heat. Our annual Live Nativity this year became a wonderful diocesan celebration with all four Black parishes participating. Bishop Malesic attended the event for the first time and was very impressed by Charlie the camel. Charlie continues to be a sensation on the corner of St. Clair and East 110th St. Charlie the camel!

With the help of generous grants from the Sisters of Charity and the Cleveland Foundation, our hunger center director Ms. Carol Bunn has expanded our food program, our utility and rental assistance, and our community service program to meet the growing number of families and senior citizens in the area who are in need of help. Numbers for our weekly community meal continue to increase each week with more and more families participating.



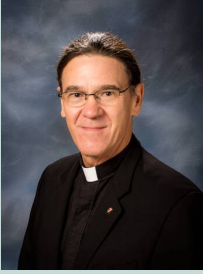
Weekly anti-violence demonstration on church steps



Juneteenth liturgical dancers



Bishop Malesic and Charlie!



On June 1st, we welcomed Fr. Andrew Morkunas as our parish priest. Father has a full time job at University Hospitals and will be our celebrant for Sunday and Wednesday Masses. He is becoming involved more fully with our parish community each week.



Four St. Aloysius parishioners were among the pilgrims who traveled to Tanzania. They are pictured here wearing their Masai robes.

Upcoming Activities

August 24- Neighborhood Picnic – Glenview Park

October 25 – Reverse Raffle

December 14 – Toy Sale for Neighborhood Families

December 19 – Live Nativity

June 21, 2025 - 125th Anniversary Year begins with an open house from 1:00 - 4:00pm. Mass at 4:00 followed by a reception in the parish hall.

Many of you who are reading our newsletter today can feel great pride in being an integral part our efforts to grow as a church community, as a school community, and as a community of hope.