



# St. Patrick Diocese News

Quarterly Journal of the St. Patrick Diocese  
ISSUE 01 December 2010

## Advent Message



The mystery of Gods saving action which was promised to the Jewish people long ago will soon be fulfilled in human time and history. In the book of Jeremiah God tells the people that His promise is about to come true.

The cities of Jerusalem and Bethlehem are two cities that will play an important part in Gods plan. Bethlehem was the birthplace of David, and now is to become better known as the birthplace of the Messiah

The message that we hear in the first three gospels of the Advent season, are anticipatory. The first reading of Advent tells of the final coming of the Son of Man. The second and third readings tell us of the beginning of Jesus public ministry, while in the fourth we learn of Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth, who is also pregnant, and her child leaps in her womb

These Advent readings show us that Advent is a time of great anticipation. It tells us of the fact that God in Christ, has entered into the events of our human existence We are to live lives built on this same Christ. God came in the flesh and human life will never again be without the divine.

During Advent we stand on the threshold of fulfillment. We remember it and we reenact it. We remember that the deeds of God are accomplished. We celebrate these events each year. It is a celebration of anticipation and also fulfillment of promises made, the fulfillment of our salvation.

We are blessed because of Gods promises, and they have been fulfilled.

On Christmas at Midnight Mass we rejoice that Gods words are true, the Christ child is born into time and human history. God has opened the doors of heaven to us, through His son Jesus.

I wish you all a blessed Advent season, as we await the coming of the Christ child into our midst, May the blessing of God come upon us all as we kneel at the manger and behold the child who is our savior.

*Marcis Heckman*

Most Reverend Marcis Heckman, DD RSJ  
Diocesan Bishop, St. Patrick Diocese  
Reformed Catholic Church



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## St. Patrick Diocesan Staff

Most Reverend M. Heckman DD RSJ  
Diocesan Bishop

Reverend Fr. Rick Ward Harden  
Chancellor

Very Reverend Larry Ort  
Vocation Director

Reverend Fr. Mark Spavale  
Formation Director

Very Reverend Amanda Wallace RSJ  
Data Services

Very Reverend Christopher Wallace RSJ  
On-Line Service Coordinator

Rev. Deacon Athanasios Stama, RSJ  
Office of the Word  
Outreach, Education and Evangelization

## Clergy Relocation

The bayou state of Louisiana is now open to mission opportunities. In early August, Reformed Jesuit priests Christopher and



Amanda Wallace were elevated to Monsignors and charged with bringing the spirituality of the Reformed Catholic Church to their home state. A grassroots campaign is already underway among the college hotspots in the Monroe / West Monroe community as more people are becoming aware of the RCC and our



mission of sacramental hospitality. Mthr. Amanda and Fr. Christopher currently serve as the Data Services Coordinator and the Online Services Coordinator .

# Parish News and Updates

*"Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be constantly on the watch! Stay awake!...You do not know when the Master of the house is coming.'" Mark. 13:33*

## News from St. Sebastian the Martyr Cathedral—Columbus Ohio



Founded in 2003, St. Sebastian the Martyr parish, located in Columbus, Ohio is the Cathedral

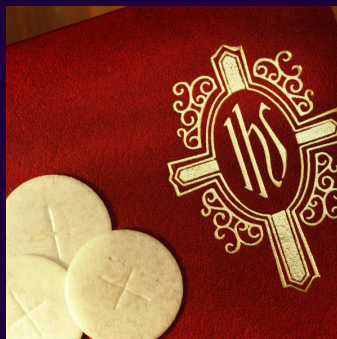
parish of the Reformed Catholic Church and the Pro-Cathedral of the Corpus Christi Communion. Like our sister churches, around the world, the St. Sebastian family is busily preparing for the upcoming Advent Season. The Metropolitan Archbishops of Corpus Christi Communion will each celebrate a Sunday Mass for the parish, beginning with Metropolitan Quinlan, Presiding Bishop of the RCC. Throughout the year, We have been blessed with many visiting clergy who have shared their ministries with our community.

During 2010, St. Sebastian parish has been blessed with a number of Baptisms and Confirmations, as well as religious life vocations. We have added a Sunday School program that allows the children of the parish to express their understanding of the Scriptural lessons in artistic medium. Ms. Jude Upperman, Parishioner and our Sunday School teacher, has done a phenomenal job getting the children to use their imaginations and their talents in the class. At every Sunday Mass, the

children share their understanding of the lesson with the parish during the homily. This has quickly become a very popular program that the members of the parish look forward to each Sunday.

Each Sunday, after Mass, the parish shares a meal and social time. After the meal, the Deacons, Sub-Deacons and those interested in applying for Holy Orders attend educational programs offered by the Holy Cross Seminary. Each class offers the participants religious, theological, social justice and other ministerial theory and practical application exercises, ensuring that our Deacons, Sub-Deacons and Altar Servers are provided with the knowledge and practicum experience that they need to successfully perform their ministerial duties.

With great joy, St. Sebastian the Martyr parish will host the January 28-30, 2011 General Convention of Corpus Christi Communion.



## News of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Heath, Ohio



A special Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated for the residents, staff, and families at

Heath Nursing Care Center, Heath, Ohio, at 9:30 AM Thanksgiving morning.

The mass was celebrated by Archbishop Bill Quinlan.

(Opening Prayer for Thanksgiving Day)

Father all powerful, your gifts of love are countless, and your goodness infinite.

On Thanksgiving Day let us come before you with gratitude for your kindness:

open our hearts to concern for our fellow men and women, so that we may share our gifts in loving service.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen

May our hearts be filled always with thanks, for the blessings that Almighty God has showered upon us.

## Holy Cross Reformed Catholic Church—Toledo, Ohio

Celebrates 4 years anniversary



Holy Cross Parish in Toledo, Ohio celebrates their fourth year. Holy Cross has been a beacon in the community standing up for social justice and serving their community. Sponsoring and participation in events such as the Shower of Soles, Erase the Hate, Equality Toledo Film Tour, Faith and Fairness initiative, and the Community Connection Carnival event at Toledo Pride 2010.

The Parish Special Ministry Projects are Loving Hands which is a ministry to assist seniors, and Friendship Ministry for MR/DD adults and children.

This past Easter the parish held a Children Mass on Easter Sunday Morning. Filled with Special music, scriptures and Energized activities geared to the children. The morning was a wonderful and exciting event for the children, and their participation in the Mass was a stimulating celebration, so much the parish decided to make it a annual event.

### Office of the Metropolitan Presiding Bishop RCC.

To + Bishop Heckman, Pastor and the people of Holy Cross Church

Let me express my best wishes and thanks to you all on the occasion of the 4th anniversary of your parish.

I have been pleased to celebrate some of your liturgies, and partake of your great hospitality, and good food. It is my great joy to be able to visit our parishes and visit with the people. My visits to Holy Cross have been warmly received, and are a source of fond memories.

I especially remember how the children were included in the Masses with special childrens sermons, and took part in the services by acting as acolytes, candle bearers and crucifiers.

May God continue to bless you all as you strive to work together as a people, and bring Gods word to a world that so needs to hear it.

With my apostolic blessing, and good wishes for the future growth of your parish.

In Jesus

++Bill Quinlan, DD, RCF  
Metropolitan Presiding Bishop  
Reformed Catholic Church



### Welcome New Clergy

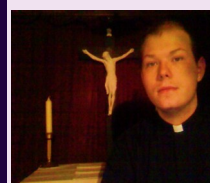


**Father Rick  
Ward-Harder**

North Little Rock,  
Arkansas

Fr. Rick has serves as Pastor and full-time clergy member for an vocational campus administered by the State of Arkansas with a 900+ per year student body. He has served as Senior Pastor for congregations in Little Rock, AR, Houston TX, and Galveston, TX.

Fr. Rick hold a masters in theology, a Ph.D. in Biblical Studies, and an honorary Doctorate of Divinity from St. Lukes, as well as an earned Doctorate of Ministry (D.Min.) from Sacred Heart Seminary in Florida.



**Seminarian  
Lark Justin  
Muncy**

Huntington, WV

Lark attended Sacred Heart Theological Seminary. Has had a active ministry volunteering with several charities and organizations serving the community with home care , food banks, Christmas charitable drives, and soup kitchens. He has been leading a prayer group in his community.

### Thoughts of a Reformed Jesuit

Ignatian Spirituality On The Fringe

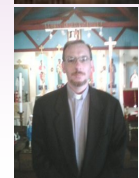
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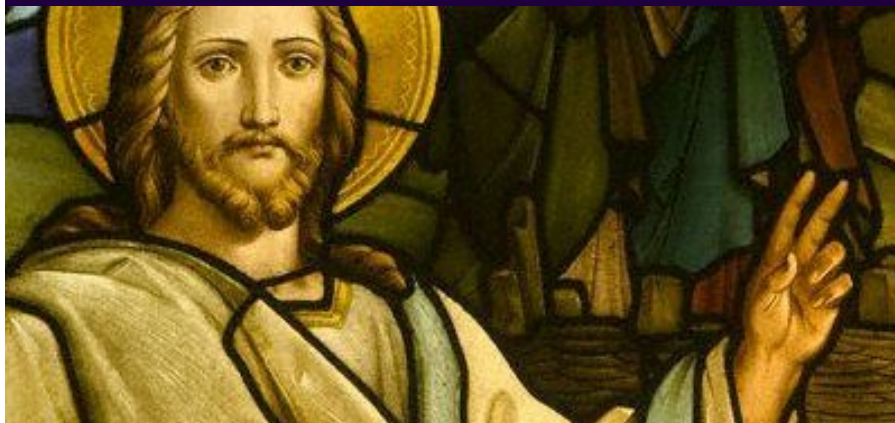
[www.reformedjesuit.blogspot.com](http://www.reformedjesuit.blogspot.com)

### Ordinations

Rev. Deacon Thanasi Stama RSJ of St. Sebastian Columbus, OH was ordained to the Deaconate Oct. 8, 2010

Br. Michael Brown RSJ of St. Sebastian Columbus, OH was installed as sub-deacon Oct. 8, 2010





## Upcoming Events

### Corpus Christi Communion General Convention

January 28-30, 2011

Columbus Ohio



The Churches of Corpus Christi Communion will convene a General Convention in Columbus, Ohio in January, 2011. Clergy and lay leaders of The Reformed Catholic Church, The Reformed Ecumenical Church, the Reformed Gnostic Church, the Reformed Orthodox Church and those

churches in union with us will gather on Friday January 28 through the 30, to pray, to organize, and to ordain new clergy. The highlight of the weekend gathering will be the consecration of two new Bishops for the Reformed Catholic Church. Bishops –elect Christopher Carpenter (St. George Diocese) and Will Heller (Holy trinity Diocese) will be consecrated on Saturday, January 29 at 3:00 pm at St. Sebastian the Martyr Cathedral. If you are planning to attend the Convention, please contact your Presiding bishop or the Camerlengo, Archbishop Shane Price, at [Camerlengoprince@corpuschristicommunion.org](mailto:Camerlengoprince@corpuschristicommunion.org). We hope to see you in Columbus!

## Diocese Directory

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