



Community Coordinators' Corner

Linda Folmar and Joan Ivory



I have to admit to you all that I still have my little Christmas tree in our living room. Ornaments are put away, but I turn on the lights around 5:00 each evening. During this time of short days and long dark nights, I crave the light. I



have five oil candles in my fireplace that are also lit all evening long. I find I am also seeking out people who love to laugh and who lift me up with their light heartedness and deep faith that God is present in each moment. The Christ light seems to shine through them proclaiming that "All is Well". I feel fortunate to have known so many QAC friends who have done this throughout my life here in our community.

As we move through the changes that will accompany the closing of our parish and transitioning to a lay faith community, I know that I will turn to these faithful, positive and upbeat people again and again for inspiration. I pray that we all open our hearts and minds to Christ's life affirming presence as we traverse the unexpected and challenging over this next year. I invite each of us to reflect upon the people who have been *light* bearers for us. Let us pray together that we may choose to bear the *light* for one another.

Queen of Apostles Community
4435 E Patterson Road
Dayton, OH 45430-1033
Phone: (937) 429-0510
www.qac-ohio.org
Inside This Issue

- Community Coordinators' Corner..... 1
- Our Upper Room Moment 2
- Social Justice Ministry/Eco-Tip..... 3
- QAC Stewardship 4
- Seniors' Corner..... 5
- He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother 5
- February Birthdays & Anniversaries..... 6
- Religious Education News 6
- The Reflection Pond 7
- HOPE (Esperanza)..... 8
- Respite Bags..... 8
- From our QAC Community 9
- Archives...Options attract Catholics 10
- Update from the Murnane's 11-13
- QAC Spotlight 14-15
- Kid's Corner 16
- St. Vincent de Paul Donation 17
- Meditation for Beginners 17
- QAC Calendar..... 18

To go to a specific page, click on the page number!

*"Her radiance never ceases . . .
In every generation she passes into holy souls."
Wisdom 7:10,27*

~ Linda Folmar



This picture appeared in the Feb 1985 issue of the Spirit Newsletter

Our Upper Room Moment

By Matt Naveau

We are at a significant moment in the history of our community. We've officially received word that QAC will no longer be a parish at the end of this calendar year. While we prepare to celebrate our 50th anniversary, we'll set ourselves to the dual tasks of winding down the Society of Mary-sponsored parish community we have today and standing up the Marianist Lay Community that will provide the structure for the community of faith we dream of building next. It's a big moment for us. There are lots of unanswered questions. We all have many different feelings at the same time. We may think we know what the signs of our times are telling us as individuals and a community, but none of us are entirely sure how it will all work out.



The Naveau Family

It seems to me that we can learn a whole lot from the very name of our community - QAC - Queen of Apostles Community. Formed deeply in our Marianist heritage, we talk frequently about our Community (as we should) but it can be easy to forget the Queen of Apostles part. Is this just the name of the chapel where we've gathered for the last 50 years? Does Mary, the Queen of the Apostles, have something else to say to us in our time?

We all know the story that we read each year on Pentecost. The Apostles were gathered together in the upper room. Mary was with them. As the one old enough to be everyone's mother, she was clearly the matriarch of the group. They were praying together, but the Apostles weren't really sure what to do after their resurrection encounters with Christ. Then, suddenly, the sound like rushing wind began, and the Holy Spirit came to them all. The lives of the Apostles were completely changed in that moment. They suddenly understood their mission, and they were no longer afraid. They rushed out of their place of hiding into the streets and began to proclaim the good news in ways no one had ever done before as the Spirit enabled them.

I like to think that when the Holy Spirit came and the Apostles rushed out into the streets, that Mary was right behind them as they ran down the steps. I also imagine that as they stood in the streets proclaiming the good news that she said in her best loving Jewish mother voice: "It's about time you all got out here!" I can easily imagine her standing with them in the streets, encouraging them and contributing to the discussion herself when needed. I also like to think that when that extraordinary day was done and the Apostles sat down to their evening meal to talk, that Mary sat with them, conversing about the wonderful and life-changing day they had just experienced. Afterwards, she undoubtedly kept all of this and pondered it in her heart. We know that Mary was there.

It seems to me that our community is at our own upper room moment. Like the Apostles grappling with the recent death and resurrection of Jesus, we are sitting together praying and trying to figure out what to do now. We know it can't be the same as before, just as they knew that following Jesus had forever changed. Yet, like the Apostles, we don't sit alone in this room. Mary is with us too. She is our queen, our matriarch, and our Imma (the Hebrew word for "mother") just as she was theirs. As the Spirit comes to us and drives us into the streets to do the work of God in new ways, Mary comes with us. When we rest from our labors at the end of the day, she sits with us too. She always comes with us as we work to accomplish her mission of bringing Christ to the world.

The next time you find yourself in the chapel we have called home for the last half-century, take a moment to look at the stained glass window and notice our Queen of Apostles. Pay attention to the Apostles standing with her. Listen a moment to see if they have something to say to you. Pray for all of us gathered together in this upper room that the Spirit may come upon us and send us forth to new places where we may continue to accomplish the work of Christ in the company of our mother.

Queen of Apostles, pray for us!

by *Chris Bohmer Stewart*



When most of us hear “Day of Caring”, we think of the area-wide Pancake Breakfast that QAC has been hosting for decades to aid the shelters, pantries, and foodbanks. The Day of Caring 365 Non-Profit was founded in 1991 “to be a catalyst to empower local communities to take part in the solutions of its core human needs through volunteerism.” For as many years as I can remember, Chris Sitko, along with Nimfa and Jack Simpson, would oversee a host of Social Justice Committee members, Confirmandi, and other generous community members, slinging pancake batter and sausages to help our brothers and sisters in need, with our donations going to Greene County agencies like Family Promise Shelter (for which we also prepare a week’s worth of meals on a quarterly basis), Roberta’s Pantry (which provides essential hygiene items that are not covered by Ohio’s electronic benefits), and similar charities. Then came March 2020 and the pandemic shut us down, making February 2020 the last Day of Caring Pancake Breakfast we saw for several years.

This year the day of Caring Pancake Breakfast is finally able to be resurrected, though as Chris Sitko shared this information with the Social Justice Committee, the amount of intensive work weighed heavily for our dwindling community going through a time of major transition. Marilyn McCrate brought up the relatively unhealthy nature of the traditional Pancake Breakfast. After deliberation, wanting to still provide assistance without overloading ourselves with work and calories, it was decided to approach our Lay Coordinators and Peggy and Gary Cashero with the option of combining the breakfast with our usual Donut/Bagel Sunday and our monthly Community Meeting, and not advertise it to the general public. Linda, Joan, Peggy and Gary were all on board with this proposed change. In addition to bagels and the famous Bill’s Donuts, healthier options will be added like fruit and yogurt, and Gluten-free and/or vegan options like MadeGood bars and Trader Joe’s Coconut Chocolate Date bars will be available. The “official” Day of Caring Breakfasts charge \$6 for adults and \$4 for seniors/children. However, we are choosing to make our Breakfast at QAC a freewill donation. If inflation and circumstances have hit your budget, we welcome you to a free breakfast. Your fellowship and participation is what’s most important! If you can afford more than the “official” charge, please add more! Our brothers and sisters can well use it for their shelter, their hygiene products, and all their meals, not just “breakfast”!

As I was preparing this article, I got to thinking as to whether the founders of *Day of Caring 365* chose February as the month of their charitable breakfast because it is the month of Valentine’s Day, the day celebrating love. Then I also thought about how the feast day of a loving martyr from 1800 years ago turned into a day of diamond jewelry ads, expensive bouquets, and candy hearts, but that’s way beyond this article! However, I also got to thinking how every day should be a day of caring. That caring can be shown in innumerable ways – giving important and essential rides to those in need (thanks to all helping our Deacon Greg and others), making thoughtful use of the Earth that God has entrusted to us, going through your closets to provide clothing to those who have no closets, paying it forward for the immigrant couple struggling to come up with payment for their purchases at Dollar Tree. Even just giving a smile and kind word to the harried clerk in the check-out line is a small “day of caring” action.

Hope to see you at our February 19 *Day of Caring Breakfast/Community Meeting* as we “build a community of love and be the holy people God calls us to be.”

ECO-TIP from Social Justice:

Hopefully all of you are already utilizing store drop-off to recycle your plastic bags, or better yet, using your own reusable bags when shopping. But did you know that those drop-off bins can take a lot more than just your basic plastic bags from Kroger’s or Kohl’s or wherever you do your shopping? Much of the plastic wrappers for things like packs of toilet paper, hygiene products, and bottles of water can also be recycled via store drop-off sites, along with things like restaurant carry-out bags and dry-cleaning bags. Even bubble wrap and Amazon packaging (paper labels cut out) can be brought in for store drop-off. Please take a little extra time to be good stewards of God’s earth, keeping these plastics out of landfills, out of lawns and parks, and out of birds’ nests!

Conversion versus Stewardship



Kevin Skinner

On the 22nd of this month, we begin the Season of Lent. This can be a time for conversion, renewal and new birth. Just as Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert, we look for some, small “desert experience,” to be reminded of the need for conversion that will allow us to draw closer to God. In a very real sense, conversion is the flip side of the coin of Stewardship.

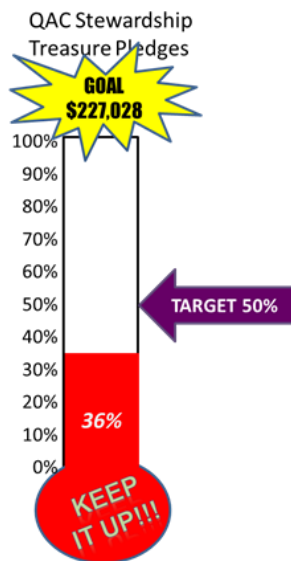
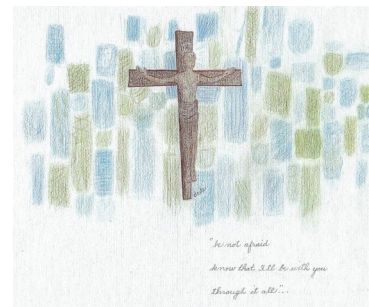
- ◆ Conversion is what I believe; Stewardship is how I behave.
- ◆ Conversion is being loved by God; Stewardship is sharing that love with others.
- ◆ Conversion is all about grace; Stewardship is all about gratitude, which is always expressed by giving.

We, as a community, are also going through a conversion as the Transition Team moves full speed ahead on the future of QAC. We must trust God, let go of those things that we cling to and be open and available to live in service to God. During this time, we need to ask ourselves these Stewardship questions:

What have I done for Christ?

What am I doing for Christ?

What will I do for Christ?



QAC FINANCIAL SUMMARY - DECEMBER, 2022			
	Monthly	Year to Date	Year to Date (Budget)
Collections	\$ 23,198	\$ 81,924	\$113,516
Other Income	\$ 1,082	\$ 4,127	
Total Operating Income	\$ 24,280	\$ 86,051	
Operating Expense	\$ 19,217	\$105,441	
Income Expense	\$ 5,063	\$(19,390)	

This scale shows our weekly offering (Sunday collections) and our planned budget (target) for the 2022/2023 fiscal year, which started July 1, 2022. Please remember that 10% our weekly offering goes to our Social Justice Ministry.

Thank you for your support!

For those unable to attend Sunday Liturgy, please don't forget that we still need your financial support. Please mail in your weekly donations (address on front cover) or better yet, set up Online giving.

View the instructions to setting up online giving at
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dRMfgKncvhM&feature=youtu.be>

CORRECTION IN VIDEO—QAC Zip Code was changed, so please disregard the last four of the zip code



Follow us on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Queen-of-Apostles-Community-117192511632358/



Seniors' Corner

by Chuck Bauer

Last month I indicated that I review the weather and other information on a bedroom computer. I also have a laptop on a family room table, and I do too much streaming. This last month I found a very interesting "Earth History" mini series. DuckDuckGo, Bing, never Google ***Catastrophe (Documentaries Investigating the History of Natural Disasters.)*** It is a BBC five-episode series on YouTube of mass extinctions in the history of the earth. The series includes: "Birth of a Planet", "Snow Ball Earth", "Planet on Fire", "Asteroid Impact", and "Survival Earth", which presents how asteroid/comet impacts and volcanoes have effected life on earth. In the US we have one of the world's active super volcanoes, "The Yellowstone Caldera". Let's all hope that Old Faithful keeps working properly. There are several other interesting interrelated documentaries, *The Cambrian Explosion of Complex Life*, *Darwin's Dilemma*, *What Darwin Never Knew*. Check these out, they are interesting.

Things to do this month, Wright State University has several good concerts and recitals at the Creative Arts Center Schuster Hall:

Concerto Aria Night - Tuesday, February 14 - 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM

University Symphony Orchestra Concert Tuesday, February 21 - 7:30 PM

Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band Concert - Wednesday, February 22 - 7:30 PM

Faculty Solo Recital- Kevin Nordstrom Thursday, February 23 - 7:00 PM

I checked the Clifton Opera House, but at present they have no activities listed. If anyone has any information on entertainment activities, please give me a call 937-426-7260.

At least weekly, I generally check on how COVID cases are progressing, and it appears that the cases are well under control. However, seniors and the elderly, if they come down with it, could have a problem.

So Stay Safe, Happy, Healthy and Positive
Thinking of You

~ Chuck

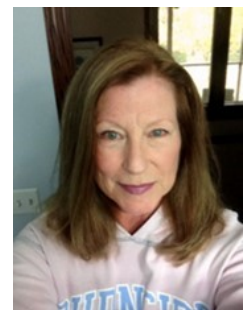
"With many a winding turn, that leads us to who know where? But I'm strong, strong enough to carry him. He Ain't heavy, he's my brother.

This melody runs through my mind quite often. We can't help all of the time, or help every one. Sometimes we can't even help ourselves.

Our QAC community shines in the darkest corners of humanity. You may never truly know the impact you have on those you reach out to financially, through your service, or even with just a smile. Yet, you answer the challenge. You give because so much has been given to you, or you've been the recipient of someone's kindness. You are so grateful for this benevolence that you cannot look away when there is need.

I reached out In December to ask for financial support for my friend, Susan, who is in late stage Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma. Your support was approximately \$1,500! Please know that you have relieved her anxiety to handle her immediate financial issues. Her spirits have been lifted beyond measure. I've thanked you individually, but want everyone to know how proud I am to belong to this inspiring community of love and generosity. Thank you again,

God Bless You Always,
Terri Blanken



February

Happy Birthday

- 1 SARAH STEWART
- 3 LINDA MURNANE
- 4 AMIE HERBERT
- 5 ELISABETH HANGARTNER
- 7 JUSTIN ROSE
- 9 KEVIN WOESTE
- 11 PEGGY CASHERO
- 14 ADAM LUPP
- 15 KATHY TOBIA
- 17 RON BLANKEN
- 19 MIKE HERBERT
- 20 MALLORY RICE
- 20 MICHELE TAKACS
- 23 JENNIFER JENNINGS
- 24 CAROL NORDMEYER
- 25 TOM QUAKENBUSH
- 27 STEVE GUILFOOS
- 28 ERIC NEER

Happy Anniversary

12th - Paul & Katherine Cooper

15th - Katie & AJ Metzmaier

19th - Cathy & John Zaidin

20th - Daisy & Martin Steiger

*May the
Lord Bless
You and
Protect You*

Religious Education News....

The **Confirmation Class** will be on retreat Saturday, February 18. Please keep **Cianna, Aidan, Gabe and Mia** in your thoughts and prayers as they continue their preparation towards the Sacrament of Confirmation.



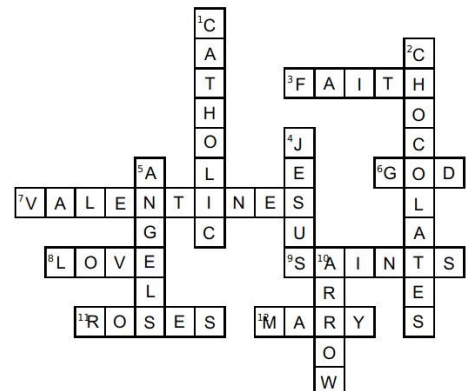
Saint Valentine was martyred on February 14 in AD 269. The Feast of Saint Valentine, also known as Saint Valentine's Day, was established by Pope Gelasius I in AD 496. This Feast Day is celebrated on February 14 in honor of St. Valentine.

The tradition of giving out cards has been a long-standing one, especially for children in school. There is a special St. Valentine created by the folks at Catholic Icing that you can print and share with those you love! Click on the link below to access this printable prayer card. [St.-Valentine-Prayer-Card -3.pdf \(catholicicing.com\)](http://catholicicing.com/-3.pdf)

RE Schedule for February and March:

- ◇ February 5 ◇ March 5
- ◇ February 12 ◇ March 12
- ◇ February 19 ◇ March 19

Answers to crossword puzzle on page 15.





THE REFLECTION POND

By Steve Guilfoos

Cupid's Arrow



That special day is coming
... Valentine's Day to oh so many

For on this day
Birds flock from far away
Ready to mate without delay
To ensure new baby birds will tweet

Their love songs ever so sweet
But for you and every man
Ever since mankind began
Its seems that cupid's arrow
Is aimed straight and narrow
To pierce those hearts who ache
Flaming love quiver and quake

So on this day beware without sorrow
He may have for you that special arrow
Searching to bond another to you
So skittle and scoot 23 skidoo



The first appearance of
"The Reflection Pond"
created by Steve Guilfoos
appeared in the May 1983
issue of the Spirit
Newsletter.

Thank you Steve for your
creative spirit throughout
the years!!

The Reflection Pond ~

This is a new monthly column in which you will have an opportunity to share your thoughts, in poem form, with the community. Poems may be submitted either directly to me, or for anonymity sake, you can leave your poems in the Reflection Pond mailbox in the staff room.

As you toss your pebble into the pond, no matter how insignificant you may think it is, the pebble will cause ripples to cover the pond. And as the ripples pass someone's reflection, the ripples will effect what the person sees.

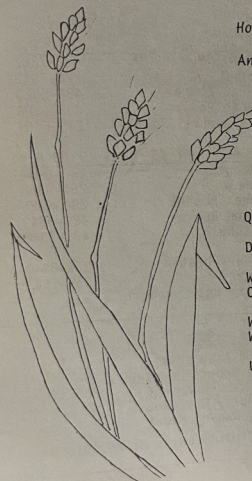
FRIENDS

I sat in the warm sun today
Watching the river flow gently by
And I thought of you and I
How wonderful our friendship is
How kind, and gentle, and understanding you are
And as we share our gifts with each other
I can see in your eyes
The sincerity you must feel
When you call me friend
Then a tear hit my cheek
Don't worry friend
It was a tear of Peace
I love you. . . so I guess that's why. . .

Questions to reflect upon -

Do we accept friends as they are, or do we expect?
We hurt friends when we _____.
Can we look a friend in the eye and say,
I love you?
When we touch a friend, is the honesty too much?
When we give our gifts, do we expect a gift in return?
Ultimately, aren't friends the gifts we give to ourselves?

Steve Guilfoos



HOPE (ESPERANZA)

Adult Faith Formation recently finished reading an excellent book by Pope Francis, “Let Us Dream”, in which he writes passionately and wisely about how the worldwide viral pandemic has created personal and societal crises and “stoppages.” He shares how individuals, religions, and governments can grow, learn, and heal from those crises and revelations. He concludes this book with a moving poem by a Cuban actor in Miami named Alexis Valdes. As we reacted to this poem online, Nimfa declared, “We’ve got to share this with the community in The Spirit!” Unfortunately that would be a violation of copyright, so we will be sharing a “teaser” that ties in beautifully with our Day of Caring and month of love, hoping it will inspire you to look up the poem in its entirety or Pope Francis’ latest book...



When the storm has passed...
With tearful heart... we will feel joy, simply for being alive
And we’ll give a hug to the first stranger...
And then we’ll remember all that we lost
And finally learn everything we never learned...
We’ll understand how fragile it is to be alive.
We’ll sweat with empathy for those still with us and those who are gone...
And maybe the poor old man was your God in disguise.
But you never asked his name, because you never had the time...
When the storm passes, I ask you, Lord...
That you return us better, as you once dreamed us.

Respite Bags - Volunteers Urgently Needed: From the Dayton Marianist Council: We are in urgent need of families and communities to sign up to provide Respite Bags in 2023, which has been an ongoing partnership with Our Lady of Grace Parish in the Five Oaks Neighborhood and the Food for the Journey Project. Food for the Journey Project continues to provide “take out” meals, however, they have transitioned to serving them from INSIDE the Madonna Room at Corpus Christi. Each week, the guests ask for the “snack bags” along with the meal. If your community, family, or workplace could volunteer to make Respite Bags once or twice in 2023, that would be of great help!

Click here to sign up and to read the instructions for assembling the bags:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040448aeaa23a7ff2-mfjp#/>

Many New Year blessings to each of you! In Christ, through Mary, Dayton Marianist Family Council.

Share your creative works with QAC!

*We would love to feature your artwork, writing, photo or other
creativity in an upcoming Spirit.*

Send your inspiration to qacspirit06@att.net by the 24th of each month.

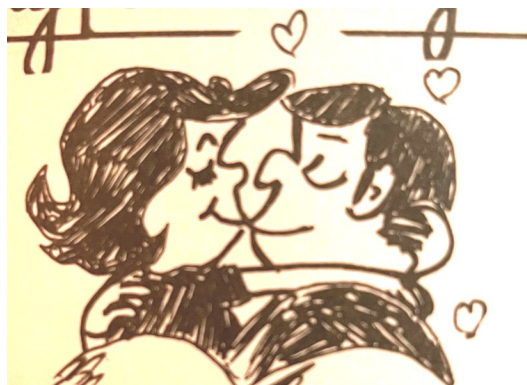
From our QAC Community

Valentine's Day tradition...



Our tradition is when dining out on Valentine's Day to "pay it forward" by picking up the check for another couple's dinner... and getting out of the restaurant before they find out. It's been done to us so it makes us happy to do it for others too.

~ Submitted by Anonymous



This picture appeared in the Feb 1985 and 1986 Calendar page of the Spirit Newsletter



Love is a many splendored thing



The Spirit

The day was cold, but the sun shown so bright that it felt like a summer day. The front door of our house has a glass inlay where the sun occasionally makes it way through to light up our dark entryway. As I was preparing a lesson on the subject of the Sacrament of Confirmation for our 4th grade religious education class, specifically on the various symbols that surround the sacrament, an image appeared on a door in the entryway that leads to the basement. The image came from the sun peeping through the inlay. To me, the first image I saw was a "lamp with a flame" and it reminded me of the symbol of light/fire, then within seconds it transformed to another image and I thought of the tongues of fire over the apostles, and again within seconds, I saw a dove...the symbol of the Spirit. The one thing that I didn't realize until I was placing the images in this article, was that the part of the door that these images appeared on was the cross.



It always amazes me how the simplest things in our life can have the most meaning! God's Spirit works in mysterious ways! God is always with us.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

~ Submitted by Linda Skinner

At Queen of Apostles

Options attract Catholics

BY ANN HOFBAUER
Staff Writer

Members of Queen of Apostles at Mt. St. John parish gathered outside in the sunshine this month for a Palm Sunday procession into church, reminiscent of Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

They picked up palm leaves from a table outside and guitar-playing members led them into church, singing and carrying banners, signs, bells and balloons.

"Oh, Lord our God, we lift up our hearts to you... your people rejoice in you," the worshippers sang, as they filed into the circular chapel.

Youthful members of the Christian Life Community (CLC) delivered a dramatic presentation of the Passion during the Mass.

And during the exchange of the sign of peace, members of the congregation moved about the church, warmly greeting each other.

A sense of community and participation in the Mass, by all members of the congregation, is evident at every Mass at Queen of Apostles, 4435 E. Patterson Rd.

Queen of Apostles parish, often referred to as Bergamo by the uninitiated, rents space at the Marianist retreat center, but is otherwise unaffiliated with it.

"We offer a different model from the typical Catholic church, which usually includes a grade school, convent and parish. We're trying to develop a non-territorial parish on the basis of building a community," Fr. John

Tonry, priest coordinator, said. "We don't own any property and that is also atypical of most Catholic churches."

Queen of Apostles has been a recognized parish by the arch-diocese in Cincinnati for four years, but existed as a worshipping community before that, he said.

The building in which the church is located was formerly a residence hall for Marianist brothers attending the University of Dayton, he said, and was at that time, open to the public.

When the brothers left, the lay people attending became more predominant.

Queen of Apostles offers only one liturgy each Sunday, at 10:30 a.m., but the chapel is generally full, often with people standing in the lobby, outside the church proper.

Fr. Tonry said about 200 families are members of the community, totaling close to 700 members.

Queen of Apostles isn't experiencing any problems in attendance, and certainly not a downward trend, he said.

New members are often acquired by word-of-mouth or by accidentally happening on Mass there, he said.

"The space limitations of the chapel have a lot to do with attendance, although it is pretty stable," Mary Neasey, lay coordinator, said.

Queen of Apostles has a relatively small budget, compared to other churches in the area, most of which goes for salaries of the priest and lay coordinators, director of religious education and rental of space.

"We have no debt to be paid off, no school to support and no maintenance of property. Our budget is adequate to meet our current expenses," Fr. Tonry said.

The budget is based on the needs of the various committees within the community, including social action, finances, liturgy, religious education, youth and

communications, plus administrative expenses, he said.

The budget is then put up for approval by all voting members of the community (everyone aged 14 and up) each year.

The income comes from the collection box at the back of the church and periodic requests for financial aid, made by lay members of the community.

"This method of operation allows people to be responsible for their areas of involvement. Approval of the budget is not a white-wash or rubber-stamp job. It's a hammering out of the kinks and flaws in the budget," Fr. Tonry said.

The atmosphere at Queen of Apostles seems to be the big drawing card.

"The first time I ever came here, it was like coming home. I felt very welcomed, very accepted. That doesn't just happen. The people that come here do so because they want to, not because they have to," Mrs. Neasey said.

"All of the liturgies are prepared by families in the community or the teens, someone other than just the priest. There is a sharing of responsibility, of working together," she said.

There is involvement by members of the community in all aspects, she said.

"Most of the administrative work is done by members of the community, which gives the priest coordinator an opportunity to be concerned with the spiritual aspect of the people," she said.

The offerings at Queen of Apostles go beyond Sunday Mass. Some of the programs include a day of recollection, a communications day for adults and youth, a blood bank, on-going religious education for all ages.

Mrs. Neasey said the majority of programs are suggested by members of the community, usually a group of people interested in participating in some particular thing.

"Everybody doesn't have to come to everything, just what they are interested in. We don't view a small turnout as a failure," she said.

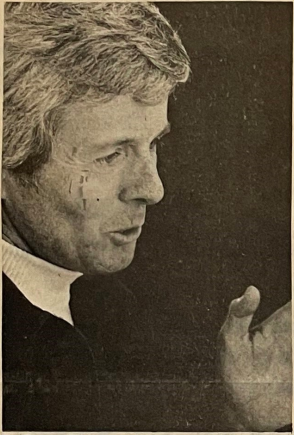
"People have found religion to be a meaningful, joyful experience. We have a sense of community, support and caring here and we are willing to take risks in order to build something," Fr. Tonry said.

"The focal point and reason the community came into being was a desire to worship in a more meaningful way."

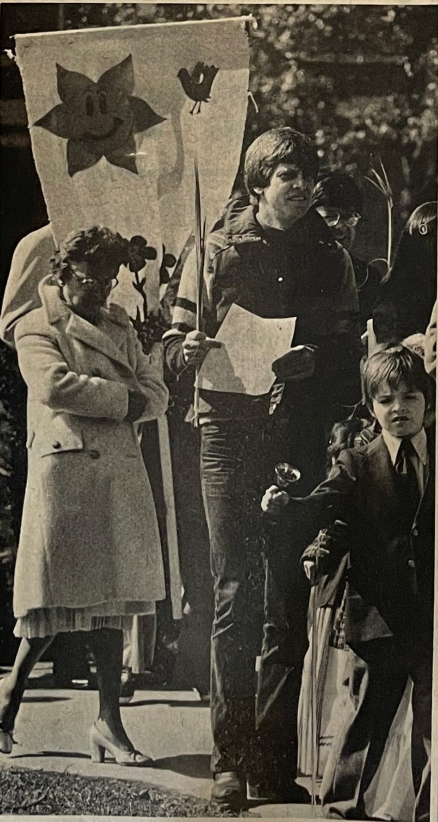
"One of the neat things about Queen of Apostles is there are other options. If you don't care for this form of liturgy, it's a question of where you feel you can worship best," Mrs. Neasey said.



Renee France tries a seat on the altar at Queen of Apostles... Photos by Dave Alton



Fr. Tonry: 'We offer a different model'...



Palm Sunday procession moves toward the church...



Young member carried magnolia branch...

"A sense of community and participation in the Mass, by all members of the congregation, is evident at every Mass at Queen of Apostles..."

From the QAC Archives...

"Options attract Catholics" is an article about QAC that appeared in the 1977 "Times".

To read the article, download a copy of this month's Spirit from the QAC website ([SPIRIT Monthly Publication | Queen of Apostles Community \(qac-ohio.org\)](http://spiritmonthlypublication.com)).

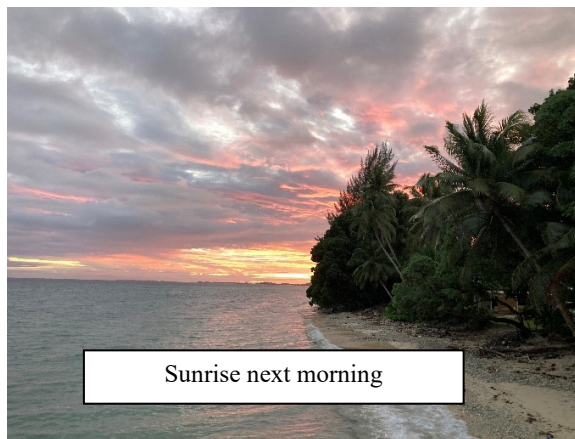
Thanks to Bob Brookey who provided this amazing archive!!

Update from the Murnanes...

According to the tide tables, today's first low tide was 11:13 AM and the second high tide of the day at 5:35 PM. Today, the second high tide was 6 feet 3 inches. So, I thought I would let you see what that looks like. While I was out to take the pictures, I found a jellyfish stranded just a yard away from where the waves were reaching and since it seemed to have water and I don't know anything about jellyfish other than they can sting, I left it alone!



Moonlight over the Majuro lagoon



Sunrise next morning



Tide is out – this is sea level on the lagoon side



Jellyfish beached on the lagoon side

In order to give you some idea of distance, with my back to the lagoon and starting from the coconut tree in the picture above, I walked 127 paces to the other side of the island. Those 127 paces took me across the road and to the seawall that is under construction with funding likely coming from another nation (picture below).



Seawall is under construction Pacific Ocean side



Note the concrete mixer and pile of sand

For example, it may have been funded by the US Government in compliance with the current Compact of Free Association – you may have heard in the news that the US and Republic of Marshall Islands have just signed a new agreement which will go into effect when the current expires later this year. Progress on the wall is slow – it seems

(Continued on page 12)

they may have but one 8-foot-long frame to pour cement into with manual labor...wheelbarrow full by wheelbarrow full, across a ramp made of half inch plywood and 2x4s. The seawall is the current survival plan for those residing on the Majuro Atoll as global warming and rising sea levels threaten their homes, culture and existence.

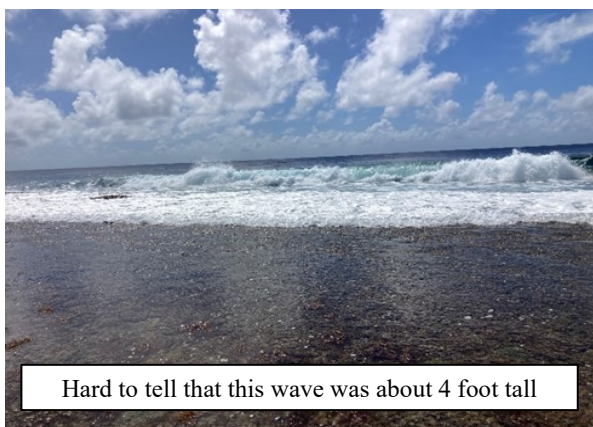


Exposed coral ledge – rock hard, no mud



Closeup of plant-life growing on the rock

It was actually further from the seawall out to the water's edge (140 paces) than it had been from the other side of the island to the seawall. In some of the pools, I could see movement of what looked like a 4 or 5 inch eel, but the movement was too fast for me to photo. Minutes later, the water started creeping its trek back toward the wall. When I got to the wall, I found a piece of loose reinforcement bar that was just shorter than me. I leaned it against the wall so I can guess that the older section of the wall is about 10 feet tall. Even still, at high tide, I could see waves splashing over the top of the wall.



Hard to tell that this wave was about 4 foot tall



On the ocean side, the wall is 10 feet tall

Climatologists debate how long it will take for the sea to claim the land. Maybe it will be 2050 or 2030; who knows? But in the time that is left, people need to decide to either complete and raise that seawall or find a new land for about 50,000 Marshallese still located on the islands. And, what about the 116,000 people in Kiribati; 515,000 in Maldives; and 11,000 in Tuvalu?



Waves splash over the top!



High tide! Water level up over 6 feet

(Continued from page 12)

Majuro gets an annual rainfall of about 125 inches. Included below are a couple of pictures of the road in Majuro after a morning rain.



Finally, let me call to mind that the Republic of the Marshall Islands sets aside March 1 each year as Nuclear Victims Remembrance Day. Its purpose is to remember the victims of the nuclear tests done in the Marshall Islands region during the 1950's. As QAC doubtless has members who were in some way associated with The Mound, may I request that we participate in some way by remembering all victims of the testing?

The uranium used in the weapons was largely sourced from Midnite Mine, located on the reservation belonging to the Spokane Tribe of Indians. The Tribe were heavily impacted by adverse health effects and the Superfund cleanup did not begin until 2017. Additionally, the plutonium for the weapons was produced at Hanford Finishing Plant in Washington. The plant was established as part of the Manhattan Project in 1943. Located on the ancestral lands of the Yakama Nation, Hanford was home of the B Reactor, the first full-scale plutonium production reactor in the world. Completed on January 11, 2022, Hanford was the largest environmental clean-up effort in the world and the most contaminated site in the western hemisphere.

Between 1946 and 1958, the U.S. conducted 67 nuclear tests on the Marshall Islands. The Bravo detonation that took place in 1954 was the most massive nuclear weapon ever detonated by the U.S. The U.S. government decided not to evacuate downwind communities, and after the explosions, enrolled residents of the downwind Rongelap and Utrik communities into a secret medical experimentation program. Around 200 people whose islands were directly bombed were relocated to different islands during the tests; during this time, many communities faced malnutrition and starvation due to inadequate resources. The detonations threatened the well-being of Marshallese communities when they first occurred, and the pollution has since made the previously available natural resources scarce.

In the 1970's the U.S. dispatched American soldiers and civilian contractors for nuclear clean-up without informing them of the nuclear radiation risk they would be taking on. Those involved in the clean-up process were also not provided adequate personal protective gear – some remember collecting bomb fragments in their bare hands. Today, these clean-up veterans and civilian contractors have extremely high rates of cancer, with some developing multiple forms. Like me, you likely did not hear of these events in History class.

Please lift this nation and its people up in your prayers. Please join the Marshallese and tell their story so that others will know the costs.

*May the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be glorified in all places
through the Immaculate Virgin Mary*

Marianist Doxology

QAC Spotlight



Gifts of the Magi

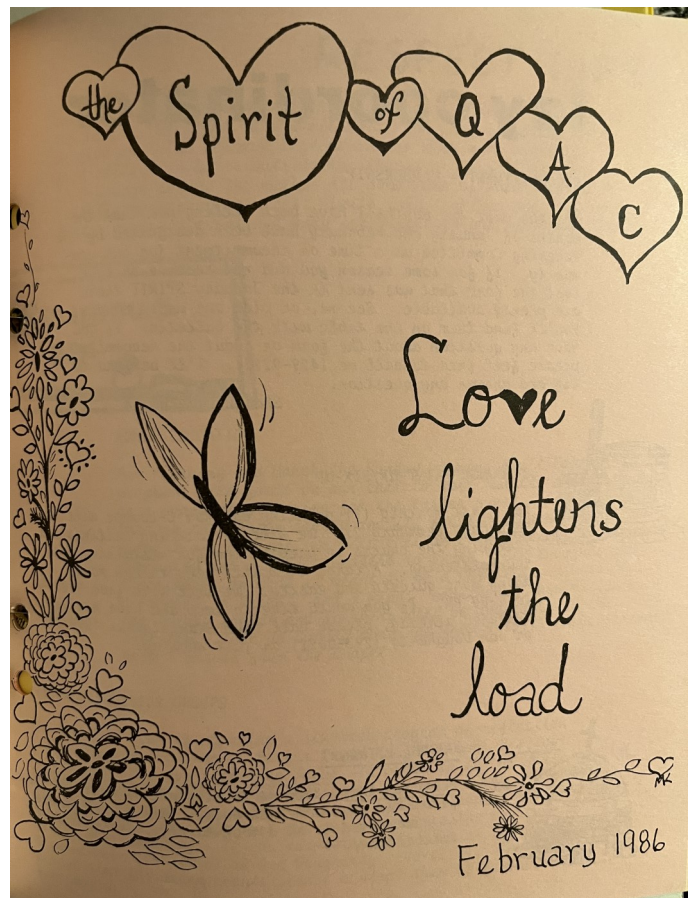
Food for The Journey



QAC, you rock!
Your donations truly help so many!
Thank you for your generosity!



Mount Saint John - A Beautiful Snowy Day! January 23, 2023

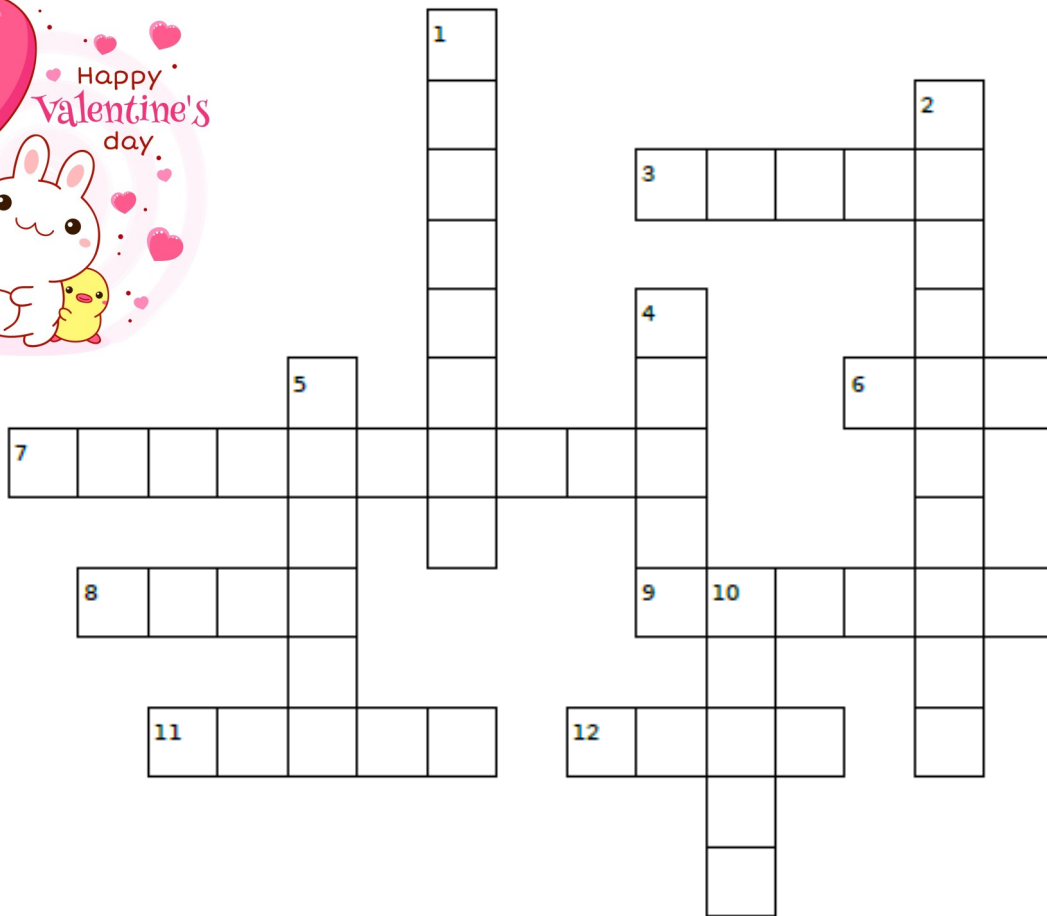


Kid's Corner

The Kids' Bulletin

The Kids' Bulletins are available every Sunday at <https://thekidsbulletin.com>. Check the website for Gospel readings and more, including fun activities and puzzles!

This month's puzzle is a crossword puzzle that focuses on the holiday we celebrate on February 14th and our faith. Using the clues found below, complete the puzzle. Answers can be found on page 7.



Down:

1. We are part of this universal Church
2. Type of candy given on Valentine's Day
4. The Son of God
5. These guardians watch over us
10. Cupid shoots this

Across:

3. This is what we have when we believe
6. Our Heavenly Father
7. The holiday we celebrate on February 14
8. An emotion we feel
9. Are persons in heaven who we pray to
11. Type of flowers given on Valentine's Day
12. She is the mother of Jesus

Emergency Request From St Vincent de Paul: St. Vincent de Paul is in urgent need of bedding and towels. Donations can be brought to Mass on Sunday or you can order items through their Amazon needs list at https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2WKD1L4SC2TIN?ref=wl_share.

Visit their website for more information: <https://stvincentdayton.org/donate-goods/needs-list>. Thank you QAC!



St. Vincent de Paul
ASSISTANCE • SHELTER • HOPE

Submitted by Margie Hudnell

isha

meditation

for beginners

Free & Open to Ages 18+

In this one hour session you will learn Isha Kriya, a simple 12-18 minute practice, to help you to become meditative effortlessly.

A large, stylized yellow lotus flower is the central focus of the poster, set against a yellow background with faint circular patterns. The text is overlaid on the image.

Attain health, clarity and joy

Isha Kriya does not require previous experience with meditation and can be done sitting in a chair.

Designed by Sadhguru, a self-realized yogi and foremost authority in the field of yoga. Isha Kriya sessions will be conducted by a trained instructor, after which ongoing online support will be available.

Session Details





Saturday February 11th: Noon to 1pm

**4400 Shakertown Road
Sieben Hall lower level/Dayton, Ohio 45430**

(937)-540-4742 | dayton@ishausa.org | ishasessions.org

This session is brought to you by Isha Foundation, an international non-profit aimed to bring well-being to everyone through yoga and meditation.

February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 7:00 PM Leadership Team Meeting 7:30PM Choir Practice	3	4
5 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time 9:00AM Religious Education 10:30AM Mass (Live Stream Available) Liturgy Planning after Mass	6	7	8	9 7:30PM Choir Practice	10	11
12 12th Sunday Ordinary Time 8:45AM Adult Faith Formation 9:00AM Religious Education 10:30AM Mass (Live Stream Available) Social Justice Meeting after Mass	13	14 	15	16 7:30PM Choir Practice	17	18 9:30AM Confirmation retreat
19 7th Sunday Ordinary Time 8:45AM Adult Faith Formation 9:00AM Religious Education 10:30AM Mass (Live Stream Available) Day of Caring Breakfast and Community Meeting after Mass	20 	21	22 Ash Wednesday 7:00PM Mass 	23 7:30PM Choir Practice	24	25
26 1st Sunday of Lent 8:45AM Adult Faith Formation 10:30AM Mass (Live Stream Available) Town Hall meeting after Mass	27	28				