



## Dear friends in Christ,

We all know that in the history of the Church there have been, and still are, divisions among Christians. In writing to the Church at Corinth, Paul does not hide his irritation with the splinter groups within that community. Each group seemed to have its allegiances, which made them look more like opposing teams than a united community of faith. Sadly, personality cults had grown up around Cephas and Apollos, even Paul himself, putting the focus on them rather than Christ.

For Paul this was intolerable, as he pleaded for them to be united not just in faith and belief, but in life and practice. It was Christ, he wrote, who had been crucified, and it was in his name alone that they had been baptized and saved. How on earth could anyone dare to claim for themselves what belonged to Christ? Paul's message was very clear: Put Christ at the center and keep your focus on him alone. He must be the source of unity, and the Gospel should never be used for division or disunity.

This call to singlehearted focus on Christ is evident in today's Gospel. As Peter and the others leave everything to follow Christ, he becomes the focus of their immediate and total response. From now on Christ is the center of their lives.

In our own time, thankfully, past disagreements that once gave rise to much division and even violence have now given way to efforts at dialogue and cooperation. While much remains to be done, there is a growing understanding that the invitation to follow Christ involves a shared identity and dignity. We are each called by Christ and invited to follow him, leaving behind all that might separate us from his love.

But Christian unity is not just something out there, something for Church leaders alone to work on. It is equally a part of every community of faith. The challenge for all Christians is to ask what we can do to build harmony and unity within our local community. What can we do to put Christ and his Gospel at the center of our lives so that it shines forth and attracts others? As Saint Paul reminds us, a Christ-centered community is one that works to diminish disagreements and put aside divisions by honoring Christ and seeing him as the only source of unity and forgiveness. As we close this week celebrating Christian unity, let's ask God for the grace to draw closer to him and closer to one another. **Amen.**

## St. Vincent de Paul – St. Sebastian Conference

Our Mission Statement – A network of friends, inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness and building a more just world through personal relationships with and service to people in need.

- Jesus' Mission: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor..." (Luke 4:16-21)
- Gospel Values: (Beatitudes): Blessed are the poor..." (Mt. 5:2-11, Lk. 6: 20-22)
- Last Judgement: "Whatever you did for the least of my brethren , you also did for me." (Mt. 25:36-46)
- Greatest Commandment: "Love one another." / "Love your neighbor as yourself..." (Lk. 6:32-37; Lk. 10:25-28; Jn. 13:34-35)
- Service: "The Son of Man did not come to be served..." (Mt. 20:28)

### Gasper River

Registrations are open and coming in fast! Please visit [www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org](http://www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org) to get signed up for our 19th summer.  
Applications are also open now for 2026 summer staff. If you or someone you know is one year removed from high school, visit the website to apply for the greatest joy you will ever have!

Visit the website for more information and to join the team at Gasper River!

### Lazarus Retreat

We are pleased to announce signups are now open for the Lazarus Retreat #8 at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp Feb. 13-15, 2026. This retreat is for high school youth from across the diocese and is a onetime experience. Deadline to sign up is Monday, February 2, 2026, or once we are full.

### Women's Retreat

St. Charles will be carpooling from the church at 6:45 AM February 7, 2025, to the Women's Retreat "Joy, Laughter & Holiness" at St Ann's Church in Morganfield. Join us for an inspirational retreat. Contact Kelly Joiner 270-952-0696 or email [kejoiner3@gmail.com](mailto:kejoiner3@gmail.com)

Thank you for your continued support.

### Financial Report – January 18, 2026

**St. Charles - Amount Needed: \$1,550.00 weekly.**  
Regular Collection \$1,444.00 (-106.00)  
Mass Intentions \$ 50.00

### Financial Report – January 18, 2026

**St. Sebastian- Amount Needed: \$3,210.00 weekly.**  
Regular Collection \$2,950.00 (-260.00)  
Mass Intentions \$ 5.00

## Mass Schedule

### January 25 – February 1

#### Sunday – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian  
*Brother Conrad Fleischman*  
-10:30am - Mass at St. Charles  
*Sabrina Whitehouse Evans*

#### Monday – No Mass

#### Tuesday – Third Week in Ordinary Time

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian  
*Families of Alvin & Betty Bickett*

#### Wednesday – St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church (Memorial)

-5:30pm – Mass at St. Charles – *Bill & Minnie Logsdon*

#### Thursday – Third Week in Ordinary Time

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian – *JoAnn Hayden*

#### Friday – Third Week in Ordinary Time

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian – *Gail Clayton*

#### Saturday – St. John Bosco, Priest (Memorial)

-3:00pm - Confession  
-4:00pm - Mass at St. Sebastian – *Mark Vollman*

#### Sunday – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian – *All Parishioners*  
-10:30am – Mass at St. Charles

*Sabrina Whitehouse Evans*

### Happy Birthday - St. Sebastian



Kellie Watkins – Jan. 30

### Washing of the Purifiers – St. Sebastian

February – Paula Hayden  
March – Brenda Pinkston

### Please Pray for our Military

1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. James (J.P.) Dye, John Randall Zaremba, Major Jack Kaina, Major Bradley Summers, Lance Corporal Marine Joseph Ryan Hunter, Lt. Col. Michael Rezebek, A.B. Phillip Wilson, Specialist 4 Chaz McKay, Sgt. Adam Dickey, and Joseph Kyle Ward (US Air Force).

### Prayer List for Members of our Community

Bernadine Edwards, Charles May, Jerry Abney, Bob Guenthner, Helen Kraus, Jimmy & Gail Clayton, Ethan Settle, Blakley Owens, Tasha Miller, Theresa Rust, Mark Logsdon, Mike Logsdon, Rondy Humphrey, Wesley Robinson, Jimmy Tichenor, Jason Evans, Brenda Cooper, Darrell Henderson, Sharon Anderson, Janine Goatee, Kevin Fee, Kristin Bucio, John Pinkston, Jillian Phillips.

## Join us for Lenten Day of Prayer on March 28 at Mount Saint Joseph

Lent is traditionally a time when Catholic Christians recommit themselves to more serious prayer, along with fasting and almsgiving. On March 28, 2026 – the Saturday of the fifth Week of Lent – all are invited to join Sister Cheryl Clemons in Maple Hall at Mount Saint Joseph (8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, Ky.) for a Day of Prayer and Reflection titled "Deepening Our Prayer Life: Advice from the Four Saint Teresas." Throughout the day, Sister Cheryl will offer insights on prayer from Saint Teresa of Avila, Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), and Saint Teresa of Calcutta. The day will include quiet prayer and reflection and opportunities for small group sharing. Lunch will be provided. The cost to attend is \$60. Sister Cheryl, an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, has been offering retreats, parish missions and OCIA programs for 30 years. She has extensive training in theology, Scripture, spirituality and spiritual direction. Sign up online by going to this link: <https://ursulinesmsj.org/calendar/> and click on the event and then the Register box. If you have any questions, call Doreen Abbott at 270-229-2006 or email [doreen.abbott@maplemount.org](mailto:doreen.abbott@maplemount.org).

"For we walk by faith, not by sight." 2 Corinthians 5:7

## Ministry Schedule

### Saturday, January 31, 2026

**St. Sebastian** Euch. Min: Susan Lebold  
Lectors: Jim Lebold

### Sunday, February 1, 2026

**St. Sebastian** Euch. Min: Drew McCarty  
Debra Hamilton  
Sid Hayden  
Lectors: Linda Durbin  
Kathy Husdon

Gift Bearers: Mr. & Mrs. Matt Hayden  
Altar Servers: Jude Cooper  
Alastair Cooper

Money Counters: Kimberly Cooper  
Mike Hayden  
Donuts: Church Breakfast

**St. Charles** Euch: Min: MaryLynne Logsdon  
Leon Durbin  
Lectors: Cooper Bishop  
Marylyne Miller  
Gift Bearers: Mr. & Mrs. Mitchell Dotson  
Money Counters: Sherry Logsdon  
Darrell Bishop