



# The KING'S Connection

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2022  
*Inside*

## New Academic Year Begins as Tradition of Strong Catholic Education Continues at Parish School

Both students and their teachers are looking forward to a brand new school year at Christ the King School, with Thursday, Aug. 11 as the first day of classes.

“The students will be getting used to their routine and the procedures, and getting to know the classroom expectations and how the new school year will go,” says Principal Ann Bruggeman. “We’ll be getting back to an even more normal school year.”

Students and parents will gather for the welcoming Mass at 5:30 p.m. on Aug. 9, followed by an open house at the school.

The elementary students will be excited to learn that the Science Lab is returning for their grades.

“We had it for the kindergarten and first-grade students last year, but now it’s returning for the students through fifth grade,” Mrs. Bruggeman says.

As of early summer, enrollment



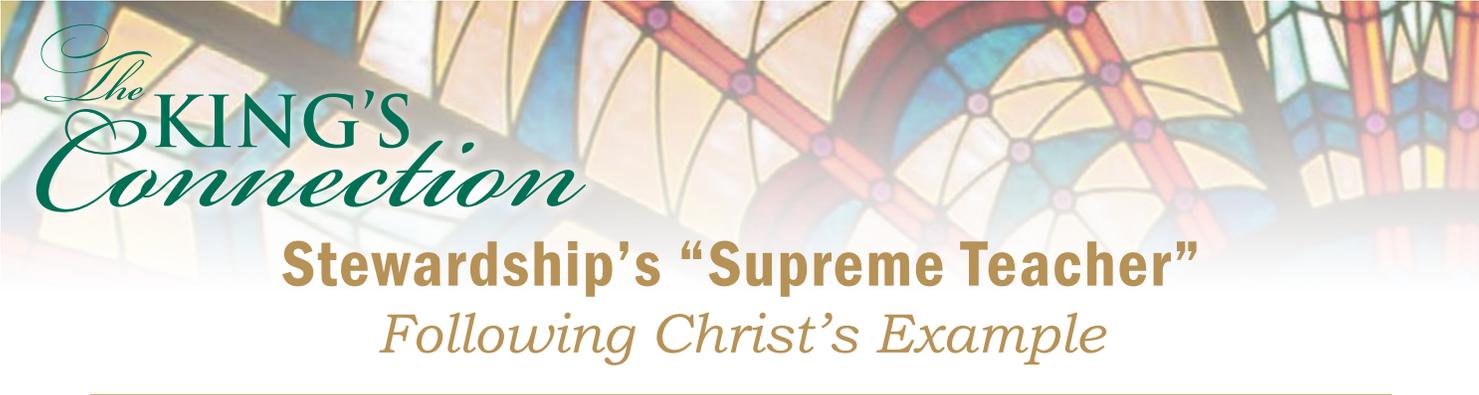
at Christ the King School was up by 40 students from last year, a number Mrs. Bruggeman finds encouraging.

“The community is excited about Christ the King, and parents are wanting to switch to a parochial education,” she says.

At the end of July, the school faculty reviewed the religion curriculum to make sure all facets were being covered according to the wishes of Bishop John Stowe and

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# The KING'S Connection

## Stewardship's "Supreme Teacher" *Following Christ's Example*

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Former President and Five-Star General Dwight D. Eisenhower once said, "You don't lead by hitting people over the head — that's assault, not leadership." President Eisenhower's words are both blunt and humorous, but he makes a great point. Almost any successful endeavor in life requires the benefit of strong leadership. And a truly effective leader does not lead by simply telling others what to do, but by providing a strong example of how to carry oneself on a daily basis.

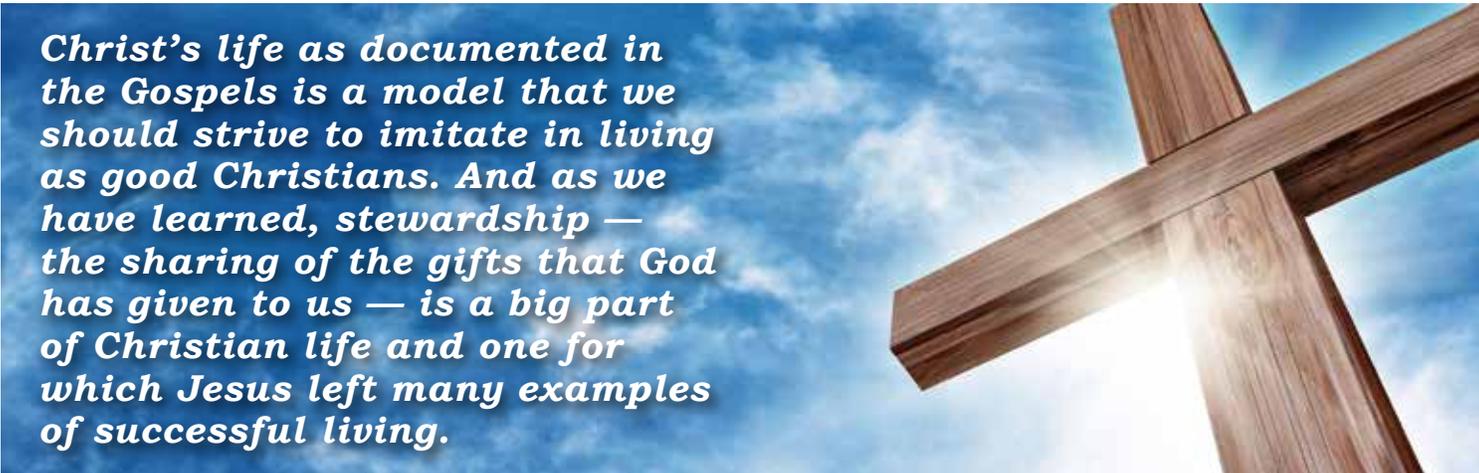
This is no different for us in our lives as Catholic Christians. As individuals who face numerous difficult choices every day, we require a leader who, through word *and* example, can show us the path to living according to God's will. For us, Jesus is the supreme teacher of every aspect of Christian life, and His life as documented in the Gospels is a model that we should strive to imitate in living as good Christians. And as we have learned, stewardship — the sharing of the gifts that God has given to us — is a big part of Christian life and one for which Jesus left many examples of successful living.

Jesus' nature of selfless service, documented many times throughout the New Testament and culminating with His death for our sins, is an underlying aspect of living the stewardship way of life. As the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops points out in its pastoral document

*Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, "In Jesus' teaching and life self-emptying is fundamental. Now, it might seem that self-emptying has little to do with stewardship, but in Jesus' case, that is not so. His self-emptying is not sterile self-denial for its own sake; rather, in setting aside self, he is filled with the Father's will, and he is fulfilled in just this way" (19).

Jesus points out to Peter in Mark's Gospel that this "self-emptying" requires sacrifice, but ultimately leads to "eternal life in the age to come" (Mk 10:30). But the Christian steward's ultimate reward is not his or her only benefit from living the stewardship way of life. By sharing of our time, talent, and treasure, and living in imitation of Christ, we can relate more closely to Him in sharing, in a small way, in His sacrifice. "To be a Christian disciple is a rewarding way of life, a way of companionship with Jesus, and the practice of stewardship as a part of it is itself a source of deep joy. Those who live this way are happy people who have found the meaning and purpose of living" (*Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, 21).

The next time you are frustrated or unsure of how to best respond to God's gifts in stewardship, take a moment to open up the Bible. Jesus may not "hit us over the head" in His leadership, but He does provide numerous examples through His actions and teachings of how to live as one of His disciples.



***Christ's life as documented in the Gospels is a model that we should strive to imitate in living as good Christians. And as we have learned, stewardship — the sharing of the gifts that God has given to us — is a big part of Christian life and one for which Jesus left many examples of successful living.***

A LETTER FROM OUR CATHEDRAL RECTOR

## MUCH WILL BE REQUIRED OF THE PERSON ENTRUSTED WITH MUCH

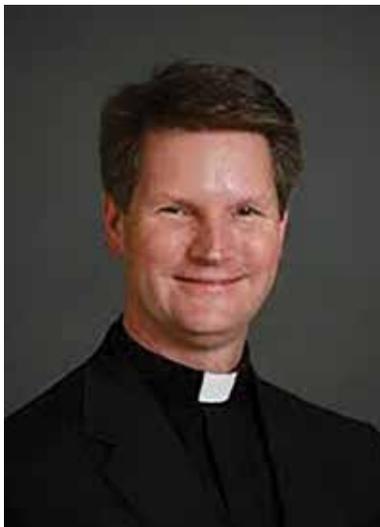
Dear Brothers and Sisters:

No matter your situation in life, chances are there is someone out there who has more than you. Too often we may hesitate to follow stewardship as a way of life because we are waiting for someone more blessed than we are to show us the way.

You may be aware that the Scripture readings we hear at each Mass are part of a three-year cycle. In general, the Gospel passages in Cycle A are from Matthew; Cycle B is principally Mark; and Cycle C, the year we are now in, is primarily from Luke. John is mixed in and especially used during Lent. We are in what might be called a “Luke year.”

As we hear the Gospels from Luke, we need to be acutely aware of the stewardship messages found there. In one recent Gospel passage from Luke, Jesus uses a parable to remind us of an important stewardship lesson. He precedes the parable by reminding us all, “Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one’s life does not consist of possessions” (Luke 12:15). You and I both know that God does not judge us based upon what we may have accumulated during our lifetimes, but based upon how we lived those lives, and especially how we used those gifts — those possessions.

The parable focuses on a “rich man” who builds larger grain bins to store his abundant harvests. God calls the man a fool and reminds him that growing rich for himself is not as important as growing rich in the sight of God. The very next week (the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time), Luke again tells us how Jesus warns and cautions His disciples — “For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be” (Luke 12:34). The Lord warns them that they do not know what day or what hour He will return and summarizes it all with another important



insight into what is expected of us — “Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more” (Luke 12:48).

You see, we are not “off the hook” if someone else has more gifts but fails to use them well. Stewardship demands that each of us use our gifts, and each of us is gifted whether we want to admit it or not, to serve God and others. Luke’s implied stewardship messages come full circle in the Gospel reading on Aug. 21 — “For

behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last” (Luke 13:30).

That admonition from the Lord has always seemed a bit confusing. It more or less says that to be first, we need to be last, and if we are first, we may be last. I think perhaps all of these messages, including the first and last one, are cautions to us that we cannot be complacent and we cannot take salvation and holiness for granted. We need to work on them. We are not measured by our possessions; God indeed does expect a lot of us, no matter how small or extensive our gifts may be. Regardless of how holy we may strive to be, it is God who will judge; it is by His grace that we will be saved.

Amid all these magnificent stewardship messages, we celebrate the Assumption of our Blessed Mother on Aug. 15 — “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant” (Luke 1:46-48). God bless you all!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. John Moriarty

# The KING'S Connection

## STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL:

For the members of the Stewardship Council, the last couple of years in this ministry have been full of change as they find their role within our faithful parish. The Stewardship Council was initially founded as a part of the capital campaign for the church. Now that this project has wrapped up, members have been working hard to guide the council to best serve the parish.

Leslie Smart is the current chair of the Stewardship Council. Leslie and her husband moved from Louisville to Lexington during the height of the pandemic. During this time, they really felt a deep void in their engagement in the parish. That was when she got involved with the Stewardship Council. For her, joining this council was a natural way to give back to God and the church while using the talents that God has given her.

“I have been involved in philanthropy for many years,” she says. “For me to serve in this ministry, I feel that it is an area where I can contribute the most with my own talents to support the church.”

The goals of the Stewardship Council directly align with the parish goal of evangelization.

“In the United States Conference of Catholic Bishop’s statement on the New Evangelization, it says, ‘A Christian life lived with charity and faith is the most effective form of evangelization,’” Leslie says. “For those of us on the Stewardship Council, promoting stewardship within the parish is a key part of evangelization.”

Stewardship is the giving of time, talent, and treasure. The capital campaign focused on the giving of treasure. When that finished, the council took a look at what their role within the parish should be. In March 2021, they brought in Donna Daniels from Berea College to put together a strategic plan.

“We worked to determine what we want our mission and our desired outcomes to be,” Leslie says. “Within that, we use this as a roadmap for ongoing stewardship education and engagement within the church. We have actions and indicators of success within this strategic plan.”

The council came up with three overarching



strategies to grow the parish into a stewardship-minded church — engaging in stewardship education and awareness; setting and communicating stewardship goals, and engaging the youth in stewardship. Each of these strategies has action plans and outcomes that they are using to calculate growth within the parish.

The council has focused especially on engaging the youth of the parish in stewardship. Leslie shares some of the work they have been doing to achieve this.

“We really want to teach the children that service to God and others is the natural role of the Body of Christ,” she says. “We are called to serve and we each have to discern what that looks like. One of the council members is a liaison with the youth minister, so we can actively work with them to engage the youth. We have integrated stewardship commitment as a part of sacramental preparation for Confirmation. We want to encourage families to have conversations with their children about the importance of giving of their time and talent. We want to see families coming together in that commitment — even creating Time, Talent, and Treasure cards for the children.”

The parish is very active and blessed with nearly 60 ministries. The Stewardship Council wants to hear from all of the ministries about how



## ***Working to Build Discipleship Among Parishioners and Their Families***

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the council is best able to serve them. Recently, the council composed a survey for the parish with a goal of 50 percent participation in that survey. The council will release the results of the survey once it is finished and the data is compiled.

“I really have to commend Katie Sheppard for the work that we are trying to achieve,” Leslie says. “She has the energy, commitment, and due diligence to

support this ministry. Our council members really are committed to the mission as well.”

The Stewardship Council is doing important work for the life of the parish and the many ministries of the church. They are working to bring the ministries together and have the parish working as a whole towards the goal of evangelization.

***“We have integrated stewardship commitment as a part of sacramental preparation for Confirmation. We want to encourage families to have conversations with their children about the importance of giving of their time and talent. We want to see families coming together in that commitment.”***

— LESLIE SMART, STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL CHAIR

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## **New Academic Year Begins** *continued from front cover*

Fr. John Moriarty.

“There are no major adjustments,” Mrs. Bruggeman says. “Our teachers do a great job, especially with the sacramental preparation in second and eighth grades.”

As a parent and school principal, Mrs. Bruggeman sees the value of a Catholic education on two levels.

“To my husband and myself, a Catholic education is important,” she says. “What we teach at home is important to reinforce our Christian and Catholic beliefs. For the school to echo what we do at home is valuable. As Principal, the aspects of a Christian and Catholic education build a better community. It’s what sets us apart is that we can rely on faith and prayer when we need that.”

As the school year gets underway, the students

and faculty will begin working to make Oktoberfest a successful weekend. The event is earlier this year, Sept. 9 and 10, so preparations have been ongoing all summer.

Parishioners can help as volunteers for the parish’s biggest event of the year.

“Oktoberfest is a great way to support the mission of the parish and school,” Mrs. Bruggeman says. “We’d love to have parishioners taking part in it. It benefits the whole community.”

In fact, parishioners are welcome to volunteer at Christ the King School if they have a program or experience they believe would benefit the school.

“For example, we have a parishioner who brings his therapy dog in once a week for the students,” Mrs. Bruggeman says.

*There still is time to enroll a child at Christ the King School, as long as classroom space permits. If you would like to contact Mrs. Bruggeman about enrolling a child, please email her at [abruggeman@ckslex.org](mailto:abruggeman@ckslex.org).*

# The KING'S Connection

## The Assumption of Mary: August 15

### *The Promises of the Lord Fulfilled in the Blessed Virgin*

Can a pile of bones really be that exciting?

Every year, tens of thousands of pilgrims visit St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, eager to glimpse the spot in which the alleged bones of St. Peter, our first pope, remain to this day.

The relics of saints have been venerated throughout the ages in every corner of the world — yet, the bones of the very first Christian, the Mystical Rose, are nowhere to be found.

When it comes to the day, manner or year of the Blessed Virgin Mary's death, nothing is certain. No account is given in Scripture. The Church turns instead to Tradition for an answer.

Since the birth of the Church, no Marian relics have ever been venerated — nor can they ever be — because her body was *assumed*, or taken up, into heaven. There exist, therefore, no remains of the Blessed Virgin's body on this earth. She lives, right now, body and soul, in heavenly glory.

Although the particular dogma of the Assumption cannot be found in the writings of Scripture, if we look at many other writings by the early Christians, it is clear that the Church has always held this dogma to be true. Even more, though there is no statement of fact in the Bible itself that Mary



was assumed body and soul, the truths that we do know about Mary from Scripture simply serve to back up the reality that she was assumed into heaven. She gave herself wholly to the Lord and followed His will for her life, perfectly, to the end.

The Assumption of Mary reveals that the promises of the Lord — including the resurrection of the body — were fulfilled in Mary. She shared most intimately in the life, death and resurrection of her Son, and was free from original sin and its effects — including corruption of the body at death.

Therefore, it was no surprise when, in 1950, Pope Pius XII declared infallibly the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary as a dogma

of the Catholic faith with these words: "The Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory" (*Munificentissimus Deus*, 44).

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin is observed on the liturgical calendar as a solemnity — of higher importance than a feast — and is a Holy Day of Obligation. On Aug. 15, this wonderful celebration is accompanied by great hope in the resurrection of the body and everlasting union with God in heaven.

#### PRAYER FOR THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY

*Father in heaven, all creation rightly gives You praise, for all life and all holiness come from You. In the plan of Your wisdom she who bore the Christ in her womb was raised body and soul in glory to be with Him in heaven. May we follow her example in reflecting Your holiness and join in her hymn of endless love and praise.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*

## MOM'S GROUP OFFERS SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY IN MOTHERHOOD



*Mom's Group leader Marissa Bray with her family*

In St. John Paul II's 1995 *Letter to Women*, he said, "Through the insight which is so much a part of your womanhood, you enrich the world's understanding and help to make human relations more honest and authentic." St. John Paul II spoke in this letter of the value of women and mothers to society. Yet, this value isn't always apparent in our secular world, especially for mothers.

"Motherhood can be very isolating," says Marissa Bray, who leads the Cathedral of Christ the King Mom's Group morning session. "Our culture doesn't place value on children and families, and that is obvious in so many ways."

The Mom's Group here at the Cathedral wants to break through that isolation and meet moms where they are. The group is here for moms in all stages of motherhood and all walks of life.

"We, as Catholic women, are poised to offer a Christ-centered village," Marissa says. "Women are



*Lauren Broadbent with her husband, Gary, and their two children, Grace (9) and Oliver (8)*

seeking that out, especially in our current culture."

The Mom's Group mainly was on hiatus during the COVID-19 pandemic, since many moms had their hands full with children home from school and childcare — but the group is back now. The morning Mom's Group meets from 9 to 11 a.m. on two Wednesday mornings per month. The evening Mom's Group, which is led by Lauren Broadbent, meets one Wednesday per month. Childcare is offered during all Mom's Group meetings.

"We want to focus on our role as the domestic church," Marissa says. "That's where we will leave our greatest legacy, for ourselves and the church as a whole."

A mom to four children, Marissa is thankful to have family nearby. But not everyone has that, so she wants Mom's Group to be a place where all moms can find a community and the support they need. It's also a place to help one another in

*continued on back cover*



# Mom's Group Offers Support and Community in Motherhood

*continued from page 7*

building a Christ-centered family. As far as the Mom's Group leaders are aware, there is no other group like this in the diocese. All moms are welcome, not just those who belong to the Cathedral. "We can be there for each other," Marissa says. "We have that community that people are craving. It is hard to create that, and we have been able to do that naturally." The group also hosts retreats throughout the

year and a periodic mom's night out. Recently, they helped establish a nursing room at the Cathedral. "We want to make the Cathedral more welcoming and accessible for all moms," Marissa says. The group recently chose St. Gianna as their patron saint, and the members plan to seek her intercession as they grow the group and focus more on evangelization in the coming year. In everything, the members are here for each other, both physically and through prayer.

*If you would like more information on the evening Mom's Group, please contact Lauren Broadbent at [laurenmbroadbent@gmail.com](mailto:laurenmbroadbent@gmail.com); for the morning group, please contact Marissa Bray at 859-533-8804.*

## LITURGY SCHEDULE

*Saturday Vigil - 5:00 p.m. | Sunday - 7:30 a.m.; 9:00 a.m.; 11:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.  
Daily (Monday to Saturday) - 8:00 a.m. | (Monday to Friday) - 5:30 p.m.*

**Reconciliation: Wednesday 4:45 - 5:20 p.m., Saturday 3:45 - 4:45 p.m. | First Sunday of the month 8:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.**