

Malachi Matters



The ministries at St. Malachi that matter
to the faithful and to our neighbors

Spring 2024

CC BY 4.0

Moving Forward – Together

Rev. Michael K. Gurnick, Parish Administrator

Last July Cleveland Bishop Edward C. Malesic shared his vision for St. Malachi Parish to become an oratory and to partner with St. Patrick Parish, Bridge Avenue, as we strengthen the Catholic Community on the Near Westside. This was in response to an important year-long strategic planning process with St. Malachi parishioners.

Distinct from being a parish, an oratory is a place designated for prayer and a specific mission. As an oratory, St. Malachi remains a vital presence at West 25th and Detroit Avenue. The partnership with St. Patrick Parish ensures that liturgical life and the important work for which St. Malachi is known will continue. Life here will be different but the work continues as it has since 1865.

In light of the bishop's vision, a Collaboration Steering Committee (CSC) was formed and has been working to learn more about the unique features of both faith communities as well as their common mission. The work included surveying parishioners, obtaining financial and other practical information, and learning from other communities what an oratory-parish partnership might look like as we move forward. This phase culminated with members of the CSC gathering for a January weekend retreat

to reflect upon what they had learned over the past several months. The fruits of this retreat were many, to be shared at our joint parish Town Hall Meeting February 21. This also serves as the launch of our next phase as we address the many opportunities and challenges of putting a plan into action.

This next phase of our joint parish initiative will engage dozens of parishioners as they form small Working Groups to develop strategies for communicating our core values, mission, and vision. This work will include strategic plans to bring our worship, pastoral work, and campus life into focus as we move forward.

It is also important to share with our benefactors and friends in the community that we are eager to work with our partners, including Malachi Center and other groups who share our common goal to serve those afflicted by poverty, hunger, or homelessness as well as our friends in various recovery programs. Our mission certainly continues!

St. Malachi and St. Patrick, with a combined 330-year history, have witnessed significant changes and have embraced the needs presented to every generation of Catholics and neighbors. We're moving forward – together.

Thank you for your patience and dedication, Fr. Tony

Peter Toomey

We rejoiced in the New Years good news of Fr. Tony Schuerger being granted the return of his priestly faculties!

During almost five years of administrative leave, the Parish has missed his leadership and inspiration and true caring ministry.

Fr. Tony was the victim of an allegation of sexual misconduct decades ago. A thorough and lengthy investigation by civil authorities and the Diocesan Re-

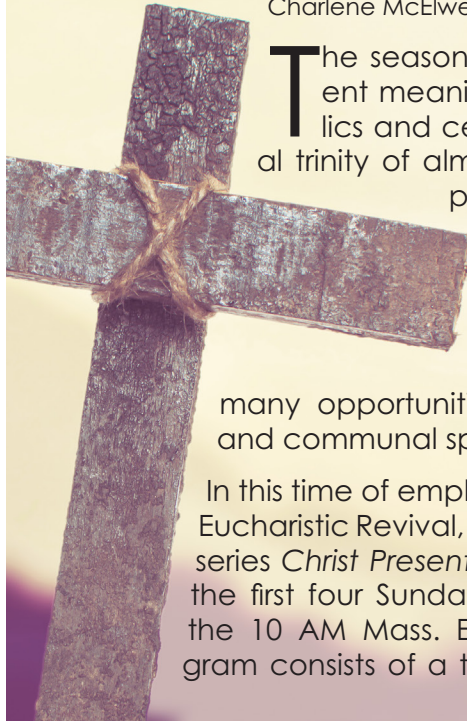
view Board brought no charges. So the Diocese of Cleveland and the Holy See have granted Fr. Tony the use of his priestly faculties once again.

We offer continuing prayers as he awaits a new assignment.

For this, his former flock thanks God and remains grateful for the love Fr. Tony shared with us as our shepherd from 1994 to 2019.

Lent: A time of Renewal and Hope!

Charlene McElwee, Minister of Music/Liturgy



The season of Lent holds different meanings for us as Catholics and certainly the traditional trinity of almsgiving, fasting and prayer is the centerpiece of these 40 days. Here at St. Malachi, in the Lenten season of 2024, there are many opportunities for our personal and communal spiritual growth.

In this time of emphasis on the National Eucharistic Revival, we offer a four-week series *Christ Present in the Eucharist*, on the first four Sundays of Lent, following the 10 AM Mass. Each week the program consists of a topical presentation,

prayer, scripture reflection, and table conversation AND the opportunity to share a meal in communion with others!

Wednesday February 28 is the annual Diocesan Night of Confession and St. Malachi Church will host the nearby parish communities of St. Malachi, St. Patrick, St. Wendelin, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, and St. Peter. Several confessors will be available to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation from 5 PM to 8 PM.

Taizé Prayer has returned to St. Malachi on the second Wednesday of each month and our Lenten prayer time is set for March 13 at 7 PM in church. This is a wonderful opportunity to come sing simple chants and reflect on the Word of God, all in the glow of our peaceful candlelit church.

Leaping Leprechauns!

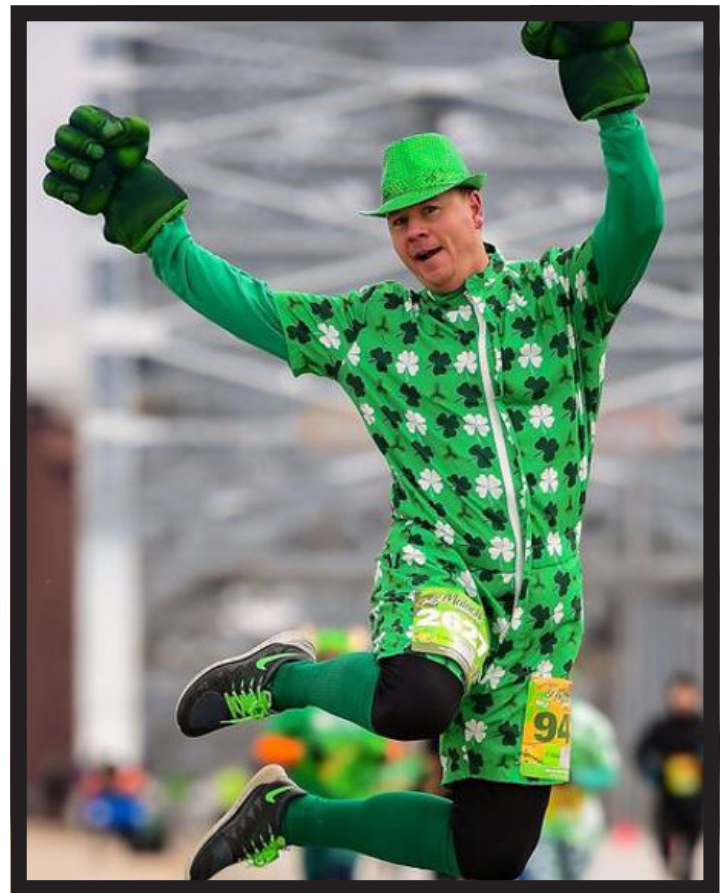
The Malachi Run/Walk!

Sharon Lowe-Chapman, Run Director

Irish eyes are smilin' as we gear up for the 45th Annual St. Malachi Church Run/Walk! Our event is the second-largest Irish celebration in CLE, rivaled only by the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The day starts with an 8 AM Mass. Participants can choose between a pet- and walker-friendly 2-mile course or a 5-mile route, with the option for avid runners to tackle both. Festivities abound, featuring Fox 8's Kenny Crumpton, live Irish music, bagpipes, and dancers. The post-race celebration continues at McCarthy's, where participants can enjoy a complimentary craft beer as they listen to traditional Irish music by Ever Green.

This event serves as a crucial fundraiser for Malachi Ministries, supporting our mission of providing food and assistance to homeless people and those in need. Registrants will receive a long-sleeve Irish-themed shirt, a finisher medal, and free craft beer for participants of legal age. Registration is OPEN all the way to race day.

Visit bit.ly/MalachiRun24 to register, donate, or volunteer.



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Learn much more about the Ministries at StMalachi.org

Yes. There Was An Epiphany.

And, the light was shared.

Kay Vine, Project Coordinator

In the rush of current culture's ever-busy and short-lived focus on many traditions, it was our goal this year to provide another opportunity for both parishioners and guests at our Saturday Brunch to celebrate more of the Christmas story.

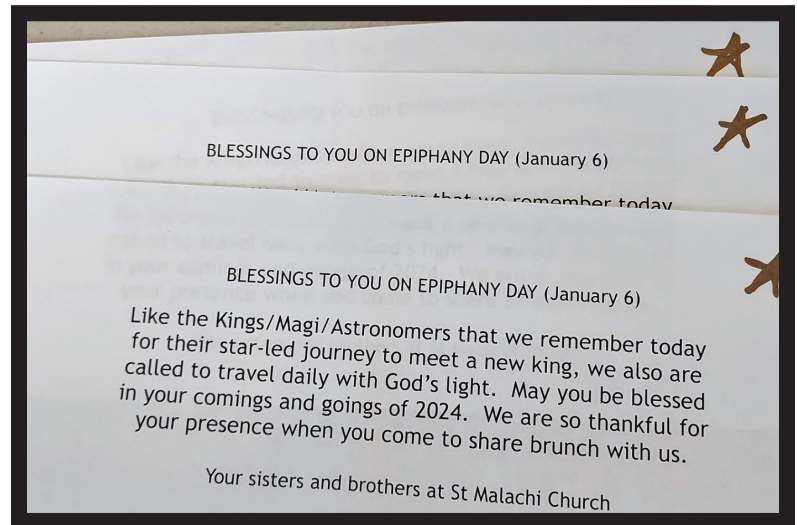
Parishioners were invited for two weekends prior to December 25 to bring cookies or individually wrapped candies. Hopefully to fill 140 small containers for the Saturday, January 6 (Feast of the Epiphany or Three Kings) brunch guests to take with them after the meal. On December 31 after Sunday Mass,

donations in abundance and containers were lined up on tables in the Hall, waiting for volunteers to prepare them. Oh what a marvelous turnout of helpers!

At least seven of our young adults (former High School age servers at St. Malachi) and their friends showed up to help. In no time, all was ready for an Epiphany sharing.

A printed blessing was placed in each gift reading, "As so long ago the Magi were led by light in the heavens to find the newly born Son of God, may your travels in this coming year be guided by the light of God's love. We are blessed to have you present with us. Your sisters and brothers of St. Malachi Church."

Guests were delighted and brunch staff were pleased to have gifts to share. We will do the same next year! To all who share this story, may YOUR travels be guided and blessed by the light of God's love.



Save the Date

The 2nd Annual "Songs for the Soul" Free Outdoor Concert

Carrie Sekerak, Communications Chair

Celebrating our Neighbors and Community
St. Malachi Parking Lot – W. 25th and Detroit
June 22, 2024 – 12-3, Join us for 4 PM Mass after

Music & Food Trucks
Sponsorships Available!

Contact MargaretArmstead493@gmail.com
for more information!



We Couldn't Serve, unless ...

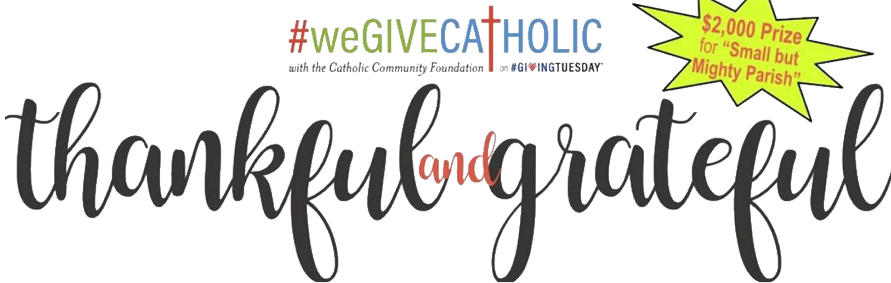
Jeanette Shemo

Thankful and Grateful – How else can St. Malachi express how appreciative we are for the support we received for #weGiveCatholic on November 28, 2023? Thanks to your generosity, \$62,785 was raised for our Parish Ministries – the Heart of Church – Backdoor, Monday Night Meal, Saturday Breakfast, Mother Teresa, Liturgy, Communications, PSR, Social Action, Samaritan, Hospitality, and Spiritual Development.

Special Thanks to our Matching Donors who generated a great deal of excitement and made a huge impact: two Anonymous Donors, Fred & Karen Kapus, Lou Keim, Carolyn Meyer, Tim & Diane Needles, St. Malachi Parish Council, Steve Switaj, and St. Malachi Book Club.

To all those who participated in the 2 PM Boyd Waterson Match – and there were many – St. Malachi received an additional \$4,050 toward our goal!

Because of your generosity and support through #weGiveCatholic, St. Malachi can continue its tradition of caring for mind, body, and soul by providing meals for poor and homeless people plus avenues for spiritual growth to everyone it serves through our ministries!



Malachi Matters Spring 2024

Since the 2016 inception of #weGiveCatholic, believers in our mission have donated \$326,754 for our Parish Ministries!

Did You Know?

2459 Washington Ave.
Cleveland OH 44113

St. Malachi Parish

Celebrating More Than 150 Years of Faithful Service in the Old Angle!



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