

# THE CONNECTION

Connecting More to God and One Another

→→→THE FAMILY CONNECTION←←←

## School Continues, New Principal

*Staying Connected to One Another*

*I hope this finds you well. Still praying and lifting you all up!*

*School continues with the blessings and challenges that come with it. Since God is always at work, it can often be most constructive to see what ways God has opened us to that we may have never considered. Receiving situations and interactions that come as an opportunity to grow in virtue and grow closer to God, can help them be blessings to us. So as school continues let us let God help us to love one another and ourselves better.*

*After a wide ranging effort in reaching out through the Diocese of Belleville and Diocese of Evansville, after seeking the Education departments of all the surrounding colleges and universities, after contacting various religious communities and other online efforts, multiple applications for St. Mary School principal were received. Then a search committee of 5 including School Board members, parents, parishioners, and school professionals in consultation with administrative experts, interviews were conducted at the local and then the Diocesan level. After many prayers, reference calls, and generous time commitments of the committee and applicants, St. Mary School is blessed to announce that Mr. Chris Lavelly is our new principal.*

*Mr. Chris Lavelly has attended Catholic Schools and currently works in a Catholic School. He hails from Vincennes and is married with 3 children. Mr. Lavelly writes about himself, "I have extensive experience interacting with parents and students. I want to create a shared vision with the various stakeholder groups and teaching staff for a well-rounded curriculum that promotes student success both inside the classroom and later in their lives. I strive to respect students as individuals and make their learning experience enjoyable and enriching." He will be saying more about himself soon.*

*We are currently conducting interviews for the School Secretary position and hoping to have an announcement for it soon. Apologies for any communication concerns or timings, but when we are going through a unique moment of history under these extraordinary circumstances, things often do not occur as we would have them. The virtues of patience and kindness serve us best at these times.*

*If anyone or any family is in need, please let us know at the Parish Office: 262-5337.*

*Finally, let us be sure to keep checking in on family, friends, and neighbors. Let us use these moments well knowing that God walks them with us. And be ready to receive whatever good and special things that God is already preparing to give us and show us! Peace and prayers, Father Robert*



## VBRD Connection

### Peace

- Attention to balance in one's life-

- The tranquility of order-

*Peace is founded on the primary relationship that exists between every human being and God himself, a relationship marked by righteousness. – (<https://www.milarch.org/catholic-teaching-on-peace/>)*

*Peace is first of all the absence of conflict. But it is also the serenity experienced because there is no conflict. It is the calm that accompanies agreement of human wills, and is the foundation of every well-ordered society. – Modern Catholic Dictionary*

*"Restorative Faith communities are committed to continuous improvement in cultivating quality relationships. These communities provide support and relief, constantly seeking resources for spiritual and emotional growth. They cultivate strong relationships, both with God and with one another. They are welcoming and warm, inclusive and caring." -Lynne Lang [Restorative Faith Communities Can Change the World](#)*

**ACTION:** Think thoughts of peace toward others. Say words of peace to others. Do deeds of peace for another.

### Forbearance (Bearing with One Another)

- Joyful mastery over one's passions and desires-

-prolonged self-control-

*We must imitate the forbearance of God. Oh, how great is God's forbearance! He endures patiently the temples of the profane men who outrage His Majesty; He endures idols and sacrilegious ceremonies; He makes the sun to shine on the evil and upon the good, and His rain descend upon the just and upon the unjust; He makes the elements serve all men alike, the impious as well as the good; the winds blow, the springs burst forth, the harvests swell with waving corn, the grapes ripen, the trees cover themselves with fruit, the forests put on thick foliage, the meadows adorn themselves with the enamel of flowers. God delays vengeance, and patiently waits, that man may correct himself and return to his Saviour. Such is the forbearance of the Eternal Father, and similar to it was that of the Son, for all the actions of Jesus Christ were characterized by patience and by that Divine evenness of soul of which nothing could disturb the tranquility. -----St. Cyprian*

*"The introduction of the "virtue-base" enables a deeper walk with God. We can integrate prayerful discernment of the virtue we intend to cultivate first within ourselves, then with those we interact with and all circumstances. This is the most difficult aspect to assimilate because it requires us to be introspective and do the soul-searching work of bettering ourselves. Many times we can easily see how others need to change or improve, yet fail to see the need within ourselves. We must be the change agents as well when seeking solutions to the difficult circumstances and relationships we encounter." Lynne Lang [Restorative Faith Communities Can Change the World](#)*

**ACTION:** Remember the Golden Rule and think, *Bear with one another as they bear with me.*

### VBRD GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. We will dedicate ourselves to living virtue.
2. We will support others in living virtue.
3. We will commit to constructive thoughts, words, and deeds.
4. When faced with challenges or conflict, we will find solutions that cultivate virtue for ourselves and for one another.

Learn more at: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/VirtueBasedRD/>

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## Connecting More to God and One Another



ST. MARY/ST. SEBASTIAN HAS  
A FORMED.org SUBSCRIPTION!

- FREE CATHOLIC VIDEOS, AUDIO PRESENTATION,  
AND BOOKS!

Bored at home, NOT ANYMORE! All things Catholic are  
now at your fingertips with FORMED.org

Incredible Catholic content, movies, books,  
presentations...ALL FREE!

Simply go to: <https://formed.org/signup> Put in 62863 and  
click NEXT

How to setup a Formed account:

Go to this website: <https://formed.org/signup>

Search for St. Mary Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish (the  
easiest way is by entering the zip code 62863)

Create your account free and start watching!

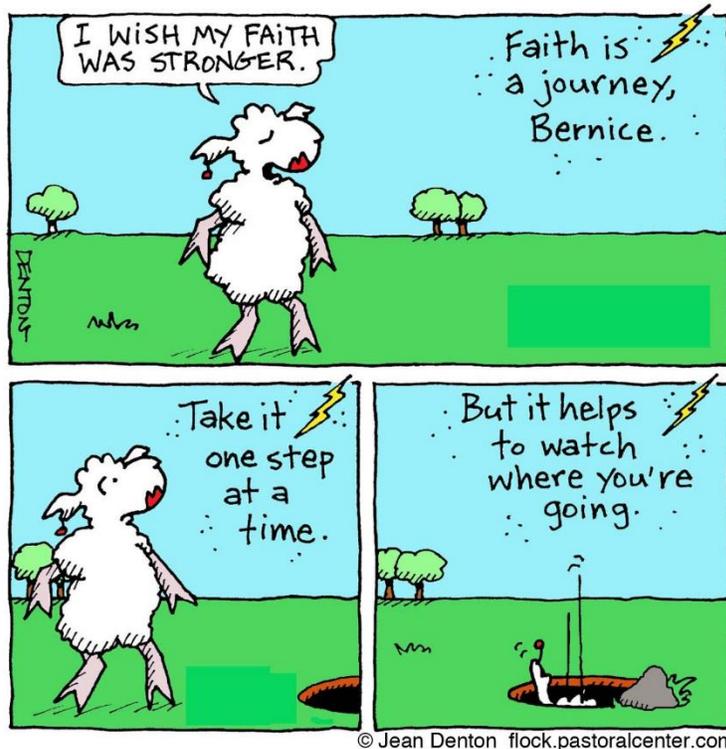


DID YOU KNOW ST. MARY/ST. SEBASTIAN HAS A  
PODCAST?

SEEKING SANCTUS - You do not know what the title means, but  
you'll love the content! Humorous, but helpful, get a bit of  
something that will help the day go a little better and a great  
reminder of how much God loves you and that you really do  
live in a great community. Check it out and give it a listen:

<https://soundcloud.com/user-657198597>

(You can also find it on our website and Facebook page.)



“The sheep follow [the shepherd], because they  
recognize his voice.”

### Sheepish Question:

What hazards must I be ready for in following  
the way of Christ?

**St. Mary Parish has a mobile APP! What is  
an app? Good question! An “app” or  
“application” is a specifically written computer  
software program for smartphones or tablets that  
helps you do or find something specific. St. Mary  
Parish mobile app lets you easily access all things  
St. Mary!**

**From our website, to bulletins, getting a  
daily meditation, a daily reminder to pray for  
special intentions, sign-up for parish notifications,  
Daily Mass readings, popular podcasts, and so  
much more in one place! Please go to iOS or  
android app store for a FREE download of “St  
Mary-Mount Carmel, IL” - YOU WILL NOT BE  
DISAPPOINTED!**