

Families Matter

Catholic, Charismatic, Evangelistic & Family-Oriented

Families in Christ Jesus Community

June - July 2007

Our Identity in Familes in Christ Jesus

by Arch Tunnell

Who exactly are we as people who say we are a part of "FCJC"? We have many new members that have been in FCJC for less than 5 years. I thought it might be a good time to review exactly who we are for those new members and a good review for those of us who have been involved for 5 plus years.

First of all we are four basic things: We are Catholic, charismatic, evangelistic and family life oriented. These four things should characterize us if we were to describe FCJC to others. First of all we are Catholic as stated in our Statement of Mission and in our Statement of Main Purposes. In our statement of Main Purposes it says "To provide the means and the environment to strengthen and form families into Domestic Churches emphasizing the priesthood of the parents as found in the teachings of the Magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church. We are Eucharistic. We encourage our members and especially our Servant Leaders to frequent Confession, Communion and regular Eucharistic Adoration. We fully support the Pro-Life stand of the Catholic Church and individually try to be as involved as possible in the Pro-Life movement. As Catholics we have voluntarily placed ourselves under the guidance of the local Diocese.

Secondly we are Charismatic. We believe that our worship is to be vibrant and Spirit filled. We believe in the Charismatic gifts of the Holy Spirit as described in 1 Corinthians chapter 12 and most importantly, we believe in the use of these gifts to build God's Kingdom. We further believe that our Baptism not only calls us to share in the responsibility in the Church's mission, but at the same time empowers each person with charisms (gifts of the Spirit) to fulfill that responsibility. In Section #3 of the Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity on the mission of the Church it states: "For the exercise of the apostolate (God) gives the faithful special gifts...for the building up of the whole Body in charity...from the reception of these Charisms even the most ordinary ones, there arises for each of the faithful the right and duty of exercising them in the Church and in the world for the good of men and development of the Church, exercising them in the freedom of the Holy Spirit who breaths where He wills and at the same time in communion with his brothers in Christ and with his pastors, especially."

Thirdly we are Evangelistic since we take seriously God's command in Matthew 28 "Go and make disciples of all nations". We very strongly believe that this is Christ's command to evangelize those that God puts in our path. This pertains particularly to our family members. Evangelization is the very nature of the Church. Pope Paul VI said "The Church exists to evangelize. If it does not evangelize, it does not exist!". The Lord Himself is evangelistic and we are to become like Him. In 1 Timothy 2:4 it says "For He wants all men to be saved and come to know the truth".

Lastly, our main thrust is in the strengthening of family life. We are to strengthen the Domestic Church. We are to rise in defense of the family and the Gospel of Life. All our teachings and activities are all focused on the family and the growth of each member of the family. We try to teach men how to be the best fathers possible and mothers likewise. Our Youth Group is taught many of the same teachings and they are also very evangelistic.

That is basically who we are, however, we have a commitment to FCJC also. Our commitment is to the Lord Jesus as His people, to live as a people of God. Not just to attend activities together, but to develop relationships. We do not know everyone in FCJC personally but we do put our lives in common and make ourselves available to serve when needed. This is why it is so important to attend our monthly Gathering and meet as many of our Brothers and Sisters as possible. We need to know who we are serving when called to serve. We must not turn into ourselves by only attending our Household meetings. We must continually be reaching out to people. We are a community of believers and should get to know as many community members as possible. We can't build relationships with each other if we don't come into contact with each other. I just want to encourage each and every one of you to attend our monthly Gatherings. At the last Gathering we heard a great teaching on our Mother Mary.

Our commitment includes a desire to grow in righteousness and holiness. We need to live our lives in committed and loving service to God, to each other and most importantly to those God puts in our lives to bring to Him. In other words to love and serve God, to love and serve each other in FCJC, and to love and serve those in the larger Church (Parish/Diocese).



CATHOLIC RENEWAL MINISTRIES EVENTS

I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW

Rev. 21:5

25th Cleveland Charismatic Conference
July 20th and 21st

Encounter Christ's love and healing power at the 25th Cleveland Charismatic Conference sponsored by Catholic Renewal Ministries – July 20th and 21st at Magnificat High School. Be inspired by international guest speakers Sister Ann Shields and Fr. John Capuci presenting the theme, "I Make All Things New". Share in the celebration of Mass on Saturday with Bishop Roger Gries.

Enjoy live contemporary Christian music, workshops, and fellowship with other participants. Times of adoration and intercessory healing prayer are planned, and there will be an opportunity to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation. The CRM bookstore and other vendor and informational tables will be open throughout the conference. On Friday, July 20th, the conference opening session and prayer rally starts at 7:00 p.m.

Please contact Sue and Joe Palmieri at 440-774-1191 for registration information or visit www.crmweb.org. Magnificat High School is located at 20770 Hilliard Blvd. in Rocky River.

CRM 25th Anniversary Mass

In recognition of Catholic Renewal Ministries 25th Cleveland Charismatic Conference and Fr. Bob Franco's 25th ordination anniversary, a Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated on Sunday, July 22nd, at St. Teresa of Avila Parish at 2:00 p.m. Fr. Franco will be the main celebrant.

The church is located at 1878 Abbe Rd., on the corner of State Routes 611 and 301, in Sheffield Village, 44054. Please call the parish office at 330-425-2678 for additional information.

Gathering Reminder

June Set-Up: Rado & Erickson
June Clean-up: Novak & Skilton
July Set-Up: O'Neill & Rihtar
July Clean-up: Powell & Roach

Questions? Please call Bob Perusek @ (216) 731-5531



Congratulations Wesen Family

On Friday, May 11th, at 1:18 PM at home (on purpose!), 9 pound, 6 ounces, Mitchell Abraham Wesen was born to his delighted parents, Alan and Toni. He joins brother Justin, 7, sister Alana, almost 5 and Peter, two and one-half.

Youth Calendar

June Schedule

Thu., Jun 7 Gathering @ St. Williams 8 - 10 pm
Sun., Jun 10 Beach Day @ Mentor Headlands
Sun., Jun 17 General Meeting @ Borromeo 6 - 8 pm
Sat., Jun 24 General Meeting @ Borromeo 6 - 8 pm

July Schedule

Thu., Jul 5 Gathering @ St. Williams 8 - 10 pm
Sun., Jul 8 General Meeting @ Borromeo 6 - 8 pm
Sun., Jul 15 LSR Service Team @ Roach's 3 - 9 pm
Sun., Jul 22 Precamp Worship Fest @ Borromeo 6-8 pm

Sun., Jul 27-29 Life in the Spirit Youth Retreat @ JCU

For more info call Becky Roach @ 216-691-3706 Schedule subject to change - please call for updates.

Please send Families Matter articles/contributions & advertisements to Debbie Finomore preferably by e-mail to deb@finomore.com or mail to 12115 Burlington Glen, Chardon OH 44024.

LET'S TALK

Al Schempp



There have been some changes to the prayer chain since it was published in January. We have moved Kay Rado to the last position on Bob Roach's list and we changed Pisorn-Novak to Novak-Bennett. Please read the procedure. The prayer request should move from a member to the household head and then to Marlyn and Loretta. Also if you elect to use an e-mail remember to make a phone call. Many of our members do not check their e-mail daily.

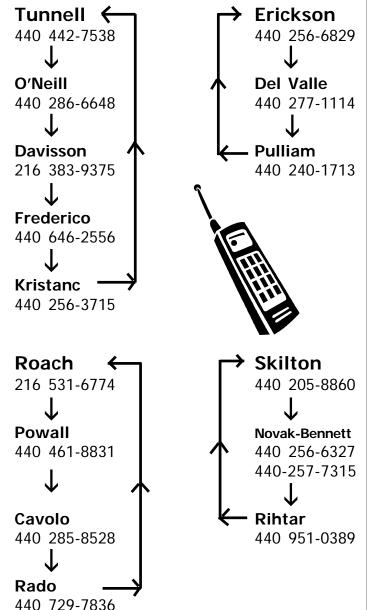
I encourage all members to come to me with suggestions for improving communications within FCJC. My e-mail address is: a.schempp@worldnet.att.net and my phhone number 440 729-7490.

Families in Christ Jesus Prayer Chain Procedure

In Families In Christ Jesus, we use the prayer chain to call on God's mighty hand to heal our members and their relatives.

- 1. All prayer chains start by identifying the person for whom we will be praying, and to whom that person is related, the problem and what we are to pray for. This data is then passed on to their household head.
- 2. The household head passes the prayer chain on to either Loretta or Marlyn depending where the household head is listed on the chart. For example Rihtar would go to Loretta and Frederico to Marlyn. If Loretta is not available call Marlyn and vica versa.
- 3. If it goes to Loretta, she would call Marlyn and the Skiltons. Marlyn would relay the request to the Roachs. Now all of the leaders have the prayer.
- 4. The leaders call their household heads and their own household.
- 5. If anyone gets an answering machine, the prayer is left on the machine and we go on calling until we reach a person. E-mail is good as a follow up. Because many do not visit their e-mail daily, critical prayer requests do not get passed on in a timely manner. For that reason we want the request passed by a phone call.
- 6. The last person on the four lists calls their leader to report that the chain has successfully been passed through that group.
- 7. We are promoting the idea of having household heads record all prayer chains in one place for follow-up.
- 8. It is suggested that the person receiving the prayer request, repeat the message to the caller so that it remains true through the chain.
- 9. When prayer is answered, be sure to give testimony to God's power at our monthly gathering. These are gifts from the Lord and are meant to build up the Christian community.

FCJC Prayer Chain



June is the Month of the Sacred Heart

Devotion to the Sacred Heart, as we know it, began about the year 1672. On repeated occasions, Jesus appeared to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, a Visitation nun, in France. During these apparitions He explained to her the devotion to His Sacred Heart as He wanted people to practice it. He asked to be honored in the symbol of His Heart of flesh; he asked for acts of reparation, for frequent Communion, Communion on the First Friday of the month, and the keeping of the Holy Hour. The Heart of Jesus never ceases to love us in heaven. He sanctifies us through the Sacraments. These are inexhaustible fountains of grace and holiness which have their source in the boundless ocean of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Novena Prayer

Divine Jesus, You have said, "Ask and you shall receive; seek and you shall find; knock and it shall be opened to you." Behold me kneeling at Your feet, filled with a lively faith and confidence in the promises dictated by Your Sacred Heart to Saint Margaret Mary. I come to ask this favor:

(Mention your request).

To whom can I turn if not to You, whose Heart is the source of all graces and merits? Where should I seek if not in the treasure which contains all the riches of Your kindness and mercy? Where should I knock if not at the door through which God gives Himself to us and through which we go to God? I have recourse to You, Heart of Jesus. In You I find consolation when afflicted, protection when persecuted, strength when burdened with trials, and light in doubt and darkness.

Dear Jesus, I firmly believe that You can grant me the grace I implore, even though it should require a miracle. You have only to will it and my prayer will be granted. I admit that I am most unworthy of Your favors, but this is not a reason for me to be discouraged. You are the God of mercy, and You will not refuse a contrite heart. Cast upon me a look of mercy, I beg of You, and Your kind Heart will find in my miseries and weakness a reason for granting my prayer.



First International Culture-of-Life Conference

The first International Culture-of-Life Conference will be Friday and Saturday, July 6-7, 2007, at St. Mary's Church and Hall in Akron, Ohio. The conference is sponsored by Life Initiatives for Education. The purpose of the conference is to further educate, embolden, and empower all people in promoting a culture of life that abolishes abortion, embryonic stem cell research and euthanasia. For more information go to www.summitrtl.com

Dr. Alveda King, founder of King for America, Inc. and Director of African American Outreach for Gospel of Life Dr. Alveda King has worked for more than half a century of her life to glorify God on earth. She has founded King for America, Inc. "to assist people in enriching their lives spiritually, personally, mentally and economically. She currently serves as Director of African American Outreach for Gospel of Life, led by Father Frank Pavone of Priests for Life. Her inspirational collection of Christian testimonies is used at conferences and workshops around the world. Dr. King's talk for the conference will be "Keeping the Dream Alive".





Fr. Tad is the education director for the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. He earned a Ph.D. in neuroscience from Yale University, did research at Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School, and studied advanced theology and bioethics in Rome.



Coaching for Christ
Matt Chinchar Honored

Our FCJC brother, Matt Chinchar recently received the Ohio Fellowship of Christian Athletes Huddle Coach of the Year award along with Ted Ginn, Sr. They were recognized for their work at Glenville High School in Cleveland.

The award is not based upon wins and losses but upon a coach's ability to set a good Christian example and to inspire his players to set an example for their fellow class mates on how to lead a good Christian life.

The award was presented April 13 in Columbus in front of 700 people. Coach Sam Rutigliano of the Browns was recognized as the Ohio Legend and nearly 30 high schoolers were recognized for their leadership at their individual schools. During their remarks Coach Rutigliano and Ohio State and FCA Legend Archie Griffin mentioned Matt several times. Several members of the Davidson household were at the dinner to support Matt and Mary.

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes is touching millions of lives... one heart at a time. Since 1954, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes has been challenging coaches and athletes on the professional, college, high school, junior high and youth levels to use the powerful medium of athletics to impact the world for Jesus Christ. FCA is the largest Christian sports organization in America. FCA focuses on serving local communities by equipping, empowering and encouraging people to make a difference for Christ.

If you have teenage children or grandchildren and would like to learn more about FCA, please feel welcome to contact either Matt Chinchar or FCJC brother Bob Hendrix who is a member of the board of the Ohio FCA.





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Youth Group Guys' Retreat The Armor of God

Over the weekend of April 14-15, 18 young men from the youth group made their way to Mohican State Forest for an overnight camping retreat. The theme of the retreat was on the Armor of God. The weather was bitter cold and snowy but they braved the elements and stayed in a large tent. The following is 17 year old Michael Danner's reflection of Saturday night's worship service:

At the Guy's Retreat in April, I experienced worship on a completely different level. It was very cold so I was definitely not in the mood; I just wanted to get in my sleeping bag and go to sleep. But something inside of me knew that something amazing was about to happen that night and it definitely did.

At the beginning mostly everyone was sitting in a ball on the floor trying to keep what little body warmth they could keep in. But I was standing for some reason that only God knows. The strings starting strumming from the guitar and I started singing it didn't matter how off my voice was or how much of a fool I was making myself, I felt as if I was one on one with God that night. I have been to many worships so far in my life, and most of them were very good as well but multiply the best worship you have been to by two and that's how amazing it was. Many things came to me that night that were very strong, I came to a realization that I was very, very spoiled and very, very lucky.

I'm standing in a tent for ONE night and I'm very cold but there are people all over who would cry if someone gave them a tent or even a clean coat.

There were times when I cried that night for the people who had nothing and there were times were I was disappointed in how much I had taken advantage of everything I had. I have never been that close to God I could almost touch him and feel his breath on the back of my neck. I hope that everyone gets to witness an experience like theone I had that evening

and hopefully
people will also
get to be as cold
as I was so
they can
realize how
much they truly
have. Thank you God
for equipping me with a
brand new set of
armor.



YOUTH ON A MISSION

Several of our youth leader (Michelle Lazanich, Andrew Pisorn, Amanda Perusek, Elizabeth McFadden, Megan Dougherty, Dan Flannery, Jared Roach and Jim Sanders) had the opportunity to travel to either Orlando, Florida or Dallas, Texas over the past few months to be trained to run the new Life in the Spirit Youth Retreat. They've brought their knowledge home and now our **Youth Group is ready to host their own Life In the Spirit Retreat the weekend of July 27 - 29 at John Carroll University**.

All young people ages 13 - 20 are welcomed to attend. The youth are very excited about the new format and are anxious to share it with others. FCJ Youth from other cities will also come to Cleveland to assist and be trained.

Please spread the word and invite any young person you know to come and spend a life changing weekend at John Carroll University at the end of July. They can invite a friend(s) or come on their own - they will be warmly welcomed and will have a great time as they make new friends and strengthen their relationship with the Lord. Please call Becky Roach at 216-691-3706 or Debbie Finomore at 440-285-3697 for more information.







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