

Holy Family Newsletter

Lafayette, TN
October, 2019



What an exhausting, but exciting week that was!! Our new home has finally been done and dedicated, and we have moved in. Our first Mass was September 22, 2019, and while it felt a little “weird”, it also felt great.

The celebration began on Friday, September 20. The entertainment on Friday night was phenomenal and showed how diverse and proud of our diversity we are. Our Anglo choir sang beautifully, and our sisters in Christ from the Lafayette Methodist Church joined in our celebration with their Bell Choir. The Filipino community presented songs both as a choir and individually. The Hispanic community celebrated with songs and traditional Spanish dancing. We were joined by a group from Gallatin, TN, who blessed us with their traditional Aztec songs, dance and prayers. WOW !!! What a night!!

After many years of prayers and tons of hard work by everyone at Holy Family, our dreams for a new home came true. As with any new home it is a work in progress. Like a new home, everyone has a say as to what they want it to look and, more importantly, feel like. Please let us know of any suggestions you may have. A heartfelt “Thank You” to everyone in our family.

We have many new beginnings here, all of them good:

- Religious Education will now be held in a “real” classroom
- The kitchen is large and functional to support our activities
- The Fellowship Hall is spacious enough for almost any type of gathering
- The Church is close to the Pavilion for additional outdoor celebrations
- There is plenty of parking now available
- There is a lot of outside area for children to run and play after Mass
- Air conditioning and windows for our worship comfort

Please remember, the Fellowship Hall is our “Meet and Greet Our Neighbor” space. The Sacristy is our “Meet and Greet The Lord”. Quiet in the Sanctuary would be appreciated for those in prayer.

As part of our new beginning, we will be starting a monthly newsletter, highlighting our ministries and activities. Since this is the first one, we would like to introduce (or re-introduce) ourselves and what we are about.

Who We Are

We are blessed to have the Religious Staff that we do:



Father Victor Subb has been our pastor since September, 2012. He is a Glenmary Missionary and is very busy not only with the normal duties of a pastor, but as a host to visiting seminarians, visiting the ill in both the hospital and at their homes, and listening and counseling as needed. He makes sure that he is involved with all of the Church's activities, ranging from soccer games to donuts after Mass, to jail ministries. You never know where he will show up!! He enjoys travel and baseball.



Father Charles Aketch has been with us since August 6, 2018. He first joined Holy Family as a seminarian, and was ordained a priest in April 27, 2019. What a joyful day that was !! He became our Associate Pastor and assists Father Vic in the proverbial “duties as assigned”. He enjoys watching documentaries, visiting people (especially the elderly and sick), traveling around town, volleyball, checkers, and even enjoys a game of Bunco.



Deacon Jose Pinela is our Pastoral Associate. He was ordained a deacon in 2006, and was the first Hispanic deacon to be ordained in the Nashville diocese. He was born in Guatemala. He is a great asset to our family and he also assists Father Vic in “duties as assigned”. He also aids out Hispanic family in any way he can. He is married with 3 children and 4 grandchildren and enjoys being a handyman and is “always into doing something”. He loves nature and is always planting things in his spare time.



Brother Larry is a member of the Glenmary Home Ministries. He was commissioned a brother in 1978, and most of his ministries has been working with children and youth. He does outreach for the poor, and plays guitar in the choir when he is able. He is Second Vice President of the Glenmary Council. He like to play guitar, play games on the Internet, and follow sports.

What We Do

Our membership is quite active. We cover Westmoreland, Red Boiling Springs, Lafayette, and Hartsville to name a few communities we serve. We have several committees including Parish Council, Maintenance, Finance, and Liturgy, to name a few.

In this section of the newsletter, we will introduce or re-introduce the many committees and activities that we are involved in.

One of the committees of the Church is the **Parish Council**. It is comprised of 6 elected members serving 2 years terms each. There are 5 assigned Hispanic members. It is the main purpose of this council to act as a guide for Father Vic in making decisions-recommendations are made after discussion, and the final decision is up to him. We meet once a month and as needed. We can form new committees to assist with projects as needed. Please let one of us know if you have an idea or an issue and we will try to address it. We encourage all to attend the meetings. However, if you want to speak to the full council at a meeting, be sure to let the chairperson know in advance in order to place you on the agenda. . We try to keep the meetings to no more than 90 minutes, and we want to make sure enough time is allowed for all to speak. Other committees, such as Finance, Maintenance, Liturgical and Women's committees, report to the council at the monthly meeting. **We have an open door policy and would love to see you there.** Deacon Jose is available not only to assist the council members, but to translate, if necessary for our Hispanic members. Father Vic and Father Charles are also bilingual.

What We Are Going To Do

We want to let everyone know what we do as well as what will be coming up. In future newsletters, we will be explaining what each committee does, and plans of those committees going forward. This does not take the place of the weekly bulletin, but another way to communicate. Please let us know your thoughts.

If you have any activities coming up that you would like to add to the newsletter, please let us know. We are a very active community. Once we get all the information and dates, we will include them in future newsletters. Here is a list of some of the things we do:

English and Spanish Mass on Sundays

English and Spanish Religious Education

Knights of Columbus

Prison Ministry to both Men and Women

English Mass on the every Wednesday of the month

Bingo at the Nursing home as an outreach

Weekly radio show by Father Vic

Annual bake sale

Vacation Bible School

Hosting travelling youth groups

English and Spanish Choir

Socializing in the Fellowship Hall after each Mass

Women's Ministry

Spanish Mass on every Tuesday of the month

Annual Yard Sale

Soccer

Visitation on the sick-home and nursing homes

Parish picnic

Hosting Seminarians

Women's Bunco-last Monday of the month

