

From the Pastor's Printer

Thank You, Mrs. Meymann, and God Bless You Always

Mrs. Susan Meymann, our school principal since 2011, has decided to leave St. John's to pursue new paths in education. We can be very grateful to her for her dedication and expertise to St. John's school and to our children. Often, the light in her office was burning at ten or eleven o'clock at night, as she would be toiling away to provide the best we can offer to our students. Through her work with others we are able to offer a Catholic education to many more children through the John Petersen Scholarship, which allows us to meet the needs of students who face intellectual and physical challenges. I am also very grateful to her for her zeal

in bringing Christ into every student and faculty and staff member's life. Susan will be with us until the end of June. We thank God for you; we thank you, and we wish you the best.

We have posted the notice that we are looking for a principal on the Archdiocesan Human Resources Career Page:

www.catholiccincinnati.org/jobs/school-related-openings

If you know of anyone interested in the position of principal at St. John's, please direct them to this site.

Eucharistic Joy Is Easter Joy

This weekend, as we did last weekend, St. John's parish is celebrating First Holy Communion. It may appear that we celebrate this great event in the Spring because it gives the teachers more time to prepare the children, and there's a better chance of good weather for the party. However, the true reason for celebrating First Communion then is its relationship between the victory of Christ over sin and death and what the Mass is about.

The Easter season is 50 days of celebrating and reflecting on Christ's conquest over sin and death and the resulting grace and life which he bestows upon us. The Easter Vigil is the night when older children and adults who thirst for these gifts are baptized by dying to sin as they are plunged into the baptismal water and rising as a new man or woman filled with the life of Christ himself. On this night they are filled with the Holy Spirit's energy and vitality to give witness to the victory of Christ and what it offers themselves and others. These two sacraments – Baptism and Confirmation – are received once, for they put us in a permanent and irrevocable bond with God. Once received, we are permanently God's child and permanently filled with the Holy Spirit. One might choose to reject this adoption, but God remains. The

climax of the Easter Vigil is the celebration of the Eucharist; the recalling and making present of Christ's sacrifice on Calvary and his glorious resurrection by the power of the Holy Spirit, and Christ giving Himself as our Food and Drink to nourish us to eternal life. The crucified and risen Christ is made present to us as pure gift from the Father who wants every person to be united with him in ways and manners far beyond our comprehension. Throughout the Easter season, we celebrate these sacraments so that those who have been baptized as infants may be drawn more deeply into the life of Christ.

While Baptism and Confirmation are received only once, the Eucharist is the sacrament that continually nourishes us in the life of the crucified and risen Christ. It draws us over and over again, in fact weekly, into divine life and strengthens us to live out the implications of life in Christ and being empowered by the Holy Spirit. Every Sunday is a "little Easter" a recalling, an eating and drinking to the resurrection in which we live.

A blessed week of Eucharistic living! - Fr. Jeff