



# 2019 Festival of Faiths

Dear Friend of Annunciation Parish & School,

On Sunday, September 8, 2019, the 2nd annual [Cincinnati Festival of Faiths](#) celebrates interfaith understanding and collaboration for all ages. Organized by the Bridges of Faith Dialogue, it will feature more than 100 faith-based exhibits, music, interfaith dialogues and workshops, spiritual meditations, art and more. The festival will be held from 12:30-5:00 p.m. at the Cintas Center at Xavier University and is free and open to the public.



The 2019 Cincinnati Festival of Faiths looks forward to showcasing Cincinnati's religious diversity, celebrating various religions' contributions to our community's quality of life, developing our community's exemplary interfaith relations and collaboration, and building an enhanced interfaith unity. This year's theme continues to realize the importance of *Compassion Through Action* with a focus on *Becoming a Beloved Community*.

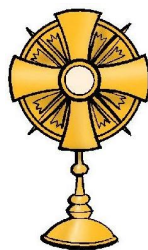
This year's expanded festival includes cultural appreciation and learning, music and entertainment, compassionate conversations, youth activities, community service, merchandise vendors, meditation, an interfaith devotional observance, and of course, delicious food.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sandi Chakeres  
Director of Faith Formation

## Eucharistic Holy Hour

On the second Wednesday of each month, Annunciation Parish celebrates a Eucharistic [Holy Hour](#). Holy Hours are the Roman Catholic devotional tradition of spending an hour in Eucharistic Adoration in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. The Holy Hour begins at 7:00 p.m. with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, accompanied by brief prayer and song. Most of the hour is a time for quiet, personal prayer, reading, meditation, contemplation and adoration. At 7:45 p.m., there is again a time of brief prayer, with Scripture and song, concluding with Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome!



**FIAT: Faith In Action Today**  
**Annunciation Parish & School**  
**Religious Education/Faith Formation News**  
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### Special points of interest:

- Ever wonder where Catholics stand on given issues? Visit the Archdiocese of Cincinnati's "[Where We Stand](#)" page for information.
- Did you know that from September 4-10, Pope Francis will be taking an Apostolic Journey to Mozambique, Madagascar and Mauritius? You can follow his travels [here](#).
- Follow us on [Facebook](#) to get all our latest news and see all our latest photos!

\*\*Icon at top left of page: Archangel Gabriel (Annunciation), 16th Century, Russian Heritage, Location: Andrei Rublev Museum in Moscow. Used with permission of St. Isaac of Syria Skete (Orthodox Byzantine Icons, Inc.); 25266 Pilgrims Way, Boscobel, WI 53805 www.skete.com

## Saint Peter Claver: “The Slave of the Slaves Forever”

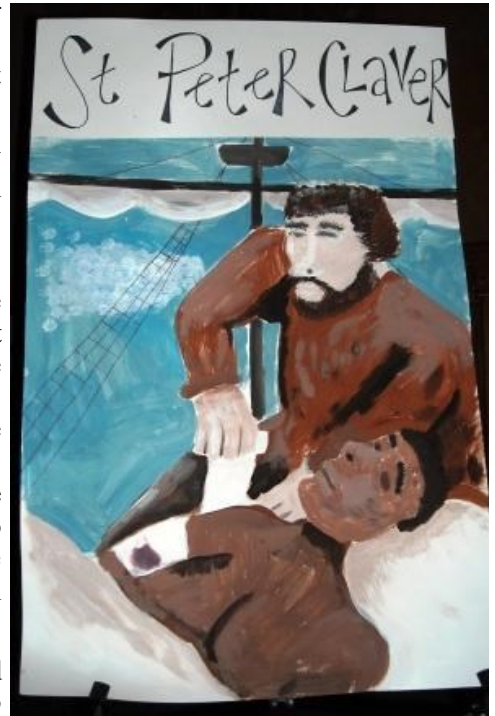
On September 9th, the Catholic Church celebrates the Memorial of Saint Peter Claver. Peter Claver was born in Spain in 1581. His parents were farmers. Peter joined the Jesuit religious order. (This is the same religious order that founded Xavier University and St. Xavier High School here in Cincinnati.)

Peter was encouraged to follow his vocation of being a missionary to the New World. As a young novice, he left his homeland and became a missionary in Cartagena (which is in what is now the country of Columbia in South America). He was ordained a priest there in 1615.

Cartagena was a bustling city, but it was the primary center for the slave trade in the New World. Every year, thousands of slaves from West Africa arrived at this port. Because of the inhumane conditions on the slave ships, many of these West Africans died during the sea voyage, and many others arrived at Cartagena in serious condition. Peter Claver recognized the human dignity of each one of these persons and became their advocate. He would meet the slave ships, and bring water, food, medicine, and clothing to the West African slaves. He tended their wounds and taught them about the love of God. Peter would also preach in the city square and to plantation owners. But he never accepted the hospitality of the plantation owners, staying instead in the slave quarters with the West Africans he cared for so deeply.

Peter Claver declared himself the “*slave of the slaves forever.*” He also would often say that that “*We must speak to them with our hands before we try to speak to them with our lips.*”

Peter became ill and died a few years later in the year 1654. He was canonized a Saint in 1888. He is Patron of Columbia and all missions to black peoples.



THE ABOVE POSTER OF ST. PETER CLAVER WAS CREATED IN 2010 BY ANNUNCIATION STUDENTS FOR A PRESENTATION DURING LITURGICAL CATECHESIS.

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ Sunday, September 8, 12:30-5:00 p.m.: [Festival of Faiths](#) at Cintas center
- ◆ Wednesday, September 11, 7:00-8:00 p.m.: [Eucharistic Holy Hour](#)
- ◆ Thursday, September 12, 9:30-10:15 a.m.: Morning Prayer
- ◆ Saturday, September 14, 5:00: [Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross](#)
- ◆ Thursday, September 12, 9:30-10:15 a.m.: Morning Prayer
- ◆ Thursday, September 19, 7:00 p.m.: Reconciliation Preparation Parent Meeting
- ◆ Tuesday, September 24, 6:00-9:00 p.m.: Plenary Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
- ◆ Thursday, September 26, 9:30-10:15 a.m.: Morning Prayer

***It's Happening at  
Annunciation!***

## The Most Holy Name of Mary

On September 12th the Church celebrates the feast (optional memorial) of the Most Holy Name of Mary. This celebration is a recent addition to the Universal Roman Calendar.

Why would we celebrate the name of Mary? Primarily because God is glorified by Mary's role in salvation history. The glory belongs to God! In the beautiful canticle the Magnificat, Mary, herself, proclaims that all generations will call her blessed. Why? Because God has looked upon her lowliness and done great things for her. In this song, Mary clearly announces that God's name is holy. (See Luke 1:46-55)

Does it still seem odd to have a feast day celebrating a name? Not at all! Recall that in former times, and still to this day in many cultures, a person's name day (the Feast Day of their Patron Saint) is far more important and widely celebrated than their birthday.

So on September 12th celebrate the Most Holy Name of Mary, and don't forget to send a special Feast Day greeting to all the Marys in your life, as well!

