



# MISSIONARIES OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

CINCINNATI PROVINCE  
431 E. Second St.  
Dayton OH 45402-1764

prodirsec@cpps-preciousblood.org  
Phone: 937-228-9263  
Fax: 937-228-6878

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Dear Parishioners,

Greetings in Christ. I am Fr. Jeffrey Kirch, C.PP.S., the Provincial Director of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood. As you are aware, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati has been engaged in a pastoral planning process called Beacons of Light, which has a goal of helping all of us to “grow closer to God, follow Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit and radiate Christ in our lives.” As part of that process, the current configuration of clusters of parishes are being reorganized into Families of Parishes. The current draft of the plan has St. Teresa, Immaculate Conception, Holy Rosary (St. Marys), and St. Patrick (Glynwood) forming a Family of Parishes. Our Lady of Guadalupe Church is to be joined with the Family that is composed of the current Marion Catholic Community and Minster Cluster.

In addition to the formation of the Family of Parishes another change in this process is that the Missionaries of the Precious Blood will no longer be staffing St. Teresa and Immaculate Conception Churches. Fr. Ken Schnipke, C.PP.S., will be completing his twelve-year term as your pastor on June 30, 2022. Archbishop Schnurr will appoint a new pastor for the new Family of Parishes beginning July 1, 2022.

Since the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, the Missionaries of the Precious Blood and the parishioners of the parishes in the cluster have walked together and worked together to build the Kingdom of God. We have much to be grateful for over the years. Together we have celebrated all the rites of passage of life: so many baptisms, first communions, weddings and funerals. Together we have instructed thousands of children in the faith. And thousands of relationships have been formed. This rich history is a testament to the dedication of the Missionaries and of the parishioners.

While Precious Blood priests may no longer be presiding at Mass at Immaculate Conception or St. Teresa, our Missionary spirit will live on in the people in these holy places. We have been motivated over these decades by our Precious Blood spirituality, which calls on us to reach out to those on the margins of society and rejoice that we have all been redeemed by the Precious Blood of Christ. It is my sincere hope that going into the future your commitment to that missionary spirit will carry on in the life of the family.

I want to thank Fr. Ken for his dedication to the ministry to which that Christ has called him. His ministry with you over the past twelve years has been a true blessing for each of you, the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, and for the Church.

May God continue to bless the Missionaries and all of the parishioners of Immaculate Conception and St. Teresa. St. Gaspar, pray for us! Our Lady of the Precious Blood, pray for us!

In the Precious Blood of Christ,

*V. Rev. Jeffrey S. Kirch, C.PP.S.*

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Provincial Director