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The FEST
28700 Euclid Ave.
Wickliffe, Ohio 44092
www.theFEST.us

In this season of giving thanks...

...Please take a moment to offer words and emails of thanks to our sponsors who helped make The FEST possible.

...If you can, please consider making a gift to The FEST. Your support will help us plan FEST 2015 and continue this GREAT day. Tax-deductible donations can be made out to: CPL - The FEST and sent to: Father Bob Stec, The FEST, 28700 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe, OH 44092.

...We are starting to plan for FEST 2015; if you want to join the planning team, please let us know (FrBob@theFEST.us). We need your energy and ideas to keep The FEST fresh and strong!

...Mostly, know how grateful we are for your support for The FEST. This GREAT day of faith, family and fun is only possible with you. God bless you and your loved ones. If there's anything you need or we can do for you, please let us know (frbob@theFEST.us).

...Each week in Advent you will receive a special FEST eblast with an Advent Prayer and a FEST band announcement. Watch your emails!!

"Thank you times 1000 to all of you who made this day fabulous. My fiancé's son said, "Dad, this is the best day of my life!" as we watched the fireworks.

Praise God, great weather and celebrating our faith as a family of God. Doesn't get any better than that."

- Greg G.

"I wanted to thank you, your team and all the volunteers for putting together such an amazing event today! It was my first time at the FEST. It was such a great experience. I honestly felt God's presence in so many ways there today! Absolutely refreshing and so grateful for the experience."

- Lisa H.



WHAT MATTERS IS YOU CHOSE TO COME



By all accounts, FEST 2014 was a huge success and a GREAT day! Many came and enjoyed great music, family fun, lots of wonderful activities, crafts and so much more. The emails we have received are a testimony to the energy, good spirit and joy of the day. Thanks to all who came. Thanks to all our volunteers. Many thanks to our sponsors and vendors. Special thanks to YOU for your help and support!

In our post-Mass celebration, I shared a simple thought..."every year, people want to know how many people came to The FEST (over 40,000 this year). Whether it is 2,000, or 10,000, or 40,000 is virtually insignificant because what matters is that YOU were there....and it's the same truth with God. It doesn't make a difference if God chooses one, or a thousand, or 3 billion. All that matters is that God chooses you. Cares for you. Has great work in mind for you to do....YOU are CHOSEN. Each of us needs to continue to choose the Lord, and choose to do the work that God has in mind for us to do."

Thank you for your support for The FEST. It's a source of inspiration and hope for thousands across our region. Some of this year's highlights can be found in this newsletter and on our website (www.theFEST.us).

God bless you.

CHOSEN



Special thanks to our 2014 presenting sponsors:



CHOSEN Challenge



This year, we are asking you to participate in the **CHOSEN CHALLENGE**. It's quite simple. **We are blessed to be CHOSEN by God** – embraced in God's care and love. **We are CHOSEN by God** – tapped on the shoulder and selected – to go into our world and carry His message and His love to others.

The **CHOSEN CHALLENGE** is really just that – each month we would ask you to choose someone for a significant act of kindness given without expecting anything in return. On the back side is a 'calling card' that you can pass out to the person you are helping to let them know they have been CHOSEN for this act of kindness.

Your **FEST** calendar has monthly suggestions in the top of each right corner. Here are some other ideas:

- As you do your coffee or fast food drive thru – **pay for the person behind you.**
- **Rake the leaves** in your neighbor's yard - just because you can.
- **Send a card** to a co-worker who is struggling at home or at work.
- **Make a monthly sacrifice** and adopt an orphan child through the FEST's Project CHOSEN www.projectCHOSEN.com
- As you do, or experience, these acts of kindness – the CHOSEN CHALLENGE – **share your experience and story online at: www.thefest.us/CHOSENchallenge.**

There are hundreds of examples. God has selected us, and embraced us, to continue His love and compassion in the way we care and support others at home, in our neighborhood and throughout the world.

Download the 2014-2015
FEST Calendar!
Visit the FEST.us/calendar



Special thanks to Qwestcom Graphics who provided the FEST Calendars and prints all of our FEST mailings!



"I had an awesome time at the FEST. Great weather, awesome music with an amazing mass! Can't wait for next year." – Melissa C.

Advent is a season of hopeful anticipation. Each week we will be sending out a FEST eblast announcing one of the bands on the mainstage and an Advent prayer for the week. Make sure you are signed up for the FEST eblast to be the first to know the line up for Sunday, August 9, 2015.

FEST Christmas

Every year we try to do a FEST Christmas event. Last year we brought Matt Maher to Notre Dame College. What we heard from you is that you love the event but would rather have a FEST mid-year gathering in early 2015 after the busy Advent/Christmas season. **So, we heard what you said and are working hard to plan a early 2015 event to shake off the winter snow!!**

In the meantime, if you are looking for some GREAT family events, you are most welcome to join Jake Bihari, Rachel Burkey, Caitlin O'Neill, Tom Bonezzi, Helen Lanzarotta and Father Bob Stec (all part of the FEST Core Team) at Saint Ambrose for a couple of fun, free family events to celebrate the joy and hope of this holy season. **Please join us. Invite your family and friends. Just like the FEST, these events are FREE for you and all.**

Christmas Tree Lighting: December 6th at 5:30 pm

Living Nativity: December 20th from 5:30 - 7:30pm

For more information about these Advent events please visit, www.thefest.us/advent.

FEST 2015 Bands - CHOSEN!

Not only was it the theme for FEST 2014, we can tell you that as of October 1 – the headliners for FEST 2015 have been CHOSEN – and they have said 'yes!'. They are eager and excited to be a part of this great day for our community.

In the weeks to come, we will be finalizing the details and look forward to announcing the bands for the mainstage... soon and very soon!

Sign up today for The FEST eblast so you can be among 'the first' to know (www.thefest.us/eblast).

And....while on the website, take a guess at who is playing at FEST 2015.

If you guess correct, your name will be entered for a pair of backstage passes for Sunday, August 9, 2015 to meet your favorite FEST band!!!

Go to: www.thefest.us/guess.

Project CHOSEN

On FEST day, we introduced a very special FEST effort called Project CHOSEN. The hope is to help support orphaned children in the Congo. There are thousands of orphans who need our help – who need food. If all of us simply chose to help a little, we can make a world of difference. Please take a few minutes to read about this special effort, and how you may be called and CHOSEN to help a child in need.

www.ProjectCHOSEN.com



"What a wonderful event! My sister and I enjoyed all of the events including listening to for King & Country and Casting Crowns. Each and every sponsor made the event successful."
– Beth W.

Share your favorite FEST memory!

We love to see all of the great photos that have been shared on the FEST Facebook page, as well as hearing your your memories of the day. Please post them to the FEST Facebook or email them to fest@thefest.us

FEST by the Numbers

Cleveland Catholic Cemeteries Snow Cones Given Away	4,000
Jesuit Retreat House Retreat Participants	80
Dannon Yogurt Samples	14,700
Number of Tents	151
Number of Chairs	1,650
Number of Tables	531
Number of Attendees	39,000
Number of Website Views the Week Before the FEST	18,043
Moms that Visited the Marc's Mom's Relaxation Station	4,822
Number of Generators	7
Number of Parish Talks	74
Number of FEST Videos	36
Dads that Visited the Cub Cadet Dad's Den	1,255
Number of FEST Lanyards	3,588
Number of FEST Wristbands	11,000
Number of FEST Tshirts and Hoodies Given Away and Sold	2,348



4,822 people visited the Marc's Mom's Relaxation Station!

Marc's
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