

## DEANERY PRIESTS MEET AT RITTER HOUSE

On December 4, 2019, priests of the New Albany Catholic Deanery gathered at the Cardinal Ritter House for their monthly business meeting. They were welcomed with a luncheon provided by the Cardinal Ritter Birthplace Foundation Board of Directors.



During lunch, Board Secretary Ray Day, spoke of how the Ritter House was saved from demolition, rebuilt, and now houses Louisville-based Home of the Innocents' and their community outreach programs in southern Indiana.

Foundation Chairperson David Hock related stories of Cardinal Ritter's history. He also affirmed the Board's gratitude for the help received from the priests of the Deanery over the years. Several became deeply involved over the years.



*[NOTE - Priests directly involved in the Ritter House preservation project include the following; Fr. Troy Overton, (founding chaplain of the restoration project), subsequent*



*priests serving the Board include Fr. Cliff Vogelsang (then pastor of Sacred Heart/St. Augustine Parish), Fr. Paul Etienne (then pastor of OLPH Parish and now Archbishop of Seattle), Fr. Eric Augenstein (while pastor of OLPH Parish), Fr. Eric Johnson (while pastor of OLPH Parish), and currently, Fr. Dan Atkins (retired).*

Ray then escorted the guests through the museum room, rose garden, front parlor and the Ritter birth room upstairs. Along the way, Chairman Hock inserted related human interest stories. At tours end, the priests adjourned to our conference room (formerly Ritter Bakery), for their meeting. Artist Guy Tedesco spoke briefly about our Cardinal Ritter sculpture project and its meaning. A maquette (model) of the project was displayed in the center of the meeting table.

Following their meeting, several priests expressed support for what we are doing and wanted more information. As one said, "I was glad to learn more about Cardinal Ritter."



*Deanery priests conduct their December meeting in the Bakery Conference Room of the Cardinal Ritter Birthplace. Above, a guest presenter addresses the assembled clergy.*

**DEANERY PRIEST LUNCHEON AND BUSINESS MEETING**  
**Wednesday, December 4, 2019 in Resource Center – 12:30 pm**  
**Monthly meeting of clergy in Bakery – 1:30 – 3:30**