

“CARDINAL RITTER DAY” FOR LOCAL SEVENTH GRADERS

The *Knight of Columbus Cardinal Ritter Council 1221* in New Albany played host to 140+ seventh graders from the New Albany Deanery Catholic Schools for the inaugural **CARDINAL RITTER DAY** on September 28, 2023.

Students gathered at the K of C Clubhouse on Main Street in New Albany for this day-long field trip devoted to the life of Cardinal Ritter. They viewed two videos about the Cardinal and actively participated in a project that focused on his place in 20th century history. And of course, they were treated to lunch.



Divided into four groups of 34-40 each, students and chaperons took a six-block hike to



the *Cardinal Ritter Birthplace* at 13th and Oak Streets to visit the *Ritter Museum Room* and the *Cardinal Ritter Birth Room*.

Participating schools included Holy Family, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, St. Mary of the Knobs, St. Anthony, St. John Paul II and Sacred Heart.

The overnight rain ceased just in time for the four groups to walk six blocks from the K of C to the Cardinal Ritter Birthplace.



Mr. David Hock, vice-chair of the CRBFI, shared stories about the Cardinal in the Ritter Museum Room.

Every spring since 2016, except for a 2-year hiatus due to the pandemic, eighth-grade students from *Cardinal Ritter High School* in Indianapolis have visited the Cardinal Ritter Birthplace.

Such an educational event for local students has long been a goal of the *Cardinal Ritter Birthplace Foundation, Inc.* We are extremely grateful

to the Knights of Columbus for their planning and hosting. Their many volunteers played important roles in making it possible.



While half of each group visited the Museum Room, the other half joined Ritter Foundation Archivist Mr. Ray Day in the newly restored bedroom where Elmer Joseph Ritter was born in 1892.