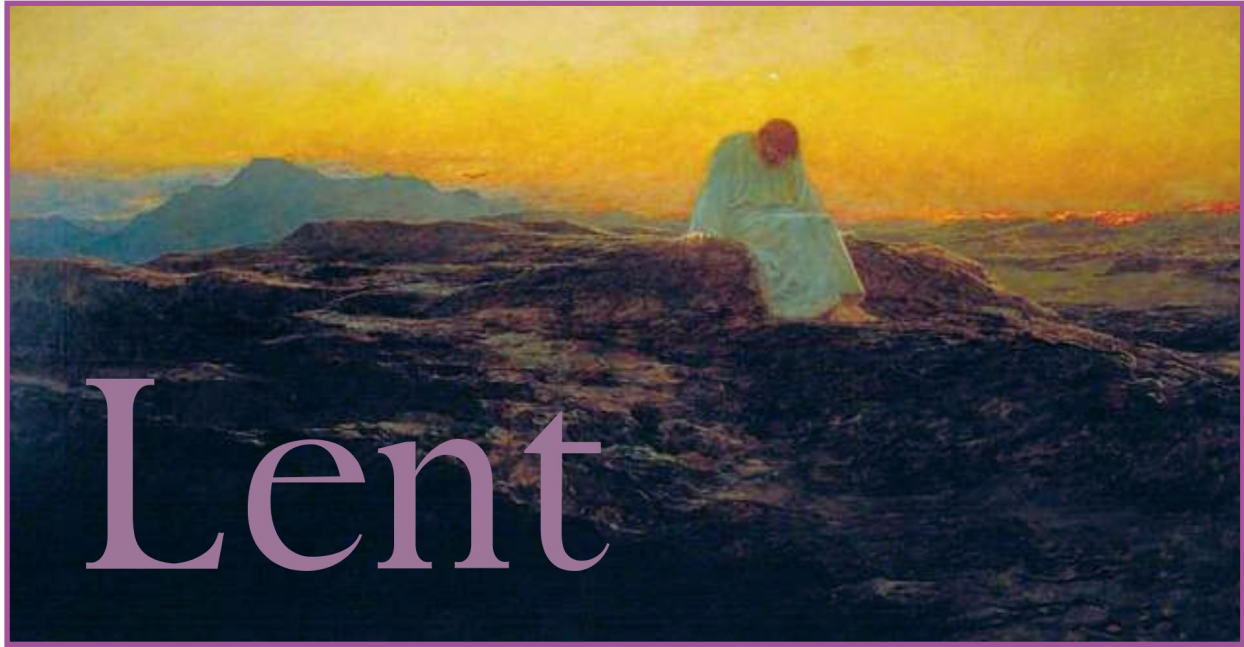


St. Francis de Sales Parish

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fr. Jeremy Merzweiler
Pastor

Fr. David Verbsky
Parochial Vicar

Raymond Herrick
Deacon

Richard Butz
Deacon, Retired

Kathryn Dougherty
Principal

Colleen McVicker
Director of Music Ministry

School:
330-644-0638 or stfparishschool.org

Parish Registration:
Please see the Priest
after any of the weekend Masses
or call the Parish Office.

Parish Office Hours:
Monday through Friday,
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Masses:	Saturday Vigil, 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday, 8:15 a.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 p.m.
Confessions:	Thursday, 5:30-6:15 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00-9:45 a.m.; or call the office at 330-644-2225 for an appointment.
Baptisms:	Please make arrangements with the Parish Office.
Weddings:	Arrangements with the Parish Priest are to be made at least six months before the wedding date.
Anointing of the Sick:	At any time. Please call the Parish Office at 330-644-2225.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 17, 2024

*Masses For
The Week*



SUNDAY, MARCH 17, FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

- 7:30 a.m. Pro Populo
 9:00 a.m. Tim Carpenter (John & Helen Deibel)
 11:00 a.m. Jim English (Ruthie Kelbly)
Charles F. Schaefer – Anniversary of Death

MONDAY, MARCH 18, ST. CYRIL OF JERUSALEM

- 8:15 a.m. Ralph Pezzotti (Carole Gawthrop)

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

- 8:15 a.m. Deacon Frank Lonteen (Anonymous)
 6:30 p.m. Dr. Stephen Stone (Linda Simko)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

- 8:15 a.m. Bill Wagner (Daughter, Jan)

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

- 8:15 a.m. Sebastian Delgato (Solomon Family)
 6:30 p.m. Patricia Tepas (Dan & Karen Crookston)

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

- 8:15 a.m. Theresa Misbrener (Marty & Liz Misbrener)
 9:00 a.m. Cindy Matheny (Sister)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 23, ST. TURIBIUS OF
MOGROVEJO**

- 8:15 a.m. Jim Keenan (Kathy Boggs, Sister)
 5:00 p.m. Jim Mesko (Pat Mesko)
Donald Brasaemle – Anniversary of Death

**SUNDAY, MARCH 24, PALM SUNDAY OF THE
PASSION OF THE LORD**

- 7:30 a.m. Pro Populo
 9:00 a.m. Fr. Diederich (Susan Muzljakovich)
 11:00 a.m. Jim Evans (Family)



HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

We have quite a week ahead of us! Please do your best to make room in your calendar and take advantage of what St. Francis is offering this week.

Parish Mission: March 18 & 19 at 7:00 p.m. Fr. Brian Stacy, Capuchin Priest, will come to discuss the spirituality of St. Francis of Assisi. On Monday, he will talk on *Knowing Francis* while Tuesday, he will focus on *Living Francis* – truly living his life in the midst of the world. Fr. Brian was my neighbor growing up as well as my classmate in high school. It will be good to welcome him back to the area. Come and support him.

Tetelestai: March 22 & 23 at 8:00 p.m., and March 24 at 2:00 p.m. This is the Greek word for "It is finished." This is a contemporary musical Passion Play about the last week in Jesus' life. The Cleveland Performing Arts Ministry vividly portrays His triumphant entry into Jerusalem, His trial, execution and His Resurrection. It is free and open to the public. This is Palm Sunday weekend, so it will be perfect timing to enter into His Story as we begin Holy Week.

Congratulations, Fr. David Stavarz! Fr. David called me the other day with the great news that he will be the Administrator of Holy Family Parish in Parma beginning June 2024. He has served as Parochial Vicar there since last June. The Church was recently remodeled and is a beautiful place to worship. Keep him in your prayers as he takes on this new endeavor.

Thank you, Fr. Sal! Just last week, Fr. Sal called me and shared the exciting news that he is now the Director of Spiritual Care for the Village of St. Edward in addition to his being pastor of Holy Ghost Ukrainian Church. This will enable him to help his family and the people of Ukraine more and more. It has been a privilege to know Fr. Sal. He is a great brother priest in our area. I know you all love him and appreciate his weekly help here at the parish. He was always willing and ready to help our community as needed. I will always be grateful for that. I know he will bless the St. Edward community!

Come, Holy Spirit! Please pray for our 8th graders as they prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation and are on retreat this weekend. Thanks!

God Bless you all!
Fr. Jeremy

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62; Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42
Thursday: Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59
Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42
Saturday: Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56
Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE PARISH THIS WEEK...

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

- Confirmation Spirit Day, 9:00 a.m. Mass then to the gym until 2:30 p.m.
- Boy Scouts, 4:30-6:00 p.m. (Gym)
- Youth Group, 7:00 p.m. (Holy Family Room)
- Night Prayer & Benediction, 7:00- 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 18

- SVdP Food Pantry open, 9:00-9:30 a.m.
- Family Prayer for Students, 1:30-2:00 p.m. (Church)
- Lent Scripture Study, 7:00 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- Parish Mission, 7:00 p.m. (Church)
- Children's Mission, 7:00 p.m. (Memorare Center)

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

- Women's Study Group, 9:00-11:00 a.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- Lent Scripture Study, 9:00 a.m. (Holy Family Room)
- Parish Cluster Confessions, 5:00-6:00 p.m. (St. Paul, Akron)
- Parish Mission, 7:00 p.m. (Church)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

- Holy Angels Formation, 3:30 p.m., (Holy Family Room)
- Angels 101, 6:00 p.m. (Holy Family Room)
- Guardian Angels Formation, 7:15 p.m. (Holy Family Room)
- Flow in Faith, 7:00 p.m. (Beatitudes Room)
- Lent Scripture Study, 7:00 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- AA/Al-Anon, 7:30 p.m. (Upper Room)
- Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (Church)

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

- Thursday Scripture Group, 12:30-3:00 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- SVdP Food Pantry Open, 6:00-6:30 p.m.
- Student & Parent First Communion Meeting, 7:00 p.m. (Gym)
- Lent Scripture Study, 7:00 p.m. (Upper Room)
- Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (Memorare Center)

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

- Tetelestai Performance, 8:00 p.m. (Church)

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

- Men's Group, 7:00 a.m. (Holy Family Room)
- Young Men's Group, 7:00 a.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- Tetelestai Performance, 8:00 p.m. (Church)

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

- Prayers for healing, after 11:00 a.m. Mass, meet by the St. Anthony statue
- Tetelestai Performance, 2:00 p.m. (Church)
- Boy Scouts, 4:30-6:00 p.m. (Gym)
- Youth Group, 7:00 p.m. (Holy Family Room)
- Night Prayer & Benediction, 7:00-7:30 p.m.

ADORERS NEEDED

Thank you to all who commit to a weekly time of Adoration. We need Adorers to cover the following time slot:

Tuesday, 2:00-3:00 p.m. & 5:00-5:30 p.m.

If you are able to fill these slots, please contact Joanne Reich, 330-338-4810.

VOCATION CRUCIFIX

"The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few; so ask the Master of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest" (Mt. 9:37-38).

Receiving the Vocation Crucifix and praying for vocations is a beautiful and simple way to ask the Master to send out more laborers for His harvest! Please contact the Parish Office any time to get your name on the list; there are many slots to be filled – 330-644-2225.

Bill & Jo Dickey received the Vocation Crucifix this weekend.

COLLECTION INFORMATION

March 9/10

	Offertory	Faith Direct
Sunday	\$ 14,154.00	\$ 14,600.17
Assessment	\$ 145.00	\$ 125.00
Capital	\$ 250.00	\$ 170.00
School	\$ 255.00	\$ 335.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 977.00	\$ 75.00
Church in Eastern Europe		\$ 50.00
Seminarian Scholarship		\$ 50.00
Special Gift		\$ 88.00
TOTAL	\$ 15,781.00	\$ 15,493.17

Ukrainian Family Welcome Circle

Raffle Baskets	\$ 1,497.00
2nd Collection	\$ 9,005.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 41,776.17

Our parish is blessed by your generosity!

A GIFT TO OUR PARISH

Did you know you can make a gift to our parish using your IRA? If you are 70 ½ or older, you may be able to make a gift of a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA that will help our parish and reduce your taxable income. Talk to your advisors and IRA administrator or visit catholiccommunity.org/IRA to learn more. Questions? Call Therese in the Parish Office at 330-644-2225.

WEDDING BANNS

I Duane Books & Lynn Fahey

WELCOME TO ST. FRANCIS DE SALES PARISH

Are you new to the parish? To register as a new parishioner, give our Parish Office a call at 330-644-2225, see the priest after Mass, or join us at Donut Sundays to meet with a fellow parishioner.

"BE WHO YOU ARE AND BE THAT WELL."
St. Francis de Sales

FAMILY PRAYER FOR STUDENTS

Parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles of students in our parish school or PSR program or in homeschool are invited to pray for their students. From 1:30-2:00 p.m. on *March 18*, join Fr. Jeremy for a Holy Half-Hour to ask God to bless and protect our young people.

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES GOLF LEAGUE

The St. Francis de Sales Golf League will be back this year at a new location and time. We will play on Wednesday afternoons at 3:15 p.m. at Chenoweth Golf Course (please note that the time and location have changed) and we start on April 17th and season fees must be paid up front. Golfers need to sign up by contacting Dominic Rizzo for details at darconsulting@gmail.com or call 330-697-0777 before March 29th.



The Holy Angels can help us delve more deeply into the mysteries of God and the deeds of His love. A sudden inspiration is, more often than we think, whispered in our ear by our Guardian Angel. Therese Holderbaum will give a talk on the Holy Angels at 6:00 p.m. in the Holy Family Room on Wednesday, March 20th. The talk will be followed by a discussion at 7:15 on angels and how they help us contemplate the mysteries of God, (Letter 6 for those in formation for consecration to their Guardian Angel). All are welcome. Please RSVP to the Parish Office at 330-644-2225 for the talk and/or the discussion.

A MESSAGE FROM STEPHEN MINISTRY

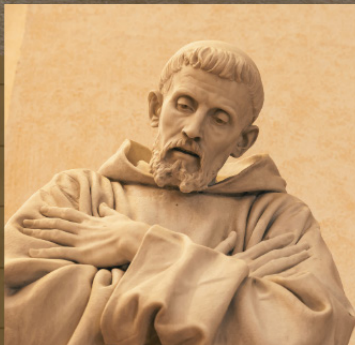
**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

Spring arrives this Tuesday, but life can still seem cold and dreary for those who have suffered a loss or experienced a crisis. Our Stephen Ministers are trained to help people through the winters of life, providing emotional and spiritual support during tough times. If you or someone you know could benefit from the confidential, one-to-one Christian care of a Stephen Minister, contact one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders: Ann Clark at aclark2@stfparish.com or Bill Dickey at wdickey@stfparish.com or add your contact information to the prayer box located in the back of the church.

KNOWING FRANCIS & LIVING FRANCIS

Fr. Brian Stacy, OFM Cap. presents a two-evening mission on the spirit and example of St. Francis of Assisi. Fr. Stacy is a Canal Fulton native and currently serves as the Director of Formation at Capuchin College, Washington DC.

**March 18 and 19
7:00 pm
St. Francis de Sales
Parish, Akron**

**CHILDREN'S MISSION**

March 18 & 19, 7:00 p.m. in the Memorare Center



Children, ages 3-11, are invited to a mission of their own! We will be learning about the life of St. Francis of Assisi – just like the adults. Babysitting will be available for children younger than 3 years old. Registration is required. (Scan the QR code to fill out the registration form.)

Students age 12 & older who would like to assist with either babysitting or the Children's Mission should contact Abby at agresser@stfparish.com.



REQUEST FOR 2023 FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/ZIP CODE _____

ENVELOPE # _____

HOME PHONE # _____

CELL PHONE # _____

Please place this completed form in the collection basket and your statement will be mailed to you.

SUPER CASH BONANZA RAFFLE TICKETS

Stop by the Parish Office to buy some \$5.00 Knights of Columbus Super Cash Bonanza raffle tickets. The youth group will get \$2.00 for every ticket sold. 25 raffle prizes will be awarded, with the first prize being \$414.00 per month for TEN years. So, help the Knights, help the youth, and who knows, maybe help yourself!

ANGEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Through the Angel Scholarship Fund, you can now contribute funds that will be used to provide tuition assistance for students to attend our school, and you will receive a 100% Ohio income tax credit of up to \$750.00 (single) and \$1,500.00 (married), against your state tax liability. In other words, the state of Ohio allows you to "spend" some of the state income taxes you must pay anyway to provide tuition assistance for students seeking an education in our Catholic schools. The Angel Scholarship Fund is a win-win-win for taxpayer donors, scholarship recipients, and our diocese. See the form on the following page to make your contribution today.

ITE PROJECT GALA

The ITE Project is a Catholic young adult apostolate that has been changing lives in our local communities for the last ten years!! The ITE Project Gala – Join the Story – is the annual fundraiser for this unique apostolate. Join us for one very special night on April 5th from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Elm Ridge Event Center in Canal Fulton! Enjoy an elegant dinner, open bar, silent auction (highlighting local artisans), and uplifting talks to encourage the soul. Everyone is welcome! Please purchase your ticket on our website by March 20th: <https://www.theiteproject.com/events/gala2024>.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL OPPORTUNITIES**SUNDAY NIGHT PRAYER & BENEDICTION**

- Every Sunday until Easter, come for Night Prayer and Benediction, 7:00-7:30 p.m.

MONDAY PRAYER FOR STUDENTS

- 1:30-2:00 p.m. on March 18
- Parents and Grandparents are invited to come pray for their students, whether in our parish school, PSR, or homeschool.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER NIGHTS

- Every Thursday night until Easter, the following prayer opportunities will be offered:
 - 5:55 p.m. Rosary
 - 6:30 p.m. Mass
 - 7:00-7:30 p.m. Half-hour of Adoration & Prayer for Healing (1st Thursday), Priests (2nd Thursday), Families (3rd Thursday), The Protection of Life (4th Thursday).

"In His love, God gives Himself into our hands; we touch Him and receive Him daily into our mouths."

- St. Francis of Assisi

HOLY THURSDAY AGAPE MEAL MARCH 28, 5:00 PM

Before the Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 pm,

join us for an Agape Meal, a gathering of Christian fellowship, in the gym.

RSVP to the Parish Office or on our website by Monday, March 25.

Please bring a side dish to share. Chicken will be provided as the entree.

Want to volunteer? Call the Parish Office at 330-644-2225





ANGEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Turning taxes into tuition with the Catholic Community Foundation

TO GIVE ONLINE:

CatholicCommunity.org/angel-contribution
OR donate by scanning this QR code

CONTRIBUTION FORM

PLEASE NOTE: Donations must be made by **April 15, 2024** to be eligible for a 2023 state tax credit.

Donor Information

First Name: _____ MI: _____
 Last Name: _____
 Spouse Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____
 Parish: _____

Designation

Support Area of Greatest Need: \$ _____
 School Designation:
 St. Francis de Sales \$ _____
 Total: \$ _____

For a State Tax Credit In

- ☐ **2023 Tax Year**
 Eligibility: Donation made between 1/1/23 - 4/15/24
☐ **2024 Tax Year**
 Eligibility: Donation made between 1/1/24 - 4/15/25

Payment Information

I am paying by:
☐ Check (made payable to Angel Scholarship Fund)
☐ Credit Card:
☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover ☐ AMEX
 Card Number: _____
 Expires: _____ CVV Code: _____
 Signature: _____

UXXASUNK1

Spouse Information (if additional donation)

First Name: _____ MI: _____
 Last Name: _____
☐ Check if address is the same
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____
 Parish: _____

Spouse Designation

Support Area of Greatest Need: \$ _____
 School Designation:
 St. Francis de Sales \$ _____
 Total: \$ _____

For a State Tax Credit In

- ☐ **2023 Tax Year**
 Eligibility: Donation made between 1/1/2023 - 4/15/24
☐ **2024 Tax Year**
 Eligibility: Donation made between 1/1/2024 - 4/15/25

Spouse Payment Information

☐ Check if payment information is the same, 1 check can be submitted
 I am paying by:
☐ Check (made payable to Angel Scholarship Fund)
☐ Credit Card:
☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover ☐ AMEX
 Card Number: _____
 Expires: _____ CVV Code: _____
 Signature: _____

UXXASUNK2

or Monthly Contribution

Would you like to STRETCH your contribution into smaller monthly payments?

Register for monthly contributions at www.CatholicCommunity.org/angel, email asfinfo@dioceseofcleveland.org
 or call our office for assistance at 216-696-6525 x 3670

COMPLETE AND MAIL CONTRIBUTION FORM TO:

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THANK YOU! Your support directly impacts a family's ability to afford a Catholic education.

TETÉLESTAI

1 Peter 4:10

"IT IS FINISHED"
A MUSICAL PORTRAYAL OF THE
TRIAL, EXECUTION, AND
RESURRECTION
OF JESUS THE MESSIAH

SCRIPT & LYRICS BY JOEL NAGY
MUSICAL SCORE BY RUSS NAGY



St. Francis de Sales Parish
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Friday, March 22nd at 8:00pm
Saturday, March 23rd at 8:00pm
Sunday, March 24th at 2:00pm

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MASS

- ~ Monday through Saturday, 8:15 a.m.
- ~ Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 p.m.
- ~ Saturday Vigil, 5:00 p.m.
- ~ Sunday, 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m.

ADORATION

- ~ Mondays, 7:00-8:00 a.m., 6:00-10:00 p.m.
- ~ Tuesday through Friday, 7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.
(Breaking for Masses)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

- Fridays, 7:00 p.m.
- With SFdS School, Mondays, 2:15 p.m.
- With PSR, Monday, March 25, 7:00 p.m.

CONFESSION

- ~ Saturdays, 9:00-9:45 a.m.
- ~ Thursdays, 5:30-6:15 p.m.
- ~ Tuesday, **Cluster Parishes**, 5:00-6:00 p.m.
March 19 – St. Paul

NIGHT PRAYER & BENEDICTION

- Sundays, 7:00 p.m.

PARISH MISSION: KNOWING FRANCIS & LIVING FRANCIS

- Fr. Brian Stacy OFM Cap. offers a two-evening mission on the spirit and example of St. Francis of Assisi
March 18 and 19, 7:00 p.m., Church

CHILDREN'S MISSION

- During the Parish Mission, our younger parishioners are invited to a mission of their own!
March 18 and 19, 7:00 p.m., Memorare Center

TETELESTAI: "IT IS FINISHED"

- Cleveland Performing Arts Ministry presents a prayerful reenactment of Christ's sacrifice and triumph over death.
Friday, March 22, 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 23, 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 24, 2:00 p.m.



HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 24

- Mass at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.
- Tetelestai Performance, 2:00 p.m.
- Night Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

HOLY MONDAY, MARCH 25

- Mass at 8:15 a.m.
- Adoration, 7:00-8:00 a.m. and 6:00-10:00 p.m.

HOLY TUESDAY, MARCH 26

- Mass at 8:15 a.m.
- Chrim Mass at Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, downtown Cleveland, 7:00 p.m.
- Adoration, 7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

HOLY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

- Mass at 8:15 a.m.
- Adoration, 7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 28

- Morning Prayer, 8:15 a.m.
- Agape Meal, 5:00 p.m. in the Gym
- Evening Mass of The Lord's Supper, 7:00 p.m.
- Adoration – Altar of Repose in Memorare Center, 8:30-11:00 p.m.
- Night Prayer and Reposition, 11:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29

- Morning Prayer, 8:15 a.m.
- Stations of the Cross, 12:00 noon
- Celebration of the Passion of the Lord/
Adoration of the Holy Cross, 3:00 p.m. (with choir)
- Celebration of the Passion of the Lord/Adoration of the Holy Cross, 7:00 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 30

- Morning Prayer, 8:15 a.m.
- Easter Egg Hunt, 10:30 a.m.
- Blessing of the Easter Food and Baskets, 12:00 p.m.
- The Great Easter Vigil in the Holy Night, 8:30 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31

- Mass at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.

PRAY FOR PRIESTS!

Please join us for a Mass for the Sanctification of Priests on Thursday, March 21st at 7:30 p.m., at St. Paul Parish, 1580 Brown Street, Akron. Stations of the Cross are prayed this month at 7:00 p.m. Holy Mass will be followed by a Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction. Please come to this Mass to pray with us. Our priests and Our Holy Mother Church are in desperate need of more pray-ers!

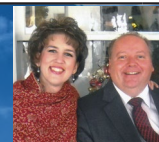
FISH FRY

Annunciation Church & Visitation of Mary Parish presents Annunciation's Famous Fish Frys every Friday during Lent (EXCEPT Good Friday), from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. All are invited to Dowd Hall (our Lower Church Hall), 55 Broad Street in East Akron. The menu includes, Baked or fried white fish, scalloped potatoes or french fries, vegetable or hot rice, cole slaw, Massoli's bread, and desserts. The cost is \$15.00 for Adults, \$14.00 for Seniors, \$10.00 for Children (12 years and under) Don't miss out on this final fantastic Fish Frys! Questions? Call 330-535-4141.

330-644-5005

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