

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

June 24, 2018



Monday, June 25

8:15 a.m. Virginia Sample (Angeline Jursik)
Month's Mind – Ruth Rehs

Tuesday, June 26

8:15 a.m. Barbara Burch (Family)

Wednesday, June 27

8:15 a.m. Anna Scalise
(St. Vincent de Paul Society)

Thursday, June 28, St. Irenaeus

8:15 a.m. Charles Gallo (Family)

Friday, June 29, Ss. Peter and Paul

8:15 a.m. Gerald Blin (Family)

Saturday, June 30, The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church

8:15 a.m. Jane Perge (Sue & Jim Huelsman)
5:00 p.m. Dan Trettel (Susan & Craig Stripe)

July 1, 2018

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am - Pro Populo

Scripture Readings for the Week:

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday



(Since I am away on a silent retreat at the time of this bulletin, I asked that one of our seminarians, Alexander Clark, share something about his 30 Day Ignatian Retreat he will begin soon,)

On June 24th, I am departing to the Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF), based out of Creighton University in Omaha. I will be joining several seminarians and priests from around the country who will be participating the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. This 30 day silent retreat is based on St. Ignatius's own spiritual journey toward union with God. It is an entire month dedicated to entering the depths of the heart and love of the Father, to allow Him to form, heal and guide. In addition to daily Mass and praying the Liturgy of the Hours, the retreat will consist of multiple Holy Hours every day and daily meetings with a specially trained spiritual director. Fr. Matthew Jordan (son of the Parish, currently assigned to St. Hilary in Fairlawn) and our own Fr. Bearer were both blessed make the Spiritual Exercises during their seminary formation. I know that the profound love and joy that they express every day is, in part, a fruit of their time on retreat.

I will admit, the prospect of 30 days of silence and prayer is somewhat terrifying! One of the key elements of the retreat that reassures and encourages me is that it is not simply a time for me to "get away from it all" or an "escape." Retreats, Holy Hours, or any moments of prayer are not meant to be escapes. They are an invitation to a deepening of our relationship with God! We take time *away from* others to *be with* God. As St. Teresa of Ávila said, we don't go on retreats or pray to simply be alone; we pray "to be alone with The Alone!"

I will also be taking you all with me in prayer. The St. Francis Parish family has meant so much to me throughout my life. Know that I will be praying for you during my time away. I cannot wait to share the fruit of the experience with you all! I ask for your prayers as I embark on what may be one of the most intense, challenging and profound months of my life. Also, please pray for the six other seminarians from the Diocese of Cleveland who are currently participating IPF's 9-week summer program. Lastly, pray for Fr. Bearer, who will be away this week for a conference. Because Fr. Bearer will be away, **there will not be any 6:30 PM Masses from June 25 – June 29.**

God bless, - Alex Clark

Here's What's Happening Around the Parish This Week...

Sunday, June 24

- Boy Scouts, 5-6:30 p.m. (Pavilion)

Tuesday, June 26

- Ladies Book Study, 10-11:30 a.m. (Pavilion)

Wednesday, June 27

- Senior Social Group, 1:00 p.m. (Upper Room)

- AA/Al-Anon, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (Refectory)

Saturday, June 30

- Men's Group, 7:00-8:15 a.m. (VHM)

Sunday, June 24

- Boy Scouts, 5:00-6:30 p.m. (Pavilion)



The parish can always use more volunteers to receive the Vocation Crucifix. Even if you've received it before, you may receive it again. There's no limit! Vocation prayers are always needed and appreciated! Please call the parish office at 330-644-2225 to have your name added to the list.

The Kelliher Family received the Vocation Crucifix this weekend.

COLLECTION INFORMATION

June 17 \$17,622.00

Our parish is blessed by your generosity!

IMPORTANT

Because Father Bearer is away this week, there will be no 6:30 p.m. evening Masses from June 25th - 29th.



Eucharistic Adoration

An adorer is needed on Tuesday afternoons from 5:00 - 5:30 p.m. If you can help, please call Joanne at 330-338-4810. Please come and spend some time in prayer before our Lord.



Take a Road Trip to... Holiness

Join us for our 2018 Vacation Bible School, July 16th - 20th, 9:15 - 12:30 p.m. Registration fliers with more information are available in the Church's new literature rack located in the narthex of the church or at the parish office. Please contact Joanne Reich at 330.338.4810, or Colleen McVicker at 330.896.7122 with questions.



Photo Directory for Homebound Parishioners

We are looking for any **HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS** who would like to have their photo taken for the 70th Anniversary Picture Directory. We can arrange to have this done for you by one of our "photographer" parishioners in the comfort of your own home. If you, or anyone you know would be interested, please contact:

Denise Enright 330-606-5474
Michele Steurer 330-618-5545
or Susie Naragon 330-329-1937



CYO GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Girls volleyball for Fall 2018 registration is now open for entering 3rd through 8th graders. Please go to our parish website, www.stfparish.com and click on the CYO tab to register. Questions? Give our Athletic Director, Kerri Defibaugh a call at 330-388-8803 or email her at orangejett@gmail.com.



St. Paul's Weekend of Thanksgiving

St. Paul's wonderful school, which is sadly closing after **92 years** of "Educating in the Light of Christ," will be open after all Masses (4:30 p.m. Saturday Vigil and the 8:15 and 11:00 a.m. Masses on Sunday) for final visits during the weekend of June 30th and July 1st. Bring back the great memories of the years spent in the school's hallowed halls! Refreshments will be served in the Parish Activity Center (former Chapel) following the walk-through. Plan to stop in and share your stories and see some long ago friends.

School Address: 1580 Brown St, Akron, OH 44301



BARE NECESSITIES TREASURE CHEST

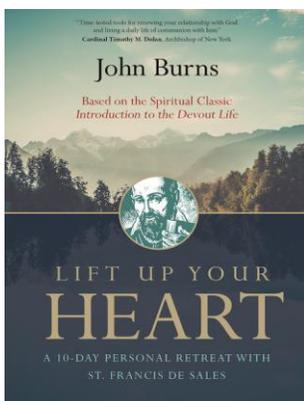
With summertime and vacations coming up very soon, it also means we ask you to start saving sample-size or travel-size toothpaste, soaps, shampoos and lotions. The Social Action Committee of our Parish Pastoral Council will be collecting these items the weekend of the Parish Picnic, September 8-9. All items for the Bare Necessities Treasure Chest from last year were donated to the victims of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria. Thank you for keeping this ministry in your thoughts and prayers as you shop and vacation this summer! Any and all donations will be directed to a worthwhile cause, yet to be determined.

- Lift Up Your Heart -

A Small Group Study, Beginning This September

For more than four hundred years, *Introduction to the Devout Life* by St. Francis de Sales, Doctor of the Church, has been regarded as the essential guide to holiness and loving God. This spiritual classic takes on new life in *Lift Up Your Heart*, where Rev. John Burns has interpreted ten meditations for the modern reader and distilled them into a ten-day mini-retreat that can easily be completed in the midst of a busy life.

This practical book goes right to the heart of helping you kick the habit of floating along on your spiritual journey to start actively pursuing holiness and devotion to God. During the course of the retreat, you'll learn the basics of forming a daily prayer routine, including how to offer yourself to God, meditate on his love, maintain peace in the face of suffering and clarity in the midst of temptation.



The meditations will help you:

- Adopt gratitude as a daily prayer practice.
- Examine and reorder your priorities and relationships to better reflect your love for God.
- Discern between good and evil in your life.
- Desire to love and serve as Jesus did.

In a very real sense, Father Burns helps you take St. Francis de Sales as your spiritual director for ten days. As you do so, you'll feel God's fatherly love and restart your faith life, equipped with the tools to connect with God and live for heaven now.



"Bloom Where You Are Planted"

St. Francis de Sales Parish 70th Anniversary Jubilee

Words of Wisdom from Fr. Byrider

Many of you, like me, have been blessed to attend the masses of the visiting priests that were invited back to celebrate with us. While all the homilies have been heartfelt and special, I think you would agree that it was extra special to hear from those who received their vocation here at St. Francis de Sales Parish.

What made them so special to me was a common denominator in some that recognized how Father Byrider, "Mr. Positive", the "giver of the black crucifix", had influenced their lives and their decision to become a priest.

After listening to the homilies who can help having thoughts about what it would be like to see and hear Father Byrider celebrate Mass with us one more time? To ask him to hear our confession again. I only knew Father Byrider as my confessor. Thinking about how he helped me, what he meant to me makes me smile yet makes me hunger for more of what he had to offer as a priest. But that hunger is quickly satisfied, and the smile just as quickly returns when I once again realize how God through His infinite wisdom and Holy Spirit has called so many wonderful priests to shepherd His sheep at our Parish.

So, as I have written over the past three months about our Three Shepherds, I thought it pertinent to acknowledge Father Byrider for the priest and powerful influence that he was. Rather than sharing his history, what I hope you will enjoy is reading some of his quotes and some memories shared by parishioners about this holy, humble and wonderful priest. And there will soon be a special prayer card in the narthex reflecting Fr. Byrider's own Recipe for Peace of Soul and Happiness. His Ten Commandments. Enjoy!

■ Jeff Koncz

*Of course, we must start with, "All blessings, no complaints."

*To a stroke victim he said, "One day soon, you and I will be face to face with Our Lord. What a small price this is to pay."

*" Remember 'The Forty Club' for those who attend Mass daily during Lent."

*Often in confession he would say, "Jesus meek and humble of heart, make our hearts like unto Thine."

*" Tell me who you run with and I'll tell you who you are."

*" I met the humblest man I've ever met in my whole life."

*" Pray for me and I will pray for you."

*After Mass when one would stay to pray he would say, "I couldn't find you in a better place."

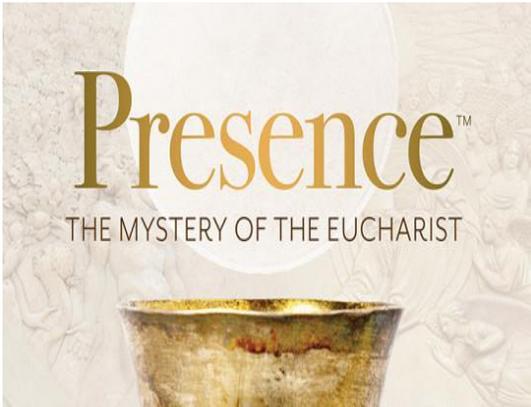


15th Annual Ukrainian Festival



Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, located at 1866 Brown St, Akron, presents their **15th Annual Ukrainian Festival** on June 30th from 1-8pm.

This family friendly event will feature the Kyiv Dance Ensemble at 3:00 PM and include traditional foods (perogies, cabbage rolls, kielbasa, and Ukrainian beer), baked goods, music (**2 bands**), dancing, raffle items, church tours, kids' games, bounce house and more! Come join in the fun and celebrate with us! For more information, visit <http://www.hgucc.org/>.



Presence - Video 2 – A Love Story

From FORMED.ORG

What is it that causes each of us to look for a personal meaning to life? At our foundation, we know we have a higher purpose, something that causes us to ask the fundamental question, “Why am I here?” The Session 2 video of ‘Presence’ answers this question!

In John 6:26 when Jesus declares “...you are looking for me..” he knew that we would, by the Father’s design, reach out to find purpose. He so understood this that he would bet on it, doubling down as he concludes a few verses later with, “Will you also leave?” He knew some would stay. The incredible climax of this teaching in the ‘Bread

of Life Discourse’ is the unfolding of a story of His plan to give us back our purpose.

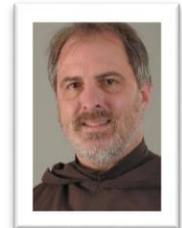
The story starts in the Garden of Eden as Adam and Eve turn away from the ‘Tree of Life’. In doing so, original sin separated us from God and shrouded the original purpose of our creation.

The unfolding of the story of how the Lord would bring us back to himself is the subject of this video. From Genesis, through the Passover, the Bread of life Discourse, the Last Supper, His sacrifice, and finally the Resurrection, the Old Testament is tied to the New and we see the pivotal nature of the Eucharist and how it gives us purpose.

This second session video reflects on this love story, unshrouding our purpose. We are to share in the ‘New Tree of Life’, the Eucharist, communion with God.

- A Fellow Parishioner

[Simply access by registering at FORMED.org](https://www.formed.org). The Parish Code is WY494W. Its FREE!



This weekend, June 23rd and 24th, we are being visited by Fr. Timothy Ennis, O.Carm. Fr. Ennis is a missionary priest of the Carmelite Order, Saint Elias Province. Fr. Ennis has been involved in parish, hospital and retreat ministry. He currently serves as the Director of Novices for his Carmelite Community. This is a formation position in which he walks with incoming Carmelite seminarians who are discerning their readiness to make Simple Vows. A second collection will be taken at all of the Masses this weekend to benefit the **Mission Outreach of Carmelite Friars of the Saint Elias Province**.

The Carmelites respond to the call to love one another through prayer and action by establishing ministries where there is the greatest need. They create humanitarian programs to relieve the suffering of the poor, minister to those in hospitals and prisons, provide education, and conduct spiritual and religious formation in almost forty countries on five continents. Living out this charism, the Mission Outreach of Carmelite Friars of the Saint Elias Province has begun its own outreach in **Trinidad and Vietnam**. Since establishing this outreach, the Friars have already attracted many vocations and are working to establish formation programs in these countries. This has placed a considerable financial burden on the Friars, and their ability to continue their missionary endeavors.

Your generosity in this weekend’s second collection will support the Carmelite Friars’ mission. Also, please pray for Fr. Ennis and the amazing work of the Mission Outreach of Carmelite the Friars. Your prayers and generosity on behalf of this important work is greatly appreciated!



New Parish School Entrance Project

Last summer, we renovated the main entrance to our Parish School. This exciting project not only enhanced our facilities, but also created an even safer environment for our students, staff, and visitors.

As part of this renovation project, a brick pathway was created to lead to the school entrance. You can still purchase a brick and/or a paver and become part of St. Francis de Sales school history forever while honoring or memorializing a loved one or by creating a family legacy.



We welcome your support of this exciting project through the purchase of an engraved brick or paver!

Purchaser's Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

Kindly send or deliver this form with payment (Checks made payable to St. Francis de Sales) to the Rectory at:
 St. Francis de Sales Parish, 4019 Manchester Rd., Akron, OH 44319
 You may also return this form and payment in the collection basket marked "Brick/Paver Order."

4"x8" \$125 COMMON AREA RED BRICK

Two (2) lines of text; 20 characters per line.

4"x8" \$300 MAIN AREA TAN BRICK

Three (3) lines of text; 20 characters per line.

Questions? Please contact the Rectory at 330-644-2225.

GOOD SAMARITAN HUNGER CENTER

Thank you for your generous support over the years. We strive to be good stewards of your donations. Last year, due to need, the Good Samaritan Hunger Center tripled the number of meals provided through the hot meal and grocery distribution programs. We need your help, as we are struggling now and do not wish to cut programs. No donation is too small. You may visit our web page to make a donation at:

www.goodsamaritanhungercenter.org

or you may mail a donation to: Good Samaritan Hunger Center:
PO Box 5753,
Akron OH 44372

Thank you in advance for your support!

The FEST – An Amazing Family Day

Are you looking for an opportunity for your family to grow in faith this summer – for FREE? Join us for a family retreat day on Sunday, August 5th at the 18th Annual FEST, beginning at noon at the Center for Pastoral Leadership in Wickliffe. Outdoor Mass, Adoration, praise and worship (with *We are Messengers*, *Mandisa*, *Big Daddy Weave*, and *TobyMac*)... and more... it will inspire and engage the whole family! Moms, don't forget to sign up for the mom's give-away bag, thanks to our friends at Marc's.

Visit www.theFEST.us/volunteer for details.

Divorced, Separated and Widowed Catholics of Akron

A "Caring and Sharing" session for those struggling with divorce, separation or widowhood will be held on Monday, June 25th from 7:30-9:00 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary's Convent Building, 1945 Portage Trail in Cuyahoga Falls. Marlene Maruna, a retired Social Worker, will facilitate this session. This event is open at no charge to people of all faiths. For more information, call Marlene 330-607-6284.

Religious Freedom Week

Catholics across the United States are encouraged to pray and act in support of religious liberty at home and abroad during ***Serving Others in God's Love: Religious Freedom Week 2018***, which begins on June 22, the Feast of Ss. Thomas More and John Fisher, and ends on June 29, the Solemnity of Ss. Peter and Paul. The chairman of the USCCB's Committee for Religious Liberty, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, states: "Religious freedom allows the space for people of faith to serve others in God's love in ministries like education, adoption and foster care, health care, migration and refugee services. We encourage people of faith to reflect on the importance of religious freedom so that we might have the space to carry out our mission of service and mercy, and we invite everyone to pray for our brothers and sisters who face intense persecution in other parts of the world." Resources for Religious Freedom Week and other religious liberty resources can be found at www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek and www.usccb.org/freedom.

Free Summer Concert

Join Akron native Singer/Actor Michael Lucas in an evening of song as he prepares for competitions in NYC. In collaboration with longtime friends and musicians, enjoy a wide selection of pieces from classical, musical theatre, and contemporary music; discussing love, loss, and other stories of life. Michael is a cantor at St. Mary of the Falls and teaches voice at the conservatory. For questions, call Christina Dupré at 440.465.1195.

Santa Clara Monastery Annual Benefit

The Annual Benefit for the Nuns at Sancta Clara Monastery will be held at Christ the Servant Church, 933 39th St. N.W., Canton, OH 44709 on Saturday, July 14th. You will enjoy a luncheon, an afternoon of visiting and card playing, browsing through tables of fresh baked goods, unique items for raffle and religious cards made by the Sisters. Admission is \$11. Come, bring a friend and get ready for some good surprises! Doors open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Luncheon at Noon.

Catholic Renewal Ministries' Conference

All are invited to attend **Catholic Renewal Ministries' 36th Annual Conference** to be held on July 20th, and 21st at Magnificat High School in Rocky River. This year's theme is "Receive and Rejoice in the Holy Spirit". The conference opens on Friday at 7:00 p.m. Guest speakers will be Lody and Nancy Greenhaw, Dave Van Vickel, Bishop Nelson Perez, Fr. Bob Franco, Fr. Jacob Bearer, and Nick Alcantar. Contact Shirley or Tom Fumich at 440.610.6604 for registration information or visit crmweb.org. Advanced registration postmarked by July 12th is \$30. At the door is \$35. Come experience the healing power and gifts of the Holy Spirit!

Theology on Tap

Theology on Tap Akron will again be at The Harbor Front Grille & Party Center on Wednesday, July 11th at 7:00 pm! Theology on Tap welcomes all young adults to come listen to Bob Pacanovsky, Keynote and Conference Speaker of the Black Tie Experience, speak on "The Power of 167 Hours: What is your Kingdom Etiquette?" Admission is \$5 and includes appetizers. The bar will be open for those who would like to purchase beverages. Come experience faith, fellowship, and food with other young adults in their 20's and 30's at Theology on Tap Akron! The Harbor Front Grille & Party Center is located at 562 Portage Lakes Dr., Akron, OH 44319. Thanks again to Billow's Funeral Home for sponsoring the event!

Stop by the parish office this summer to purchase Scrip gift cards for the following:

Acme
Aeropostale
Amazon
Applebee's
Arby's
Banana
Republic
Bath & Body
Works
Bed Bath &
Beyond
Best Buy

Bob Evans
Bonefish Grill
Bravo
Buehler's
Burger King
Carrabba
Grill
Chili's Bar &
Grill
Chipotle
Cinemark
Circle K

Claire's
Cracker
Barrel
CVS
Dick's
Dillard's
Dunkin
Donuts
Game Stop
The Gap
GFS
Giant Eagle

Handel's Ice
Cream
Home Depot
HomeGoods
Honeymoon
Grille
iTunes
JCPenney
Jo-Ann
Fabrics
Kohl's
Longhorn
Steakhouse

Lowe's
Macy's
Marathon
Marshall's
Menches
Brothers
Michael's
Old Navy
Olive
Garden
Outback
Steakhouse

Panera
Pat Catan's
PF Chang's
Pier 1 Import
Pizza Hut
Red Robin
Red Lobster
Regal
Cinema
Sam's Club
Sheetz
Speedway
Starbucks

Steak 'n'
Shake
Subway
Sunoco
Taco Bell
Target
TGIFridays
Tinseltown
Theaters
TJ Maxx
Walgreen's
Walmart
Wendy's