

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

Kathleen Ott
Pastoral Associate

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.

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

Masses:	Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m., 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 OF LENT

MARCH 26, 2023

*Masses For
The Week***SUNDAY, MARCH 26, FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

7:30 a.m. Theresa Ambach (Al Schafer)
 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
 11:00 a.m. Mary Franz (Tom & Patty Hercules)
Raymond Robinson – Month's Mind

MONDAY, MARCH 27

8:15 a.m. Cindy Matheny (Parish Staff)
Anna Feltrup – Month's Mind

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

8:15 a.m. Theresa Romeo (Kovesci Family)
 6:30 p.m. Mary Clark (John & Michele Steurer)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

8:15 a.m. Ray Robinson (Brothers & Sister)

THURSDAY, MARCH 30

8:15 a.m. John Loggins
 (Deacon Richard & Francis Butz)
 6:30 p.m. Anointing Mass
 Drew Karson (Janet Karson)

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

8:15 a.m. Betty J. Phillips (Ann Marie Phillips)
 9:00 a.m. Irene Keblesh (Anna Mantel)
 6:30 p.m. Col. Eduard Bender (Johanna Cramer)
Sandy Fair – Anniversary of Death

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

8:15 a.m. Anna Scalise (Family)
 5:00 p.m. Bob Coffman (Family)

SUNDAY, APRIL 2, PALM SUNDAY

7:30 a.m. Dolores Hoosic (Mr. & Mrs. Mark Kosco)
 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
 11:00 a.m. Mary Lou Clark (Agape Prayer Group)

**Do we really know the Jesus
we are dealing with?**

Probably not. But if you open yourselves up to the readings this weekend, you will better understand who Jesus is and what He wants to do in your life. I am convinced we live in a time when so many things pull at us constantly. I was just at the hospital visiting someone the other day and was in the elevator with someone working there. I noticed that both of us were on our phones communicating while we were on the go. I said, "Isn't this crazy?!" She mentioned something to the extent that it already has made her crazy, so we laughed and went on our way.

As I walked away, I just thought more and more about the many ways we can get shackled in life – the many ways we can fall into addiction and feel very helpless and hopeless in ever getting out. Of course, on our own, we should feel that way. On our own, we are hopeless. It's hard to say this, but it's true. We need Jesus. Here are a couple quotes to pray with while pondering this....

- *"We must pray without tiring, for the salvation of mankind does not depend on material success; nor on sciences that cloud the intellect. Neither does it depend on arms and human industries, but on Jesus alone."*

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

- *"Let us ever hope that you look for strength from God who alone can give it."*

St. Mary MacKillop

It is God alone who gives us strength. It is God alone who offers salvation. It is God alone whom we need to rely on and turn to when we are shackled in life. What does Jesus say in the Gospel but: *"Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go" (Jn. 11:43-44).* This is the power of our God. If Jesus can raise a dead man from the grave, He can free you from whatever is enslaving you in life. Turn to Him and be saved. Ultimately, Jesus wants us to know this, own this and live this. He wants us to know who He is. From the Prophet Ezekiel: *"Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and have you rise from them, O my people!" (Ez. 37:12).*

Free us, save us and strengthen us Jesus!
– Fr. Jeremy

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or
 Dn 13:41c-62; Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30

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: Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11;
 Mt 26:14-27:66 or Mt 27:11-54

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

- Book Study, 10:10 a.m. (Holy Family Room)
- Prayers for Healing, after 11:00 a.m. Mass by St. Anthony Statue
- BSA Boy Scouts, 4:30 p.m. (Refectory)
- Night Prayer, 9:00 p.m. (Church)

MONDAY, MARCH 27

- No PSR
- Men's Basketball, 8:30 p.m. (Gym)

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

- Women's Book Study, 9:00 a.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- Lent Bible Study, 9:00 a.m. (Holy Family Room)
- Lent Bible Study, 1:00 p.m. (Coutts' Home)
- Parish Cluster Penance, 5:00-6:00 p.m. (Queen of Heaven Parish, Akron)
- RCIA, 7:00 p.m. (Holy Family Room)
- Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (Church)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

- Mothers' Lenten Bible Study, 7:00 p.m. (Archangels Room)
- Lent Bible Study, 7:00 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- AA/Al-Anon, 7:30 p.m. (Upper Room)

THURSDAY, MARCH 30

- Thursday Scripture Group, 12:30 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- Stephen Ministry Continuing Ed. & Supervision Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Holy Family Room)
- Lent Bible Study, 7:15 p.m. (Beatitudes Room)

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

- Youth Choir Practice, 4:30-5:30 p.m. (Church)
- Stations of the Cross, 7:00 p.m. (Church)

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

- Men's Group, 7:00 a.m. (Holy Family Room)
- First Saturday Devotions, following 8:15 a.m. Mass
- Women's Retreat, 8:15 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 2

- Book Study, 10:10 a.m. (Holy Family Room)
- BSA Cub Scouts, 1:00 p.m. (Gym)
- Outdoor Stations, 3:00 p.m.
- BSA Boy Scouts, 4:30 p.m. (Refectory)
- Night Prayer, 9:00 p.m. (Church)

COLLECTION INFORMATION

March 18/19

	<u>Offertory</u>
Sunday	\$ 14,608.00
Assessment	\$ 41.00
Capital	\$ 110.00
School	\$ 5.00
Central & Eastern Europe	\$ 275.00
Home Missions	\$ 155.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 257.00
TOTAL	\$ 15,451.00

Our parish is blessed by your generosity!

ADORERS NEEDED

We are in need of Adorers for the following time:

- Tuesday, 5:00-5:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- Friday, 5:00-5:30 p.m.

If you are able to fill one of these, please call Joanne at 330-338-4810.

VOCATION CRUCIFIX

Whether God calls us to the priesthood, religious life, marriage, or the single life, we all need His constant, loving support to answer Him faithfully. In His wisdom, He uses our prayers to strengthen each other's vocations. Please consider bringing the Vocation Crucifix into your home to pray that all will discover and live the joy of God's call for them! Contact the parish office any time to get your name on the list at 330-644-2225.

Kim & Chris Kovesci received the Vocation Crucifix this weekend.



SAVE THE DATE

What: St. Francis de Sales Golf Outing
When: May 20, 2023 (shotgun at 8:00 a.m.)
Where: Mayfair Country Club



Christ caring for people through people

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Easter can be a time of loneliness and emptiness for those who have suffered a loss or who are going through a difficult time. If the joy of Easter seems far away, help is available. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care. They will listen, care, encourage, and pray with and for you. Stephen Ministers have been specially trained to meet your emotional and spiritual needs; male Stephen Ministers are matched with men, and female Stephen Ministers are matched with women. If you or someone you know is hurting, find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with one of our Stephen Leaders:

Ann Clark: aclark2@stfparish.com

Bill Dickey: wdickey@stfparish.com

Jessica Quentin: jquentin@stfparish.com



REQUEST FOR 2022 FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

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

LENT

WALKING WITH CHRIST

Mass

- ~ Monday through Saturday, 8:15 a.m.
- ~ Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 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)
- ~ Family Adoration, Fridays, 6:00-6:30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross

- Fridays, 7:00 p.m.
- With SFdS School, Mondays, 2:15 p.m.
- Outdoor Stations, April 2, 3:00 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 28 – Queen of Heaven

Night Prayer

Sundays, 9:00 p.m.

Book Study: Creation

Sundays, February 26-April 2, 10:10-11:00 a.m.

Women's Retreat

"Christ Is Our Hope"

Presenters: Holly Linger and Abigail Gresser
Saturday, April 1, 8:15 a.m.-3:00 p.m.



The Demkee Family Scholarship Fund of the Catholic Community Foundation will award one \$1,400.00 scholarship to a student enrolled at the University of Akron or satellite. Applicant must be a parishioner at a Catholic parish in Wayne or Summit County and maintain a 3.0 GPA. Scholarship applications are available online at: www.catholiccommunity.org/grants or call toll free at 800-869-6525, ext. 8070.

Brunch with the Bunny

St. Francis de Sales will be hosting our very own
Brunch with the Bunny!

Please join us on
Saturday, April 8th from 9:00-11:00 a.m.



Details:

- Photo area with the bunny will be set up in the gym
 - Student Council members will be helping with crafts and coloring
 - Light refreshments will be provided in the cafeteria
 - Cost: \$20.00 per family
- ** In order for planning purposes and time allotment, payment must be sent in by March 31st (*no payments will be accepted at the door*).

You will be able to take your own photos in addition to pictures taken by SFdS staff that will be emailed or printed out following Spring Break.



Please return the bottom half of this paper and send it in with your payment to reserve your spot.
Cash or check will be accepted.

Family Name: _____

of family members attending: _____ # of children in picture: _____

Circle which option you prefer: Email me photo Print photo and send home

email address: _____

To RSVP, please mail or drop off the bottom part of this form with payment to the parish office before March 31st. Checks can be made payable to St. Francis de Sales.

SUPPORT FOR OUR SEMINARIANS

The **Parents of Priests** Organization of our Cleveland Diocese works to support the needs of the seminarians at Borromeo and St. Mary Seminaries in many ways, including financial and spiritual support. One of the ways that members of the Diocese, and especially our St. Francis de Sales Parish, can assist these men is through spiritual support. Each day is designated for prayer support for a seminarian as well as our Pope, Bishop Edward Malesic, Pastors, Priests, and other related intentions. Please use this calendar insert and keep it in a place where you can see it each day and thoughtfully say a prayer of support for the name listed that day, as well as a prayer for an increase in vocations. Also, do remember to pray for the others in our parish who are discerning their vocations.



April 2023



Seminarian Calendar prepared by Parents of Priests—Diocese of Cleveland
 Calendar at: seminarians.parentsofpriests.net
 Priest & Seminarian calendar online at: priests.stpatrick.cc



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						<i>1</i> Stephen Vavro Borromeo-2
<i>2</i> <i>Pray for Bishop Gries</i>	<i>3</i> Matthew Wasinski Borromeo-1	<i>4</i> Christopher Yankay Borromeo-1	<i>5</i> Christopher Cotone St. Mary-III	<i>6</i> Anthony Donatelli St. Mary-III	<i>7</i> Jon Hawkins St. Mary-III	<i>8</i> Jeffrey Lindholm St. Mary-III
<i>9</i> <i>Pray for All Pastors</i>	<i>10</i> Ryan Arto St. Mary-IV	<i>11</i> Kevin Bertleff St. Mary-IV	<i>12</i> Michael Garvin St. Mary-IV	<i>13</i> Garrett Guerrieri St. Mary-IV	<i>14</i> William Wainio St. Mary-IV	<i>15</i> James Livingston St. Mary-III
<i>16</i> <i>Pray for All Deacons</i>	<i>17</i> James Parisi St. Mary-III	<i>18</i> Kyle Rosser St. Mary-III	<i>19</i> Travis Seagraves St. Mary-III	<i>20</i> Mitch Carson St. Mary-II	<i>21</i> Cameron Ferrell St. Mary-II	<i>22</i> Nathan Frankart St. Mary-II
<i>23 & 30</i> <i>Alleluia!</i>	<i>24</i> Joseph Truong Viet Ho St. Mary-II	<i>25</i> Sean Neville St. Mary-II	<i>26</i> Brian Peters St. Mary-II	<i>27</i> Arthur Bordenschatz St. Mary-I	<i>28</i> Charles Cairmie St. Mary-I	<i>29</i> Noah Furin St. Mary-I

SILENT RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Join The ITE Project for its annual Lenten, silent retreat, *Thirst*, at Holy Family Catholic Church in Stow (3179 Kent Road). ITE is excited to announce that this full-day, young adult retreat on the eve of Palm Sunday in the spirit of Mother Teresa is 100% FREE. *Thirst* is rooted in the letter written by St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta when Jesus spoke directly to her from the Cross in a spiritual awakening. Immerse yourself in silence and enjoy optional conferences, solitude, two home-cooked meals, Adoration, Confessions, and prayer teams. The retreat ends with the vigil for the Palm Sunday Mass. Register by March 26th. Join us and commit to finishing Lent well! Young adults ages 18-39 are welcome. <https://www.theiteproject.com/events/thirst>.

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