

# *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](http://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., 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.

## PALM SUNDAY MARCH 24, 2024



### SUNDAY, MARCH 24, PALM SUNDAY

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

### MONDAY, MARCH 25, MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK

- 8:15 a.m. Jean Marchetta (Anna Fana)

### TUESDAY, MARCH 26, TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

- 8:15 a.m. Anna Letz (Marty & Liz Misbrener)  
6:30 p.m. No Mass – Chrism at the Cathedral  
of St. John the Evangelist, 7:00 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

- 8:15 a.m. Tim O'Connor (Peggy McDonald)

### THURSDAY, MARCH 28, HOLY THURSDAY

- 8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer  
7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper  
*Eileen Sanders – Month's Mind*

### FRIDAY, MARCH 29, GOOD FRIDAY

- 8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer  
12:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross  
3:00 p.m. Celebration of the Passion of the Lord/  
Adoration of the Holy Cross (with choir)  
7:00 p.m. Celebration of the Passion of the Lord/  
Adoration of the Holy Cross  
*James Mesko – Anniversary of Death*

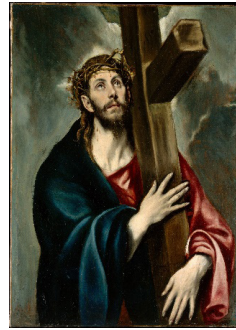
### SATURDAY, MARCH 30

- 8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer  
10:30 a.m. Egg Hunt  
12:00 p.m. Blessing of the Easter Food  
8:30 p.m. The Great Easter Vigil in the Holy Night  
*Gary Grant Heller – Anniversary of Death*

### SUNDAY, MARCH 31, EASTER SUNDAY

- 7:30 a.m. Betty J. Phillips (Ann Marie Phillips)  
9:00 a.m. For the Sanctification of Priests  
(Anonymous)  
11:00 a.m. Pro Populo

## ARE YOU READY?



Are you ready to journey through the holiest week of the year? Holy week is upon us. We are privileged to enter into the heart and soul of the Christian life. As we journey through this week, pay great attention to the words of Jesus as He journeys to the cross. As He moves toward the cross, not all will follow. Pay attention to how differently Christ was treated along the way. Some embraced Him. Some cared for Him.

Some ran away. Some denied Him. Put yourself into those individuals' lives and ask yourself, "Have I done this to Jesus?" Pray for the grace to move toward the cross with Jesus. Ask for His grace to embrace the cross so that we can embrace the Resurrection!

This weekend, we experience Palm Sunday. Together, we shout out, "*Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! Hosanna in the highest!*" We encounter the Passion story from the Last Supper all the way to tomb. The Church holds this reality, this story as so important that it celebrates it as one liturgical celebration. The summit of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Triduum – from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery. The single celebration of the Triduum marks the end of the Lenten season, and leads to the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord at the Easter Vigil.

The liturgical services that take place during the Triduum are:

- Mass of the Lord's Supper
- Good Friday of the Lord's Passion
- Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord

Please take a moment to view our Holy Week schedule and make a bold commitment to celebrate each day of the Triduum. I am so grateful my parents did that for me growing up. Year after year, each day of the Triduum has touched my heart in so many different ways. I hope and pray it will be the same for you and your family. I also challenge you to bring a non-Catholic friend along with you on this journey. The life, death and Resurrection of Jesus are meant to be shared with all!

Now let us begin the journey,  
Fr. Jeremy

P.S. Fr. David's birthday is March 25! Please take a moment and wish him a happy day as he turns 38! Happy Birthday!



## SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11  
**Tuesday:** Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38  
**Wednesday:** Is 50:4-9a; Mt 26:14-25  
**Thursday:** Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15  
**Friday:** Is 52:13-53:12; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9;  
Jn 18:1-19:42  
**Saturday:** Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a; Gn 22:1-18 or  
22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ex 14:15-15:1;  
Is 54:5-14; Is 55:1-11; Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4;  
Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Rom 6:3-11; Mk 16:1-7  
**Sunday:** Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4 or;  
1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7



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

### SUNDAY, MARCH 24

- Prayers for healing, after 11:00 am 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, 4:00 p.m. (Upper Room)
- Night Prayer & Benediction, 7:00-7:30 p.m.

### MONDAY, MARCH 25

- SVdP Food Pantry open, 9:00-9:30 a.m.
- Lent Scripture Study, 7:00 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- PSR, 6:30-8:00 p.m. – Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. (Church)
- Young Women's Discernment Group, 7:00 p.m. (Archangels Room)

### TUESDAY, MARCH 26

- Women's Study Group, 9:00-11:00 a.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (Church)
- Chrism Mass, 7:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

- Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (Church)
- AA/Al-Anon, 7:30 p.m. (Upper Room)

### THURSDAY, MARCH 28

- Thursday Scripture Group, 12:30-3:00 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- Agape Meal, 5:00 p.m. (Gym)
- SVdP Food Pantry Open, 6:00-6:30 p.m.
- Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:00 p.m. (Church)
- Youth Group Seven Church Pilgrimage, following Mass
- Adoration until Night Prayer at 11:00 p.m. (Memorare Center)

### FRIDAY, MARCH 29

- No School
- Parish Office Closed
- Morning Prayer, 8:15 a.m. (Church)
- Stations of the Cross, 12:00 p.m. (Church)
- Celebration of the Passion of the Lord & Adoration of the Cross, 3:00 p.m.
- Celebration of the Passion of the Lord & Adoration of the Cross, 7:00 p.m.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 30

- Men's Group, 7:00 a.m. (Holy Family Room)
- Morning Prayer, 8:15 a.m. (Church)
- Brunch with the Bunny, 9:00 a.m. (Gym)
- Egg Hunt, 10:30 a.m.
- Blessing of the Easter Food, 12:00 p.m. (Church)
- The Great Easter Vigil in the Holy Night, 8:30 p.m.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 31

- Happy Easter!

### 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.

**The Menches Family** received the Vocation Crucifix this weekend.

### 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.

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

### COLLECTION INFORMATION

Due to early bulletin deadlines, the collection information for March 16th and 17th will be published in the forthcoming bulletin.

*Our parish is blessed by your generosity!*



**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

### 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 location and time have changed). 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](mailto:darconsulting@gmail.com) or call 330-697-0777 before March 29th.



### **FIRST MILLENNIAL SAINT!**

Our parish was privileged to host the Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit this fall, which was not only extraordinary but was also compiled by a teenager! The Women's Study Group invites you to join us as we learn more about this young man and his deep devotion to Jesus in the Eucharist. We will be studying *Carlo Acutis, The First Millennial Saint*, by Nicola Gori. We meet Tuesdays, 9:00-11:00 a.m., in the Memorare Center, beginning April 9. For more information, contact Lori at gutbrods@att.net. For help obtaining a book, contact Michelle at mypower36@yahoo.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.

# **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**







# 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.

Chrism 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.

## EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL OPPORTUNITIES



### SUNDAY NIGHT PRAYER & BENEDICTION

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

### 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).

"To speak of the Blessed Sacrament is to speak of what is most sacred. How often, when we are in a state of distress, those to whom we look for help leave us; or what is worse, add to our affliction by heaping fresh troubles upon us. He is ever there, waiting to help us."

– St. Euphrasia

### A MESSAGE FROM STEPHEN MINISTRY:

As we enter this Holy Week, we remember that Jesus, fully human and fully God, experienced the wide range of emotions we all encounter in life. Jesus experienced times of loneliness, sadness, hurt, anger, disappointment, grief, and abandonment. That is part of being human. Another part of being human is needing help from each other. God never intended us to be completely self-sufficient. Part of God's plan is for each of us to turn to others for help when we need it.

So when you are experiencing difficult times, don't struggle alone. Our Stephen Ministers will walk with you, listen to you, encourage you, pray with you, and provide confidential one-to-one care to help you through tough times. Stephen Ministers can bring the love of Jesus back into your life. To learn more about Stephen Ministry, talk to one of our Stephen Leaders, Ann Clark at [aclark2@stfparish.com](mailto:aclark2@stfparish.com) or Bill Dickey at [wickey@stfparish.com](mailto:wickey@stfparish.com) or put your contact information in the Stephen Ministry prayer box located in the back of the church.



### **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!

### **CHESTERTON ACADEMY GALA DINNER**

Chesterton Academy of Akron is hosting their 3rd annual Gala Dinner "An Evening in Roma" on Saturday, April 6, 2024, at St. Sebastian's Zwisler Hall, from 5:30-9:30 p.m. Join us for an evening of merriment and good cheer to benefit the students of the Academy. Prof. James Gaston of Franciscan University of Steubenville will speak about "The Role of Culture and Education in the Modern World." A special encounter with G.K. Chesterton himself will be part of the festivities as well as an open bar, dinner, entertainment, and silent auction. For tickets and more information, visit our website at [www.AkronChesterton.org](http://www.AkronChesterton.org). Join local businesses in supporting the Academy with our Sponsorship Program. Business Program ads are also available. Reach out to Marie at 330-328-5695 or [mariemonsour83@gmail.com](mailto:mariemonsour83@gmail.com) for more information.



Looking for a way to enrich your Holy Week experience? AM1260 The Rock, offers a full array of special programming that will help you pray, meditate, and enter more deeply into the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Whether you listen on the radio, through our mobile app, or on your computer, AM 1260 The Rock can accompany you during the holiest season of the year. Go to <https://am1260therock.com> to find the entire Holy Week and Easter Schedule or call us at 216-227-1260 to obtain a printed copy. From everyone at AM 1260 The Rock, may you continue to have a blessed Lent, a spiritually fruitful Holy Week, and a Joyful Easter



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 p.m. 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, <https://www.theiteproject.com/events/gala2024>.

### **QUEEN OF HEAVEN YOUNG AT HEART GROUP**

The Queen of Heaven Young at Heart Meeting will be on April 1, 2024 in the Parish Life Center Rooms 7 & 8, at 1:00 p.m. The speaker will be Elliot Kolkovich, the Summit County Prosecutor, who will speak about "Senior Safety."

### **HOW TO WIN THE CULTURE WAR**

Dr. Peter Kreeft, renowned author and speaker, will present "How to Win the Culture War – The Call, The Enemies, and The Battlefields" in two separate talks on Saturday, April 6th at St. Sebastian Parish, 476 Mull Avenue, Akron, 44320. There will be an optional 8:00 a.m. Mass, followed by the program from 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Cost is \$25.00 per person. All are welcome! More details at <https://one.bidpal.net/wscppeterkreeft> or scan this QR code.





### JESUIT RETREAT CENTER PROGRAMS & RETREATS

The Jesuit Retreat Center in Parma is offering a variety of programs in April, including:

- Liturgy & Ignatian Spirituality: Mass followed by Ignatian reflections every Tuesday in April from 8:00-8:45 a.m.
- Journaling Grief & Loss – a Zoom Program: On April 8, 15, 22, and 29 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Michael Reiling, M.Ed. will present on writing about experiences of grief and loss as a path to insight and healing.
- April Morning Prayer for Women: Monday, April 15, 9:30-11:00, women from all walks of life are invited to pray together and learn about the beauty of prayer from Sr. Mary Ann Flannery, S.C.

For more information and to view a full list of offerings, visit [www.jesuitretreatcenter.org](http://www.jesuitretreatcenter.org).

 <p><b>330-644-5005</b> 472 W. Turkeyfoot Lake Road 1 mile from St. Francis de Sales</p> <p><b>House of EBERHARDT FUNERAL HOME</b></p> <p>Tim &amp; Jeannette Eberhardt Parishioners for over 50 years</p>		 <p><b>Dean E. Biscan</b> Director 330.253.6126 <a href="http://www.hummelcares.com">www.hummelcares.com</a></p> <p><b>Hummel</b> Since 1898 FUNERAL HOMES AND CREMATORIES</p>		<p><b>HONEYMOON GRILLE</b></p> <p>Portage Lakes' home to great food and exceptional service!</p> <p><b>2023 THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY'S CHOICE AWARDS Akron</b></p> <p><i>Thank You!</i> Best All-Around Restaurant and Best Breakfast.</p> <p>3458 Manchester Rd. Akron, OH 44319   (330) 644-4355   @HoneymoonGrille</p>		<p>Compliments of</p> <p><b>GILLMORE SECURITY</b></p>		<p><b>Work Hard, Play Hard</b> TOOL AND PARTY RENTAL</p> <p>3337 Fortuna Drive, Akron <b>330-645-0555</b> See Rick Saunders for all of your tool and party needs.</p>	
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<p><b>the K company inc.</b> Turn to the experts Heating and Air Conditioning <a href="http://www.theKcompany.com">www.theKcompany.com</a></p>		<p><b>BISESIS'S BICYCLE &amp; FITNESS</b> 5164 S. MAIN ST AKRON, OH 44319 (330) 882-6737 <a href="http://WWW.BISESIS.COM">WWW.BISESIS.COM</a> Dan &amp; Jacqui Clark Owners Keeping you rolling since 1984</p>		<p><b>Senior living built on trust</b></p> <p>NOW TAKING RESERVATIONS. Call (234) 294-0010 or visit us at <a href="http://vsecommunities.org">vsecommunities.org</a>.</p> <p>THE VILLAGE OF <b>St. Edward</b> AT GREEN Not for profit. Faith based. Locally operated.</p> <p>GREEN: 3813 Fortuna Drive, Akron, OH 44312 • 234-294-0010</p>					
<p><b>Homestead Renovation LLC</b> Residential Painting &amp; Minor Home Repair David Ott • <b>330-607-4351</b></p>		<p>M, T, TH, F: 8:30-4:00; W &amp; SAT: 8:30-NOON <b>MANCHESTER ANIMAL CLINIC, INC.</b> DR. BENJAMIN L. PEARSON, JR. HOURS BY APPOINTMENT <b>330-882-9802</b> 5885 MANCHESTER ROAD, AKRON</p>		<p><b>It Takes a Community to Make a Home</b></p> <p><b>Brier Creek</b> Senior Independent Living <b>330-896-0400</b></p> <p><b>GreenView</b> Senior Assisted Living <b>330-899-0404</b></p> <p><b>WARMUS</b> Senior Living Communities Family and Locally Owned in The City of Green</p>					
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