

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., 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 EASTER**APRIL 28, 2024***Masses For
The Week***SUNDAY, APRIL 28, FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

- 7:30 a.m. Margie Katigbak (Mariza Meredith)
 9:00 a.m. Donna Busson (Matthews Family)
 11:00 a.m. Pro Populo

MONDAY, APRIL 29, ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

- 8:15 a.m. Fr. Robert Kaylor (Jim & Robin Kulick)
Rita Vaughan – Month's Mind

TUESDAY, APRIL 30, ST. PIUS V

- 8:15 a.m. Zbignief Fraszczyk (Maria Murawski)
 6:30 p.m. Dan Kelly (John & Michele Steurer)
Patricia Bryant – Anniversary of Death

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

- 8:15 a.m. Dominic Fana (Wife, Anna)

THURSDAY, MAY 2, ST. ATHANASIUS

- 8:15 a.m. Blessings on the USA (Nagle Family)
 6:30 p.m. *Anointing Mass*
 Joseph Oddo (Susan Muzljakovich)

FRIDAY, MAY 3, SS. PHILIP & JAMES

- 8:15 a.m. Cheryl Zenobi (Cathy McArdle)
 9:00 a.m. Thalia McVicker (Jeanne Wagner)
 3:00 p.m. *Wedding: Anderson & Whitman*

SATURDAY, MAY 4

- 8:15 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of McNeill
 Family (the Family)
 11:00 a.m. *First Communion Mass*
 5:00 p.m. Troy Coleman (Joanne Reich)

SUNDAY, MAY 5, SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 7:30 a.m. Pro Populo
 9:00 a.m. Bill Abbott (Jim & Sheila)
 11:00 a.m. George & Jackie Schnitzler
 (Jeff & Gail Angeletti)

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Acts 14:5-18; Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8
Thursday: Acts 15:7-21; Jn 15:9-11
Friday: 1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Jn 15:18-21
Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 Jn 4:7-10;
 Jn 15:9-17

JESUS, YOU TAKE THE LEAD

Last week, a parishioner sent this to me. I have to say this made me laugh! Maybe you have noticed how my dog Blaise has the knack of walking himself. I simply put the leash in his mouth and he does the rest! It certainly makes my life easier and the people of God always laugh at it. But the question is: is this really the way we are called to live our lives? When we wake up every morning, we have a choice: we can choose to begin the day with Jesus or we can simply jump into life on our own. Sometimes, we let our own passions, desires, hopes and dreams lead us. While many of these can be great ideas, are they leading us to true happiness? Are they leading us to heaven? Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. He is the way. When you wake up tomorrow morning, simply pray, "Lead me, Lord." Put the leash in His hand and be amazed at where He will take you.

This past Tuesday, we welcomed Bishop Woost as we celebrated **Confirmation**. It was awesome to see these youth of our parish approach the Bishop with that openness to let the Holy Spirit lead them in their lives. We sang "Veni Sancti Spiritus" – Come Holy Spirit. Pray that the Holy Spirit will set aflame a fire in their hearts so that the Lord will lead them to great heights with all the angels and saints!



Lastly, I ask you to pray for our 2nd graders who have been preparing well for First Communion. They had a retreat last week and had practice this weekend. They will receive **First Communion on May 4**. At the Confirmation Mass, we found a piece of artwork by one of the little ones. Perhaps this child found the most precious moment of the Mass to draw. It is beautiful. Pray that our 2nd graders, along with their family members, continually unpack the awesome gift of the Eucharist in their lives now and forever!

Lead us Lord into everlasting life!
Fr. Jeremy

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

- Prayers for healing, after 11:00 Mass, meet by the St. Anthony Statue
- Boy Scouts, 4:30-6:00 p.m. (Gym)
- Youth Group, 7:00-9:00 p.m. (Holy Family Room)

MONDAY, APRIL 29

- SVdP Food Pantry Open, 9:00-9:30 a.m.
- Young Women's Discernment Group, 7:00 p.m. (Archangels Room)

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

- Women's Study Group, 9:00-11:00 a.m. (St. Gerard Room)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

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

THURSDAY, MAY 2

- Thursday Scripture Group, 12:30-3:00 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- SVdP Food Pantry Open, 6:00-6:30 p.m.
- *The Chosen* Season 4, 7:15 p.m. (Upper Room)

SATURDAY, MAY 4

- Men's Group, 7:00 a.m. (Holy Family Room)
- First Saturday Devotions, after 8:15 a.m. Mass
- First Communion Mass, 11:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 5

- Donut Sunday
- Boy Scouts, 4:30-6:00 p.m. (Gym)
- Cub Scouts, 4:30-6:00 p.m. (Refectory)
- Youth Group, 7:00-9:00 p.m. (Holy Family Room)



CHURCH RENOVATION

In May, the kneelers, pews, and flooring in the church will be refurbished! Due to this work, please be aware of these changes to locations for worship in May:

- Daily Mass will take place in the Memorare Center from May 6-18.
- Weekend Mass will take place in the Gym the weekends of May 11 and 12 as well as May 18 and 19.
- There will be no Adoration May 6-10 in the Church due to staining.
- Confessions will most likely be outside by the side exits of the confessional unless otherwise noted.

Thank you ahead of time for your patience while we make these improvements to our parish home!

"Without Me you can do nothing." Jn 15:5



Without God, none of us can fulfill our vocation, but with His grace, we can be the amazing saints He created us to be! Praying for vocations is a gift to your family, the Church, and the world. A great way to do so is by receiving the **Vocation Crucifix** for a week and spending a few moments each day praying in front of it. The fruit of your prayers will endure forever. Please contact the parish office any time to get your name on the list – call 330-644-2225 or email cwilson@stfparish.com.

Bill & Pat Shea received the Vocation Crucifix this weekend.

COLLECTION INFORMATION

April 20/21

	Offertory	Faith Direct
Sunday	\$ 14,454.25	\$ 6,757.25
Assessment	\$ 150.00	\$ 63.00
Capital	\$ 170.00	\$ 153.00
School	\$ 410.00	\$ 128.00
Home Missions	\$ 20.00	\$ 153.00
Rice Bowl	\$ 235.18	
Easter		\$ 658.00
Holy Land		\$ 233.00
Memorial Gifts		\$ 150.00
TOTAL	\$ 15,439.43	\$ 8,295.25
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 23,734.68	

Our parish is blessed by your generosity!

ADORER NEEDED

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

Tuesday 3:00-3:30 p.m.

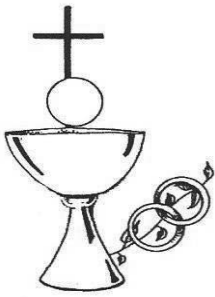
If you are able to fill these slots, please contact Joanne Reich, 330-338-4810.

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.



III Jonathan Anderson & Patrese Whitman



May 2024



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
			1 Daniel LaPolla St. Mary	2 Billy Reed St. Mary	3 Joseph Rohan St. Mary	4 Joshua Stecz St. Mary
			5 <i>Pray for Pope Francis</i>	6 Craig Ziobert St. Mary	7 Johannes Benninghoff St. Mary	8 Jake Cermak St. Mary
12 <i>Pray for All Mothers</i>	13 John Scantling Borromeo	14 Connor Trout Borromeo	15 Dc. Kevin Bertleff St. Mary	16 Dc. Michael Garvin St. Mary	17 Dc. William Wainio St. Mary	18 Christopher Villarreal Borromeo
19 <i>Pray for the Newly Ordained Priests</i>	20 Benjamin Baratian Borromeo	21 Jonathan Green Borromeo	22 Andrew Bendahan Borromeo	23 Thomas Bryne Borromeo	24 Augustine Drexler Borromeo	25 Stephen Vavro Borromeo
26 <i>Pray for Bishop Malesic</i>	27 Miguel Estrada Borromeo	28 Dan Jordan Borromeo	29 Nathan Menkhous Borromeo	30 Zachary Smith Borromeo	31 Steven Vasko Borromeo	<i>Go and spread the Good News to all!</i>

The Chosen Season 4 Join us Thursdays in May in the Upper Room

7:15 pm (After Mass)

May 2: Episodes 1-2

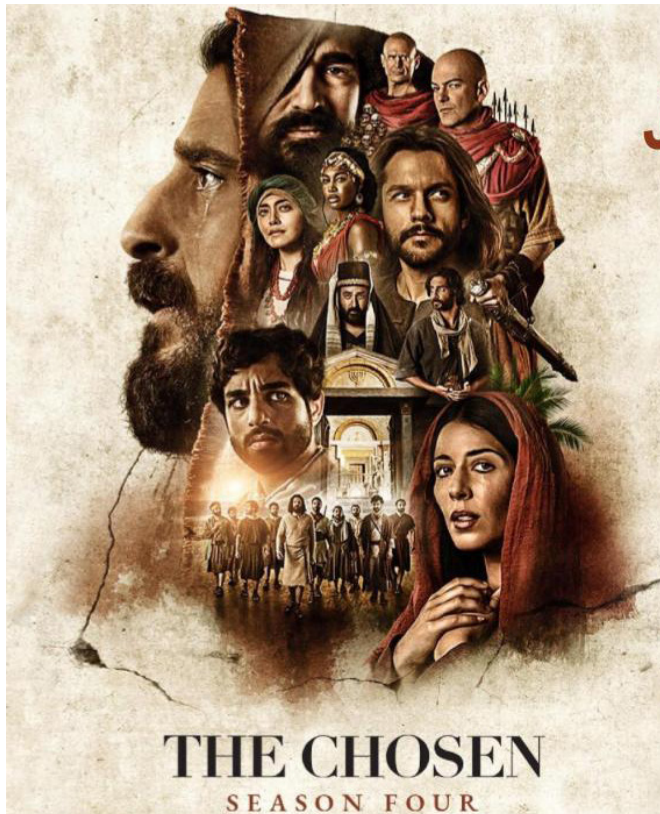
May 9: Episodes 3-4

May 16: Episodes 5-6

May 23: Episodes 7-8



Due to limited space, please RSVP by calling the parish office or using the QR Code. Popcorn, coffee, and lemonade will be available. Bring snacks to share if you wish.



St. Francis de Sales Athletic Department

2024 Annual Golf Outing Signup Form

Saturday May 18th, 2024

Mayfair Country Club : Green, Ohio

8:00am SHOTGUN

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

DRINKS, CONTEST AND PRIZES

BENEFITING ST. FRANCIS DE SALES ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

\$340 A FOURSOME

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PHONE # _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

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St. Francis de Sales
% Golf Outing

4019 Manchester Rd, Akron, OH 44319

Contact: Rick Evans (330)990-9180 Email: rcev1@hotmail.com



St. Francis de Sales Athletic Department

2024 Annual Golf Outing Sponsorship Form

Saturday, May 18th, 2024

Mayfair Country Club : Green, Ohio

Company: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Golf Outing Sponsorships are a great way to help promote your business

These opportunities will sell out fast and are on a first-come, first-served basis

Sponsorship includes Program listing, 1st Hole Sign and throughout sponsor themed.

RESERVE your sponsorship TODAY

<u>Sponsorship Description:</u>	<u>Investment:</u>	<u>Check Item</u>
Course Sponsor: Main Title Sponsor. (1 Available)	\$1,500	_____
Prize Sponsor: Door prize Sponsor	\$1,000	_____
Beverage Sponsor: Signage in Beverage Area	\$1,000	_____
Breakfast Sponsor: Signage during Breakfast	\$500	_____
Lunch Sponsor: Signage during Lunch	\$500	_____
Dinner Sponsor: Signage	\$500	_____
Hole Sponsor: 1st Hole Main Sign	\$100	_____

PAYMENT TYPE: CHECK CREDIT CARD TOTAL: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ CCV: _____

Name on CC: _____ Exp Date: _____

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Contact: Rick Evans 330-990-9180 rcev1@hotmail.com



**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

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWERS FOR LIFE

The annual Right to Life of Northeast Ohio Flowers for Life Sale will be held on Mother's Day weekend. Carnations are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00 and bouquets are \$10.00 each. They will be sold after all Masses. Please say "Thank you for the gift of life!" to wives, moms, grandmas, and loving friends with beautiful flowers, and support Right to Life of Northeast Ohio's continuing efforts to promote the dignity of human life from conception to natural death.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

The Diocese of Cleveland's "Protecting God's Children" program is a continuing effort to instruct and inform everyone about the protection of children from sexual abuse. To report past or present suspected inappropriate behavior toward children by priests, deacons, religious, lay ecclesial ministers, or personnel associated with the Church, immediately inform local authorities about inappropriate behavior. Also, please contact the Diocesan Response Service Office at 216-334-2999 or via email at response.services@dioceseofcleveland.org.

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 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.

Stressed? Feeling Down? Need Encouragement?



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

Stephen Ministers don't just provide care for people experiencing a major crisis. They also provide care and support for people weighed down by the little things in life. If you're feeling down, lonely, stressed, or discouraged, you could benefit from the care, support, and encouragement of a Stephen Minister. It's free. It's confidential. And it will really make a difference in your life! To find out more, talk with one of our Stephen Leaders: Ann Clark at aclark2@stfparish.com or Bill Dickey at wdickey@stfparish.com. Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!

Remain in me as
I remain in you,
says the Lord.



SENSORY FRIENDLY MASSES

May 4, 4:30 p.m.

Center for Pastoral Leadership,
28700 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe, OH 44092

Catholic Charities' Disability Services & Ministries is supporting Sensory Friendly Masses for individuals with autism and their families. These are designed to welcome individuals who struggle with sensory overstimulation in a stigma-free environment. Lights are lower than normal and there will be no music or microphones. Those with sensory sensitivities are invited to bring comfort items that will help make the environment more accommodating. The homily will be short, practical, and literal, and Mass will be approximately 30 minutes. After, we will gather at the St. Anthony Center for light refreshments (drinks/crackers). Bring safe foods that your children enjoy. Contact Andrea Staron at andreastaron@gmail.com for more info.



Blue Sunday is this Sunday, April 28, a day of prayer for abused and neglected children and for those who care and serve them. April is observed as Child Abuse Prevention Month, and as a way to remember the millions of children across the country and the hundreds of children right here in Summit County who have been impacted by abuse and neglect, Summit County Children Services reminds the faith community and places of worship to pray on Blue Sunday, April 28.

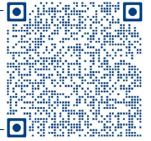


ANGEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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, 2025** to be eligible for a 2024 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: _____ \$ _____
 Total: \$ _____

For a State Tax Credit In

2024 Tax Year
 Eligibility: Donation made between 1/1/2024 - 4/15/25
 2025 Tax Year
 Eligibility: Donation made between 1/1/2025 - 4/15/26

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: _____ \$ _____
 Total: \$ _____

For a State Tax Credit In

2024 Tax Year
 Eligibility: Donation made between 1/1/2024 - 4/15/25
 2025 Tax Year
 Eligibility: Donation made between 1/1/2025 - 4/15/26

Spouse Payment Information

Check if payment info is the same, one 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:
 Angel Scholarship Fund, Catholic Community Foundation • 1404 East Ninth Street • Cleveland, OH 44114

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

MARIAN PROCESSION

On Sunday, May 5th, you are invited to join a glorious procession honoring Our Mother, Mary, beginning at 12:30 p.m. We will gather at Our Lady of the Elms School, 1290 W. Market Street, Akron, where we will crown the processional statue. From there, we will walk to St. Sebastian Church, 476 Mull Avenue, Akron, to crown Our Lady there, praying the Rosary along the way. First Communicants and 8th graders are invited to lead the procession, dressed in their finest to show our love for She who always said, "Yes!" to God. For those unable to process, the Rosary will be prayed inside St. Sebastian's beginning at 12:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.OurMothersHands.org or contact us at info@ourmothershands.org or 330-800-0929.

Annual Gala

POOR CLARES FUNDRAISER

Support the Poor Clares of Santa Clara Monastery in Canton by attending their annual gala on Sunday, May 5th! The day includes Mass, brunch, auctions (both silent and live), and a presentation by Fr. Leo Patalinghug. Fr. Patalinghug is best known as the priest who beat "Iron Chef" Bobby Flay. He is a best-selling author, acclaimed speaker, and host of the weekly TV show *Savoring Our Faith* on EWTN. The Mass, brunch, and auction will be held at La Pizzeria, 3656 Dressler Road NW, Canton, 44718. General admission is \$75.00. To RSVP, visit bidpal.net/2024ppacanton or call 330-996-4090.

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