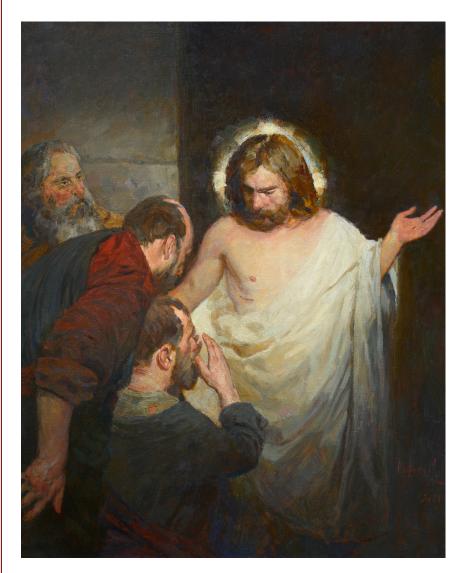
# St. Francis de Sales Parish

## 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.

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY APRIL 7, 2024



#### SUNDAY, APRIL 7, SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

7:30 a.m. Pro Populo

9:00 a.m. Deceased of the Pfeiffer & Trockle Families

(Kathy Welsh)

11:00 a.m. Living & Deceased of the Julianne

Watson Family (Tammany Family)

## MONDAY, APRIL 8, FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

8:15 a.m. Deceased Teachers of SFdS School

(Karen Grable)

#### **TUESDAY, APRIL 9**

8:15 a.m. Barbara Casanta (Don & Kathy McCabe) 6:30 p.m. Joseph Oddo (Susan Muzljakovich)

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

8:15 a.m. Bob & Mary Ellen Trockle (Joe Roland)

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 11, ST. STANISLAUS

8:15 a.m. Audrey Kauffman (Kauffman Family)

6:30 p.m. Genevieve Hyrnick

(Eckman & Hyrnick Families)

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 12

8:15 a.m. Leslie Rietz (Mimi McDonald) 9:00 a.m. Mary Haley (Andrews Family)

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 13, ST. MARTIN I

8:15 a.m. Rose Margida (Ruth Zuchowski) 2:00 p.m. Wedding: Crowder & Staudt

5:00 p.m. Pro Populo

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 14, THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

7:30 a.m. Costello Family (Sean Costello) 9:00 a.m. Ross Falasca (Bill & Jo Dickey) 11:00 a.m. Dan Kelly (Barber Family)

#### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday:Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7b-15Wednesday:Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21Thursday:Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36Friday:Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15Saturday:Acts 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21

**Sunday:** Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn 2:1-5a;

Lk 24:35-48

#### **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**



"Peace be with you." I am always blown away by these first words of Jesus to His disciples as He appeared to them for the first time since the Resurrection. "Peace be with you." To the ones who denied Him, ran for the hills, ignored Him, He says, "Peace be with you." He could have said so many things. He could have condemned them. But He offers peace and breathes the Holy Spirit upon them and invites them into a new way of offering forgiveness. He shows them what forgiveness truly looks like. He shows them why He rose from the dead – to show that

forgiveness and mercy are possible no matter what! This is why we celebrate the Easter Resurrection season for six weeks. This is why we celebrate God's mercy this Sunday. Make sure to come to the **Divine Mercy Prayer Service on Sunday, April 7 at 3:00 p.m.** so that we can open our lives to God's mercy and the power of His Resurrection! We will sing, adore the Lord, celebrate reconciliation, pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet and end with Benediction. We will even have Divine Mercy "Sundaes" in the Memorare Center afterward for any family who wants to come. Come pray and experience what the disciples experienced in the Upper Room.

International Welcome Center. Come April 25 at 7:15 p.m. to the Memorare Center – Beatitudes Room to listen to Pastor Cary Duckett from the Grace Bible Church in Manchester as he and his team will inform us on ways we can serve refugees in our area. He is looking for help from our community to help provide resettlement needs, tangible care, friendship and a community connection for them. Please come and learn more!

Golf League. The St. Francis de Sales Golf League will be back this year with a new day and time. We will play on Wednesday afternoons at 3:30 p.m. at Chenoweth Golf Course. Enjoy 9 holes of golf weekly for \$18.00 per week from April 17th until August 28th. Golfers need to sign up by contacting Dominic Rizzo for details at darconsulting@gmail. com or call 330-697-0777.

**Golf Outing**. This year's golf outing will benefit CYO Athletics at St. Francis de Sales School. It will be on **May 18, 2024 at Mayfair Country Club**. Looking forward to this opportunity to help our youth and enjoy the outdoors!

May God's mercy be abundant in your life, Fr. Jeremy

DIVINE MERY SUNDAY APRIL 7, 2024

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

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 7

- Donut Sunday
- Boy Scouts, 4:30-6:00 p.m. (Gym)
- Divine Mercy Holy Hour, 3:00 p.m. (Church)
- Divine Mercy Sundaes Ice Cream Social, 4:00 p.m. (Memorare Center)

#### **MONDAY, APRIL 8**

- No School
- Avila Holy Hour, 9:00 a.m.
- PSR, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Parent Formation Series, 6:45-7:45 p.m. (Holy Family Room)

#### **TUESDAY, APRIL 9**

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

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

- Senior Euchre Group, 1:00-4:00 p.m. (Beatitudes Room)
- AA/Al-Anon, 7:30 p.m. (Upper Room)
- Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (Church)

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 11

- Thursday Scripture Group, 12:30-3:00 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- SVdP Food Pantry Open, 6:00-6:30 p.m.
- Small Group, 6:00 p.m. (Archangels Room)
- Stephen Ministry Continuing Education and Supervision, 6:30 p.m. (Holy Family Room)

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 12

- Youth Choir, 4:30-5:30 p.m. (Church)

#### **SATURDAY, APRIL 13**

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

#### **SUNDAY, APRIL 14**

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



#### **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.

**Kathy & Don McCabe** received the Vocation Crucifix this weekend.

#### **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

March 23/24

		Offertory		Faith Direct	
Sunday	\$	15,334.50	\$	7,677.88	
Capital	\$	479.00	\$	153.00	
School	\$	220.00	\$	128.00	
Easter	\$	205.00			
Special Collections	\$	431.00	\$	727.00	
TOTAL	\$	16,669.50	\$	\$8,685.88	
GRAND TOTAL \$25,355.38					

#### March 30/31

	Offertory
Easter	\$ 30,840.00
Assessment	\$ 5.00
Capital	\$ 45.00
School	\$ 280.00
Church in Eastern Europe	\$ 100.00
Holy Land	\$ 865.00
TOTAL	\$ 32,135.00

Our parish is blessed by your generosity!



#### **ADORERS NEEDED**

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

Tuesday, 3:00-3:30 p.m. Thursday, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

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

#### **MARRIAGE BANNS**

III Joshua Crowder and Nicole Staudt



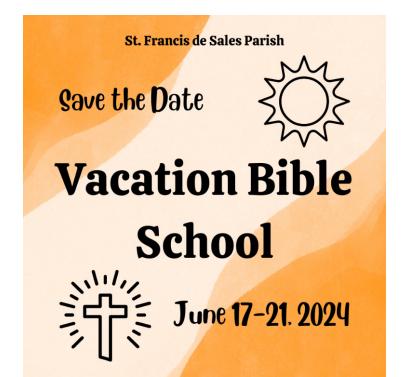
#### A GIFT TO OUR PARISH

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.



Jesus asks His disciples to "Take up their Cross" and to follow Him. From the very beginning, He let the disciples participate in His life and suffering. If we cling to the Lord in times of tribulation and stand fast in fidelity, then we will grow strong and be able to help others in their times of trial, and we become mediators with Christ. It gives God great joy when we work for the salvation of souls, and our Guardian Angels also rejoice. All of heaven rejoices at the conversion of one sinner.

Therese Holderbaum will give a talk on the Holy Angels at 6:00 p.m. in the Holy Family Room on Wednesday, April 17th. The talk will be followed by a discussion on Angels and how they help us with expiation, (Letter 7 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.





#### 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.



#### **RICE BOWL COLLECTION**

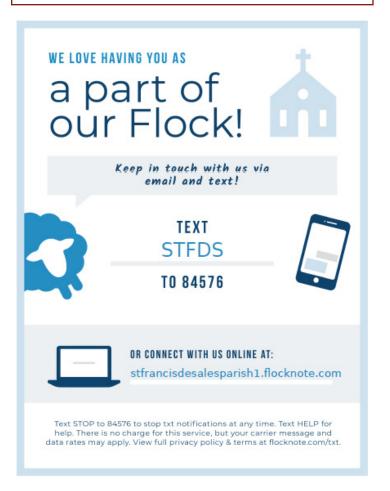
Thank you for saving your nickels and dimes this Lent to feed those in need! Please count the money in your Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl and write a check for the total amount. Make checks payable to St. Francis de Sales Parish and put "Rice Bowl" in the memo line. Then, put your check in a separate envelope and place it in the collection basket at Mass.

DIVINE MERY SUNDAY APRIL 7, 2024



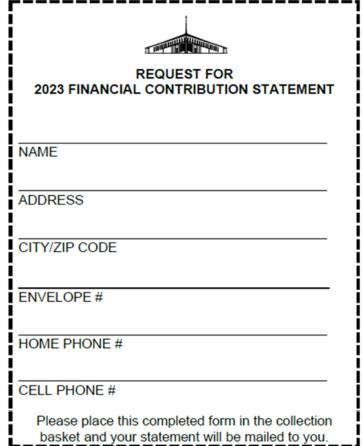
#### PARENT FORMATION SERIES

Parents of our PSR, parish school, and homeschool students are invited to a 3-part series: "Creation in the Bible." Each session will include a short presentation and time for prayer. In addition, we will discuss how to share the fruits of your Biblical study and prayer with your children. Our final session is on Monday, April 8th from 6:45-7:45 p.m. in the Holy Family Room. Even if you did not come to the previous sessions, you are welcome! Contact Abby with any questions: agresser@stfparish.com



#### **TALK ON CONSECRATED LIFE**

Join The ITE Project and Mercedarian Priest, Father Daniel Bowen on April 19th (7:00-9:00 p.m.) at St. Bernard's Church in Akron to discuss what consecrated life means. Father Daniel will have a short presentation on what it means to be consecrated and then answer our questions. This event is intended for all young adults for informational purposes, including those discerning a call from God to set oneself apart. Light appetizers will be included and the fellowship is unmatched. Join us! More details on our website at https://www.theiteproject.com/events/setapart.

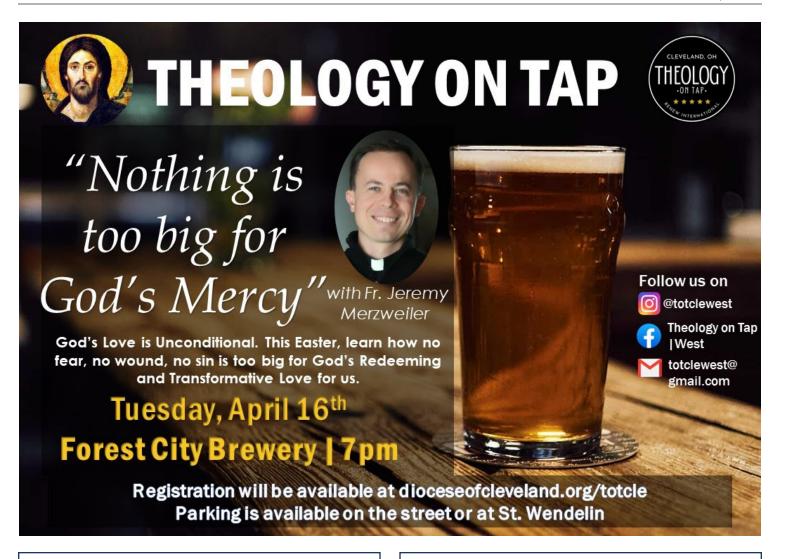


#### A MESSAGE FROM STEPHEN MINISTRY:

Does the peace and joy of the Easter Season seem far away? For those who have suffered a loss or who are going through a difficult time, Easter can be a time of painful loneliness and emptiness. If you are smiling on the outside but full of pain on the inside, and the peace and joy of Easter seems far away, help is available. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide confidential, oneto-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 always 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) or Bill Dickey (wdickey@stfparish.com). Our Stephen Ministers are here to care.

#### **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!





Demkee Family Scholarship Fund will award one \$1,295.00 scholarship to a student enrolled at University of Akron or satellite. Applicants must be a parishioner at a Catholic parish in Wayne or Summit County and maintain a 3.0 GPA. Apply at www.catholiccommunity.org/grants.

#### **HOLY CROSS CEMETERY PRE-PLANNING SEMINAR**

The Catholic Cemeteries Association invites you to attend a 1-hour pre-planning seminar in the Holy Cross cemetery office on Saturday, April 20th, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. Please join us to learn more about the necessary steps to pre-planning the burial process, burial options including options for cremated remains, and the Catholic burial rite. We kindly ask that you RSVP to this event to Holy Cross Cemetery, Akron – 100 East Waterloo Road, Akron, OH 44319; 216-641-7575, ext. 7 or email bstrauchon@clecem.org.



Join us on Monday, April 15th at 7:00 p.m., as we welcome our Guest speaker Fr. Ian Kelly, Parochial Vicar, St. John Vianney Parish, Mentor at Our Lady of the Cedars, 507 S. Cleveland-Massillon

Road in Fairlawn. He will be speaking on the topic: "Saints and Healing Throughout the Centuries." Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Program begins at 7:30 p.m. \$15.00 admission fee. Light appetizers included. Cash bar available. To ensure an accurate count for our venue, RSVP to Keith Johnson by April 12 at johnsonk@ stsebastian.org or 330-836-2233, ext. 134. Sponsored by St. Sebastian Parish, Akron.

#### DIVORCED, SEPARATED, AND WIDOWED CATHOLICS

A "Caring and Sharing" session for those struggling with divorce, separation or widowhood will be held on Monday, April 8th from 7:00-8:30 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 information, call Marlene at 330-607-6284.

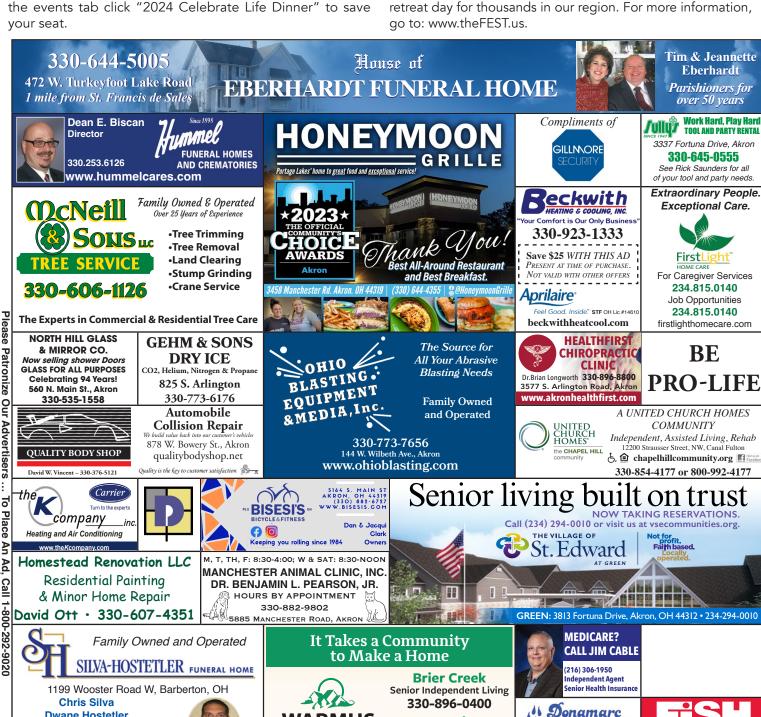
**DIVINE MERY SUNDAY** APRIL 7, 2024

#### **TICKETS ARE GOING FAST!**

Join Right to Life of Northeast Ohio for our Celebrate Life Dinner on April 13th at SYB Party Center in Stow to Celebrate Life with Keynote speaker Bryan Kemper. Social hour begins at 4:00 p.m., dinner and program begin at 5:00 p.m. Register today for the opportunity to hear about moms who chose life and words of hope after Issue 1. Call our offices at 234-334-0088 or go to www.rtlofneo.com under the events tab click "2024 Celebrate Life Dinner" to save

#### **INSTRUMENTS OF PEACE**

This Divine Mercy Sunday, we celebrate God's mercy and love and we hear the words of the Risen Christ to His disciples: "Peace be with you." Our theme for The FEST this year is "Instruments of Peace" - join us on Sunday, August 4th as we reflect on the words of peace we hear in the Gospel and our call to spread that same message of peace to our world. Mark your calendar for The FEST – Sunday, August 4th – an annual



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