

The measure of love is to love without measure.

St. Francis de Sales Parish



BE FAITH-FILLED. BE OF SERVICE. BE DEVOUT.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Masses

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 a.m.
Monday-Saturday: 8:15 a.m.
Thursday: 6:30 p.m.

Confessions

Thursday: 5:30-6:15 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00-9:45 a.m.
or call the office to make an appointment.

Adoration

Monday 7:00-8:00 a.m., 6:00-10:00 p.m.,
Tuesday-Friday, 7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.
(breaking for Masses)

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Please call the parish office at 330-644-2225
to make arrangements for

**Baptisms | Anointing of the Sick
Funerals | Weddings**

Arrangements for weddings are to be made at
least six months prior to the wedding date.

EDUCATION

St. Francis de Sales Parish School
330-644-0638 | stfparishschool.org

PSR, Youth Ministry & Faith Formation

Call the parish office at 330-644-2225 to enroll or
find out more.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JANUARY 26, 2025



**SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, THIRD SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

- 7:30 a.m. Pro Populo
 9:00 a.m. Paul Neugebauer (Vince & Linda Greczanik)
 11:00 a.m. Christine Naso (Ann & Ed Clark)

MONDAY, JANUARY 27, ST. ANGELA MERICI

- 8:15 a.m. Josephine Bonfiglio (Sister, Anna)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

- 8:15 a.m. Carol Pillitiere (Nancy Durkin)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

- 8:15 a.m. Carole Darrow (Darrow Family)
Avelina Cid – Month's Mind
Mary Pavelko – Month's Mind

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

- 8:15 a.m. Larry Stanley (Family)
 9:00 a.m. Intentions of the Bline Family
 (Tony & Shirley Clark)
 6:30 p.m. *Anointing Mass*
 Health and Blessings of Rita Bline
 (Kusnir Family)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, ST. JOHN BOSCO

- 8:15 a.m. Living & Deceased of the Nelson &
 Madonna Ott Family (Phil & Mary Ott)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

- 8:15 a.m. Carter Andes (Family)
 5:00 p.m. Carol Pillitiere (Mark Scullen)

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, THE PRESENTATION OF
THE LORD**

- 7:30 a.m. Pro Populo
 9:00 a.m. Anna & C.A. Reiter & Patricia Meredith
 (John & Helen Deibel)
 11:00 a.m. Evelyn & Wilson Weber (Amy & Jim Hilton)

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Heb 9:15, 24-28; Mk 3:22-30
Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10; Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18; Mk 4:1-20
Thursday: Heb 10:19-25; Mk 4:21-25
Friday: Heb 10:32-39; Mk 4:26-34
Saturday: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19; Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75;
 Mk 4:35-41
Sunday: Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40
 or 2:22-32

HAPPY WORD OF GOD SUNDAY!

"Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life." God's word gives us life and enables us to lead lives of love as never before. When we encounter His word, it changes us and transforms us. As we celebrate Word of God Sunday, I want to share from the life of St. Anthony, who we celebrated on January 17. The Office of Readings that day featured a passage from the biography of St. Anthony written by St. Athanasius. We see how the word of God changed Anthony's life forever...

When Anthony was about eighteen or twenty years old, his parents died, leaving him with an only sister. He cared for her as she was very young, and also looked after their home. Not six months after his parents' death, as he was on his way to church for his usual visit, he began to think of how the apostles had left everything and followed the Savior, and also of those mentioned in the book of Acts who had sold their possessions and brought the apostles the money for distribution to the needy. He reflected too on the great hope stored up in heaven for such as these. This was all in his mind when, entering the church just as the Gospel was being read, he heard the Lord's words to the rich man: If you want to be perfect, go and sell all you have and give the money to the poor – you will have riches in heaven. Then come and follow Me.

It seemed to Anthony that it was God who had brought the saints to his mind and that the words of the Gospel had been spoken directly to him. Immediately, he left the church and gave away, to the villagers, all the property he had inherited, about 200 acres of very beautiful and fertile land, so that it would cause no distraction to his sister and himself. He sold all his other possessions as well, giving to the poor the considerable sum of money he collected...

Wow! What an awesome gift it would be if we could have the grace to respond to the word of God like St. Anthony did. Let's pray that we can be open to His word and allow it to change the way we live for His kingdom!

**Open our minds and hearts Lord,
Fr. Jeremy**

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

- School Open House after 9:00 & 11:00 Masses
- Children's Liturgy of the Word, 11:00 a.m. Mass
- Prayers for Healing, after the 11:00 a.m. Mass, meet by the St. Anthony Statue
- Boy Scouts, 4:30 p.m. (Gym)
- Youth Group attending the Priests vs. Seminarians Basketball Game, meet at the Memorare Center at 4:45 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 27

- Young Women's Discernment Group, 7:00 p.m. (Archangels Room)
- PSR & Ignite, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

- Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (Church)
- AA/Al-Anon, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (Upper Room)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

- Thursday Scripture Group, 12:30-3:00 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Open, 6:00-6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

- Donut Sunday
- Children's Liturgy of the Word, 11:00 a.m. Mass
- Cub Scouts, 4:30 p.m. (Gym)
- Boy Scouts, 4:30 p.m. (Gym)
- Youth Group, 7:00-8:00 p.m. (Beatitudes Room)

PARISH STAFF	ROLE AND EMAIL
Fr. Jeremy Merzweiler	Pastor frmerzweiler@stfparish.com
Fr. David Verbsky	Parochial Vicar frverbsky@stfparish.com
Dc. Raymond Herrick	Deacon deaconherrick@stfparish.com
Dc. Richard Butz	Retired Deacon deaconbutz@gmail.com
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Kara Lloyd	School Secretary mrslloyd@stfparishschool.org
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Colleen Wilson	Communications Coordinator cwilson@stfparish.com
Susan Undercoffer	Administrative Assistant sundercoffer@stfparish.com
Katy Markovich	VIRTUS Coordinator kmarkovich@stfparish.com



ADORER NEEDED

An adorer is needed for the following time:
Tuesdays, 2:00-3:00 p.m.
Call Joanne at 330-338-4810, if you are able to help with this time.

COLLECTION INFORMATION

January 18 & 19

	Offertory	Faith Direct
Sunday	\$ 11,441.00	\$ 16,800.80
Assessment	\$ 20.00	\$ 145.00
School	\$ 105.00	\$ 345.00
Catholic University	\$ 195.00	\$ 20.00
Diocesan Mission	\$ 5.00	\$
Capital	\$	\$ 220.00
Latin American Mission	\$	\$ 20.00
Seminarian Scholarship	\$	\$ 9.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$	\$ 195.00
TOTAL	\$ 11,766.00	\$ 17,754.80

Our parish is blessed by your generosity!

HELP FEED THE HUNGRY

Want to help our neighbors in need? Our parish is teaming up with Mother of Sorrows Parish on Saturday, February 1 to distribute food at the Ozanam Center at Visitation of Mary Catholic Church, 93 Kent Street Akron, OH 44305. Volunteers will meet at the center at 9:00 a.m.

ASK, SEEK, KNOCK!

Our Lord Jesus urges us to ask, seek and knock, and He promises the door will be opened to us! He is our Savior and our Healer and is still healing bodies and souls in 2025! The St. Francis de Sales Healing Ministry is available to pray with you in seeking healing every fourth Sunday, following the 11:00 a.m. Mass (around 12:00 noon). Do you have an upcoming surgery or diagnostic test that may be of concern? Do you have an illness, whether acute or chronic and ongoing? Jesus is waiting for you to ask, seek, and knock, and He will pour grace upon you! Please also consider your friends, neighbors, and other loved ones who may benefit from healing prayer. This is open to anyone.

**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



**REQUEST FOR 2024
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.

**PARISH
MISSION**

Save the Date!

"Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope." 1 Pt. 3:15

This March, we are welcoming back three priestly sons of our parish for our Lenten mission. They will each celebrate a Thursday 6:30 p.m. Mass and immediately afterward share reflections on hope. Mark your calendar to hear from these sons of St. Francis de Sales!

Thursday, March 13 – Fr. Matt Jordan
Thursday, March 20 – Fr. Alex Clark
Thursday, March 27 – Fr. David Stavarz

BECOME A KNIGHT!

Father Michael J. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus to protect the families of the Catholic Church. He had a vision to establish our organization of local councils whose members sought to strengthen their faith, to serve the needs of others, and to protect their families through our insurance program for men 18 and over. Want to be a part of that? Go to kofcoho.org and click on Join Us. For more information, contact Grand Knight Steve Dort at 330-212-7315 or steve_dort@att.net.



Have you moved recently? Please contact our Parish Office so we can update our address records. God bless your new home!

* CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK * JANUARY 26 - 31

THIS WEEK IS NATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK!

Here are some ways our St. Francis de Sales Parish School is celebrating the gift of Catholic Education this week.

OPEN HOUSE, JANUARY 26, 10:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

This Sunday, January 26, stop by the school after the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Masses to see how our community empowers kids to learn, believe, and soar.

FAITH & FUN

Throughout the week, students will enjoy opportunities for Mass and Praise & Worship with Adoration as well as activities about the saints, an 8th Grade vs. Staff Volleyball Game, a Talent Show, Carnival Games, and much more!

SERVICE FOCUS

Because our school desires to do so many forms of service during Catholic Schools Week, this year we have extended our service projects to two weeks. Some projects include making an ABC book about the saints including contributions from each homeroom, assembling care packages for local crisis pregnancy centers, writing Valentine's Day cards for nursing home residents, and making prayer cards for our parishioners.

Help our children grow in faith! Donate to the Angel Scholarship Fund!

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BE A STUDENT'S ANGEL
today
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<https://www.catholiccommunity.org/give/catholic-education/angel-scholarship-fund>

Due to your generosity, we received \$190,000
for the 2024-2025 school year. Our goal for
2025-2026 is \$250,000!



ANGEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Turning taxes into tuition



ST. FRANCIS DE SALES PARISH CYO SPRING SPORTS REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 27TH

Our sports for the Spring of 2025 are open to a variety of grades. For more information on any of our sports, please reach out to your Athletic Director at athleticdirector@stfparish.com. Most practices are to be determined until we find coaches. **Please note that some sports will likely have combined grade level teams.** The teams would be 3rd & 4th Grade; 5th & 6th Grade; and 7th & 8th Grade.

TRACK & FIELD, 1ST-8TH GRADE

We are looking for new head coaches for both teams (1st-4th & 5th-8th). Practices are two times a week and there is one track meet each weekend. **Practices can start March 24th.**

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL, 2ND GRADE ONLY

This is the only Co-Ed volleyball team. **Practices can start February 17th.**

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL, 3RD-8TH GRADE

Teams will be combined by grade level. **Practices can start February 17th.**

BOYS VOLLEYBALL, 3RD-8TH GRADE

Teams will be combined by grade level. Last year, our 6th grade boys were the first boys' volleyball team for our parish. They placed first in the championship in their division. We hope to form more boys' teams this year. **Practices can start February 17th.**

COACH PITCH BASEBALL – CO-ED, 1ST & 2ND GRADE

New to us – if you are interested, please reach out. Coaches are needed.

BOYS BASEBALL, 3RD-8TH GRADE

Teams will be combined by grade level. Interested? For more information on how long the season goes, contact your Athletic Director.

GIRLS SOFTBALL, 3RD-8TH GRADE

Teams will be combined by grade level. Interested? For more information on how long the season goes, contact your Athletic Director.

BOYS & GIRLS TENNIS, 1ST-8TH GRADE

This is an individual registration sport and is held at a tennis club near Akron. More to come soon. Dates are TBD.

BOYS & GIRLS LACROSSE, 3RD-8TH GRADE

We do not have a team here at St. Francis for this sport, but local sister schools do offer it, and we partner with them to make a team. If you are interested in learning more, reach out. This is an up-and-coming sport.

Contact Athletic Director, Katie Kinsinger at athleticdirector@stfparish.com with questions.

Sports Registration Link



Preparticipation Form



INTERESTED IN COACHING?

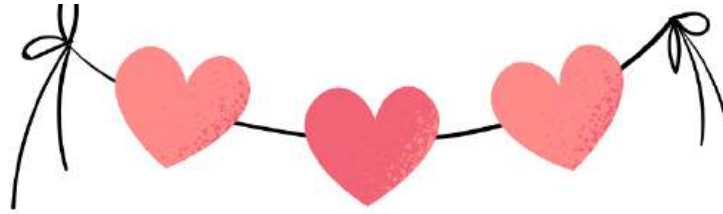
We are looking for new coaches to help build up, guide, teach and lead our youth. If you or someone you know is interested and would like more information, contact your Athletic Director for help with registration.

Here are the upcoming classes. You must attend this class to coach.

Tuesday, February 18, 6:00-9:00 p.m. St. Paschal Baylon, 5384 Wilson Mills Road, Highland Heights

Saturday, March 1, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. St. Ambrose, 929 Pearl Road, Brunswick

Wednesday, March 19, 6:00-9:00 p.m. Seton Catholic School, 6923 Stow Road, Hudson



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

*Senior
Valentine's Day
Luncheon*



**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH
11:30AM - 2PM**

**FOOD
GAMES
PRIZES**



**ST. FRANCIS DE SALES
MEMORARE CENTER**

**SIGN UP
IN THE NARTHEX
AFTER ALL MASSES**





February 2025



Seminarian Calendar prepared by Parents of Priests – Diocese of Cleveland
 Calendar at: seminarians.parentsofpriests.com
 Priests and Seminarians calendar online at: priests.StPatrick.cc

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						<i>1</i> Andrew Vinson Borromeo
<i>2</i> Pray for Bishop Amos	<i>3</i> Gregory Hovan St. Mary Pre-Theo II	<i>4</i> William Martzaklis St. Mary Pre-Theo II	<i>5</i> John Scantling St. Mary Pre-Theo II	<i>6</i> Connor Trout St. Mary Pre-Theo II	<i>7</i> Christopher Villarreal St. Mary Pre-Theo II	<i>8</i> Donald Bailey St. Mary Theology I
<i>9</i> Pray for the Rector, Fr. Turner	<i>10</i> Benjamin Baratian St. Mary Theology I	<i>11</i> Johannes Benninghoff St. Mary Theology I	<i>12</i> Jake Cermak St. Mary Theology I	<i>13</i> Jonathan Green St. Mary Theology I	<i>14</i> Benjamin Jackson St. Mary Theology I	<i>15</i> Simon Park St. Mary Theology
<i>16</i> Pray for an Increase in Vocations	<i>17</i> Steve Zbiegien St. Mary Theology I	<i>18</i> Sean Homcy St. Mary Theology II	<i>19</i> Alexander Krukemeyer St. Mary Theology II	<i>20</i> Daniel LaPolla St. Mary Theology II	<i>21</i> Billy Reed St. Mary Theology II	<i>22</i> Joseph Rohan St. Mary Theology II
<i>23</i> Pray for All Pastors	<i>24</i> Joshua Stecz St. Mary Theology II	<i>25</i> Arthur Bordenschatz St. Mary Theology III	<i>26</i> Noah Furin St. Mary Theology III	<i>27</i> Jeremy Gaugler St. Mary Theology III	<i>28</i> Jeremy Shafer St. Mary Theology III	"Let all that you do be done in love." <i>1 Corinthians</i> 16:14

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