

The measure of love is to love without measure.

St. Francis de Sales Parish



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

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.

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)

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JANUARY 18, 2026

Masses For The Week



SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 7:30 a.m. Pro Populo
9:00 a.m. Viola Rizzo (Rizzo Family)
11:00 a.m. Rita Reymann Czarnecki
(The Kovesci Family)

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

- 8:15 a.m. Leo Stalter (Lou & Laurene Scala)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, ST. FABIAN, ST. SEBASTIAN

- 8:15 a.m. Deceased of the Caruso & Carcione
Families (Family)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, ST. AGNES

- 8:15 a.m. Holy Souls in Purgatory (Mike Elchert)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN

- 8:15 a.m. Josephine Bonfiglio (Anna Fana)
6:30 p.m. Betty J. Phillips (Ann Marie Phillips)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23,

ST. VINCENT, ST. MARIANNE COPE

- 8:15 a.m. Joseph VanDevere
(Don & Kathy McCabe)
9:00 a.m. School Mass – Anne Vanke Boudreaux
(Janet Woodson)
Thomas Hafler – Month's Mind

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

- 8:15 a.m. Katie & Barb Duckworth
(John Duckworth)
5:00 p.m. Loretta Cioffe
(John & Marlene Zibritosky)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25,

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 7:30 a.m. Pro Populo
9:00 a.m. Jerry & Barb McNeill (Family)
11:00 a.m. Elizabeth Ketterer Aman
(Carl & Adriana Smith)

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** 1 Sam 15:16-23; Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday: 1 Sam 16:1-13; Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday: 1 Sam 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Mk 3:1-6
Thursday: 1 Sam 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Mk 3:7-12
Friday: 1 Sam 24:3-21; Mk 3:13-19
Saturday: 2 Sam 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27;
Mk 3:20-21
Sunday: Is 8:23-9:3; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17;
Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

Living ORDINARY Lives!

When we think of ordinary, we think of things that are common, normal and sometimes even boring. But there is nothing boring about Ordinary Time in the Church. Take a moment and read what the USCCB says about Ordinary time...



*Christmas Time and Easter Time highlight the central mysteries of the Paschal Mystery, namely, the incarnation, death on the cross, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus Christ, and the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. **The Sundays and weeks of Ordinary Time, on the other hand, take us through the life of Christ. This is the time of conversion. This is living the life of Christ.***

*Ordinary Time is **a time for growth and maturation**, a time in which the mystery of Christ is called to penetrate ever more deeply into history until all things are finally caught up in Christ. The goal, toward which all of history is directed, is represented by the final Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.*

To enter into the life of Christ, to enter a time of conversion, growth and maturation is definitely not ordinary at all—it is an adventure! Let's enter into the adventure with Jesus and get ready to grow in love of Him!

Thanks. As you see the Art and Environment is back to its ordinary self, it is a good time to thank all those volunteers and staff members who made our beautiful Christmas season possible. Thank you to Shirley Clark and our maintenance staff who made it visibly beautiful! Also, thanks to Colleen McVicker, along with our choir and ensembles, who led us in praising the Lord well! Thanks so much!

Special Thanks. I have been overwhelmed this week by the prayerful support of this parish family, our diocesan family and the presbyterate as we journey through the aftermath of a tragedy. Please keep these prayers going as they have been essential and effective in helping all involved. Thank you again for being such a prayerful community.

**Live in His love,
Fr. Jeremy**

P.S. Thanks for welcoming my uncle, Fr. Dave. He really enjoyed his time here and found you all to be so gracious. You will see him again I'm sure. Thanks again.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

- Rite of Acceptance & Welcome for Becoming Catholic at 9:00 a.m. Mass
- Children’s Liturgy of the Word at 11:00 a.m. Mass
- Youth Group, 7:00-8:30 p.m. (Beatitudes Room)

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

- No School
- Parish Office Closed
- No PSR & Ignite

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

- Women’s Study Group, 9:00 a.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- Holy Angels Formation, 3:30 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- Talk on Angels, 6:00 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- Becoming Catholic, 7:00 p.m. (Holy Family Room)
- Guardian Angels Formation, 7:15 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- Holy Angels Formation, 7:15 p.m. (Beatitudes Room)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

- Moms of Littles, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Beatitudes Room)
- Flow in Faith, 7:00 p.m. (Beatitudes Room)
- Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (Church)
- AA/AI-Anon, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (Refectory)
- Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (Church)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

- Thursday Scripture Group, 12:30 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- SVdP Food Pantry open 6:00-6:30 p.m.
- New Stephen Minister Training, 6:00 p.m. (Queen of Heaven Parish Life Center)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

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

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

- Men’s Group, 7:00 a.m. (Holy Family Room)
- Rosary, 8:45 a.m. (Church)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

- School Open House, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- Children’s Liturgy of the Word at 11:00 a.m. Mass
- Prayer for Healing, after 11:00 a.m. Mass, meet by the St. Anthony statue
- Youth Group at Priests vs. Seminarians Basketball Game, 6:00 p.m., Holy Name High School

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN FORMATION

Please pray for those in our parish who are in formation:
 Joshua Stecz – Seminarian
 Joe Hercules – Candidate for Permanent Diaconate
 Keith Obermeier – Candidate for Permanent Diaconate

PARISH STAFF	ROLE AND EMAIL
Fr. Jeremy Merzweiler	Pastor frmerzweiler@stfparish.com
Fr. David Verbsky	Parochial Vicar frverbsky@stfparish.com
Dc. Raymond Herrick	Deacon deaonherrick@stfparish.com
Dc. Richard Butz	Retired Deacon deaonbutz@gmail.com
Kathryn Dougherty	Principal mrskdougherty@stfparishschool.org
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Susan Undercoffer	Administrative Assistant sundercoffer@stfparish.com
Katy Markovich	VIRTUS Coordinator kmarkovich@stfparish.com
St. Vincent de Paul Society	A helping hand in times of need 330-958-5270

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

“Every call from the Lord is, above all, a call to His joy.”
 – Pope Leo XIV

Every week, families or individuals bring the vocation crucifix into their home to pray for vocations. **The Phillips Family** received the Vocation Crucifix this weekend.



ADORERS NEEDED

Adorers are needed for the following times:
 Wednesdays, 11:00a.m.-12:00p.m.,
 Thursdays, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.,
 and Fridays, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Please call Joanne at 330-338-4810, if you are able to help with these times.

REGISTRATION WEEKEND

Have you recently begun attending St. Francis de Sales? Have you been attending for some time but never registered as a parishioner? Our parish will be offering an opportunity to register after all Masses the weekend of January 31 and February 1. A parish staff member will be in the narthex after all Masses to register new parishioners.

If you prefer to register online, use the QR Code to register today.



WORK OF THE HOLY ANGELS

There are three stages in the spiritual life, the Purgative Way, the Illuminative Way and the Unitive Way. Our Guardian angels help us in all three stages. In the Purgative Way, our angels protect us against our own weaknesses and against the attacks of the wicked spirits, leading us away from sin. In the Illuminative Way, the light of truth is directly related to the intellect and our angels help us gain a more profound understanding of the truth of God's love, often through contemplation. In the Unitive Way, through mediating the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, our angels help our souls to grow in faith, hope and charity and reach more perfect union with God. Holy Angels are light and bear the light of God. Come hear more about what they do and how they help us at a talk on the Holy Angels in the St. Gerard Room at the Memorare Center at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 20. You can stay for the discussion on the three stages in the spiritual life (letter four for those in formation for consecration to their guardian angel). The discussion starts at 7:15 p.m. and ends at 8:30 p.m. Please RSVP to the Parish Office 330-644-2225. Discussions for those in formation for consecration to all the Holy Angels will meet at 3:30 p.m. in the St. Gerard Room and at 7:15 p.m. in the Beatitudes Room.

YOUTH GROUP

All 9th-12th graders are welcome to join us on Sunday evenings in the Memorare Center from 7:00-8:30 p.m.! Email Abby (agresser@stfparish.com) with questions about any of these events. Regular updates and registration for field trips/retreats are sent out via email. Contact Abby in order to join the email list.

January 18 – Semester Kickoff, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

January 25 – Priests vs. Seminarians Basketball Game at Holy Name High School

SAVE THE DATE

The Steubenville Youth Conference:
July 17-19, 2026.

COLLECTION INFORMATION

January 10 & 11

	Offertory
Sunday	13,372.00
Assessment	315.00
Capital	130.00
School	340.00
Special Collections	570.00
TOTAL	\$14,727.00

Thank you for your generosity!



REQUEST FOR 2025 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.

SPRING SPORTS 2026 ARE NOW OPEN

Sports available for this spring are as follows: Volleyball, Girls and Boys 3rd-8th grade; Track and Field, Girls and Boys 1st-8th grade; Coach-Pitch Baseball, 1st and 2nd grade Co-Ed; Baseball, 3rd-8th grade; Lacrosse, Boys and Girls 3rd-8th grade; Tennis (email for more information). Register today.

Those interested in coaching should reach out now to Katie Kinsinger to get more information for the teams. Practices will begin February 23rd for all sports.

With questions about any sports, you can reach out to Katie Kinsinger, Athletic Director at Athleticdirector@stfparish.com.

Our Track and Field program is looking for a new head coach(es). This individual would need to be able to coordinate all practice schedules, meet schedules, player records, and player events. They will need to be available for at least 2 nights a week, and the possibility of 2 track meets a weekend (Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoons). If you or someone you know would be interested, please contact the Athletic Director at the email address above.

We are also looking for a throwing coach in both discuss and shot put. Any individual that is interested in helping with our track program, please reach out with your interests and questions.

Thank you to everyone who continually supports our CYO program here at St. Francis de Sales Parish. We are blessed to have amazing parents, grandparents, family members, and coaches that support these young athletes both on and off the playing fields.

<https://reg.sportspilot.com/106284>



The Moms of Littles group will hold our first meeting of 2026 on Wednesday, January 21 at 10:00 a.m. in the Memorare Center. Come join us for fellowship with other young families! Contact edunn@stfparish.com for more information and to join our email list.

ST. PAUL RENOVATION AND DAILY MASS CHANGES

St. Paul Parish is beginning a sanctuary renovation project. From January 19 through February 28, the daily Mass schedule will be as follows:

- Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday and Thursday at 7:00 a.m.

The weekend Mass schedule will not be affected. Please contact the St. Paul's Rectory with any questions at 330-724-1263.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Senior Valentine's Day Luncheon

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH
11:30AM - 2PM

**FOOD
 GAMES
 PRIZES**

**ST. FRANCIS DE SALES
 MEMORARE CENTER**

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

**RUTHIE KELBLY
 (216)469-2998**

FREE THROW COMPETITION

Since 1972, councils have sponsored the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship for boys and girls from the ages of 9 to 14 to provide an athletic outlet and encourage the values of sportsmanship and healthy competition. Kids compete within their own gender and age and progress from local level to district, regional and state competitions. On January 25th, 2026, South Akron Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition will be held at Queen of Heaven from 3:00-5:00 p.m.



CAMP CHRISTOPHER REGISTRATION OPEN

Registration is open now for programs at Camp Christopher (1930 N. Hametown Road, Akron) including day camp, residential camp, leadership camp, and more. The camp is holding Open Houses on Sunday, March 22 and Sunday, April 19 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. To find out more about programs and registration, visit www.campchris.org.

EXALT AT QUEEN OF HEAVEN

On Thursday, January 29, 2026, an EXALT Service will be held at 7:00 p.m. in Queen of Heaven Church, 1800 Steese Road, Green. It will consist of an hour of Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, with praise in song, a youth-witness talk on the Eucharist, quiet time, healing prayers and worship of God. More information: 330-896-2345 and <https://queenofheavenparish.org>.

QUEEN OF HEAVEN BOY SCOUTS PASTA DINNER

Boy Scout Troop 334 at Queen of Heaven will host their annual fundraiser on Saturday, January 24, 2026 from 4:30-7:00 p.m. in the Queen of Heaven Parish Life Center, 1800 Steese Road, Green. Adult meals are \$12.00 and includes pasta, 2 meatballs, salad, bread, coffee or lemonade; kids' meals are \$10.00 and includes pasta, 1 meatball, salad, bread, coffee or lemonade. More information: 330-896-2345 and <https://queenofheavenparish.org>.



Monday, January 19 at 7:00 p.m., Theology on the Rocks will welcome guest speaker Fr. Armando Elkhoury, Pastor, Our Lady of the Cedars in Fairlawn for a presentation at Our Lady of the Cedars, 507 S. Cleveland-Massillon Road in Fairlawn. He will be speaking on the topic: "From Antioch to Today: A Concise History and Importance of the Maronite Church." Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Program begins at 7:30 p.m. \$15.00 admission fee. Light appetizers included. Cash bar available. Sponsored by St. Sebastian Parish, Akron.

CHESTERTON ACADEMY COME & SEE

Chesterton Academy of Akron, a Catholic classical high school, formally invites all St. Francis de Sales 7th and 8th grade students and their parents to its Come & See Night on Thursday, January 29 in the St. Paul School Building at 1580 Brown Street from 6:00-8:30 p.m. This event includes a school tour, three short classical-style lessons, a Q&A, and light refreshments. Come to learn how classical education is different, how it might benefit your family, and receive information on affordability. Currently enrolled families will be available to answer questions personally. Seats are limited and reservations are required. RSVP by January 28 at: AkronChesterton.org/register-come-and-see-1. Questions? Contact admissions@akronchesterton.org.

Spend Valentine's Day Weekend Renewing Your Marriage

Is your marriage in need of a rescue or renewal? Join us beginning with the weekend of February 13-15 for a program that has been a lifesaver for so many marriages.

Get more information or register at <https://helpourmarriage.org/cle> or call 216.509.0301

Registration ends January 30th



helpourmarriage.org

RETROUVILLE
of Cleveland Build a Stronger Marriage



EVENTS AT THE JESUIT RETREAT CENTER

Jesuit Retreat Center, 5629 State Road, Parma, OH 44134. Learn more about these opportunities and register online: <https://www.jesuitretreatcenter.org>.

February Sabbath Days – a Personal Retreat Day. Monday, February 9, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Spend a day of renewal and prayer at the Jesuit Retreat Center. You are welcome to pray in our chapels, sit in quiet reading in the library, and walk and meditate on the beautiful grounds. Cost: \$50.00

February Morning Prayer for Women. Monday, February 16, 9:30-11:00 a.m. Women from all walks of life are invited to pray together and learn more about the beauty of prayer. Led by Sr. Mary Ann Flannery, S.C. Freewill offering (registration not required).



Ministry
Fair

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1
IN THE GYM
AFTER THE
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CONTRIBUTION FORM

PLEASE NOTE: Donations must be made by **April 15, 2026** to be eligible for a 2025 state tax credit.

State of Ohio Tax Payers can claim a tax credit of up to \$750 as an individual or \$1,500 if married filing jointly.

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

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

2026 Tax Year
 Eligibility: Donations made between 1/1/26-4/15/27

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First Name: _____ MI: _____
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 Parish: _____

Spouse Designation

Support Area of Greatest Need: \$ _____
 School Designation: _____ \$ _____
 Total: \$ _____

For a State Tax Credit In

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

2026 Tax Year
 Eligibility: Donations made between 1/1/26-4/15/27

Spouse Payment Information

Check if payment info is the same, one check can be submitted

I am paying by:

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Card Number: _____
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Signature: _____

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