

The measure of love is to love without measure.

St. Francis de Sales Parish

Catholic Schools Week



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)

**THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JANUARY 25, 2026**

*Masses For
The Week*



**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)

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, ST. TIMOTHY & ST. TITUS

- 8:15 a.m. John Keblesh & Fr. John Keblesh
(Patricia Keblesh)
Jennifer Carcione – Month's Mind

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, ST. ANGELA MERICI

- 8:15 a.m. Joe VanDevere
(Tuesday Women's Study Group)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

- 8:15 a.m. Dan Blackert (Wargo Family)
9:00 a.m. School Mass Sandy Bulgrin
(Jeff & Denise Enright)
Teresa Maloy – Month's Mind

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29

- 8:15 a.m. Carole Darrow (Darrow Family)
6:30 p.m. Larry Stanley (Family)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30

- 8:15 a.m. Health & Blessings for Rita Bline
(Kusnir Family)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, ST. JOHN BOSCO

- 8:15 a.m. John Geig (Carl Maczko)
5:00 p.m. Pro Populo

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1,

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 7:30 a.m. Eliza Ann Rubenstein (Diver Family)
9:00 a.m. Carter Andes (Family)
11:00 a.m. Gloria DiGiacomo
(John & Marianna DiGiacomo)



LET'S PRAY WITH THE WORD OF GOD

Every year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for these monthly intentions. During this month of January, Pope Leo's prayer intention is "For prayer with the Word of God." He states... "Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church." (USCCB).

Is the word of God nourishment for your lives? In the book of Jeremiah, the prophet says "When I found Your words, I devoured them; Your words were my joy, the happiness of my heart..." (Jeremiah 15:16). Are we devouring the Word of God? Are we hungry for the scriptures in our lives? When was the last time you went to a Bible study? When was the last time you sat with the Word of God? It is good to ask ourselves these questions from time to time. Often we hunger for so many things in life that aren't of God. What do you spend most of your time devouring?

This Sunday we celebrate Word of God Sunday, a special day that encourages us to deeper engagement with the Bible, which fosters a stronger relationship with Jesus. Pope Francis founded it back in 2019 with the hope that it would encourage all of God's people to pray with the scripture using methods like Lectio Divina. Pope Francis also hoped that we would study His Word and share the fruits of that study with others. This month, let's take Pope Leo's prayer intention to heart and pray with the Word of God. If we do this, the Word of God will nourish us as we are sent forth to build up the Body of Christ in the world.

**Pray with His Word,
Fr. Jeremy**

P.S. I am excited for Catholic Schools Week to begin. Make sure to take a moment and pray a Hail Mary that the Lord may continue to bless and build up our Catholic school community. Thanks!

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** 2 Tim 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Mk 3:22-30
Tuesday: 2 Sam 6:12b-15, 17-19; Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday: 2 Sam 7:4-17; Mk 4:1-20
Thursday: 2 Sam 7:18-19, 24-29; Mk 4:21-25
Friday: 2 Sam 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17; Mk 4:26-34
Saturday: 2 Sam 12:1-7a, 10-17; Mk 4:35-41
Sunday: Zeph 2:3; 3:12-13; 1 Cor 1:26-31;
Mt 5:1-12a

WEEKLY CALENDAR

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 26

- PSR & Ignite, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

- Women's Study Group, 9:00 a.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- Becoming Catholic, 7:00 p.m. (Holy Family Room)
- First Reconciliation Meeting for Parents and Students, 7:00-8:00 p.m. (Refectory)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

- Senior Euchre Group, 1:00-4:00 p.m. (Beatitudes Room)
- Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (Church)
- AA/Al-Anon, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (Refectory)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29

- 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)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

- Donut Sunday
- Ministry Fair, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- Children's Liturgy of the Word at 11:00 a.m. Mass
- Youth Group, 7:00-8:30 p.m. (Beatitudes Room)

| PARISH STAFF | ROLE AND EMAIL |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Fr. Jeremy Merzweiler | Pastor frmerzweiler@stfparish.com |
| Fr. David Verbsky | Parochial Vicar frverbsky@stfparish.com |
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| Katy Markovich | VIRTUS Coordinator kmarkovich@stfparish.com |
| St. Vincent de Paul Society | A helping hand in times of need 330-958-5270 |

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

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. **Dan and Karen Crookston** received the Vocation Crucifix this weekend.



Please remember in prayer those who have recently passed away: **Maria Murawski, Bill Cinadr, Frances Rouse, Patricia Secreto, and Mary Louise Lund.**

ADORERS NEEDED

Adorers are needed for the following times:

- Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.,
- Thursdays, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., &
- Fridays, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

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




Ministry Fair
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1
IN THE GYM
AFTER THE
9:00 & 11:00 MASSES
ALL ARE WELCOME TO
GATHER FOR DONUTS
AND COFFEE AND
DISCOVER THE
WONDERFUL
MINISTRIES OUR
PARISH OFFERS!

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.




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.

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

February 1 – Youth Group, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE

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

COLLECTION INFORMATION

January 17 & 18

Due to the MLK Day holiday, our collection information will be printed in the forthcoming bulletin.

Thank you for your generosity!

HEALING PRAYER

Have you grown weary with an illness or burden and just resigned yourself to it? Perhaps the Lord wants to lift that burden, increase your strength, or even heal you completely! Come on the 4th Sunday following the 11:00 a.m. Mass and the St. Francis de Sales Healing Ministry will pray with 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>



PETER MAURIN SERVICE DAYS

St. Francis de Sales has committed to serving a hot meal at the Peter Maurin Center in Akron on the following Sundays:

February 8th, April 12th, June 14th, August 9th,
October 11th, December 13th.

We are especially inviting Confirmation candidates and high school students to volunteer, though any parishioner is welcome to help serve! We will arrive at PMC at 9:30 a.m. to begin cooking. We should finish serving at 2:00 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering or in giving a donation to help cover the cost of ingredients, please reach out to Abby Gresser at agresser@stfparish.com.



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.

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

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: <https://queenofheavenparish.org>.

On this monthly calendar, each day is designated for one of the seminarians of our diocese as well as our Pope, Bishops, Clergy, and other related intentions. Please use this insert and keep it in a place where you can see it each day and thoughtfully say a prayer of support for the name listed on that day



February 2026



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 |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 <i>Pray for Bishop Gries, OSB</i> | 2 Thomas Byrne Theology I | 3 Gregory Hovan Theology I | 4 Daniel Liberatore Theology I | 5 William Martzaklis Theology I (Youngstown) | 6 Nathan Menkhaus Theology I | 7 John Scantling Theology I |
| 8 <i>Pray for the Rector, Fr. Turner</i> | 9 Connor Trout Theology I | 10 Christopher Villarreal Theology I | 11 Donald Bailey Theology II (Youngstown) | 12 Benjamin Baratian Theology II | 13 Johannes Benninghoff Theology II | 14 Jake Cermak Theology II |
| 15 <i>Pray for the Vocation Director, Fr. Garris</i> | 16 Jonathan Green Theology II | 17 Simon Park Theology II | 18 Steve Zbiegien Theology II | 19 Alexander Krukemeyer Theology III | 20 Daniel LaPolla Theology III (Youngstown) | 21 Billy Reed Theology III |
| 22 <i>Pray for All Pastors</i> | 23 Joseph Rohan Theology III | 24 Joshua Stecz Theology III | 25 Arthur Bodenschatz Theology IV (Youngstown) | 26 Noah Furin Theology IV | 27 Sean Homcy Theology IV | 28 Jeremy Gaugler Theology IV |



***"Remember, you are dust and to dust you will return."
 Genesis 3:19***





PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

*Senior
Valentine's Day
Luncheon*



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

**FOOD
GAMES
PRIZES**



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MEMORARE CENTER**

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IN THE NARTHEX
AFTER ALL MASSES**



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LENT

Mass

Monday through Saturday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday Vigil, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m.

Adoration

Mondays, 7:00-8:00 a.m., 6:00-10:00 p.m.

Tuesday through Friday, 7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

(Breaking for Masses)

Stations of the Cross

Fridays, 7:00 p.m.

With SFdS School, Mondays, 2:15 p.m.

Living Stations of the Cross, March 29, 6:00 p.m.

Confession

Saturdays, 9:00-9:45 a.m.

Thursdays, 5:30-6:15 p.m.

Diocese-wide Evening of Confession,

Wednesday, March 4, 5:00-8:00 p.m.,

at all parishes in the Diocese of Cleveland

Parish Cluster Confessions,

Monday, March 23, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

at St. Francis de Sales

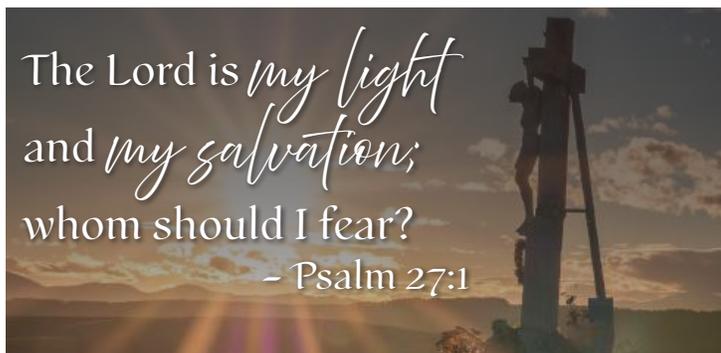
Night Prayer & Benediction

Sundays, 8:00 p.m.

Women's Retreat

Saturday, March 28, 8:15 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Watch for details about a One-Night Parish Mission, the Diocesan Week of Service March 22nd through 28th, and other Lenten opportunities!



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HOW TO DONATE:

1. Visit the Catholic Community- Angel Scholarship Fund website.
2. Donate up to \$750 (filing single) or \$1500 (filing joint) for a state tax credit.
3. **IMPORTANT:** Indicate **St. Francis de Sales** as the recipient of your donation to ensure we receive your funds!

NEW FOR 2026-2027

Donate \$500-750 (single) or \$1000-1500 (joint) and receive an entry token for a cash drawing reward! The more donations equal the higher reward!

Single donation = 1 entry token
Joint donation = 2 entry tokens

Drawing will likely be early summer 2026.

COMING SOON!

Coming for Tax Year 2027, a new **federal tax credit** allowing taxpayers to get a credit for donations made to Scholarship Granting Organizations (Angel Scholarship). The credit will take effect on January 1, 2027. Individuals can claim a maximum credit of \$1,700 (\$3,400 for married couples)!

To donate, scan the QR Code or visit

<https://www.catholiccommunity.org/support/catholic-education/angel-scholarship-fund>



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