

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)

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 1, 2026**

*Masses For
The Week*



**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)

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

- 8:15 a.m. Evelyn & Wilson Weber
(Amy & Jim Hilton)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, ST. BLAISE, ST. ANSGAR

- 8:15 a.m. Margaret Swenberg
(Susan & Michael Undercoffer)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

- 8:15 a.m. Leo Stalter (Byron & Patricia Olson)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, ST. AGATHA

- 8:15 a.m. Dominic Reo (Kathie Masters)
6:30 p.m. Anointing Mass
Intentions of Tami McDuffitt
(Maryanne O'Connor)
Regina DeShon – Anniversary of Death

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, ST. PAUL MIKI & COMPANIONS

- 8:15 a.m. Susie McArdle (Cathy McArdle)
9:00 a.m. School Mass Dorothy Petzker
(Jean Stavarz)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

- 8:15 a.m. Eddie Hellwig
(Chris Kovesci & Connie Roulett)
5:00 p.m. Leo Stalter (Delores, Tammy, & Jim)

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8,
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

- 7:30 a.m. Pro Populo
9:00 a.m. James Wise (Family)
11:00 a.m. Jim Evans (Family)
Robert Millican – Month's Mind



CONSIDER YOUR OWN CALLING

Consider your own calling...Not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. Rather, God chose the foolish of the world to shame the wise, and God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong, and God chose the lowly and despised of the world, those who count for nothing, to reduce to nothing those who are something, so that no human being might boast before God... "Whoever boasts, should boast in the Lord." (1 Cor 1:26-31).

Consider your own calling. Out of all the things to spend time considering, pondering what God is calling you to do is the most powerful and important. Just last weekend, I preached on taking advantage of the snowstorm by silencing our minds and hearts and taking time to consider what God is calling us to do each day, month and year of our lives.

These words of St. Paul remind us that God calls us even if we are foolish, weak, lowly and despised by the world. Whatever God calls us to do or be in life, He will give us the strength, wisdom and guidance to respond. Do we trust that He will? Whenever we say to ourselves "I can't do that" or "I'm not going to be good for that," we need to stop and ask if that is the Heavenly Father's voice or if it is our own doubt or despair, or even the evil one. God is calling. He is calling you. Not to be busy-bodies, but disciples – people in love with Jesus who aren't afraid to live His life in the world.

This weekend, we have our own Ministry Fair in the Gym after the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses. We will have coffee and donuts as well. As you slowly walk around the gym, ask yourself, is God calling me to do this? Has the Heavenly Father given me gifts to share in this way? Do I have a heart for serving? Do I have a heart for singing? Whatever it is, be open and confident that God will give you what you need to respond and see it through. You have many gifts. Be aware of that and don't be afraid to use them!

This is also our Registration Weekend! If you are new to our parish or have been attending for a while but not registered, this is your chance to formally join our parish family, and it only takes a few minutes! A parish staff member will be in the Narthex after all Masses to help with registration.

**Consider your calling,
Fr. Jeremy**

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
Tuesday: 2 Sam 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30–19:3; Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday: 2 Sam 24:2, 9-17; Mk 6:1-6
Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; Mk 6:7-13
Friday: Sir 47:2-11; Mk 6:14-29
Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Mk 6:30-34
Sunday: Is 58:7-10; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16

WEEKLY CALENDAR

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)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2

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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

- Women's Study Group, 9:00 a.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- Becoming Catholic, 7:00 p.m. (Holy Family Room)
- Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (Church)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

- Moms of Littles, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Beatitudes Room)
- First Reconciliation, 6:30 p.m. (Church)
- AA/Al-Anon, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (Refectory)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

- 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)
- Stephen Ministry Continuing Education, 6:30 p.m. (Holy Family Room)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- Peter Maurin Center Service Day, 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m., meet at St. Francis de Sales
- Children's Liturgy of the Word at 11:00 a.m. Mass

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
Kara Lloyd	School Secretary mrsllloyd@stfparishschool.org
Therese Holderbaum	Parish Secretary & Bookkeeper tholderbaum@stfparish.com
Colleen McVicker	Dir. of Music Ministry cmcvicker@stfparish.com
Shirley Clark	Liturgical Life Coordinator sclark@stfparish.com
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Colleen Bryant	Communications Coordinator cwilson@stfparish.com
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

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



Please remember in prayer the soul of **Dave Schindewolf**. May the Lord grant him eternal rest and console his family and friends.

ST. BLAISE THROAT BLESSING

The blessing of throats for the Feast of St. Blaise will be offered at the 8:15 a.m. Mass on Tuesday, February 3.

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 Bryant Family** received the Vocation Crucifix this weekend.

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.

COLLECTION INFORMATION

January 17 & 18

Sunday	15,706.00
Assessment	30.00
Capital	310.00
School	315.00
Special Collections	<u>305.00</u>
TOTAL	\$16,666.00

January 24 & 25

Sunday	5,843.00
Capital	90.00
School	220.00
Special Collections	<u>318.00</u>
TOTAL	\$6,471.00

Thank you for your generosity!

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, and 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.

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.

- February 1** – Youth Group, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
- February 8** – Day of Service at Peter Maurin Center, 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
- February 15** – Youth Group, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
- February 21-22** – Lock-In, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 a.m.
- March 1** – No Youth Group (Spirit Day for 8th Graders)
- March 8** – Youth Group, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
- March 15** – Youth Group, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
- March 22** – Youth Group, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
- March 29** – Youth Group, 6:00-7:30 p.m. (Earlier start time! We'll attend the Living Stations of the Cross presented by the 8th graders in the church.)
- April 2** – Seven Church Pilgrimage after Mass of the Lord's Supper
- April 5** – No Youth Group (Easter)
- April 12** – Day of Service at Peter Maurin Center, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
- April 19** – Youth Group, 7:00-8:30 p.m. (Youth Minister Swap)
- April 26** – Youth Group, 7:00-8:30 p.m. (8th Graders welcome)
- May 3** – Youth Group, 7:00-8:30 p.m. (8th Graders welcome & Senior sendoff)

SAVE THE DATE

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



**REQUEST FOR
2025 FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT**

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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.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Senior Valentine's Day Luncheon

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

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IN THE NARTHEX
AFTER ALL MASSES

RUTHIE KELBLY
(216)469-2998

SPRING SPORTS 2026 ARE NOW OPEN

CYO invites any students who attend our parish – whether they belong to our parish school, public school, or homeschool – to join our spring sports! 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. 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 two nights a week, and the possibility of two 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 discus 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>



A MESSAGE FROM STEPHEN MINISTRY

Today in the Gospel we hear that those who mourn, who are meek, who hunger for righteousness, who are merciful, who are clean of heart, who are peacemakers, and who are persecuted are blessed. Yet, often when we fall into some of these situations we feel anything BUT blessed. We know we are not alone and that God is ever present, but sometimes we just need another person to talk with, to share with, to listen as we journey. St. Francis de Sales offers the Stephen Ministry program to support others in our parish that may need this support. Stephen Ministers have received over 50 hours of Christian Care training and are ready to meet with you one-on-one to listen. For more information about Stephen Ministry contact Ann Clark (aclark2@stfparish.com) or drop an information request in the Stephen Ministry prayer box in the narthex at the back of the church.

WASTE TIME WITH THE LORD...

Deepen your relationship with the Lord through a weekend of silence, fasting, and prayer. Theology of the Body Cleveland presents their annual Poustinia Retreat, Friday, March 6 through Sunday, March 8 at Loyola Retreat House in Green. Registration costs \$185.00 per person and includes lodging, meals, and speaker and priest stipends. There is an optional formation meeting on Thursday, February 19 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. More information and registration can be found at <https://tobcle.org/event/poustinia/>.

YOUNG AT HEART

The next Queen of Heaven Young at Heart Meeting will be February 2 in the Parish Life Center at 1:00 p.m. This lighthearted group of seniors (55+) welcome new members to participate in fellowship and some very good refreshment. If the Green Schools are called off because of weather, there will be no meeting.

SHROVE TUESDAY CARD PARTY

Women of Faith of St. Augustine Church in Barberton are hosting a Shrove Tuesday Card Party on February 17 at 5:30 p.m. in the St. Augustine School Gym. The evening includes a light dinner, dessert, raffles, and cards and other games. Tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased at St. Augustine after 4:00 p.m. Saturday Mass and all Sunday Masses or from the rectory office on Mondays and Tuesdays. Tickets are presale only. Contact Olivia with questions at oliviakettenbauer@staugustinebarberton.org, or 330-745-001, ext. 118.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Cluster Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet at 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, February 10, at Nativity Catholic Church. Please bring your shawls and any work in progress. If anyone in the parishes knows of someone in need of a prayer shawl or if you have any questions, please contact Barb Zimmerman at 330-699-4769 or Louise Golden at 330-571-3384.

WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

The World Day for Consecrated Life is February 2, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. The Cleveland Diocese will celebrate it next weekend, February 7 and 8. This is a time to honor and pray for women and men who have embraced a life of poverty, chastity, and obedience out of love of God and His Church. Take some time to pray for and thank them this week as well as to pray for vocations to this joyful and often hidden vocation.



LENT

Ash Wednesday

February 18

Masses at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 6:30 p.m.

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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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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