

The measure of love is to love without measure.

# St. Francis de Sales Parish



## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday,  
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

## 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](http://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 OF EASTER  
APRIL 26, 2026**



**SUNDAY, APRIL 26, FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

- 7:30 a.m. Pro Populo  
9:00 a.m. Lucy Duffner (Kelliher Family)  
11:00 a.m. Dominic Reo (Adriana & Carl Smith)

**MONDAY, APRIL 27**

- 8:15 a.m. Pedro S. Katigbak (Mariza Meredith)

**TUESDAY, APRIL 28, ST. PETER CHANEL,  
ST. LOUIS GRIGNION DE MONTFORT**

- 8:15 a.m. Margie Katigbak (Mariza Meredith)  
*Dorothy Presnar – Month's Mind*

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA**

- 8:15 a.m. Theresia & Ferdinand Ambach  
(Tony & Mary Heyden)  
9:00 a.m. School Mass Mass of Thanksgiving  
(Sciarini & Schon Families)

**THURSDAY, APRIL 30, ST. PIUS V**

- 8:15 a.m. Dennis Knapp (John Duckworth)  
6:30 p.m. Clarence & Edith Brown (Gary Skinner)

**FRIDAY, MAY 1, ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER**

- 8:15 a.m. Sam & Maria Fana (Anna Fana)  
*School Mass moved to  
Wednesday, April 29*

**SATURDAY, MAY 2, ST. ATHANASIUS**

- 8:15 a.m. Walter Dubetz (Family)  
5:00 p.m. Harry Welch (Kathy & Don McCabe)

**SUNDAY, MAY 3, FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

- 7:30 a.m. Living & Deceased Priests of St. Francis  
(Enright & Gaebel Families)  
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
11:00 a.m. Virgil Gilkey (Herrick Family)



**COME HOLY SPIRIT!**

Happy Good Shepherd Sunday! I always love this time of year right when our parish welcomes new members of the faith at the Easter Vigil and celebrates **Confirmation and First Communion**. These are crucial events in the life of a Catholic Christian. As with Baptism, we need to remember and celebrate the day the God of the universe entered into our very bodies and souls at First Communion. First Communion is May 2 this year. We also need to remember and celebrate that the power of the Holy Spirit was deepened and sealed within our hearts on the day of our Confirmation. We indeed have a Good Shepherd who, through the sacraments, feeds and guides us all the days of our lives.

Last Tuesday, on April 21, our 8th graders celebrated Confirmation. It was a beautiful celebration! April 21 was a special date for the life of the Church as it was the one-year anniversary of the death of Pope Francis, who brought great mercy and hope to our Church. It is also a special day to me because it is my Baptism Anniversary. On April 21, 1985, I was baptized by my uncle Fr. David Merzweiler at St. Vincent in Akron. Fr. Blin always told me, and I'm sure he told you too, that we need to go visit the place of our Baptism on our anniversary and pray a prayer of thanksgiving for how the Lord blessed us with the gift of Baptism. Pope Francis said to celebrate it like a great feast day. Pope Francis said this about Baptism... "*At Baptism, it is God who comes to us, purifies and heals our heart, makes us forever His children, His people and family, heirs to paradise... Let us ask ourselves: Am I aware of the immense gift I carry within me through Baptism?*" Are you aware of this awesome, supreme gift in your life – the gift of God living within you?! It is awesome and needs to be pondered daily. Believe it or not, the gift of the Holy Spirit is at work within you.

**If you want to learn more about the gift of the Holy Spirit** within you, please mark your calendar for **Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. in June, July and August**. I will share more next week about the journey we will take this summer in learning about the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

**Come Holy Spirit,  
Fr. Jeremy**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- Monday:** Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:11-18  
**Tuesday:** Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30  
**Wednesday:** Acts 12:24–13:5a; Jn 12:44-50  
**Thursday:** Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20  
**Friday:** Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6  
**Saturday:** Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:7-14  
**Sunday:** Acts 6:1-7; 1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, APRIL 26

- Children's Liturgy of the Word, 11:00 a.m. Mass
- Prayers for Healing, after 11:00 a.m. Mass, meet by the St. Anthony statue
- Scouts, 4:30-6:00 p.m. (Gym)
- Youth Group, 7:00-8:30 p.m. (Beatitudes Room)

### MONDAY, APRIL 27

- PSR & Ignite Family Adoration, 7:00-8:00 p.m.
- Small Group Study, 7:00 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)

### TUESDAY, APRIL 28

- Women's Study Group, 9:00-11:00 a.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- Small Group Study, 9:00 a.m. (Holy Family Room)
- Small Group Study, 7:00 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

- Small Group Study, 7:00 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (Church)
- Flow in Faith, 7:00 p.m. (Beatitudes Room)
- AA/Al-Anon, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (Refectory)

### THURSDAY, APRIL 30

- Thursday Scripture Group, 12:30 p.m. (St. Gerard Room)
- Small Group Study, 7:00 p.m. (Archangels Room)

### SATURDAY, MAY 2

- Men's Group, 7:00 a.m. (Holy Family Room)
- First Saturday Devotions & Rosary, 8:45 a.m. (Church)
- First Holy Communion, 11:00 a.m. (Church)

### SUNDAY, MAY 3

- Donut Sunday
- Children's Liturgy of the Word, 11:00 a.m. Mass
- Cub Scouts, 4:30-5:30 p.m. (Refectory)
- Scouts, 4:30-6:00 p.m. (Pavilion)
- 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
Dc. Raymond Herrick	Deacon deaconherrick@stfparish.com
Dc. Richard Butz	Retired Deacon deaconbutz@gmail.com
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Katy Markovich	VIRTUS Coordinator kmarkovich@stfparish.com
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## COLLECTION INFORMATION

April 18 & 19

Sunday	13,592.00
Assessment	55.00
Capital	1,152.00
School	422.00
Special Collections	683.15
TOTAL	\$15,904.15

*Thank you for your generosity!*

## 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 Dunn Family** received the Vocation Crucifix this weekend.

## 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

## REST IN PEACE

Please remember in prayer the soul of **Sandy Huber**, mother of parishioner Kelly Huber and sister of parishioner Barb Bertsch. *May Jesus lead her into eternal rest and console her family and friends.*

## BANNS OF MARRIAGE

I Jakob Loar & Sophia Wyles

**ADORERS NEEDED**

Adorers are needed for the following times.  
Half-hour slots are available.

Tuesdays, 7:00-8:00 p.m.; Thursdays, 1:00-2:00 p.m.;  
Friday, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

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

**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.

**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.



**EASTER SAINT MURALS**

During the Easter season, our parish gets to enjoy a beautiful depiction of the saints in glory in the two paintings hanging alongside the Crucifix. Our Easter artwork, created by parishioner Louise Udovich, is a wonderful reminder that at every Mass, we are truly united with all the saints by our Communion in the Body of Christ and they are always interceding for us in anything we ask of them. Here is a list of the saints shown:

**Left Panel**

- St. Francis de Sales
- St. Jane de Chantal
- St. Pier Giorgio Frassati
- St. Francis of Assisi
- St. Clare of Assisi
- St. Rita of Cascia
- St. George
- St. Joan of Arc
- St. Kevin of Glendalough

**Right Panel**

- St. John Paul II
- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
- St. Teresa of Calcutta
- St. Cyril
- St. Methodius
- St. Peter
- St. Paul
- St. Padre Pio

*All you holy saints, pray for us!*

**A MESSAGE FROM STEPHEN MINISTRY**

You can play an important role in our Stephen Ministry because you may know of a friend, neighbor, co-worker, or relative who is going through a difficult time and who could benefit from the focused care, encouragement, and support of a Stephen Minister. If someone comes to mind, please tell them about the Stephen Ministry program offered here at St. Francis de Sales. It's a great way for you to show how much you care! Questions? Contact Ann Clark (aclark2@stfparish.com) for more information.

**SFDS GOLF LEAGUE RETURNS**

The St. Francis de Sales Golf League is back! The league is playing weekly on Wednesdays at 2:30 p.m. at Chenoweth Golf Course, 3087 Chenoweth Road, Akron, OH 44312. Questions? Email domrizzojr@gmail.com.

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING**

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 this Sunday following the 11:00 a.m. Mass and the St. Francis de Sales Healing Ministry will pray with you.

**SFDS VBS: JUNE 15-19, 2026**

# SIGNS & WONDERS

**THE MIRACLES OF JESUS**

"These signs are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name." John 20:31

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REGISTRATION DEADLINES: MAY 1<sup>ST</sup> FOR VOLUNTEERS & JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup> FOR CAMPER.  
CALL 330-644-2225 OR EMAIL [VBS@STFPARISH.COM](mailto:VBS@STFPARISH.COM) WITH QUESTIONS

### BAGS FOR OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

South Akron Knights of Columbus is collecting gently used wheeled suitcases and wheeled duffle bags for the men and women at Haven of Rest until the end of May. As vacation season is starting, if you see you have one you can part with, please consider donating to Council #3410. We do request that the wheels work. They can be dropped off at the hall on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:00-8:00 p.m. or you can call Steve Dort, our Grand Knight, to arrange for them to be picked up: 330-212-7351.

### ST. MARY'S SCHOOL ALUMNI REUNION

Once a St. Mary's student, always part of the family. Join us for our Alumni Reunion! We'll gather for May Crowning Mass at 9:00 a.m. at St. Mary's Parish, 750 S. Main Street, Akron, 44311 on Sunday May 3, and continue with a social in the Parish Hall. It's the perfect chance to reconnect, sing the Bells of St. Mary's, and celebrate our second century together.

### FUNDRAISER CONCERT

The MajesticVoice Chorus will present the concert "Singing Thru the Sixties" on Saturday, May 2 at 4:00 p.m. at the Johnson Center on the Campus of Malone University, 2600 Cleveland Avenue, NW in Canton. Tickets are \$25.00 for adults and \$15.00 for kids 17 and under. To purchase tickets, visit [majesticvoice.org](http://majesticvoice.org) or call 330-854-5061. The MajesticVoice Chorus is a non-profit organization that raises funds for scholarships to support students studying music.

## May Crowning & Procession

Our Mother's Hands ministry invites everyone to honor Mary in this month of May by participating in a communal May Crowning and Marian Procession at St. Sebastian Parish, Akron, on Sunday, May 3, immediately following 9:00 a.m. Mass. Mary will be crowned Queen in the church, and then participants will join St. Sebastian's parishioners for donuts in Zwisler Hall. A Rosary and Marian procession to bring Mary to the community will step off from Zwisler Hall at 10:25 a.m. Come join us in singing our love to Our Mother! For more information, visit our website at [ourmothershands.org](http://ourmothershands.org).

**Come take a Journey with Jesus!**  
Walk in the footsteps of Jesus and Our Blessed Mother!

**TOTALLY YOURS PILGRIMAGES**  
**Pilgrimage to the Holy Land**  
**Trip#2703 March 7 - 18, 2027**



In Lent of 2027, come see the places where Our Lord lived, ministered, and achieved our salvation. Trip highlights include visits to Bethlehem, the Sea of Galilee, Mount Carmel, the Mount of Beatitudes, Caesarea Philippi, Jerusalem, and the Holy Sepulchre. Mass and the Rosary will be offered each day of the pilgrimage. A group is assembling from St. Francis de Sales. To join the group, when registering please state that you are part of the "Turk Group."

Base Price: \$3,995 (based on double occupancy)  
Included: Airfare out of Chicago (ORD), Newark (EWR), or JFK International Airports; Transportation; Lodging; and 2 meals a day. For flights out of CAK or CLE, add \$445.  
Land Only: \$3,095  
Tips: \$145  
For Single Room: additional \$1,170

Scan the QR code to see the itinerary and register!

For more information, call the tour office at 630-279-8424, visit [totallyyourspilgrimages.com/2703-holy-land-4](http://totallyyourspilgrimages.com/2703-holy-land-4), or contact Mary (Huggins) Turk at 330-807-1730.

Parishioner Registration

ParishSOFT Online Giving

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.



# May 2026



Seminarian Calendar prepared by Parents of Priests – Diocese of Cleveland  
 Calendar at: [seminarians.parentsofpriests.com](http://seminarians.parentsofpriests.com)  
 Priests and Seminarians calendar online at: [priests.StPatrick.cc](http://priests.StPatrick.cc)



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<p><b><i>“All were filled with the Holy Spirit.”</i></b>  <i>Acts 2:4</i></p>			1 Jeremy Gaugler Theology III	2 Joseph Rohan Theology III
3 <i>Pray for Pope Leo XIV</i>	4 Joshua Stecz Theology III	5 Dc. Arthur Bodenschatz Theology IV (Youngstown)	6 Dc. Noah Furin Theology IV	7 Dc. Sean Homcy Theology IV	8 Dc. Jeremy Shafer Theology IV	9 Dc. Charles Cairnie Theology V
10 <i>Pray for Bishop Malesic</i>	11 Dc. Mitch Carson Theology V	12 Dc. Cameron Ferrell Theology V	13 Dc. Nathan Frankart Theology V	14 Dc. Joseph Truong Viet Ho Theology V	15 Dc. Sean Neville Theology V	16 John Paul Antalek Borromeo
17 <i>Pray for the Newly Ordained Priests</i>	18 Matthew Bobby Borromeo	19 Ike Dawson Borromeo	20 Dylan Ennis Borromeo	21 Dominic Kucera Borromeo	22 Derek Linden Borromeo (Youngstown)	23 Dominic Mellino Borromeo
24 <i>Pray for Bishop Woost</i>	25 Seamus O’Malley Borromeo	26 Justin Rice Borromeo	27 Christopher Yankay Borromeo	28 Gabriel Kasper Borromeo	29 Yosief Kidane Borromeo (Capuchin)	30 Quinn McNeill Borromeo
31 <i>Pray for Bishop Amos</i>						

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