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Worship and Liturgy Coordinator, St. Joseph: Christina Dupre

Assistant Music Director, and Funeral and Wedding Coordinator, St. Joseph: Joy Rivera

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Principal Parish School of Religion:
Angela Eads

Operations Manager, St. Joseph:

Bob Kenska

Director of Youth Activities
Rachel MacDonald

March 23, 2025 Third Sunday of Lent

ST. JOSEPH PARISH OFFICE: 440-988-2848

Office hours are Monday - Friday 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

NATIVITY BVM PARISH OFFICE: 440-986-7011

ST. JOSEPH PARISH WEBSITE: stjosephamherst.com

ST. JOSEPH PARISH ADDRESS: 200 St. Joseph Dr., Amherst, OH 44001 NATIVITY BVM PARISH: 333 S Lake St., South Amherst, OH 44001

NATIVITY BVM PARISH MAILING ADDRESS:

P.O. BOX 767, Amherst, OH 44001

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL OFFICE: 440-988-4244

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL WEBSITE: www.sjsamherst.org

Mass:

Monday, Friday 9:00 A.M. - St. Joseph Parish
Tuesday 8:00 A.M. - Nativity of the BVM Parish
Thursday 7:00 P.M. - St. Joseph Parish
Saturday Vigil 4:00 P.M. - St. Joseph Parish
Saturday 5:30 P.M. - Nativity of the BVM Parish
Sunday 8:30 A.M., 11:00 A.M., 5:00 P.M. - St. Joseph Parish

The 11:00 A.M. Mass will be livestreamed.

The link can be found on our website: www.stjosephamherst.com

Confession at St. Joseph Parish: Thursday - Individual Reconciliation 7:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M. Saturday - Individual Reconciliation 11:00 A.M. - Noon

Liturgy Schedule

MONDAY, MARCH 24th Mass at St. Joseph Parish

9:00 A.M. Edward Sanders (Mary Ann Barnes)

TUESDAY, MARCH 25th Mass at Nativity Parish 8:00 A.M. Robin Hunker (Kathy Loos)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26th No Mass

THURSDAY, MARCH 27th Mass at St. Joseph Parish

7:00 P.M. Peter Anderson (Tony Alessandro)

Confessions to follow Mass until 8:30 P.M.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28th Mass at St. Joseph Parish

9:00 A.M. Mass of Blessing for Sandra Balko

(Dan Balko)

SATURDAY, MARCH 29th

11:00 A.M. Confessions at St. Joseph Parish

4:00 P.M. Mike Andreson (Mom and Brother)

Mass at St. Joseph Parish

5:30 P.M. Curtis Marcucci (Kathy Marcucci)

Mass at Nativity Parish

SUNDAY, MARCH 30th Masses at St. Joseph Parish

8:30 A.M. Shirley Zeh (Kim and Steve Frankart)

11:00 A.M. Margaret Borocz (Daughter)

5:00 P.M. People of St. Joseph and Nativity Parishes

Daily Readings

MONDAY, MARCH 24th Lenten Weekday 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab Lk 4:24-30

TUESDAY, MARCH 25th The Annunciation of the Lord Is 7:10-14; 8:10 Heb 10:4-10 Lk 1:26-38

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26th Lenten Weekday Dt 4:1, 5-9 Mt 5:17-19

THURSDAY, MARCH 27th Lenten Weekday Jer 7:23-28 Lk 11:14-23

FRIDAY, MARCH 28th Lenten Weekday

Hos 14:2-10 Mk 12:28-34

SATURDAY, MARCH 29th Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Lent Jos 5:9a, 10-12 2 Cor 5:17-21 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

SUNDAY, MARCH 30th Fourth Sunday of Lent

Jos 5:9a, 10-12 2 Cor 5:17-21 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

We would love having you as part of our flock

To receive updates in St. Joseph and Nativity's weekly emails, simply text SJPA to 84576. We typically send only email updates and respect your privacy. Text messages will only be sent for urgent or emergency situations.

Activity Schedule

MONDAY - FRIDAY

Eucharistic Adoration 11:00 A.M.-10:00 P.M. (NBVM)

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

Faithfully Fit Yoga - Tue. & Thur. 9:30 A.M. (NBVM)

SUNDAY, MARCH 23rd

Pancake Breakfast following the 8:30 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. Masses (SJ Social Hall)

MONDAY, MARCH 24th

7:00 P.M. OCIA (RCIA) (NBVM Parish Hall)

TUESDAY, MARCH 25th

5:00 P.M. Dinners on the Go Pick-up (Nativity Parish) 5:45 P.M. Instructional Basketball Grades K - 2 (Gym)

7:00 P.M. Knights of Columbus (School MPR)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26th

5:30 P.M. PSR Grades K - 12 (School Classrooms)

6:30 P.M. Sacred Sisters Meeting (O.S.E. Community Ctr.)

THURSDAY, MARCH 27th

5:30 P.M. Lenten Soup Supper (SJ Social Hall)

5:45 P.M. Instructional Basketball Grades K - 2 (Gym)

FRIDAY, MARCH 28th

7:00 P.M. Stations of the Cross (St. Joseph Parish)

SATURDAY, MARCH 29th

12:00 P.M. Knights of Columbus Fifth Sunday Rosary (St. Joseph Church)

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

St. Joseph Parish		
Sunday, March 9	\$	21,863.92
Eoffering	\$	2,948.64
Total Sunday Offerings	\$	24,812.56
Other Collections		
Tuition Assistance	\$	236.00
Maintenance	\$	150.00
Little Black Books for Lent	\$	75.00
Black and Indian Missions	\$	273.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$	120.00
Central and Eastern Europe Missions	\$	188.00
Ash Wednesday for St. Elizabeth Shelter\$		3,131.00
Nativity Parish		
Saturday, March 8	\$	1,853.00
Other Collections		
Black and Indian Missions	\$	70.00
Central and Eastern Europe	\$	35.00
Landscape	\$	40.00
Ash Wednesday for St. Elizabeth Shelter\$		556.00



All are welcome! A free-will offering may be made to benefit the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students as they travel to Washington D.C. this spring.

What: Pancake Breakfast

When: Sunday, March 23 following the 8:30 and 11:30 A.M. Masses

Where: St. Joseph Social Hall

Cost: Free-will donation.

Lenten Soup Suppers



We are thrilled to host the LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS at St. Joseph Parish! Below are some photos from this year's first Soup Supper, which was held on March 13. We hope you are able to join us for the remaining evenings.

All from St. Joseph and Nativity Parishes are invited to join us for an evening of fellowship and prayer as we journey through the season of Lent. You are welcome to bring a pot of soup, or some bread or crackers to share, but it is NOT required.



The Soup Suppers will take place on the following Thursday evenings, March 27th and April 10th in St. Joseph Social Hall.

Soup will be served at 5:30 P.M., Praying the Rosary at 6:30 P.M., Mass at 7:00 P.M. We look forward to seeing you there! For questions, call Sue at 440-986-1725.







St. Joseph Mass Livestream



To view our 11:00am Mass for the homebound, visit our YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/@sjandnbvmmedia8044/streams.

Or you can use the button on our website: https:stjosephamherst.com/



St. Joseph Church, Amherst and Nativity B.V.M., South Amherst

Soup Suppers and Rosary at St. Joseph Social Hall

March 27th - Soup served 5:30 P.M., Rosary 6:30 P.M. April 10th - Soup served 5:30 P.M., Rosary 6:30 P.M.

Stations of the Cross - Fridays during Lent at 7:00 P.M.

March 28th - Stations of the Cross at St. Joseph April 4th - Stations of the Cross at St. Joseph April 11th - Stations of the Cross at Nativity April 18th - Taizé Stations of the Cross at St. Joseph

First Friday and First Saturday Rosary

April 4th - 11:00 A.M. at Nativity Church (Rosary only no luncheon this month) April 5th - 9:00 A.M. at St. Joseph Church

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at NBVM Parish

Monday through Friday 11:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. For information on Adoration, please call Josie Tornabene at 440-396-5429.

Reconciliation (Confession) at St. Joseph Parish

Saturdays of Lent from 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. Thursdays following the 7:00 P.M. Mass until 8:30 P.M. - exception Holy Thursday Good Friday following the Noon Liturgy until 3:00 P.M. Holy Saturday from 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Reconciliation (Confession) at NBVM Parish

Holy Thursday following the 7:00 P.M. Mass until 9:00 P.M.

Ways to Pray this Lent

Looking for ways to make Lent more meaningful this year? Here are a few suggestions—though they may not be new to you, know that the Lord will speak to you in the way you need to experience Him in this Lenten Season.

Digital Content:



MyparishApp: A great way to add to your daily prayer time! This app includes many resources such as Rosary audios, Daily Readings, prayers, and messages/reminders from our parish on upcoming events. A great way to stay connected.









More apps to try:

Laudate, Amen, Hallow, and Ascension.

You can find these apps at your app store provider.









Matthew Kelly's BEST LENT EVER: An opportunity to encounter God's mercy that will renew your faith. Use the link below to receive daily emails from Dynamic Catholic.

https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/lent



Formed: At Formed, you can access Daily award-winning studies. Reflections, inspiring audio content, movies, e-books, and family-friendly kids' programming

from more than 100 content providers, as well as devotional and prayer content. To learn more, visit https://formed.org/.



My Daily Prayers: Offered through our Diocese, these free recordings led by clergy of the Diocese, provides a new way to enter into a deeper, more personal relationship with God.

The recordings will be delivered daily by email. Visit, https://www.dioceseofcleveland.org/my-daily-prayers to learn more and sign up for the daily emails.

Not Into Digital Resources? Not to worry; we have more resources for you. On the Gathering Area counter at St. Joseph Parish, and the tables at Nativity Parish, you will find pamphlets on: How to Pray a Holy Hour, How to Pray the Rosary, How to make a Good Confession, information on upcoming retreats, and while supplies last, the Little Black Book daily devotional. In addition, as listed above, you will have several opportunities to deepen your faith and prayer life through the Stations of the Cross, Adoration, Reconciliation (including the Diocesan-wide Evening of Confession), First Friday/Saturday Rosary, and Soup Suppers. Let's not forget the opportunity to attend the production, "The Answer," produced and directed by Christina Dupré. This Lent, there truly is something for everyone!

Plenary Indulgences - General Conditions

See the Gathering Area counter at St. Joseph and the tables at NBVM for an explanation of the Conditions of Plenary Indulgences as we prepare ourselves during this Lenten Season to receive God's mercy and unconditional love.

We bring our sins and struggles to our Lord and to the Church, represented by the person of the priest, when we come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We confess our sins, our failures and our faults, promise to strive again to conform ourselves to Christ, and are forgiven. "The Lord never tires of forgiving. It is we who tire of asking for forgiveness." (Pope Francis, First Angelus as pope, March 17, 2013)

REMINDERS FOR FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Fridays during Lent are also days of abstinence. The norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. Likewise, the norms for abstaining from meat are binding from age 14 onward. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection.

Jubilee Year of Hope - Upcoming Events



Called to be Pilgrims of Hope during this Holy Year 2025, Bishop Michael Woost will be at St. Ladislas Church (2345 Bassett Road, Westlake) from March 30 to April 1, from 7:00-8:30 P.M. During this Lenten Mission, he will provide an opportunity to reflect on God's promises for healing, peace, forgiveness, joy, salvation, and the fullness of life and love — in this life and the next! Each evening will invite the community to encounter the presence of God through the prayer of the Church. The Bishop's Lenten Mission will also offer participants the opportunity to obtain the Jubilee Plenary Indulgence.

The Diocese of Cleveland has selected Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Lorain as the pilgrimage church for Lorain County during this Jubilee Year of Hope. Father Craig Hovanec invites everyone to join in celebrating a Jubilee Mass every other Tuesday at 6:00 P.M., starting on March 11. Special prayers for the Jubilee Year will be used, except on March 25 (The Annunciation) and April 22 (Easter Tuesday). The Rosary will be prayed 30 minutes before Mass. We encourage all to participate in this pilgrimage to Nativity during the Jubilee Year of Hope.

Don't miss the presentation on the Jubilee Pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome, hosted at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Lorain (418 W. 15th St., Lorain) by parishioner Chris Korab and several others who attended from the Cleveland pilgrimage group. The presentation will take place on March 30th at 11:45 A.M.



St. Frances Cabrini Presents Tetélestai

St. Frances Cabrini (2143 Homewood Dr., Lorain) will present **Tetelestai:** "It is Finished," a live Passion musical and dramatic performance, on March 28th, 29th, and 30th.

FREE performances:

- Friday & Saturday at 8:00 PM
- Sunday at 2:00 PM
 Don't miss this powerful experience!



COME EXPERIENCE

THE ANSWER

MARCH 21, 22 | 7:30PM

St. Joseph Parish 200 St. Joseph Dr. Amherst Ohio

MARCH 28, 29 | 7:30PM

Immaculate Conception Church 414 Madison St, Port Clinton, Ohio

APRIL 4, 5 | 7:30PM

St. Justin Martyr 35781 Stevens Blvd. Eastlake, Ohio

APRIL 11, 12 7:30PM

Solid Rock Community Church 680 North Abbe Road. Elyria, Ohio

EVENT COST: FREE | PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION

Mary's Way of the Cross

These amazing women offered a beautiful portrayal of the Stations of the Cross as "Mary's Way of the Cross" at Nativity Parish in South Amherst last weekend. Throughout this season of Lent, the group will be presenting at several area churches. If you missed the presentation at NBVM, you can catch it at one of the locations listed below in the coming weeks of Lent.

Wednesday, March 26th - 7:10 P.M. NBVM Parish, located at 428 West 15th St., **Lorain**

Friday, March 28th - 7:00 P.M.

Sacred Heart Parish, located at 410 W. Lorain St., Oberlin

Friday, April 4th - 7:00 P.M.

St. Matthias Parish, located at 1200 W. Sprague Rd., Cleveland

Friday, April 11th - 7:00 P.M.

St. Patrick Parish, located at 512 N. Main St., Wellington



St. Teresa of Avila Church

1878 Abbe Road, Sheffield Village, OH 44054

Monthly Holy PROTECTION OF THE UNBORN Hour for Life

Tuesday: March 25th, 2025 at 7:00pm

All are invited to come pray before our Lord.



First Friday Forum

Join us for an insightful luncheon with Fr. Andy Turner on Friday, April 4, at the Spitzer Conference Center at LCCC (1005 N. Abbe Rd., Elyria).

Fr. Turner will share updates on the Seminary, offering a look at how it has evolved over the years.

Lunch begins at 11:30 A.M., and the cost is \$25. Reservations must be made by 6:00 PM on Monday, March 31.

To reserve your spot, please call **440-320-3272** or **440-213-2132**, or email **ffflorain@gmail.com**.



CALENDAR





Family and Friends, Come One and All!

Join us <u>Friday, April 4th</u>, at Nativity BVM Church (333 S. Lake Street, S. Amherst) for a **Lake Erie Perch Fish Fry!** Dinners will be available for dine-in OR carry-out from 4:30 – 7:00 pm. The cost of each dinner is \$25.00.



Choice 1
The Lake Erie Perch
Dinner

5 Pieces of fried Lake Erie Perch French Fries Coleslaw / Roll / Butter Piece of Cake \$25



Choice 2 The Shrimp Dinner

10 Pieces of fried Shrimp French Fries Coleslaw / Roll / Butter Piece of Cake \$25



Choice 3

The Combo Dinner

2 pieces of Lake Erie Perch & 6 Shrimp French Fries Coleslaw / Roll / Butter Piece of Cake \$25

The Kids Dinner (10 yrs. old and under) is \$5 for 1 slice of cheese pizza, a bag of potato chips, a juice box, and a slice of cake.



Cans of pop and bottled water will be available for \$1 each, while supplies last.

Coffee, tea, and lemonade will be provided.

No alcohol is permitted on premises.



Call-ahead orders are appreciated but not required. Please contact Lynn Johnson at 440-752-6519. Pay by check to Nativity BVM or cash (preferred) at the door.

We look forward to seeing you!

"Don't forget to do good and to share with those in need." Hebrews 13:16



Area Fish Fries

Looking for a Fish Fry before the one planned at **Nativity Parish on April 4th?** Here are a few for you to try until then.

St. Thomas The Apostle Parish 719 Harris Rd., Sheffield Lake Fridays - March 7 - April 11 4:00 - 7:00 P.M. 440-949-7744 St. Joseph Parish (Avon Lake) 3929 Lake Rd., Avon Lake Fridays, March 7 - April 11 4:30 - 7:00 P.M. 440-933-3152 St. Bernadette Parish 2300 Clague Rd., Westlake Fridays - March 7 - April 4 4:00 - 7:00 P.M. 440-731-1300

Nativity News

Dinners on the Go

Dinners are \$13 and the soups are an additional \$4.

Drive-thru pick-up only from 5:00-6:00 P.M. at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary located at 333 South Lake St., South Amherst.

To order, please call Lynn Johnson at 440-752-6519.

Thank you for your continued support!

March 25

Cabbage Rolls
Mashed Potatoes
Applesauce Cup
Roll/Dessert
Soup: Clam Chowder

Hospitality Tuesday



NBVM Altar and Rosary Society is pleased to offer refreshments at the monthly Hospitality Tuesday event on **Tuesday**, **April 1**.

We will gather in the parish social hall immediately following the 8:00 A.M. Mass. All are welcome to join us in church for Mass, followed by food and fellowship in the hall.

Nativity B.V.M. Parish 333 South Lake St., South Amherst

Altar and Rosary Society Annual Membership Drive Closing Soon!

The Annual Membership Drive ends on March 31.

Dues are just \$5.00. Applications are available on the back tables at Nativity Parish or in the Gathering Area at St. Joseph Parish. Please place completed applications with dues in an envelope marked "Altar and Rosary Society Application and Dues" and drop it in the collection basket.

We invite all women to join us in serving others and growing in faith together!

Monthly Meetings:

When: First Tuesday of the month at 6:30 P.M.

Where: Nativity Parish Social Hall. Meetings last about an hour, and there are plenty of opportunities to share your time and talents!

First Friday Rosary



FIRST FRIDAY ROSARY at Nativity BVM

Friday, April 4th 11:00 A.M. Nativity Church

Please join us as we pray together the Most Holy Rosary. Please note, there will **not** be refreshments served after the Rosary this month.

Cemetery Clean-up



Our cemetery grounds must be clear for the mowing and trimming season.

Any obstructions to mowing or trimming will be removed and discarded.

The following is our cemetery policy and it will be adhered to by the groundskeeping crew.

- Decorations, must be removed by April 1st for the mowing season. If you want to save your decorations you must remove them before April 1st.
- No plantings of flowers, bushes, or vegetation of any kind are allowed.
- No landscaping or permanent decorations of any kind are allowed, including but not limited to stone, bricks, borders, etc.
- After April 1st, only fresh-cut flowers are allowed, in paper or foil wrapping, and these will be removed weekly.
- Regarding holidays during the growing season (April 1st to October 31st) Decorations will be allowed four days before the holiday. They must be removed 2 days following the holiday. Any decorations you do not remove, will be removed and discarded by groundskeeping personnel.
- Winter decorations will be allowed from October 31st to April 1st.

Fifth Sunday Rosary



Holy Family Council 4891 invites everyone to participate in a Rosary prayer scheduled for **Sunday, March 30th**, after the conclusion of the 11:00 A.M. Mass at St. Joseph Church.

The Rosary will take place either in the Church or Social Hall and should last no more than 15 to 20 minutes.



The praying of the Rosary as a community and with others can create a sense of spiritual bonding and fellowship within our parishes. Please plan on participating in this important prayer to the Blessed Virgin for her intercession of our spiritual needs and personal connectedness to God. God's blessings to all.

Save the Date Baccalaureate Mass



Our Baccalaureate Mass will be celebrated at the 11:00 A.M. Mass on Sunday, May 18th. This special day provides an opportunity for all high school, vocational school, and college graduates to participate in and be celebrated at Mass.

We invite graduates to take part by serving as a lector for the Processional Introduction, the First and Second Readings, and the Intercessions. Please encourage your graduate to participate—this is a beautiful Mass and a very special day for all!

Additionally, remember to submit your graduate's photo and short bio by May 23rd, so that they can be included in our Parish Newsletter.

Did You Know...

Many of you may already know about our online Sunday Offertory option, which allows you to make charitable donations without using monthly envelopes. However, did you know that you can also contribute to Holy Days and special collections through myEoffering? MyEoffering offers a quick, simple, and secure way to donate to our parish. To learn more or to sign up, visit https://myeoffering.com/.



Qualified Charitable Distribution

If you are 70 ½ years old or older, you can make a Qualified Charitable Distribution today for up to \$100,000 from your IRA directly to your parish. It will not count as taxable income, and it can satisfy your "required minimum distribution." Looking to the future, consider naming our parish as a beneficiary IRA. Speak with your financial advisor, or contact Mary Lou Ozimek at 216-696-6525, ext. 4070, or visit https://www.catholiccommunity.org/ira.

ALL ARE WELCOME! 7TH - 12TH GRADERS

HOLY GROUND YOUTH NIGHTS!

- Fellowship & faith formation in the social hall
- · Snacks provided
- Closing Prayer 7:30 PM





Upcoming Dates!

April 6th April 13th May 4th May 18th



440-895-7756



rachel.macdonald@sjs-amherst.org

Angel Scholarship Fund

You can help St. Joseph School at no cost to you through a tax credit!

That's right! Your eligible Ohio state taxes can be donated to
St. Joseph School rather than going to the state of Ohio.

Speak to your tax advisor or call the Catholic Community Foundation at 216-902-1312, for more information. To learn more, visit www.catholiccommunity.org/angel.





PLEASE PRAY FOR:

In the charity of your prayers, we commend to God:

Martha (Marti) Ralston

We pray for her family and the families of all our deceased relatives and friends that they may enjoy eternal peace with our Risen Christ.

Let us also remember to pray for those confined to hospitals and nursing homes, the homebound, and their caregivers, our sons and daughters in the military, those dealing with mental illness and addictions, the homeless and those who have no one to pray for them.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK



Secure your loved one's resting place today. Call Kathy at St. Joseph Church at 440-988-2848 for gravesite and cremains burial information.

THANK YOU

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