

Pastor, St. Joseph & Pastor, Nativity: Fr. Timothy J. O'Connor

Business Manager, St. Joseph: Sharon Angell

Business Manager, Nativity Music Director, Nativity: Ed Klimczak

Office Manager, St. Joseph: Kathy Flynn

Worship and Liturgy Coordinator, St. Joseph: Christina Dupre

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

Communications Coordinator: Kim Frankart

Principal, St. Joseph School: Amy Makruski

Principal Parish School of Religion: Angela Eads

Operations Manager, St. Joseph: Bob Kenska

Director of Youth Activities Rachel MacDonald

June 1, 2025 The Ascension of the Lord

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: 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

			Activity Schedule MONDAY - FRIDAY	
Liturgy Schedule		1		
9:00 A.M.	NE 2 nd Mass at St. Joseph Parish Shirley Zeh (Family of June Childress) INE 3 rd Mass at Nativity Parish Fritz and Arlene Knoble (Wil Shaffer)		TUESDAYS A	Adoration 11:00 A.M10:00 P.M. (NBVM) ND THURSDAYS it Yoga - Tue. & Thur. 9:30 A.M. (Mill Hollow) NE 2nd Hospitality Movie Night (School Gym)
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4 th No Mass		r	TUESDAY, JUNE 3 rd	
	JUNE 5th Mass at St. Joseph Parish For Blessings upon the St. Joseph Parish School Eighth Grade Graduates Confessions to follow Mass until 8:30 P.M		8:30 A.M. 6:30 P.M. 7:00 P.M.	Hospitality Tuesday refreshments following the 8:00 A.M. Mass (NBVM Church and Hall) Altar and Rosary Meeting (NBVM Hall) Men's Group (Social Hall Lobby)
FRIDAY, JUN 9:00 A.M.	E 6 th Mass at St. Joseph Parish Pat Vaccaro (Friends)	ľ	WEDNESDAY 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M.	, JUNE 4 th Grief Recovery Program (SJ Social Hall Lobby) Kindergarten Graduation (SJ Church)
SATURDAY, JUNE 7 th		,	THURSDAY, JUNE 5 th	
11:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M. 5:30 P.M.	No Confession today Sue Wohlever (Friends) Mass at St. Joseph Parish Doug Hyster (The Sisters) Mass at Nativity Parish		11:00 A.M. 7:00 P.M. FRIDAY, JUNI 11:00 A.M.	Last Day of School Early Dismissal Eighth Grade Graduation (SJ Church) E 6 th First Friday Rosary with light refreshments to
SUNDAY, JUNE 8 th Masses at St. Joseph Parish 8:30 A.M. Lucy and Joseph Fornal (Marylu Prout)		\$	follow (NBVM Church and Hall) SATURDAY, JUNE 7 th 9:00 A.M. First Saturday Rosary (SJ Church)	
11:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M.	People of St. Joseph and Nativity Parishes Sroka, Chihay, and Gerron Families (Fam	()	<u></u>	INANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Daily Readings

MONDAY, JUNE 2nd Easter Weekday Saints Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs Acts 19:1-8 Jn 16:29-33

TUESDAY, JUNE 3rd Saint Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs Acts 20:17-27 Jn 17:1-11a

- WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4th Easter Weekday Acts 20:28-38 Jn 17:11b-19
- **THURSDAY, JUNE 5th** Saint Boniface, Bishop and Martyr Acts 22:30; 23:6-11 Jn 17:20-26
- FRIDAY, JUNE 6th Easter Weekday Saint Norbert, Bishop Acts 25:13b-21 Jn 21:15-19
- SATURDAY, JUNE 7th Vigil: Pentecost Sunday Jl 3:1-5 Rom 8:22-27 Jn 7:37-39
- SUNDAY, JUNE 8th Pentecost Sunday Acts 2:1-11 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17 Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26

St. Joseph Parish Sunday, May 18 \$ 11,482.00 \$ 2,387.28 Eoffering \$ **Total Sunday Offerings** 13,869.28 Other Collections \$ Children's Envelopes 2.00 \$ Maintenance 192.00 Peter's Pence Collection \$ 1.00 \$ Newman Campus Ministries 43.00 \$ 100.00 Easter \$ 25.00 Good Friday Flowers and Decorations \$ 10.00 Nativity Parish Saturday, May 17 3,635.00 \$ Other Collections \$ 60.00 Landscaping Newman Campus Ministries \$ 25.00 Easter \$ 500.00

Please join us in welcoming Father Paschal Guddah SMA from the Society of African Missions. Father Guddah will be celebrating all the Masses at St. Joseph and Nativity on June 7 and 8.

Ascension of the Lord

Hospitality Movie Night - "Miracle in East Texas"



Inspired by a true story, John Sorbo directs and stars in this film, along with John Ratzenberger (Cheers' Cliff), and Louis Gossett Jr. In 1931, while the country is in a deep depression, two con men storm through Texas selling hope, romance and worthless oil stocks to naive & dreamy-eyed widows. As this humorous romance unfolds, the law finally catches up to the con men.

Only a miracle could save these men from jail and the widows from bankruptcy. At this point, the men finally develop scruples and as a last resort, turn to prayer. What comes next is unbelievable. You'd have to see it to believe it.

It's FREE!! Please join us in the SCHOOL GYM on Monday, June 2nd at 6:30 P.M. (1 hr. 38 min.) Enter through the East door with the blue awning.

If you have any questions, contact Phil Rawlings at <u>philrawli@aol.com</u>, or at 440-897-7437. Brought to you by St. Joseph Hospitality Ministry.





Altar Servers NEEDED

We're looking for a few more adults to join our Altar Server Ministry, and we'd love to invite *you* to consider being part of this special ministry. Serving at the altar is a simple but powerful way to support our parish and deepen your connection to the Mass. No experience is needed—we'll walk you through everything. If you've ever felt a nudge to get more involved, this could be your opportunity. If interested, reach out to Kathy Loos at 440-823-6177 or via email at jkmdmps@hotmail.com. Bab The Ann

Baby Bottle Campaign

The Annual Baby Bottle Campaign is underway at St. Joseph and Nativity Parishes!

If you'd like to participate, flyers with QR codes and/or donation envelopes are available at both parishes. If you used a baby bottle for your donation, please return it **before Father's Day.** Even if you find that you are unable to donate at this time, please return the bottle to avoid a fee for lost bottles. Thank you for considering support of this worthy cause!

Formation Sessions for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Below is the next training session for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. If you are interested in becoming an Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister, please call the Parish Office at 440-988-2848, so that we can review **the qualifications and register you for the session.**

> Thursday, June 12, 2025 St. Joseph Parish, Avon Lake 7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

Our ministry welcomes YOU!

June 1, 2025

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> Please Note: We will be gathering in St. Joe's School MPR. Enter through the North East entrance closest to the social hall parking lot.

Society of African Missions Visiting on June 7/8

We are pleased to welcome Father Paschal Guddah, SMA, who will celebrate all the Masses at St. Joseph and Nativity Parishes the weekend of June 7 and 8. Father Guddah is a member of the Society of African Missions (SMA), a Catholic missionary society of apostolic life founded in 1856 by Venerable Bishop Melchior de Marion Brésillac.

The SMA is a community of Christ's disciples, united in their commitment to proclaim the Kingdom of God throughout the world: "Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation" (Mark 16:15).

Their mission focuses especially on serving Africans and people of African descent, with members dedicated to personal spiritual growth and the global missionary call of the Church.

We ask that you keep Father Guddah and the SMA in your prayers. A second collection will be taken up next weekend to support their important missionary work. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.



PSR Information

As this PSR school year has come to an end, it is time to begin planning for the 2025-2026 school year. Therefore, PSR registration for the 2025-2026 school year is now open. You may sign up your child/(ren) using the link below, or it can be found on our website, <u>www.stjosephamherst.com</u>. Please complete the Google Form for each child you would like to enroll in the program. The deadline for registering is August 31, 2025.

If you would like to enroll an Eighth grade student for Confirmation preparation, the student must have attended PSR or participated in some other faith formation for their Seventh grade year. If this is the case, please enroll the student in Confirmation Prep Year 2. Students wishing to participate in Confirmation preparation who have not completed Year 1 must do so first before moving on to Year 2, regardless of the grade level they are enrolled in at school.

PSR will again be held on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-6:45 P.M. Sessions will begin in October and end in April. Fees will be invoiced once classes have begun. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Angie Eads at angela.eads@sjs-amherst.org.

Registration Link: https://forms.gle/KQdErCzcW6JCdSzB6

Ascension of the Lord

VBS Registration is NOW OPEN



It's an exciting time for our St. Joseph and Nativity communities, as Vacation Bible School makes its return. Joy Rivera has been hard at work pulling together a team to bring VBS to our children, and now registration is OPEN!

VBS will take place **Monday**, July 28 through Friday, August 1, from 9:00 to 11:30 A.M. Children who are entering Pre-K (4 years old) through Fourth grade from St. Joseph, Nativity, and those outside our parishes are all welcome. There will be only 120 spots available, so register early.

Registration is open until Monday, June 2.

You can use the QR Code, go to our website (<u>https://www.stjosephamherst.com</u>), sign up this weekend with our team in St. Joseph Gathering Area,





MANY VOLUNTEERS are needed in order to have a successful VBS experience for all of our participants! ADULT, TEEN, and YOUTH volunteers are needed, and welcome! There are MANY ways to volunteer, even if you are only available for just one day! If you are not available during the week of VBS, we will also need help in the weeks leading up to it, especially the weekend before to decorate and set up!

We will need a handful of volunteers who are available for the entire week, so if you are available, please sign up!! **Volunteers hours are 8:30 A.M.-12:00 P.M.** There is a program on the last day, Aug. 1, that will end at 12:00 P.M., but we will need lots of hands to help clean up afterwards! **Volunteers over the age of 18 must have completed the VIRTUS Training Program for the Safety and Protection of God's Children. Joy Rivera will reach out with more information on how to complete this program prior to the start of VBS.

You can use the QR Code, go to our website (<u>https://www.stjosephamherst.com</u>), sign up this weekend with our team in St. Joseph Gathering Area, or at NBVM, use the paper forms found on the tables.



THANK YOU TO THIS WONDERFUL TEAM FOR BRINGING VBS BACK TO ST. JOSPEH AND NBVM PARISHES!

(Back left to right - Rachel MacDonald, Elizabeth Gonzalez, Alissa Van Dress. Front left to right - Joy Rivera, Josh Gonzalez.)



Nativity News

Birthright of Lorain County Fundraiser

Once again, the Altar and Rosary Society is honoring mothers by partnering with Birthright of Lorain County.

Birthright has provided a "wish list" of most-needed items:

- Size 5, 6, and 7 disposable diapers.
- Baby wipes in packs of 50-100
- 0-6 month sleepers or sleep sacks
- Baby towels, burp cloths, baby food
- Or any baby-related item you wish to donate

Monetary donations also appreciated, and can be dropped in the collection basket marked

"A and R Birthright." All checks should be made out to "Altar and Rosary Society," attn: Kathy. Donations will be accepted through June 8. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Holy Communion to the Homebound

If you, or someone you know-whether a friend,



neone you know—whether a friend, family member, or acquaintance—is a member of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in South Amherst and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact Lynn Johnson at 440-752-6519, so that we are able to meet the needs of the homebound..



To be added to St. Joseph and Nativity's weekly emails, simply text SJPA to 84576. We typically only send emails and respect your privacy; text messages will only be sent for urgent situations.

Hospitality Tuesday

NBVM in South Amherst invites all to attend our 8:00 A.M. Mass followed by our Hospitality Tuesday Refreshments in the Parish Hall on **Tuesday, June 3**. Please join us for Mass, refreshments and great fellowship!



Altar and Rosary Meeting

The Altar and Rosary Society will hold their monthly meeting on **Tuesday, June 3, in the Parish Hall, at 6:30 P.M.** Just a reminder, we will not be meeting in July.

First Friday Rosary



NBVM will host its First Friday Rosary on **Friday, June 6, at 11:00 A.M.** All from Nativity and St. Joseph Parishes are invited to attend. A light lunch will be available in the Parish Hall following our prayer time.



Reminder that Pyle South Amherst Road remains closed at the Interstate 80 bridge. When traveling between Nativity Parish and Amherst, use State Rte. 58 and State Rte. 113, or Quarry Rd. and State Rte. 113.

Charismatic Pentecost Mass

Catholic Renewal Ministries will host a Charismatic Pentecost Mass Celebration on **Sunday, June 8**, at St. Julie Billiart Church, 5500 Lear Nagel Rd., North Ridgeville, OH 44039.

The celebration will begin at **2:00 P.M.** with praise and worship, with Fr. Bob Franco as the celebrant. After Mass, there will be an opportunity for individual prayer for healing and a brief time for fellowship. For more information, please contact CRM at 440-944-9445.

All are invited to celebrate Pentecost as a community and join us as we pray—in power—for a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Villa Maria-thon 5K Run and 2-Mile Walk



Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center will sponsor its 15th Annual Villa Maria-thon 5K Run and 2-Mile Walk on

Saturday, June 7, 2025, at 9:00 A.M. at the Villa Maria Community Center, Villa Maria, PA.

The event includes activities for the entire family! Visit <u>https://vmesc.org/</u> for registration and additional information. All proceeds from the event benefit the center's youth and adult programs.

Spread the Word!

Join us for the best part of the summer!

On Sunday, August 3, The FEST returns to the Center for Pastoral Leadership in Wickliffe, bringing thousands together for an unforgettable day filled with faith, family, and fun— all for free!

Explore the breathtaking 56-acre campus of our Diocesan Seminary, where you'll **find moments for prayer**, **reflection, Confession, and Adoration.** Enjoy inspiring music from Maverick City Music, Danny Gokey, Ben Fuller, and Seph Schlueter.

There's something for everyone! Adults can explore engaging exhibits and giveaways, while kids and grandkids can delight in activities like a petting zoo, crafts, and more!









Visit www.theFEST.us for all the details, and don't forget to invite your friends!

Celebrate 50 Years of Marriage!



The Diocese of Cleveland invites all couples married in 1975 to attend the Annual 50th Wedding Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist on **Sunday, June 29, 2025 at 2:00 PM**. Families are welcome. No registration is required. Doors open at 1:30 P.M. A photo opportunity with the Bishop will be available after Mass.

The Office of Marriage and Family Ministry is pleased to provide a letter from Bishop Malesic and a certificate for all couples married 50 years. Attendance at the 50th Wedding Anniversary Mass is not required to receive a certificate. The certificates and letters are compiled **once a month** and must be requested online in advance. For full details, please visit the Diocesan website at: <u>https://www.dioceseofcleveland.org/offices/parish-life/marriage-and-family-ministry/marriage/50th-wedding-anniversary-celebration</u>.

St. Jude Church is Looking for Crafters



SEPTEMBER 27, 2025 FROM 10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR BAKERS, ARTISTS, JEWELRY MAKERS, DIAMOND PAINTERS, WOODWORKERS, GREETING CARD MAKERS, OR ANY KIND OF CRAFTER OR MAKER.

IF YOU ARE A CHURCH GROUP, SPORTS GROUP, SCOUTS, OR ANYTHING IN BETWEEN WITH SOMETHING TO SELL, THIS IS THE PLACE FOR YOU!

THIS WILL BE AN INDOOR VENUE. WE WILL SUPPLY TABLES AND CHAIRS. TABLES ARE \$25. YOU MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE BY CONTACTING DARLENE AT <u>44W168@GMAIL.COM</u> OR 440-371-3888.

PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AT ST. JUDE.

590 POPLAR ST., ELYRIA, OH



Borromeo Seminary Golf Outing

Please join us at Red Tail Golf Club located at 4400 Nagel Rd. in Avon for the 22nd year of our Annual Golf Outing. Golfers will enjoy an

18-hole scramble as well as lunch and dinner at one of Ohio's top-rated courses. Not a golfer? No problem! We'll have plenty for you to enjoy in the clubhouse along with a dinner-only registration option.

Held annually since 2003, the Borromeo Golf Outing has become a highly anticipated day on the links and a vital fundraiser for room and board scholarships that support our first-year Borromeo Seminary students as they discern the priesthood.

This event fills up quickly, so

sign up today at <u>https://clepriesthood.org/event/</u> <u>borromeo-challenge-scholarship-</u> <u>golf-outing-2025/</u>



Use the QR code for more details or to register online.

For sponsorship opportunities or for more information call 440.943.7631

Ascension of the Lord



Donate today using this QR Code



Catholic Charities needs your help in preparing parents and caregivers to welcome and nurture their little ones.



On May 31 and June 1, there will be a follow-up In-Pew Appeal for Catholic Charities at both of our parishes. If you missed the opportunity to give earlier this year, we invite you to consider making a gift today. All donations from this second collection will support the Help Me Grow program, which provides in-home support, education, and essential items—such as diapers and formula—to new parents throughout our diocese. In 2024, this program helped over 400 families begin their parenting journey with confidence and care. The theme of this year's appeal is "*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*." By supporting Help Me Grow, you're helping build stronger families and healthier communities. Thank you for your generosity.



Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord ACTS 1:1-11; PS 47:2-3, 6-9; EPH 1:17-23 or HEB 9:24-28; 10;19-23; LK 24: 46-53

On this Feast of the Ascension, we celebrate Christ's triumphant return to the Father after perfectly accomplishing His mission on earth. But we can also view this Feast as a celebration of the "launch day" of our commissioning as Christ's disciples.

Today's Gospel draws our attention to the clear instructions that Jesus gave His disciples (and to us) just before ascending to the Father: "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

Embracing a stewardship way of life, with its emphasis on the use of time, talent and treasure, helps us to live in such a way that our very lives speak as a witness of the Good News of the Gospel. While we take time to reflect and renew our commitments in these three areas annually as a parish family, it is of great benefit to take some time individually throughout the year to take stock of the commitments we have made — looking at both our strengths and our need for continued growth in each area.

On this Feast of our "launch day," take some time to celebrate your victories as Christ's disciples and renew your commitment to remain faithful to Him and the unique mission He has entrusted to you!



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ATTN: Graduates of Southview High School

Southview High School Class of 1976 — Believe it or not, our 50th Reunion is just around the corner! If you're interested in attending or helping plan this special celebration, we'd love to hear from you. Please reach out to Leisa Steffani Luca at <u>leisaluca@gmail.com</u> or Christine Donat Morse at <u>bjmmorse@yahoo.com</u>. Let's reconnect and make it a reunion to remember!

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 <u>https://myeoffering.com/</u>.

myEoffering DONATE NOW



First Saturday Rosary

First Saturday Rosary will be held at St. Joseph Church on **June 7th at 9:00 A.M.** All are welcome to join us!

St. Joseph and NBVM YouTube Channel

Our YouTube Channel offers the 11:00 A.M. Mass livestreamed, along with past videos and newly added content! We will also be uploading weekly event videos featured during Mass on weekends, as well as new music from our music ministry. Subscribe to us on YouTube at <u>sjandnbvmmedia</u>

Theology on the Rocks West-For Adults 40 and Over



Join us Monday, June 9 from 7-8:30 P.M. Westside Irish American Club located at 8559 Jennings Rd. Olmsted Twp.

Augustinian Priest to Pope! What Is an Augustinian, Anyway?

Dr. Andrew Staron, Associate Professor of Systematic Theology at St. Mary's Seminary and published scholar on the works of St. Augustine, will share insights into what we might expect from our first Augustinian Pope. Come hear his thoughts on how the year 395 AD could impact the year 2025.

Event Details:

- **Cost:** \$15.00 per person (includes light appetizers)
- Cash Bar: Available
- Advance Tickets: Recommended Register at <u>https://www.theologyontherockswest.com</u>
- Doors Open: 6:30 PM

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