

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

May 11, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Easter Sunday

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, MAY 12th Mass at St. Joseph Parish

9:00 A.M. Sandra Balko (Dan Balko)

TUESDAY, MAY 13th Mass at Nativity Parish

8:00 A.M. Lily T. Yuzon (Yuzon Family)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14th No Mass

THURSDAY, MAY 15th Mass at St. Joseph Parish

7:00 P.M. Lucas Del Valle (Gerald and Judith Corman)

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

FRIDAY, MAY 16th Mass at St. Joseph Parish

9:00 A.M. Paul Wohlever (Family)

SATURDAY, MAY 17th

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

4:00 P.M. Frank and Bob Price (Sister and Nephew)

Mass at St. Joseph Parish

5:30 P.M. Dennis G. Stock (Dennis and Jean Stock)

Mass at Nativity Parish

SUNDAY, MAY 18th Masses at St. Joseph Parish

8:30 A.M. People of St. Joseph and Nativity Parishes

11:00 A.M. Blessings Upon the 2025 Graduates 5:00 P.M. Don Volante (The Sliman Family)

.00 F.M. Don Volante (The Sinnan Fainh

Daily Readings

MONDAY, MAY 12th Easter Weekday, Saints Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs; Saint Pancras, Martyr Acts 11:1-18 Jn 10:1-10

TUESDAY, MAY 13th Easter Weekday, Our Lady of Fatima Acts 11:19-26 Jn 10:22-30

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14th St. Matthias, Apostle Acts 1:15-17, 20-26 Jn 15:9-17

THURSDAY, MAY 15th Easter Weekday, Saint Isidore Acts 13:13-25 Jn 13:16-20

FRIDAY, MAY 16th Easter Weekday Acts 13:26-33 Jn 14:1-6

SATURDAY, MAY 17th Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 14:21-27 Rv 21:1-5a Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

SUNDAY, MAY 18th Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 14:21-27 Rv 21:1-5a Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

To view our 11:00 A.M. Mass for the homebound,

visit our YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/

@sjandnbvmmedia8044

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



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. (moves to Mill Hollow beginning May 15)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14th

6:00 P.M. Grief Recovery Program (SJ Social Hall Lobby)

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

THURSDAY MAY 15th

9:00 A.M. Vincentian Meeting (Conference Room)

FRIDAY, MAY 16th

7:00 P.M. St. Joseph School Spring Concert (SJ Church)

SUNDAY, MAY 18th

11:00 A.M. Baccalaureate Mass (SJ Church)

6:00 P.M. Holy Ground Youth Group Meeting

(SJ Social Hall Lobby) Please join us for the

5:00 P.M. Mass before our meeting

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

St. Joseph Parish	
Sunday, April 27	\$ 11,330.25
Eoffering	\$ 2,196.15
Total Sunday Offerings	\$ 13,526.40
Other Collections	
Easter	\$ 1,790.00
Tuition Assistance	\$ 1.00
Maintenance	\$ 263.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$ 79.00
Little Books for Easter	\$ 11.00
Good Friday	\$ 60.00
Nativity Parish	
Saturday, April 19	\$ 1,427.00
Other Collections	
Easter	\$ 1,320.00
Good Friday/Holy Land	\$ 70.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$ 25.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 10.00

Marriage Banns

Hunter Price and Brianna Gendics - I



Fourth Sunday of Easter

Congratulations to Our First Holy Communion and Confirmation Students

First Holy Communion took place on Saturday, April 26 at 10:00 A.M. at St. Joseph Parish and Confirmation was held at Sacred Heart Chapel in Lorain on Monday, April 28 at 6:30 P.M. Please continue to hold these students in prayer as they continue their faith Journey at our parishes.

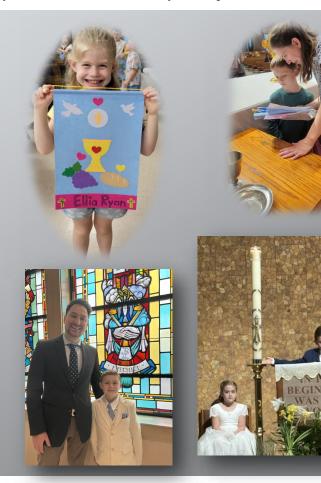
First Holy Communion:

Easton Akosi Alivia Alten Michael Ashker Sebastian Banaszak Michael Bengele Achilles Bibbo Aurora Coughlin Zachary Coughlin Giorgio Dziubek Henry Gabel Caitlin Gendics Maci Gest Peter Griner Isabella Hines Colton Holbrook Jude Hunker Brayden Jama Maxime Jaskiewicz Athena Kacher Cecilia Kalchert

Emmy Krabach Jovi Koepp Gabriel Lauer Beau Leopard Amon Linnell Zayne Marr Alice Miller Alaina Miller Cillian Murphy Reagan Pangersis Clayton Pires Joseph Rabosyuk Nolan Radca Rowan Rua Wesley Rybarczyk Oscar Schmidt Dominik Sloboda Lenna Stigall

Jaxon Waechter Katherine Youngberg Kaylee Youngberg

Ellia Summerville



Confirmation Students:

Cara Karhusz

Emma Karhusz

Elizabeth Augustine Baker Liam Stephen Coughlin Rosalia Catherine DiFilippo Ava Diana Dutton Caleb Anthony Gillies Isabella Juan Diego Hopkins Arthur Philip Neri Jaskiewicz Maddox Francis Kadow Jonathan Carlo Kucbel Nora Gianna Lauer Alessandra Cecilia Sanz-Fekete

Korina Martha Rauch
Sylvia John Linnell
Luca Edward Mattei
Erin Teresa Reitzel
Marcus Ignatius Rhodes
Lola Sebastian Schaaf
Ava Philip Thompson
Chase Anthony Thrasher
Michael Michael Towne
Diem Bernadette Vanderpool



Grief Recovery Program - St. Joseph Parish



If you have been struggling with grief over a loss for an extended period of time—at least one year—please consider participating in the Grief Recovery Program. Grieving is a normal reaction to the losses we face in life. These losses can include death, changes in health or lifestyle, career changes, retirement, and many others.

A recent phenomenon occurred during the Covid pandemic when hospital and nursing home visitations were canceled, and many people died without seeing their loved ones. Funerals were allowed only outdoors. This led to complicated grief. Unresolved grief from any kind of loss can lead to physical health issues, substance use, and depression. This is known as persistent or complicated grief.

This program is based on a 12-step approach to healing. It requires a weekly commitment - up to 12 weeks - a book, and a partner.

To register and/or for questions, call Pam Waite at 440-309-7661 and please leave a message with your phone number.

Catholic Cemeteries Grief Support

You are not alone. The Catholic Cemeteries Association is here to walk with you on your grief journey. We offer free, safe, and compassionate monthly Grief Support Meetings and memorial events throughout the year. The next Grief Support Meeting is scheduled for May 18th at 3:00 P.M., with in-person meetings at six locations throughout the Diocese, or if you prefer, a virtual meeting at 5:00 P.M. This month, we will explore the topics "Father's Day and Grief" and "Mental Health Awareness."

For more details, please visit: <u>Catholic Cemeteries</u> <u>Bereavement</u>. You can also access our local Grief Resource Guide and subscribe to our monthly Bereavement E-Newsletter on this site.

If you have any questions or need further information, please call Rhonda at 216-930-4866. We look forward to supporting you.

"A Closer Walk With Thee" CCA Grief Support E-Newsletter

Our monthly Grief Support E-Newsletter, "A Closer Walk with Thee," offers valuable information similar to what is presented at our monthly meetings, all from the comfort of your home and accessible on any device with email access.

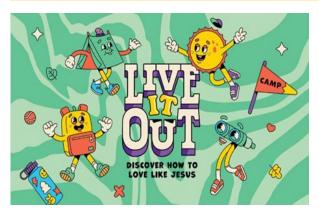
This E-Newsletter is sent out on the first Tuesday of each month to individuals and families interested in our bereavement programs.

To subscribe to this important grief support resource, please complete the sign-up form at https://bit.ly/ccabereavementbulletin or contact Rhonda at rabrams@clecem.org or 216-930-4866.



Fourth Sunday of Easter

VBS is BACK!



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.

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 are welcome. VBS is open to children from St. Joseph, Nativity, and those outside the parishes. There will be only 120 spots available, so register early!

Volunteers are needed and must be VIRTUS-trained. There are so many ways to help, so don't hesitate to reach out to Joy at 440-396-7568.

Registration will open on Friday, May 23, and close on Monday, June 2. You will be able to find the registration link in upcoming bulletins and on the website beginning May 23.



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, www.stjosephamherst.com. 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/KOdErCzcW6JCdSzB6

Happy Mothers Day!

Thank you, Lord, that you fill a mother's heart with love. Thank you for giving her the gift of nurturing her children, of teaching them, of comforting them, for feeding them and making a safe place for them. For guiding them to be all that God has created them to be. Fill every mother with love, wisdom and endurance, with strength and patience and joy. Give them the ability to forgive again and again. Enable them to rely on You and call upon You, because You will give her all she needs.



Today, we pray for those who are grieving the loss of their mother, those who are expecting the birth of their child, those who have lost a child and those who are separated from their mothers

by war or conflict. Lord, give all our mothers special blessings. And most especially Lord, we thank You for our most Heavenly Mother, Mary. Amen

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Join the Universal Church today in observing the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, as we ask the Lord to send laborers into His harvest!

This day is a reminder to pray for and support those discerning the priesthood, religious life, and other vocations in the Church.

Here are three simple ways you can participate:

Pray: Offer a Rosary or a personal Holy Hour for an increase in vocations.

Encourage: Take a moment to affirm someone who may have a vocation to priesthood or religious life.

Listen: Spend time in prayer and silence to hear what God is calling you to.



May we all be open to God's call in our own lives! More vocation information can be found on the counter in the Gathering Area, or use this link to lean more:

 $\underline{https://worlddayofprayerforvocations.com/}$



The Annual Baby Bottle Campaign is back at St. Joseph and Nativity Parishes! If you'd like to participate, bottles are available at both locations. Simply fill a bottle with a check (made payable to *Cornerstone Pregnancy Services*), cash, or coins, and return it by Father's Day, June 15. Prefer a different way to give? Flyers with donation envelopes are also available at both parishes. You can mail in your gift or use the QR code (also shown in the photo above) for a faster and easier way to contribute. Thank you for considering support of this worthy cause!

Nativity News

Altar and Rosary Partners with Birthright of Lorain County for Fundraiser



Once again, the Altar and Rosary Society is honoring mothers by partnering with Birthright of Lorain County, a nonprofit, interdenominational organization that offers support to women and families in need who are challenged by pregnancy.

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

- Size 5, 6, and 7 disposable diapers.
- Baby wipes in packs of 50-100

Other items always appreciated are:

- 0-6 month sleepers or sleep sacks
- Baby towels
- · Burp cloths
- · Baby food
- Or any baby-related item you wish to donate

If you would like to join us in this effort, please place your donation on the back table in Nativity Church, or place a monetary donation in an envelope marked "A and R Birthright / Kathy" and drop it into the collection basket.

All checks should be made payable to "Altar and Rosary Society" Attn: Kathy.

Donations will be accepted from May 10 through June 8.

Your support is greatly appreciated!

NBVM May Crowning A Joyful Celebration of Our Blessed Mother



On Friday, May 2nd, many gathered at NBVM to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Annual May Crowning ceremony. Fr. Tim was in attendance and offered a beautiful and heartfelt homily reflecting on Mary's grace and example.

Alberta Celaschi had the honor of crowning Our Lady. Alberta has been a devoted and active parishioner for many years, generously serving in various ministries within our community.

A total of 34 parishioners attended the celebration, which was followed by a warm and welcoming luncheon. We are grateful to all who helped make this event a meaningful tribute to Our Mother in Heaven.



Road Closure Notice

For those of you traveling to and from Nativity Parish for Adoration, Mass, or other activities, please note the following.

The north-south road connecting Amherst and South Amherst, known as Pyle South Amherst Road in Amherst, and Lake Street in South Amherst, will be closed at the bridge over I-80.

Detour Routes:

- West detour: Use Quarry Road and Route 113.
- East detour: Use Route 58 and Route 113.

Faithfully Fit Yoga Moves to Mill Hollow

Beginning Thursday, May 15th, our yoga sessions will move to the Amphitheater at Mill Hollow Bacon Woods. Join us every Tuesday and Thursday at the usual time for a peaceful practice surrounded by nature. In case of rain, we'll meet under Shelter One, located just across from the Carriage Barn. Come stretch, breathe, and find peace and God's loving grace in this beautiful setting!

ATTENTION: ALL MINISTRY LEADERS



All Ministry Leaders will be contacted in the next few weeks by a member of our Stewardship Council to review their entries in the Annual Stewardship Renewal Guidebook.

Please review the information carefully, so that parishioners interested in joining your ministry can easily contact you with any questions.

Our Guidebook provides information about every ministry to help parishioners prayerfully discern where and how God is calling them to serve.

Let's help them make an informed decision.

Baccalaureate Mass - May 18 at 11:00 A.M.



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.

For questions or more information, contact Diane Syrowski at 440-522-2491 or via email at <u>dianesyrowski@gmail.com</u>

Cemetery Clean-up

Our St. Joseph 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 keep 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 by the groundskeeping crew.
- 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 the groundskeeping crew.
- Winter decorations will be allowed from October 31st to April 1st.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

The FEST 2025

Join us for the 25th Anniversary of The FEST on Sunday, August 3, 2025 in Wickliffe, Ohio.

The FEST is the perfect family day and features some of the best Contemporary Christian Artists such as Maverick City Music, Danny Gokey, Ben Fuller, and Seph Schleuter. There is something for everyone at The FEST from the Marc's Moms' Area, to crafts, games, inflatables, a BMX show, and faith-based activities for the kids. The FEST day concludes with an inspiring outdoor Mass on the grounds of our diocesan seminary at 8:00 P.M. As you celebrate Mother's Day, invite your family to join you at The FEST...a day of faith, family and fun...all for FREE.

For full details, go to: www.theFEST.us



Mental Health: A Journey of Hope



Did you know that May is mental health awareness month?

Mental health touches all of us. Hope can be difficult to find and sustain in these uncertain times, not knowing where to turn or what to do.

Mental Health: A Journey of Hope is a program sponsored by the Diocesan Social Action Office (DSAO) for Lorain and Western Cuyahoga County. Panelists experienced in mental health treatment and recovery will be on hand to address various topics including available resources, cultural influences, and generating HOPE. One parent will also share her family's story. Event is free of charge and all are welcome. Doors open at 6:30 P.M.

Thursday, May 22, 7:00-9:00 P.M. Elyria Catholic High School James E. Terrell Performing Arts Center 725 Gulf Road - Elyria, Ohio

Shroud Encounter with Russ Breault



The Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center in Villa Maria, Pa. will present a program on the Shroud of Turin on Thursday, May 22nd at 7:00 P.M.

This presentation is a fast-moving, big-screen experience, using more than 200 images to explore the profound mystery of the Shroud of Turin. The program is a production of the Shroud of Turin Education Project, Inc., and will be presented by international expert and author, Russ Breault. Mr. Breault has been featured in several national documentaries seen on CBS, EWTN, and The History and Discovery channels.

There is no charge, but pre-registration is requested if attending in person. We are also hosting this program via Zoom for those who wish to join us online. Go to wmesc.org, or call 724-964-8886, for more information or to register.

THEOLOGY ON THE ROCKS WEST For Adults 40 & Over

Join us Monday, May 12 from 7:00-8:30 P.M.



at
Westside Irish American Club
8559 Jennings Rd.
Olmsted Twp.



Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to be with us. This is fulfilled by ordinary people who have received gifts of healing, prophecy and more. Mary Beth Garvin, Director of Encounter School of Ministry, along with her husband Mike Ragon, will share their personal journey. We'll hear testimonies, explore what scripture teaches us and experience a special time of prayer. Prayer teams will be available to pray with us through the intercession of Jesus for physical, mental, and emotional healing.

Join us for an evening of Encounter! The cost is \$15.00 per person. Light appetizers included. Cash Bar is available. **Advance tickets recommended**. Register

in advance: www.theologyontherockswest.com.

Doors open at 6:30pm.

Newman Campus Ministry

Every year in the Diocese of Cleveland, a special collection is taken up in all the parishes to support the ministries of the Office of Catechetical Services. This Diocesan Secretariat focuses on providing guidance and support that promotes the evangelizing mission of the Church through the catechetical efforts of all parishes and Newman Campus Ministries in the Diocese. Ministries that will benefit from this collection include faith formation for adults, teens, and children, and family-based faith formation, as well as the ongoing formation of Parish Catechetical Leaders and catechists as missionary disciples.

Newman Campus Ministries provides opportunities for the students to deepen a relationship with Christ through prayer and worship, community, Bible studies, retreats, and service. Your contribution is an investment in the faith formation of people of all ages throughout the Diocese of Cleveland.



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.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

Anthony Falcone

We pray for his 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.

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 sjandnbvmmedia

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