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Business Manager, Nativity Music Director, Nativity: Ed Klimczak

Office Manager, St. Joseph: Kathy Flynn

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

Joy Rivera

Principal, St. Joseph School and PSR Coordinator: Amy Makruski

Operations Manager, St. Joseph: Bob Kenska

Director of Youth Activities
Joshua Gonzalez

November 30, 2025 First Sunday of Advent

ST. JOSEPH PARISH OFFICE: 440-988-2848 Office hours are Monday - Friday 8:30 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 - 8:30 P.M. Saturday - Individual Reconciliation 11:00 A.M. - Noon

Liturgy Schedule

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1st – Mass at St. Joseph Parish

9:00 a.m. Dave Taylor (Ted and Kathy Litkovitz)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2nd – Mass at Nativity Parish

8:00 a.m. Victor Celaschi

(Derrick and Lynn Johnson)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3rd – No Mass

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4th – Mass at St. Joseph Parish

7:00 p.m. Steve Kessler (Family)

Confessions to follow until 8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5th – Mass at St. Jsoeph Parish

9:00 a.m. Barbara Ann Needham (Daughter, Audrey Korbel)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6th

11:00 a.m. Confessions at St. Joseph Parish

4:00 p.m. People of St. Joseph and Nativity Parishes

Mass at St. Joseph Parish

5:30 p.m. Jeffery Gentile (Gentile Family)

Mass at Nativity Parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th – Masses at St. Joseph Parish

8:30 a.m. Beula Giacobbe (Sons)

11:00 a.m. Mass of Thanksgiving for our Blessings

(George Family)

5:00 p.m. Jim Guidish (Wife, Judi)

Daily Readings

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1st – Advent Weekday Is 4:2-6 / Mt 8:5-11

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2nd – Advent Weekday

Is 11:1-10 / Lk 10:21-24

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3rd

Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

Is 25:6-10 / Mt 15:29-37

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4th – Advent Weekday

Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Is 26:1-6 / Mt 7:21, 24-27

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5th – Advent Weekday

Is 29:17-24 / Mt 9:27-31

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6th

Vigil, Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10 / Rom 15:4-9 / Mt 3:1-12

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th – Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10 / Rom 15:4-9 / Mt 3:1-12

Activity Schedule

MONDAY-FRIDAY

11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration (NBVM)

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

9:30 a.m. Yoga Flow Classes at Nativity Parish Hall

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1st

7:00 p.m. O.C.I.A The Meaning and Mission

of the Church and our Advent Prayer Service.

EVERYONE'S INVITED!

(Nativity Parish Hall)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2nd

8:30 a.m. Hospitality Tuesday following the 8:00 a.m. Mass

(Nativity Church and Hall)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3rd

5:30 p.m. P.S.R. for Kindergarten through Grade 8

(St. Joseph School)

6:30 p.m. Sacred Sisters Meeting

(O.S.E. Community Center)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4th

9:00 a.m. Vincentians Meeting (Conference Room)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5th

11:00 a.m. First Friday Rosary

(Nativity Church S. Amherst)

There will be NO luncheon following

the Rosary today.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6th

9:00 a.m. First Saturday Rosary (St. Joseph Church)

1:00 p.m. First Reconciliation (St. Joseph Church)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th

6:00 p.m. Holy Ground Youth Group (School Gym)

Will meet near the choir before

the 5:00 p.m. Mass.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 8th,

the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Mass Times are as follows:

9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Parish 12:00 p.m. Mass at Nativity Parish 7:00 p.m. Mass at St. Joseph Parish

New Deadline For Bulletin Content

Please make a note that if you would like to submit information for the bulletin, please email it to parishoffice@stjosephamherst.com,

by Noon, NO LATER than 2 Fridays prior to the Sunday you want it to appear.

First Sunday of Advent

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP		
St. Joseph Parish – Sunday, November 16, 2025		
Sunday Offertory	\$	11,580.00
Maintenance Fund	\$	52.00
All Saints	\$	40.00
Flowers and Decorations	\$	408.00
Children's Offertory	\$	2.00
Campaign for Human Development	\$	65.00
Little Books for Advent	\$	27.00
E-Giving – November 11, 2025-November 17, 2025		
Eoffering – Sunday Offertory	\$	4,865.21
Eoffering – Maintenance Fund	\$	101.64
Eoffering – Christmas	\$	24.70
Eoffering – Vincentians	\$	94.70
Eoffering – All Saints Day	\$	334.70
Eoffering – Tuition Assistance	\$	59.70
Eoffering – Campaign For Human Dev.	\$	50.00
Eoffering – Flowers and Decorations	\$	10.00
Eoffering – Religious Retirement Fund	\$	96.94
Nativity Parish		
Saturday, November 15		
Sunday Offertory	\$	2,022.00
Christmas Flowers and Decorations	\$	25.00
Human Development	\$	5.00

REMINDERS TO ALL ST. JOSEPH LECTORS

St. Joseph Lectors, please remember to pick up your 2025-2026 practice book from the back sacristy at your convenience.

FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

Please join us as we pray together the Rosary on Saturday, December 6th, at 9:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Church.

PEW-WASHING FOR THE HOLIDAYS

St. Joseph Sacristans will be washing pews and welcome anyone who would be able and interested in helping us clean the pews before Christmas. Pew-washing will be held on Wednesday, December 10th at 9:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Church.

NOVEMBER CALENDAR RAFFLE **WINNERS**

Below is our list of recent Calendar Raffle winners. Thank you for your participation and support. Congratulations!!!

11/13: Sally Wagner, \$150.00 – sold by the Santiago Family

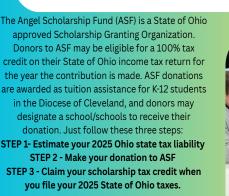
11/14: William Hoff, \$250.00 – sold by Rose Danicki

11/15: Camden Haslage, \$250.00 – sold by Mia Muzik

11/16: Arturo Norris, \$125.00 – sold by the Groves Family

11/17: Kathy Loos, \$100.00 – sold by the Loos Family







**This does not constitute income tax advice. Always consult with a tax professional for information on the impact of any charitable donation.

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ST. JOSEPH GIVING TREE

Our Giving Trees are up and are ready to be made bare! Take a tag from the tree and go shopping! All gifts need to be returned no later than December 14th. Gift cards need to be returned via the collection basket as indicated on the ornament. Bins will be available at each tree for other gifts. Please place your gift and its ornament inside a bag and then place it in the proper bin marked according to the organization you are helping. Please do not attach the ornament by any means (tying, stapling, taping, etc.) to the bag or the gift. The bag will keep both safe in the bin. Also, do not tie the handles of the bag together. Our Parish Community is known for its compassionate generosity which warms our hearts when we are packing and delivering the gifts we collect. Our time is valuable, and deliveries need to be made early enough for the gifts to be distributed to the organizations before Christmas. Attaching the tags or tying the handles means we must undo all the attachments before packing, which takes a considerable amount of time.

If you prefer to shop online, Birthright and Blessing House each have wish lists on Amazon. Simply log into your Amazon account and under the "Accounts and Lists" tab you will see "Find a List or Registry," then you can use the search feature to find Blessing House or Birthright. Check out their websites and you may also find a direct link to their Amazon Wish List.



THE "SACRED SISTERS" WEDNESDAY NIGHT LADIES PRAYER GROUP ON DECEMBER 10TH, 2025, 6:30 P.M.

We will gather to complete our Christmas project for our Homebound parishioners and our nursing home residents. This will be followed by a Christmas gathering of all our Sacred Sisters, or if you are considering joining this women's group, please do join us on Wednesday, December 10th and get to know all of these remarkable ladies.

YOU ARE MOST WELCOME!

The Sacred Sisters then will be taking a Christmas break and will not return till January 7th at the Old Stone Evangelical Community Center with some new and exciting sessions. Keep watching for our announcements in the bulletin.

BLESSING OF AN ADVENT WREATH



The use of the Advent Wreath is a traditional practice which has found its place in the Church as well as in the home. The blessing of an Advent Wreath takes place on the First

Sunday of Advent or on the evening before the First Sunday of Advent. When the blessing of the Advent Wreath is celebrated in the home, it is appropriate that it is blessed by a parent or another member of the family.

Taken from USCCB website

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Response (R/.) Who made heaven and earth.

Then the Scripture, Isaiah 9: (line 1-2 and 5-6) or Isaiah 63 (lines 16-17 & 19) or

Isaiah 64 (lines 2-7) is read:

Reader: The Word of the Lord. R/. Thanks be to God.

With hands joined, the leader says:

Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ: He is Emmanuel,

The hope of the peoples, He is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,

He is the Savior of every nation. Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May He come quickly and not delay. We ask this through Christ our Lord. R/. Amen.



St. Joseph School will once again be hosting their annual Kris Kringle Santa Shop. This is an opportunity for SJS students to do some secret shopping

to purchase gifts for family and friends. We are in need of new/gently used donations such as:

household goods, jewelry, decorations, Christmas items, books, games, toys, pet items, baby items, etc.We are also in need of Christmas gift bags and tissue paper donations as well.Donations can be dropped off BEFORE 12/9/25 at the school entrance, Door A.

NATIVITY'S GIVING TREE



The Giving Tree will be up again at Nativity this Christmas season. Each ornament was handmade by the children and will include age, gender, and wish list items. PLEASE RETURN YOUR GIFTS BY SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13TH (UNWRAPPED AND IN A CHRISTMAS GIFT BAG).

The children would like you to keep the ornaments as they truly appreciate your

generosity to provide them with a blessed Christmas! If you have any questions, contact Diane Kirsch at 440-935-2301.

FIRST FRIDAY ROSARY



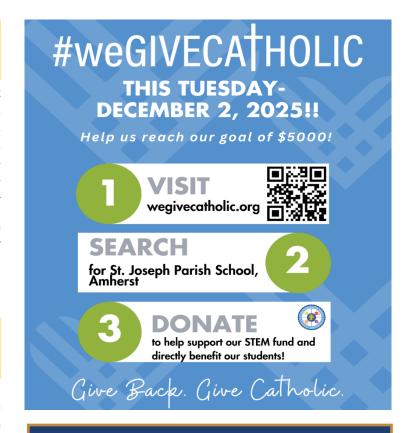
First Friday Rosay will be on Friday, December 5th at Nativity Church at 11:00 a.m. Please note that this month there will be no refreshments or luncheon following the service.

COOKIE BAKERS

Cookie-Bakers of all ages are invited to donate 3 dozen (or more!) of their family favorites to our seminarians. Donations should be packaged in non-returnable containers and left in the Nativity kitchen just before or after the Noon Holy Day Mass on Monday, December 8th. Cookies should be home-baked. They may contain nuts but should not be frosted. For more information, or to let us know you'll be participating, please leave a message for Carrol Wilhelm at 440-647-3251 or email her at proofit1@gmail.com. If you like, you/your family can include a card for the seminarians, but please do not put the cards inside the containers. Thank you!

NBVM HOLY COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

If you or someone 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 or Wendy Rosso at 440-986-0304, 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 send only emails and respect your privacy; text messages will be sent only for urgent situations.

HOSPITALITY TUESDAY

NBVM will host Hospitality Tuesday with refreshments following the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Tuesday, December 2nd in the Parish Hall.

YEAR-END GIVING

In this season of giving, consider making a year-end gift to our parish in gratitude for all the blessings you have received. As you plan to make the most of your charitable donations in 2025, we gratefully accept cash gifts, Qualified Charitable Distributions from your IRA, grants from your donor-advised fund, and appreciated assets such as stocks or bonds. Looking ahead, you might also consider naming our parish as a beneficiary of your IRA. Consult your financial advisor or contact Moira Wopershall at 216-696-6525, ext. 8070.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

Jerry Hughett, the father of Lynn and Dereck Johnson Edith Ziska, mother of Rick Ziska James J. Stock

We pray for their families 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.

THEOLOGY ON THE ROCKS WEST

For Adults 40 & Over



Join us Monday, December 8 7:00-8:30 p.m. Westside Irish American Club

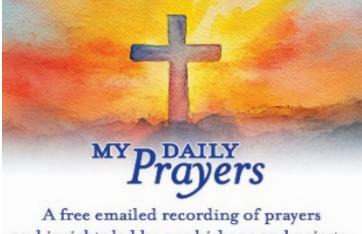
8559 Jennings Road, Olmsted Twp.

Your Brain on Prayer

Dr. Jacqueline Philips-Sabol, Ph.D.; Neuropsychologist & Faith Leader, Director of The Center for Spiritual Healing (Diocese of Erie) will

present scientific data, videos and examples that will explain the effects of prayer & faith on our health, brain function and our lives.

Join us for a theologically enriching evening. 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 6:30 p.m.



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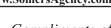
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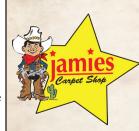
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