



# St. JOSEPH PARISH

## NATIVITY OF THE BVM PARISH

**Pastor, St. Joseph & Pastor, Nativity:**  
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**Worship and Liturgy Coordinator,**  
**St. Joseph:**  
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**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**

**January 4, 2026**  
**The Epiphany of the Lord**

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](http://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](http://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](http://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, JANUARY 5th** – Mass at St. Joseph  
9:00 a.m. For all the Souls in Purgatory  
(Steve Nishanian)

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 6th** – Mass at Nativity Parish  
8:00 a.m. Living and Deceased Members of  
the Fay, Knoble, and Martin Families  
(Jerry and Anne Knoble)

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7th** – No Mass

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 8th** – Mass at St. Joseph  
7:00 p.m. For all the Souls in Purgatory  
(Steve Nishanian)  
Confessions to follow until 8:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 9th** – Mass at St. Joseph  
9:00 a.m. Offered for the Intention of  
Eleanor Nishanian (Husband, Steve)

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 10th**  
11:00 a.m. Confessions at St. Joseph Parish  
4:00 p.m. MaryJo Spain (Family)  
Mass at St. Joseph Parish  
5:30 p.m. Victor Celaschi  
(Derrick and Lynn Johnson)  
Mass at Nativity Parish

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 11th** – Masses at St. Joseph Parish  
8:30 a.m. People of St. Joseph and Nativity Parishes  
11:00 a.m. Georgene Vilagi  
(The Vilagi and Venzel Families)  
5:00 p.m. For the Faithfully Departed –  
All Souls Intention

## Activity Schedule

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

**MONDAY, JANUARY 5th**  
7:00 p.m. O.C.I.A. (Nativity Parish Hall)

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 6th**  
**School Resumes**  
8:30 a.m. Hospitality Tuesday following  
the 8:00 a.m. Mass  
(Nativity Parish Hall)  
9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Flow Classes  
(Nativity Parish Hall)  
7:00 p.m. Men's Group  
(St. Joseph Church Gathering Area)

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7th**  
5:30 p.m. P.S.R. for Kindergarten thru Grade 8  
(St. Joseph School)  
6:30 p.m. Sacred Sisters Meeting  
(O.S.E. Community Center)

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 8th**  
9:00 a.m. Vincentians Meeting (Conference Room)  
9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Flow Classes  
(Nativity Parish Hall)  
6:00 p.m. Scripture Study (St. Joseph Church)

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 11th**  
6:00 p.m. Holy Ground Youth Group (School Gym)  
Will meet near the choir before Mass  
at 5:00 p.m.

## Daily Readings

**MONDAY, JANUARY 5th** – St. John Neumann, Bishop  
1 Jn 3:22 – 4:6 / Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 6th** – St. Andre Bessette, Religious  
1 Jn 4:7-10 / Mk 6:34-44

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7th**  
Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest  
1 Jn 4:11-18 / Mk 6:45-52

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 8th**  
1 Jn 4:19 – 5:4 / Lk 4:14-22

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 9th**  
1 Jn 5:5-13 / Lk 5:12-16

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 10th** – Vigil,  
The Baptism of the Lord  
Is 42:1 – 4, 6-7 / Acts 10:34-38 / Mt 3:13-17

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 11th** – The Baptism of the Lord  
Is 42:1-4, 6-7 / Acts 10:34-38 / Mt 3:13-17

## 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](mailto:parishoffice@stjosephamherst.com),  
by Noon, NO LATER than 2 Fridays prior  
to the Sunday you want it to appear.

## 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](https://www.youtube.com/sjandnbvmmedia).

## The Epiphany of the Lord

### HOLY GROUND YOUTH GROUP

The Holy Ground Youth Group's next meeting is January 11th. All 7th thru 12th graders are invited. Join us for the 5:00 p.m. Mass, at St. Joseph Church. We meet by the choir area. The Holy Ground Youth Group meeting starts after the 5:00 p.m. Mass in the school gym and ends at 7:30 p.m.

### MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will have its first meeting of 2026 on Tuesday, January 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the gathering area of St. Joseph Church. We will be starting the video series "Fearless" by Chris Stefanick. This is a seven-part series, and we will continue to meet on the first Tuesday of each month. If you have been away or have never attended, we invite you to attend and look forward to you joining us. If you have any questions, call Bob at 919-896-5413.

### A NEW SCRIPTURE STUDY

Have you wished you had a better understanding of the Sunday Scripture readings and Mass?

Do you want to be more engaged in Mass?

Join us, starting on Thursday, January 8 at 6:00 p.m. in St. Joseph Church. We will be presenting Dr. Brant Pitre in videos explaining Mass and readings for the following Sunday.

The study will continue on Thursdays and end by 6:45 p.m. This is not a discussion group.

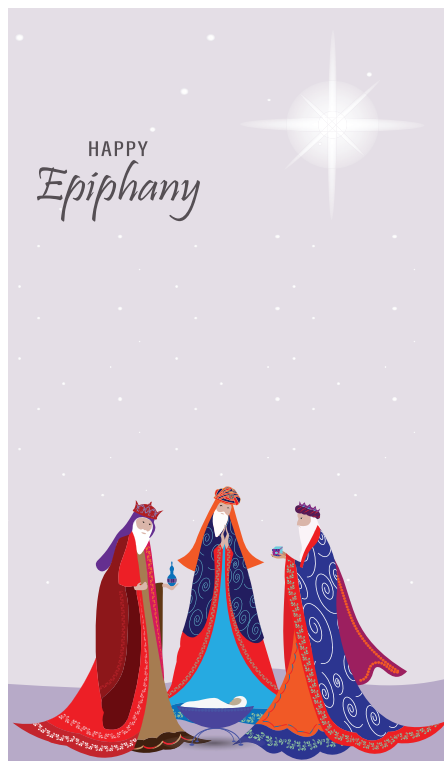
Mass will follow at 7:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing you there. If you have any questions, call Bob at 919-896-5413.

### ST. JOSEPH MASS LIVESTREAMED

To view our 11:00 a.m. 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/>



### ANGEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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**STEP 3 - Claim your scholarship tax credit when you file your 2025 State of Ohio taxes.**



For more information, call or email: 216-902-1312 / [asfinfo@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:asfinfo@dioceseofcleveland.org)



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



# Nativity News

## TUESDAY MASSES AT NATIVITY IN SOUTH AMHERST DURING THE WINTER MONTHS

**Please note:** During the winter months, if the weather is bad and there is NO school for either or both St. Joseph School in Amherst or Firelands Schools in South Amherst due to the weather, then there will be NO Mass at Nativity of the BVM Church in South Amherst on that Tuesday morning.

## DINNERS ON THE GO

### JANUARY 13, 2026 MENU

Pot Roast  
Red Skin Potatoes  
Carrots  
Roll/Dessert  
Soup – Chicken Dumpling

All dinners are \$15.00 and include dessert.

A 16-oz. soup cup is \$5.00.

Additional desserts (if available) are \$2.00 each.

Nativity of the BVM Parish is located at  
333 S. Lake Street, in South Amherst.

Drive-thru pick-up only is from 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Please call Lynn Johnson at 440-752-6519  
to place your order(s).

Please try to place your order by the  
Friday BEFORE a dinner.

Thank you for your continued support!

## 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.



## Catholic Renewal Ministries Traveling Healing Mass

January 16<sup>th</sup> 2026

St. Julie Billiart Parish

Fr. Bob Franco, Celebrant

Praise & worship begins at 7:00

Liturgy begins at 7:30 p.m.

St. Julie Billiart Parish

5500 Lear Nagel Rd.

North Ridgeville, OH 44039

*All are Welcome!*

Healing prayer teams will be available after mass for individual prayer, and there will also be a social after mass.

Come, Sing and Praise God with Joy!

Contact CRM: 440-944-9445



Healing Prayer teams will be available after Mass for individual prayer.

crmweb.org

## UPCOMING CURSILLO WEEKENDS

With great joy we announce the return of the Cursillo Weekends to all. The men's weekend is scheduled for January 8th-11th, 2026 and the women's weekend is scheduled for April 16th-19th, 2026. We are currently accepting applications for any men or women who would like to secure their spot for the weekend. Christ is calling, be still and listen for that call. Please visit the website for more details at <https://lsescursillo.org>. You are also welcome to call Ed Molnar at 440-320-0120.



## MY DAILY Prayers

A free emailed recording of prayers and insights led by our bishops and priests. Take 10 minutes and join us in prayer.



Share the Prayers!

Sign up!

[dioceseofcleveland.org/mydailyprayers](https://dioceseofcleveland.org/mydailyprayers)  
– and encourage others to join us!



## The Epiphany of the Lord

### THEOLOGY ON THE ROCKS WEST



**For Adults 40 & Over**  
**Join us Monday, January 12**  
**7:00-8:30 p.m.**  
**Westside Irish American Club**  
8559 Jennings Road, Olmsted Twp.

#### *Who is C.S. Lewis? Why, as Catholics do we care?*

Dr. Matt Carey Jordan, VP of Academic Affairs at Borromeo & St. Mary Seminary, has led several Lewis-themed pilgrimages to England and taken people behind the scenes to walk in the footsteps of C.S. Lewis. Join us for an enlightening discussion of the man behind *The Chronicles of Narnia* and *The Screwtape Letters*.

Light appetizers included. Cash Bar is available. **Advance tickets recommended. Register in advance: [www.theologyontherockswest.com](http://www.theologyontherockswest.com).** Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

### GRIEF SUPPORT

#### **The Catholic Cemeteries Association's next Sunday Grief Support Group will be Sunday, January 18th.**

In-person will meet at 3:00 p.m., virtual at 5:00 p.m. In a welcoming and supportive setting, find fellowship among others who share their experiences and understand the pain of loss. Meetings are being held on the 3rd Sunday of the month, at no charge to you. Please join us for an hour of listening, healing, and finding comfort with others who understand. For details call Renee at 216-930-4866 or visit [www.clecem.org/Events](http://www.clecem.org/Events).

#### **In Person Locations:**

- All Saints, Northfield, 480 W. Highland Road
- All Souls, Chardon, 10366 Chardon Road
- Holy Cross, Akron, 100 E. Waterloo Road
- Holy Cross, Brookpark, 14609 Brookpark Road
- St. Joseph, Avon, 32789 Detroit Road

Virtual – Please register at <https://clecem.org/Information/Bereavement.aspx>.

### NINE DAYS FOR LIFE NOVENA

Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual Respect Life Novena *9 Days for Life*, Friday, January 16 – Saturday, January 24. Get daily intentions, brief reflections, and more by email or text message. Sign up at [9daysforlife.com](http://9daysforlife.com)!



### SACRED SISTERS

#### **WEDNESDAY NIGHT LADIES PRAYER GROUP**

Will meet on Wednesday, January 7th, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at Old Stone Evangelical Community Center with the following 2026 session of Matthew Kelly's new book *"The Forgotten Way."* This simple and powerful guide will be the start of St. Joseph and Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ladies Prayer Group for the 2026 Session.

*"The Forgotten Way"* is a 21-day journey that will show you the truth of who Jesus says you are, and the Way to power and peace that is available to you right now in every situation. *"A Forgotten Way"* that we all forget every day, but need not anymore. Now is the time to remember. Please remember to pick up your copy of the book that was a gift from the church to our Community of believers. If you would like to join the Ladies Wednesday Night Prayer Group and/or have questions, you can call or text Lesley at 440-371-6418. All are WELCOME!



Keep in touch  
with us via  
email & text

We  love  
having you as part of our flock

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.



Through the Sacrament of Baptism  
St. Joseph Parish welcomes

**Bowie Marie Fox**  
Daughter of Matthew and Alexis Fox

**Ella Amy Fox**  
Daughter of Matthew and Alexis Fox

**Millie Mae Fox-Smith**  
Daughter of William Smith and Marianne Fox

into the fullness of our parish community and we congratulate their parents.

May the Lord walk closely with you in your journey and may He guide your parents in this very important and challenging role they play in your life.

## HOUSE BLESSING FOR THE EPIPHANY

Epiphany (also known as Twelfth Night, Theophany, or Three Kings Day) marks the occasion of a time-honored Christian tradition of “chalking the doors.” The formula for the ritual – adapted for 2026 – is simple: take chalk of any color and write the following above the entrance of your home: 20 + C + M + B + 26. The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi – Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar – who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus mansionem benedicat*: “May Christ bless the house.” The “+” signs represent the cross, and the “20” at the beginning and the “26” at the end mark the year. Taken together, this inscription is performed as a request for Christ to bless those homes so marked and that He stay with those who dwell therein throughout the entire year.

The traditional date of Epiphany is January 6, but in the United States, it is celebrated on the Sunday between January 1 and January 8. However, the chalking of the doors can take place at anytime after the Epiphany Mass.

Why not start a new tradition in your family and celebrate the chalking of the doors and invite Christ to walk with you throughout the new year.



### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

**Deacon John Rivera**  
**Joseph Daniel “Dan” Azok, husband of Donna Azok**  
**Rona Beggs, sister of Michele Garcia**

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.*

## SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

**Dr. & Mrs.**  
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### THANK YOU

This bulletin is furnished to the parish without charge.

The advertisements that appear completely defray all publishing costs, which would otherwise burden the parish.

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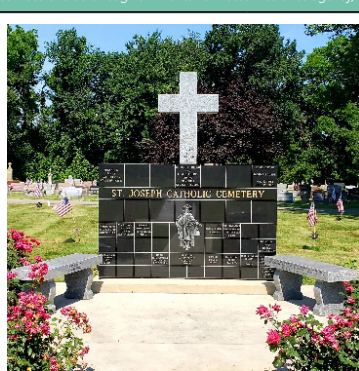
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