



# St. JOSEPH PARISH

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# NATIVITY OF THE BVM PARISH

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

**Business Manager, St. Joseph:  
Sharon Angell**

**Business Manager, Nativity  
Music Director, Nativity:  
Ed Klimeczak**

**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**

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

**Operations Manager, St. Joseph:  
Bob Kenska**

**Director of Youth Activities  
Joshua Gonzalez**

**February 1, 2026  
The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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, FEBRUARY 2nd** – Mass at St. Joseph  
9:00 a.m. Personal Intention

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd** – Mass at Nativity Parish  
8:00 a.m. Louise Meyers (Michelle and Matthew Movon)

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4th** – No Mass

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5th** – Mass at St. Joseph  
7:00 p.m. Walter and Josephine Pool (Family)  
Confessions to follow until 8:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6th** – Mass at St. Joseph  
9:00 a.m. Eileen Coney (Suzanne Strader, Niece)

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7th**  
11:00 a.m. Confessions at St. Joseph Parish  
4:00 p.m. Bud Rainey (Sister and Family)  
Mass at St. Joseph  
5:30 p.m. Ginny Pellittieri (Marrianne and Joe)  
Mass at Nativity Parish

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8th** – Masses at St. Joseph Parish  
8:30 a.m. People of St. Joseph and Nativity Parishes  
11:00 a.m. Mass of Thanksgiving for Ted and Kathy  
Litkovitz – 60th Wedding Anniversary  
5:00 p.m. Richard “Dick” Szalay (Wife, Bre)

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

### St. Joseph Parish – January 4, 2026

|                                     |              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Sunday Offertory                    | \$ 13,043.00 |
| Christmas Offertory                 | \$ 225.00    |
| Immaculate Conception               | \$ 10.00     |
| Maintenance Fund                    | \$ 50.00     |
| Tuition Assistance                  | \$ 185.00    |
| Year-end Contributions              | \$ 50.00     |
| Flowers and Decorations             | \$ 10.00     |
| Little Books for Advent             | \$ 2.00      |
| Campaign for Human Development      | \$ 10.00     |
| Catholic University                 | \$ 110.00    |
| Pro-Life Collection                 | \$ 406.00    |
| Retirement Fund for Religious       | \$ 75.00     |
| El Salvador Missions                | \$ 200.00    |
| <b>E-Giving 12/30/2025-1/5/2026</b> |              |
| Eoffering-Sunday Offertory          | \$ 308.59    |

### Nativity Parish – January 1, 2026

|                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God | \$ 330.00   |
| Sunday Offertory                     | \$ 2,003.00 |
| Christmas                            | \$ 980.00   |
| Retirement Fund for Religious        | \$ 35.00    |
| Christmas Flowers                    | \$ 40.00    |

### January 3, 2026

|                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Sunday Offertory                     | \$ 1,422.00 |
| Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God | \$ 40.00    |
| Pro Life                             | \$ 40.00    |
| El Salvador                          | \$ 10.00    |
| Christmas                            | \$ 100.00   |

### January 11, 2026

|                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Sunday Offertory                     | \$ 1,175.00 |
| Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God | \$ 100.00   |
| Pro Life                             | \$ 30.00    |

## Daily Readings

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd

The Presentation of the Lord

Mal 3:1-4 / Heb 2:14-18 / Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd

St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr; St. Ansgar, Bishop

2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3 / Mk 5:21-43

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4th

Weekday

2 Sm 24:2, 9-17 / Mk 6:1-6

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5th

St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12 / Mk 6:7-13

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6th

St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

Sir 47:2-11 / Mk 6:14-29

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7th

Vigil, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 58:7-10 / 1 Cor 2:1-5 / Mt 5:13-16

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8th

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 58:7-10 / 1 Cor 2:1-5 / Mt 5:13-16

## Activity Schedule

### MONDAY-FRIDAY

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

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd

7:00 p.m. O.C.I.A. (Nativity Parish Hall)

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd

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)

6:30 p.m. Altar and Rosary Society Rosary followed by Monthly Meeting (Nativity Parish Hall)

6:30 p.m. Men's Group (St. Joseph Church Gathering Area)

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4th

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, FEBRUARY 5th

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)

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6th

11:00 p.m. First Friday Rosary, light luncheon to follow (Nativity Parish Hall)

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7th

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

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8th

6:00 p.m. No Holy Ground Youth Group Session tonight

## The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### “ANSWER THE CALL”

Diocese of Cleveland  
Catholic Men’s Fellowship Conference  
Saturday, March 7, 2026



#### FEATURED SPEAKERS:



Pete Burak  
Vice President of  
Renewal Ministries



Bishop Edward C. Malesic  
Bishop of Diocese of Cleveland  
Speaking at 3:00 PM  
Celebrating Mass at 4:00 PM



Father Damian Ference  
Diocese of Cleveland  
Vicar for Evangelization

#### OUTSTANDING MUSIC • SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION • MASS Continental Breakfast and Lunch

HOLIDAY INN ROCKSIDE  
6001 Rockside Road,  
Independence, OH

DIRECTIONS: Northeast corner of the  
intersection of Rt. 77 & Rockside Road  
at the Rt. 480 Interchange.

AGAIN IN 2026....50/50 Raffle  
& T-Shirt Sale  
Help to defray ever-increasing costs.  
BRING CASH!

Registration: 8:00 am  
Mass: 4:00 pm  
Adjourn: 5:00 pm



Registration deadline is February 23, 2026  
For info or to register, go to [www.cmfneo.com](http://www.cmfneo.com)  
Need help? Call 216-633-3502



#### ANGEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Turning taxes into tuition

The Angel Scholarship Fund (ASF) is a State of Ohio approved Scholarship Granting Organization.

Donors to ASF may be eligible for a 100% tax credit on their State of Ohio income tax return for the year the contribution is made. ASF donations are awarded as tuition assistance for K-12 students in the Diocese of Cleveland, and donors may designate a school/schools to receive their donation. Just follow these three steps:

**STEP 1 - Estimate your 2025 Ohio state tax liability**

**STEP 2 - Make your donation to ASF**

**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.

### MEN'S GROUP

Our next Men's Group meeting will be on Tuesday, February 3rd at 6:30 p.m. (please note the time change) in the Gathering Area of the Church. We will continue the “Fearless” series by Chris Stefanic and Real Life Catholic. We look forward to seeing you there.

## 2026 Appeal

Many parishioners received letters in January, inviting their support of the Appeal. Please pray for the good work of Catholic Charities and make a pledge today. Your donation makes a difference!

Your support of the 2026 Catholic Charities Appeal will help us serve those individuals who are most in need and most vulnerable. From Matthew’s Gospel: Whatever you did for the least of these, you did it for me. When we feed the hungry, take care of the sick, and welcome the stranger, we are also serving Jesus Himself.

We appreciate your donation and will take special care to use it wisely in providing essential programs and services to people in need throughout all eight counties of the Diocese of Cleveland. We invite you to view stories of inspiration and more information at [CatholicCommunity.org/2026Appeal](http://CatholicCommunity.org/2026Appeal).

**Yours are the hands with which  
He blesses all the world.**

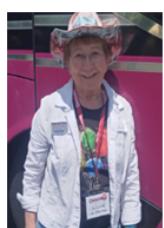


### Washington, DC Bus Trip Celebrate 250 Years October 2-5, 2026

Cost is \$784 per person for Double Occupancy

\$1,163 per person for Single Occupancy

\$100 Downpayment due by February 14



Package includes three nights lodging in Washington, DC Metro area. Three breakfasts, three dinners, tram ride at Arlington. Visit to many memorials, Smithsonian Institute, Basilica of the National Shrine. Includes luggage handling, taxes and meal gratuities, **and more!** Contact Sr. Cordell, at St. Peter Parish, Lorain. 440-282-9103 ext. 112.



### FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY AT ST. JOSEPH

First Saturday Rosary will be held at St. Joseph Church on Saturday, February 7th at 9:00 a.m. Please join us as we pray together the most Holy Rosary.

## 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 on Thursday night at 6:00 p.m. in St. Joseph Church. We will be presenting Dr. Brant Pietre in videos explaining Mass and readings for the following Sunday.

The study will continue on Thursdays evenings 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.

## MINISTRY LEADER NEEDED FOR THE MISSION TEAM



The Mission Team is currently looking for a new Ministry Leader. After many years of service, John Sabo is relinquishing his role as Ministry Leader. Those of you who have participated in this ministry have many wonderful, heartfelt experiences of meeting and becoming friends with people both here and in El Salvador. Please pray about taking on this position so that this ministry can continue, grow and give others the Spiritual and Religious experiences that are the foundation of this ministry. John will be leaving his position by April 2026.

If you are interested or have any questions about what this position entails, call John at 440-984-4429 or email him at [StJosephmissionteam@gmail.com](mailto:StJosephmissionteam@gmail.com). John is willing to help in the transition of leadership.

## FREEWILL WRITING RESOURCE

We've partnered with FreeWill to make it easier for our community to create their Catholic legacy. Using this online tool, you can write a legal will for free and protect your blessings, while including the necessary language to create an eternal legacy gift in your plans. This resource takes 20 minutes or less and can be paired with an attorney for more complex estates. We invite you to visit [www.catholiccommunity.org/freewill](http://www.catholiccommunity.org/freewill) to write a free, legal will.

## 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 on that Tuesday morning.

## DINNERS ON THE GO

### FEBRUARY 10, 2026 MENU

Breaded Pork Chops  
Cabbage and Noodles  
Applesauce  
Roll/Dessert  
Soup – Loaded Baked Potato  
Dinners are \$15.00 each 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 pickup only is from 5:00-6:00 p.m.  
on the day of the dinner.

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.

Orders placed AFTER Friday cannot be guaranteed.

Thank you for our continued support!

## ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Altar and Rosary Society membership has begun with the Stewardship program. Our yearly dues are generally collected January through March 1st. If you would like to join the Altar and Rosary Society and did not receive an Altar and Rosary envelope with your January donation envelopes, you can place your \$5.00 dues in an envelope with the following information:

- Your Name, Address, City, Zip Code
- Phone Number (include 440 or area code), cell phone numbers enable us to contact you if a storm is cancelling our meeting.
- Email Address, Birthday, and Home Parish

Drop it in the collection basket, or give it to one of the Society officers (Nancy Ann Smith, Carol Brewer, Michaelen Udovich, or Kathy Rokasy) OR mail it to Nativity BVM – Altar and Rosary Society, P. O. Box 767, Amherst, OH 44001.

We'd love to have you join us!

## 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.

## FIRST FRIDAY ROSARY AT NATIVITY BVM

Nativity Altar and Rosary Society will be hosting their First Friday Rosary on Friday, February 6, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. in Nativity's church. All are welcome. A light luncheon will follow in the Parish Hall.

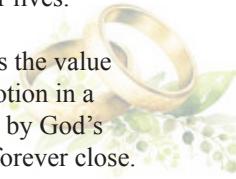
## The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### HAPPY 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Ted and Kathy Litkovitz who will be celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary on February 5th.

Wishing you both joy and peace on this special occasion in your lives.

Your relationship teaches us the value of trust, patience and devotion in a longterm marriage, guided by God's Grace. May your hearts stay forever close.



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.

### YEARLY CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

**Year-end Statements are available.** If you are a St. Joseph Parishioner and would like a Contribution Statement, please call the parish office at 440-988-2848 and your name will be added to our list. If you are a Nativity BVM parishioner and would like a Contribution Statement, please email the parish office at [nativitysouthamherst@gmail.com](mailto:nativitysouthamherst@gmail.com) and include your name, address, and envelope number.

Or you can use the form below and drop it in the offertory basket or mail it in to the respective Parish Office.

St. Joseph Parish  
200 St. Joseph Dr.  
Amherst, OH 44001

Nativity B.V.M. Parish  
P. O. Box 767  
Amherst, OH 44001

#### Yearly Contribution Statement

St. Joseph Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Nativity B.V.M. Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### THE CLEVELAND GUILD OF THE CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

The Cleveland Guild of the Catholic Medical Association is sponsoring a conference entitled, "Innovative Approaches to Compassionate Healthcare: The Ministry of Mercy" on Saturday February 28, 2026, at St. Albert the Great Parish Life Center. Bishop Edward C. Malesic will celebrate the opening conference Mass at 8:00 a.m. Medical education credits are available for healthcare professionals, and the conference is also open to anyone interested who is not in healthcare. Click [here](#) to learn more about the conference and to register. For online registration assistance, please contact Debra Sudy, 216-696-6525, ext. 3670. For questions about the conference, call 216-312-4172.

### THEOLOGY ON THE ROCKS WEST

For Adults 40 & Over  
Join us Monday, Feb. 9  
7:00-8:30 p.m.  
Westside Irish American Club  
8559 Jennings Road, Olmsted Twp.



*The Most Reverend Edward C Malesic, JCL, of the Diocese of Cleveland, will offer a Lenten Reflection to help us prepare our hearts and minds for the upcoming Season of Lent. Bishop Malesic also looks forward to hearing from you and engaging in conversation.*

Join us for a theologically enriching evening with our Bishop as we reflect, listen and grow together in faith. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Light appetizers included. Cash Bar is available. **Advance tickets highly recommended.** Register in advance: [www.theologyontherockswest.com](http://www.theologyontherockswest.com). Doors will open at 5:45 p.m. as we anticipate larger attendance.

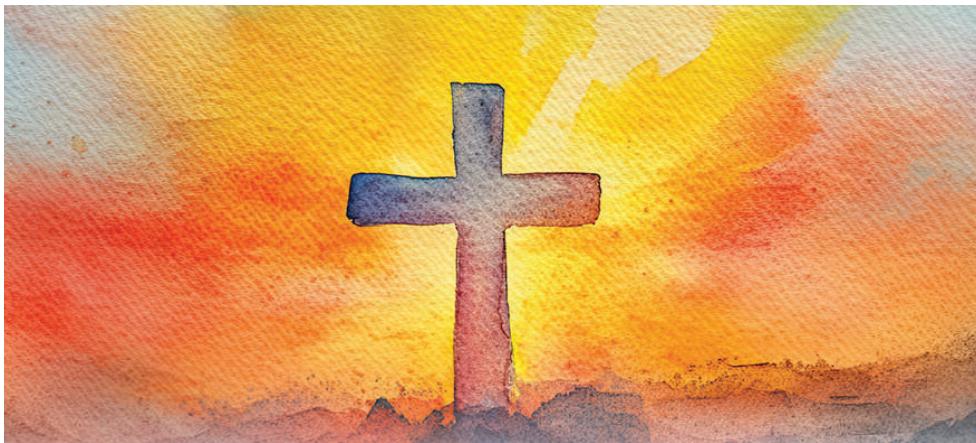
### CATHOLIC GRIEF SUPPORT

**The Catholic Cemeteries Association's** next Sunday Grief Support Group will be Sunday February 15th. **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, Brook Park | 14609 Brookpark Road
- St. Joseph, Avon | 32789 Detroit Road

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



## 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.



*Sign up!*  
[dioceseofcleveland.org/mydailyprayers](http://dioceseofcleveland.org/mydailyprayers)  
– and encourage others to join us!

*Share the  
Prayers!*



**ST. JOSEPH MASS  
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To view our 11:00 a.m. Mass for the  
homebound, visit our  
  
YouTube Channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/@sjandnbvmmmedia8044streams>  
  
Or you can use the button on our  
website: <https://stjosephamherst.com/>

### 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/>.

We  love  
having you as part of our flock



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with us via  
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- Choose to get updates from groups you're interested in
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Todd Bernard, D.M.D.



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### ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CEMETERY

Secure your loved one's resting place today.  
Call Kathy at the Church Office for gravesite and cremains burial information.

**440-988-2848**

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