



# 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 8, 2026**  
**The Fifth 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 9th** – Mass at St. Joseph Parish  
9:00 a.m. Special Intention

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10th** – Mass at Nativity Parish  
8:00 a.m. The Wizner Family (Carol Zellmer)

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11th** – No Mass

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12th** – Mass at St. Joseph Parish  
7:00 p.m. Sr. Stefana (A Friend)  
Confessions to follow until 8:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY FEBRUARY 13th** – Mass at St. Joseph Parish  
9:00 a.m. Len Findish (The Zvosecz Family)

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14th**  
11:00 a.m. Confessions at St. Joseph Parish  
4:00 p.m. Margaret Lavish (Daughters)  
Mass at St. Joseph Parish  
5:30 p.m. Michael Gainok (Will and Cheryl Shaffer)  
Mass at Nativity Parish

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15th** – Masses at St. Joseph Parish  
8:30 a.m. People of St. Joseph and Nativity Parishes  
11:00 a.m. Richard Savinsky (Len and Kathy Logar)  
5:00 p.m. Louise Sroka (Kim)

## Daily Readings

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9th** – Weekday  
1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13 / Mk 6:53-56

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10th** – St. Scholastica, Virgin  
1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30 / Mk 7:1-13

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11th** – Our Lady of Lourdes  
1 Kgs 10:1-10 / Mk 7:14-23

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12th** – Weekday  
1 Kgs 11:4-13 / Mk 7:24-30

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13th** – Weekday  
1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19 / Mk 7:31-37

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14th** –  
Vigil, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Sir 15:15-20 / 1 Cor 2:6-10 / Mt 5:17-37 or  
5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15th** – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Sir 15:15-20 / 1 Cor 2:6-10 / Mt 5:17-37 or  
5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

## Activity Schedule

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

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9th**  
7:00 p.m. O.C.I.A. – Reconciliation, a Sacrament of Healing –  
Conscience, Forgiveness, and Conversion.  
And “The Lump” video.  
EVERYONE IS INVITED! (Nativity Parish Hall)

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10th**  
9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Flow Classes (Nativity Parish Hall)  
5:00 p.m. Dinners on the Go – Drive-thru pickup only  
(Nativity Parish)  
7:00 p.m. SJS Parent Club Meeting (St. Joseph School MPR)

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11th**  
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 12th**  
9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Flow Classes (Nativity Parish Hall)  
St. Joseph School One Hour Early Dismissal K-8  
2:00 p.m. St. Joseph School Winter Conferences  
6:00 p.m. Scripture Study (St. Joseph Church)

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13th** – No School

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15th**  
6:00 p.m. Holy Ground Youth Group (School Gym)  
(We will meet near the choir for the  
5:00 p.m. Mass prior to our session.)

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

### *St. Joseph Parish –January 11, 2026*

Sunday Offertory	\$ 11,940.00
Children's Offertory	\$ 2.00
Christmas Offertory	\$ 945.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 10.00
Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God	\$ 125.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 281.00
Tuition Assistance	\$ 170.00
Year-end Contributions	\$ 571.00
Catholic University	\$ 14.00
Pro-Life Collection	\$ 392.00
Vincentians	\$ 8,516.00

### *E-Giving 1/6/2026 – 1/12/2026*

Eoffering-Sunday Offertory	\$ 2,209.39
Christmas	\$ 1,298.20
Vincentians	\$ 19.41
Maintenance Fund	\$ 126.94
Year-end Contribution	\$ 200.00
Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God	\$ 400.00
Tuition Assistance	\$ 59.70

### *Nativity Parish – January 18, 2026*

Sunday Offertory	\$ 1,642.00
Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God	\$ 148.00
Pro-Life	\$ 15.00
Catholic University	\$ 20.00

## The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### 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 nights 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 Thursday 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.

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES ANNUAL IN-PEW APPEAL



The 2026 Catholic Charities Appeal will take place next weekend in our parishes. This year's Appeal theme is "Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world."

Your generous support will bring peace to the lives of others, to offer dignity, possibilities and companionship to those who are most vulnerable.

Our in-pew commitment process will take place next weekend, February 14-15. St. Joseph Parish goal is \$133,170.00. Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish goal is \$16,015.00. All who have not received the mailing from Bishop Malesic, or have not had a chance to respond to it, will be asked to consider making a generous pledge to support the ministries and services provided by Catholic Charities. If you have received the mailing, please respond generously to it. No need to fill out an additional envelope this year, stating you have already given. 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.**



Join us **February 27<sup>th</sup> AND March 27<sup>th</sup>** (Fridays), at Nativity BVM Church (333 S. Lake Street, S. Amherst) for a **Lake Erie Perch Fish Fry!** Dinners will be available for dine-in OR carry-out from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. The cost of each dinner is \$25.00.



#### Choice 1 The Lake Erie Perch Dinner

4 Pieces of fried Lake Erie Perch & French Fries  
Coleslaw / Roll / Butter  
Piece of Cake  
\$25



#### Choice 2 The Shrimp Dinner

10 Pieces of fried Shrimp  
French Fries  
Coleslaw / Roll / Butter  
Piece of Cake  
\$25



#### Choice 3 The Combo Dinner

2 pieces of Lake Erie Perch & 5 Shrimp  
French Fries  
Coleslaw / Roll / Butter  
Piece of Cake  
\$25

The Kids Dinner (10 yrs. old & under) is \$5 for 1 slice of cheese pizza w/a bag of potato chips & a slice of cake.

Coffee, Hot Tea, Iced Tea, Tap Water & Lemonade will be provided with purchased meal(s). Cans of pop & bottled water will be available for \$1 each while supplies last.

*No alcohol is permitted on the premises.*

This is a dine-in or carry-out event. No "drive-thru" is available.

Call ahead orders are appreciated but not required to Lynn Johnson at 440-752-6519. Pay by check to Nativity BVM or cash (*preferred*) at the door.

*We look forward to seeing you there!  
Lovingly, Your Dinners on the Go Crew*



### ANGEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND CHOOSE TO SUPPORT YOUR



#### CLAIM YOUR TAX CREDIT IN THREE EASY STEPS

##### 1 REVIEW YOUR TAX LIABILITY FROM LAST YEAR

Use this to estimate tax liability for the current year. The maximum tax credit is \$750 per tax payer (\$1,500 for married filing jointly).

##### 2 DONATE AND DESIGNATE YOUR CONTRIBUTION

You contribution can be designated to a school of your choice.  
\*Contribution can be any amount. The amount of the tax credit cannot exceed the amount of your tax liability.

##### 3 CLAIM YOUR TAX CREDIT

A tax receipt will be provided that documents your Angel Scholarship Fund contribution. This receipt is then submitted with the Ohio 1040 tax form.



216-902-1312  
[ASINFO@DIOCESEOFCLEVELAND.ORG](mailto:ASINFO@DIOCESEOFCLEVELAND.ORG)  
[CATHOLICCOMMUNITY.ORG/ANGEL](http://CATHOLICCOMMUNITY.ORG/ANGEL)

## 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 pick-up 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!

*Please Note: There will be no “Dinners on the Go” on February 24th due to the Fish Fry on Friday, February 27th.*

## 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 would 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.

**Sacred Sisters Wednesday Night Ladies Prayer Group:** Sacred Sisters will not meet on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 18th, but will start back up on Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 6:30 at Old Stone Evangelical Community Center with the following book / session “33 Days to Merciful Love” by Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC.

This 5 week session opens hearts, including all of us, to a fuller meaning of Divine Mercy  
(with the help of St. Therese of Lisieux)

- 1: “Keep Trusting” Trust is an attitude of faith expressed by praising and thanking God for everything with a smile because we truly believe in God’s goodness.
- 2: “Keep Trying” Keep trying to grow in holiness every day.
- 3: “Keep Loving” Keep doing small things with great love.  
Have extraordinary love in ordinary things!

You will need to purchase a book for this session. If you would like to join the Ladies Wednesday Night Prayer Group, purchase a book and/or have questions you can call or text Lesley 440-371-6418. No Meeting also, on April 1st., Wednesday Holy Week. All our WELCOME!!!



### Instructional Basketball Sign-Up Grades K-2



St. Joseph CYO is once again holding an instructional basketball program for students in grades K-2 this winter. This year we are pleased to announce that Chase Stigall of T2W Hoops will be running the program. Please complete the information below, detach, and return to the SJS school office to register your child. If your student doesn't attend SJS it can be turned in at PSR, dropped off at SJS between 7:00 and 3:00 any school day, or mailed to 175 St. Joseph Drive.

**Cost: \$75**

Sessions will be held on the Tuesdays and Thursdays in March-  
3/3, 3/5, 3/10, 3/12, 3/17, 3/19, 3/24, 3/26, and 3/31

Times for the sessions will be as follows:

Kindergarten from 5:45-6:45 and 1st-2nd from 6:45-7:45

\*\*In the event that school is closed on one of these dates, the basketball session will also be canceled.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt size      YS    YM    YL    YXL      AS    AM    AL    AXL

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email (one that you check regularly, this will be the main form of communication)

Please enclose the \$75 fee (cash or check made out St. Joe's Athletic Association/SJAA) and return it with your registration paper.

**Forms are due by Wednesday, February 11, 2026.**

## The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### 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 CEMETERIES 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>

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.

### ST. JOSEPH MASS LIVESTREAMED

To view our 11:00 a.m. Mass for the homebound, visit our YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@sjandnbvmmmedia8044/streams>

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

### GROWING THROUGH GRIEF

If you have lost a loved one and are looking for a place of understanding and support, you are invited to "Growing Through Grief," an 8-week session offered by the St. Ladislas bereavement group. Beginning February 18, the weekly program provides a safe, compassionate space to share, listen, and gently move forward together. Sessions begin February 18 and are offered at no cost. The group meets at 2345 Bassett Road in Westlake. Email [pdubois@stlads.org](mailto:pdubois@stlads.org) with questions or to register.

### A FREE WILL WRITING RESOURCE

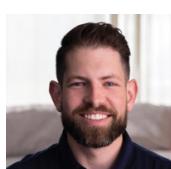
We've partnered with FreeWill to make it easier for our community to create their Catholic legacy. Using this online tool, you can write a legal will for free and protect your blessings, while including the necessary language to create an eternal legacy gift in your plans. This resource takes 20 minutes or fewer 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.

### "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





**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

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

**James M. Malick**

**Catherine Katiba, Mother of Debbie Albrecht**  
**Evelyn Kruse**  
**Raynelle Galvin**

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.*



COME EXPERIENCE

**THE ANSWER**

**MARCH 13, 14 | 7:30PM**  
Solid Rock Community Church  
680 Abbe Rd N  
Elyria, Ohio

**MARCH 20, 21 | 7:30PM**  
St. Joseph Parish  
200 Saint Joseph Drive  
Amherst, Ohio 44001

**MARCH 27, 28 | 7:30PM**  
Saint Angela Merici  
20970 Lorain Road  
Fairview Park, Ohio

EVENT COST: **FREE** | PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION

**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.



**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 [sjandnbvmmmedia](https://www.youtube.com/sjandnbvmmmedia).

**SPONSOR OF THE WEEK**

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Financial Advisor

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Amherst, OH 44001

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Fax 866-532-0585

[lisa.kopco@edwardjones.com](mailto:lisa.kopco@edwardjones.com)  
[edwardjones.com/lisakopco](http://edwardjones.com/lisakopco)

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[www.SomersAgency.com](http://www.SomersAgency.com)



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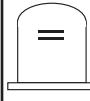
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