



# St. JOSEPH PARISH

## 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 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**

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

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

**Director of Youth Activities**  
**Joshua Gonzalez**

**March 8, 2026**  
**The Third Sunday of Lent**

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, MARCH 9th** Mass at St. Joseph  
9:00 a.m. Personal Intention
- TUESDAY, MARCH 10th** Mass at Nativity Parish  
8:00 a.m. Arlene and Fritz Knoble  
(Will and Cheryl Shaffer)
- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11th** – No Mass
- THURSDAY, MARCH 12th** – Mass at St. Joseph  
7:00 p.m. Mary Alice Knipp (Family)  
Confessions to follow until 8:30 p.m.
- FRIDAY, MARCH 13th** – Mass at St. Joseph  
9:00 a.m. John and Helen Spain (Family)
- SATURDAY, MARCH 14th**  
11:00 a.m. Confessions at St. Joseph Parish  
4:00 p.m. John Higgins (Mother and Family)  
Mass at St. Joseph Parish  
5:30 p.m. Ken M. Urig, Jr. (Kathy Urig)  
Mass at Nativity Parish
- SUNDAY, MARCH 15th** – Masses at St. Joseph Parish  
8:30 a.m. Frank Siwierka and Diane Benton  
(The Siwierka Family)  
11:00 a.m. People of St. Joseph and Nativity Parishes  
5:00 p.m. Joe Sroka (Norm, Alan, and Jayne)

## Activity Schedule

- MONDAY-FRIDAY**  
11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration (NBVM)
- MONDAY, MARCH 9th**  
7:00 p.m. O.C.I.A. – Holy Orders, a Sacrament of Service –  
What is the Sacrament, and what are presbyters  
and deacons? A tour of the Church.  
EVERYONE IS INVITED!  
(Nativity Parish Hall)
- TUESDAY, MARCH 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, MARCH 11th** – No PSR tonight  
6:30 p.m. Sacred Sisters Meeting tonight  
(O.S.E. Community Center)  
7:00 p.m. Pre-Baptism Class (St. Joseph School)
- THURSDAY, MARCH 12th**  
9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Flow Classes (Nativity Parish Hall)  
6:00 p.m. Scripture Study (St. Joseph Church)  
7:00 p.m. Mission Team Meeting (Nativity Parish Hall)
- FRIDAY, MARCH 13th** – No School  
7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross  
(Nativity Parish)
- SUNDAY, MARCH 15th** – No Holy Ground Youth Group Tonight

## Daily Readings

- MONDAY, MARCH 9th** – Lenten Weekday  
St. Frances of Rome, Religious  
2 Kgs 5:1-15ab / Lk 4:24-30
- TUESDAY, MARCH 10th** – Lenten Weekday  
Dn 3:25, 34-43 / Mt 18:21-35
- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11th** – Lenten Weekday  
Dt 4:1, 5-9 / Mt 5:17-19
- THURSDAY, MARCH 12th** – Lenten Weekday  
Jer 7:23-28 / Lk 11:14-23
- FRIDAY, MARCH 13th** – Lenten Weekday  
Hos 14:2-10 / Mk 12:28-34
- SATURDAY, MARCH 14th** – Vigil, Fourth Sunday of Lent  
1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a / Eph 5:8-14 /  
Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
- SUNDAY, MARCH 15th** – Fourth Sunday of Lent  
1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a / Eph 5:8-14 /  
Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

<b>St. Joseph Parish – February 22, 2026</b>	
Sunday Offertory	\$ 15,748.92
Children's Offertory	\$ 2.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 417.00
Tuition Assistance	\$ 50.00
Eastern Europe Collection	\$ 94.00
Home Missions	\$ 211.00
Little Books for Lent	\$ 59.00
Vincentians	\$ 1,175.00
<b>Ash Wednesday – February 18, 2026</b>	
St. Elizabeth Center	\$ 8,201.38
<b>E-Giving – February 17-23, 2026</b>	
Eoffering – Sunday Offertory	\$ 3,077.76
Eoffering – Christmas	\$ 24.70
Eoffering – Vincentians	\$ 15.00
<b>Nativity Parish –</b>	
<b>February 8, 2026</b>	
Sunday Offertory	\$ 1,359.00
Eastern Europe	\$ 10.00
<b>February 15, 2026</b>	
Sunday Offertory	\$ 2,764.00
<b>February 18, 2026</b>	
Ash Wednesday – St. Elizabeth Center	\$ 575.00
<b>February 22, 2026</b>	
Sunday Offertory	\$ 1,064.00
Eastern Europe	\$ 80.00
Heavy Maintenance	\$ 1,100.00

## **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/>

## The Third Sunday of Lent

### FIRST COMMUNION PARENT MEETING

There is a meeting for Parents or Guardians of students who will be making their First Communion this year on Sunday, March 8th, following the 11:00 a.m. Mass in St. Joseph Church.

### PRE-BAPTISM CLASS

St. Joseph Parish will be holding a Pre-Baptism Class for any parent wishing to have their child baptized. The class will take place on Wednesday, March 11th, at 7:00 p.m. in St. Joseph School. You must register with the parish office before attending the class. Please call 440-988-2848 to register for the class and to schedule your child's Baptism.

### REGISTER YOUR CHILD TODAY



St. Joseph School is committed to integrating the Catholic faith and culture to help students develop into mature, Christian persons, whose lives modeled on Christ and His gospel message. Check out our St. Joseph Parish School and register your child for the 2026-2027 academic year. Registration is now open, visit our website for details at [www.stjosephamherst.com](http://www.stjosephamherst.com). Registration forms can be found on the admissions page of the school website.

### MISSION TEAM MEETING

You are warmly invited to join our upcoming **Mission Team Meeting**, where we'll come together to share updates, align on our goals, and plan the next steps for our mission work.

**Date:** March 12, 2026, Thursday

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** Nativity Blessed Virgin Mary  
333 South Lake Street  
South Amherst, Ohio

Your insights and participation are essential as we continue to serve with purpose and unity.

### 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 Pitre 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.

### ELYRIA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL Class of '76

Save the Date  
9-26-26

The class of 1976

will celebrate our 50th reunion at the Foundry  
(located at 525 Broad St.)

In fact, we hope to make a weekend of it so  
please keep it open for a Friday football game,  
Saturday reunion, and Sunday brunch.

More details to come,

please send questions & RSVP to  
[EC76reunion@gmail.com](mailto:EC76reunion@gmail.com)



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.

# 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 on that Tuesday morning.

### “DINNERS ON THE GO”

#### MARCH 10, 2026 MENU

Salisbury Steak  
Egg Noodles  
Mixed Vegetables  
Roll/Dessert  
Soup – Ham and Bean

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 March 24th due to the Fish Fry on  
Friday, March 27th.*

### HOSPITALITY TUESDAY

Being there is was Mass on Tuesday, March 3rd, Hospitality Tuesday was moved to Tuesday, March 10th at 8:30 a.m. in Nativity’s Parish Hall. All are welcome to join us after Mass.

### 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.

Save These  
DATES



Save These  
DATES

2026

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

Your 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

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## The Third Sunday of Lent



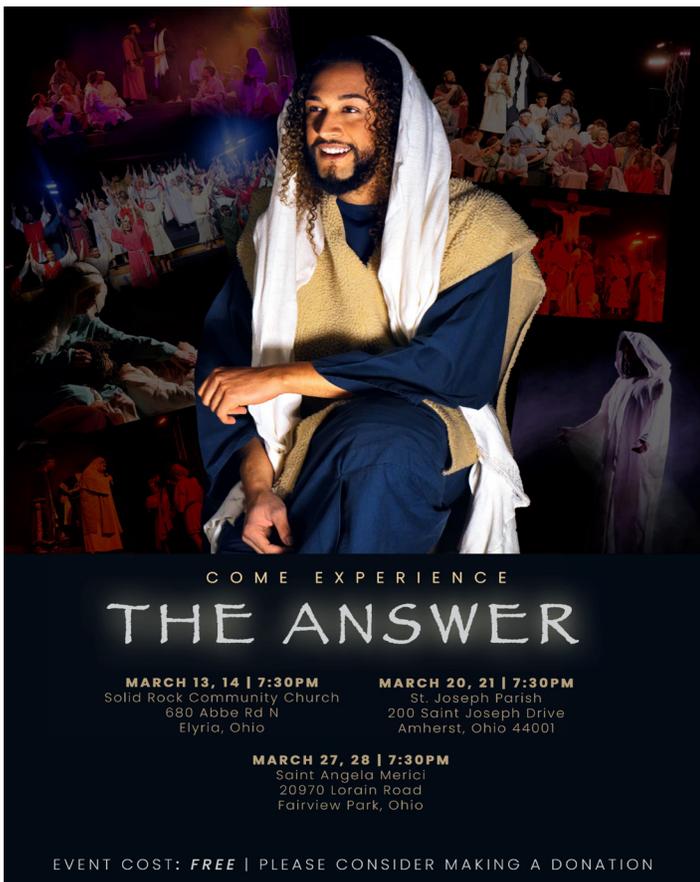
**Revival**   
**Lenten Mission**

March 22 – March 24  
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM  
at St. Peter Parish, Lorain

*You are invited to join our Lenten Mission!*

Children 18 and under are free.  
Families are encouraged to attend!

Scan to register:



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

### MARY'S WAY OF THE CROSS



The women of our parishes offered a beautiful portrayal of the Stations of the Cross as “Mary’s Way of the Cross” at St. Joseph Church last Friday.

Throughout this season of Lent, the group will be presenting at several area churches. If you missed the presentation here, you can catch it at one of the locations listed below in the coming weeks of Lent.

Friday, March 13th – 7:00 p.m.  
St. Patrick Parish, 512 N. Main Street, Wellington

Friday, March 20th – 12:15 p.m.  
St. Mary’s Parish, located at Reid and Eighth Street, Lorain

Friday, March 27th – 7:00 p.m.  
St. Mary’s Parish, 731 Exchange Street, Vermilion

### THEOLOGY ON THE ROCKS WEST



**For Adults 40 & Over**

**Join us Monday, March 9**

**7:00-8:30 p.m.**

**Westside Irish American Club**  
8559 Jennings Road, Olmsted Twp.

**Ignatian Spirituality** is more than a style of prayer – it’s a way of finding God in everyday life. Join us as **Fr. Larry Ober, SJ**, introduces the foundations of Ignatian Spirituality and practical tools such as the *Examen*, helping us grow in spiritual awareness and live more fully in God’s presence. Cost is \$15.00 per person. 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.

### BRINGING AMERICA BACK TO LIFE CONVENTION

The Bringing America Back to Life Convention is the premier Diocesan-wide, pro-life event: Two jam-packed days filled with the nation’s top speakers, workshops, and exhibitors. To discover more about this must-see event, view the impressive line-up of speakers, and register for “In-person” or “Livestream” options, visit <https://bringingamericabacktolife.org/> or call 216-246-9127. Join us March 13th and 14th as we Bring America Back to Life!



Through the Sacrament of Baptism  
St. Joseph Parish welcomes

**Lucie Jayne Rondini**  
Daughter of

**Eric and Margaret Rondini**

into the fullness of our parish community and we congratulate her 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.

### CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY MASSES, MARCH 18TH-19TH

The one-year anniversary of a loved one's death can be a very difficult time. For this reason, we remember the faithful departed entrusted to our care with a Mass celebrated on or near the feast of St. Joseph (March 19th), intercessor for a peaceful passage from this life to our eternal home. This year, Mass Intentions will be offered at four local parishes.

- **Wednesday, March 18th at 5:00 p.m.** – Holy Spirit Church, 4341 E. 131st Street, Garfield Hts.
- **Thursday, March 19th at 7:00 a.m.** – St. Paul Parish, 1580 Brown Street, Akron
- **Thursday, March 19th at 8:30 a.m.** – St. Bridget Parish, 5620 Hauserman Road, Parma
- **Thursday, March 19th at 12:00 Noon** – The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Cleveland (Livestreamed)

For details, visit:

<https://clecem.org/Events/AnniversaryMass.aspx>

### CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION MONTHLY GRIEF SUPPORT

The Catholic Cemeteries Association offers free, safe, and compassionate monthly **Grief Support** meetings throughout the year. Our next gathering will be held on **Sunday, March 15 at 3:00 p.m.** for in-person support (available at five locations throughout the Diocese) and at **5:00 p.m.** for virtual support. This month's topics are: **"Spring, Easter, and Grief: Times of Sacred Transition"** and **"The Loss of a Sibling."**

All are welcome. Come find comfort, understanding, and hope in a caring community. For more information or questions, call Renee at 216-930-4866.

### AREA FISH FRIES

Looking for a Fish Fry before the one planned at Nativity Parish, in South Amherst on March 27th? Below are a few for you to try out until then.

#### Sacred Heart Parish

410 W. Lorain Road, Oberlin, OH 44074

All Fridays in Lent, 4:00-7:00 p.m. in the Education Building.

Questions? Call Jack Kubicki at 216-210-0186, Sue Kubicki at 440-240-3192 or Parish Office at 440-707-6707, ext. 0.

#### St. Teresa of Avila Parish

1878 Abbe Road, Sheffield Village, OH 44054

All Fridays of Lent, 4:30-7:00 p.m.

440-949-7744

#### St. Joseph in Avon Lake

32929 Lake Road, Avon Lake, OH 44012

March 13th, 20th, and 27th, and none on Good Friday.

440-933-3152

#### St. Patrick Parish

512 N. Main Street, Wellington, OH 44090

All Fridays in Lent, except no Fish Fry on Good Friday.

Dine in only from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

440-647-4375

## SPONSOR OF THE WEEK



**Gary Dodson**

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Lifelong Amherst Resident

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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.

Please patronize these sponsors as a thank-you for their kind generosity.



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stjosephamherst.com/knights-of-columbus

Meetings held:  
4th Tues of every month  
in the MPR



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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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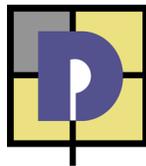
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