



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

August 23, 2026

The Twenty-first 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

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, AUGUST 24th – Mass at St. Joseph Parish
9:00 a.m. Pepsi Lachowyn (Laureen Suspenski)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25th – Mass at Nativity Parish
8:00 a.m. Victor Celaschi (Derreck and Lynn Johnson)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26th – No Mass

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27th – Mass at St. Joseph Parish
7:00 p.m. Bob and Judy Drop (The Drop Family)
Confessions to follow Mass until 8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28th – Mass at St. Joseph Parish
9:00 a.m. Joanne Kroliski (Husband Joe)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29th
11:00 a.m. Confessions at St. Joseph's
4:00 p.m. Frank and Esther Price
(Daughter and Grandson)
Mass at St. Joseph Parish
5:30 p.m. Sarah Dillon (Family)
Mass at Nativity Parish

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30th – Masses at St. Joseph Parish
8:30 a.m. Angel Melendez (Sacred Sisters)
11:00 a.m. Michael Dillon (Family)
5:00 p.m. People of St. Joseph and Nativity Parishes

Daily Readings

MONDAY, AUGUST 24th
Saint Bartholomew, Apostle
Rv 21:9b-14 / Jn 1:45-51

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25th – Weekday
St. Louis, St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest
2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17 / Mt 23: 23-26

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26th – Weekday
2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18 / Mt 23: 27-32

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27th
St. Monica
1 Cor 1:1-9 / Mt 24:42-51

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28th
St. Augustine, Bishop, and Doctor of the Church
1 Cor 1:17-25 / Mt 25:1-13

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29th
Vigil: Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jer 20:7-9 / Rom 12:1-2 / Mt 16:21-27

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30th
Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jer 20:7-9 / Rom 12:1-2 / Mt 16:21-27

Activity Schedule

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 24th
First Day of School Gr 1-8, and Kindergarten
with Last Names A-L

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25th
First Day of School for Kindergarten with Last Names M-Z
9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Flow Classes
(Mill Hollow Amphitheater)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26th
Full Day for all Kindergarten Students

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27th
9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Flow Classes
(Mill Hollow Amphitheater)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30th
6:00 p.m. No Holy Ground Youth Group
Session tonight

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

St. Joseph Parish – August 9, 2026

Sunday Offertory	\$ 9,852.00
Children's Offertory	\$ 4.00
Tuition Assistance	\$ 200.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 116.00
Assumption	\$ 45.00
Faith and Values	\$ 60.00
Missionary Co-op Plan	\$ 20.00
Vincentians	\$ 2,482.15

E-Giving – August 4-10, 2026

Eoffering – Sunday Offertory	\$ 2,365.39
Eoffering – Christmas	\$ 24.70
Eoffering – Vincentians	\$ 19.14
Eoffering – Missionary Co-op Plan	\$ 67.77

Nativity Parish –

August 1, 2026

Sunday Offertory	\$ 1,713.00
Mission	\$ 805.00

August 8, 2026

Sunday Offertory	\$ 1,836.08
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BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Emily Scheppner and Brian D'Andrea
I



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.

The Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

WINTER COAT DRIVE COMING THIS FALL



St. Joseph Vincentians will sponsor a Coat Drive. NEW and GENTLY USED, CLEAN

Adult and children's coats will be collected for the benefit of St. Vincent de Paul Lorain County Prison Outreach Program and Amherst Kids Closet. Please keep us in mind as you go through your closets. Specific dates will be forthcoming soon. Your participation is appreciated.

ST. JOSEPH VINCENTIANS



The St. Joseph Vincentian Ministry has two basic missions. The first is to provide the needy with nutritional supplemental food. The second is to help the needy pay for utility bills such as electricity and water. From January through August this year, we have provided food for 370 adults and 320 children. We have increased our help with utilities and helped 180 adults and 253 children. The cost of food and utilities have increased this year. Your substantial and generous donations have enabled us to spend a total of \$86,443.00 providing food and utilities to the needy in our area. We could not have helped these people without your support. Please continue your support and we ask for your prayers so that we may continue to provide help to so many people who need it. Thank you to the people of St. Joseph Church and the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. May God bless you. St. Joseph Vincentian Ministry.

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SEPTEMBER 2 | 7:00PM
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will go to our friends at
Seeds of Literacy.

Providing free, personalized education to
empower adults to thrive in our community.

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.

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/>

SACRED SISTERS WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRAYER GROUP



Sacred Sisters Wednesday Night Prayer Group will not meet in the month of August, but will resume on Wednesday, September 9th, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at Old Stone Community Center. This session will be an Eight (8) week study guide called the "Rescue Project" by Fr. John Riccardo. The Rescue Project is a compelling video series and small-group experience created by Fr. John Riccardo and the missionary apostolate, Acts XXIX. Designed to clearly proclaim the foundational message of the Gospel, it guides participants through 8-9 weeks of fellowship, and video presentations to help them encounter a deeper personal relationship with Jesus.

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!

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. Registration forms can be found on the admissions page of the school website. If you would like to tour the school, call the school office at 440-988-4244. They will be checking the voicemail periodically during the summer break.

HOSPITALITY SUNDAY AUGUST 23RD



St. Joseph Hospitality Ministry and the Knights of Columbus invite everyone to

Hospitality Sunday on August 23rd
following the 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Masses.

We will be serving coffee and donuts in
St. Joseph School Gymnasium.
We hope to see you there.

YOU ARE INVITED! Annual Parish Retreat

ST. JOSEPH
THE GOOD STEWARD

To you God entrusted his only Son; in You Mary placed her trust; with You Christ became man.

God is at work in our lives and in our parishes! This spiritual retreat is a powerful opportunity to pull away from the demands of everyday life and spend time with God and with one another. During our retreat, discern how God is calling you to use your gifts for His people, right here, right now. You are encouraged to welcome others from our Catholic community and invite them to attend this retreat as well.

The retreat will include inspiring talks about St. Joseph, the Good Steward, by Msgr. Robert Tucker from Seward, Nebraska. There will be time for quiet reflection and brief small-group discussion. There is no cost to attend. A light continental breakfast is available starting at 9:00 a.m. The Retreat will start promptly at 9:30 a.m. and a catered lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m.

I truly hope that you can participate and ask that you please RSVP no later than September 5. You will be receiving an email to RSVP to this Retreat. After clicking on the "sign-up" button in the email, you will be taken to a page where you can click on either the "I will attend" or "I will not attend" button. To complete the RSVP be sure to click on the "Sign me up!" button. If you prefer, you can RSVP to the parish office at 440-988-2848.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Fr. Tim O'Connor,
Pastor



Retreat Leader -

Msgr. Robert Tucker was ordained for the Diocese of Lincoln in 1989 and has been involved in parish work his entire priesthood. He taught religion in two parish schools during the first seven years of his priesthood, and then began working in school administration while also serving as a pastor. He served as pastor of the Cathedral of the Risen Christ for 19 years, and during that time, he was first introduced to stewardship as a way of life. His interest in stewardship further evolved during the past three years through his work with Catholic Stewardship Consultants. Together with CSC, Msgr. Tucker works with his current parish to help parishioners grow together as stewards in the love of God.



St. Joseph & Nativity of the BVM
Saturday, September 12, 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Nativity of the BVM Social Hall



Knights of Columbus
Holy Family Council 4891



Catholic Education Fundraiser Steak Fry

Porterhouse Steak Dinner \$30.00

Includes: Baked Potato, Corn on the Cob, Salad,
Roll & Butter, and Dessert

Coffee, Soda, Tea, and Draft Beer Included

Basket Raffles, 50/50, and More!

Amherst Eagles 1161 Milan Ave, Amherst
Saturday, September 19, 2026
Event 5:30 - 10:00 Dinner Starts at 6:00 PM

To purchase tickets contact Steve Frankart

Phone/Text: 330-814-8844

Email: SteveFrankart@yahoo.com

Buy Online: <https://tinyurl.com/KofCSteakFry>

Use QR code:



Tickets must be purchased by Sept 14, 2026

Seminarian and Catholic High School Scholarships paid through the
Grace Martello Scholarship Fund

The Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR ANNUAL PARISH RETREAT

Pull away from the demands of our daily lives and spend time with God to see how He is calling you to use your gifts for His people, right here, right now. Experience inspirational talks and quiet reflection as well as a continental breakfast and boxed lunch – all at no cost to you! Our Annual Parish Retreat will take place at the Nativity BVM Social Hall in South Amherst on Saturday, September 12 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Our retreat leader is Msgr. Robert Tucker, who will talk about “St. Joseph, the Good Steward.” ALL members of St. Joseph and Nativity BVM are invited. If you are signed up to receive the “Weekly Happenings” messages, you will receive an email asking you to RSVP by September 5. After clicking on the “sign up” button, you will be taken to a page where you will select I will/not attend. Be sure to click the “sign me up” button to complete your RSVP. If you are not signed up to receive the “Weekly Happenings” messages, please call the Parish Office at 440-988-2848 to RSVP. Thank you!

THE STANLEY ROTHER STORY

American Martyr: The Stanley Rother Story is coming to theaters nationwide on August 25 and 26 in English and in Spanish on August 27 (En Español). The feature-length documentary narrated by Golden Globe and Emmy Award winning actor Martin Sheen, follows the life, death and impact of Blessed Stanley Rother, an American priest from Oklahoma, who served the indigenous Tzu'tujil people of Santiago Atitlán, Guatemala until his martyrdom during the Guatemalan Civil War. Learn more about this inspiring and heroic story at www.BlessedRotherFilm.com.



PSR REGISTRATION FOR 26/27 IS OPEN!

All children in grades K-8 who do not attend a Catholic day school are invited to join us for our Parish School of Religion (PSR) Program. Classes take place on Wednesday evenings from October through April from 5:30-6:45 in St. Joseph School. Please register ASAP!

Use this link to register:
<https://forms.gle/7zxNadNbHQu3cQUu9>

PSR Fees:
1 Student: \$75
2 Students: \$60 each
3+ Students: \$45 each
*Billed after classes begin

Questions?
Email
amy.makruski@sjs-amherst.org

Nativity News

HOSPITALITY TUESDAY

Join us for the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Tuesday, September 8th for the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We will celebrate the Feast Day with Mass and coffee and donuts to follow in Nativity Parish Hall.

DINNERS ON THE GO IS BACK!

Nativity of the BVM is excited to announce the return of “Dinners on the Go” for the fall of 2026.

First up on the menu is:

September 8

Cabbage Rolls

Mashed Potatoes

Applesauce Cup

Roll/Dessert

Soup – Chicken ‘n Wild Rice

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.

Orders placed AFTER Friday cannot be guaranteed.

Thank you for your continued support!

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND FOR NATIVITY PARISH

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.

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).



Through the Sacrament of Baptism
St. Joseph Parish welcomes

Blaire Madelynn Sayers
Child of Bryan and Alexxa Sayers

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.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

Richard Krulich

We pray for his family 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.*

FIRST FRIDAY FORUM

Please join us as the Lorain County First Friday Forum
returns on September 11, 2026 from 11:30-1:00 p.m. at
Tom's Country Place in Avon (3442 Stoney Ridge Road,
Avon, Ohio) for our fall season with a very powerful
story of the Fr. Pedro Arrupe led by longtime attendee
and participant of our forum, Fr. Robert Sanson. Cost is
\$25.00. Call 440-320-3272 or email fflorain@gmail.com
to make a reservation. Deadline to register is September
7th at 6:00 p.m.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Mercy Health Lorain Hospital is seeking parishioners to serve as Extraordinary
Ministers of Holy Communion and Spiritual Health Volunteers who visit
and pray with patients. If you feel called to this ministry of compassion and
presence, please contact Fr. Damian Ezeani, Director of Mission and Market
Ethics Lead, Bon Secours Mercy Health Lorain at 440-960-3846, or email him
at DEzeani@bsmhealth.org.

**CALVARY CEMETERY, LORAIN
PREPLANNING SEMINAR**

The Catholic Cemeteries Association invites you to attend a 1-hour, educational
pre-planning seminar on **Saturday, August 29th, 2026, at 1:00 p.m., in the
main office building of Calvary Cemetery, Lorain.** Please join us to learn
more about the necessary steps to preplanning the burial process, burial options
including options for cremated remains, and the Catholic burial rite. We kindly
ask that you **RSVP** to this event to **Calvary Cemetery at 216-641-7575,
ext. 6** or email bstrauchon@clecem.org. Visit clecem.org for more
information.

**MAKE A WILL
MAKE AN IMPACT ROOTED IN FAITH**

August is National Make-a-Will Month – a wonderful time to create or update
your will. The Catholic Community Foundation offers a free estate planning
resource through FreeWill, an easy online tool that helps you create a legally
valid will in about 20 minutes. Creating a will is an act of love for your family
and an opportunity to reflect the values that have guided your life. If you
choose, you can also remember your parish or other Catholic ministries in your
plans, helping ensure that your faith continues to bless others for generations to
come. Visit FreeWill.com/CatholicCommunity to learn more.

ARE YOU GRIEVING THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE?

We invite you to register for an 8-week bereavement support group that will
be held at St. Ladislav Parish (2345 Bassett Road, Westlake) on Wednesday
evenings. "Growing through Grief" presents a different topic each week while
offering compassionate spiritual and emotional support for those grieving the
death of a loved one. The group will meet September 9 through October 28
from 6:30-8:00 p.m. To register, call 440-835-2300 or email the facilitator
Carol Burnett at cburnett@stlads.org.

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Amherst Holy Family Council 4891

stjosephamherst.com/knights-of-columbus

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

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