



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

September 13, 2026

The Twenty-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

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, SEPTEMBER 14th – Mass at St. Joseph Parish
9:00 a.m. Donna Kuczynski (Bonnie Hockman)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th – Mass at Nativity Parish
8:00 a.m. Larry Knoble (Terrie Chase)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th – No Mass

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th – Mass at St. Joseph Parish
7:00 p.m. Michelle Kossov (Family)
Confessions to follow Mass until 8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th – Mass at St. Joseph Parish
9:00 a.m. Richard Johnson (Ted and Loraine Wenta)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th
11:00 a.m. Confessions at St. Joseph's
4:00 p.m. Florence Zuppa (Daughter)
Mass at St. Joseph Parish
5:30 p.m. Josh Zunt (Joe and Marianne)
Mass at Nativity Parish

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th – Masses at St. Joseph Parish
8:30 a.m. Tony Alessandro (Chuck and Gloria Hobor)
11:00 a.m. Special Intention for the George Family
(Rosie George)
5:00 p.m. People of St. Joseph and Nativity Parishes

Activity Schedule

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th
9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Flow Classes
(Mill Hollow Amphitheater)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th
6:30 p.m. Sacred Sisters Meeting
(O.S.E. Community Center)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th
9:00 a.m. Vincentians Meeting
(Conference Room)
9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Flow Classes
(Mill Hollow Amphitheater)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th
6:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Steak Fry
(Amherst Eagles)
Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th
6:00 p.m. Holy Ground Youth Group Session
(School Gym)
Please join us for the 5:00 p.m. Mass

Daily Readings

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Nm 21:4b-9 / Phil 2:6-11 / Jn 3:13-17

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th
Our Lady of Sorrows
1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a / Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th
Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
1 Cor 12:31 – 13:13 / Lk 7:31-35

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th – Weekday
St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
St. Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
1 Cor 15:1-11 / Lk 7:36-50

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th – Weekday
1 Cor 15:12-20 / Lk 8:1-3

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th
Vigil: Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 55:6-9 / Phil 1:20c-24, 27a / Mt 20:1-16a

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 55:6-9 / Phil 1:20c-24, 27a / Mt 20:1-16a

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

St. Joseph Parish – August 30, 2026

Sunday Offertory	\$ 12,615.00
Tuition Assistance	\$ 10.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 118.00
Assumption	\$ 20.00
Faith and Values	\$ 2.00
Catholic Communications Campaign	\$ 1.00
Vincentians	\$ 1,676.00

E-Giving – August 25-31, 2026

Eoffering-Sunday Offertory	\$ 3,141.34
Eoffering-Christmas	\$ 24.70
Eoffering-Vincentians	\$ 24.70
Eoffering-Tuition Assistance	\$ 100.00
Eoffering-Retirement for the Religious	\$ 100.00

Nativity Parish – August 22, 2026

Sunday Offertory	\$ 1,028.00
Faith and Values	\$ 16.00
Assumption	\$ 35.00

Nativity Parish – August 29, 2026

Sunday Offertory	\$ 1,021.00
Faith and Values	\$ 10.00
Maintenance and Upkeep	\$ 1,440.00

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/>

The Twenty-fourth 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.

EXTRAORDINARY EUCHARISTIC MINISTER TRAINING SESSION

The Diocese is offering formation sessions for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Registration is required. Please call the parish office at 440-988-2848 to learn more about the qualifications for the privilege of offering the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity to the faithful of our parish and to register. The next nearby upcoming session is Sunday, October 18, 2026, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at St. Peter Parish, 3665 Oberlin Avenue, Lorain, OH 44053.

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

CATHOLIC CHURCH'S STANCE ON IMMIGRATION



Bishop Edward Malesic is frequently asked for his thoughts on the challenging immigration issues facing our country. He has prepared a summary of his reflections and included links to his previous individual and joint statements made with other bishops on this important issue. The page is available here: <https://dioceseofcleveland.org/immigrants> or use the QR code to link to it. Please take some time to read Bishop's Malesic's Message and spend some time reflecting on it.

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.



IN THE ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL GYM

FALL KICKOFF SEPTEMBER 13TH

SUNDAYS FROM 6PM TO 7:30PM

ALL 7TH TO 12TH GRADERS WELCOME!

QUESTIONS?
CHARLES.J.GONZO@GMAIL.COM



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

Nativity News

DINNERS ON THE GO IS BACK!

September 22nd Menu

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

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 pickup 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.

CHAIR FLOW YOGA CLASSES UPDATE

Please note there will be no Chair Flow Yoga Classes on September 22nd and 24th. All classes will move from Mill Hollow Amphitheater back to Nativity's Parish Hall on Thursday October 1st. The meeting times will stay the same 9:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. To learn more about the Chair Flow Yoga Classes, contact Cindy Miller at 440-670-1300

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 [jandnbvmmedia](https://www.youtube.com/jandnbvmmedia).



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



Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults
(fka The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)
is a ministry to adults
who are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith.
* Adults who have never been baptized
* Adults who have been baptized in another Christian tradition
* Baptized Catholic adults who have not received the Sacrament(s) of Eucharist
and/or Confirmation or who simply want to know more about their religion.

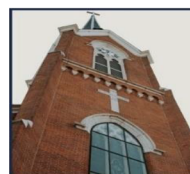
No-obligation informational reception, with yummy food,

Monday, September 21, 7:00 p.m.

Nativity's Social Hall, 333 S. Lake St., South Amherst

**If not you, then someone you
know. Invite them to come!**

**For anyone thinking about beginning OCIA,
check out this alumni's recommendation →**



NOT JUST WHAT
THE CHURCH
TEACHES, BUT WHY
SHE TEACHES IT
NOW ENROLLING

OCIA

The Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

Ron Montagnese, Jr.

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.

“WHAT TO DO IN THE MOMENT” MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

“What to do in the Moment” is a training presentation explaining what to do when a Mental Health Emergency occurs. Participants will learn about: (1) How to respond in a crisis, (2) Crisis intervention training skills, and (3) Skills to use when making a call for help. Cosponsored by the Diocesan Social Action Office of Lorain County and St. Julie Billiart and St. Peter Parishes in North Ridgeville. The event will be held on October 4, 2026, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at St. Julie Billiart Parish, 5500 Lear Nagle Road, North Ridgeville, Ohio 44039. For questions or to register, contact Terry Flanagan at tjflan@gmail.com.

THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The Catholic Cemeteries Association’s next Sunday Grief Support Group will be on Sunday, September 20th. 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 will be held on the 3rd Sunday this 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 Suzi at 216-930-4866 or visit <https://www.clecem.org/Events/Events.aspx>.

Topics for the September 2026 meeting are Family Dynamics & Grief and the Loss of a Child.

In-person Locations (Main Office Buildings):

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

Virtual – Please register at <https://clecem.org/Information/Bereavement.aspx>. Handouts for the meeting will be available when you register online.

SKILLS FOR NAVIGATING DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS

Learn skills for listening and connecting more deeply with people we care about. Practice using these skills while cultivating respect and civility, especially if you have differing views on political issues that caused you to lose valued closeness with friends or relatives. Learn how to re-engage with others in a constructive way. Free workshop for a time of polarization on September 19th, from 9:30 a.m. to Noon at St. Mary’s Elyria Weigand Room, 320 Middle Avenue, Elyria, OH 44035. Light refreshments starting at 9:00 a.m.. This workshop is sponsored by St. Mary’s Social Concerns Committee and facilitated by Bill Shaul, MD, co-founder of the NE Ohio Chapter of Braver Angels. Preregistration is required. Email Kathy Hazelton at kathyhazelton@gmail.com for more information or to register. Deadline to register is Sept. 13, 2026.

THEOLOGY ON THE ROCKS WEST For Adults 40 & Over



**It’s a FIELD TRIP to the
Seminary Center for
Pastoral Leadership
28700 Euclid Avenue
Wickliffe, OH 44092
Monday, Sept. 14
7:00-8:30 p.m.**

Join us as we see where our seminarians live, are formed, and grow in faith on their journey to becoming future shepherds of our Diocese. Our evening will begin in the Mary, Mother of the Good Shepherd Chapel where we’ll learn about the recent renovations. We’ll then enjoy light appetizers and refreshments as we engage with a few of our seminarians and hear about life in the seminary. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Light appetizers and nonalcoholic beverages included. **Advance tickets recommended. Register in advance at www.theologyontherockswest.com.** Doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE - SND CHICKEN BBQ

The Sisters of Notre Dame Chicken Barbeque is Sunday, September 27th, from Noon to 5:00 p.m. at the Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School Gym, 13000 Auburn Road, Chardon, OH. There will be boutique shopping, children’s activities, Country Kitchen-flavored pies, ice cream, photobooth, fellowship, and a fun afternoon. Chicken Dinners are \$18.00 (includes BBQ chicken, coleslaw, chips, roll & a slice of apple pie. All meals will be boxed. Takeouts are available. For more info, visit <https://sndusa.org/bbq2026>

**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.**

FOLLOWING ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI INTO THE HEART OF JESUS AND ABBA FATHER



Jesuit Retreat
Center

of followers in the Lord, his commitment to dialogue, nonviolence, and peacemaking, and the Franciscan Way. The weekend will be conducted in prayerful silence after each talk. Weekend includes topical talks, liturgy, adoration, meals, and optional group sharing session.

Learn more and register at: <https://www.jesuitretreatcenter.org/calendar>. **Join our email list by scanning the QR code!**



Spend a prayerful weekend (**October 2nd to 4th**) reflecting on the life and spirituality of St. Francis of Assisi and his profound conversion to Jesus Christ on the 800th Anniversary of his death.

Themes to be addressed: His growing reverence for all creation and rapid growth

ST. AGNES TRUNK SALE

A Trunk Sale is essentially a parking lot full of garage sales and flea market booths. You have all the fun of browsing and buying other people's old treasures and new crafts. St. Agnes Church Trunk Sale is Saturday, September 19th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 611 Lake Avenue in Elyria. Admission is free for shoppers of all ages. Refreshments will be available for purchase. For more info, contact Patricia Sas at 440-506-0303.

ST. JUDE FALL CRAFT SHOW

All are welcome to the St. Jude Indoor Fall Craft Show on Saturday, September 26th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at 590 Poplar Street in Elyria. For more information, Contact Darlene Lauffer at 440-371-3888 or darlauffer@gmail.com.

WALKING WITH MARY THROUGH THE LIGHT AND DARKNESS OF OUR DAILY LIFE

Villa Maria Education & Spirituality Center in Villa Maria, PA will sponsor a **Walking with Mary through the Light and Darkness of Our Daily Life** with **Melannie Svoboda, SND**, from Friday, October 9 to Sunday, October 11, 2026.

This retreat weaves together prayer, music, scripture, in-pot sessions, videos, art, personal reflection time, and sharing. This time together will help us to know Mary better as our mother, sister, companion, and fellow disciple of Jesus.

For more information on this program, go to: <https://vmesc.org/programs-retreats/all-events?id=1080>.

ELYRIA CATHOLIC CLASS OF '76 REUNION

The Class of 1976 will celebrate our 50th Reunion at the Foundry (located at 525 Broad Street).

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. Please send questions and RSVP to: EC76reunion@gmail.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/>.



**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
– and encourage others to join us!

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Amherst Holy Family Council 4891

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

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