

Divine Mercy Sunday

April 8, 2018



Monday, April 9, The Annunciation of The Lord

8:15 a.m. Donna Ott (Phil & Mary Ott)
9:00 a.m. The Intentions of the Newell Family
6:30 p.m. Marilyn Labbe (Theresa Dougherty)

Tuesday, April 10

8:15 a.m. Intentions of Terri Evans
(Suburban South Program)
7:00 p.m. The Intentions of Our 8th Grade
Confirmation Class
Anniversary – Connie Reed

Wednesday, April 11, St. Stanislaus

8:15 a.m. Al Feltrup Sr. (Vivian Fox)

Thursday, April 12

8:15 a.m. Fitzgerald Family (Phyllis Fitzgerald)
6:30 p.m. Bob Buehrl
(Knights of Columbus #3810)

Friday, April 13, St. Martin I

8:15 a.m. Patrick & Jennie Cookro
(Tony & Martha Cookro)
6:30 p.m. Brielle Beres (Metzler Family)
Month's Mind – James Shimp

Saturday, April 14

8:15 a.m. Larry Logsdon (Family)
5:00 p.m. James & Julia Houck (Rick Houck)

April 15

Third Sunday of Easter

Month's Mind – Anna Marie Munka
7:30 am - Pro Populo, 9:00 am, 11:00 am

Scripture Readings for the Week:

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

ALLELUIA, Today is **Divine Mercy Sunday**, the Octave Day of Easter! This personal devotion to Divine Mercy was added to the calendar of the universal Church in 2000, the year St. John Paul II canonized St. Faustina Kowalska. St. Faustina was a nun who, in the 1930s, received a series of private revelations centered on God's mercy. She recorded those experiences in her diary, including the institution of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy Prayer: "On this day, the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy.... Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet" (*Diary*, # 699). John Grondelski, author for Crisis Magazine, writes: "Divine Mercy is nothing less than God's Will to save us, which is what the central events of the Paschal Mystery are all about ... and what we prepare for throughout Lent, celebrate intensively in the Triduum, and celebrate superabundantly in 50 days of Easter. Far from being an intrusion, the celebration of Divine Mercy stands at the core of what these 93 days—more than a quarter of the Church year—are explicitly about." Even if you aren't aware of this devotion, most of us have seen a tender image of Jesus associated with The Divine Mercy devotion. It is a reminder of how His "Sacred Heart" has given us everything: redemption, salvation, sanctification. Saint Faustina Kowalska saw coming from His Heart two rays of light which illuminates the world. The two rays, [according to what she heard Jesus tell her], denote blood and water (*Diary*, 299). The blood recalls the sacrifice of Golgotha and the mystery of the Eucharist; the water, according to the rich symbolism of the Evangelist John, makes us think of Baptism and the Gift of the Holy Spirit (See Jn 3:5; 4:14). Through the mystery of His wounded and Sacred Heart, the restorative tide of God's merciful love continues to spread over the men and women of our time. Here alone can those who long for true and lasting happiness find any hope. May the words of St. Faustina echo in our hearts during these 50 days of Easter: "**Jesus, I trust in You!**"



Two reminders for this week: Remember Monday, April 9th, is our transferred day of the Annunciation of the Lord (formerly March 25, but transferred since it fell on Palm Sunday this year). We will offer our usual 8:15a & 6:30p Mass times, plus our day school will be celebrating a Mass at 9:00 a.m. Also, pray for our eighth graders who will be sealed in the Gift of the Holy Spirit through the Sacrament of Confirmation this Tuesday evening with Bishop Perez. May they continue to be a witness of Jesus' Resurrection!

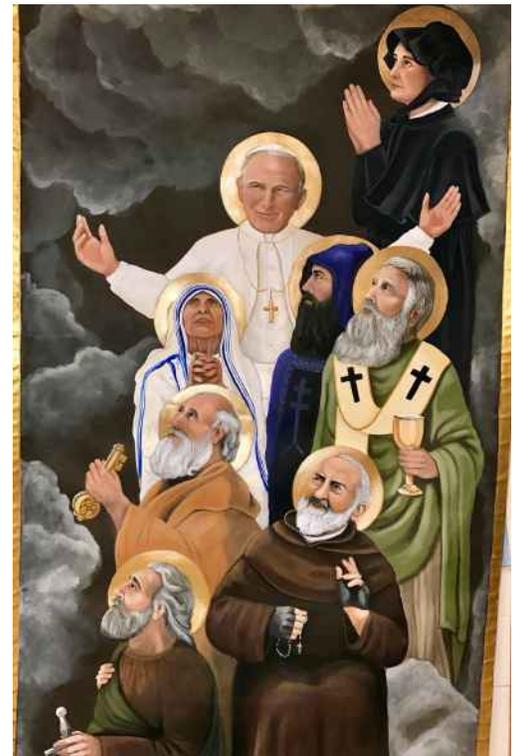
ALLELUIA, *Jesus Christ is truly Risen! Fr. Bline*

Saint Francis de Sales has two special banners of saints painted by parishioner Louise Udovich, for the spiritual benefit of our parish. In the Easter Season, the universal Church calls to mind the hope of eternal life in which the saints already participate. They intercede for us. And, we join the saints in praise of God every Mass. The saints on these banners hold special significance for our parish and the Church. Below, I will list the saints beginning from the left most banner and the top left saint.



Left Banner: (*top left*) St. Francis de Sales is our patron who was a spiritual master in his time and ours. (*top middle*) St. Francis of Assisi received the stigmata and transforms the Church by his humble charity that founded the Franciscan Order of Friars Minor. (*top right*) Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati died a young man filled with life who tells us “ascend higher,” i.e. always keep your eyes on Jesus. (*middle left*) St. Jane Frances de Chantal is a spiritual daughter of Frances de Sales and founded the Congregation of the Visitation. (*middle*) St. Claire of Assisi is a spiritual daughter of St. Francis of Assisi who founded the Poor Claires, she holds a monstrance drawn in the likeness of our own and calls us to adore the Blessed Sacrament with her. (*middle right*) St. Joan of Arc was a fierce defender of our Catholic faith in France and calls us to live the truth always. (*lower left*) St. Kevin is the patron saint for parents who lost a child and holds a nest of bird eggs that shows the beauty and fragility of life. (*lower right*) St. George was patron of a closed neighboring parish and a saint who inspired St. Joan of Arc. (*bottom*) St. Rita calls us to join our sufferings to Christ’s own for the building up of the Body of Christ.

Right Banner: (*top right*) St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is the first native born American saint who forsook her wealth to teach and serve those in need. (*top left*) Pope St. John Paul II led our Church into the new millennium calling us to contemplate the merciful face of Jesus. (*middle left*) St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta devoted her life to the poor and unborn, revealing a life of faith lived in the dark night of her soul. (*middle & middle right*) SS. Cyril and Methodius were brothers who challenged each other to become saints and brought the Slavic people to Christ and his Church. (*lower left*) St. Peter is the first pope of the Church and holds the keys Jesus gave him to shepherd the Church. (*bottom right*) St. Padre Pio holds his “weapon,” the rosary, and calls the faithful to humble and joyful prayer without worry. (*bottom left*) St. Paul the Apostle was the great evangelist and apostle of the Church whose missionary work eventuated in the West becoming a Christian people.



These saints are our friends and intercessors with whom we carry the Cross of Christ to build the Kingdom of God. Pray with them. But, above all, imitate the Gospel life of Jesus as they did. They are calling us to follow Him and join them in a life of holiness that always transforms the world through Easter hope.



**Here's What's Happening
Around the Parish This Week...**

Sunday, April 8

- Movie: Paul, Apostle of Christ, 1:00 p.m. (Regal Cinemas Interstate Park 18)
- Boy Scouts, 5:00-7:00 p.m. (Refectory)
- Youth Group, 7:00-9:00 p.m. (Upper Room)

Monday, April 9

- School Resumes
- Feast of the Annunciation Masses, 8:15 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
- PSR, 7:00-8:00 p.m.
- Choir Practice 8:00-9:30 p.m. (Church)

Tuesday, April 10

- Women's Study Group, 9:15 a.m. (VHM)
- Evening Mass time changed to 7:00 p.m.
- Confirmation, 7:00 p.m. followed by reception in the gymnasium

Wednesday, April 11

- Senior Social Group Euchre, 1:00 p.m. (Upper Room)
- Falcon Family Network Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Upper Room)
- AA/Al-Anon, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (Refectory)

Thursday, April 12

- Scripture Study, 12:30-3:00 p.m. (Upper Room)
- State of the School, 7:15 p.m. (Gymnasium)

Friday, April 13

- Youth Choir Practice, 4:30-5:30 p.m. (Mobile Music Room)

Saturday, April 14

- Men's Scripture Study, 7:00-8:15 a.m. (VHM)
- Euchre Tournament, after 5:00 Mass (Gymnasium)

Sunday, April 15

- Cub Scouts, 12:30-2:00 p.m. (Refectory)
- Boy Scouts Court of Honor Dinner, 5:00-7:00 p.m. (Refectory)

COLLECTION INFORMATION

The collection information for Palm Sunday weekend, March 24-25 was \$17,559.83. Our parish is blessed by your generosity!



Please remember in your prayers the souls of parishioners James Shimp, Barry Tillett and Frances Wojcik. May perpetual light shine upon them.



VOCATION CRUCIFIX

The parish could use some more volunteers to receive the Vocation Crucifix. Even if you've received it before, you may receive it again. There's no limit! Vocation prayers are always needed and appreciated! Please call the parish office at 330-644-2225 to have your name added to the list.

The Kurple Family received the Vocation Crucifix this weekend.



A cancer diagnosis (your own or that of a loved one) can bring about uncertainty, fear and questions. Having a place to share these concerns with others who've walked the same road and have a similar faith foundation can offer support and encouragement through treatment and beyond. If you are interested in joining us (as a current patient, survivor or family member/caregiver), our first meeting will be Thursday, April 26th at 7:00 p.m. in the Upper Room. If you have questions, you can contact Franciska Kiraly (cancer survivor) at 330-524-9275 or frkiraly@gmail.com.

“Bloom Where You Are Planted”

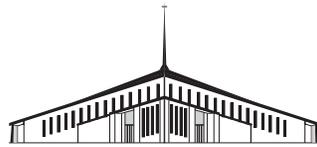


St. Francis de Sales Parish 70th Anniversary Jubilee

“The greatest method of praying is to pray the rosary.” *St. Francis de Sales*

St. Francis de Sales wasn't always a saint. Before his call to the priesthood, he was just like any of us, with worldly influences guiding his life. In particular, his father had many hopes and dreams for his eldest son. After his education, Francis de Sales was encouraged by his father to become a statesman. After Francis realized his call was to a holier life, his father tried to discourage his vocation by conferring upon him the title of Seigneur de Villarogot and giving him land ownership. He even went so far as to try to tempt Francis with marriage! When that failed, Francis' father pushed for him to be a Senator at the Court of Savoy, an honor that was further pressed to him by the Prince. For some eighteen months, Francis led this outward lie, torn between his duty to his father and his Father in heaven. It was not until he was appointed as the Provost of Geneva that his father finally relented. He said to his son “I see I only lose time arguing with you. Go then and serve God only.”

Like St Francis, we all face obstacles to our vocational calling, be they everyday influences that make us want to skip Mass, to devilish temptations that steer us away from our journey towards heavenly salvation. On this weekend of Divine Mercy Sunday, let us all take time to pray the rosary. In this time of prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary, remember that we should let nothing stand in the way of our call to Christ.



Each year during the Easter Vigil, thousands of people enter into the Roman Catholic Church in the United States through the RCIA process. This year, Saint Francis de Sales Parish welcomes the following four individuals who have never been Baptized, and received all three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion at the Easter Vigil:

Stephanie Ann **Bernadette** Jansen
Megan Lynn **Lucy** Prinzo
Andrew John **Pio** Rihn
Jeffrey Tyler **John Paul** Tournier

We also welcome the following five individuals who have already been baptized in other non-Catholic Christian traditions (those whose Baptism is recognized by the Roman Catholic Church) and entered the Church through a profession of faith and reception of the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist:

Carly Rebecca **Clare** Asher
Bonnie Denice **Anne** Byers
John Alex **Gerard** Varga
Nikole Lynn **Rita** Varga
Steve Joseph **Patrick** Varga

*Thank you for welcoming the newest members of our parish family!
We are blessed!*



I hope that each of you enjoyed a beautiful Easter and a restful spring break with family and friends. Please feel free to attend our State of the School address on Thursday, April 12 from 7p-8p in the SFdS gym. Also, if you would like to register your child for Kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year, please contact the school office (330-644-0638) for a Kindergarten Screening date. Kindergarten Screening will take place on April 17 and 18. I look forward to finishing out these last weeks of school on a strong and positive note! I feel blessed to have spent another year with our students and teachers working together to glorify God with all of our gifts and talents!

Alleluia!

Ms. Katie Buzzelli, Principal



Support our School!

SCRIP GIFT CARDS

Our school and parish offices continue to sell a wide variety of Scrip gift cards. We understand that buying them at another location sometimes offers perks that we cannot give, but our school does earn a nice percentage from each gift card purchase that you make. We have so many to offer! Did you know that over the Christmas holiday our school earned over \$2500 from your Scrip gift card purchases? We are so grateful! Please continue to buy these gifts cards when you can.



All women of the parish are invited to our annual "Tea" on Friday, May 4th at 7:00 p.m. Details in future bulletins.



To commemorate the 70th Jubilee celebration (1948-2018) of the founding of our parish, we are pleased to partner with Tiny Saints to sell a special edition tag of St. Francis de Sales. Each tag will include a commemorative prayer card and can be purchased for just \$5. They make wonderful gifts and can be enjoyed by all. Add to your key chain, book bag, gym bag, hang from a chain, attach it to a jacket. The possibilities are endless! They will be available for purchase after all masses beginning April 14 in the parking lot under a canopy.



Our story of Salvation comes to a dramatic, not-so-surprising end, kind of!

Join us as we discuss the Resurrection, Ascension, and what it all means to us!

~All teens welcome~

Sunday, April 8

Upper Room

7-9pm

We will end our evening with Compline in Church, 9pm.

UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP EVENTS:

4/12: XLT - Borromeo Seminary 7-9:30pm

4/22: Faith, Art, & Pizza Road Trip - Cleveland Museum of Art 12:30-5:30pm

St. Francis de Sales Parish



70^H ANNIVERSARY PHOTO DIRECTORY!

"Bloom where you are planted"

Our new church family directory sincerely will not be the same without you!! Please sign up now to have your photo taken. All photos will be taken in the Upper Room at St. Francis de Sales by Universal Church Directories.

You can sign up online on weekdays

GO TO: WWW.UCDIR.COM

CODE: oh2111

PASSWORD: sfd

Click "schedule your photography session" on the right side & follow the prompts.

(or)

You can sign up after a variety of Masses in the church narthex on the weekends

PHOTOGRAPHY SESSION DATES:

April 2nd – April 6th, May 7th – May 12th, and June 4th & 5th, 2018.

Weekdays 2 pm – 8:30 pm & Saturday 10:30 am – 4 pm

Every family that is photographed will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait, and a free 70th Anniversary Directory!!

Please feel free to bring a beloved pet if you'd like to have them in the photo with you.

Questions? Please ask:

Susie Naragon 330-329-1937 ms4e@aol.com, Michele Steurer 330-618-5545 shellbell601@gmail.com

Joy Kopcha 765-760-9517 joy.kopcha@gmail.com, or Terri Bachtel

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
50-YEAR CLASS REUNION**

The 1968 class of St. John the Baptist school is having a 50-year reunion September 23, 2018 beginning with Mass at St. John's at 10:00 a.m. If you know of a member of that class or a family member, please contact Anne at 330-644-8020 or annnews17@hotmail.com.

STEADFAST FATHERS CLASSES

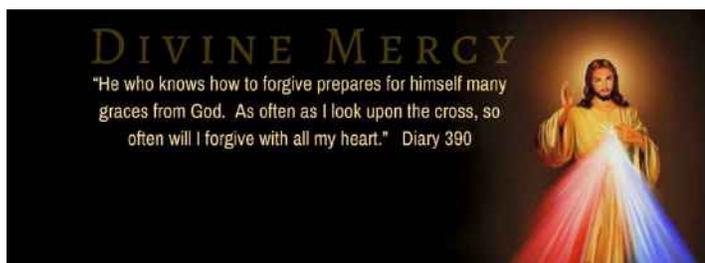
Gentlemen, are you looking for a worthwhile volunteer opportunity geared specifically toward helping other men? First and Ten, the men's ministry of Embrace Clinic and Care Center (formerly known as Community Pregnancy Center), aims to help strengthen men and families by stressing the importance of authentic fatherhood. One way we accomplish this is through our Steadfast Fathers classes. We are looking for men to help us facilitate these classes. We want to help fathers of all ages be the best dads they can be. Training is provided. If you are interested, please call 330-825-1900 and ask for Paul Mungo or email them at info@embraceccc.org.

**ST. PHILIP AND JAMES
CANAL FULTON**

They will hold their 2018 Auction and Reverse Raffle on Saturday, April 14th from 5:00-10:00 p.m. at Guy's Party Center, 500 E. Waterloo Road, Akron 44319. Purchase dinner and raffle tickets at spjauction.org. Thank you!

THE FEST

As we celebrate the joy of Easter and the light of the Risen Christ, mark your calendars and plan to join us this summer at The FEST – our 18th annual Catholic Family FESTival – Sunday, August 5, 2018. Come and hear the best of Christian artists: TobyMac, Big Daddy Weave, Mandisa, and We Are Messengers. There are plenty of Gospel-based activities and interactive displays, along with rock walls, BMX shows, and so much more. The FEST is a great day of faith, family and fun – all for FREE!



LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

A "Life in the Spirit" seminar will be held in Waldeisen Hall at Immaculate Conception Parish in Akron on Saturday, April 14th from 1:00-10:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 15th from 6:30-10:00 p.m. Speakers include Fr. Michael B. Smith, Fr. Pete Colletti, Fr. Jacob Bearer and Larry Vuillemin. Program includes praise and worship, inspiring talks, Mass, Healing Service, great fellowship, and dinner on Saturday. Cost is \$10 per person or bring a friend - \$15 for 2 people. Contact Grace at Immaculate Conception rectory at 330-753-8429 or ickenmore@yahoo.org for reservations and additional information.

WALSH JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL

Open house will be held on Sunday, April 22 beginning with 11:00 Mass. For information on admissions, financial aid, entrance exams and private tours, please contact Rob Eubank at 330-929-4205 extension 103 or eubankr@walshjesuit.org.

THEOLOGY ON TAP AKRON

Wednesday, April 11, 7:00 p.m.
Barley House Akron, 222 S. Main St., 44308
Speaker: Fr. Bob McWilliams, St. Joseph,
Strongsville
"Baconmas: A Delicious Taste of Heaven"

Admission is \$5 and includes appetizers. Cash bar. Open to young adults in their 20's and 30's.

THEOLOGY ON THE ROCKS

Monday, April 16, 7:00 p.m.
D'Agnes at White Pond, 566 White Pond Dr., 44320
Speaker: Dr. Matthew and Elisabeth Akers
"Our Journey to Catholicism"

Admission is \$10 and includes appetizers. Cash bar. Open to all adults.

**REFLECTIONS FOR WOMEN
QUEEN OF HEAVEN PARISH**

Children of Mary Sisters from Cincinnati offer practical suggestions you can do that will have you saying "This is changing my life!" Come spend a brief time with the Lord on Saturday, April 14th from 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon. In addition to two talks presented by the Sisters, you will have the opportunity for praise, worship and confession. The morning will culminate with Mass followed by a light lunch and a chance to ask questions and get material from the Sisters. There will be a free will offering. Call the Queen of Heaven parish office at 330-896-2345, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Please register by April 9th.



WELCOME BACK FATHER SEMONIN!

Father James R. Semonin was ordained on May 29, 1971 and was then assigned to St. Francis de Sales Parish until 1974. After his first assignment with us, he served as Parochial Vicar of St. Sebastian Parish in Akron until 1980, when he was assigned as Chaplain of Parma Community Hospital, where he currently serves.

As part of our 70th Anniversary Jubilee Celebration, we have invited all priests formerly assigned to our parish to celebrate Mass with us. Father Semonin will be here next Saturday, April 14th to celebrate the 5:00 Vigil Mass. Please stop by and say hello after Mass!